

The Feltmaker



The Newsletter of the Worshipful Company of Feltmakers Autumn 2006 Master: Derek Bonham Issue No. 30

Lord Mayor's Hat Presentation



Master: Derek Bonham

Wardens: Geoffrey Vero, Nicholas Heal, Susan Wood, John Ray

Immediate Past Master: John Curteis **Clerk:** Jollyon Coombs

Editorial/IT Committee: Rowland Brown, Judy George, Chris Horsburgh, Edward Hutton,
John Ray, Peter Shirley, Eric Shawyer and Susan Wood

Registered at Stationers Hall

Derek C. Bonham, FCA, FCT

Derek Bonham was born in 1943. The son of a north Buckinghamshire farmer he was educated at Bedford School. He was an enthusiastic oarsman, rowing in the 1st VIII for two years and competing at Henley Royal Regatta in the Princess Elizabeth Cup.

On leaving school, he took up accountancy articles with a mid-sized West End practise. After qualifying he moved to Whinney Murray Ernst & Ernst (now Ernst & Young LLP) based in The Hague, Holland which reconfirmed his earlier intention to use accountancy as an entry point to an industrial career. After 15 months, he returned to the U.K. to join Staflex International Limited, a publicly listed textile manufacturer, as a management accountant. He soon became chief financial accountant and then group planning accountant at a time of rapid and significant change in the company.

He moved to Hanson Trust Limited in 1971 as deputy financial comptroller when it was still a very small conglomerate: "I thought I would still have a little bit more excitement before joining a serious blue chip company but I

stayed on because it was so much fun." He became an associate director in 1976, finance director in 1981, chief executive in 1992 and additionally deputy chairman in 1993. He spent much of his time travelling to and throughout the U.S.A.

Derek led the demerger of Hanson into various businesses, taking on the non-executive chairmanship of Imperial Tobacco in September 1996 and becoming executive chairman of The Energy Group PLC on the final stage of the demerger in February 1997. The company was taken over by TXU Corporation of the U.S.A. and Derek subsequently joined their board as a non-executive director, retiring in August last year.

Derek has had an extensive business career and at various times served as Chairman of Songbird Estates plc (owner of the Canary Wharf Estate), CamAxys Group plc and Cadbury Schweppes plc and as interim Chairman of Marconi plc, leading the company to its successful restructuring. Derek has also served as Deputy Chairman of Newsquest plc and as a non-executive director of Glaxo Wellcome/Glaxo Smithkline plc

and U.S. Industries Inc.

He was a member of the Accounting Standards Committee (UK) from 1987 to its disbandment in 1990 and believes he was the first non-American to serve on the Financial Accounting Standards Advisory Council in the U.S.A. (1990-93).

He continues as Chairman of Imperial Tobacco as well as being an advisor to Warburg Pincus International LLC and GSC Partners LLP.

Derek is based in London and spends most of the working week living, with his wife Dicky, in South Kensington. They recuperate at weekends at their small farm near Highclere Castle in north Hampshire. Derek loves tennis (but no longer plays !); is a keen rugby fan and an enthusiastic skier. During the winter, he spends as much time as possible at his home in the Swiss Alps.

He has two daughters from a previous marriage and is blessed with five grandchildren ranging from 8-19 years old. Derek's elder sister, Catherine, is married to Liveryman Alan Monk.

Accounts Summary

The Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2005 were approved by the Court on 3 April 2006. The Accounts showed an improvement over the prior year, with a net surplus of £3,000 compared to a deficit of £18,000. Expenditure returned to a more normal level of £34,000 after the unusual expenses

incurred in connection with our quatercentenary celebrations in 2004. Income benefited from the increase in rent from the Consett property bequeathed to the Company by the late Past Master Hemens. Our investments rose in value by £59,000, reflecting strong financial markets and good performance from the portfolios,

which comprise mainly investment trusts.

At the Installation Dinner, our new Master paid tribute to my predecessor, Geoffrey Vero, who, unusually, held the office of Renter Warden for two years.

Renter Warden

The Master's Message

I am delighted to have this opportunity to serve as Master and feel honoured to have such enthusiastic support from the Court and members of the livery.

There have been a number of very worthy initiatives over the last few years together with appropriate reminders of the core values that we aspire to in our livery. However, as I have seen in many companies during my business career, we can suffer from an overload of new ideas adopted by incoming enthusiasts who might not have to do the work !

Rather, this year, I would like to consolidate the successes of recent years and continue to build on the themes of "fellowship, charity and the maintenance of standards."

Importantly, we need to improve communications within the livery and with the outside world. Our

recently introduced website needs more work to be done to make it a genuine communications tool for the future. Those of you who are technologically challenged like myself will, hopefully, still benefit from the work that we plan to do but will not have to contribute to the hard graft.

Last year with the 200th Anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar our Common Hall was replaced, quite rightly, by a very interesting talk on Lord Nelson. This year I hope to revert to a Common Hall meeting and I am, additionally, looking at other possible and more old-fashioned ways of communicating with the livery so that we can reach, rather like Heineken beer, the parts that others cannot reach.

Above all the livery is about family, fellowship and fun. At my Installation dinner my principal

guest was the Rt Hon. David Mellor, QC who kept us highly amused with his speech. I cannot guarantee that all our speakers will be so entertaining but at least we have got the year off to a good start.

In the meantime, do remember that this is your livery as well so please make the most of it. I hope to see you all at one of our events during my year. What better place than at St Bartholomew the Great for our annual Carol Service, a great way to start the festive season. I hope to see as many of you as possible on Thursday, December 14.

For those of you who are unable to attend may I wish you a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Derek C Bonham



Failed & Bailed

On Friday, 2nd June, I, along with some 19 other Masters of Livery Companies, was summoned to assemble at the Mansion House.

Having assembled, warrants for our arrest for “despicable acts” were read out. Such acts included asking for a second helping of pudding at the Lord Mayor’s

Banquet. In my own case, I was charged with two offences; allowing the oil tank to run dry, thereby depriving my family of heating and cooking facilities for over a week, and lighting such a large bonfire that the neighbours were smoked out. There was clearly a conspiracy involving wives and clerks. After being bailed and chained, we were taken under police escort to The Tower of London, where we were detained pending bail. Whilst awaiting bail, we were forced to eat an excellent meal flushed down by wine. Bail having been paid, we were eventually released. It was a daunting experience.

My thanks to all Liverymen and friends who provided the bail for my release. It was a most amusing and enjoyable experience and overall some £33,000 was raised for the Lord Mayor’s Charity, The British Red Cross.

**Immediate Past Master
John Curteis**



Congratulations

The Very Reverend Dr John Moses was invested a Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order by Her Majesty in recognition of his distinguished ten year tenure as Dean of St Paul's Cathedral. All

Feltmakers wish John and his wife Susan a very happy retirement in Southwell and bon voyage for their forthcoming trip to Australia and New Zealand.



Rachel Trevor-Morgan's distinctively feminine hats were worn by Her Majesty on three important occasions this year, including the national service of thanksgiving at St Paul's Cathedral to mark the Queen's 80th birthday and Ladies' Day at Royal Ascot.

Feltmakers' Stall Red Cross Fair raised over £2,500. Many thanks to Eda Rose-Lawson, Freddie Fox, Rachel Trevor-Morgan, Yvette Jelfs, David Bartley, Jackie Minnighan and everyone else who worked so hard on this project last November.

