



# THE FUELLER

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The Official Journal of The Worshipful Company of Fuellers

Registered at Stationers' Hall

## Ironmongers' Hall was perfect setting for Installation Dinner

**T**he Installation Court Dinner was held in the splendid surroundings of Ironmongers' Hall in the Barbican. Before this most prestigious of the events in the Company's calendar took place, many of the Members and their guests took the opportunity of witnessing the installation of the Twenty-third Master of the Company, when the retiring Master, Cyril McCombe MBE, handed over the chain of office to his Senior Warden, Nigel Draffin. The new Master then, in turn, installed David Bell as Senior Warden and Michael Husband as Junior Warden.

Prior to this ceremony, the Court had taken the greatest pleasure in welcoming Mark Fairbairn OBE, William Fortesque, Peter Godfrey and Andrew Miller as Freemen of the Company. David Lewis and Lynn Port were clothed in the Livery.

Following the dinner, which was attended by nearly 140 Members and their guests, the Senior Warden, David Bell, rose to propose the toast to the guests. David said he had particular pleasure in welcoming the principal guest, Mrs Tessa Brewer, The Lady Mayoress. Amongst other valued personages in attendance were the Rt Hon Sir Jeremy Hanley KCMG, Master of the Chartered Accountants' Company and Mr Tony O'Hagen, Master Fan Maker. David also said the Company were delighted at the presence of several guests from those branches of the armed forces with whom the Company had an affiliation, including Honorary Liveryman Andrew Spinks of the Defence Fuels Group.

The response on behalf of the guests was given by The Lady Mayoress, Mrs Tessa Brewer who provided an amusing insight into her responsibilities in support of her husband, and anecdotes about life in the Mansion House. She ended her remarks by inviting the assembly to rise for the toast "The Worshipful Company of Fuellers — root and branch — may it flourish for ever".

The final address was given by the new Master, Nigel Draffin. He opened by congratulating the outgoing Master, Cyril McCombe for all his efforts on behalf of the Company over the previous year, and for providing a most interesting and enjoyable programme of events. He also took the opportunity of thanking a number of individuals who had made a substantial contribution to the Company's activities over the previous year in a variety of roles. Nigel then provided the audience with an outline of his plans for the coming year and the emphasis he wished to place on the need for support of the Company's Charitable Trust Fund.



*The Master, Nigel Draffin, thanks a number of individuals who had made a substantial contribution to the Company's activities.*



*The then Master, Cyril McCombe, left, reads the bidding prayer, at the opening of the Court meeting.*



# *Saint Michael, Cornhill — our adopted church*

St Michael's Church, Cornhill, in the City of London, is the Worshipful Company of Fuellers' adopted church and its present Rector, the Revd Dr Peter Mullen, is Chaplain to the Company. Our organisation holds two Company services here each year — the Master's Installation Service and a joint carol service with the Worshipful Company of Water Conservators.

St Michael's has a claim to being one of the oldest churches in England. Records show that where it now stands, there was a temple to the god Mithras on this particular corner of the old Roman forum. This temple became a Christian church in AD 179. The Churchwardens' records go back to the Middle Ages. A beautiful new history of St Michael's is being prepared by Mr Peter Hughes, the former Curator of the Wallace Collection. This will become available later in 2007.

In AD 1503, the Worshipful Company of Drapers purchased the Living of St Michael's from the Bishop of London, "for a quantity of wine". The Drapers have been the church's Patrons ever since. Peter Mullen asked Bishop Richard, when he came to celebrate the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the patronage in 2003, if he still received the wine on a regular basis, to which he replied "Fraid not!"

