



# POULTERS

The Newsletter of the  
Worshipful Company of  
Poulters, London

Issue Number 14

Winter 2010

[www.poulters.org.uk](http://www.poulters.org.uk)

## THE MASTER'S HALF YEAR REPORT



The Master Mr Brian John Coombe  
pictured on Election day 17th February 2010

*The Master is now well into his year of office and here he reports on what being the Master of a Livery Company involves.*

### MY YEAR SO FAR

Well, I am over half way through my year now, and what a year it is turning out to be.

I have enjoyed every minute of it, as has the Mistress Poulter.

The year began in mid February with a super lunch at the Election Court, following our annual church service always held at St Peter-upon-Cornhill.

My first function in office was a prize giving at the Butchers Hall, then came the World Trade Lecture at the Guildhall.

March got off to an excellent start with a wine tasting at the Guildhall.

Our next event was on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2010 when Pam, The Mistress Poulter, and I attended an excellent reception in Cambridge which was the "Last Hurrah" of the 36<sup>th</sup> (Eastern) Signal Regiment. My opportunity to present tankards to the past winners of the Poulters Plate.

*(Continued on page 2)*



Lt. Col Mike Lansdown and The Master presenting tankards to the Poulter's prizewinners.

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The Poulters' Arms mounted in silver



The Poulters Banner

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Mid March saw me at the Art Gallery in the Guildhall, for the Loriners Company anniversary exhibition in the presence of HRH Princess Anne. I attended a reception the next day at the Mansion House with the Security Professionals Company receiving their charter.

On the 18<sup>th</sup> March, Pam and I had the honour of attending an excellent banquet hosted by the Lord Mayor, a truly memorable evening. The following day was the United Guilds Service at St Pauls Cathedral, where we arrived a few minutes late due to someone jumping under our train!! Later on in March I was invited to the Market Traders dinner at the Butchers Hall, which proved to be an excellent evening.

In April there was an excellent dinner at the invitation of the Gunmakers Company, held in the Cutlers Hall. I was invited to the Plumbers Company Court dinner and we attended a fabulous concert at the Mercers Hall followed by a wonderful supper.

May saw us at the ever fabulous Sons of the Clergy service, in St Pauls Cathedral. The next day was the Barts Hospital "View Day", which began with a service at St Bartholomew's church, followed by a reception at Barts Hospital with a chance to see new medical equipment.

Another highlight came when I was "jailed and bailed" at the Tower of London in aid of the Red Cross. Pam successfully raised over £1000 bail in order to secure my release from the Tower.



**JAILED AND BAILED**  
The Master being apprehended and transported to the Tower

In all there were 20 Masters and, with gift aid, collectively we raised over £26,000.



Prisoner No. 183201

Many tourists were very mystified and took lots of photographs as we were marched through the grounds of the Tower, robed with "ball and chain" attached!

I was invited to lunch at the Old Bailey with the Judges, by Sheriff Peter Cook – wonderful experience!

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## THE POULTERS SHOP.

The clerk holds a number of items which are for sale.

Poulters tankards	£20
Ties (polyester)	£15
Ladies Broaches 9ct gold	Price on application
Cuff Links	£35

In addition to the above the company holds stocks of Christmas cards (two designs).

If you wish to purchase any of the above then please contact:

The Clerk, Vernon Ashford. Flat 57 Cullum Welch House, Golden Lane, London EC1Y 0SH  
Email: poulterclerk@live.co.uk. Tel 020 7251 1346

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Full details available from the Clerk

- **17<sup>th</sup> November 2010**  
Court and Ladies Livery Dinner. Butcher's Hall
- **2<sup>nd</sup> December 2010**  
Carol Service. St Peter-upon-Cornhill
- **12<sup>th</sup> January 2011**  
Christmas Court and Luncheon
- **18<sup>th</sup> January 2011**  
City Food Lecture
- **20<sup>th</sup> January 2011**  
Visit to the Old Bailey
- **8<sup>th</sup> March 2011**  
Shrove Tuesday Pancake races
- **9<sup>th</sup> March 2011**  
Ash Wednesday Election Court Service St Peter-Upon-Cornhill and Luncheon

## INTERLIVERY SHOOT 2010

This report from Liveryman Alexander Nokes

We enjoyed another beautiful day for the event. The Environmental Cleaners must book the weather with someone important as it never seems to rain!

