

FLETCHER DIARY DATES MAY 2019 – APRIL 2020

Those events marked with an **F** are also open to Freemen. Liverymen may attend all events.

2019

Thursday -Saturday	6 th – 8 th June	F	World Paralympic archery championships, Holland
Tuesday	11 th June	F	Fletchers Golf Day – Thorndon Park, Essex
Saturday & Sunday	15 th & 16 th June		British Wheelchair Archery Championships, Stoke Mandeville
Monday	24 th June		Shrieval Elections and Lunch
Tuesday	25 th June		Joint Shoot at the Tower
Tuesday	9 th July		Court Lunch
Thursday & Friday	22 nd & 23 rd August	F	Blind Veterans Shoot Ovingdean, Brighton
Saturday	7 th September	F	Fletchers Day for Elite Archers, Burnham
Saturday & Sunday	14 th & 15 th September	F	Fletcher National Disability Championships Lilleshall
Wednesday	18 th September		Noak Hill
Sunday	29 th September	F	Sheep Drive over London Bridge
Wednesday	2 nd October		Election of the Lord Mayor and Lunch
Tuesday	8 th October		Court Lunch
Tuesday – Saturday	22 nd – 26 th October		Master's Holiday, Taormina, Sicily
Saturday	9 th November	F	Lord Mayor's Show
Monday & Tuesday	25 th & 26 th November		Red Cross Christmas Fair
December	Date TBA		Christmas Luncheon
Wednesday	4 th December		Carol Service

2020

Tuesday	21 st January		Court Dinner
Thursday	12 th March		Ladies Banquet
Friday	27 th March		United Guilds Service
Tuesday	21 st April		Installation Court

British Blind Sport Coaching days for blind or visually impaired archers at Stoke Mandeville, Saturdays: 26 Oct, 30 Nov, 11 Jan, 22 Feb and 21 March

Other dates, such as the Master's *special events* / *visits* in 2019 & 2020 are to be added, and these will be circulated by email and in the next Edition of La Fleche.



La Flèche

The Newsletter of the Worshipful Company of Fletchers

INTRODUCING OUR NEW MASTER DUNCAN GARLAND

Installed Monday 15th April 2019



Anne Curry
Renter Warden

Duncan Garland
Master

Stuart Robbins
Upper Warden

The Installation Court and Dinner 15th April 2019

Monday the 15th April saw the Fletchers' Court meeting in our Hall. The first item of business was the installation of our new Master Duncan Garland. The Master, Roger Watson, invited Duncan to take the Oath of Office and to sign the necessary papers. This being done, he clothed the new Master with the Master's Gown and fastened the Chain of Office around his neck.

The new Master then took his seat to chair the Court. His first act was to present the Deputy Master's Badge to Roger Watson as the Immediate Past Master, he then went on to install Stuart Robbins as Upper Warden and Anne Curry as Renter Warden.

Past Master David Goodall, having served his time on the Court, offered his resignation, which was accepted. The Court then unanimously elected him as an Honorary Assistant. There now being a vacancy on the Court, the Master invited Michael de Styrcia to take the oath of an Assistant which he duly did and is now the newest member of the Fletchers' Court.

The Court then conducted the business of the afternoon and at the conclusion enrolled Celia Campbell as our newest Liveryman, who was warmly welcomed by the Court members. The Court business being completed, the Beadle invited the Master to lead the Court in procession to the Church of St Vedast in Foster Lane for our Thanksgiving Service. The service was taken by the Reverend Paul Kennedy, the Master's Chaplain, who gave an excellent homily on choice and the way we the Fletchers, can do good in the world.

On returning to the Hall after the Service, the Master and Wardens greeted everyone as they arrived, and after the reception had given everyone time for a chat with old friends some 120 sat down for the traditional Installation Dinner. After welcoming the Master and the principle guests, we had a Confit of Duck Legs in a Lemon Verbena Sauce followed by Guinea Fowl served with a Crayfish, Shallot and Potato Cake. The dessert was a Crème Caramel in a Grand Marnier sauce.



Archery Links– Helen's Story

My name is Helen Powell. I am 36 years old and I live in the North East of England. After a Skiing accident when I was 17, I developed Complex Regional Pain Syndrome: A degenerative, neurological condition which causes me to experience intense, unrelenting pain in my right leg.