Past Master's End of Term Report - 2005/06

It seems only a short time ago that I was writing "The Master's Message" for the Autumn 2005 Feltmaker magazine, at the start of my Master's year. As predicted, the year has passed in a flash, packed with many interesting and exciting events.

We Feltmakers are very fortunate to have the opportunity, early in our year, of meeting the new Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress when we formally present his hat to him at the Mansion House ceremony. Alderman David Brewer and his delightful wife Tessa at once became good friends and whenever our paths crossed he assured me that "the hat was wearing well"!

The regular livery dinners, the Carol Service at St Sepulchre and the Ladies Banquet all seemed to go well. Trafalgar 200 was celebrated with an excellent talk at the Army & Navy Club by Dr Colin White. These events are written up elsewhere.

One of the Lord Mayor's charities was Treloar Trust, which runs a school and college for disabled young people in Alton, Hampshire. My wife Fiona and I joined a group of Masters and wives for a day visit in February. Among the range of skills being taught were feltmaking and computer technology, including the maintenance of our company website. I am pleased that Treloar is on the list of charities that we support – they deserve every pound they can get.

In April I attended the Zurich Sechseläuten, a very full day of pageant and celebration. Having attended the event two years ago, when Patrick Burgess was Master, I knew what I was in for and was able to pace myself rather better than before, particularly as a speech was required (fortunately in English).

The Lord Mayor's other charity was the British Red Cross and, in support of this worthy cause, he and the Lady Mayoress put on a "Jailed and Bailed" event at the Mansion House and the Tower of London. There is a more detailed account of this event elsewhere but may I just thank everyone in the Company who helped to raise my bail money of £1,000, thereby securing my release from the Tower!

I suppose the climax of my year was the Master's Welsh Weekend, when a group of some 20 Liverymen and spouses visited Cardiff for what was, I believe, our

first ever Livery Away Weekend. The first event of the weekend was a dinner on the Friday evening in the splendid surroundings of Cardiff Castle, at which we were joined by members of the Welsh Livery Guild. The Deputy Lord Mayor kindly provided a reception and during dinner we enjoyed a display of hats by Alison Tod, a milliner from Abergavenny. The following morning we visited the Museum of Welsh Life at St Fagans and in the evening were given a conducted tour of the Senedd, the new debating chamber of the Welsh Assembly, followed by the Welsh National Opera performance of *The Return of Ulysses* in the Millennium Centre – an interesting production with delightful music. The visit concluded on Sunday with a buffet lunch at our home in St Hilary. The weather was perfect throughout the weekend, which was unusual for Wales!

Looking back to my message at the start of my year, I see that I wrote, "if, in a year's time, the Company is as strong as it is today or, better still, with some value added, then I shall be content". It is, of course, not for me to judge whether I have added any value during my year; but I look back on a year which Fiona and I have greatly enjoyed and I do thank all Feltmakers for the support that you have given me during the year.

John Curteis
Immediate Past Master



Hats by Alison Tod

www.feltmakers.co.uk

Production of the Company's first website was commissioned by our Clerk from Treloar College, the school for the severely disabled, and one of the charities supported by the Feltmakers' charitable foundation. It was designed by student Daniel Gill and was published to the internet in 2005. The college has a unit called the Ian Karten Centre, in which students can get real work experience in the provision of office services and they provide ongoing support for our website. This first site was quite basic and when Treloars asked at the end of 2005 if another student, James Tadd, who was studying for his

vocational A-level in information technology, could redesign our site as his course project, we were happy to agree. Two liverymen, Chris Horsburgh and Peter Shirley, worked with James on his project and the redesigned website went live in July 2006.

The intention is for the site to be a communication tool for the Company, and it currently has pages giving information about us and our history, our charitable foundation, the Hat competition, and a password protected Members' area, which details the Company's annual diary of events. You can also see copies of the

Feltmaker magazine since the 2004 edition. It is planned, not only to keep the site updated with current information, but to expand the amount of material it presents, so that it complements the Feltmaker and other regular information that Liverymen already receive.

Liverymen are encouraged to visit www.feltmakers.co.uk so that they can see for themselves, and note that the Members' password is included in the October letter from the Clerk.

Peter Shirley



James Tadd (right) in Treloars' computing classroom

Feltmakers' Society Report – October 2006

The year started well with a very fine dinner in the Clive Room at the East India Club. Twenty-four Livery Society members attended with the Master, Chaplain and Clerk as our guests. A relaxed evening ensued and the conversation turned to additional activities which the Livery Society might organise for the coming year. A walk around Feltmakers London and a wine tasting evening were the most popular choices.

The Cricket season was quickly upon us with the Single wicket competition at Knotty Green CC in May. The Match against Chiltern in June was held at Great Missenden CC. Chiltern managed to scrape past us in the last over to

gain victory in a very tight match. Our thanks to Peter Simeons and Simon Curtis for organising these events.

The Master's Golf day in May was postponed as we were unable to raise the required number of players, but fortunately was rescheduled for early October.

The highlight of the year was the guided walk through Borough, "From Hats to Hops", organised by Jane Way and guided by Stephen Humphrey. Whilst we started as a manageable group of 13 Liverymen, the numbers grew as we proceeded through the historic sights of Borough, and in particular at the various hostelrys we visited to refresh the weary legs!

A full report of this event can be found in the article written by Jane Way.

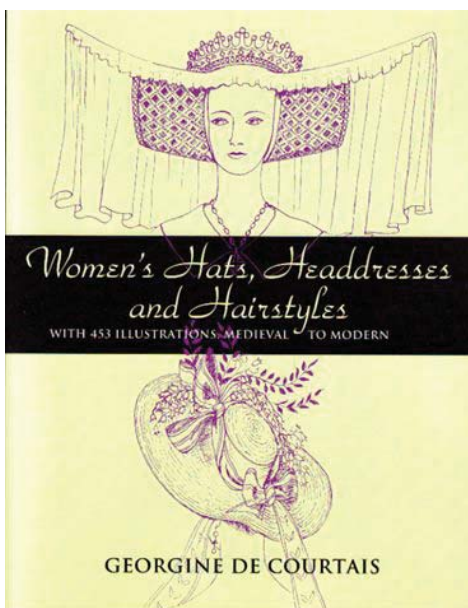
We welcome participation in all the Livery Society events and if members of the Livery have any suggestions they would like the Livery Society Committee to consider, please do not hesitate to contact Jeremy Brassington at brasscom@globalnet.co.uk or by telephone on 01483 773378.

We are looking at the possibility of staging a wine tasting in London over the coming months and will be holding the next Livery Society dinner at the East India Club on Monday 22nd January 2007.

Jeremy Brassington

Women's Hats, Headdresses and Hairstyles

This delightful book by Georgine de Courtais charts the changes in women's millinery and hairstyles from 600 AD to 1985. First published in 1973 it was updated and republished in 1986. Now the 1986 edition has been published again in America, unabridged. In its 187 pages it contains 453 drawings of which 330 are of millinery. Not only is it a valuable book for any student of fashion, or fashion history, but Georgine de Courtais' stylish pen and ink drawings and succinct historical explanation make it one of the



finest we have come across and, as the 'Economist' said 'remarkably entertaining'.

