



POULTERS

The Newsletter of the
Worshipful Company of
Poulterers

Issue Number 10

Spring 2006

Brian Gilbert-Smith was elected Master on Ash Wednesday 1st March 2006. He is already planning for the year ahead.

In this issue we look back on the Immediate Past Master's year and review some of the events he was involved with.



Brian Gilbert-Smith
Master 2006 - 2007

John Greville Cater Master 2005/06 gives us an insight into being a Master of our livery company and the very full diary a master has to manage.



Your Apprenticeship for being Master is of little relevance to the task ahead. Your years as an Assistant on the Court provide awareness of Court proceedings and of the issues that your predecessors have had to face.

What happens in your year is driven, partly by events, but in the main by your own Agenda. Court matters take up relatively little time. For Master's, with their own Hall's and substantial charitable programmes, running the Court is a near full time job.

My year in office coincided with **Michael Savory's** year as Lord Mayor. This gave rise to additional duties: I as Master of Michael's mother company, had to propose the "vote of thanks" to The Lord Mayor for his achievements in his year in office at the election of his successor in Guildhall on September 29th. (see the full speech on pages 3 & 4) This was followed by Luncheon in the Mansion House to meet his successor.

The first, while daunting provided an interesting insight into both the events in Michael's year in office and the way in which the Mansion House and Guildhall staff operate. The Luncheon was unadulterated pleasure.

The social side of being Master is a lucky dip. I soon found that several old friends would overlap with me as Masters of their Liveries. The Master of the Armourers is one of my oldest friends and I am Godfather to his eldest daughter. Other friends are Masters of the Carpenters, the Cordwainers, The Merchant Taylors and the Farriers.

The Poulterers have close ties with a range of Companies, some because of their food heritage and others because of friendships developed by past masters. Such contacts lead

to invitations to Luncheons, Dinners and Receptions.

The Halls you visit as Master are wonderfully varied. The Apothecaries was built before the Great Fire and has age encrusted dark panelling like good vintage port. The Butchers and Bakers Halls are both modern. Goldsmiths is quite magnificent in its opulence. Drapers is on the scale of a medieval Palace and a product of the Victorian era. It is indeed a privilege to view and participate in this unique aspect of City heritage.

I have attended the Trial Of The Pix at which the Goldsmith's verify the consistency of the coinage against specification, which is followed by a Luncheon in Goldsmith's Hall.

There was also a Reception at the Firefighters original Headquarters which is now a museum. I have attended a Reception to view the art produced by its Liverymen in the Painters Stainers Hall.

I had the opportunity to present prizes at a Luncheon organised by the Butchers and held in their Hall and the privilege to give a speech on behalf of the guests at the Gunmakers Court Dinner held in the Armourers Hall. Following a tour of the City of London Girls School (of whom **Past Master Philip Keevil** is a governor) I attended a luncheon with other Masters.

All Masters are invited to a Garden party at Buckingham Palace which is a fascinating experience.

The highlight of my year was a musical evening entitled '**Beloved Clara**' held at St Giles Cripplegate to raise funds for my charity the London Brain injury centre. Through readings by Charles Dance and Joanna David, and with Lucy Parham on the piano, the performance explored the music of Schumann, his wife Clara and Brahms.

I have selected these events to illustrate the variety enjoyed by a Master in his year in office. It is a truly memorable experience being Master.

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36 (EASTERN) SIGNAL REGIMENT

UPDATE

Lieutenant Colonel Mark Smith of 26th (Eastern) Signal Regiment gives us an insight into the regiments work over the past year.

I am very pleased to be writing this as Commanding Officer of 36 (Eastern) Signal Regiment to let the company know what my regiment has done over the past year and especially pleased that we continue our links with your company.

My unit is a Territorial Army regiment of around 300 soldiers based in greater East Anglia. We have a headquarters in Ilford and centres in Norwich, Ipswich, Bedford, Cambridge, Southend, Grays and Colchester. The regiment has had a very good year.



Lt Col Mark Smith

Early in the year the regiment was released from its role with the Allied Rapid Reaction Corps in Germany. This left the unit with legacy equipment and no role.

The then Commanding Officer, Lt Col Paul Wilmott and his team took drastic steps to re-role the regiment for an expected move into UK Operations, supporting the UK government and/or community in times of crisis. He identified that this could best be served by retraining the soldiers with a particular emphasis on computing and information systems skills.

As it has transpired this was an excellent decision, and has had the spin off benefit of both increasing retention and providing a skill that soldiers can take to their civilian employment thus benefiting their employers too.

