

The Feltmaker



The Newsletter of the Worshipful Company of Feltmakers November 2008 Master: Nicholas Heal Issue No. 32

Nicholas Heal, Master Feltmaker 08-09

Nicholas Heal was born in Worthing on 20th May 1948. He was educated at Shoreham Grammar School, before attending the West Sussex College of Art and Design, where he qualified as a designer, and moved to London. He joined Dexion Office Landscaping in February 1972. Dexion were pioneers in the field of office planning and one of the first companies in London devoted to commercial and industrial office design. In 1973 he was invited to join Glenhill Furnishing, a division of Lesser Design and Build, an international property and construction group. Nicholas established a team specialising in the design of office and residential accommodation in Europe, Africa and the Middle East; he became board director in 1980. His belief that interior design could be more cost effectively combined within the construction process, led to him joining Commercial Finishing Contractors in 1981, and helping many of the emerging computer companies based in the Thames Valley to achieve success. In 2003, he left CFC to pursue other interests, and formed Nicholas Heal Associates, a space planning and design consultancy, to help companies confronted by rapid change. In 2007 he formed Consilium Management Consultants Ltd. to develop a corporate numerical modelling software package, designed

to help companies with large property portfolios, review their effectiveness and explore the operational efficiencies and financial implications of change. Nicholas is a non-executive director of CCL Global, an international group of companies specialising in the recruitment of senior personnel for the oil and gas industry.



The Master with his Family

In 1977, Nicholas married Ruth Finch. They have three children, two girls, Emma, 29, who lives and works in Copenhagen and Joanna, 27, who is based in Bristol; their son Nick, 22, has just begun his final year at Kings College London.

Nicholas was introduced to the Worshipful Company of Feltmakers by his father, John Heal, and elected onto the livery in 1989. He joined the Court of Assistants in 1998. Nicholas was involved with the formation of the Feltmakers' Livery Society in 1994, to encourage the interest of new liverymen in the life of the Company, serving as its chairman between 1998

and 2003. Elected Senior Assistant in 2002, Nicholas has established two working committees, the first to organise the Feltmaker magazine and develop the Company's website and database, and the second, made up entirely of milliners, to organise the entertainment for the Company's quatercentenary celebrations in Middle Temple in 2004. In 2007, the millinery team was invited to present couture hats at the Mansion House fashion show in aid of the Bridewell Foundation for King Edward's School, Witley. They were also responsible for organising the Feltmakers' hat stall at the biennial Red Cross Christmas Fair in 2005 and 2007.

The family home is in Maidenhead, within easy reach of the City for Nicholas, and of Bradfield College for Ruth, where she runs their Medical Centre.

A keen footballer, Nicholas played amateur football at both junior and senior levels before hanging up his boots at the age of 36, having never been booked or sent off. He now enjoys watching football, and although a life long Chelsea fan, prefers to watch Arsenal. He likes walking to keep fit which is just as well, as he admits to playing golf badly. Amongst his other interests, he lists music, reading, food, wine and good conversation.

Master: Nicholas Heal

Wardens: Susan Wood, John Ray, Eda Rose-Lawson, Anthony Phillips

Immediate Past Master: Geoffrey Vero **Clerk:** Jollyon Coombs

Editorial/IT Committee: Rowland Brown, Judy George, Chris Horsburgh, Simon Bartley, Eda Rose-Lawson, Peter Shirley and Eric Shawyer

Registered at Stationers Hall

The Master's Message

Fellow Liverymen

To be elected as the Master of a City Livery Company is both a great honour and a privilege. To become part of an unbroken chain that stretches back over 400 years is a unique gift for which I will always be grateful. I promise to maintain the exemplary standards set by those liverymen who have occupied this office before me, by upholding the values embedded in the oath, I have sworn to maintain.

You have bestowed a great honour upon me, and with the support of the Livery and my family, I will continue to uphold the promise I made 19 years ago when I stood before the Court and said that I would do my very best to be a good liveryman. My sponsors on that day were Past Masters Pip Wright and Martin Harper. I am delighted that both of them were there at the ceremony, supporting me as they have done at every stage of my progression to Mastership.

I was particularly grateful to the Court for welcoming my family into the ancient ceremony of succession and for allowing my wife, Ruth, and our three children, Emma, Joanna and Nicholas to share the occasion with me.

My life in the Livery began when I met Geoffrey Vero in the reception at the Clerk's offices in Tothill Street, waiting to be interviewed by the Master of the day, John Elliott, and what seemed to me at the time, to be a dazzling array of Wardens. Colin Semper, as I recall, was also in the waiting room, and I have often wondered what he made of us. Having set out on my journey with Geoffrey Vero, I am delighted that I have been able to follow him as Master and I would like to thank him on your behalf, most sincerely, for presiding over what has been a very happy and successful year for the

Livery. We have benefited from his valued judgment and the intuitive leadership which has been a feature of his Mastership. That he is also blessed with boundless enthusiasm, good humour, and a tremendous sense of fun, has meant that we have all enjoyed sharing with him, his year in office.

When I joined the Feltmakers' Company, a liveryman's year was restricted to three formal dinners and two Tallow Chandlers' lunches per year. How grateful we all were when Geoffrey Farr's initiative led to the formation of the Livery Society; an involvement that has helped all of us appreciate the converging intricacies of livery life and, very importantly, how to buttress enthusiasm with sensitivity, to ensure that today's initiative does not become tomorrow's yoke.

Whilst I do not have a specific theme for my year, I certainly have an agenda, as no doubt most of you would expect. With the help of the Assistants below the chair, we shall be implementing a cascading system of direct communications, that I hope will bring the Livery much closer together, to encourage harmony and shared purpose in all that we do together.

I will also be introducing some less formal events, and later in the year, we shall be holding two City Walks, which will be led by Murray Craig, Clerk to the Chamberlain's Court and an acknowledged expert on the City of London. They will be followed by a sumptuous supper and a short talk about an aspect of felt.

There will be a mid-summer lunch at the Cavalry & Guards Club on Tuesday 14th July, for liverymen and their partners only. This occasion will be focused on millinery, and will include a hat show by our milliners, Rachel Trevor-Morgan and Eda Rose-Lawson. This charming idea came from the Upper Warden, Susan Wood; an

initiative for which she is to be congratulated.

By the time you are reading these notes, Common Hall will have come and gone. This important initiative, originally conceived by Commander John Curteis RNR, and first presented to the company by David Bentata in 2002, will, I hope, become part of our Livery programme for the future. I would particularly like to thank Peter Grant for his paper on the activities of The Feltmakers' Charitable Foundation and our keynote speaker, Ted Andrew, whose talk on the use of what is the modern, man-made equivalent of felt, was, I believe, of great significance.