Georgine de Courtais' son, Nick, holds a very small stock of this new print and the book may be obtained directly from him. The address is: 33, First Turn, Wolvercote, Oxford, OX2 8AH. Tel: 01865 557739. The cost is only £12 including postage whilst the present UK stocks last.

Past Master John Bowler

The Very Reverend Colin Semper

Feltmakers often comment on our Chaplain's stirring sermons delivered at the Christmas Carol Service. We are pleased to print in full last year's sermon and hope you will be present on Thursday 14 December at the Priory Church of St Bartholomew the Great, Smithfield for this year's Carol Service.

I have always believed that in dealing with the great religious traditions of the world, you don't say – well, they're all the same really. Because they are not. What you do is share the sharp differences and thereby comes tolerance and understanding. And, of course, why we are here tonight – to retell the Christmas story – is the sharpest Christian difference. And what we are here for is either true or it isn't. God became a human being or God didn't. God became flesh, trusted human flesh, our flesh, or God didn't. God was born at Christmas (whenever that was) or God wasn't. You believe it or you don't. And it isn't easy. Not at all.

For example, God decides to enter this world but not as a big mover or shaker. On the contrary, God comes in human flesh, which will feel the full measure of worldly pain. For example, God doesn't place himself in celeb glamour, in affluence, in success, in fun. The

light shines in darkness – darkness all around. I mean Joseph is thinking about divorce because his fiancée is pregnant and there could be disgrace. I mean the journey to Bethlehem wasn't an outing to the seaside, but an expensive expedition for a census, ordered by an occupying power. Children are murdered. There is upheaval, insecurity, fear, danger, exile. As well as the glory, you see, there is the darker side of the human predicament. True, true celebration as well. I love it. It is joy. And joy is such a deep small word. I repeat – I love it.

It is sometimes said that the birth of God as a baby makes things simpler, clearer, sweeps away the mist of the mystery of God. I don't believe that. On the contrary, the baby deepens the mystery. But to plumb that mystery, to have our lives changed by what we don't fully understand isn't very popular, isn't very easy either, in a world scarred by fundamentalist violence and mind numbing bigotry.

But it was into just such a world that Jesus was born. And his message has survived while the fanatics of his time have disappeared into oblivion. Strange, strange is it not – that a faith of love which survived centuries of hate, is now in danger because of

indifference – ours.

But look – as Mr Blair says as the argument is slipping away from his grasp – when all is said and done, the faith gives us a picture of a mother and a child. It is a picture of unconditional love and grace and care and light – at Christmas. It is The Light, the Divine Light, which shines in the darkness of our world.

At our worst we have made it trite and cloying. At our best we have made it touching and of ultimate beauty. That is why for centuries artists have tried to paint it.

For myself, and maybe for you, I think I can only close my eyes and shudder. God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God who for us and our rescue came down from heaven and was made man.

I wish all of you, friends over many years, a joyous Christmas. As my sons would say – you have a good one.

Amen.

Colin Semper.

Feltmaker Christmas Carol Service
St Sepulchre without Newgate 15
December 2005

Life Members' Luncheon

Our annual lunch was held on Tuesday, 16th May at Restaurant Gran Paradiso in Victoria, kindly organised by Susan Wood. We were honoured to have the Master as our guest. Those Life Members

attending (Peter Keens, David Holborow, Martin Harper, Geoffrey Farr, Peter Cobb, Patrick Burgess, Susan Wood and Richard Hodgson) very much enjoyed Italian food, wines and lively conversation.

A splendid gathering: roll on next year.

Richard Hodgson

2003 Carol Service Revisited

In the last issue of the *Feltmaker* the Chaplain referred to the puzzlement caused by one of the lessons selected by Past Master Patrick Burgess for the 2003 Carol Service - a stanza from a poem by Gerard Manley Hopkins about a shipwreck. Past Master Patrick Burgess explains his choice:

Had the poem I selected anything to do with the City, or with Christmas? Some background may perhaps assist those Liverymen whose exquisite courtesy prevented them from looking blank-faced on the night!

The London mercantile connection of the reading is about something easily forgotten nowadays: the wide mouth of the estuary of the Thames might represent a welcome to those returning home, but experienced mariners regarded it with foreboding: shallow waters, sandbanks, high seas, treacherous currents, unpredictable winds and fog made that stretch of water, so

near and yet so far, a grave yard for many ships. The *Deutschland*, travelling with a full cargo and many passengers from the Low Countries to London was caught up in such a weather pattern, with the loss of all hands.

Gerard Manley Hopkins reflected on this tragedy in his poem "The Wreck of the *Deutschland*" where he ponders on human heroism, the savagery of nature, and the unfathomable mystery of a God whose existence cannot be denied simply because we are faced with what is called the "problem of pain", the first lines of the poem are "Thou mastering me God! Giver of breath and bread;..."

The fifth stanza starts with every sailor's preoccupation - the sky - and it seems to carry an allusion to the Star of Bethlehem but, in our complicated existence it provides a foil against those neat and bejewelled accounts of Christmas

in the medieval and Georgian carols that we usually sing. It acknowledges that everyone faced with suffering feels doubt from time to time - particularly in this insecure world of ours - but that we get glimpses of the majesty and mystery of things as well.

Here again are the words of that stanza:

*"I kiss my hand
To the stars, lovely - asunder
Starlight, wafting him out of it; and
Glow, glory in thunder;
Kiss my hand to the dappled - with -
damson west:
Since, tho' he is under the world's
splendour and wonder,
His mystery must be instressed, stressed;
For I greet him the days I meet him, and
bless when I understand."*

Past Master Patrick Burgess

The New Fourth Warden

John Ray was born in 1945. He was educated at High Wycombe Royal Grammar School where he spent much time playing tennis, representing both the school and the junior county team.

Following school, he took up articles with a small accountancy practice based in Chancery Lane. After qualifying, he moved to Barton Mayhew (now Ernst & Young LLP) where he spent three years before joining the group

head office of a large conglomerate based in Mayfair. He spent his career in various roles based in the head offices of large international groups, and has now retired. Since 1992 he has been a Trustee Director of a charity concerned with drug and alcohol addiction based in Aylesbury.

John was first introduced to the Feltmakers Company in 1989 by the late John Roberts and was elected to the Livery the following year.

John lives with his wife Rosemary in Buckinghamshire. They have two children: a son who lives in London and a daughter who, since university, has spent several years living and working in Africa and New Zealand.

He no longer plays tennis, but still enjoys watching it, along with rugby and cricket, and is a member of the MCC.

April Livery Dinner

This year's April Court Meeting was held on Monday, 3rd April, probably for the first time in the history of the Livery, in the unique surroundings of the Court Room of the Great Hall at Lincoln's Inn. Court Members were privileged to be given a tour of the Great Hall at the conclusion of the meeting.

Following the meeting, some 107 Liverymen and their guests, including six Masters of other Livery Companies accompanied by their Clerks, gathered in the Old Hall, Lincoln's Inn for dinner. The toast to the guests was proposed by Mr Stephen Leslie QC. The principal guest, Sir Richard Curtis DL, a recently retired High Court judge, replied to the toast.

Lincoln's Inn lies hidden in Central London, as a beautiful and tranquil haven from the bustle of the city, serving as a reminder of a bygone age. Formal records of the Inn date at least as early as 1422, although there are grounds for believing that the Inn had been in existence for some time before this. An Ordinance of Edward I in 1292

was partly responsible for founding the Inns. All the land currently occupied by the Inn was formally conveyed to the Inn on November 12th, 1580.

