



WATERMAN HOY

The Newsletter of The Company of Watermen and Lightermen of The River Thames

Volume 4 – Issue 4 A Message from The Clerk

With Spring definitely in the air, our daffodils are out in the Hall's window boxes, so it's time to look ahead to Summer. The Company is organising a number of events to which we hope you will wish to come.

Forthcoming Events

MARCH 2017

- 8th Freeman's Luncheon
- 22nd Ladies' Dinner
- 31st United Guilds Service and Luncheon

APRIL 2017

- 5th Quarterly Court and Luncheon
- 24th Ladies Spring Luncheon
- 27th Freeman's St. George's Day Luncheon

MAY 2017

- 15th Postquintennials Annual Luncheon
- 25th Beating the Bounds Ceremony
- 26th Tour of Westminster Abbey

JUNE 2017

- TBA Knollys Rose Ceremony and Luncheon
- 14th Freeman's Luncheon at Wax Chandlers' Hall
- 23rd Court of Bindings

JULY 2017

- 5th Quarterly Court and Luncheon
- 10th Court of Admissions
- 12th Master's Installation Court
Company Annual Service
- 18th Swan Upping Cruise
- 25th Doggett's Coat and Badge Wager

Colin C. Middlemiss
March 2017

DOGGETT'S EMBLEM & ROWING AWARDS Wednesday 1st February 2017

An enjoyable and relaxed evening where the achievements in rowing over the past year are recognised by the Company. An informal presentation ceremony was followed by a delightful supper. All Doggett's competitors for the previous year and apprentices who attended the sculling camp were invited to attend.

Photo: Winner of the 2016 Doggett's Coat and Badge Wager, Benjamin Folkard, with the trophy where the names of all winners since 1902 are engraved.



The Company holds a sculling training camp for apprentices at Henley each autumn. A good time is had by all and culminates in the Ben Woollacott Memorial Sculls.

Photo: Journeyman Freeman Stephen Woollacott congratulates Lucas Britton, the winner of the 2016 Ben Woollacott Memorial Sculls, created in the name of Stephen's son.

Some of the attendees at the autumn 2016 sculling training camp in Henley receive their certificates of rowing achievement from the Master.

Photo: Lucas Britton, George Gilbert and Mathew Brookes received their certificates from the Master, John Salter.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Freemen's Lunch – 8th March 2017

This luncheon is open to all Freemen and their business guests. Dress is lounge suits. Lunch is £79 per person, including VAT.

Ladies Dinner – 22nd March 2017

This event is for Freemen and their wives or partners together with any guests you would like to bring as couples. This is a black tie event.

United Guilds Service & Luncheon – 31st March 2017

This St Paul's Cathedral Service was introduced just after the last World War to lift the spirits of Livery Companies and Working Guilds. St Paul's is full and it is always an uplifting Service. A short stroll back to Watermen's for lunch. It is a lovely day out. Space is very limited in the Church and at the Hall so please indicate now if you want to attend.

Quarterly Court and Luncheon – 5th April 2017

On this occasion, the Court is entertaining the Innholders' Court, so there will be no places available for Craft Owning Freemen.

Ladies Spring Luncheon – 24th April 2017

The Ladies' Committee St Georges Luncheon is not to be missed. Tickets are £70.00 a head and all ladies of the Company and their guests can be assured of a warm welcome. This is being held to raise funds for the preservation of our Georgian Hall. Please contact carol@watermenshall.org to book your place.

Freemen's St. George's Day Lunch – 27th April 2017

To celebrate our Patron Saint come to the St George's Day Luncheon. Open to Freemen and their business guests. Booking information will be available nearer the time.

Postquincennials 1st Annual Luncheon – 15th May 2017

Members of the PQs (for short) Club will be invited to a luncheon at Watermen's Hall. It is planned that this will become an annual event.

Beating the Bounds Ceremony – 25th May 2017

This is the traditional medieval marking of the parish bounds to show the children of the parish the limits of where they could go by beating each boundary mark with wands and praying for crops. For All Hallows one boundary mark is the centre of the River Thames. The present-day children are from St Dunstan's College, Catford. Those attending need to gather at All Hallows by the Tower Church in Byward Street by 14.45. The Master, Clerk, Bargemaster, Beadle and Doggett's Winners all take part along with other Masters and Clerks, parishioners, guests and the public at large. There is Festal Evensong at 17.30. All are welcome to witness this unusual ceremony. You are advised to dress anticipating inclement weather as the event is mostly outdoors.