Liveryman James Harris got the highest a very good score of 59 and for the A team (coming joint 14th overall on individual scores). Past Master John Nokes scored 55 for the Court team (coming joint 18th overall on individual scores). These scores are out of a possible total of 80.



Both teams put in very respectable scores for the flush with the 'A' team scoring 61/80 and the Court team scoring 59/80. Final team positions and scores achieved were joint 14th for the 'A' team scoring 277 and joint 35th for the Court team scoring 241. This is out of approximately 100 teams of four.

Unfortunately we were not in line for any prizes this year, but we certainly put in a good performance. The main area for practice for next year will have to be the high tower, as this was the stand that really let us down!



Well done everyone and thanks again for all the support!

## THE POULTERS' COMPANY CHARITIES

*Immediate Past Master David Bridges has compiled this summary of our various charitable trusts as the Court wishes the Livery to become better informed about the aims and objectives of all our charitable giving.*

Our Livery currently runs three charitable trusts, the Nepton Trust (est. 1728), the Poulter's Charitable Trust (est. 1994) and the Master Poulter's Pelican Trust (est. 2001).

Contrary to what appears to be popular belief, all three remain open to and in need of donations not only to meet their ongoing objectives, but to improve our assistance to the poor and our educational work in and around the City of London.

With the current downturn in investment yields all three are facing reduced circumstances and it is therefore perhaps timely to remind members of their continuing roles.

The Nepton provides small donations annually to 80 of the senior and poorer citizens in each of the boroughs of Ilford and Barking with the residual income assisting, in accordance with

the terms of the will, students in the City.

In practice this now means the City of London Girls School to enable the costs of a student's music lessons to be met, the Guildhall School of Music where assistance with fees is similarly provided to hardship cases and Barts Hospital where grants are made to a few of the mature students qualifying in medicine on a post-graduate basis and therefore not receiving any State aid.

The Charitable Trust is firmly orientated towards the poultry trade providing educational assistance, training grants and prizes for excellence as well as supporting the important annual Food Lecture in the Guildhall.

The Pelican Trust provides assistance to smaller charities within the City and adjoining boroughs and to youth adventure training with the Royal Anglian Regiment.

It is currently funded on an annual basis by the Company, but remains unable to meet all

the worthy demands it receives.

When considering gift aid donations please remember our charities and, if any further details of our activities are required, please ask the Clerk who will arrange for relevant information to be supplied.

There is no secrecy involved and, as with some of the other older Livery Companies, we are anxious to maintain and try to expand our assistance from its current modest level.

Also, as most liverymen will be aware, the Charitable Trust recently received a most generous donation from the late Bob Marshall.

His generosity was matched by his great foresight when drafting his will as such donations do not suffer the onerous burden of inheritance tax and therefore remain a supremely efficient way of giving help where it is really needed.

Furthermore one can be certain that the funds are always managed in a trustworthy manner.

### EASTER EGGS

For 2010 Renter Warden John Briggs organised a further distribution of Easter Eggs to the families of the Royal Anglian Regiment.

The Colonel of the Regiment General Sir John McColl KCB CBE DSO sent the thank you letter replicated below.

From: General Sir John McColl KCB CBE DSO



Colonel of the Regiment  
Regimental Headquarters  
The Royal Anglian Regiment  
The Keep  
Gibraltar Barracks  
BURY ST EDMUNDS  
Suffolk IP33 3RN

Telephone: (01284) 752394  
Military: (94650) 5124  
Fax: (01284) 752026

4/1

The Master  
The Worshipful Company of Poulterers  
c/o Mrs GW Butcher  
The Clerk  
The Old Butchers  
Station Road  
Groombridge  
East Sussex  
TN3 9QX

16 February 2010

*Dear Master,*

I write to thank you all so much for your extremely generous donation of 450 Easter Eggs for the families of our soldiers; I gather that they are being distributed currently, with 150 going to each of our three battalions. This really is most kind of you all and I do want you to know how much we appreciate such a magnificent gesture. More importantly, you have aimed the eggs (for want of a better expression) at those who matter most in The Regiment, namely our magnificent young soldiers and their worried but brave families. By so doing our strong Affiliation will be shared amongst all ranks of the Livery and Regiment and not just our respective hierarchies.

