



The Scrivener

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY
OF SCRIVENERS OF THE CITY OF LONDON

ISSUE 18 : SEPTEMBER 2012



Scrivener flies the flag in the Jubilee flotilla

Liveryman Fraser Brown (in red cap above) reports on his first-hand experience of the Jubilee River Pageant.

After several evenings and weekends spent fettling, varnishing and painting our late Victorian/Edwardian skiff *Poppy*, the final touch was to pick-up the Scriveners' flag from HQS Wellington and hoist it up the flagstaff.

After a Friday trip to our local primary school's Jubilee party to show the boat to the children, Cath and I trailered the boat down the M4 to Mortlake on Saturday afternoon in preparation for scrutineering and launching on the morning of the 3rd of June. After embarking with the rest of our crew we headed downriver to muster in Wandsworth and proceeded through the glorious ranks of the Dunkirk little ships anchored at Craven Cottage.

All crews were encouraged to wear period costume matched to the boat, so the boys wore Henley Royal Regatta kit and the girls Edwardian ladies' outfits. The parasols proved redundant but the high collars were welcome!

Griff Rhys Jones shouted his approval of our skiff

from his perch on a moored motor-yacht and we kept friendly pace with the graceful quadruple skiff *Sgian Dubh*.

The crowds began to swell at Putney embankment's boathouses and we were treated to an alarmingly intimate *haka* from a passing Maori war canoe. The ever more surrealistic nature of the event was heightened by the sight of a Viking longboat in close proximity with a Nelsonian Royal Navy whaler with crew in full No. 1s.

Having rowed somewhat longer than the boat race course as an aperitif, we started the event proper at Battersea Bridge led, some distance ahead, by the wonderful *Gloriana*. What the TV pictures perhaps did not show adequately is the sheer number of spectators, not just at street level, but overlooking from the rising tiers of buildings on either side. Although we were stationed with other skiffs we soon found ourselves mixing with Australian surf boats, dragon boats, livery cutters, Cornish gigs and scudding kayaks.

Continued on page 4...



From the pen of the Master

First, let me congratulate Bill Kennair on a splendid second term of office, which he has undertaken with great style. It is a huge privilege to be installed as Master of one of the ancient livery companies and I am particularly proud to serve as Master of the Scriveners Company not only because of its history, but also because there is a strong association with the College of Arms. The College will form one of the themes of my Mastership in that we have the Earl Marshal, the Duke of Norfolk, as our principal guest at the Autumn Dinner, and we are having two receptions at the College, in October and December, when I will give a talk about its history and the way it works, and those attending will be able to examine some of our treasured documents.

I have now started my official duties as Master; on 19 September, for example, I attended the presentation of the shrieval chain and badge to Alderman Jeffrey Evans, and then after choral evensong at St Paul's, I was delighted to meet our chorister, Finn Reece (*pictured above*). This is just one of the bursaries we give to City of London schools, and it was very rewarding to see first hand evidence of how our funds are put to good use. 12-year-old Finn was proudly wearing his Scriveners medal and has recently been appointed Deputy Head Chorister.

Looking further ahead, I am hoping to welcome a party of Scriveners to my family home, Oxburgh Hall, in Norfolk, now owned by the National Trust, but the home of the Bedingfeld family for over 500 years. A former Sir Henry Bedingfeld was Lieutenant of the Tower of London in the reign of Mary Tudor and custodian of her sister Elizabeth, later Queen of England. I have no such ambition myself, you may be relieved to hear! I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our events throughout the year.

Henry Bedingfeld
Master, 2012-13

...and the Immediate Past Master

2012 has been an eventful year, and when I took over the Mastership in January I had no idea just how eventful it would be. Apart from those events that I expected, given that it was a second time around - the receptions, dinners, school prizegivings, and so forth - there were some, such as the Masters' visit to Ironbridge in Shropshire, which I had missed the first time, in which I was very pleased to have a second chance to participate. It is at Ironbridge that the association of past masters is generally formed, and now I can proudly say that I am not only a "Cats' Whisker" (2008-9), but also



a "Diamond" (2012). I was also very lucky that the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations took place whilst I was in office, and I was honoured to host the Scriveners' Company's party to the lunch at Westminster Hall given by the City to HM the Queen and other members of the Royal Family. Our guests represented a cross-section of the activities of the Company, and were Sarah West, newly appointed commander of our affiliate Royal Navy ship, HMS Portland, Victoria Humphery-Smith, one of our apprentices and the third generation in her family to participate in the Scriveners, Charles Henshaw, a candidate Scrivener Notary, and Opemipo Otaiku, Deputy Head Girl of the Sir John Cass Redcoat School in Stepney, with which we have close ties. I can safely say that a good time was had by all. My six months came all too quickly to an end three days before the start of the Olympics, which in my case was just as well. I am off soon for a holiday!