When I was younger, I was very sporty and active; frequently partaking in Horse-Riding, Hapkido (a Korean Martial Art), SCUBA diving and Skiing. After my accident, I found the immobility caused by my condition difficult to reconcile, as it is exacerbated by movement. I needed a sport that would quench my thirst for activity whilst limiting movement. After much searching, I found that Archery fit these criteria perfectly... I was hooked!

I first discovered archery in 2014 and since then, it has improved my quality of life dramatically. It makes me feel competitive and included again in the same way that Horse-Riding and Martial Arts did before my injury. I also found that the focus and mental discipline required in Archery creates a welcome distraction from my pain.

I was introduced to the British Wheelchair Archery Association (BWAA) by Helen George (an Hon. Freeman archer and AGB Para Coach), whom I met whilst competing in my County Championships back in 2015. Since then, my technique has gone from strength to strength.

With the aid of funding from the Fletchers, I have been able to acquire a high-quality Spotting Scope that is both very powerful, very lightweight and compact. I had been struggling to find a way to view my arrows accurately at competitive distances due to the limits inherent to my disability. The more powerful scopes are usually larger and heavier and when attached to my chair, they become unstable, slip out of position easily and wobble around, thus aggravating my condition.

Receiving this funding has enriched my overall shooting experience immeasurably. It allows me to be more independent on the shooting line as I can see exactly what results my efforts are having in real time, giving me accurate feedback as I train. This has boosted my confidence greatly and will undoubtedly help me to achieve my full potential as an archer in the years to come.



Live Firing with the Royal Fusiliers



Four Fletchers were privileged to visit 1st Battalion of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers on Monday 20 May 2019. John Power, Andrew McMillan, Robert Selwyn and Gordon Sharp were welcomed at Mooltan Barracks, Tidworth by the Adjutant, Captain Graham Sweetman.

We were then taken to one of the training facilities on Salisbury plain, where we met amongst others the Commanding Officer, Lt. Colonel Chris Head MC.



After a bite of lunch with troops from X and Z Companies, we were shown around one of their Warrior vehicles, which was rather less comfortable than the minibus in which we were taken to Salisbury Plain.

We then observed (from a safe distance) two training exercises, as the Fusiliers attacked and cleared some of the houses in the training area. Training ammunition was being used, which was described to us as paintballs on steroids – i.e. you were liable to say “ouch” very loudly if hit! The discipline shown by the troops was impressive to see. This was part of their preparation in advance of going to Canada later in the year for a major training exercise there.



Finally we were given the opportunity to show our own marksmanship, liberally spraying some trees with (eco-friendly) paintball rounds.



We all came away much better informed as to the challenges currently facing the First Fusiliers, and their organisation and personnel. As Robert said, “I often feel so detached from the forces that protect us and promote our interests abroad and take what they do for granted. Being able to meet and talk to some of them in their familiar surroundings drummed home how special these people are, putting their safety and comfort on the line for all our benefit.”

Gordon Sharp

After the Sung Grace, the Master invited us to join him in a Loving Cup. This was followed by the traditional loyal toast and Stuart Robbins, our new Senior Warden, then gave a short speech welcoming the guests and proposing their health. Replying on behalf of the guests, Dr Angus Kennedy, a Consultant Neurologist and the guest of the Master, talked about the advances in neuroscience and the possibilities it opened up for dementia sufferers, before he invited the company to drink the health of the Fletchers. The dinner finished with a short speech of thanks by the Master.

John Dumbrell



Photographs by Oliver Trapnell



My Aspirations for the coming Year as Master

It does not seem very long since I was fortunate enough to be interviewed for joining the Court, and now the past 12 months have flashed past during which I have supported Roger Watson, when required, in his position as Master. I have also become more familiar with our complex programme of activities. I am looking forward to the privilege, and opportunity, of serving as Master of our Livery during the coming year.

I recently found myself wondering about those who have served as Master, and those who have been Liverymen since our Company petitioned the Mayor

and Aldermen stating that they had agreed 'for the profit and advantage of all the Commonalty' that the trades of Bowyer and Fletcher should be kept entirely separate, and the Worshipful Company of Fletchers came into existence. I am, as I know we all are, familiar with those who have been Master, Warden and Liverymen in the years since I was introduced to our Company; in my imagination I try to also picture those who have gone before us since that petition in March 1371. It is because of their efforts over the years that our Livery Company exists today, and I feel that it is our duty to endeavor to pass it on to forthcoming generations of Liverymen in the same state, or better if possible, than we found it upon joining our Company.