We have had an excellent summer camp. In the last two weeks of June the regiment was trained and tested in its new UK Operations role. For ten days the soldiers worked on the provision of communications capability, whilst the command teams were tested in planning responses to possible scenarios that the regiment could be called on to support.

All ranks were briefed and tested in handling the press. At the end of the exercise on the 1st July I took command of the regiment. Immediately after camp the regiment was put on standby and had a planning team in place to offer support for the 7th July terrorist outrages in London.

Many soldiers rang up to volunteer their services should they have been needed. Pleasingly though the

London Emergency plan worked well and military assistance was not required from the regiment.

A week later the regiment undertook an operation for the first time since the Second World War as a formed unit to support the regular forces covering industrial action by the fire service in Suffolk.

We were tasked to supply all of the communications for the servicemen, from all three services, covering for the striking fire-fighters in Suffolk. There were 27 strikes, all of two or three hour durations, over a period of two months.

We mounted two teams of eight and a reserve, ably commanded by two superb troop commanders from the regiment. The TA proved its worth, being the only link between the service fire fighters and their civilian controllers, a real job rather than training.

In September we held our annual military skills competition on the Thetford training Area and the Master kindly attended and presented the "Poulters Plate" to our best soldier of the year, as chosen by the Master, Lance Corporal Burke. L/Cpl Burke is a superb soldier and well chosen. I believe the master enjoyed himself too, taking active interest in the march and shoot which involved field firing following a march/run with pack and rifle. We look forward to welcoming the Master back next year.

You may also have heard about the reorganisation of the TA under Future Army Structures (FAS). The Regiment is to be reorganised as part of this review. My headquarters and support squadron will move from Ilford to Cambridge. The centre will remain open and those soldiers who do not move with us will be welcomed by the incoming Royal Engineers regiment.

The centre in Grays will close, though we expect most of the soldiers to transfer to Southend, which is a relatively easy journey. We will gain a squadron in High Wycombe and Aylesbury. A new squadron, having only been formed five years ago will bring much needed basic radio skills into the regiment.

Next year we have an expedition planned to South Africa. A major exercise to test the regiment in its new role in September and all of the necessary work to ensure that the unit is in a fit state to pass that test by then. Also, no doubt many interesting challenges as yet unseen will be coming our way.

We look forward to continuing and developing our relationship with your company.



The Master presenting Lance Corporal Burke with the Poulter's plate for the best soldier of the year

Forthcoming events
Full details available from the Clerk

- **22nd April 2006**
Visit to The Muckleburgh Collection. Norfolk's largest working military museum.
- **26th June 2006**
Common Hall, Election of Sheriffs
- **27th June 2006**
Midsummer Court and luncheon
- **20th September 2006**
Early evening guided tour of the Old Bailey
- **29th September 2006**
Common Hall, Election of Lord Mayor
- **10th October 2006**
Michaelmas Court and luncheon
- **21st November 2006**
Court and Livery Dinner. Skinners Hall
- **5th December 2006**
Joint Carol Service
St Sepulchre's without Newgate

Poulters Lodge

On Monday 7th November 2005, at the 188th meeting of the Lodge, Trevor Robert MARSH, Liveryman of the Poulterers' Company, was installed as 57th Master of the Lodge.

Trevor's late Father, Walter Derek Marsh was Master in 1988-1989 and his late Grandfather, Walter Alfred Marsh in both 1957-1958 and 1983-1984.

We welcome new members, so if there is any member of the Poulterers' Company wishing to join the Lodge, or simply wishing to know more about freemasonry,

Please contact the secretary, Mr Howard Beber at 4 Carlton Mansions, Randolph Avenue, LONDON. W9 1NP Telephone 020 7328 1193.

Meetings are held in Butchers' Hall in November, February and April commencing at 4:45 pm.

CAN YOU HELP?

It is eleven years since the Poulterers Charitable Trust was established. In all that time Alan Scott PM has acted as honorary secretary. The time has come for him to stand down and pass the reins on but to whom? The trustees meet about twice a year.

Maybe **YOU CAN HELP**. Contact the clerk Gwen Butcher if you are interested.

The Master's vote of thanks to The Right Honourable The Lord Mayor Michael Berry Savory

The Master gave this vote of thanks at the end of Michael Savory's year in office



The Lord Mayor with the Master Greville Cater, The Upper Warden Brian Gilbert-Smith and the Renter Warden John Nokes

My Lord Mayor, Fellow Liverymen, it is a great privilege as Master of the Poulters, the Lord Mayor's Mother Livery to give the vote of thanks for his year in office.