Bill Kennair
Master, January—July 2012

What the Immediate Past Master did next



The Olympics euphoria may now have died down a little, but it should be remembered that our Immediate Past Master, Bill Kennair, did his bit as one of the thousands of volunteer gamesmakers who made the Games so special. He was one of the Protocol/Language Services Team at ExCel, covering table tennis, judo, wrestling, fencing, weightlifting, boxing and taekwondo. The Olympic spirit lives within the Scriveners Company!

Congratulations to Liveryman Rodney Corner, who (we have only just discovered) was appointed MBE in the New Year's Honours List for his services to the Coroners' system.

Scriveners Company Lecture

The annual Scriveners Company Lecture for The Heraldry Society is being given on Wednesday 16 January 2013 by Liveryman Robert Harrison, with the Upper Warden, John Tunesi of Liongam, in the chair. The subject of the lecture is *The Heraldry of the Speakers of the House of Commons—Revisited*, and it will look at the history of the Speakership from medieval to modern times, examine the lives of some of the Speakers of the House of Commons, along with the heraldry that they bore. The lecture will take place at the Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, Piccadilly at 6.30pm, with a glass or two of wine afterwards. All Scriveners are invited to attend.

Scrivening in the City

Saturday the 23rd of June was 'Celebrate the City' Day.



Various livery companies had stalls in Guildhall Yard to sell their wares or, in our case, to demonstrate our skills. We were very fortunate in having, for one day only, a volunteer 'Scrivener', Tamara McKimmie, who patiently inscribed people's names and other brief messages in her immaculate hand.

The aim was threefold: to support the City on this Open Day; to demonstrate the art of calligraphy; and to 'fly the Scriveners' flag' in another context. Hopefully, the demonstration might also have encouraged a few young people—of which there were many, it being a good family day out – to become interested in the art of handwriting.

Our very grateful thanks are due to Tamara, who has recently completed a calligraphy course alongside our Liveryman Win Eyles, and upon whose recommendation we approached Tamara. Win herself was unfortunately unable to take part as she and her husband Chris were going on holiday that very day. It should be noted, however, that she has provided the beautifully hand-inscribed place-cards at two of our dinners.

Further formal niceties

Must a black tie always be black? That was the poser with which you were all left breathless with anticipation and excitement in the last issue. Also—is there a place in the City for the fancy waistcoat?

In the view of this newsletter, the answers to these two questions are, as in most matters sartorial, completely dependent upon the degree of showiness in the individual's character. Personal taste is all. And in the City,

personal taste tends to be a rather more uniform affair than elsewhere.

As to black tie—if the occasion is 'black tie' then a black bow tie should be worn, unless you are determined to sport membership of some particular City institution or club. Even then the starchier elements of City life might see bow tie variations as bad form. The sight of older and very important-looking people glowering at brightly-tied youngsters is not uncommon, and not just amongst the Great Twelve.

MCC members should at all times refrain from demonstrating their glorious association with the home of cricket unless they are actually at Lords, when they are required to do so if only to cock a snook at those who are merely visitors. The only excuse for inflicting the 'egg and bacon' tie on a dignified livery event is if there happens to be a sporting connection. And even then it's pretty dubious, since a yellow and orange striped tie seems much more in keeping with outdoor pursuits such as boating. And, well, cricket.

There may be some amongst you who are getting a bit sniffy about this clear bias against a perfectly good club tie, and some may even be thinking, huffily, "And what about the Garrick, for goodness' sake? That's just as bad, with its pink and green stripes." With those people, if any there be, this writer can only concur. Pink and green (or salmon and cucumber) should also be kept in their place, unless there be some kind of theatrical or arty connection—and even then should only be risked by people as illustrious as former Sheriffs who happen to have curated an exhibition in the Guildhall Art Gallery, and who further happen to be taking their family to dine at the said Club afterwards.

Now to the matter of waistcoats. In a word, no. White waistcoats with evening dress, or something akin to white, such as ivory, or cream, or perhaps even a very light gold, are perfectly in order, but floral patterns, primary colours, anything swirly, or girly, or otherwise untoward are simply showing off, and therefore to be discouraged with more than a sharp look. Even a rap on the forearm and a wagging finger of admonition would not be going too far.