The conflict in Afghanistan has brought back into sharp focus the price The Regiment sometimes has to pay in the service of our Nation. We have lost 14 of our young men on operations in the past 4 years and another 2 in training accidents during the same period. So it really matters that they feel well supported by the people back home and this marvellous gift from the Livery will reinforce that sense of support; I know that it will also go down particularly well with the children - I just hope that their eggs remain undiscovered until Easter!

Might I also place on record our particular thanks to John Briggs who I know has worked tirelessly to make this happen? This has included all of the arrangements plus driving from his home in London to deliver the eggs in both Surrey and Suffolk (and for the latter braving the M11 / A14 late on a Friday afternoon). This really was well above the call of duty and, although we have written to him, I would ask you to pass on my personal thanks for such a fabulous effort.

*With best wishes.*

*Yours sincerely*

### COMPANY ACCOUNTS

In accordance with the Court's wishes we publish an extract from the company's accounts so that Liverymen may be better informed. The Company financial year ends on 31st March.

	2008/09	2009/10
<b>Income</b>		
Quarterage, Fees and Dividends	£56,886	£54,304
Surplus on disposal of investments	(£2,655)	4,462
Gain on revaluation of silver	£11,945	-
	<u>£66,176</u>	<u>£58,766</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Net cost of functions	£13,247	£12,780
Donations and other expenses	<u>£39,493</u>	<u>£53,562</u>
	£52,740	£66,342
Net surplus for the year before taxation	£13,436	(£7,576)
Taxation	<u>£3,732</u>	<u>£3,045</u>
Net surplus (loss) for year after taxation	£9,704	(£10,621)
	=====	=====
Total assets as at 31st March	£816,402	£975,184

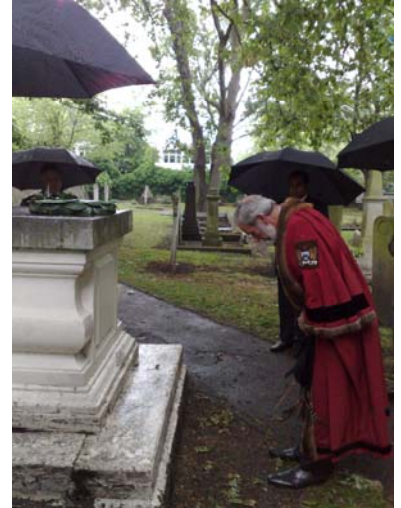
Note: During the year to 31st March 2010 The Master Poulter's Pelican Trust (registered charity No 1087248) made grants of £22,157.

The Nepton Trust (registered charity 312157) had net assets of £95,332 as at 31st March 2010 and made charitable donations of £8,805.

Anyone who would like further details contact Past Master Richard Link.

The Poulter's Charitable Trust reports independently so is not included in these figures.

(Continued from page 2)



Left: Meeting recipients. Centre: Barking churchyard. Right: At the Nepton tomb.

In June the Nepton Distribution went very well and was followed by an excellent candle lit dinner at the Armourers Hall, where we hosted the two Mayors and the Trustees. The traditional "silent toast" was drunk – very moving.

At the Midsummer Court lunch in June we hosted 80 officers and men of the Royal Anglian Regiment, just back from Afghanistan. This event was greatly enjoyed by both soldiers and liverymen.



Reception for the Royal Anglian Regiment at Armourer's Hall and Presentation of the Poulterers Plate. 10th June 2010.



Also in June we had an excellent weekend at Ironbridge, where we enjoyed lovely sunny weather, excellent company, and superb food. This event is open to Masters of all livery companies and is held each year and gives everyone a chance to meet their contemporaries in a relaxed but fascinating atmosphere.

