



The CARMAN

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LORD LEVENE HONOURS CARMEN

Carmen were honoured at Mansion House on 13 March when Past Master the Lord Levene made his final appearance as Lord Mayor *locum tenens* before retirement from the Aldermanic bench, at the Carmen's Livery banquet. There he presented awards for rail, bus and civil engineering achievements. Guest speaker was Purdy Crawford CC QC from Canada, who presented £1,000 to the Company's charity.

Tom Heffer



On 23 April, following a heart attack while driving to work a week earlier, the Carmen's Honorary Chaplain, Liveryman Rev Tom Heffer, passed away in hospital. He was 43.

Born in 1969, and educated at Aylesbury Grammar School and King's College, London, Tom Heffer volunteered as a chaplain's assistant to the Mission and served in New Orleans and Singapore. Ordained in 1996, he was chaplain and press officer to the Bishop of Norwich, and completed a Masters in Canon Law at the University of Wales. He joined the Mission in 2001, and was appointed Secretary General in 2009, following eight years as Director of Chaplaincy; he joined the Carmen in 2005.

A familiar figure at Carman events, officiating at Company services, and delivering witty graces before functions, he had an immediate rapport with people, instantly making them feel at ease.

In his last leader in the Mission's *Flying Angel News*, Tom wrote about the Mission's 150 years of 'practical help, spiritual solace and a listening ear' – the words of a practical, spiritual and listening man himself, whom Carmen will assuredly miss.

Peter Adams, major projects director for the Environmental Shield-winning Highways Agency, received the shield for the Agency's A3 Hindhead tunnel scheme. The Sir Henry Royce Memorial Foundation award was received by Network Rail's investment CEO Simon Kirby for the Blackfriars Station refurbishment, while the Award of Merit went to Chiltern Railways for cutting the London-Birmingham journey by 27 minutes; MD Rob Brighouse accepted it.

The Viva Award was received by Stuart Wood of Heatherwick Studio and Mark Nodder, MD Wrightbus for TfL's fuel-saving, hop-on-hop-off New London Bus with its assymetric glazing and dramatic new design, serving central London 20 hours daily, 364 days a year.

Beating inflation

Faced with continuing recessionary pressures, the January Court has agreed to edge up quarterage. Freemen will pay an extra £7.50 a year and Liverymen £15. The Court also decided to maintain quarterage on an inflation-linked basis from 1 March 2012 onwards.



Stuart Wood and Mark Nodder of Thomas Heatherwick Studio and Wrightbus receive the Viva Award for the New Bus for London at Mansion House in March from Master and Lord Mayor *locum tenens*

Contest 2012

The July election offered three candidates for two Court places. Colin Fleming, Nick Laister and Chris Parlane presented their case to the July Court luncheon, following which the poll was held, and the result announced that evening. Next year will see at least two further openings.

The election sees clarification of procedures, following changes promoted in 2010. These include informal and formal interviews with nominees, to enable them to confirm or withdraw their candidacies, and an interview panel comprising only Master, Wardens and Immediate Past Master, who are now disbarred from sponsorship.



Newly elected – above: Chris Parlane and below: Nick Laister



HRH the Princess Royal, Master, Wardens, Clerk, Awards chairman, military Assistants and wives at Drapers' Hall

Letter to Carmen

Dear fellow Carman

Fifty years ago, it was a privilege to be invited to join the Carmen. It still is. Neither a club nor a closed shop, the Company is nonetheless a *rara avis*. It offers an unique combination of fellowship and service. Once it was totally *de trop* to seek membership or for the Company to seek members. Now the Company needs must go forth to multiply.

The bare facts are simple. The Company exists to do well and to do good through fellowship, and that fellowship depends on recruitment. It is no longer sufficient for the Company to sit back and wait for members to introduce suitable friends or family. It needs members to be proactive, and identify those who can and will contribute and it needs to promote membership itself across all relevant logistic markets.

The simple truth is that fellowship only prospers through renewal, and even City livery companies have to balance their books, which mostly rely on a flow of membership fines and fees. The Livery ceiling is 500, but the Livery roll is stuck in the 470s, with newcomers just replacing departures. Deficit budgets loom. There needs to be an increase over and above pure replacement. With an average of 20 turnover per annum, we need 30 new people annually, until we have a waiting list.

In addition, the Company is too dependent upon older brethren. There needs to be an influx of younger Carmen, to stimulate growth and greater achievement. However, these are people with families and careers their priority, and with limited time and funds. They will make ideal Freemen, who pay less and need less, but who could add immeasurably more to our futures.