In the next issue: sartorial disasters we have all known, and some to which we might even confess. Contributions, please. No, really. Please don't be shy.



cont from page 1...

Cath was kept busy steering to avoid wayward boats and the occasional logjam at pinch points under bridges. We were rarely more than a boat length or two from the crews in front and behind.

On coming alongside *The Spirit of Chartwell* we eased and tossed our oars in a vertical salute to Her Majesty, followed by three rousing cheers. This was to have been synchronised by a Garrison Sergeant Major but with his voice carried away in the wind it came off as a Mexican wave through the fleet, impressive nonetheless.

The real rain started at Lambeth Bridge and we soon became soaked through. Not a problem for the rowers but with a strong headwind the cox and navigator had to wrap-up warm. Cath counted the bridges down until the avenue of tall ships and Tower Bridge came into view. We had planned to have food and water breaks and to share the rowing between us, but in the conditions and with the sweeper boats forcing us to keep above four knots we couldn't really pause. Tower Bridge was the end of the official course, and mentally we had that as our destination. A mistake, as we still had to carry-on at the same pace for a further hour to our disembarkation point at Surrey Quays.

Through the increasingly rough water we were stalked by the spectre of the sweeper boats, by now towing several victims, but never quite catching us. At the marina lock we had a long wait for access as the keeper gave priority to the larger boats – the press has mentioned an absence of marshalling and several incidences of hypothermia - but eventually we moored-up and headed off for some hot drinks.

The Pageant was an extraordinary experience, enhanced by our feeling a real connection with the City of London through which we passed. It was not of course a race, but the last few hours were something of a test of will. I did note with some satisfaction that we finished before a fair few livery cutters, so while we didn't have the grandest boat, I don't think we let the Company down!

Fraser Brown *Liveryman*



'Poppy' and her crew in Edwardian dress, braving the elements and flying the Scriveners' flag. Two further views below.



New members

The Master, Wardens and Court of Assistants are delighted to welcome the following new Freeman and Liverymen to the Company:

FREEMAN

Richard David Francis Bagley

Solicitor of the Supreme Court

LIVERYMEN

Warren Douglas Foot

Solicitor

Phillip Anthony Journeaux

Scrivener Notary, De Pinna

Owen Thomas Lowry

Managing Partner, Lowry LLP

Ryan Edward Ronald Moody

Scrivener Notary, De Pinna

Kenneth Ronald Sherk

Notary Public, Educator, British Columbia

New for the Autumn



Scriveners' umbrellas are now available for purchase from the Clerk's office. They are specially designed in Company colours, and boasting our heraldic device of an eagle clutching a very serious-looking tome, with the penner and inkhorn in its beak.

These are good quality, sturdy but lightweight umbrellas, with fibreglass shaft and spokes. One of them is here being modestly modelled by the Assistant Clerk, who is doing her best to remain anonymous while the Clerk snaps away with his iPhone. The price is also a relatively modest £27 (which includes VAT and a £2 donation to the Charity Fund).

Please note, these are normal size umbrellas, not the golf variety, which can be somewhat unwieldy. They are just the thing for displaying your allegiance whilst watching the Lord Mayor's Show (or provoking conversation at non-livery events). We have a stock of only 25, so please form an orderly queue. More will be ordered if they prove popular. Actually, make that 23, because the Clerk and Assistant Clerk both want one!

Dates for the diary

- Tue 16 Oct:** Autumn Dinner, Apothecaries' Hall.
- Tue 30 Oct:** Court Meeting, Guildhall.
- Wed 31 Oct:** College of Arms reception and tour hosted by the Master.
- Fri 9 Nov:** Silent Ceremony, Guildhall.
- Sat 10 Nov:** Lord Mayor's Show, with lunch on HQS Wellington.
- Fri 30 Nov:** Curry Lunch, HQS Wellington.
- Mon 3 Dec:** Quill Pen Lunch, Mansion House.
- Mon 10 Dec:** Carol Service, St Martin-within-Ludgate.
- Tue 15 Jan:** Quill Pen Reception for the Sheriffs and presentation of Handwriting Prizes, St Lawrence Jewry.
- Wed 16 Jan:** Scriveners Co. Lecture: Heraldry Society
- Tue 29 Jan:** Court Meeting, Guildhall (*note: not 29 March as printed in the Livery List in error!*)
- Wed 13 Feb:** Carvery Lunch, Butchers' Hall.
- Fri 15 Mar:** United Guilds' Service, followed by lunch at Apothecaries' Hall.