My working life was largely spent with one organisation, and I was fortunate enough to spend over 30 years working on the portfolio derived from Asia Pacific, with a team developing the client base in, what for me, is one of the most diverse and fascinating parts of the world. During that period I not only had an opportunity to work in the traditional Reinsurance field, but was also involved in the establishment of an alternative product acceptable under the laws of Islamic Finance, Takaful, and have seen this develop from very modest beginnings to occupy a significant part of the Insurance sector in the Islamic world.

My leisure pursuits include sailing, and since stepping back from full time work have expanded to include Fly Fishing, Clay Pigeon Shooting and, as many may know, attempting the training of an English Springer Spaniel, Izzy.

I am delighted that Paul Kennedy, who you may recall from our visits to St Vedast Alias Foster, has agreed to be the Master's Chaplain for the forthcoming year.

During recent years our Past Masters have had a great deal to do in order to guide the Company through the renovation of the Hall. I am delighted their efforts have borne fruit and that we are, as a result, likely to have a more predictable year than has recently been the case. However, we are, as a Company, preparing for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympics, a potential application for a Royal Charter, and subsequent to that for the 650th year anniversary of our Company.



Next, we had to put on special shoes and coats and go through a foot bath which prevents infections. We saw some fascinating Tarantulas. We saw them "boxed up" and Robert opened a couple for us to look at. Then off we went to visit the crocodile. What a splendid specimen, dark black and with a lighter stripe, he was in shady water and keeping very still. He keeps still so he thinks we can't see him. We were told he had grown too big and was being sent home, to a more enjoyable life than that which he would have in a zoo. There was a chunk of tree by the edge of his cage in case he tried to escape. We heard a good story of crocs. getting out and marching up and down the corridor and having to be coaxed back into their den with police shields and brooms However, one croc. took a chunk out of a broom, and whilst a member of staff opened its mouth

to see if there were splinters in it, they were promptly bitten. Off he went to hospital to be met with "there's a man here who has been bitten by a Crocodile"! A Boa Constrictor was next, we were told he'd been bred because of his size and his colouring. After that were the big crush cages where you would park a lion, for example. These cages were as old as the building and I wouldn't like to be locked in one! Then outside to the seriously large pens for the big stock. The biggest they have had were two Indian rhinos, who were so big they had to be forklifted on to the back of a truck and driven off to the zoo on the back of a lorry.

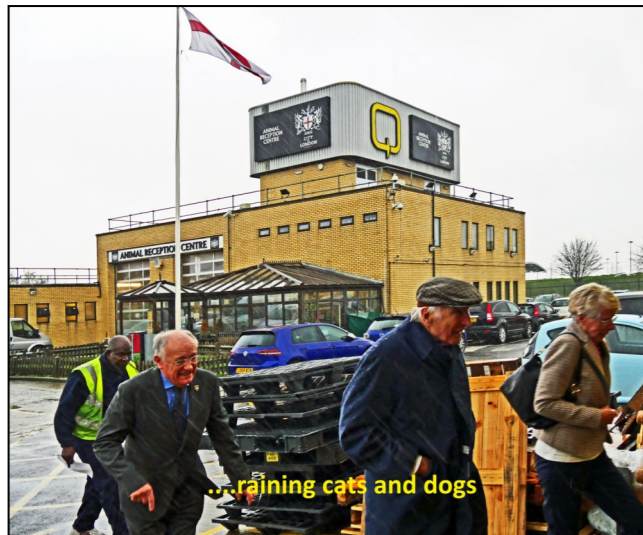
We handed our coats and cover shoes back, just as it began to rain, so we ran to the last shed which is where the HARC keep fish. We were shown into a room with dimmed lights and a red light turned on, so as not to shock the fish. Robert undid a crate and we saw Individual Tiger Barb Catfish in their individual beautifully labelled containers. The fishes had all come from the Far East. We heard tales of goldfish that are packed at least 50 to a bag and seriously expensive Koi Carp that get imported from Japan.

Back in our original portacabin, Roger thanked Robert, liveryman Jon Avern, and the rest of the team before repairing to a smashing lunch at a nearby hotel. A perfect buffet - with a good mix of all my favourite nibbles and hot chips!

