



COMPANY COMMENT

Honourable Company of Freemen of the
City of London of North America
www.freemenlondon.org

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From the Master

A YEAR TO REMEMBER

As I put pen to paper, spring is in the air after what has been a long cold winter.

This is the time I reflect on my year as your Master, a year in which I was honoured to be installed as the 26th Master by the Lord Mayor of London at our 25th Jubilee celebrations. This was a year in which we reopened some old doors. A group of us travelled to New York to join with some of our American Freemen in Christmas celebrations with the St George's Society of New York. This is a gathering that we plan to repeat this year and for many years to come.

The Court has been kept very busy running the business of the Honourable Company and planning of some very successful events. Some events are always popular and repeated annually, the Board of Trade Brunch to name one, but we are always seeking new ideas. This year we visited the Ontario Legislature, met for our second Burns Night, and had a reception at the Toronto Cricket Skating & Curling Club and enjoyed our second visit to the country home of Past Master Geoffrey Mayo. In addition, the Last Night of the Proms was a sell out again. It is always pleasing to see a good number of our members and their guests on any occasion, but we seem to be able to guarantee larger numbers when we sample the grape and the grain!!!!

Many of you will have had the pleasure of meeting Geoffrey Berg, Her Majesty's Consul General in Toronto and his wife Sheila. They will shortly be retiring but, before doing so, have invited us to a reception at their beautiful Forest Hill home on April 7th. This will give us the opportunity to wish them well in retirement and thank them for their generous support.

You will have received the invitation to this year's Annual General Meeting and Dinner, which we have moved to the National Club on Bay Street where I know we shall be

warmly welcomed by General Manager, Bill Morari, and his staff. You will be pleased with the very convenient parking arrangements and I hope to see as many of you as can possibly attend this highlight of the year.

It is always rewarding when any of our members make the trip to the Guildhall for the Freedom Ceremony, and I hope that those of you who have not yet done so, will think very hard about it. It is one of those occasions you will long remember and you will be very proud of the recognition and prestige that comes with joining the community of Freeman..

The Court has received the full slate of Officers and Wardens for the ensuing year, and I know that incoming Master, Martin Walmsley, has the support of a strong team. I wish him every success and know that he has your support in all he does.

For me all that remains is to thank to the Court for their unfailing support throughout my year. They are a great bunch of devoted people who are always there with advice. To Peter Leach special thanks for another banner year as Editor of Company Comment. I look forward to every edition and marvel at the depth of his research and copy. Finally, my very grateful thanks to my wife Sally for all her support and patience throughout my term.

John Smith
Master

A Brief Outline - The Worshipful Company of Spectacle Makers



Introduction

As age creeps up on us all, more and more of us have to seek help in the correction of eyesight deficiency. This is an extremely important medical capability.

Long gone are the days when glass and some natural crystals were the only effective materials. With the introduction of plastic composites, the quality, price and correctional capabilities of spectacles and contact lenses have moved to a whole new level of ability. This however is not the end of the spectacle story. The great success of laser eye surgery is a transformational solution to the correction of eye defects from detached retinas to lens modification. These developments represent both an opportunity and a threat to the spectacle industry – an opportunity to support further research and to encourage the highest standards of training and professionalism and a threat as such surgery reduces the number of spectacle and contact lens users.

The history of the Company, being 60th in the order of precedence and its mere 376 year history, was somewhat less involved with British and City of London historical politics than many of the longer established Livery Companies. However, the Spectacle Makers are justifiably proud of their record of civic duty. To date, 31 Spectacle Makers have served as Lord Mayor. With a little over 700 Lord Mayors who have served since the governance of the City was established in 1189, the Spectacle Makers have been elected as Mayor more frequently than almost any other Company's Liverymen. With 400 Liverymen and over 1000 Freemen, the Company has one of the largest Memberships of any City Livery Company

The Worshipful Company of Spectacle Makers remains highly active today in the spectacle making industry. While it has divested its broad training and examination responsibilities for those involved in serving people with visual impairment, it continues to train and certify the craftsmen and women who actually make spectacles. This and its other central role in spectacle making, eye care, and optical research and its charitable activities are described in this article.