New Court Assistants

Liverymen **David John Hammond** (1994), **Barry Theobald-Hicks** (1996) and **Professor Mark Watson-Gandy** (1996) were installed as Court Assistants at Guildhall on 30 April. Liveryman **Sandra Patricia Fishman** (1998) was also installed as a Court Assistant on HQS Wellington on 24 July. They will bring a wealth of new experience to the Court.

New Commanding Officer



Commander Sarah West RN has now taken command of our affiliate ship, the Type 23 frigate *HMS Portland*. This makes her the first female commander of a Royal Navy warship. She joined the Royal Navy in 1995 and has previously commanded four minesweepers. Cdr West was also one of the Company's guests at the Jubilee Lunch hosted by the Livery Companies in Westminster Hall on 5 June. Her letter of thanks to the then Master, Bill Kennair, is reprinted on page 7.

A floating Chinese banquet with music and magic...

We celebrated the Diamond Jubilee in Chinese style in June, an idea that originated from Liveryman Peter Cobb, a new member of the Charity Committee. Thanks are due to him, and to all those who supported the occasion, which was also a fundraising event for our Sexcentenary Charity Fund. Over £1100 was raised. Our doughty reporter, Liveryman Denis Moriarty, here gives his views on the evening:



It was our Master's birthday on 6 June, and fresh from his lunching with the Queen and the Livery companies in Westminster Hall the day before, he found the Scriveners in Jubilee mood aboard the Lotus Chinese Floating Restaurant in Docklands, for a summer celebration.

Greeted by the Clerk with glass in hand, we are no strangers to being on London's water, and the old Millwall Dock, eponymous for those of us whose early days go back to when the football team struggled in the third division and the quayside teemed with toiling stevedores, is now overwhelmed with towering steel and gleaming glass of high-rise finance; an impressive sight that, let us hope, will continue to reassure the world.

This was to be a wholly relaxed occasion with a distinct family atmosphere, and at a price attractive enough to encourage members to make up parties of guests, round tables of ten, with a very reasonable cash bar. We settled down to a fulsome Chinese Banquet, chopsticks for the sophisticated and experienced, conventional irons helpfully on hand for those of us less confident.

There was some excellent entertainment; an accordion player, Mike Ruff, who clearly loved his instrument, had a wide and popular repertoire, responded to requests and joined in the party. John Styles is a gold star magician, of brilliant skills and winning ways who dazzled and charmed us all. He visited all the tables with some stunning sleight of hand, and then proceeded to solo stage, holding us all in thrall, working the magic, defying laws of nature and reason, with a fluent and vivid repartee—mercifully free of the all too frequent tasteless innuendo that mars so much, and all the more witty and effective for that.

The Master brought his customary authority to the raffle, a generously assembled and copious collection of prizes, which together with the other proceeds of the evening will go to swell the charitable funds of the

company and their important enabling work. I am always intrigued how often some lucky people manage to win more than once; I must bring my Jinnie again. This was a most enjoyable evening, and our thanks to all those in the office and elsewhere both for the concept and the fulfilment of such a happy, unusual and successful occasion. We must hope for similar opportunities in the future.

Twilight was upon us; the lights of Docklands played upon the water. We sang our anniversary musical salute to the Master, and went out into Crossharbour. Plenty of nearby DLR to whisk us homeward, elevated, and with its sinuous ups and downs to Lewisham, Bank and beyond; good to wander back in such content.

Denis Moriarty
Liveryman

...and further downriver:

On Thursday 12 July, Court Assistant David Philip kindly arranged a private tour of the much acclaimed Royal River exhibition at the National Maritime Museum. Our newest Court Assistant, Sandra Fishman, gives an account of the evening:



I arrived at the Museum with fellow Scriveners, where we were greeted by friendly faces and offered a glass of Prosecco to enjoy with nibbles. A very good start! Court Assistant David Philip, Finance Director of the Museum, gave a warm welcome speech, then handed over to Robert Blyth (co-curator of the

exhibition with historian David Starkey) who took us on a personal guided tour of the Exhibition.

The Royal River Exhibition was created to mark the Diamond Jubilee. One of the highlights for me was the magnificent Canaletto painting depicting the vibrancy and beauty of the River. There were some interesting objects to be seen, as we went around, such as a table top egg boiler and some Victorian hair curling tongs.

After the very informative and enjoyable tour we had supper at the new in house restaurant 16" West. I thought the food was excellent as was the company. It was a very pleasant opportunity to enjoy conversation with some Scrivener members I had not met before, in an informal atmosphere.