My thanks especially, to our Master Roger, and to Jon for facilitating the visit. It was a wonderful experience from start to finish. I wish Rob and his team all the best when they move to their new premises. I really hope they don't build a car park on the site - the building is a classic case of don't judge a book by its cover; a time piece from another age, spotlessly clean and filled with so much love.

Jane Gilbert





Heathrow Animal Reception Centre Visit 12th March 2019

We arrived at the Heathrow Animal Reception Centre (HARC) just outside Terminal 4. While the building wasn't the most attractive and it was pouring with rain, we found a parking space. We were met by June, who made us very welcome and pointed to the drinks machine. As the room filled up, Kate approached me to ask, would I write a note about my experiences of the day.

Robert Quest runs the centre. He's a down to earth individual - and gave us all a super presentation of what the HARC is all about. Did you know that the City of London has a statutory duty to take care of animals and birds since the earliest days of Smithfield, Billingsgate and Spitalfields? Apart from its historic role, it has developed into something which has to be the envy of the modern world - its goal being to protect animals and birds and of course fish, from the brutality of us humans. The work of HARC is entirely remarkable - they had a staff of 20 in 2012 and now have 60. Within these tiny premises (for that's what it is) they see about 3 million (including fish) visitors a year. These range from large/small dogs, large/small cats, other mammals, farm stock, birds, reptiles, horses, day old chicks, and squillions of fish - tropical and goldfish). I heard their work also covers the imported animal trade, including cobra snakes which are hidden in rice wine, and apparently a good far eastern source of healing, dried seahorses. Hmmmm.

We heard about those who smuggle animals into the UK- including a man who was prosecuted for smuggling eggs wrapped around his body. He came from Peru and is now serving a gaol sentence here. Likewise two girls from Romania smuggled lizards in to our country, were caught and went to prison. The HARC went to great pains whilst the lizards were in their care, not to over expose them to humans. It transpires that the ladies were able to capture the lizards, who frequent the ground beneath the dining tables at a club 30 resort, in their native Bahamas!

Then came the tour to see the animals. We were ushered through a gate, then waited whilst everyone followed, then another door opened. I was highly amused to see the first visitor to the premises which was a savannah cat - who was going to Canada. I have been the proud owner of three savannah cats and am aware of the difficulty of keeping this super gorgeous species. I was told the savannah cat who they were looking after was "feisty". I know exactly what that means!

We went on to see a wonderful collection of reptiles. I am not good with snakes or exotic frogs and thought I might faint so had to leave the room. But what beautiful creatures! I must tell you that there was a cage filled with something that resembled crickets. They were, Robert told us, intended to be their lunch.

It would be wonderful if we could provide a calm platform and environment for those working to achieve success on these projects (and others), and to have your support for various fund raising activities.

Your generosity to the Fletchers Charity is greatly appreciated, and it is heartwarming to see the positive impact that this work makes to so many lives. I do hope that you will take the opportunities available to see the happiness that you help create in those participating in disabled archery.

The Master's holiday this year will visit Taormina in Sicily, and I would like to thank all who have been able to squeeze time to join us later this year.

Duncan Garland



Fletchers take part in the Inter-Livery Ski Meeting

An "elite" group of Fletchers met at Morzine in the French Alps on the border with Switzerland for the Inter-Livery Ski Meeting.

This meeting, at the end of January, allowed the group of Fletchers and their friends to get together and ensured the team bonded well. The Fletchers and their partners in the team were Tim Sanders-Hewett, Michael Hoffman, Ben Scott Knight and Gemma, Emma Redcliffe and Neil and myself. Leigh Bowman Perks was also there, accompanying her husband Jonathan, who is a Goldsmith, and Gordon Sharp was there with the Actuaries.

In the main race it was the fastest three times from each company that contributed to the score. For the Fletchers, Ben, Emma and Tim had the fastest times, but Hoff and I also finished.

The start to the race was very testing and poor Gemma, skiing as a Fletchers' guest, fell and tore a ligament. She has had an operation on her knee and at the time of writing (mid-March) she is recovering on crutches.

Some 35 Livery companies had teams in the Main Race with other companies, who didn't have enough for a team, entering individuals, and, in all, about 200 competitors took part. We came 22nd out of the 35 companies, quite a creditable performance.

Hopefully other Fletchers will join us next year. Ben thought that we should encourage more young Fletchers to attend, but I am not sure that there are any skiers among them!

Adrian Scott Knight



What an Exciting, Busy and Fulfilling year!