History of the Worshipful Company

Like all of the long established London Livery Companies, the Company grew from the religious and social fraternity that had become skilled in the art of spectacle making. The origins of the craft cannot be traced to any specific time or event. No research has identified for certain the first

adaptation of lenses to assist vision, but by the beginning of the 17th Century there were a sizeable group of craftspeople working in London. At that time some of them traded under the rules and sanction of the Worshipful Company of Brewers, although one might surmise that the use of glass for bottles may have had something to do with this evolution.

In 1628, Robert Alt, who practiced from a shop on London Bridge, led a group of spectacle makers in petitioning King Charles I for authority to establish a Guild Company. The Royal Charter was received on 16th May 1629. At that time the Company was not granted the privilege of Livery and it was another 180 years before that status was granted.

Even without Livery, the Company set about fulfilling its Charter to control the quality and standards of those practicing the trade. Upon any search that found spectacles that were not made to the required standard and after action in the Lord Mayor's Court, the offending spectacles were smashed on the London Stone in Cannon Street (formerly Canning Street). There is a minute in the Company's 1671 Meeting that records that: *"two and twenty dozen of English spectacles, all very badd both in the glasse and frames not fitt to be put on sale were found badd and deceitful, and by judgement of the Court, condemned to be broken, defaced and spoyled both glasse and frame, the which judgement was executed accordingly in Canning Street on the remaining parte of London Stone where the same were with hammer broken in all pieces."*

The control of the industry continued until industrialization and mass manufacture changed the manufacture from a craft skill to a mechanically repetitive process. Like so many Livery Companies, the change of technology almost caused the demise of the Worshipful Company but , spurred by the formation of the British Optical Association in 1895, the Company introduced its own examinations for opticians in 1897.

This was followed by examinations in sight testing in 1904, but it was not until 1956 that separate examinations for Dispensing Opticians were introduced.

In the first part of the 20th Century, the UK optical profession was unregulated but clients gained confidence in those who qualified through examination by either the British Optical Association or the Spectacle Makers Company. Eventually in 1958 the General Optical Council was established to regulate the profession. As qualification standards were raised, the Spectacle Makers, the British Optical Association and the Scottish Association of Opticians founded the British College of Ophthalmic Opticians in 1980 (now renamed the College of Optometrists) to act as the sole examination body. This College addressed the issues of optometry and the British Optical Association and the Spectacle Makers focused on addressing the standardisation of the examinations in optical dispensing, resulting in the formation of the British Association of Dispensing Opticians in 1986.



Current Activities

Even from its early existence, the “craft” of the Spectacle Makers has been more than the making of spectacles. It has always seen its role as promoting assistance to the visually impaired. In the earliest days, there was little that could be done other than ensure spectacles were fit for use, but the Company has always promoted research into ways of achieving its larger objective. It continues this promotion through the sponsorship of lectures and its award of purses and medals for excellence in research.

The focus of its training and professional development activities is now on those who actually make spectacles. In addition, it has established training courses and examinations for optical receptionists.

At the same time, one of the principal industrial interests of the Worshipful Company is to act as an apolitical meeting place for all those involved in the eye-care business – dispensing opticians, ophthalmologists, optometrists, spectacle manufacturers, and academic researchers. This provides highly valued opportunities for discussions between these groups to address the rapid changes and technical advances in optical and eye-care research.

The Worshipful Company also supports optical research through its annual presentation of medals for outstanding contributions to the understanding or improvement of vision.

The Worshipful Company does not own and operate its own Hall but operates from the Hall of the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries of London, with whom they have many common interests. One such interest is in the activities and operation of the British Museums of Health and Medicine. The Museum of the British Optical Association is one of these. It is located at the College of Optometrists and provides examples and insights into the history of spectacle making for almost four centuries. Details about the Museum can be found at:
www.college-optometrists.org/college/museum/

wreath in the colours of the shield and the sun in splendour in a ring of gold held by two hands on embowed and cuffed arms.

The correct heraldic descriptions is:

Arms

Vert a Chevron Or between three pairs of Nose-spectacles proper Framed of the second.