A successful and enjoyable evening. A good time was had by all!

Sandra Fishman
Court Assistant

Obituary

Liveryman Trevor John Millington OBE

9 Oct 1958—16 Feb 2012

As promised in the last newsletter, we reprint here an extract from The Times of 1/3/12:

Trevor Millington was a champion of law enforcement who pioneered laws that enable the recovery and confiscation of the proceeds of crime. In 1996, when the complicated confiscation procedures were still largely ignored or misunderstood by practitioners and judges, Millington (then still a young lawyer at the Solicitor's Office of HM Customs & Excise) published *Restraint and Confiscation Orders*, which in 300 pages of lucid text made both clear and accessible what before had been obscure. From that time onwards, it was impossible for lawyers to plead ignorance in relation to the UK's confiscation provisions.

Thereafter, as a working lawyer in the Government Legal Service, Millington developed novel procedures to make sure that the law was utilised. In doing so, he instructed many of the leading counsel of recent years and was the knowledgeable authority behind many of the cases that were decided by the Court of Appeal and the House of Lords in the field of asset forfeiture.

The work undertaken by Millington and his co-workers at HM Customs & Excise brought millions upon millions of pounds back to the Revenue. He was memorably described by Lord Carlile as 'the Proceeds of Crime Tsar', and in 2010 Millington's work and contribution to the law was recognised when he was appointed MBE. He was born in Flint in 1958, attended the University of Wales, and called to the bar by the Middle Temple in 1981. He became a Liveryman of the Scriveners Company in March 2009.

Letter from Cdr Sarah West

Dear Master Scrivener

I am writing to express my gratitude for inviting me to join you at the Queen's Jubilee Lunch at Westminster Hall. I was greatly honoured to be present at such a significant occasion in such historic surroundings. The invitation and menu for the lunch have been added to my 'scrapbook' and I'm sure the memory will be one of the highlights of my command.

I was interested to learn more about the history of the Livery Companies and, of course, about the Worshipful Company of Scriveners in particular. As we discussed, I look forward to maintaining the already strong relationship. We are already examining the potential of re-dedicating the Ship after we finish our refit and trials package, and I will keep you fully informed if this comes to fruition.

I hope you enjoy the remainder of your second 'tour' as Master. Thanks again for a lovely day.

Yours aye
Sarah West
Commander Royal Navy

At Fishmongers' Hall



Alderman Ian Luder was our principal guest at the Spring Dinner in the impressive surroundings of Fishmongers' Hall. The Master presided, and was even persuaded to take part in the musical entertainment, a virtuoso performance by a very talented string quartet called Stringfever. Their *pièce de resistance* was a version of Ravel's *Bolero*, played by all four of them, simultaneously, on one cello.

Other Company guests included the Prime Warden of the Basketmakers, the Master of the Information Technologists, the Master of the City of London Solicitors, the Master and Clerk of the Stationers & Newspapermakers and the Master of the Guild of Scriveners of York. The toast to the guests was given by the Upper Warden and fanfares were provided by a trumpeter from the HAC, sporting our Scriveners' banner.

Notarial notes

The following are to be congratulated on being awarded passes in the Company examinations held at the end of July: **Martin Charlton** (in his final language paper, and who now qualifies to be a Scrivener Notary), **Sarah Mackie** (in Advanced Notarial Law and Practice, and who can now apply to become a general notary) and **James Siôn Taylor** in Foreign Law relevant to Notarial Practice and two German language papers. The next examinations are due to take place in January 2013.

The Company's second series of seminars and lectures on topics relevant to notarial practice also took place in July, and again proved very successful, as did the Education Day, which helped to prepare candidates for the exams.

At its recent meeting, the Notarial Committee re-elected Bill Kennair as chairman for another year.

Edward Gardiner
Notarial Deputy

We have just heard that Don Brown, a Liveryman since 2003, died on 13 September. He was a regular attender of Company events. Our sincere condolences to his family.

The Summer Reception to meet the new officers



The newly installed Master and Wardens facing both camera and strong sunshine on the upper deck of the Wellington on 24 July. The Master, Sir Henry Bedingfeld, is flanked by the Upper Warden, John Tunesi of Liongam, and the Renter Warden, the Reverend Michael Lovegrove (also of course our Honorary Chaplain). Below are our newest Liverymen, Owen Lowry, Phillip Journeaux and Ryan Moody, in similar pose; and other guests meeting the Master at the reception on the quarterdeck (*photos by Chris Alderman*).