Whatever their origins, the Inns came to provide all that was needed for practice at the Bar - chambers to live and work in, a hall to eat and drink in, a chapel or church to pray in, and a library to consult books in. Times change, and today, with a much larger Bar, few barristers live in the Inn. Indeed, a quarter of them practise in large towns outside London. Otherwise the picture remains unaltered in its essentials, providing chambers for at least some barristers to work from, a library, a Chapel and halls for dining.

The Old Hall is the finest building in the Inn and possibly one of the finest buildings in London. A tablet on the outside of the north wall records that the hall was built "in the fifth year of King Henry VII". He came to the throne in 1485, and so the hall is a building that was erected before Christopher Columbus set sail for

the New World. It replaced a previous hall that had fallen into decay. Towards the end of the 18th century, unwise changes were made in the Old Hall which eventually threatened the stability of the walls, and in 1924 the hall was in danger of collapse. Over the next three years the Inn's own workmen restored the Old Hall and on November 22nd, 1928, it was re-opened by Queen Mary.

In addition to discharging the functions of the dining hall of the Inn, the Old Hall was also regularly used as a court of justice. From 1737 onwards it was in regular use as the High Court of Chancery out of term time. However, the most famous use of the Old Hall as a court is fictional - the opening scene of *Bleak House* is set here.

Stephen Leslie QC,
(a Bencher of Lincoln's Inn)

Editor's Note

It was through the good offices of Mr Leslie that the Livery was able to dine at Lincoln's Inn.

The United Guilds Service 2006

The origins of the United Guilds Service are not as old as you might expect. The service was started in 1943, the point at which the country's morale was at its lowest during the Second World War, when a service was held 'to lift the spirits' of the City of London following the Blitz. All the Livery Companies and Guilds congregated at St Paul's Cathedral on Thursday, 25th March 1943; and since then it has become an annual event.

On 31st March 2006 the spectacle of all 107 Livery Companies seated in the Cathedral in order of precedence still had the capacity to lift one's spirits. His Eminence Cardinal Cormac Murphy O'Connor, the Archbishop of Westminster, preached this year's sermon.

The Master, Wardens and Members of the Court traditionally attend the service. Afterwards the Feltmakers shared the Weavers'

bus to the Savoy Hotel where lunch was enjoyed in the Gondoliers' room. We are indebted to Past Master Sir Hugh Wontner for initiating the tradition of the Savoy Lunch when he was Chairman of the Savoy Group. It really makes the day an occasion in our Livery calendar.

Jollyon Coombs

Trafalgar presentation by Dr Colin White

This year's Common Hall marked the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar with a lecture given by Dr Colin White to around 100 Feltmakers and their guests in the comfortable surroundings of the Army and Navy Club. Dr White is Deputy Director of the Royal Naval Museum and one of the greatest Nelson historians alive. The account which he gave of the battle and Nelson's role in it was both highly entertaining and, for the writer at least, most educational.



As the Master, Commander John Curteis, pointed out in his welcoming remarks, we were indeed fortunate that Dr White had the time to give a lecture to the Feltmakers, given his very extensive commitment, as Chair of the Official Nelson Commemorations Committee, laying the foundations for the bicentennial celebrations.

Dr White made the case that the heroic mythology that has enveloped Nelson, our greatest admiral, has tended to overshadow what we know about Nelson the man. Nelson undoubtedly was a hero – one of the greatest Britain has ever produced. A naval captain before he was 21, a household name throughout most of Europe at 39 and killed in action just weeks after his 47th birthday, he lived a colourful and crowded life. Dr White, however, balanced this account of Nelson's heroic qualities with an analysis of the very human qualities that made him so successful and helped us understand why, when the news of his death spread through the British fleet after Trafalgar, many of his men broke down and cried.

The lecture pointed to Nelson's deep attachment to all ranks serving under him, implying that his success in battle was owed as much to his skills as a man-manager and fleet administrator, as to any particular tactical innovation. Nelson's special contribution to the British success at Trafalgar was not just his battle plan but the way he then communicated it in advance to his captains, both in verbal briefings and in writing. This level of pre-battle consultation and briefing may seem commonplace to us – but in 1805 it was truly revolutionary. We also learned about his relationship with Emma Hamilton and about the recent research which has debunked the theory of the Victorians. Unable to accept the idea of two fighting men kissing each other, they maintained that the dying Nelson

did not utter the words “Kiss me Hardy” to his flag captain but instead lapsed into Turkish saying “Kismet (fate) Hardy”!

For Dr White, the famous statue, on its over-tall column, is one of his least favourite representations of Nelson, being too grand and imposing and conveying little of the humanity that made Nelson so special. For him, one of the most powerful images of the great man is the modern wax figure in the Nelson Gallery of the Royal Naval Museum, alongside HMS Victory in the Historic Dockyard at Portsmouth. Based on all the very latest research, it is generally agreed by most Nelson experts to be a very close likeness. That is the Nelson that he hoped people would encounter during the bicentenary year – the warm, flesh-and-blood human being with whom we can engage, not the cold, stony hero cut off from us on the top of his column.

What was particularly interesting in Dr White's account of preparations for the bicentennial celebrations was the role played by the French and Spanish authorities who provided much new evidence on the conduct of the battle and, in the process, of their admiration for one of our greatest heroes.

The evening will have been most memorable for those who attended. Congratulations and thanks must therefore go to The Master for his considerable foresight in booking Dr White before his diary became too full to allow him to entertain us as he did.

Edward Hutton



The Hat Competition 2006



This year's felt design competition, organised by Past Master Horsman, took place on April 7th in the Haberdashers' Hall. The six judges represented different aspects of the millinery trade. Liverymen Eda Rose-Lawson, Frederick Fox and Rachel Trevor-Morgan are all milliners. Their eye was particularly on the craftsmanship of the designs, while liveryman Ian Wright, as a hat manufacturer, judged from a more commercial angle. They were joined by Sophie Armstrong-Brown, accessories buyer for Monsoon Ltd, and Carole Denford, editor of The Hat Magazine.

The 45 entries were of the usual high standard and clearly demonstrated the versatility of felt. Judging was difficult. In the end the winning prize went to Justin Smith's very original, beautifully crafted perching cap. Many hours must have gone into cutting out the felt discs which were attached to stalks bursting out of a central dome encrusted with diamante. His accompanying artwork was also very strong. Jane Fryer's second prize was a feminine fur felt headpiece with beautiful handmade roses also in felt. Elizabeth Causley's red discs won third prize. Once on the head this piece had a lovely line and showed a very good eye for balance, which is essential for any hat to work. The full list of prize winners is shown below.

Towards the end of the deliberations the judges were joined by the Master and his wife, the Lady Mayoress and the Sherriffs' wives and by Past Master Brian Burgess, and Major Jollyon Coombs, our learned Clerk. All present witnessed the final discussions and were able to add their valuable opinions and comments. The whole process was followed by a delicious lunch to reward all the hard work.