So, fellow Carmen, please look at your colleagues, your contacts, your employees. Those of you in rail, bus, inshore or inland waterways, and transport hubs, look at those who might increase our representation in those fields.

Look not only for new Liverymen, but young men and women who might welcome the opportunity to be free of an unique organisation, where they can make a difference, and one day take a fuller role, and from which they can learn.

Fellow Carmen, go forth, multiply our numbers, and bring us to a full 500 Livery and another 500 Freemen soon, continuously and henceforth. Then we can approach our 500th year in good heart, health and heritage – for another 500 years!

Senior Past Master Clive Birch



The Master and his lady share Christmas gifts and goodwill at Guy's Chapel, after the Carol Service – with Liveryman Gillian Sheddick's family

Freedom of Information

Information is cheap, but communication is anything but. With the coming of the digital age, Carmen face swingeing increases in postal costs unless they face facts and adopt modern methods. The majority of active members use e-mails as a matter of business course, and many find and buy what they want over the internet. The time has come for the Company to take advantage of the simplicity and low cost of digital communication.

JEAN PEARCE



Jean Pearce became an indelible part of the Carmen's Company when her husband, the late Hon Assistant Geoffrey Pearce, assumed the Clerkship in 1979. Jean, ubiquitous, unflappable, unassuming and uncomplaining, was affectionately known to all insiders as 'the real Clerk' – the quiet and kindly complement to the Company's indomitable frontman. She died in February.

Jean was born in 1927 in Tooting, trained as a commercial artist, and won prizes for her singing. In 1952 she met RACS officer Geoffrey and, when he returned from Korea, they married. They travelled the world. With no close family and no children, they were devoted to each other for 47 years, until Geoffrey died in 2003.

Carmen owe the revival and survival of the Company in part to Geoffrey Pearce. Some of that debt was earned by Jean, a deserved Honorary Liveryman. Her Army and Carman friends will not forget her.

Members with e-mail facilities henceforth will receive information about events by e-mail unless they formally ask for hard copy. For those members, events will be booked by e-mail and paid through direct debit. The alternative is higher costs, which the Company would have to pass on.

The Company is currently examining costs and revenues, faced with a potential deficit budget. Saving postal costs alone would eliminate the looming loss. The Court is optimistic that most members will rally round and facilitate modern communications. It will not be the first time the Company has adapted to prosper.

E-mail the Clerk with YOUR e-mail address if he does not have it.

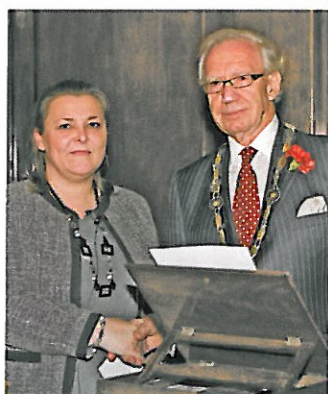
GOVERNANCE REVIEW

With the Company's quest for VAT exemption on fines and fees ongoing, the working party delivered a comprehensive Governance Review to the Court.

The Master invited responses. Nine were received, ranging from those preferring the *status quo* to those sympathetic to possible change. The Review addressed corporate structure, organisation, membership, events and primarily, the relationship of incomes to outcomes – the essence of the VAT case.

Pending resolution of the VAT case, the Court has held fire, while recognising the need to relate incomes to objectives – the Review highlights the contribution members' payments make to the achievement of charitable and related objectives, such as awards, educational initiatives and military support, beyond direct benevolent gifts.

The Review will itself be reviewed by the Court after the final outcome of the VAT case.



Charity Lunch guest speaker Mrs Vanessa Casey, of Treloar's, receives a handsome donation from the Benevolent Trust at the January Court Luncheon at Merchant Taylors' Hall



Master and lady break bread with Christ's Hospital trumpeters Freddie Wordsworth and Milo McKinnon at the Foundation Day lunch at the Little Ship Club in March after the St Michael Paternoster Royal service

The Master –

For a Master Carman, many doors open to a wide diversity of people and places that encompass the Livery of the City of London. The genuine hospitality of Masters and Livery displays a common theme of friendship and charity.

The most significant weekend of my year has been the celebration of Her Majesty the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Carmen sent a message of loyal greeting and many congratulations.

There have also been two occasions of great sadness: the funerals of Jean Pearce and Tom Heffer.