Having started looking into the subject of felt some five years ago, I have been amazed at how many other uses there have been for felt, since antiquity, apart from putting it on your head. Needle felt products have been developed with the enhanced qualities of traditional felt, but which also satisfy the rigorous demands of modern industry. The continued development of these products will ensure that there will be markets for man-made felt for generations to come. Fortunately they will never replace the felts used for making hats.

I was very grateful to David Levin, the headmaster of the City of London School for Boys, for proposing the toast to the Company, at the Installation Dinner, in response to yet another excellent speech to the guests, delivered by Simon Bartley. David's speech was delightfully entertaining and we now all appreciate how important it is to stay down wind of a rhino! David also stressed the important role that private education has in helping to address the issues of petty bureaucracy in the education system, and how the City of London School was able to share its facilities, and provide support to some of the beleaguered state schools in the neighbouring boroughs.

An apposite introduction to another of my objectives for the year ahead is to spend time in working to develop an understanding with the Livery Schools Link. We will establish a team made up from Feltmakers with an educational background, to develop a skills framework for our company, and catalogue opportunities open to liverymen wishing to support young people, as they consider their future after education.

I am also delighted to confirm that Lieutenant Colonel Simon Wilkinson has kindly agreed to pursue Geoffrey Vero's initiative and investigate ways in which we might support units of the Army Cadet Association, which are engaged in providing activities that will help keep some of the latch-key generation of young men and women off our city streets. Simon will also be considering how best to provide support to recognise and encourage those men and women who are willing to give up their spare time and take responsibility for developing and running the training programmes.

The diary of events for the year has been published on the website and distributed by the Clerk. May I ask you to respond as promptly as you can to the proformas that are despatched by Jollyon. It would be most helpful, particularly on those occasions when we have an upper limit on the number of places available, in order to avoid disappointment.

This year our carol service will be held at the Church of Saint Bartholomew the Great, on Tuesday 16th December, and it gives me great pleasure to tell you that this year we are with bells! By the kind mediation of Liverymen Peter Shirley, the peal of bells will be rung in celebration of Christmas, and for your enjoyment, as we enter and leave the church.

The Spring Livery Dinner will be held at Vintners' Hall on Monday 6th April, and our guest speaker will be the ubiquitous Murray Craig, Clerk to the Chamberlain's Court. Murray has been the welcoming face that greets all new liverymen who go to be sworn in, and

receive the Freedom of the City of London. A man of great humour, who was born and brought up in Luton, and is no stranger to the world of Hats. Murray will explain the workings of the Chamberlain's Court, complete with anecdotes about the great and good who have crossed his threshold since he took up office in 1997.

The Banquet will be held at the Mansion House on Friday 12th. June, and we will repeat the early start, which proved so successful last year, allowing us to retire in good order and



vacate the Egyptian room at the end of the dinner; we to enjoy a leisurely stirrup cup, and the catering team to clear the room.

This year our dear Clerk, now recovered from his major heart surgery of barely eighteen months ago, has volunteered to row the Thames from its source in the Cotswolds, down to the City of London. Jollyon will be building his own boat in which to negotiate the large number of locks and other water hazards, which on this occasion will include the Feltmakers' Livery Society, whose initial contribution appears to be in plotting all the pubs along the route, from which to cheer our intrepid Clerk on his way. Jollyon has assured us that he will be very much trimmer by the 1st May. The Society, on the other hand, is increasing the insurance, and planning a Viking funeral at Pangbourne, where Jollyon spent his school days. This is a terrific fund raising opportunity, and one where all the Livery can be involved in giving Jollyon our 100 per cent support.

A good deal of meticulous planning and hard work is required for events like these to be successful, and so on behalf of us all, I would like to thank our Clerk, Major Jollyon Coombs, for the impeccable arrangements he makes to ensure that our events are well organised and run seamlessly. I think it says much about the character of the Feltmakers that the Christmas message from our Chaplain, the Very Reverend Colin Semper, is eagerly awaited by his congregation at our carol service every year. I would like to recognise the important part he plays in the spiritual welfare of our community, and thank him on behalf of the flock, for his guidance.

How well I recall Past Master John Elliott's now familiar bidding, when I came before the Court in July 1989; words which have remained with me through the years, and which I feel sure will resonate with every liveryman long after this article has become a distant memory. "We know that within the Livery, there are kindred spirits, and we trust you will find among its members, good companions with whom you will share a long and happy association"

My fellow liverymen, it gives me great pleasure to tell you that I have been surrounded by good companions and kindred spirits, ever since.

Good communication is, I believe, the foundation upon which any successful organisation is built, and I shall work tirelessly in pursuit of opportunities that will help bind the Livery closer together. May I wish you all a happy and enjoyable year ahead, and I look forward to the pleasure of your company on every occasion that we meet. Thank you for entrusting me with the Mastership of this ancient Company, for sharing this journey with me, and for the many good wishes and offers of support that I have received from you all. I will try my very best to discharge my duties and responsibilities with good humour and humility.

Thank you all very much indeed.

Nicholas Heal The Master

Feltmakers on the Somme

23-25 July 2008

With the Master having selected "service" as one of his themes for the year, it was entirely appropriate that the Clerk should decide that Summer 2008 was the perfect time to lead a Feltmaker tour of the Somme battlefields. Accordingly, twelve of us gathered in Albert on the afternoon of 23rd July:

member of the party would probably select a different moment that touched them deeply: Past Master Curteis locating the name of his uncle on the majestic Thiepval memorial, the poems read at each site by Frankie, the grave of the 16 year old boy from the Royal Flying Corps, Jewish German soldiers buried side by side with Christian



Thiepval monument, designed by Lutyens.

the Master and Frankie, the Upper Warden and Ruth, The Renter Warden and her daughter, Sarah, the Third Warden and Rosemary, Past Masters Wright and Curteis, our gallant Clerk and his friend and fellow Welsh Guardsman, Rhydian Vaughan, who was to be our guide.

Over the next two days they led us all along the line of the battle, from Sheffield Memorial Park to the Guillemont Road Cemetery. We visited the exact spots where key engagements took place, starting at 7.30am on 1st July 1916. We heard stories of uplifting heroism and gallantry but also saw in peaceful cemeteries and splendid memorials evidence of the dreadful loss of life, on both sides. We were lucky to have warm sunshine for the whole tour, and only found the famous Somme mud in the very centre of Delville Wood. Each

comrades, or the story of the Reverend "it's only me" Hardy, recounted by Jollyon on the exact spot where Hardy earned a VC by helping a wounded officer, within feet of a German position



Canadian Monument at Vimy Ridge



Past Master Curteis locating his uncle's name on the Thiepval monument

that was still clearly identifiable 92 years later.