Rachel Trevor-Morgan



Winning Entry



*Past Master Bill Horsman
with 2nd prize*



3rd Prize

Prizes were awarded as follows:

- First Prize £1000 – Justin Smith** – Royal College of Art
- Second Prize £500 – Jane Fryer** – Kensington and Chelsea College
- Third Prize £250 – Elizabeth Causley** – Leeds College of Art
- Craftsmanship Prize £100 – Ingrid Gosse** – Mod'Art, Paris
- Commercial Appeal Prize £100 – Sarah Low** – Cardonald College, Glasgow
- Artwork and Presentation Prize £100 – Gemma Holly** – Kensington and Chelsea
- Innovative Use of Felt £100 – Daphne Polliot** – Kensington and Chelsea
- Highly Recommended Certificate – Anna Moxon** – Northampton College

For info about the Feltmakers Award 2007 please contact:

Mr William Horsman,
c/o Albion Works, 29 Albion Road,
Luton LU2 ODS. UK
Email: w.horsman@btinternet.com

Installation Dinner

In the elegant ambience of the Haberdashers' Hall on Friday evening 6th October, Derek Bonham moved serenely and smoothly into the Mastership of the Company in succession to Commander John Curteis, with the Livery extending to him heartfelt congratulations and good wishes.

This was the fifth Installation Dinner of the Company in succession to be held in this gracious and stylish Livery Hall, and the Company clearly feels thoroughly at home in these surroundings. They make a strong, positive statement about modern architecture and craftsmen's skills and the place of Livery Companies in the 21st Century.

The pre-Dinner reception in the gallery was abuzz with Livery members re-living and sharing memories of the recently held Cardiff weekend; clearly it had been a triumphant success. This lively atmosphere moved with the company into the Dining Hall, where a well-balanced menu was

complemented by choice wines, the Margaux that accompanied the main course being particularly outstanding.

The swift and attentive service provided by the staff ensured that the programme ran smoothly to time, and Court Assistant Simon Bartley was on his feet welcoming the guests in almost record time. With an elegant turn of phrase, Simon gave a particular welcome to the trio of visiting Masters, Haberdashers, Tallow Chandlers and Watermen and Lightermen, to the Master's wife Mrs. Dicky Bonham and of course to the Principal Guest David Mellor QC - not forgetting the thirty eight other guests.

David Mellor, renowned for never being at a loss for words, treated the company to a vintage, witty and highly entertaining after dinner speech, at which the audience's laughter measure went unquestionably right off the scale. He shamelessly described himself as an after dinner windbag, but his was the artistry of the art that

hides art. If there was any wind blowing in the Hall, it was the gales of laughter he generated. The Company was in mellow mood for the final item in the evening's formal programme, thanks to the Margaux and the Mellor factor, and our new Master could not have batted on a more favourable wicket as he rounded off the formalities with courteously expressed thanks to his predecessor for the success of the Cardiff weekend, to Dicky his wife for her support, to guest speaker David and to Simon Bartley, incoming Master of the Lightmongers, genially quipping on Simon's lapsus linguae - or forgetting which company he was addressing. With assurances of his intentions that he would hope to be building on the foundations of his predecessors, the Company moved to the outer concourse for a stirrup cup to smooth the journey home, definitely in a mellow/mellor mood.

Rowland Brown

Becoming a Feltmaker

Dr. David Siegler was admitted to the Feltmakers in January, and here records his impressions of the event.

My Sponsor, Past Master William Horsman had explained the extra honour of being admitted to the Livery at the Master's Plough Monday Dinner. On this occasion, the admission and dinner took place in the wonderful setting of the Tallow Chandlers' Hall. I was to be admitted with the two lady model milliners and under the Company's regulations, we could not all enter simultaneously, so they were admitted first, and I

came in separately afterwards, led into the Court by the Beadle and a Steward.

I found the admission ceremony very moving: I suspect the form of words has not altered for several hundred years. I had been thoroughly briefed by the Clerk, and was thus expecting to say a few words to the Master and the Court, and then to be introduced at high speed to all the Court Members individually. Because of Plough Monday, I had the opportunity to meet the Sheriffs before dinner. The special 'Speed the Plough' grace was delivered in

Colin Semper's inimitable style, and we sat down to a splendid meal.

The overwhelming impression of dining with the Feltmakers (and confirmed by subsequent dinners) is of the welcome and fellowship accorded to new Liverymen and guests of the Company: you are made to feel that everyone is genuinely pleased to greet you, and the Feltmakers' reputation for friendship and hospitality has been confirmed to me by Liverymen from other companies who have dined with us.

Aboard HMS Lancaster

“Far-called, our navies melt away”, wrote Kipling in 1897. Today’s Royal Navy may be smaller than it was but never has the need for it been greater - security at sea is as important as ever. The tremendous job the Royal Navy does was brought home to me in June, when I responded to an invitation from Commander James Morley and the company of HMS Lancaster, for a Feltmaker to join them for a four day cruise from Corfu to Crete.

Lt. Cdr Ross Brodie, Lancaster’s Executive Officer, met me at Corfu airport at 6:30 in the morning. When I apologised for the early hour he simply replied: “the ship never sleeps”. By the time I had finished a hearty breakfast in the ship’s Wardroom, I realised that this was typical of the Royal Navy’s care for their guests. Every member of the ship’s complement made me most welcome and the tactfulness and consideration of the whole crew soon put me at my ease.

We sailed the following morning and I was privileged to watch from the Bridge. One surprise for me was that at all times the crew kept the ship under the most stringent armed guard. As a guest of the Royal Navy, you soon realise that the War on Terror is no fiction of the newspapers and even the Mediterranean would not be safe without the Royal Navy and those of our allies.

My accommodation in a bunk in a Chief Petty Officers’ cabin was generous by naval standards but cramped by those of most Feltmakers I imagine – four men living for six months in a cabin the size of a small box-room. While officers’ cabins are more spacious, some of the crew live 32 to a cabin.

An example of the sacrifices which the Royal Navy’s sailors make today to keep the seas safe for us.

Over the next few days the Officers and crew

showed me all over the ship. I saw the eight Harpoon missiles, each capable of hitting a ship 95 miles away and blowing it in two. I saw the 4.5 inch gun, capable of firing shells a distance of nearly 14 miles at a rate of more than one every three seconds. I saw the ship’s six engines (two gas turbines - jet engines to you and me - and four huge diesels) and I was assured that I followed in the footsteps of our Clerk as I climbed the ladders inside the mast to inspect the huge Type 996 Air Defence Radar. One highlight was being allowed to join the ship’s helicopter on a routine flight. At 17 tons the Merlin helicopter seemed to me only a little smaller than the ship’s flight-deck and I took my hat off to her skilled crew. Even this routine flight brought home to me that ‘the price of freedom is eternal vigilance’ - we carefully inspected ships at sea and checked their identity through a secure datalink direct to NATO. Another highlight was the dinner the Captain kindly hosted in his cabin for three officers, three warrant officers and me. Afterwards he invited us for a nightcap under the stars on the wing of the bridge. I doubt that anyone has ever shared



a midnight drink with a more hospitable host in a more beautiful spot.

I must pay tribute to Lancaster’s sterling work in the Indian Ocean earlier in the year. Many people think that terrorism, piracy and slavery have long been eradicated, yet the warships of the Royal Navy and our allies are fighting daily to control these scourges. I was horrified to hear that hundreds of bodies are washed up every year on the shores of the Red Sea. Nobody really knows who these poor people are, but their mortal remains are a terrible reminder that there is widespread crime and terrorism at sea. When I joined them, our friends on board the Lancaster had just spent six months patrolling these dangerous waters in temperatures of 45 degrees C – in a ship originally designed for Arctic service. Altogether, this was one of the most interesting experiences of my life and I would like to thank the Worshipful Company of Feltmakers, our Clerk and of course the Captain, Officers and Company of HMS Lancaster.