The Poulters have had a wonderful year: some of the highlights were partaking in the Lord Mayor's show; dinner, attended by the City Pike men, at the Mansion House; and attendance by the Master and Wardens at various events linked to his inauguration, including the Silent Ceremony.

We take great pride in his achievements and also watch in wonder at the style and charm Fiona has brought to her role as the

Lady Mayoress. We have seen the same charm, coupled with childish delight, in Victoria and Louise.

It is therefore with great pleasure that I move,

That the Liverymen of the several Companies of the City of London in Common Hall assembled, have the greatest pleasure in expressing to the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Michael Savory, their utmost appreciation for the distinguished way in which he has carried out the demanding role of Lord Mayor of the City of London during the last year.

During his year of Office, the Lord Mayor has travelled extensively to promote the United Kingdom's financial services industry and the international business expertise of the City of London in particular. In liaison with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, he has already made nine separate trips overseas and visited a total of twenty different countries. Highlights of his civic duties this year have included meetings with the presidents of France, Italy, Korea and the King of Norway.

The Lord Mayor's role as ambassador for the financial services industry has involved the promotion of a number of cities throughout the United Kingdom, as well as the City of London. As Lord Mayor, Michael Savory has actively sought to engage with regional business centres across many areas of the United Kingdom, including Edinburgh, Belfast and Newcastle, Glasgow, Bristol and Norwich to ensure their interests are fully represented.

Throughout all his endeavours his theme has been "promoting excellence". The Lord Mayor has been keen to promote the highest standards. It has been the focus of his initiatives with the City's financial services industry where he has sought to maintain and enhance London's position as the world's preeminent international finance centre.

To this end he has engaged with the more innovative sides of the City's

(Continued on page 4)

2006/2007 Stewards

Two new stewards were elected on Ash Wednesday 2006. On the left is Alistair Bassett Cross elected a liveryman in 1996 and on the right Keith Marsh elected a liveryman in 1990.

Both the new stewards come from long established Poulters families.

Keith's Father Derek Marsh was the first Steward to be appointed when the post was established in 1995.

Their grandfathers served on the court together in the post war years. Both became Master. Reginald Cross was Master in 1949 and Walter Marsh was Master in 1954 and again in 1981.



Vote of Thanks to The Right

Honourable

The Lord Mayor Michael Berry Savory

(Continued from page 3)

markets, for example, hosting meetings for Hedge Fund Managers and Private Equity Investors. He has also used his office to firmly support the Corporate Social Responsibility agenda and to promote the importance of high quality financial training. In this light he has provided signal service to a major City of London Police initiative on Insider Fraud.

One of the Lord Mayor's key priorities this year has been to promote the Maritime services sector. To re-awaken, in a year of naval celebration, knowledge of the opportunities and challenges. He has visited numerous Ports throughout the United Kingdom and abroad, and has taken forward the shipping agenda with Maritime London and the Chamber of Shipping.

Another key initiative has been to promote the use of agricultural derivatives trading as a route to better management of price levels as the revisions to the common agricultural policy remove the prop of guaranteed prices on most commodities. It would also provide financial flexibility to farmers.

During his Mayoral year, the Lord Mayor has worked tirelessly to support the aims of the Corporation's Community Strategy and the work of the Corporation in all sectors. This has included visits to housing estates in the City, visits to schools, a visit to the Animal Quarantine Centre and even going on patrol with the City Police to Clubs and Bars.

He has also worked with numerous charities to raise awareness of the issues surrounding their cause. In particular, Michael Savory has taken every opportunity to increase funding and awareness of his named charities, 'The Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association' and 'The Fishermen's Mission'. The Lord Mayor has close links with both these charities having sat on their councils for many years and their selection also tied in closely with his maritime initiative and his initiative to increase the links between the City and Her Majesty's Forces Reserves Units and Cadets.

Amongst other highlights, it was announced during his year in office that London was successful in its bid to host the Olympics and Paralympics in 2012. The Lord Mayor played an integral part in promoting the benefits of London as the host city, and was able to utilise his position in order to advance London's bid.

On hearing of the appalling terrorist attacks in London on 7 July, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress cut short their official visit to Malaysia and returned immediately to assist efforts in dealing with the atrocity. The Lord Mayor took the opportunity to praise the work of all London's emergency services, including the City of London Police, in responding effectively to the threat and ensuring the City was able to return to normal as quickly as possible.

Throughout his year of Office, Michael Savory has been supported wholeheartedly by the Lady Mayoress, who has made her own, particular, contribution to the success of this Mayoralty; the en-

couragement she has given to audiences she has addressed at home and when accompanying the Lord Mayor abroad, from the drawing rooms of kings to the residents of shanty towns and orphanages, have inspired and given fresh heart to those who have heard her.