I set out in April 2018 with the three aims of: exploring the extraordinary scope and influence of the City; highlighting the great work of the Fletcher's Trust; sharing with our Military affiliates both the commemoration of the end of the Great War and their own anniversaries.

How were my aims met?

In respect of our Charity work I have been really privileged to see the considerable breadth and impacts made.

Visits included those to blind and disabled archery events, a homeless charity, schools for both the underprivileged and those more well off, our Associated Cadet units and an urban farm apprentice scheme. All of which are supported by the Fletcher's Trust. I found it truly humbling to have an, albeit small, insight into the life transforming work of all these organisations.

2018 was, of course, the Centenary of the end of the Great War. Both June and I have been greatly privileged to attend, as Fletcher representatives, the City commemorative events of the sacrifice made. "The Tower Remembers" and its evocative flames are etched in our memory.

Sharing with our Military affiliates was thrilling, as the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers celebrated the 50th anniversary since their formation from former Fusilier regiments. The RAF celebrated their 100th birthday and the Royal Navy the continuing Nelson traditions. Our existing ties have been strengthened this year as we held our first joint Carol Service with the RRF and augmenting the existing Naval and RAF awards, I commissioned a new gunnery award for the RRF and was again privileged to present it for the first time.

After a most enjoyable evening in historic surroundings, well fed and entertained, we left with a deeper appreciation of the vital services Trinity House provides to keep us all safe at sea - and a magnificent view of the floodlit Tower of London. As his year draws to a close it remains for us to thank the Master and June for a wonderfully successful year that we have greatly enjoyed and hope they have too; also to our Clerk for the enormous effort she puts in, much of it unseen, to navigate us safely through the hectic round of events, committees, formalities and informalities.

John Leatherdale





The Ladies Banquet at Trinity House on Monday 25th February was a real treat. This charitable corporation has operated under Royal Charters for over 500 years, using ever more sophisticated technology to guide those that venture to sea around these jagged islands.

Trinity House maintains fully automated lighthouses, lightvessels and buoys and licenses deep sea pilots. We were warmly welcomed by their headquarters 'crew' and by our impeccably turned out cadets of the 1921 Air Cadets Squadron and the 135

Detachment Royal Fusiliers.

Trinity House is filled with maritime paintings and artefacts including a contemporary painting of Queen Elizabeth I, Churchill and Roosevelt meeting at sea during World War II, and the ship's bell from the Royal Yacht Britannia, which were a delight to peruse. Many of their records and possessions were destroyed in the Great Fire of London, another fire in 1715 and an incendiary bomb during the Blitz that destroyed the 1796 building. It was faithfully rebuilt in the same style and reopened in 1953. The reception was held under the magnificently painted ceiling in the Court Room, where Edgar King described the unique history of Trinity House.



We moved through to another elegant room, called the Library, to dine beneath the minstrels' gallery where, Elysium Brass, a quintet of graduates from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, performed for us at intervals throughout the evening.

Unexpectedly, we were served the red wine first, a Gamay from Anjou, which went well with the starter of Mozzarella and smoked venison salad. Picpoul from Languedoc

followed providing a delicate accompaniment to the main course of Arctic Char. Loving cups circulated followed by the traditional toasts. Duncan Garland, the Upper Warden, welcomed the guests. David Rintoul, the Scottish actor, described some amusing experiences in his versatile career in theatre, film, television and audiobook recording. The Master responded and presented a cheque from the Fletchers to Alderman and Sheriff Vincent Keaveney for the Lord Mayor's Appeal. The Sheriff replied and gave the toast to the Worshipful Company of Fletchers coupled with the name of the Master.



We explored the ubiquity of the City's influence with three visits going east to the London Gateway Port, West to the Heathrow Animal Reception Centre and stayed in the City to visit Charterhouse. At each location we saw the diversity and breadth of the City Corporation's work.

Another great joy was clothing new Liverymen. A major benefit of the Fletchers Livery is the diversity of backgrounds we share. Our newest Liverymen add to this diversity and I know will continue to benefit our Company for many years to come.

I was pleased to be able to appoint Rev. Keith Edwards as my Chaplain. Keith is the first Non-Conformist to hold this role in our 648 year history and we have benefited from his pastoral work (as well as his creative woodworking skills).