We toasted Pip Wright's birthday at Newfoundland Memorial Park with a memorable horse's neck cocktail (copyright Messrs, Wright and Curteis), served, of course, in Feltmaker glasses, transported precisely for the purpose. Pip read a poem that his son, Ian, had composed for the occasion and recited a prayer for the fallen by Peter Mullen, Vicar of St Sepulchre's. It included the beautiful line: "in our monuments and mementos we recall with gratitude the sacrifice of those who gave their lives for our country."

Our trip concluded with a visit to the underground quarry hideouts in Arras and the Canadian memorial at Vimy Ridge. We returned in reflective mood. As Nick Heal put it so well, each of us was touched by the stillness of an area that once witnessed sacrifice on such a scale. Our thanks to Jollyon for organising a splendid few days. A trip that should be repeated.

Susan Wood

The Feltmakers' Design Award 2008

The morning of 28 April was bright and sunny which augured well for judging the work of a very large number of millinery students at Haberdashers' Hall in the City of London.



The students came from France, Germany and England and we were delighted to find the standard of work so high this year.

The panel of judges was headed by William Horsman ably assisted by Eda Rose-Lawson, Rachel Trevor Morgan, Yvette Jeffs, Carole Denford from The Hat Magazine, Dillon - Design Consultant at Philip Somerville, Geoffrey Vero - Master of the Feltmakers, Major Jollyon Coombs, Clerk to the Feltmakers, and myself. At the end of the judging we were joined by the Lady Mayoress, Mrs. David Lewis, accompanied by Mrs. Ian Luder and Mrs. Michael Bear, wives of Aldermen and Sheriffs, to discuss the work the judges had seen.

The first prize of £1,000.00 was awarded to Paul Stafford from Kensington and Chelsea School of Art.

Paul had made a beautiful headpiece of flowers and leaves in black felt discreetly ornamented with diamanté.

The second prize of £500.00 went to Svenja Otten from Munster, Germany. The top of the crown of Svenja's white and black felt hat was decorated with a cameo also made of felt.

The £250.00 third prize was won by Nankyu Park - Kensington and Chelsea School of Art. Nankyu had made a beret in royal blue felt lined with



orange, the orange being made visible through slashes in the felt.

Four further prizes of £100.00 were awarded to each of the following students:-

- The Craftsmanship Award went to Olivia Roht - Kensington and Chelsea School of Art for a headpiece of wired leaves decorated with stones.

- The Commercial Appeal Award was won by Sue Carter from Huddersfield Creative Studies for a grey felt cloche

with contrasting underbrim which was visible through slashes in the brim

- Artwork and Presentation Award went to Bianca Harrington - Kensington and Chelsea School of Art for a white felt alic band trimmed with twists of beige and stone felt.

- The Innovative Use of Felt Award was deservedly given to Emma Clark - Kensington and Chelsea School of Art for her gossamer white felt blown on to pale grey crin.

Having completed the judging, the Judges, along with the Lady Mayoress and her Ladies, then enjoyed a delicious lunch in the beautiful surroundings of the Haberdashers' Hall.

Paul Stafford, the winner of the first



prize was a guest at the Feltmakers' Ladies Banquet at the Mansion House where he received his award. We were told he intends to continue his career in millinery when he finishes his studies.

Freddie Fox

Feltmakers Charitable Foundation

2007 was a difficult year for the Foundation due to the untimely deaths of both our Chairman Brian Burgess and also Derek Bonham who through his position as Master of the Company was an ex officio Trustee. In the first place we needed to find replacement Trustees and did so in the shape of our then new Master Geoffrey Vero, Past Master John Curteis and Simon Curtis all of whom have already made their mark in their different ways. I was invited to take over the role of Chairman.

My first job as Chairman was to review our corporate governance and via a new Trust Deed introduce, inter alia, new arrangements for fixed terms of office for Trustees and the ability to appoint a greater number of Trustees than the restricted number allowed for in the original Deed. I am pleased to be able to say that the new Deed has received the blessing of the Charity Commission and is now operative.

The good news for 2008 is that, in spite of the Tsunami in the financial world which has seriously impacted the values of our investments, we estimate that our grant making capacity will be £35,000, £10,000 greater than the £25,000 we gave away in 2007. The

increase arises from a combination of factors; the steady and very welcome increase in the number of Feltmakers making annual contributions to the Charity under our St Clements scheme, and a couple of imaginative fund raising initiatives by Geoffrey Vero and Simon Curtis (both Trustees). We believe that our investment income is unlikely to be significantly affected by the upheavals in the financial world at least in the current financial year.

I felt that it would be of interest to give an outline of where the money goes. In the first place, and ever since the Foundation was formed in 1969, and also with the partial support of the Haberdashers Charity, we make grants to pensioners of the Hatting Industry. In 2007 we gave just under £9,000.

We then have a number of charities which we regularly support. For the last four years (and in some cases much longer) we provided prize money for the Feltmaker Design Award, responded to the annual Lord Mayor's charity appeal, and provided a bursary to the hat-making students at Kensington & Chelsea Art College. We also supported Lord Mayor Treloar's College for disabled children, Providence Row which cares for the

homeless in East London (and chaired by Simon Bartley), the Sheriffs' and Recorders' Fund for the relief of ex-prisoners and their families, and the Shooting Star Children's Hospice in Hampton.

Each year we also respond to a number of other appeals for help and last year, in line with the custom of having a Master's Charity each year, we gave £1,000 to Cancer Research UK in recognition of Derek Bonham's illness.

For 2008 our increased capacity for grant-making will enable us to adopt some new charities and also increase the amount that we give to some of our regulars. Finding suitable charities to support is quite a challenge as we are keen to find smaller charities that are relevant to our company through location and industry and in consequence we do not normally give money to individuals or national charities. We like the idea of supporting the charitable activities of Liverymen if they broadly fit our criteria and would invite you to contact The Clerk should you like us to consider something that you are involved with.

Peter Grant

Chairman of Trustees

Past Master Pip Wright, Ale Conner

On St. John's Day, last mid-summer, it was not just two new Sheriffs that were chosen by the many liverymen assembled in the Guildhall, but also Pip Wright, Past Master of the Feltmakers, who was re-elected as Ale Conner for the City of London. The first Ale Conner was elected in August 1551, with the responsibility for surveying the quality, measure and cost of ale served at establishments in the City, when directed to do so by the City Aldermen.



Our photograph shows Pip, together with the first lady to be chosen as Ale Conner, Dr. C. Rigden, the Senior

Warden of the Constructors' Company. They were giving a demonstration of their work in the crypt of the Guildhall; just one of the exciting events staged at last year's Red Cross Christmas Market. The Livery congratulates Pip, not only on his re-election to this post, but for his starring role in Griff Rhys Jones' TV programme on the City of London, broadcast on 15th October 2008, in which he revealed to the stunned viewers why he has a penchant for leather trousers!