William Battersby

Feltmakers' Charitable Foundation

This year has been a time of consolidation and it would not be a fair assessment of the year to date to summarise it as “no charity walk, no progress”. The year has not been a standstill, far from it. We have seen the real benefit of the St. Clements Initiative as a revenue stream allowing us to meet greater and wider demand for our charitable support. Our equity portfolio has shown good returns on a much improved market position. Our thanks as Trustees are due to our investment advisers in the Livery enabling us again to provide additional funds to sustain the increased value of the Feltmaker's Award and its expenses and maintain our support of Kensington & Chelsea College and their hat design students. Our attendance at their annual show at Chelsea Town Hall when the students display their designs is definitely an event not to be missed. We have been pleased to be able to meet a number of Liverymen's requests for support for charities with which they have been associated.

We are looking to provide more information about the Charitable Foundation on the Company's re-vamped Website, not only for Liverymen, but also for non-Livery donors. This will include a Gift Aid Form, together with a Legacy Leaflet, which can be downloaded. Also we believe that a simple form of request to be completed by

Liverymen when applying to the Charitable Foundation would assist in the consideration process and also help us to monitor projects which we are asked to support. It might be helpful to indicate that requests which are time sensitive should be suggested early to avoid disappointment. In this respect the Trustees are grateful to the Charity Committee for the time they give to considering a number of requests for charitable support which includes any follow-up research that is required, or visits to the Charity in question. Sometimes in the process of consideration further information from Project Managers is required to ensure that the Foundation is supporting charitable endeavours.

As part of the process of establishing a strong and effective charitable arm to the Livery the Trustees and the Charity Committee will be meeting together to review how the last 12 months have progressed, how we might improve such arrangements and ensure that communication between the Trustees and the Charity Committee is always at its best. The meeting will also consider possible fundraising opportunities that might be on the horizon. Making reference to fundraising often gives to the hearer a sinking feeling. This is an opportunity to reassure the Livery that any additional fundraising will be for a specific named project and, secondly, the emphasis will be

biased in favour of the “fun” element in fundraising. A few initiatives have been suggested and hopefully these will be launched in the next twelve months. A number of small initiatives when grouped together could produce a new revenue stream which would allow us to consider greater charitable giving in any year. Suggestions to the Trustees from any Liveryman as to how the Foundation might embrace a new fundraising initiative would be appreciated. Any Liveryman who would like to get involved in the work of the Foundation do please let the Clerk know indicating how that help might be given.

By the end of 2006 we will have achieved our own budget spend of approximately £20,000 which does not include a further sum for this year of £5,000 which we have received from the Haberdashers Company and which is paid to the Pensioner Hatters at Christmas time.

The Trustees express their thanks to the Clerk for his help and assistance and useful input into our deliberations and as we go to press the author hears a whisper of a possible walk in 2007. Clearly the Foundation is still marching ahead!

**Past Master Brian Burgess
Chairman of the Feltmakers'
Charitable Foundation**

From Hats to Hops

A guided historical walk of Victorian Southwark

We assembled, appropriately, at the Mad Hatter Hotel in Stamford Street. It was a perfect June evening. Our guide, Stephen



Humphrey, is an historian and librarian of the Southwark History Library.

And so we stepped out and back in time to Victorian Southwark.

In Roman times, the area now known as Southwark was desolate marshland, but by the 17th century it was the second largest urban area in England.

Warehouses and wharfs on the banks of the Thames proliferated, and during the Industrial Revolution, Southwark became a great manufacturing centre and trades such as engineering, brewing and hat making flourished.

The Mad Hatter Hotel had been the offices of a substantial hat factory called Tresco & Sons. Further east towards Bermondsey the two enormous Christy & Co. factories faced each other on the

north and south banks of the Thames.

Significantly, we saw the site of No.24 Nelson Square, home to John Bowler, hat manufacturer, but the square had been demolished after the war. Old fire

stations cropped up with connections to the hat trade. Hidden away was an old work house used for the hat trade which had later become headquarters for the newly founded Fire Brigade. Round the corner in Southwark Bridge Road is a large elegant Georgian house, once home to John Rawlinson Harris, MP and hat manufacturer, more recently used as headquarters for the London Fire Brigade, now housing its Fire Brigade Museum.

Stephen showed us further architectural delights, like the exquisite Octavia Hill designed cottages, and 99 Southwark Street, a handsome building, used to house from 1874 - 1966, a machine invented by David Kircaldy to test the strength of metals. Too huge to remove, it remains there to this day in good working order.....and so to The Lord Clyde, a most

welcoming Victorian pub, which was our pit stop.

Liverymen of a certain age may well have enjoyed John Collis Brown's Compound, or Chlorodyne, which together with Wrights Coal Tar Soap and Stephen & Howell essences was manufactured in the area. Other local industries included the manufacture of cast iron coal hole covers, stamped with "Hayward Bros", adorning London streets to this day.

Last stop before dinner was the Hop exchange, completed in 1836. Hops were transported up The Old Kent Road from the country and were traded from the elaborately decorated atrium which still boasts its original tiles and ornate wrought ironwork.

We ended our walk at the George, a galleried coaching inn off Borough High Street, and in a panelled dining room, we enjoyed good food and fine wines for the remainder of the evening.

Our thanks to Stephen Humphrey for a most interesting and informative tour and my thanks to all Liverymen who supported this event.

Jane Way



The Ladies' Banquet

This year's Ladies' Banquet took place at the Mansion House on Friday 9th June, by kind permission of the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, in

After the Loyal Toast, and the Toast to the Members of the Royal Family, we were delighted to hear, firstly, from Derek Bonham, Upper Warden, proposing the civic toast.

many, livery functions. Reference was made to a number of key events in this livery year, including our very happy association with the Captain and crew of HMS



Lancaster, and our close links with the Treloar School and College. The Master then called upon Lady Howard to present the Feltmaker Award for 2006 to Mr. Justin Smith, from the Royal College of Art, to whom we offer our warmest congratulations.

We were honoured to have Dr. Thomas

the elegant surroundings of the Egyptian Room. As usual, this occasion provided a wonderful opportunity for the Company to invite some 140 guests to enjoy the evening (which, not surprisingly perhaps, had a distinct nautical tang to it) with us.

As on previous occasions, we had a sumptuous display of award-winning millinery, which a number of our lady guests were pleased to try on for effect, whilst we enjoyed our champagne. A splendid meal, complemented by excellently well-chosen wines followed, accompanied by a sterling performance from the Honourable Artillery Company Brass Quintet. Again, the nautical theme was well in evidence in the pieces chosen.

His comments, in particular, on the importance, vibrancy and excitement of the modern City, were extremely well received. Alderman Sir David Howard Bt. representing the Lord Mayor, replied and proposed the toast to the Feltmakers, charming us with a number of humorous anecdotes. His remarks on the importance of an effective transport infrastructure for the City, particularly as we approach the 2012 Olympics, very appropriately complemented those made by the Upper Warden.