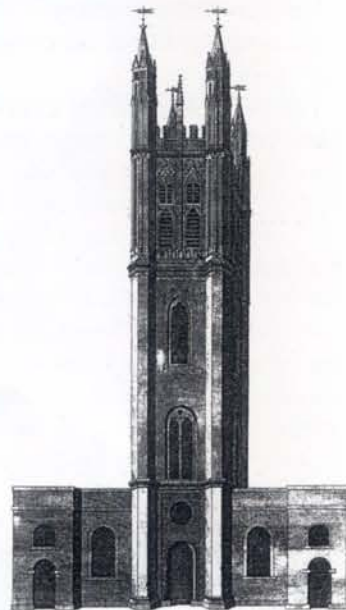
The church was burned down in 1666, during the Great Fire of London. It was rebuilt by Wren in 1670-1, with the tower being added as it is today by Wren's illustrious pupil Nicholas Hawksmoor in 1718-22. St Michael's is renowned for its musical tradition. Henry Purcell was the first to play its organ and in the 18th century, Handel's distinguished contemporary, William Boyce, was Director of Music for 32 years. Harold Darke was organist from 1916-1966 and established the longest running series of weekly organ recitals in the world — and they are still going!

Of course, history is always interesting, but just as important is the fact that the church is very much a working entity, with an enviable reputation for its musical services and its sound traditional teaching. It uses the King James Bible and the Book of Common Prayer. The congregation will not be asked to join in the embarrassing "kiss of peace" or be expected to sing-along to the twang of the liturgical guitar or other such "jogging for Jesus" doggerel. As well as the central act of worship, the well attended Choral Eucharist every Sunday, the church offers short lunchtime services on Wednesdays and Fridays; Holy Communion is said at 1.10 pm. Other City Companies and institutions are affectionately attached to St Michaels. They include the Water Conservators, Merchant Taylors, Woolmen, Upholders, the Honourable Company of Master Mariners, the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators and EDF Energy (formerly London Electricity).

St Michael's is famous for its liturgical elegance and its musical excellence in the provision of christenings, wedding services and memorials. Members of the Company are always most welcome to arrange these family events at the Fuellers' Parish Church.

As Chaplain, Peter asks to be informed of cases of sickness, bereavement and any other pastoral needs appertaining to our Members.

*Revd Dr Peter Mullen*



## **A letter from Air Vice-Marshal John Price CBE DL**

*Dear Master,*

*Now I am home again in Hereford, I can begin to think about thanking everyone whose thoughtfulness and kindness did so much to lighten my days in hospital: Top of the list must be my wife, whose tender loving care saw me through the most difficult year of my life; next are the Members of the Fuellers' Company. From the first day that I joined, I knew it was a friendly Company. But it was only as I lay in my bed, did I realise the full extent of that friendship. All your calls, letters, and visits did much to sustain and encourage me. At the same time, Ilse felt a similar sense of support and of being in peoples' thoughts.*

*Please accept this letter as being a token of our heartfelt thanks to all of you. May I express my gratitude in particular to your Immediate Past Master, your Learned Clerk and your hard-working Almoner. But the support went far beyond these individuals and I would like to thank the entire Company. I always knew that it was a pleasure and a privilege to be a Fueller. After this last miserable year, that knowledge has been reinforced a hundredfold.*

*I extend my sincere thanks, and I look forward to expressing them personally to everyone at future Livery functions.*

*Yours in friendship*

*John*



# Meet the Master

The editor of the Fueller has asked me to tell the company a little bit about myself. The honour of being installed as the 23rd Master of the company still seems unbelievable, but it is growing on me.

I was born in Margate in Kent and my earliest links with the energy industry was the sound of the Stevenson Clark colliers discharging at the jetty, the smell of the gas works and the sight of the pithead winding gear at Chislet colliery in the Kent coalfield. I went to school in Kent and after "O" Levels joined Shell Tankers as an Engineer Officer Apprentice. All of my college training was in Liverpool in the late 1960's where I met my wife before spending the 1970's travelling the world as an Engineer Officer on oil and gas tankers. My travels covered most of the world except Russia. I came ashore in 1980 to work (still for Shell) in the new building department as a Superintendent and helped to supervise new ships in shipyards in a number of countries. I then moved to the research department where I became more involved in fuel



Nigel Draffin

handling systems, fuel efficiency and energy auditing.

Chris and I were married as soon as my Apprenticeship finished and she spent a couple of years at sea with me before we bought a house and then produced our two sons. We lived in Knutsford, Cheshire, until I was moved to the London office. We subsequently bought a house in Godalming where we still live.