From a busy programme, there are some memorable highlights: the choirs of Westminster Cathedral, St Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey singing Psalm 150 in Latin at the Festival of St Cecilia, Westminster Abbey; on the floor of the Egyptian Hall, 550 children at the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress Children's Fancy Dress Party – peals of laughter, led through the Mansion House by the Lord Mayor for a conga; Mr Quinton Lettis' powerful address at St Michael Cornhill, filled to capacity for the New Year Service; the Mess Club Dinner of the Honourable Artillery Company; at Christ's Hospital Speech Day, talking with the two Carmen presentees, Kemi Skeete and India Hogan, both excelling at the school; presenting a cheque to Zoe Barnes, who cannot speak, at Treloars' School, and her 'thank you', using AAC equipment; visiting a Victorian doctor's surgery at Blists Hill, Ironbridge. These are mere snippets form an action-packed nine months.

Past Master the Lord Levene attended his last dinner as Lord Mayor *locum tenens*, wearing the St Thomas Moore Chain – at our Mansion House Banquet. We were so honoured that he and Lady Levene chose this special occasion, attending their mother livery's premier event.

It was a privilege, with HRH the Princess Royal, to present the Sword of Honour, RN and RAF Cups and medals at the Joint Services Dinner; our guest of honour was General Sir Nick Parker. In June, standing in the Old Library in Petworth House, we could roll back the years and feel Turner in the room painting, later listening spellbound, as Philip Jackson gave an outstanding talk on his work as a sculptor. Then Corinne and I served tea in our garden.

It has been an honour and privilege as Master to support the Livery and City of London in general and Carmen in particular – a lot of learning and fun. Thank you for your support.

My very best wishes

Mr John Older, Master



Carmen enjoy the marvels of Petworth House at the Master's special event in May

PRAY SILENCE FOR....

Carmen attend functions in unique venues, enjoy fine wines and fellowship, and are entertained by distinguished speakers. They rise when bid, raise glass when told, clap as required and fall silent on demand. All this because of one man's bidding: 'Master, Wardens, My Lords, ladies and gentlemen, pray silence for....' yet how many know anything about the man in the tailcoat, with the glorious red sash, the commanding tones, the thunderous gavel?



The Master abseils down Lloyds of London to raise funds for Treloar's

MASTER IN GOOD HEART

Master John Older took to the skies on 19 June, when he stepped out of the top of Lloyds of London, and then abseiled down the building twice, to raise £300 for the Lord Mayor's Appeal, and another £325 for the Ben Trust. That same evening he was taken ill and attended St Thomas's Hospital, where he was fitted with a pacemaker. He was told his exploit was not the cause, but might have accelerated an existing condition of which he was unaware.

The Master was prescribed rest, and has toned down his external commitments accordingly, but will maintain his service to the Livery, presiding at Court and at Cart Marking. Thereafter the Livery year quietens down anyway, so the Master can relax a little until the October Installation Court.

Most Carmen functions stand or fall on the gravitas, courtesy, timing and empathy of a single man – the toastmaster. And most times, that toastmaster is Kenneth E Tappenden MBE.

Ken Tappenden originally trained as a printer, then served with the Royal Signals in intelligence and code breaking, before joining the police, where he retired after 32 years, as Area Commander, with judges' commendations and the MBE for services to police and community.

Events Manager for Rochester for six years, he has served as President of the Toastmaster of Ceremonies and of the National Association of Toastmasters, and on the council of the Beadles' Guild. A Freeman of the City, he lectures, broadcasts, and works for a pensioners' charity.

When Carmen see that familiar smile, impeccable white tie, red sash and tailcoat, they know they are in safe hands, as they hear 'Pray silence for...'



Toastmaster – Ken Tappenden

From Five Kings House

Over halfway through an eventful Master's year, the website is fully up and running and members can download application forms for all events and can also see and order event photographs by e-mail. Those who have signed up to Direct Debit can buy photographs and tickets by e-mail too. I urge everyone to make the most of the updated website. To be able to access the Members' section you must provide a current e-mail address, which then links to the Company's database, allowing you to amend personal details. Due to the rise in postage costs, the Company is moving from snail mail to e-mail for all those who are connected. To make sure you are, and that you receive everything available, please complete and return the form.