Peter Shirley

Inter Livery Shoot 2008

Two teams from the Feltmakers were amongst the many Liverymen who assembled at Holland & Holland's shooting ground at Northolt in May, for the annual Inter-Livery shoot, organised by the Environmental Cleaners' Company. Team members included Simon Wilkinson, Peter Winfield, Simon Miller, William Battersby, Jollyon Coombs and Brian Minnighan. Past

Master Horsman attended for lunch.

Muster was early for breakfast and registration, and then the shooting started at 9-30am, finishing for a well-earned lunch at 2-30pm. Both teams shot well, finishing just below half way in the competition. Our Clerk decided to use a (4.10) small bore gun for the entire round and excelled on the High Tower to the extent of meriting

applause for his score.

An excellent lunch followed, after which the prizes were awarded. Winners were the Saddlers, Butchers and Farriers, and the event raised some £4,500 for charity.

Next years event is scheduled for May 20th.

Brian Minnighan

Cricket activities 2008

Pairs Cricket Competition

22nd May 2008

A warm pleasant evening at Amersham Cricket Club, with 14 players in the pairs competition, and 24 attendees for the buffet supper afterwards. For the first time for many years, the current Master participated as a player. The competition was won by a pair including Rob McLeod, husband of

Assistant Sarah McLeod, beating Past Master Geoffrey Farr and partner by one point.

Match against Chiltern X1

June 21st 2008

The Feltmakers batted first and scored 129 runs in 25 overs. The opposition could only manage 89 runs in their 25 overs, giving the Feltmakers a

comfortable victory.

Many thanks to Liveryman Mike Bedford for giving a new set of cricket equipment to the Feltmakers.

Both events were organised by Assistant Peter Simeons, with the help of Simon Curtis.

Peter Simeons

Inter Livery Tennis Tournament 2008

Queen's Club is situated in one of London's finest squares and plays host to some prestigious tennis tournaments. Established in 1886 and named after Queen Victoria, its first patron, the Club was purchased in 2007 from the LTA by its members and will continue as an independent members club.

The appalling weather earlier in the month did not bode well and contingency plans were in place! Luckily, the rains held off and a cloudy sky with occasional sunshine prevailed. We achieved a full house of 15 teams of four, two mixed pairs per

team, from a wide range of Livery companies. We were pleased to welcome the Woolmen for the first time, and also to welcome back the Chartered Accountants who have not played for some years. Nick Heal, the Upper Warden, Colin Semper and the Clerk, together with a number of dining Feltmakers, came to support the final stages of the tournament.

Despite a sabbatical last year to get married, Christopher Kurkjian and his sister, Alexandra Kurkjian, won the Feltmakers' Trophy yet again, with Michael Jones and Sally Sawyer of the Vintners in runner-up position. In the

Plate Competition, the Grocers Stephen Goodhart and Clare Graffey triumphed over the Leathersellers pairing of Julian Bacon and Pip Scaramanga.

Dinner for 88 players and guests was held in the President's room with the prizes presented by Nick Heal for the second year in succession. He anticipates being word perfect in his year as Master.

Feltmakers who would like to play in next year's tournament on Thursday 17th September should contact Jeremy Brassington or Dominic Ely.

Jeremy Brassington

Spring Livery Dinner 2008

One of the many delights of being a Feltmaker is that, as we have no hall of our own, we are privileged to visit many of the other varied and interesting livery halls around the City of London. This was particularly the case on 7th April, as we crowded into the magnificent wooden-pannelled splendour of Skinners' Hall. The Master had encouraged his fellow Liverymen, this year, to invite friends with links to the Services as their guests, and the presence of an impressive number of senior officers (retired or still on active service) from all three Armed Forces gave a distinctly military feel to this year's Spring Livery Dinner. In recognition of his choice of the theme of Service, the Master's principal guest was Major General John Holmes DSO, OBE, MC, an old friend since the time that they were both pupils at Mill Hill School. The promise of an interesting speech from him no doubt explained why our guests this year also included an almost unprecedented number of visiting Masters; no fewer than eleven accompanied by a total of six supporting clerks.

We have come to expect excellent food and wines at our formal dinners and the Skinners Hall did us proud. After our Chaplain, Colin Semper, had blessed the meal with a grace in the



personal and thoughtful style that is now his hallmark, we enjoyed a splendid feast. After the loyal toasts, the guests were welcomed by Assistant Edward Hutton. He managed the daunting task of introducing us to so many distinguished guests, with wit and humour and also whetted our appetite to hear more from the Master's principal guest, by hinting at his impressive military career. Major General Holmes did not disappoint and in proposing the toast to the Company, he included fascinating details of his life in the army, and we were all impressed by the very modest way he described the act that won him the MC in Northern Ireland in 1971.

The Master, responding for the Feltmakers' Company, expanded on the military theme, mentioning more of our guests from the Services, and also

thanked another most welcome guest, Lt. Commander Stephen McGlory, Executive Officer of 'our own' HMS Lancaster, whose ship's company hosted a day on board for Liverymen and their families at Portsmouth in March. Finally, before inviting all to join him in the customary stirrup cup, the Master encouraged support for his sponsored slim for the St. Clement's Fund charity, which was inaugurated by his being weighed, just before the start of that evening's dinner.

Peter Shirley & Edward Hutton



A Celebration of the Life of Derek Bonham, FCA, FCT.

The memorial service for Past Master Derek Bonham was held at St. Paul's Church in Knightsbridge on Tuesday 11th March. Derek's widow, Dicky, daughters and several hundred friends, family and former business colleagues attended a moving and uplifting service. The Master and his wife and many Feltmakers were in attendance.

Eulogies were delivered by Ian Bailey and Gareth David and provided fascinating insights into Derek's life, both public and private. Daughter, Emma Bonham read a thought-provoking passage from Albert Schweitzer's 'Memoirs of Childhood and Youth'.

The Choir of St Paul's Knightsbridge,

along with soprano soloist Helen Swift and harpist Esther Jansen, performed the most beautiful selection of choral and solo pieces during the service.

A champagne reception was held in the magnificent ballroom of the Berkeley Hotel, a place which held many happy memories for the Bonhams. **Jeremy Brassington**

Installation Dinner 2008

The Installation Dinner was held at Haberdashers' Hall on 3rd October 2008. Our new Master for 2008/9, Nicholas Heal, had been elected at the Court meeting prior to the reception and dinner. In excess of 128 Liverymen and guests (a full house) attended and the menu had been planned with great care with roast partridge being the main attraction and of course a splendid selection of wines! This year grace, the *Laudi Spirituali*, was sung, led by Thomas Herford, the principle tenor from the choir of St Bartholomew the Great. The principal guest was David Levin who has been headmaster of the



David Levin, guest speaker

City of London School since 1999. The Master's wife Ruth and their family were also present for this great occasion.