The Master, in responding, and in welcoming, and proposing the toast to, our guests, thanked our spouses, partners and other halves for giving us time off for 'good behaviour', to attend this, as so

Stuttaford, O.B.E., reply on behalf of the guests. Much witty and apposite reference was made to the role of the feltmaking industry in medicine, and vice versa. We were both surprised and delighted to learn that the presence of the supra-orbital ridge is, in fact, a physiological response to the requirement to retain one's hat, which, in turn, keeps the head at the correct temperature and dry: a most desirable medical outcome !

The great success of this year's Ladies' Banquet has demonstrated, yet again, that the Worshipful Company of Feltmakers continues to flourish in this, our 402nd year.

Judy George

Justin Smith

Profile of Justin Smith, Winner of the 2006 Feltmakers' Design Award

Justin Smith is no ordinary dinner party guest. Forget the standard flowers or chocolates- Justin takes his hosts a homemade hat, each with their own unique lining achieved by the art of appliqué.

Justin's entry for the Feltmakers' Hat Competition really stood out against the other 44 entries. Insisting that he doesn't "do fluff or feathers", Justin thinks his winning hat epitomises his 'style'- something eclectic, structured and dense. Justin always tries to keep colour understated, give or take the odd bright pink lining. When designing the hat for the competition, Justin admits he saw the hat as an object, not necessarily a hat for a particular person or even a certain gender. In fact, the vast majority of his hats are unisex. The inspiration behind the winning hat was a simple riding cap. Justin wanted his riding

cap to be layered and secretive. It took him over six weeks to complete.

Justin worked in catering and hairdressing before he began making hats in 2000. He gained a distinction on the HNC millinery course at Kensington & Chelsea College in 2005 and then embarked on an MA in millinery at London's Royal College of Art the same year. He will graduate next June. The other student on Justin's course also used to be a hairdresser and Justin believes there is a strong link between hair and hats. Justin claims that from an early age, his wardrobe was full of hats - he says he's always been "obsessed". He recently discovered that his great grandmother was a milliner in Exeter, so perhaps it is all down to genes!

Although Justin loves Couture Fashion Shows, he doesn't see his hats retailing "anywhere big like Harvey Nichols". He believes his hats sell best somewhere like Dover Street Market, a unique indoor

fashion bazaar that showcases young designers.

Justin has always enjoyed competitions, and has won many prestigious awards over the years, including the Alternative Hair Show in 2000, the Wella Young Brit Challenge in 2001 and first prize for the Fellowship for British Hairdressing in 2002. In August Justin was awarded Milliner of the Year 2006. He says he's already looking forward to entering the Feltmakers' competition again next year. With the £1000 he won this year Justin plans to buy a new motorbike.

When I asked Justin what his advice would be to any budding milliners, he simply replied, "Get obsessed."

Editor's note: Justin was interviewed on 7 August for *The Feltmaker* by Victoria Cardona, niece to Susan Wood, Third Warden. Victoria is an A level student at Woldingham School.



Justin Smith on right and the winning Hat

Cricket Activities 2006

Family Day at Great Missenden Cricket Club

On Saturday 17th June 2006, we held our limited overs match against Chiltern C.C. at Great Missenden in Buckinghamshire in fine and sunny conditions. The Feltmakers scored 118 runs in their allotted 18 overs without the loss of any wickets, as each batsmen retired after having reached 20 runs. However our opponents passed our score in their last over to win the match. Simon Curtis batted and bowled well, and there was excellent support from all the team in a very close match. Past Master Geoffrey Farr kindly umpired during the match.

Single Wicket Competition

The Single Wicket Competition was held on Wednesday 24th May 2006 at Knotty Green Cricket Club, near Beaconsfield. This year there were 12 players and a scorer, but the weather was not so kind. Light drizzle at the start of the evening deteriorated into steady drizzle but everyone participated fully, if only to keep warm! The determination shown by all involved to complete the competition, inspired the Master to comment that "The British Spirit was very much alive". This was also evidenced by his willingness to drive from Wales on that afternoon to attend the event and return home again afterwards.

The competition was won by Rob McLeod, husband of Steward Sarah McLeod, and David Atkinson, a guest, with 2nd place to John Winfield and Ross Thompson, a guest. Afterwards 26 players and spectators enjoyed a splendid buffet supper and bar in relaxed and pleasant surroundings.

Our thanks must go to the Master for donating the prizes for the competition, and to Past Master Derek Hilton for arranging the availability of the ground, though sadly this will be the last year that we will be playing there.

Peter Simeons organised both events with the help of Simon Curtis.

Peter Simeons

Feltmakers' Inter-Livery Tennis Tournament 2006

The Inter Livery Tennis Tournament was held on 14th September at Queens Club. The weather for the third successive year in a row was not in our favour with the torrential storms of the previous evening precluding any play on the outdoor tennis courts.

Temperatures and humidity on the inner courts were enough to severely test the stamina of the assembled company! Twelve Livery companies participated in teams of four. As in previous years, after an early knock out round, there were competitions running simultaneously for the Feltmakers' Cup and the Plate Competition.

The Tallow Chandlers team of Christopher and Alex Kurkjian, despite a handicap being applied, managed to win the Feltmakers' Cup against strong opposition from the Makers of Playing Cards team of Roger Howells and Gillian Bostelman.

In the Plate competition, Gordon Edington and Paula Edmunds from the Chartered Surveyors beat Tom and Mary Swanson of the Leathersellers in the Final.

This year the Feltmakers were represented by Geoffrey Farr and Margaret Harris, who lost in the Semi Finals of the Main Competition, and Edward Hutton

and Pearl Brassington.

As the sun set over one of the finest squares in London, 64 Liverymen and players retired to the Presidents room for dinner. The Master welcomed the guests and presented the prizes to the winning teams.

Feltmakers who would like to play tennis or attend next year's dinner please contact Jeremy Brassington. The event will be held on Thursday 13th September 2007.

Jeremy Brassington

The Role of a Deputy in the City of London Corporation

Joyce Nash O.B.E. is a long-standing Member of the City of London Corporation, as well as being a Feltmaker. Here she describes her role as a Deputy, in the Ward of Aldersgate, one of the special functions now lost to other local authorities, but still existing within that unique blend of the ancient and the modern which is characteristic of the Corporation.

Committees.

Each of the twenty five Deputies can interpret his/her duties individually and in the case of Aldersgate Ward, I see my role initially, as introducing newly elected Members to Guildhall Officers and showing them the facilities available to assist them in

Headmistress or Mother Superior?

Each Member brings special knowledge or interests, which are valuable on particular committees and I arrange a meeting to discuss the best person to be put on Ward Committees where one member from each of the City's twenty-five Wards sits. At the end of each four-year tenure, we consult again as to whether or not that individual continues. Whenever possible, and in order to gain experience, we change around the committees.

One of the most important aspects in my role is to advise and encourage ward members to look ahead to Chairmanships. There are opportunities now for Members to attend training courses, which can be helpful in fulfilling this ambition.

I am never quite sure whether I am regarded as the Mother Superior figure or the Headmistress, but over my eighteen years as Ward Deputy, Aldersgate has had its fair share of Committee Chairmen! This, I am sure, is because we work together as a team for the good of the Ward and the City of London Corporation.

Joyce Nash



What is a Ward Deputy?

Each year at a Ward Mote in the City of London, the Alderman of the Ward appoints his Ward Deputy. It is an appointment solely in his gift.