The Master's holiday in Croatia visited, in addition to famous historical sites, some more typical Croatian homes where we shared, not only magnificent hospitality, but saw first hand the awful effect of Croatia's recent war-torn past.

Thoroughly enjoyable Fletcher's dinners and lunches in our own Hall, on the river, at Brewer's Hall, The Tower of London and at Trinity House, coupled with the very many invitations from other Livery Companies, have contributed to my knowledge and, of course, to my waistline!

None of this would have been possible without the support and encouragement of our Liverymen and our Clerk Kate, and of course June to all of whom I owe a great deal. Thank you all.

What did I enjoy most?

Well, participating in the magnificent amount of pageantry at which the City Livery excels at, is truly memorable. What strikes me most is seeing blind people with a loss of interest in life being enthused by being taught archery and young people from disadvantaged backgrounds, challenged by gang culture and knife crime achieving qualifications and awards and the hungry homeless being washed and fed.

Did I meet my aims? Only you can judge!

Roger Watson

New Members of the Worshipful Company of Fletchers

New Liverymen

Dr Hannes Kleineke July 2018



Hannes Kleineke

Hannes is a medieval historian, mainly working on the fifteenth century English parliament, although his attempts to escape the history of the city of London have to date proved futile. He divides his time between research for the History of Parliament Trust, and teaching at Royal Holloway College, University of London. His interests include classical music (he spends most of his summers at the Proms at the Royal Albert Hall) and rugby (these days mainly playing bar prop, when not carrying out official duties as his college's rugby club's honorary president).

Alan Downing - October 2018



Alan Downing

Alan is married to Christine. He is a qualified Chartered Architect and worked in the Public Sector. He became a Liveryman of the Architects Company in 1990, Master in 2003 and was Clerk to the Charitable Trust for over eleven years. A member of Bridge Ward Club, becoming chairman in 2012/2013 and was responsible for their float in Lord Mayor Sir Alan Yarrow's year. His interests include photography, classical music, cricket and archery with Whiteleaf Bowmen.

Wing Commander John Chappell - January 2019



John is currently a Wing Commander in the Royal Air Force and is the Executive Officer of 601 (County of London) Squadron Royal Auxiliary Air Force. He joined the RAF in 1987 and has completed tours in Germany, Italy, the Balkans, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Afghanistan and Northern Ireland. He lives in Elton, North Cambridgeshire and is married to Jane, the County Chairman of the Northants Reserve Forces and Cadets Association and runs her own IT Assurance Company. He enjoys clay shooting, kayaking, motorcycling, Via Ferrata, skiing and military history, but rarely has the time to do

these hobbies as he spends most of his spare time trying to keep on top of gardening chores and house DIY.

Hilda Gibson - January 2019



Hilda Gibson

Hilda worked in technical computing and clinical data management before moving into sport management to be the Archery Services Manager for the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. A long-time archer, Hilda is passionate about the accessibility and inclusivity of the sport and its power to change people's lives. Hilda was awarded the Steiner Salver for contribution to disability archery last year. Hilda also enjoys skiing, sailing and travel in general. Hilda has a daughter, Naomi, who is studying for a PhD at St. James Hospital in Leeds.

Dr Sinclair Rogers - January 2019



Sinclair Rogers

Originally a Primary school teacher, Sinclair has a lifelong interest in education. His research as a Professor of Linguistics explored the language development of young children. He taught university students from undergraduate level to PhDs and adults at night schools. For 20 years he was Her Majesty's Inspector of Schools. He is Visiting Professor at the University of Chester. He was a magistrate for many years. His interests are the study of medieval history, the two World Wars and English poetry. He has been married to Jenny for over 50 years. They have two daughters and five grandchildren.

Celia Campbell - April 2019



Celia Campbell

Celia is a Company Director and Secretary of Battersea and General Estates Ltd. Before this she was a stock broker managing private client portfolios. She is a Liveryman and Immediate Past Mistress of the Coopers' Company, where she was a member of the Finance and General Practice Committee and is also on the Quality and Curriculum Committee. Her interests include tennis, skiing and she has competed at both the Inter- Livery tennis and ski competitions. Celia plays Golf, goes Scuba diving and is a Member of The Royal Enclosure, Ascot. She is also a Dame Chevalier of The Ordre des Coteaux de Champagne.



Congratulations to:

Brian Jones on his recent
marriage to Isabel (nee Pennicott).



Congratulations to:

Matthew Prout on the
birth of his first child.