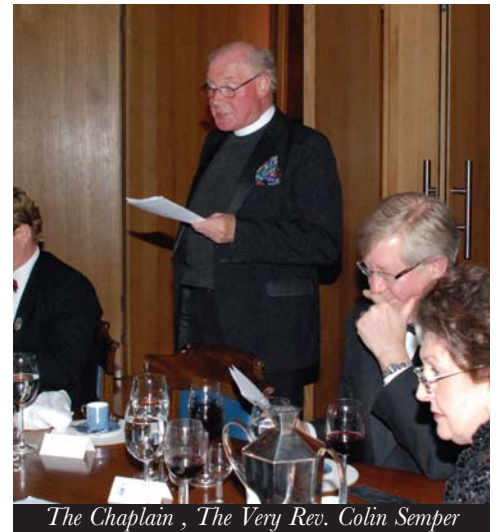
Senior Assistant, Simon Bartley welcomed the guests and in his speech referred to the previous occasions at which he had enjoyed the privilege of speaking and hoped that he was making progress! In welcoming the Masters of other Livery companies, he gave a brief synopsis of their careers and positions held. Of course, in welcoming the Master Haberdasher it was to his "home" Hall for use of which the Feltmakers are very grateful for its use each year for our Installation Dinner. The visiting Masters included the Tallow Chandlers, Woolmen, Watermen & Lightermen and the Upper Bailiff of the Weavers.

David Levin, the Master's Principal Guest, started by describing how he had taken over as the headmaster of the Royal Grammar School in High Wycombe from Liveryman Rowland Brown. He congratulated him on the standards within the school and said what a great Headmaster he must have been. David in a very entertaining speech described his experiences within education in South Africa. He referred to the impact of the health and safety legislation in the UK and made amusing comparisons with local practices. On a serious note he was concerned about education being a political football and suggested that it was too important for this. Education in London was under great stress with both financial and social implications to be taken into account. He had been able to develop the City of London School assisted by the Corporation of London, which matches individual school fund raising. Further, he had developed a sharing of facilities and support to local state schools. He finished by saying that the education issues are stark and urgent. He then proposed the toast of the Master and the Feltmakers' Company.

The Master in his response thanked David Levin for proposing the Toast to the Company so eloquently and for the insight into the life of the City of London School. He also thanked the Court for his election and the support of fellow Liverymen.

He described his entry into the company with Past Master Geoffrey Vero and the Chaplain, Colin Semper being interviewed by Past Masters John Elliott, Martin Harper and Pip Wright. He congratulated Past Master Geoffrey Vero for presiding over a very successful year as Master, in which he displayed valued judgement and intuitive leadership. additionally blessed with boundless enthusiasm and good humour!

He explained that one of his objectives for the year was to create greater opportunity for involvement by



The Chaplain, The Very Rev. Colin Semper

members of the Livery and to provide more occasions to enjoy each other's company. Common Hall was planned for 28th October and he will be introducing a cascading system of direct communication. There will be two "Walki-Talki" evenings – walks in the City of London - followed by supper. There will be also a Mid Summer Lunch in 2009 in addition to the usual events held each year.

The Master intends to involve the Company further in education with a better understanding of the Livery Schools Link and the involvement of Liverymen in working with and mentoring young people. The initiative to investigate ways of supporting units of the Army Cadet Association will also be pursued.

The Master then turned to congratulating those involved in raising money for charity, particularly Simon Curtis and his son, who raised over £3,500 by successfully completing an 87 mile trek along the Ridgway. The Clerk is building a boat to row the Thames from the Cotwolds to the City of London in the Summer 2009.

And lastly he congratulated Past Master Peter Keens, in celebrating his 30th anniversary since becoming Master.

In all a very entertaining and enjoyable evening!

Anthony Phillips

The New Fourth Warden

Anthony Phillips was elected to the Feltmakers' in 1995 and soon became involved with the Livery, being on the Society committee for many years during which time he organised the Inter Livery Tennis Tournament at Queen's Club for some seven years. He was elected to the Court in 1999. He joined the Renter Warden's Committee in 2002 and became Vice-Chairman in 2006.

Anthony commenced his career as a chemist with the Rio Tinto Zinc Corporation, but soon realised that this did not offer much excitement and switched into retailing. He joined Bhs plc where he became the buying and marketing Director for some ten years. In those days Bhs had in excess of 10% of the UK ladies' millinery market. He was appointed Managing Director of The Littlewoods Organisation plc, the privately owned conglomerate in retail, mail order and football pools. He

then made a complete change in career to do M&A work with small engineering companies following which he joined a boutique merchant bank investing in and developing small public companies to increase



shareholder value. For the last twenty years he has been chairman of many businesses and has worked as a company "Doctor" turning round and

developing companies in a variety of industries including clothing and textiles, corporate mailing, electronics and the motor industries. He is now winding down with non executive director roles.

In his spare time he is a member of St. George's Hill Golf Club and is trying to reduce his handicap. Elsewhere, he is still trying to improve his tennis. He is involved with other clubs and societies and carries out charitable work mainly for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Many years ago he planned to retire to Tenerife in search of the sun, hopefully a better economic climate and has a second home in Los Gigantes. However life does not always work out as one would hope – a wife and two black labradors had other ideas! On the other hand he will now have more time to devote to the Livery to move forward hopefully to become Master of the Company.

Providence Row Charity

One of the Charities that the Company supports is Providence Row. Senior Court Assistant Simon Bartley is Chairman of Providence Row and here tells us a little about its history and work. Providence Row was established in

sleeping rough around Finsbury Square on the edges of what was the richest square-mile in the World – the City of London. Set up to help anyone who needed it, irrespective of their religion or nationality, it continues to help exactly the same client group

for the first time. 13 per cent of our visitors are female, many of whom are commercial sex workers. 12 per cent of attendees are under the age of 25 and 10 per cent older than 55. Some 40 per cent of the people who visit are from abroad – just as they were in the early days when, as now, the East End of London was a magnet for refugees. Most visitors have complex needs and these are normally a mixture of drug use, depression, alcohol misuse and learning difficulties, all of which are exacerbated by having no home or work.



1840 by a Catholic Priest with the help of an order of nuns who were sent from Ireland to help him. It was set up to help the poor and homeless people

today as it did nearly 150 years ago. Over 4,000 different individuals visit the Providence Row Day Centre every year with about 35 per cent of them visiting

Providence Row is run by a small staff and a large team of volunteers. It is funded primarily from charitable donations and also receives some money from the Corporation of London and the London Borough of Tower Hamlets where it is based.