The IT Company charter celebration with evensong at St Pauls went very well. I also was privileged to attend the election of the Sheriffs at the Guildhall after a very good breakfast at the Butchers Hall.

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**GWEN BUTCHER**

Gwen was Clerk to the Company for 10 years before she retired on Ash Wednesday 17th February 2010.

She had been the mainstay of the Company during those years. Always available to give advice she provided invaluable guidance to Masters and the Court. As caretaker of our history and

traditions Gwen has few equals and her pride in our Company is outstanding.

On retiring she presented the Company with a beautiful wine ladle to be used during the Nepton Dinner where by tradition the Clerk ladles out the wine for the silent toast.

We wish her a long and happy retirement.



Gwen Butcher with The Master on Ash Wednesday 2010 when she addressed the Company at lunch and presented a wine ladle for use at the Nepton silent ceremony.

## 36TH (EASTERN) SIGNAL REGIMENT DISBANDMENT PARADE PENALLY CAMP 17TH SEPTEMBER 2009

Below is a montage of pictures of the above event. This was attended by our then Master David Bridges now Immediate Past Master and he is pictured below (bottom left) presenting the Poulters Plate. We first formed an association with the 36th in 2002 but despite their disbandment will not be severing the connection built up over recent years as we will be continuing with a link to the 37th Signal regiment following their reorganisation.



### PRINCE ARTHUR CUP 2009

" Poulters Golf Society play to fight another year " - Liveryman Roger Lavington reports  
*(Editors note: This report relates to the 2009 competition but was received too late for inclusion in our last edition)*

On a most beautiful day for golf on 21st May 2009 four members of the Poulters Company braved the traumas of playing at Walton Heath GC in the Prince Arthur Cup in the 36 hole foursomes competition against bogey.

We were fortunate to share the day with four members from each of the Spectacle Makers and Lightmongers Companies who fared a little better than the Poulters. Your company's team comprised Paul Marsh (13) and Roger Lavington (9) as the first pair and Peter Brown (17) and Greville Cater (16) as our second pair.

The winners were the Cutlers Company with a score of +2,

the only company to beat par for the day. Our playing partners, The Spectacle Makers finished in 7th place with a score of - 7 and the Lightmongers on - 19 in 28th place.

The Poulters were in 40th place on a score of -23. ( 1st Pair -1 ) ( 2nd Pair -22 ). Since the results have been published we have learnt that the Company were in 40th place out of a total of 54 companies competing.

The Company has therefore qualified to play in the next year's event (2010) when we hope to enjoy another wonderful days

golf at Walton Heath. (See page 8).

(Continued from page 4)

In support of the Lord Mayors charity, Pam and I attended Monteverdi's Vespers' in St Pauls Cathedral, which was a truly magical experience. I was invited to the Cooks Company Court lunch at the Mercers Hall, and on the same day to the City of London Girls School 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. At the beginning of July Pam and I attended a ballet in the Great Hall at the Old Bailey. Beautiful room, and a superb ballet.

On 13th July 2010 we took a group of Liverymen and friends on a very interesting trip around the area of the 2012 Olympics site. We all met at Guildhall yard for an all day visit where as well as viewing the work in progress at the main Olympic site.



We toured several regenerated areas around Stratford and the East End of London including a stop at the Thames Barrier.

Above: Meeting at Guildhall. The Olympic stadium and site showing views over Stratford including the new international station and Westfield shopping centre both of which will form part of the legacy from the Olympics.

Right: At the Thames barrier.



Then came the highlight of my year to date, the Royal Garden party at Buckingham Palace. It was an idyllic, hot and sunny summers day. We found ourselves perfect seats, and were privileged to see her Royal Highness, the Queen, Prince Philip, Princess Anne, Prince Charles and Camilla. A truly memorable day.

In August, Pam and I were guests at the Annual Fishcraft Competitions in Cardiff. What an eye opener that turned out to be. All the competitors were very talented, and we were mesmerised at their dexterity!! I presented the Poulterers Prize to the winner of the poultry section.