In a year when the Livery has admired his drive and determination, its members wish to express their gratitude to the Lord Mayor for his attendance at many Livery company events.

His efforts to encourage the Livery to engage with their trades or find new associations when their trade is no longer so relevant, as in the case of his mother company, the Poulterers' and to encourage more young people into the Livery movement have been greatly appreciated.

Michael Savory should be remembered for working to make the Mayoralty more relevant to the United Kingdom's economic powerhouse: the City of London and in particular for promoting the highest standards in the process and probity of its business dealings, while at the same time supporting innovation to foster relevance in a fast changing environment.

And now, at the close of this memorable year, his fellow liverymen wish to take this opportunity to wish Michael Savory, and his family, good health and happiness and trust that they will long enjoy fond recollections of a very special year.

Obituaries

We are poorer for the loss of several liverymen and friends recently. We were particularly saddened by the passing of Derek Marsh who started our newsletters and has edited all previous editions. We also remember with affection Past Master Bob Marshall who gave devoted service over many years and in so many ways to the Poulters.

PAST MASTER BOB MARSHALL

Bob Marshall, who died on 15th June 2005, was the doyen of the food traders in Birmingham, the family having traded there for many years.

He was elected to the Livery in 1958, admitted an assistant in 1980 and served as Master in 1987. He loved the Company and its traditions and during his years on the Court, and especially whilst Master, he sought to make the Company more outward-looking and better known throughout the City.

Much of the change that the Company has undergone in the past twenty years can be traced to his Mastership. His advice and guidance will be sorely missed.

The Company was well represented at a very moving Service of Thanksgiving at Edgebaston Old Church. Liveryman Dr Andrew Williams his nephew gave an address and his daughter Miss Lucy Williams, Bob's Great Niece, sang Laudate Dominum from Mozart's Vespers.

Past Master Alan Scott then paid tribute to Bob's life as a Poulter.

ASSISTANT WALTER 'DEREK' MARSH

Derek, who died on 22nd May 2005, was the first Steward appointed when the company created the role in 1995.

His Father had been Father of the Company for many years but fate has meant that Derek would not reach that esteemed position.

However he had led a full life with work centered around Smithfield. Derek's involvement with the city is legendary and he was a wandsman at St Paul's Cathedral

He was editor of the Poulters newsletter since the first edition in July 2000. Followed by nine issues up until Autumn 2004.

He was admitted to the freedom in July 1980, elected to the livery in 1981 and admitted as an assistant in 2002. A much respected member of the Court of Assistants.

His funeral took place at Southend in June 2005 and a large number of Poulters attended.

His three sons are all liverymen.

We also remember:

Liveryman Alfred Brodman (elected 1972)
Liveryman Dennis Greig (elected 1972)
Liveryman Peter Drew (elected 1978)
Liveryman Garry Borrett (elected 1983)
Margaret Nokes widow of Past Master Charles Nokes
Pat Wakeham wife of Assistant Bryan Wakeham

Our thoughts and prayers are with all those who have suffered a loss.

The Beadle

Peter Hards retired at the end of 2005 after several years loyal service to the Company .

He has suffered from ill health for some time.

He is due to receive the freedom of the company at the Lady Day Court and we all wish him well in his retirement

Scenes from the 2006 Shrove Tuesday Pancake races held in Guildhall Yard



1st March 2004

Past Master Richard Link's diary from South America

In March 2004 Past master Richard Link embarked on a journey around South America. Here are some extracts from his reports of his travels. He enjoyed it so much that he returned in 2005.

I have landed in my new environment and school starts tomorrow. I am the only male in this week's intake of 8 so shall have to behave! The youngest is 18 and on a world tour - alone! Great to be in a temperature of 25° Centigrade (77° Fahrenheit) surrounded by a range of volcanoes.

I'm staying with a nice family who have made me very welcome - so I shall keep my head down for 2 weeks at school. Then travels begin on 27th! The American students think it is pretty cool!

Greetings to all.

10th April 2004

Just thought you might like to know I am still alive and surviving this adventure rather well!

Am leaving Quito for a week in the Galapagos Islands tomorrow - on a 20 berth boat which will weave through the islands and let us examine all the wildlife there - it should be wonderful and a contrast to the landscapes I have been seeing here in Ecuador.



Machu Picchu, Peru

Volcanic deserts, jungle rivers and cloud forest areas near Quito- all have their own interest and climate - and easy to visit by bus - have joined up with many interesting



Past Master Richard Link at
Lagune Verde Bolivia

people and enjoyed it a lot. Kept well and no problem with altitude - 9200 feet here.