We have been involved with charitable activities in the context of children with special needs for many years and this is a major interest. My other extra curricular interests are

sailing, reading, walking, cooking – and in appropriate circumstances, singing.

From 1986 to 1995, I was the Fuel Buyer for the Shell fleets which involved travel, involvement in the commercial world (the Bunker Industry), taking part in United Nations and various NGO Committees, and most dangerously, getting involved with Past Master DFG Barrow and the establishment of the International Bunker Industry Association (IBIA). I had been introduced to writing technical papers, making formal presentations and lecturing on internal Shell courses during the 1980's. From the start of the IBIA, I wrote and presented training courses, an activity which I thoroughly enjoy.

I became involved with Livery life through the Shipwrights Company in the 1990's and then in 1999 I was introduced to the Fuellers' Company. I have found the companionship within the company, the opportunity to act as a Trustee of the Charitable Trust and the friendship of Brother Fuellers a joy.

## Oiling the wheels at a real solid fuellers' wedding

*Weddings in the Fuellers' Company are fairly rare occasions, but this Journal is pleased to report that just such an event took place last year when our youngest Liveryman, Carrie Marsh married David Vince. Carrie is the fourth generation to take over the running of H.C. Marsh (Newbury), Limited. The company is a leading supplier of solid fuels and fuel oils in West Berkshire. David and Carrie have carried the Company Banner at the Lord Mayor's Show over the last several years. The couple were married at East Woodhay Church and the bride drove off at the wheel of one of the Company's oil tankers, with her new husband, after the service. The guests, who included Court Member Jane Ayre and the then Master, Cyril McCombe, were subsequently royally entertained at a reception at the home of the bride's parents, Bert and Janet Marsh.*



Carrie drives off from church with her new husband Vince in the company fuel tanker.



# *Fuellers hold joint service with the Water Conservators*

Late last year, Members of the Fuellers' Company and those of the Water Conservators' Company joined together in a Joint Carol Service at St Michael Cornhill. Officiating was the Revd Dr Peter Mullen, who is Chaplain to both Companies. The choir was conducted by Jonathan Rennert, the Church's noted Director of Music, and a Past Master of the Worshipful Company of Musicians. The Organist was Robert Smith BMus.

Readings were presented in turn by Ian Staniforth, Fleet Warden, Water Conservators; Michael Husband, Junior Warden, Fuellers' Company; Colin Drummond, Thames Warden, Water Conservators; David Bell, Senior Warden, Fuellers; Sue Owen, Master, Water Conservators; Nigel Draffin, Master, Fuellers and the Revd Peter Mullen.

The Fuellers' Company were delighted to welcome to the service Air-Vice Marshal John Price and his wife Ilse, the first time our Members had seen John since the completion of his lengthy period of hospitalisation.

The service over, many members of the congregation adjourned to the Little Ship Club for a late dinner..



*Our Master, Nigel Draffin, welcomes both Fuellers and Water Conservators to dinner at the Little Ship Club.*



*Michael Byrne, left, in conversation with Junior Warden Mike Husband and Miss Paula Pantaney.*



*Amongst the Fuellers' party were John Byrne and Leslie McCartney.*



*The Fuellers were delighted to welcome their new Beadle, Dave Phillips, and his wife Judith, to the evening's event.*



*Photographed at the reception were, left to right, Past Master Brian Harrison, Senior Warden David Bell, Janet Harrison and Peter Harrison.*



*Obviously enjoying themselves were, left to right, James Helly, Michelle Helly Chipps and Liveryman Patrick Helly.*



# Bath was venue for autumn long weekend

One of the concluding events in the Immediate Past Master's programme was a long weekend in Bath. The short break was supported by 17 people. Most of the participants stayed at the Homewood Park Hotel, in Charterhouse Hinton, which was the venue for dinner on both the Friday and Saturday nights. Mac invited the party to take part in a series of visits in Bath and its surroundings over the weekend. On the Saturday, the programme took in the small museum in Radstock which has a collection tracing the history of coalmining in Somerset. The visit was enlivened by a most interesting and amusing lecture presented by an ex Head of Mines Rescue in Somerset. The party then drove several miles to the Peto Garden at Iford Manor, a Grade 1 Italian-style garden famous for its tranquil beauty. It was the home of Architect and Landscape Designer Harold Peto from 1899 – 1933.