Tour of Westminster Abbey – 26th May 2017

The Master has been offered a Tour of Westminster Abbey for 30 which he is happy to share with the Court, Freemen and their partners. The event would start with Sung Evensong at 17:00 pm, followed by a tour led by the Dean of Westminster, The Very Reverend Dr John Hall, followed by a drinks reception. The event would finish around 19:45 pm. The Court will have first option and then it will be first come, first served. Tickets are £35 per person – contact the Clerk.

Knollys Rose Ceremony and Luncheon - TBA June 2017 – date is dependant on Mansion House

The traditional ceremony of cutting of a rose by the Master usually takes place in Seething Lane Gardens. The Gardens are closed at present, undergoing a major overhaul, so the Garden at All Hallows by the Tower will be used as a substitute. The cutting ceremony takes place at approximately 11:00. This is followed by the procession to the Mansion House and the ceremony to present the rose to the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress. Those attending need to be at the Mansion House by 11.30. After the ceremony, Freemen and their guests are returning to Watermen's Hall for lunch. The Luncheon is at 12.30 for 13.00 open to all Freemen, partners and guests. This is likely to be a popular event so tickets will be available on a first come basis. Dress is lounge suits.

Freemen's Luncheon at Wax Chandlers' Hall – 14th June 2017

Several Freemen have asked whether it was possible for Freemen to meet and have lunch at another Livery Hall. There are a couple of Halls who have an offering like our River Thames Luncheon Club, Painters, Ironmongers and the Master Mariners all have a regular lunch for any Liveryman and that includes Watermen and Lightermen. However, the Wax Chandlers were interested in having lunch at Watermen's Hall and in return allowing Watermen and Lightermen to hold a lunch at Wax Chandlers' Hal. So, as an experiment, this luncheon has been organised. If it is successful, we will look to see if there are any other Livery Companies that might want to exchange a luncheon. Tickets are £79 – contact Martin Laws at the Hall to book.

Court of Bindings - 23rd June 2017

If you are interested in binding an apprentice at this Court, please contact Susan at the Hall to obtain the necessary information and paperwork required.

Swan Upping Cruise – 18th July 2017

Leaving from Eton Bridge aboard a Salter's Steamers boat. This is open to all Freemen and their partners and is being organised by the Watermen's Hall Preservation Trust Ladies' Committee. Further information will be available shortly from carol@watermenshall.org

COMPANY ANNUAL DINNER at Fishmongers' Hall Tuesday, 21st February 2017



The Company's Annual Dinner was held at Fishmongers' Hall. The Master welcomed the principal guest, the Deputy Master of Trinity House, Captain Ian McNaught MNM, and Junor Warden Mrs Gina Blair welcomed all the other guests. There was a Guard of Honour of Doggett's Coat and Badge winners on the stairs to welcome Freeman and their guests, from left: Ben Folkard, Jerry McCarthy, Jude McGrane, Ross Hunter, Bargemaster Robert Coleman, Gary Anness, Dan Arnold, Merlin Dwan and Len Grieves. In addition, there were the two winners of the Millenium Coat and Badge, Honorary Freeman Mark Hunter and Freeman John Dwan, the winner of the Diamond Jubilee Coat and Badge, Freeman Christopher Anness, and the winner of the Company 500th Coat and Badge, Freeman Alfie Anderson.

MEMBERS OF THE COURT

The Court has elected Richard D. Turk as a new Court Assistant. The Court has appointed Craft Owing Freeman Graham Barnard and Brian Lamden as Honorary Court Assistants for a three-year period.

The Court has admitted Olympians Dame Katherine Grainger DBE and Lt. Pete Reed MBE as Honorary Craft Owing Freeman.