Simon Bartley

Visit to Zurich

Every year the Guilds of Zurich and the townspeople celebrate, with great gusto, their traditional Spring festival, Sechseläuten. The name refers to the bell tolling to signal the end of the working day moving from 5pm in winter to 6pm in Summer.

This year I was invited, together with my partner Linda, and with 14 other Past Masters and one current Master to

On the Sunday there was a colourful children's parade in costume and on the Monday, the main processions and celebrations. On that day, the Guilds (26 of them) process through Zurich, each dressed in distinctive costumes, accompanied by their own bands and, in many cases, by horsemen and women, also in the costume of their respective Guilds.

There was much feasting and I was extremely well looked after by the Waag. I was called for at 9.45am for the first celebratory drink of the day and went, hatted, gowned and badged to the top of the highest bell tower in Zurich before marching to the Zunfthaus for lunch and many witty speeches from the Guildmaster and his guests; this being the football Euro 2008, co-hosted by Switzerland and Austria, the two principal organisers were our guests and spoke at lunch before the procession.



In the evening, there was another big dinner and more speeches. I was asked to speak at this stage and gave a rousing speech in High German, as my Swiss-German is non-existent, during which I conveyed fraternal greetings from our Master and an invitation to René and his wife to attend our Feltmakers' Banquet at the Mansion House another year.

After more food and beer at midnight, more speeches and visits from other Guilds, much laughter and good fellowship, I wended my way back to our hotel in the early hours of the morning to compare notes with a very sleepy Linda, who had enjoyed a very happy day with the other ladies.

Thus ended my very first Sechseläuten.

David Bentata

go on an organised visit, linking in with our sister Guild in Zurich, the Zunft zur Waag, the guild involved in hatting and weaving.

On the Saturday evening, we were all received by the Mayor of Zurich and there followed a series of speeches from the Mayor, from some of the Guildmasters and from the Chairman of our Past Masters' Association.

After processing through the streets, everyone arrives at the Sechseläutenplatz where a 40-50ft high bonfire has been prepared. On top of it is a huge effigy of a snowman, called the Böögg (pronounced Burg) packed with explosives. He represents "The Old Man of Winter". At 6 o'clock, the bonfire is lit and the horsemen from the Guilds gallop round it.

Accounts Summary

The Court approved the Company's accounts for the year ended 31st December 2007 on 7th April 2008. The accounts showed a slight increase in the deficit for the year at £2,300 compared to a deficit of £2,000 for the previous year. Income from quarterage showed a

satisfactory increase, whilst our investment income increased by some 35 per cent as a result of transferring some of the Company's investments into higher yielding shares during the year. Expenditure increased by 19.3 per cent mainly due to the change in the Clerk's employment status during

the prior year. Our investments depreciated in value by £60,000. At 31st December 2007, the Company's funds stood at £354,000.

John Ray

Renter Warden

A Taste of the Navy

On a fine spring day, a mixed group of Feltmakers, including The Master, Wardens, their spouses and friends, all met up by the Unicorn Gate at Her Majesty's Naval Dockyard, Portsmouth, to accept the invitation to go aboard HMS Lancaster while she was alongside for a general maintenance period.



We were warmly welcomed by the XO, Lt Commander Stephen McGlory, who has in the past been a guest of the Company, and with the help of his team of officers, we were treated to a very interesting and thought-provoking day.

HMS Lancaster was launched by Her Majesty The Queen at the Yarrow shipyard in 1990, and the ship is very proud of the fact that, in her role as the Duke of Lancaster, the Queen takes a very special interest in the vessel. The royal connection was further highlighted by the production of a rather splendid felt hat with a nautical motif, which had been presented by the Feltmakers' Company to Her Majesty, with the intention that it be worn when reviewing the fleet as part of the Armada Anniversary celebrations in 1988. Sadly, as Past Master Pip Wright informed us, the production of the hat was unfortunately delayed, and the hat didn't get to be worn on the day after all. However, it was eventually given to the Queen's favourite ship for safe keeping, and its airing to mark our visit was a nice link between our Company and HMS

Lancaster.

We were given a full briefing in the Operations Room, the nerve centre in the bowels of this Type 23 Frigate, and I was struck by how modern warfare is conducted against an enemy who is merely a blip on a screen. The ship can be called upon to perform many different duties, from anti submarine

warfare, to flying the flag on behalf of the Government in far flung corners of the world. It is a little known fact that currently, in Afghanistan, there are over 5,000 Royal Navy personnel serving, mainly from the Royal Marines and medical staff, but it goes to show that even in mountainous, landlocked countries, the Senior Service can be called upon!

After a hearty lunch, where we were joined by the Captain, Commander Richard Moss, a full tour of the ship commenced, and it was to the credit of the guests who had partaken of some wine with their meal, that they made the ascents and descents on the very steep ladders between decks, seem effortless. On the Bridge, it was comforting to learn that despite all of the electronic wizardry on display, there were still old fashioned charts for the Navigation Officer to call upon as a last resort. A trip to the Galley produced the telling statistic that each man and woman on board has to be fed three square meals for £2.50 per day, less than a guest at Her Majesty's pleasure. I can report that if the fare with which we were so generously

entertained is an example of their normal victuals, then the chefs are indeed miracle workers. And we learned that the ship's 4.5 inch gun is powerful enough for it to hit Gatwick Airport if the vessel was moored in the Thames – lets hope that this particular boast never gets to be tested.

My favourite story from the day, whether fact or fiction, concerned the curtains and soft furnishings in the ward room and officers quarters, which all were made from the same, slightly tired, floral material, which to my somewhat untrained eye, seemed to date from the 1970s. Apparently when the order was placed for 10,000 yards of this cloth to provide for the Navy's needs for some years to come, an over excited clerk added another zero to the quantity required by mistake. The order placed, the Navy were forced to construct a new warehouse just to keep the surplus fabric, which is only now close to being used up!

The next duty for HMS Lancaster is a tour of the Arabian Gulf, protecting the sea lanes and off shore oil installations of the region, and we wish all the officers and crew a safe trip, while carrying out this very important task.

We also wish Commander Richard Moss well, as he moves on in the near future to take up a shore based staff position. If his successor is only half as supportive of the link that we have with HMS Lancaster, then I am sure that the association will continue to go from strength to strength.

The overriding impression that I got from the day, was how genuinely pleased the officers and crew of HMS Lancaster were to have us aboard, and both the warmth of the welcome and the rare opportunity to spend some time aboard an active warship, meant that all the Feltmakers and their guests present, were very privileged indeed to have enjoyed such a wonderful day.
Simon Millar

From the Baltic to Al Basra with HMS Lancaster

A lot changes in a year - in the case of HMS Lancaster that certainly is the case. In Autumn last year she was coming to the end of a series of NATO exercises in the Baltic, culminating in goodwill visits to Poland and Germany. As

privilege in March 2008 of hosting a party of Feltmakers.