Crest

On a wreath of the Colours two Arms embowed vested cuffed Or the hands proper holding a Sun in splendour within an Annulet of Gold.

Mantling

Vert doubled Or.

Supporters

On either side a Falcon proper Belled Or charged with a Sword erect Gules.



Links with the Honourable Company

The Spectacle Makers is the Livery Company of Thomas Ellison. Unfortunately we have had no contact with Thomas, whose last known address was Nanaimo, BC, for some time



Information about the Company

Information about the Worshipful Company of Spectacle Makers can be obtained by writing to the Clerk, Lieutenant Colonel John Salmon – clerk@spectaclemakers.com

The Company has an informative website which can be found at www.spectaclemakers.com

This article was created from the website of the Worshipful Company of Spectacle Makers with corrections provided by Lieutenant Colonel John Salmon, Clerk



The Coat of Arms

The Company’s Coat of Arms was granted in 1950 and carries an heraldic shield at its centre depicting three pairs of nose-spectacles, two of which surmount a gold chevron. Surrounding the shield is a dexter supporter of Falcons proper and surmounting the Shield is a knight’s helmet, a



Lord Mayor's Appeal

As most Freemen are aware, in the year of his or her Office (yes, there has been one woman elected in the last 800 years!), it has been a long established custom for the Lord Mayor to work to raise funds for a charity of his or her choice. This year, the Lord Mayor, Alderman Michael Savory has chosen as beneficiaries of his Appeal the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association – Forces Help and the Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen. The Lord Mayor's target is to raise £2 million with 2/3 going to the former and 1/3 to the later. In achieving these targets, he is also seeking to increase awareness of the work of both these charities. To attain this objective, Lord Mayor hosts a number of high profile events in his or her year of office. One such event for 2005 is the "Fashion in the City" event at the Mansion House on Tuesday 26th April. These events are always glittering events and this particular show should be that and more. Anyone visiting London on that date should be able to obtain tickets from the Lord Mayor's Appeal Office at 001 44 20 7463 9297.



City Ceremonies

A Banquet at the Guildhall – December 2004

Your editor and his wife planned their December trip to London to take in the Guild of Freemen's Annual Guildhall Banquet. This is quite the event - 684 people!!

On arrival, ticket in hand, we had to go through the security check before leaving our coats at the coat check. Then proceeding up the main staircase of the Art Gallery, we were announced to and welcomed by the Master, Alderman Richard Agutter, his wife and other dignitaries. And then proceeded to the reception in the magnificent Old Library. Here, we met lots of Freemen including the Senior Warden, Leslie Lewis and his wife. Like clockwork, we were called to table in the Hall of Common Council ten minutes before the time that the banquet was scheduled to start – it takes time to get nearly 700 people to their prescribed seats!

Everything is done in true London style - Champagne and Canapé at the reception; Escalope of Salmon Teriyaki as the appetizer with Sauvignon Blanc: Maule Valley 2003; the main course was Noisettes of Spring Lamb with all the trimmings accompanied by Merlot Carta Vieja also from Maule Valley: then came baked field mushroom to cleanse the palate; and the dessert followed - Traditional Tart Tatin followed by Churchill Reserve Port, Coffee with Chocolate Mints and Truffles with the choice of Cognac, Baileys or McCallums Whisky. Of course, we had the Loving Cup as well! This was accompanied by the Salon Orchestra of the Honourable Artillery Company and a Guard of Honour from the Royal Military Police. The reply to the Toast to the Lord Mayor and Corporation and the main speech as made by the Chief Minister of the Government of Gibraltar in celebration of 300 years of British rule. This speech emphasized the commitment of the government and people of Gibraltar to

remain British. The Senior Warden responded proposing the toast to the Guests. The response was by the Master's Wife, Jenny Agutter who is a well-known actress and came across very well as one might have expected from such a professional.

The style was complemented with a 9 page beautifully bound programme which included the names of everyone there together with their place and table number, the table layout, the Ceremony of the Loving Cup, a brief history of the Guild and of the Guildhall, and of course the meal menu and list of toasts.