September was particularly busy. I had another visit to the Old Bailey, where Sheriff Peter Cook held a reception for St Johns Ambulance Cadets.

Pam and I were privileged to be invited by the Royal Anglian Regiment to the dedication ceremony of their memorial in Duxford. There was a very moving service in the presence of the Duke of Gloucester. An excellent day, and very well organised and attended.

I attended the Lord Mayor 800 Awards at the Mansion House, hosted by a past Lord Mayor, Sir Michael Savory (Past Master).

We organised a trip for Liverymen and friends to do a tour of the Globe theatre. We were very kindly and efficiently assisted by Liveryman Kevin Quarmby.



Liveryman Kevin Quarmby explaining all about the Globe Theatre

The Master at the Globe.

Taking in the Globe

He started the day by telling us all about the history of the Globe project taking us on a tour of the theatre itself. After a lunch at the nearby historic Anchor, Bankside the day culminated in a production of the Merry Wives of Windsor. Altogether this proved to be a very informative interesting and enjoyable day.

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## SERVING SUGGESTION

To stew pigeons: Take 6 Pigeons with their Giblets. Cut the Pigeons in quarters. Put them in the stew-pan with two blades of mace, a little pepper and salt, and just water enough to stew them without burning. When they are tender, thicken the liquor with the yolk of one egg, three spoonfuls of thick sweet cream, a bit of butter, and a little shred thyme and parsley; shake them all up together, and garnish it with lemon.

Anyone brave enough to try? Perhaps the Cook and Butler?

*Past Master Richard Link found the above in his Grandmother's recipe book dated 1719.*

**PICTURE GALLERY**



Brendan Paul Tobin  
elected Upper Warden Ash Wednesday 2010



Above  
Brian John Coombe  
elected Master Ash  
Wednesday 2010



John Douglas Hilton Briggs elected Renter Warden Ash Wednesday 2010



Ivor Cook admitted to the Livery at the Michaelmas Court held on 9th October 2009.

Ivor Lee Cook admitted to the Livery at the Michaelmas Court held on 28th September 2010.



Robert James Bassett Cross admitted to the Livery at the Midsummer Court held on 10th June 2010.

As promised in our last edition we now publish the pictures of Assistants admitted to the Court since Michaelmas Court 2007 so members may become better acquainted with them.

*(Space constraints precluded us from including them in our last two editions.)*

*Note that whilst John Nigel Birt-Llewellyn was elected 22nd Sept 2008 as he is no longer a member of the Court his picture is not reproduced here.*



Stewards Julie Gubbins and The Revd Canon Paul Robert Thomas OBE  
elected Ash Wednesday 2010



Mark Anthony Grove admitted to the Livery at the Lady Day Court held on 24th March 2010.



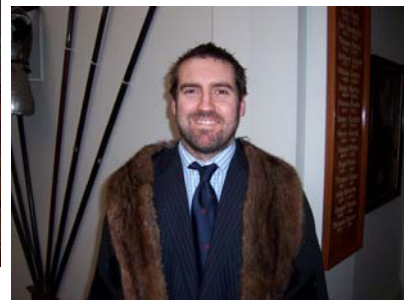
Nicholas Rory Kemp admitted an Assistant at the Michaelmas Court 2007

Michael George Harris admitted an Assistant at the Michaelmas Court 2007

Ian Harvie Peebles admitted an Assistant at the Michaelmas Court 2008



Michael Richard Butler admitted to the Livery at the Michaelmas Court held on 9th October 2009



Richard Simon Peter Hill admitted to the Livery at the Lady Day Court held on 24th March 2010



Rowland Lloyd Hughes admitted an Assistant at the Michaelmas Court 2008

Alistair Robert Sinclair Bassett Cross admitted an Assistant at the Christmas Court held on 13th January 2009



Ali Raza Latif admitted to the Livery at the Christmas Court held on 12th January 2010



Susanne Margaret Janet Wooltorton admitted to the Livery at the Michaelmas Court held on 9th October 2009



Paul Anthony Kelly admitted a Liveryman at the Lady Day Court held on 24th March 2010.