With the equipment fitted and tested in the spring, the summer term was spent preparing the manpower. An intensive package of training was planned under

several US sailors from USS Firebolt. With the additional tasking of providing training to the Iraqi Navy and Marines, so that they can take over the protection of their own oil infrastructure and police their own territorial waters, the contribution of the Royal Navy is very relevant and is having a significant impact.



The HMS Lancaster leaving Portsmouth with a Lancaster bomber overhead shortly after Feltmakers' visit

2008 draws to a close she finds herself in the Northern Arabian Gulf patrolling Iraqi territorial waters, providing a visible and physical deterrent to protect the offshore oil installations of this troubled state. Additionally, many things have changed internally in Lancaster over this period. At the start of May Commander Richard Moss handed over command to Commander Rory Bryan who will be entrusted with the Queen's own frigate until she enters refit in 2010.

With the programme for 2008 already planned the aim was to regenerate the Red Rose frigate so that she could deploy through the Mediterranean and the Red Sea to spend seven months on operations off the Horn of Africa and in the Arabian Gulf. To be fully ready for this new mission, new equipment was required to increase the boat lifting capacity, enhance the sensor suite and also to ensure that the weaponry and missiles were of the latest update and modification. In the middle of this maintenance period, and sadly not looking her best, Lancaster had the

the guidance of Flag Officer Sea Training in Plymouth. The Ship initially spent six weeks conducting a huge variety of training evolutions from man overboard exercises, machinery breakdown drills, towing stricken vessels, to full scale war. Once Lancaster had proven herself ready to fight and deal with any contingent operations, her training subtly changed to focus on the maritime security tasking that she is now undertaking off the coast of Iraq.

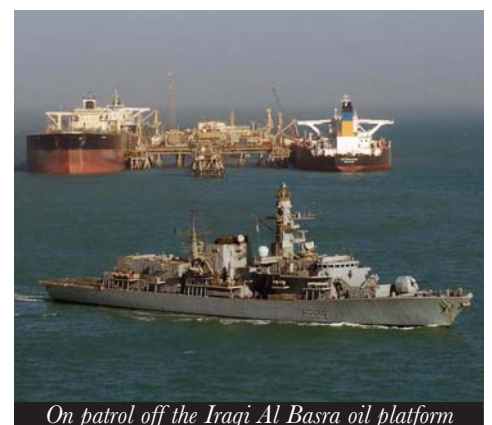
Lancaster has been tasked with protecting two oil platforms in the Northern Gulf which between them account for over 95 per cent of Iraq's oil exports (two per cent of world oil). Without the vital economic output these provide, Iraq's socio-economic future would sorely be in doubt. Given the importance of these installations there is now a multi-national force of US, UK, Australian and Iraqi marines, ships and patrol craft protecting them. The platforms were the target of a terrorist attack in 2004 which was foiled but sadly ended in the loss of life of

It was in the middle of August then that Lancaster sailed out of a sunny Portsmouth with over 500 families and friends watching and waving from the city's waterfront as the affiliated Lancaster bomber of the Royal Air Force Battle of Britain flight thundered overhead. A speedy transit across the Mediterranean and through Suez, with only the briefest fuelling stops in Gibraltar and Crete, saw the ship arrive East of Suez as planned. With the majority of the deployment spent at sea on patrol there will be some opportunities to show the flag and conduct defence diplomacy activities in several of the Gulf States before Lancaster returns to the UK in the spring

We very much look forward to meeting up with the Worshipful Company of Feltmakers in 2009 to report on the further adventures of HMS Lancaster..

We thank you for your continued support and good wishes.

S. J. McGlory HMS Lancaster



On patrol off the Iraqi Al Basra oil platform

The Feltmakers' Banquet

In June over 260 diners sat down at the 2008 Feltmakers' Banquet in the Mansion House, the second highest number of the decade, and they were treated to a memorable evening under the convivial hosting of the Master Geoffrey Vero. From the moment when the Honourable Artillery Company Brass Quintet musicians struck up with Handel's Water Music as the guests were received in line, an atmosphere of relaxed bonhomie was established and it continued pervading the whole evening.



Master Geoffrey Vero and his wife, Frankie, with the four Wardens and their spouses.

The winning entries in the Annual Feltmakers' Design Award always feature at this occasion, and the trendy 'Fascinator' designs grabbed the top places in 2008, not only on the display table but on the heads of both the delectable star model Jasmine and indeed, many of the lady guests present.

Moreover not only were the hats innovative. The menu struck both the novel and contemporary, with white onion ice cream accompanying the succulent main course of fillet of beef, complimented by a raspberry smoothie dessert.

Both wit and wisdom found their place in the after-dinner speeches. In his response to Nick Heal's proposal of

the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs' health, Sir Michael Oliver introduced a timely and warmly received tribute to our servicemen in the Gulf and Afghanistan, coupling this with his commendation of the three C's as themes for all Livery Companies: 'Commerce, Comradeship and Charity'. The Master responded with a golfing allusion with his three S's, not a Standard Scratch Score, but 'Service Scholarship and Sport', also paying tribute to the role of the Services in today's world. This in turn was re-echoed in Principal Guest, Sir Stephen Wright's peroration, which humorously rounded off the evening, encircling as he did both City and the Diplomatic World. A vintage night for us all.

Rowland Brown

Colin Semper's Hat

Very kindly, the Livery decided to give me a present to mark my 70th birthday. I was asked what I would like. Without a moment's hesitation I replied - 'A hat!'

Accordingly, at the Court Dinner last July, Geoffrey Vero presented me with a hat. It is the most beautiful hat I have ever owned. It came from Lock and Company of St James' Street. It

is a trilby. Why?

When we were young, and in the Army, we wore trilby hats. When the Colonel walked past and we were in civilian clothes we had to salute. It was called 'salute as is improperly dressed' - a rather absurd drill. Hat off, place hat on chest, turn head in direction of said Colonel for five paces, head to the front and don hat. For this and other movements, we treated the

hat to a bath until it was capable of being moulded into many shapes. Elastic bands were used to hold a new shape into place. Not surprisingly, the hats became a bit tatty, and many of us looked like German Generals - which was the idea.

Ever since I have wanted a trilby for 'best'. Fifty years later I have one and I love it. Thank you!