Having completed what turned out to be a most enjoyable tour, the party adjourned to a local pub for lunch, renowned for its wide range of real ales. From here, it was only a short drive to Bath. After parking the cars, the group met up by the side of the Abbey to meet up with a Blue Badge guide who was to take the Fuellers on a walking tour of the City.

On the following morning, the party drove a short distance to the American Museum in Britain, housed in Claverton Manor. The Master had arranged a private guided tour of the museum, prior to the normal public opening hours. The building houses the finest collection of American decorative art outside the United States. The main collection is arranged as a series of furnished rooms dating from the 17th to the mid 19th century. There is also an outstanding collection of quilts, 40 of which were on display. After lunch, several of the party stayed on for a Big Band Concert in the grounds, an event which was marred to some extent by poor weather. The rest departed for another visit to Bath, or for the return journey home. All agreed that it had been a most enjoyable social occasion.



*The party of Fuellers enjoy the unexpected charms of the Peto garden at Iford Manor.*



*Photographed in the Peto garden were, left to right, Bill Pretswell, Maureen Cloke, Andrew Bainbridge and Eileen Pretswell.*

## Stepping out at the Lord Mayors Show

Once again, the Fuellers' Company participated in the Lord Mayor's Show. Our party for 2006 included our Master, Nigel Draffin and the Senior Warden, David Bell, supported by our banner carriers, Carrie Marsh and husband David. This last event seemed busier than ever, with over 6,000 people in the procession, including 2,000 service men and women. On parade were 180 vehicles, 66 floats, 21

marching bands, and 21 carriages including the State Coach. As has been the custom in previous years, the Fuellers formed part of the Modern Companies display. On this occasion, the group were placed well up at the front at number six in the marching order. Hard on their heels were the towering figures of Gog and Magog. Again, custom prevailed and the Modern Companies' party took a welcome half-

time break on HQS Wellington where they enjoyed the hospitality of The Master Mariners' Company, with a welcome glass of Champagne (or two!). There was additional entertainment close by from a band on the Embankment. After their refreshment, the Fuellers gritted their teeth for the long march back to their initial assembly point, and thence to The Little Ship Club for lunch.



# Recording our history – a 25th anniversary project

One of the projects currently underway in the Company is the compilation of a book on the history of our organisation. The objective is to publish the work in 2009, to coincide with our 25th anniversary. Of course, our early beginnings can be traced back to 1376, it being unfortunate that we lost our Charter in 1667, and did not regain it until 1984.

To ensure that our past is recorded in a very professional manner, the Company has engaged the services of a noted historian, Roderick Braithwaite MA FRHistS. Amongst Roderick's recent titles has been a history of Millfield School.

One of the problems in the case of the Fuellers' Company is a scarcity of primary material and written records, which makes the task of an author all that more difficult. If any Members of our Livery know of, or have access to, any information on our past, then Roderick would be delighted to hear from you.

As one of the first steps in structuring the outline of the book, a provisional list of chapter headings and contents has been drawn up. This is set out below:

## **Chapter One:**

Early days — the Woodmongers and the emergence of the London coal trade. The interface with the North East coast: Colliery owners, shippers, collier brigs, coal merchants.

## **Chapter Two:**

Demarcation disputes — the struggle between the Woodmongers, Carmen and Warfingers. Factors leading to the surrender of the Charter in 1667. Subsequent friction with the Watermen.

## **Chapter Three:**

The later history of the London coal trade. Formation of the Society of Owners of Coal Craft; Society of Coal Merchants; Society of Coal Factors and the Coal Meters Committee.

## **Chapter Four:**

The Twentieth Century — London coal merchants and the bid to recover the Charter. Personalities central to the formation of the Worshipful Company of Fuellers. The coal trade in decline and the recognition that the Company should focus on energy in its broadest sense.



Roderick Braithwaite.

