



# WATERMAN HOY

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

## Volume 4 – Issue 2 A Message from The Clerk

Our new Master has now chaired his first Court and clocked up over 40 external visits by way of Church Services, Lectures, Lunches and Dinners. At Court, Tom Woods gave his Declaration and became a Court Assistant. Simon Goodey was elected a Court Assistant and will give his Declaration and take his seat at the January Court. Graham Barnard was appointed an Honorary Court Assistant. We hope we will see as many of you as possible at one of our Christmas Freemen Luncheons.

However, for those not able to come, can we here at Watermen's Hall wish all Freemen the warmest compliments of the season.

### Forthcoming Events

#### DECEMBER 2016

- 13th Company Carol Service and Master's Reception
- 20th Freemen's Christmas Luncheon
- 21st Freemen's Christmas Luncheon
- 22nd Freemen's Christmas Luncheon

#### JANUARY 2017

- 4th Quarterly Court & Luncheon
- 24th Burns Night Celebrations
- 27th Court of Bindings

#### FEBRUARY 2017

- 1st Doggett's Emblem and Rowing Awards
- 21st Annual Dinner at Fishmongers' Hall

#### MARCH 2017

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

## Apprentice's and Trainee's Sculling Weekend at Henley 30th September - 2nd October 2016



Winner of the Ben Woollacott Memorial Sculls, Lucas Britton, received his prize from the Master, John Salter watched by the Clerk, Colin Middlemiss, and the Rowing Officer, Senior Warden Simon McCarthy. Jack Finelli was second and Charlie Milward third. Lucas will have his name engraved on the trophy and be presented with it at the Doggett's Emblem and Rowing Awards on 1st February 2017.

*Photos: Darren Knight*

## UPPER THAMES ROWING CLUB

EST. 1963



Colin C. Middlemiss  
November 2016

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### Company Carol Service and Master's Reception – 13th December 2016

Joint Service at All Hallows with the Bakers' Company, followed by the Master's Reception back at Watermen's Hall. Tickets are £49.00 per person

### Freemen's Christmas Lunches- 20th (fully booked), 21st (pheasant) and 22nd (limited availability) December 2016

The Christmas Luncheons are open to all Freemen and their business guests. Always popular, these will sell out quickly. They are priced at £79 per person, including VAT – please contact Martin if you haven't received a booking form.

### Quarterly Court and Luncheon – 4th January 2017

Once Court members and their guests are accommodated, there are usually a few places available for Craft Owning Freemen who would like to attend a Court Luncheon. Please let Martin know if you would like to apply for a place on a first come, first served basis. Lunch is £75 per person, including VAT.

### Burn's Night Celebrations – 24th January 2017

This popular event always sells out fast. Please book early with Martin at Watermen's Hall as soon as you receive the booking form to avoid disappointment.

### Court of Bindings – 27th January 2017

Any Freeman interested in apprenticing a young person training to become a Waterman and Lighterman should contact the Clerk at Watermen's Hall.

### Doggett's Emblem and Rowing Awards – 1st February 2017

This informal family evening is the Company's opportunity to acknowledge Mr Ben Folkard, winner of the 302nd Doggett's Coat and Badge Wager and his fellow competitors. The Fishmongers' Company present all the competitors with Doggett's medals and the Company present lapel badges. The opportunity is taken also to acknowledge the winners of other rowing events over the last year, particularly the winner of the Ben Woollacott Memorial Sculls at Henley, Lucas Britton. Apprentices and young Freemen are particularly welcomed to this event, booking form to follow.

### Annual Dinner at Fishmongers' Hall – 21st February 2017

Always very popular, the larger venue of Fishmongers' Hall enables Freemen to bring their business guests to this prestigious black tie event. Booking information will follow in due course.

### 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. Booking information will be available nearer the time.

### 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. Booking information will be available nearer the time.

### 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 Church and at the Hall so please indicate now if you want to attend.

## Great River Race 3rd September 2016



There were 328 competitors, with only 4 failing to finish, including entries from Holland, Germany and Australia as well as the UK.

The Company's cutter, *Jim Holt*, crewed by David Powell, Richard Phelps, George Hammond, Hugh Richardson, Robert Rakison, Tim Sanders and Chris Nugee and coxed by the Bargemaster, Robbie Coleman, came second in its class, 49th overall and the 19th fastest boat which was a very impressive effort.

Past Master Randall had also rowed in the crew of the *Buccaneer* which included Honorary Court Assistant Richard D. Turk. The *Buccaneer* was a little slower than the Company's cutter as two of the crew had not rowed before but still finished only 16 minutes slower than the *Jim Holt*.

Next year's race will be the 30th and will take place on the 9th September 2017.

## Thames Barge Driving Trust Apprentice Barge Driving Race 29th October 2016



Organised by the *Thames Barge Driving Trust Event Organising Committee*, this event was an outstanding success.

Thanks to Alex Hickman for his time and effort in recruiting 18 apprentices who rowed four barges skippered by Freeman. The most senior team of George Surry, Max Goodwright, Shane Pink, Charlie Eldridge and Leanne Kendall-Corps rowed with Graeme Faulkner on the Shell Bay. They took the early lead and were the overall winners in a time of 1hr 7mins, with Leanne Kendall-Corps being presented with the first female salver.