Common Hall 2008

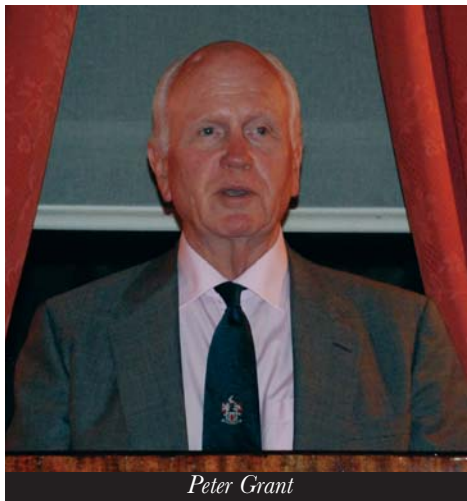
On a surprisingly wintry night when London saw the first snow in October for over seventy years, over forty Feltmakers converged on the Cavalry and Guards Club in Piccadilly for the third Common Hall to be held in the Company's history, under the enthusiastic chairmanship of the Master, who was well supported by two keynote speakers.

Master Nick Heal got the evening's business briskly off the mark with an outline of what is promised for the membership by the cascading system of communication. The Master outlined the pyramid structure of the initiative, filtering down through the Wardens, the Assistants, to groups of four mainstream members, to make keeping in touch a practical reality, not just a paper exercise.



The Master

The Master then moved the business on to the Company's charitable activity, and Charitable Foundation Chairman Peter Grant took the floor. Past Master Peter stressed that he was not going to repeat his message set out in the major article on this topic in this issue of the Feltmaker Magazine. He set the context of the Foundation's current position, having seen the Company's charitable activity develop from an almost nominal figure 40 years ago to the 2008/2009 picture of distributing over £30,000 per annum. However this has to be set against the £40m.



Peter Grant

combined total of all the Livery Companies, and looks particularly modest when compared with, say, the Clothworkers who weigh in with £4m. or (put another way) our figure is one tenth of one percent of the Liveries' total. However, our resources are growing, thanks to the support of half the Company donating the requested benchmark figure of £100 per annum. More joining in and more testamentary benefactions would be welcome.

Feltmaking – the real thing – then fell under the spotlight thanks to a fascinating 'short talk' by Liveryman Ted Andrew. Ted should be nurtured by the Company as being the exemplar of that rare species – a genuine Feltmaker, who heads up Andrew Industries Ltd. a major world-ranking enterprise with an annual turnover of 165m euros and 2000 employees worldwide, producing 25m square metres of felt per annum. Ted's grandfather founded the business in 1894, and it has remained a family business with its main works in Accrington in UK and with extensive overseas bases in US, Canada, and China. In his talk entitled The Development of Modern Felt and Its Uses Ted briefly described how feltmaking by his company progressed from wool based felt to the contemporary engineered textile needle felt based on polyester fibre. Ted brought with him fascinating samples of the 21st. century products



Ted Andrews showing a felt filter

based on the modern application of this high tech felt. This included examples from filtration, the automotive industries, space shuttles, laundries, medical items, you name it, they make it, and pointing out that ballistic felts, (kevlar) worn by police and armed services personnel, digital printers, paper making, sports shoes (eg Nike) are just some of the immense range of products using this highly versatile felt. Those of us who recalled the pictures of the basic, crude procedures for making felt contained in the Livery Company's official 'History of the Worshipful Company of Feltmakers' marvelled at and admired the sophistication of these products, and inwardly congratulated Ted and his firm on keeping their place at the very cutting edge of new technologies in feltmaking.

As the title of these events - 'Common Hall' - implies, no Feltmaker Livery Company meeting of this ilk would be complete without a meal to boot, and the Cavalry and Guards Club rose splendidly to the occasion, seating us all round one huge oval table and fortifying us for the wintry journey home with seasonal, delectable venison and a smooth claret to match.

Rowland Brown

The Lord Mayor's Hat

It was in 1963 that the then Master, Sir Hugh Wontner proposed that the Company should supply every incoming Lord Mayor with his tricorne hat.

The makers of this splendid hat are a firm called 'Patey Hats' who describe



themselves as 'Purveyors and Manufacturers of Fine Crafted Head Wear'. They have a heritage of over 200 years and a visit to their premises in South East London

reveals that their craftsmen adopt the same hand-crafted methods of hat-making as they did in 1799, offering a truly bespoke service that is rare to find these days.

The order for the Lord Mayor's hat is received in July and the incoming Lord Mayor is invited to attend his first fitting



The conformature

as soon as it is possible. This procedure involves taking an accurate measurement of his head using a 'conformature', a wonderful 18th century invention resembling a mediaeval instrument of torture. A template results and another

contraption called a 'formillion' is adjusted to the exact size and shape of the Lord Mayor's head, using this template.

The foundation of the hat is made from lengths of calico cloth, which are



The card transferred to centre of the formillion

stretched onto wooden frames and coated with a shellac paste called 'coodle.' After curing, this cloth now called 'goss', is cut into strips and ironed onto the crown block and brim shape. A skilled job taking 8 hours allowing 2 layers of goss to ensure a strong foundation. Irons are heated up



on naked flames, the goss strips become flexible under the intense heat enabling them to be moulded and smoothed around the hat blocks. After a week's drying the foundations are coated with varnish and dried overnight. Velvet is laid and cut out to the pattern on the cutting machine using cutting blades shaped for the Lord Mayor's hat. Until a few years ago, this was done by hand. The velvet pattern pieces are machine



Different shaped cutting blades

stitched together, pulled over the crown and brim foundations, the velvet adhering to the foundation as the varnish is still tacky. Finally the hat is trimmed with fine black ostrich feathers and given a sumptuous satin lining.

The completed hat is delivered to the Keeper of the Robes at Guildhall. He has the important task of teaching the incoming Lord Mayor how to 'take charge' and 'be at one' with his hat for the Lord Mayor's Show, which takes place in early November. The hat weighs about 5lbs, so it takes some practice to adopt a natural poise when donning and doffing, and for the important mayoral 'waive'. The hat has to be of robust construction to see it through its very active year in office.

Even though the Lord Mayor wears his new hat at the Lord Mayor's Show, it is not until shortly after the Silent Ceremony that the hat is formally presented to the newly appointed Lord Mayor at the Mansion House by the Master and Wardens.

Sir Hugh Wontner was appointed Lord Mayor in 1973 (and Master for the second time), and on his death left a legacy to ensure the Feltmakers supplied the Lord Mayor's hat for posterity. **Jane Way**

New Liverymen of the Feltmakers

The biographies of new Liverymen, previously published in 'The Feltmaker', now appear on the Company web site. However, we are pleased to announce the following admissions to the Livery since the last edition:

Court Meeting: January 2008

Mr. Peter Winfield

Court Meeting: April 2008

Mr. William Clegg QC

Mr. Richard Elms JP

Court Meeting: October 2008

Mr. Matthew Finnegan

Mr. Keith Pledger

Mr. Julian Vero

Mrs. Gilly Yarrow