## *Fuellers seek to forge educational link*

Stockwell Park High School, in the East End of London, has been described in the past as one of the most challenging educational establishments in the UK. However, over the last five years, the Management Team running the school has begun transforming it into a local success story. Fighting and bullying have reduced, examination results have improved year on year, and the school has been classified as a "Business and Enterprise College". On a recent visit by some Members of the Fuellers' Company, it was noticeable how the attitude of the School appeared to be on a very positive footing.

The Fuellers' Charitable Trust Fund has been seeking out ways to associate with an Educational establishment on a long-term basis, and Stockwell seems to fit the bill. The School's Head, Judette Taper, has met with some representatives of the Fuellers' Company, and as a result of the dialogue, it is very clear that the our Company could make a real difference to the School through charitable giving and even by individual involvement.

Just before Christmas, an MOU was signed between Stockwell Park High School and the Fuellers' Company, the text of which highlights the broad principles upon which the two

organisations can cooperate. There are plans on the table for how the Charitable Trust Fund can undertake specific projects, as well as some thoughts on how some of our own members might be able to get involved in giving career advice, and undertaking some field trips with the pupils.

It is hoped that the members of the Company can get involved in this exciting venture for the Fuellers, and that we can show ourselves as useful and constructive partners to the School.

*Shravan Joshi*



# Are Fuellers interested in beer? – never!

Your late Master, having fretted his way through his programme for the year – will anyone turn up? – became a little blasé in the final days. He suggested to Roger Cloke that he was thinking of a brewery tour. You can guess! “Leave it to me” said Roger and it was as good as done. The result was an impressive turnout for a visit to the Griffin Brewery of Fuller, Smith and Turner at Chiswick. And of course, the tasting was superb and the very social lunch at the Mawson Arms (the brewery tap) was an event in itself. There were, in fact, at least two participants who assembled at the “tap” but never left, simply awaiting our arrival for lunch. The day had little to do with energy!



*The intricacies of the brewer's art were explained in detail to the Fuellers' party.*



*Enjoying lunch in the Mawson Arms were, left to right, Rod Brown, Michael Byrne, Gp Captain Paul Atherton and Roger Cloke.*

## Brian Harrison invites you to a night to remember

Brian Harrison, a past member of our Company, has long been convinced that one of the primary tasks of a Livery Company is to build and strengthen its Charity Fund. By so doing, year by year, the Members of a Company can help those less fortunate than themselves.

That was why Brian, in his year as Master in 2001, held a fund-raising banquet in the Guildhall. The result was that he raised the magnificent sum of £24,000, before taking into account the tax refund.

The year 2007 is very special in several ways. It marks 300 years since the Act of Union created Great Britain. And as Jim Bellew reminds everyone, it's the 800th anniversary of the founding of Liverpool! For Brian, it's even more notable, as he will be celebrating his 80th birthday.

So, with a great deal of support from his family, friends and fellow Liverymen, he is planning another fund-raising event which he hopes will exceed what was achieved six years ago. As before, the monies raised will be divided between the Fuellers' Charity Fund and several other charities, still to be named.

To this end, Brian and his supporters are arranging a dinner and entertainment in the glittering new Plaisterers' Hall on 27 June, 2007. What could be better than a Summer's evening in the City, which can be shared and enjoyed with family and friends, whilst at the same time raising money to help those who are in need of support.

Make a note in your diary now!

## What can we sell you?

*The Worshipful Company of Fuellers have for sale the following items:*

Blue silk tie with the Company crest	£21.50
A Company crest on a bar-brooch for ladies	£5.50
A Company-crest lapel-badge for gentlemen	£4.50
Company-crest cuff links	£11.00
Wooden company-crest wall plaque	£35.00
Company-crest brooch for ladies who are Liverymen	£71.50
Golf umbrella with crest in Fuellers' colours	£21.50
Company-crest baseball hat	£11.00

*All postage and packing included.*

All items may be had of:  
Mrs Jane Ayre, 68 Portway, Baughurst, Tadley,  
Basingstoke RG26 5PE  
Tel: 01189 813700; e-mail: ayrejaycee@aol.com



# OBITUARY

## Mark Julian Smith M.A. – 1962-2007

We were deeply saddened by the death of Mark Smith, Liveryman of the Company, on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January. For some years he had fought a brave fight against a brain tumour and he remained cheerful to the end. This came peacefully at Woking Hospice where he had been since December.