The Deputy is often thought as being a Deputy Alderman but this is not the case. Deputising for the Alderman in the Ward and keeping him informed of concerns to the Ward is the correct interpretation, but the Deputy does not sit on any Aldermanic

carrying out their duties. This can entail advising on protocol when speaking in Committees or Common Council; standing for election to particular committees; dress code when attending meetings or particular events as a representative of the City of London Corporation. The Deputy also arranges the Ward meetings for the electors as well as consulting with the elected Members when issues of relevance to the Ward arise.

Feltmakers' Golf Day

After 2 successful years at Camberley Heath Golf Club, this year's golf day returned to Harpenden Golf Club, but was rescheduled from its usual date in May to October. On pulling into the car park, the thought and prospect of any play for the 15 Livery members and their guests was virtually nil due to the torrential weather that fell upon the Hertfordshire area in the morning. However, we held our nerve as did Harpenden Golf Club Committee and were able to play a 12 hole competition in the afternoon. The course itself also held up remarkably well and we finished the day in bright sunshine!

There was a very high standard of golf played with the following prize winners:-

Nearest the Pin

Diane Munroe
(Guest of Geoffrey Farr)

Longest Drive

Richard Nobbs

Ladies Prize

Catherine Farr
(Wife of Geoffrey Farr)

Best Score Liveryman

Adrian Salmon

Best Score Guest

Steve Robinson
(Guest of Neil Edwards)

Player with Endeavour

Nick Heal

Afterwards an excellent meal was had by all. Thanks must go to Harpenden Golf Club for their assistance in making sure the day happened.

Next year's golf day will again be held at Harpenden Golf Club on Wednesday 9th May 2007 and I hope all golfing Feltmakers will make a note in their diaries.

Neil Edwards

The Luton Luncheon

The Luton Luncheon was started by Charles Simeons in the 1970's and continued, usually at the end of January or early February, for many years until it lapsed due to special circumstances 4 years ago. It was felt that it was a good fellowship luncheon that brought some members together who normally did not meet and consequently I asked the permission of the Court to restart the lunch.

We decided to meet on 26th January 2006 at The Pavilion,

which is the Masonic Centre in Luton, and invitations were sent out to the Court and Liverymen who live in Beds, Bucks and Herts. There was a reasonably good response with 36 acceptances, which was, on average, about what we had had in previous years.

We attracted a star-spangled gathering including our Master, John Curteis, our learned Chaplain who travelled all the way up from Surrey and 5 Past Masters: Martin Harper, Pip Wright, Peter Keens, Derek Bedford and myself.

Perhaps the star of all was Past Master Derek Bedford who, with Sally, travelled down from Inverness to be with us.

We had a splendid 3-course meal with wine available beforehand and everyone agreed that it was a most successful luncheon and should be repeated. Plans are in hand for 2007.

Past Master Geoffrey Farr

New Liverymen

Dr. David Siegler



David was born and educated in London. He trained in medicine at University College London and

University College Hospital Medical School, graduating in 1966. His postgraduate medical training included appointments at the Brompton Hospital in London, and McGill University, Montreal. Since August 1978 he has been Consultant Physician in charge of the Chest Department at Luton and Dunstable Hospital. During this time, he has been physician to several Luton hatters. He is also a Liveryman of the Society of Apothecaries. He is married to Julia, and they have one son and one daughter. His interests include choral singing and opera-going. He became a Deputy Lieutenant for Bedfordshire in 2005.

Yvette Jelfs



Yvette was brought up on the Welsh Borders and her first introduction to hats came from her enjoyment of her grandmother's incredible collection. When she left school she decided to become a milliner, and wrote letters and banged on doors until she was taken on as an apprentice by Peter Bettley. She was subsequently offered a model millinery apprenticeship at Kangol, and then went on to take a design position with W. Wright & Son, where she remained for thirteen years. In the late 1990's, Yvette left to design accessories for a variety of High Street stores, finally setting up her own millinery business, based in Edinburgh. For a number of years she has been the BBC fashion commentator at Royal Ascot, and, more recently, Goodwood, and she finds this the perfect opportunity to combine her love of millinery, fashion and horses.

David Walker



David was educated at Gonville & Caius College Cambridge and the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, after which he served as an Army officer before retiring early and setting up an international security company in 1975. He continues to run the company, while devoting time and effort to conservation projects in Africa. He lives in London with his American wife. Their two sons are at boarding school, and his son and daughter by a previous marriage work in London and Kampala, respectively. David enjoys country sports, skiing and running.

Rachel Trevor-Morgan



Rachel is a milliner who has been running her own business for the past 15 years. After she had served her apprenticeship with Graham Smith she went on to establish her own brand and now operates from premises behind James Lock and Co. in Crown Passage, St James's. She deals with many of London's top fashion retailers, as well as undertaking private client commissions and has recently been appointed as milliner to the Queen. Rachel is married to Andrew Mylne and lives in Westminster with her three children, Angus, Louis and Ella. When she can, she escapes to their hillside cottage in mid Wales, an on-going renovation project. She also enjoys sailing nearby on Llangorse Lake with her family.

Revised Dress code.....

What would be your caption?

Colin's suggestion:

I couldn't find a mitre so.....



Diary of Events

2006-2007

2006

04 December (Monday)	Master and Wardens Meeting	Cavalry & Guards Club
12 December (Tuesday)	Trustee Meeting	Chairman's office
14 December (Thursday)	Carol Service followed by supper	St Bartholomew the Great Haberdashers' Hall

2007

08 January (Monday)	Court Meeting, Plough Monday Dinner	Innholders' Hall
22 January (Monday)	Livery Society Dinner	East India Club
02 February (Friday)	Luton Lunch	Masonic rooms, Luton
06 March (Tuesday)	Renter Wardens Committee Meeting	Cavalry & Guards Club
13 March (Tuesday)	Master & Wardens Meeting	Cavalry & Guards Club
23 March (Friday)	United Guilds Service followed by lunch	St Paul's Cathedral Savoy Hotel
02 April (Monday)	Court Meeting, Spring Livery Dinner	Apothecaries' Hall
09 May (Wednesday)	The Master's Golf Day	Harpenden Golf Club
15 May (Tuesday)	Sons of Clergy Service	St Paul's Cathedral
17 May (Thursday)	Inter-Livery Golf Competition	Walton Heath
23 May (Wednesday)	Inter-Livery Clay Pigeon Shoot	Holland & Holland
24 May (Thursday)	Single Wicket Cricket	Amersham
31 May (Thursday)	Master & Wardens Meeting	Cavalry & Guards Club
08 June (Friday)	Ladies Banquet	Mansion House
16 June (Saturday)	Livery Cricket Match	Amersham
25 June (Monday)	Election of Sheriffs followed by lunch	Guildhall Tallow Chandlers' Hall
02 July (Monday)	Court Meeting, July Court Dinner	Salters' Hall
09 July (Monday)	Trustee Meeting	Chairman's Office
30 August (Thursday)	Renter Wardens' Committee Meeting	Cavalry & Guards Club
13 September (Thursday)	Master & Wardens Meeting	Cavalry & Guards Club
13 September (Thursday)	Inter Livery Tennis	Queens Club
01 October (Monday)	Election of Lord Mayor followed by lunch	Guildhall Tallow Chandlers' Hall
05 October (Friday)	Court Meeting, Installation Dinner	Haberdashers' Hall.