The language school went well but I could have stayed for longer - rather frustrating as I find conversation still difficult.

Shall start my Journey South - on the trail to Machu Picchu - on 19th and hope to spend some time in Bolivia too - have a treasure chest of medicines!

Hope to find some interesting company on the buses - have some good reading with me too! Easter Greetings.

19th April 2004

Returned from the Galapagos this afternoon to Quito - now catching up with news and messages. The trip was wonderful - we had a very good guide on the boat and delicious food - early start every morning with visit to an island - did some good snorkelling and found some sharks.

The birds and sea life were worth seeing. I will bore you with photos one day. Sunny weather but have managed to turn a reasonable colour - the sun can be a bit terrifying on the equator - we were 0 degrees 16 minutes south yesterday!

Good stargazing from the deck at night-southern cross with the great bear -south and north. On Tuesday I set out on my journey south - lots of ideas of what I want to see - look at the map. I should be travelling by bus from Quito to the Atacama desert in northern Chile before turning up into Bolivia and then on North to Titicaca and Cusco-will then walk the Inca Trail.



Colca Canyon Peru

Due back 7 June. Look after the Poulters.

One year later he went back for more. We will continue the story in our next edition

PICTURE GALLERY



At the Christmas Court held on January 2006 the Master presented Mr Kevin Purvis the Chairman of Rehab UK with a cheque of £14,000 for the purchase of computers at the London Brain Injury centre.

The money had been raised following the very successful 'Beloved Clara' evening with

Lucy Parham, Joanna David and Charles Dance



Admitted to the Court at the Midsummer Court 2005 were two new assistants pictured here with the Master.

Brian Coombe (left) was elected to the livery in 1984 and as a steward in 1997.

Graham Jackman (right) was elected to the livery in 1988. Graham is a Past Master of the Butchers Company.



Mark Richard Kitching admitted as a Liveryman at the Michaelmas Court held at Armourers Hall on 6th October 2005

Brendan Tobin was admitted an assistant at the Christmas Court January 2006.

He was elected to the livery in 1986 and as a steward in 2001.



Ash Wednesday 1st March 2006.



The newly elected Master Brian Gilbert-Smith wastes no time in getting to grips with his new role.

Here he is with the Clerk Mrs Gwen Butcher



The Master and John Nokes Renter Warden with Phillipa Nokes who was elected to the livery at the Christmas Court January 2006.

The court has many decisions it needs to make on behalf of the Livery. One such decision was made at the last Christmas Court where an upper age limit of 62 years has been introduced for those becoming assistants.

SERVING SUGGESTIONS

As more and more people use convenience foods these days, we thought you may appreciate some simple recipes that can be prepared easily at home. Try this one for starters (or mains)... and if you have any of your own recipes that you would like to share with the Livery, please forward them to the editors.

Roast Pheasant (serves 2/3)

Ingredients:

1 pheasant, butter, streaky bacon, salt & pepper

Preheat oven to 190°C/Gas mark 5

1. Place 2oz butter inside the bird and season well with salt & pepper
 2. Cover the breast & legs with streaky bacon
 3. Put the pheasant in the oven and roast for 35 minutes basting frequently
 4. Remove the bacon and put back in the oven on a separate dish with the pheasant and roast for a further 10 minutes
 5. Remove the pheasant for carving and make a light gravy from the juices
- Serve with potatoes and/or game chips, bread sauce and vegetables of choice



Trefor Campbell (second from the left) with the Principal of Harper Adams College Wynn Jones, The Master, The Clerk and Liveryman Peel Holroyd

The Poulterers Company supports the annual presentation of the **Temperton Fellowship** at the Harper Adams University College.

Last year it was on the subject of "The United Kingdom Poultry Industry as part of the international food chain." and was given by Trefor Campbell Chairman of Moy Park Ltd, Craigavon Northern Ireland.



The Rev John Arthur Smith-Bullock was Rector of St Peter's 1927 to 1945.

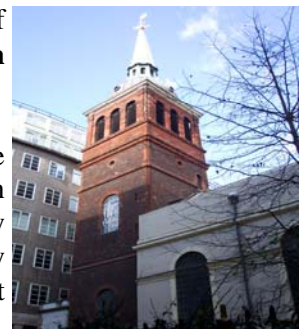
His daughter Theodora still attends our election day lunches.

Watch our next edition for a record of what he did for the Poulterers during the second world war years.



Two views of **St. Peter upon Cornhill**.

We go there each year on Ash Wednesday but how many stop to look at the building?



We have held our election day service there for many years.

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