Mark was born in Scunthorpe, Lincolnshire, on 7<sup>th</sup> February 1962, the only child of Gordon and Shirley Smith, and was educated at Repton School. Before university he worked as a volunteer teaching maths to children in a local school in Kenya. That interest in children in Africa and particularly in Kenya stayed with him. He received an Exhibition to Magdalene College, Cambridge, and went up in 1980, where he graduated in Natural Sciences. He enjoyed a highly successful career after joining Schroders in 1983. Mark rose rapidly, becoming an Executive Director of the principal operating company, Schroder Investment Management, Limited, with global responsibilities for administration and particularly custody. He spent some time with the group in the US, whence came his love of American sports.

I was fortunate to work closely with Mark in a number of areas and most particularly our offshore businesses based in Luxembourg, Guernsey and Mauritius. He was a tremendous colleague and a great pleasure to travel with on business, particularly if one could stop him working at some time in any 24 hours! Highly intelligent and an excellent negotiator; I shall remember him as Schroders' own smart weapon.

Mark married in 1994 and subsequently divorced. He leaves a young son, Matthew (8), whom he dearly loved, of whom he was hugely proud and who brought him the greatest pleasure. He was a very good friend to those of us who were close to him. We will truly miss him and remember him with the greatest affection. Our thoughts, sympathy and prayers are with Shirley and Gordon and with young Matthew.

Mark was an initial Trustee of The Turning Point Trust. This is a registered charity based in Woking and works amongst destitute children of Kibera, a huge slum area just outside Nairobi, by providing opportunities for them to develop their God-given potential. The Fuellers' Charitable Trust supported the charity with a donation in the summer of 2006. His family has requested that any donations in Mark's memory be made to the charity.

*John Bainbridge, Court Assistant.*

## CITY AND COMPANY DIARY OF EVENTS 2007

Month	Date	Event	Venue
February	Wednesday 14	Master's Valentine's Dinner	Innholders' Hall
	Tuesday 20	Pancake race	Guildhall Yard
	Thursday 22	Visit to RFA Wave Knight (subject to operational duties)	Harwich
March	Wednesday 7	G P Committee, followed by a wine tasting and Livery Dinner	-tba-
	Friday 23	United Guilds' Service, followed by lunch	St Pauls / Pewterers' Hall
	Wednesday 28	Charitable Trust meeting followed by lunch	Butchers' Hall
April	Wednesday 18	Election Court, followed by thanksgiving service and lunch	Painters' Hall/ St Michael Paternoster Royal
	Monday 30	Inter-Livery Swimathon	RAC Club, Epsom
May	Wednesday 9	GP Committee meeting followed by Third Fuellers' Lecture	Haberdashers' Hall
	Wednesday 23	Interlivery Clay Shoot	Holland & Holland
June	Wednesday 27	Court Meeting followed by Brian Harrison's Charity Dinner	Plasterers Hall
July	Wednesday 25	Charitable Trust Meeting	Butchers' Hall
October	Wednesday 17	Installation Court and Dinner	Drapers' Hall

The Master's list of social events for 2007 will include the following: **All dates to be confirmed.** March 17 or 31, visit to Whitechapel Bell Foundry; April 27, afternoon visit to the Globe Theatre; July 14, visit to Godalming and Guildford to view the oldest and newest hydro-electric power stations; early September, a Saturday party at Ham Polo Club.

**Note, the Company will continue to organise a monthly luncheon table at Butchers' Hall on the last Wednesday of February, April, June September and November. As an alternative, the Clerk can arrange a table at the HQS Wellington Curry Lunch on Friday, 26 January and Friday, 30 March, and on similar last Friday dates later in the year. There is a minimum number of eight at each lunch; guests are welcome. Please book with the Clerk at least a week beforehand.**

**This publication is produced and distributed by the Worshipful Company of Fuellers. Comments on this edition and suggestions for inclusion in future issues are welcomed and should be directed to: 'The Editor - The Fueller' c/o 26 Merrick Square, London SE1 4JB. Tel/Fax: 020 7234 0760. Email: clerk@fuellers.co.uk**