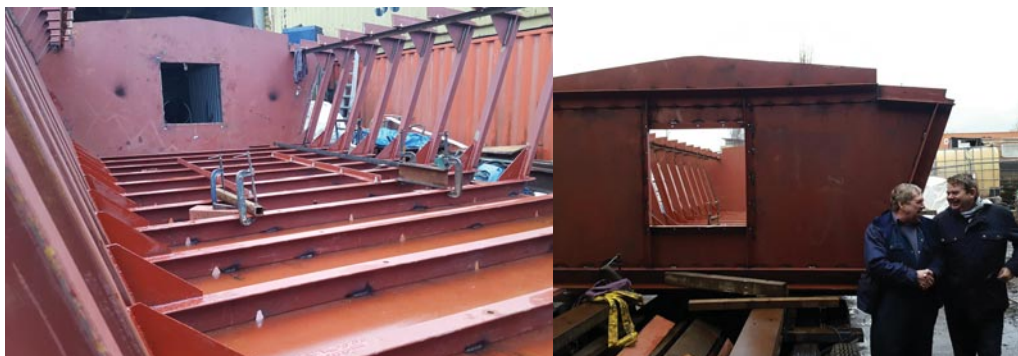
The Court has elected the Company's Training Officer, Freeman Alex Hickman, a Craft Owing Freeman with Fines, Fees and Subscriptions remitted.

COURT OF BINDINGS – Friday, 27th January 2017

Six new apprentices and three mature trainees were bound to the Company on 27th January 2017. The new apprentices are Lucas Ansbro-Bennett (Master James Howard Jr), Jimmy Anderson (Master Alfie Anderson), Harry Butler (Master Mark Springhall), Jesse Eastwood (Master Aaron Wynn), Lennie Gartell (Master Gordon Markley) and Tyler Willcox-Metcalf (Master Bradley Willcox) and the trainees are Saam Garschi, Jamie Hannay and John Harding. Good luck to you all for your career on the Thames.

COMPANY BARGE UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Wednesday, 15th February 2017



The Master, John Salter, admiring our new barge under construction at South Dock with Bill Robinson.

Photo: Colin Middlemiss

The Master visited South Dock Marina to see the Company's new barge under construction. It is being built to compete in the Thames Barge Driving Trust events and so that apprentices can train to navigate a barge under oars. Funds for the cost of the barge were raised by members of the Court.

WANTED

The Almshouses at Hastings are looking for a table tennis table for their sports club – contact Carol at the Hall if you can assist.

Hatches, Matches & Dispatches

Craft Owning and Journeyman Freeman **John Patrick Henry** passed away 30th January 2017 aged 77 years. John was born in Catford on 2nd June 1939 and bound to the Company and his Master, Charles Peter Braithwaite, on 10th August 1954, gaining his Freedom on 12th August 1961. John became a Craft Owning Freeman on 14th January 2004 and served for many years on the Lighterage Committee.

There will be a Memorial Service for John on Monday, 3rd April at All Hallows by the Tower, starting at 11:30am. The Service is open for everyone to attend. It will be followed by refreshments at Watermen's Hall. As there are limited numbers that the Hall can accommodate, entry to the Hall will be for those who have pre-registered their intention to attend with Martin Laws at Watermen's Hall.

Craft Owning Freeman **Archibald "Grahame" Bain Young** passed away 27th January 2017 aged 81 years. Grahame became a Craft Owning Freeman on 8th July 1998. Graham was a keen supporter of rowing events, including the Great River Race.

Craft Owning Freeman **Maldwin Andrew Cyril Drummond OBE DL Hon DSc FSA** passed away 18th February 2017 aged 84 years. Maldwin became a Craft Owning Freeman on 15th October 1997. Anyone who wants to attend his funeral at All Saints Church, Fawley, on 16th March is asked to e-mail helen.wiseman@cadland.co.uk. Maldwin helped start the Thames Traditional Rowing Association and Watermen's Cutters.

Craft Owning Freeman **John Francis Pearce** passed away in January 2017 aged 75 years. John became a Craft Owning Freeman on 16th January 1985 and was a stalwart of Kingston Rowing Club.



The Newsletter of The
Company of Watermen
and Lightermen of
The River Thames

Contacting the Hall

Colin Middlemiss
(Clerk)

020 7929 7451
clerk@watermenshall.org

Carol Ratcliffe
(Assistant Clerk)

020 7929 7456
carol@watermenshall.org

Martin Laws
(Hall Manager and
Company Events)

020 7929 7453
martin@watermenshall.org

Susan Fenwick
(Administrator)

020 7929 7455
admin@watermenshall.org

Alex Hickman
(Training Officer)

07956 341482
alexhickman52@aol.com

Simon McCarthy
(Rowing Officer)

07968 593842
simon@simonmccarthy.com

Robert Coleman
(Bargemaster)

07710 466040
robbie@silverfleet.co.uk

Watermen's Hall
16 St. Mary-at-Hill
London EC3R 8EF
Tel: 020 7283 2373
Fax: 020 7283 0477
www.watermenscompany.com