Walter Gill, Clerk



Sir Moir Lockhead receives the Carman's first Lifetime Achievement Award from the Royal Past Master at Drapers' Hall in April

£155,000 dispute

The Company's appeal against the imposition of VAT on fines and fees is ongoing. The Court authorised the working party responsible to instruct Counsel for advice. Counsel advised the Company's case was strong, and should be pursued. With £155,000 involved already, the Court determined to continue the case. Counsel advised Alternative Dispute Resolution, an approach being extended to the London area, to save the Revenue and taxpayers needless time and expense. This was agreed by the HMRC caseworker. In May HMRC advised the Company that it would not permit this, Counsel's advice was again sought, and confirmed that HMRC had no just cause to refuse this approach. The Company's legal team is making a further case for ADR.



Past Master HRH the Princess Royal presents the Sword of Honour to Lt David Jarman RLC at the Joint Services Dinner in April

ROYAL AWARDS

Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal, Past Master Carman, presented the awards at the Joint Services Dinner at Drapers' Hall on 25 April, where General Sir Nick Parker KCB CBE ADC, Commander, Land Forces, was the guest speaker and the Company's military Assistants were present.



Soldier of the Year Pte Scott Timothy Brearley RLC

Junior Warden Goes for Gold

When the Olympic organisers asked for volunteers, 250,000 applied and 75,000 were chosen. One was Robin Bawtree. In March 2011 he went for interview in Weymouth and was accepted as a GamesMaker for tennis at Wimbledon. Although a steward there for nine years, this meant four visits to London to learn about it all: to Wembley Park Arena with 6,000 others, for a day of briefings, the Hackney Community Centre, where 60 divided into groups for more briefings, to the East End to collect the uniform and a final briefing at Wimbledon.

Lt David Jarman RLC received the Sword of Honour as a young commander clearing IEDs in Afghanistan, while Soldier of the year was Pte Scott Brearley, serving on anti-piracy trials and operations off Libya.

The Royal Navy Cup went to Lt Helen Hobson who served off Libya, with the RN Medal going to CPO Michael Bosworth for exemplary flotilla medical oversight.

Flt Lt Victoria Green won the RAF Cup, supporting air transport in Afghanistan and the Middle East, while the RAF Movements Trainee award went to SAC Thomas Dean for Op Herrick support. The 2 Mechanical Transport Sqn award was given to SAC Paul Buckley for Libyan operational support and Help for Heroes fundraising.

The 24 Sqn Pollitzer Cup was awarded to Flt Lt Mark Radbourne for developing Hercules training.

Golfing Carmen

Golfing Carmen beat the RLC and Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers at Aldershot on 12 July, and then play at The Addington 25 September, Effingham 4 October and Swinley Forest 6 November. A new Secretary is sought for the Golf Club – contact Neil Coles.



Lt Helen Hobson, Royal Navy Cupwinner



Flt Lt Victoria Green, RAF Cupwinner



24 Sqn RAF Pollitzer Cupwinner Flt Lt Mark Radbourne

Arrivals and Departures

Carmen mourn Hon Liverymen Jean Pearce and Rev Tom Heffer as well as Liverymen Paul Randall, Stephen Slater and Brian Veale, and are sorry to mark the retirement of Liverymen Brian James, Alan Jones, Lee Portnoi, Mark Prior and Martin Summers, alongside Graham Hodgkinson, Keith Preston, Roger Smith, Ronald Gordon, Rev Robin Waite and Michael Sparshatt-Worley. Three Freemen have also retired: David Arrowsmith, Andrew Jackson and Geoffrey Myers.

The Company has welcomed the Master's wife, Corinne Older, and Mrs Linda Britt to the Freedom, together with Lt David Jarman RLC, Lt Helen Hobson RN and Sqn Ldr Victoria Green RAF.

Miss Caitland Lomas, Ciaran Ryan and Dominic Turner have been bound apprentice while Paul Garratt, Cdr Michal Maher RN and Martyn Todd were clothed in January. They were joined in April by Andrew Britton, Darren Griffiths, James Hyatt, Arthur Jones, Graham Lintott, Mrs Linda Morris, Jim New, Robert Scott and Anton Valk.

2012 Carmen honours

Carmen rejoice, for Liverymen honoured this year: Roger Fry was appointed Knight Bachelor for services to education, Professor Stuart Cole CBE for services to transport, and Mrs Rita Beckwith OBE for services to leisure and tourism. Clive Warcup was awarded the MBE for services to transport and charity, and Keith White for services to sport.



Assistant Patrick Marsland Roberts and Pikemen colleagues guard Her Majesty the Queen at Mansion House during the Jubilee weekend in June