In second place was the Balfour skippered by Colin Window with the crew of Nick Schween, George Gilbert, Lucas Britton and Jack Finelli in a time of 1hr 9 mins.

The Benjamin, skippered by George Williams, with the crew of Tom de Wit, Dan Adams, Joe Putnam, Matt Brookes and Adam Green was third in a time of 1hr 10min.

The Blackwall, skippered by Roy Gould, with the first-year apprentices crew of Glen Coombs, Sean Leary, Max Eldridge and Lewis French, the latter two being only 16 years old and both presented with the youngest apprentice salver, came in fourth in a time of 1hr 13mins.

Thanks to John Potter for providing the Mother Ship "MV Pocahontas" for the event. There were some 80 people on board, most of them parents and family of the apprentices. All had a most enjoyable day and enjoyed the excellent spread of food - thanks to Jan and her team.

Alans Removals from Ramsgate and the Ramsgate Ramblers sponsored the winners salvers and medals. The Master of the Watermen's Company, John Salter, presented the winners trophies and gave encouragement to the apprentices, who are the future of the Thames.

Without the necessary tools and equipment, none of this would have happened. A special *Thank You* to the Tug owners and their crews: Capital Pleasure Boats "Mad Dog", Chalk & Clay "Apprentice" and the PLA "Driftwood" for your support, the owners of the barges for providing the means and the RHIBS for the very important safety cover, not forgetting the organising team: Bill Robinson, Darren Knight, Billy Ruler and myself, along with Ben McCann, Mark Brookes and Will McKee.

Personally, I would like to thank everyone for their generosity in supporting the draw to cover the cost of the shirts supplied to the apprentices.

*Anne Robinson*

## Parliamentary Boat Race 14th September 2016



The 2016 Parliamentary boat race took place on 14 September in front of the Houses of Parliament, raising £10,000 for charity.

Supported by the International Sports Promotion Society (ISPS), the regatta-style event welcomed youth, women's and men's crews who rowed from Lambeth Bridge to the Houses of Parliament and showcased a display of young athletes on rowing machines adapted for those with special needs.

Culminating in a race between the two Houses, MPs versus Lords, the House of Commons took the spoils and lifted the newly-named Robin Hulf Memorial Cup to extend their lead to six victories to four.

An auction took place throughout the event to raise funds for London Youth Rowing, The Company of Watermen and Lightermen and the Matt Hampson Foundation.

*The Master is presented with a cheque by Lord Thomas of Gresford, on behalf of ISPS Handa, following the event.*

## Subscriptions

From the 1st January 2017, the annual subscription rates for Craft Owning Freemen remain at £399.00. For Journeymen Freemen wishing to become Craft Owning Freemen the rate is £200.00. Reductions on the annual subscription for those over 75 years are available on request. All the above include VAT at the current rate. Please note these rates are the same as last year and the Company will do all it can to hold them at this rate for the next year. Subscriptions will be collected by direct debit in February 2017. If you do not pay by direct debit an administration fee of £35.00 + VAT will be levied. Payments by credit cards have a levy of 3%. For a direct debit form please contact Carol at the Hall.

[carol@watermenshall.org](mailto:carol@watermenshall.org)

## Hatches, Matches & Dispatches

*Past Master Emeritus, James Gee Pascoe Crowden CVO KstJ JP*, passed away 24th September 2016, aged 88 years.

James came to the Company through rowing, having been an Olympic oarsman (coxless fours) in Helsinki in 1952.

He became a Craft Owning Freeman in 1974 and joined the Court in 1983. He served on the Library Committee in 1983/4 and the Rowing and Apprenticeship & Licencing Committees from 1984/5 to 1986/7, becoming a warden in 1987/8.

James was Master of the Company in 1991/2.

He was Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire for a decade from 1992 and an honorary Fellow of Pembroke College, for whose Boat Club he rowed and later coached.

A memorial service will be held on Monday, 5th December at Ely Cathedral at 11am.

## Save the Date

The 2017 Inter-Livery Bridge Competition, organized by the Makers of Playing Cards, will take place on Monday 6th March 2017. Please contact Susan for further information or download from their website under Company Events: [www.makersofplayingcards.co.uk](http://www.makersofplayingcards.co.uk)

## The River Thames Act of Remembrance Armistice Day – Friday, 11th November 2016



The Eighth Annual River Thames Act of Remembrance to be held since its revival in 2009 will be held on Friday, 11th November 2016, led by the *Havengore*, departing St. Katharine's Pier at 10.10am. A lift of Tower Bridge will take place at 10.20am. The flotilla will travel slowly to the waters in front of St. Thomas's Hospital, arriving about

10.50am. A service, conducted by the Rev. Roger Hall, potentially audible to onlookers on the Albert Embankment, will commence at 10.55am, including 2 minutes' silence at 11am. After about 20 minutes, the *Havengore* will drop a dissolvable wreath mid-stream. Do come and view this event from anywhere along the route.

*Photo: The 2015 service with the Master, Wardens, Bargemaster, Beadle and Doggett's Winners aboard Havengore.*



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