(Continued from page 6)

I attended an excellent Master and Clerks lunch at the Farmers Hall, and also a lecture arranged by the Security Professionals Company at the Painters Hall, where the speaker was the Head of MI5. Then came the Scriveners Company Court lunch at the Guildhall Club.

Next came our Michaelmas Court lunch, where we entertained the Lord Mayor Alderman Nicholas Anstee accompanied by the Lady Mayoress and the Lord Mayor's Sword Bearer Lt. Col Richard Martin.



The Master and Clerk welcoming The Lord Mayor Alderman Nick Anstee and Clair Anstee the Lady Mayoress to the Michaelmas Court Lunch 2010.

The Lord Mayor gave a very interesting speech on the state of play in the City to day and what he has done to help the City.

Surprisingly, given his busy diary, he stayed way past his scheduled departure time to answer questions from the floor.

Other company guests were Mr Julian Keevil Master of the Tobacco Pipe Makers and Tobacco Blenders, Mr Gary Hooper President of the National Federation of Fishmongers and Mr Ivor Cook, (pictured on page 7) our newly elected Liveryman.



Julian Keevil, Master Tobacco Pipe Makers' and Tobacco Blenders' Company - Company Guest at the Michaelmas Court Lunch 2010. Our Master 2004

Gary Hooper, President of the National Federation of Fishmongers - Company Guest at the Michaelmas Court Lunch 2010

A great success.

## GOLFING NEWS AND PRINCE ARTHUR CUP 2010

*Past Master Richard Link (convenor) reports on the Poulters Company Golfing Group*

The Poulters Company Golfing group has mixed golf with good company at meetings held at the Royal Worlington and Denham golf clubs 2009 and 2010. Our thanks are due to Greville Cater and Alan Scott for inviting us to these delightful courses. On both occasions the weather was kind and superb lunches followed the golf.

In both 2009 (see report on page 5) and 2010 the Company entered a team for the Prince Arthur Cup. Held at Walton Heath, Livery Companies compete under a rigorous timetable in a one-day event. This year our good performance (29th out of 52) has ensured us a place in the 2011 competition.

Unfortunately insufficient players were available for the Livery/Schools Link meeting which is a most enjoyable occasion held each July at Hartley Wintney.

I also attended the Election of the next Lord Mayor at the Guildhall after a superb breakfast at the Carpenters Hall. Next came the Harvest Festival at St Martins in the Field followed by supper at the Farmers Club.

There have been a couple of "downs" amongst all these "ups", but I have been very well supported by the wardens and the Court throughout. It has been a privilege and an honour to represent the Company on so very many occasions, and with the prospect of many more to come. My wife and I couldn't have had a more enjoyable time.

Brian Coombe  
Master

## OBITUARIES

We are sorry to have learnt of the following deaths. Our thoughts and prayers are with all those who have suffered a loss.

Liveryman: Leonard Peter Morris, died 22nd October 2009. Elected to the Livery 1969.  
Freeman: Peter Sidney Hards, died 25th January 2010. Beadle 1996 to 2006.

## NEWSLETTER EDITORS AND COMPANY CONTACT

The Editors welcome reports and photographs of all Company and City events. We also welcome contributions from members on all subject of potential interest to others in the company. All content at editorial discretion. Contributions should be sent to:

Past Master **Mr Richard Gilpin**

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Chipping Sodbury, Bristol. BS37 6RU.

**E-mail:** richard.gilpin@hemscott.net **Telephone:** 01454 218160

Liveryman **Mrs Elizabeth Garner**

**Address:** 9 Chawton End Close, Four Marks,  
Alton, Hampshire. GU34 5BF

**E-mail:** eam.garner@virgin.net **Telephone:** 01420 561343

Clerk **Mr Vernon Ashford**

**Address:** Flat 57 Cullum Welch House,  
Golden Lane, London EC1Y 0SH.

**E-mail:** poultersclerk@live.co.uk **Telephone:** 0207 251 1346  
**Mobile:** 07939 035335



THE NEXT GENERATION?

Grace Garner (Daughter of Liveryman Elizabeth Garner (co-editor)) unprompted helping to produce the newsletter at the age of two.