The Guildhall is truly spectacular and I can think of few places where one can seat nearly 700 people for dinner. To serve this, there must have been close to 100 waiters and waitresses and goodness knows how many chefs etc behind the scenes. All the food was excellent which says a lot about the organization.

It was truly a memorable evening where we met lots of new people and enjoyed London at its ceremonial best.



Upcoming Events

Annual Dinner 2005

Location	The National Club 303 Bay Street, Toronto
Speaker	The Rt. Hon. John McCallum Minister of National Revenue; <i>Member: Hon Co. of Freemen</i>
Date and Time	6 th May 2005, 6:30 pm for 7:00 pm Carriages 11:00 pm
Dress	Black Tie and Medals or Dark Business Suit
Cost	\$90.00 pp inc. aperitifs and wines

Meet the Court and New Master

Location	Home of Hugh Oddie 134 Wells Street, Toronto
Date and Time	17 th May 2005, 6:30 pm
Dress	Casual
Cost	TBA

Last Night of the Proms

Location	Roy Thompson Hall, Toronto
Date and Time	25 th May 2004, 8:00 pm
Dress	Informal
Cost	Refer to PM Geoffrey Mayo for tickets - \$25.00

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Board of Trade Summer Brunch

Location Board of Trade Country Club
Woodbridge, Toronto
Date and Time 26th June 2004, 12 noon
Dress Casual
Cost TBD

Christmas Luncheon with St George's Society of New York

Location TBA
New York City
Date and time 10th December 2004, 12 noon
Dress Informal
Cost TBD

Other events being planned include:

Reception with the Management Late September
of the National Post

Reception at Royal Ontario Museum and /or Fall 2005
Art Gallery of Ontario



Events Report

New York Christmas Luncheon

A significant event in the history of the Honourable Company took place in New York City on December 11th, when a group of 15 including the Master, members of the Court and members of the Company from both Canada and the United States attended the Christmas Lunch of the St. George's Society of New York. This was our first event outside of Canada since our 20th Anniversary Celebrations in London, England in 1999. The St. George's Society of New York was founded on St. George's Day, April 23, 1770 and is a charitable and social organization, which seeks to promote fellowship among its members and to build upon its important work of providing support and financial assistance to needy British and Commonwealth individuals resident in the New York area.

To be in New York is always special, one of the world's greatest cities with a personality of its own, but even more so at the Christmas Season when it has a special festive air. The walk through the recently renovated Grand Central Station on the way to lunch was worth the trip to New York, with its wonderful Christmas decorations and happy crowds. The lunch was held in The Yale Club, one of New York City's preeminent clubs, which was founded in 1897 and moved to its present location in 1915.

We were greeted warmly by the officers of the Society including Bill Miller who was President of the Society in 2001 and is a Past Master of the Honourable Company having served as Master in 1983. At the reception, we had the opportunity to meet and mingle with the more than 150 people in attendance and to answer many questions about the Honourable Company.

Lunch was a light hearted and festive affair with all the usual Christmas delights. Rodney Johnson, President of the Society, made the speech and welcomed us as special guests.

You can be assured that this is how we were made to feel. Our Master John Smith responded noting our pleasure in being there, the quality of the welcome and the fact that we would like to make it an annual event. This received an enthusiastic response. Following lunch a sing-along took place including Christmas carols, songs of the season and old English favourites like *Maybe Its Because I'm A Londoner*, *A Nightingale Sang In Berkley Square*, *Underneath The Arches* and *My Girl's a Yorkshire Girl*.

This was a wonderful event, thoroughly enjoyed by all in attendance and all the attendees strongly recommend that you should try to be there for the December 2005 Christmas Lunch of the St. George's Society of New York. Most who attended have already committed to go again.

This report was contributed by Neil Purcell, PM and Membership Secretary.

Robbie Burns Whisky Tasting

The Honourable Company celebrated Robbie Burns' Day with a fabulous single malt whisky tasting on January 26. The whisky was generously donated by Diageo, and included two varieties of Talisker single malt – a ten year old and the Distiller's Edition. Ed Patrick, founder of the Companions of the Quaich, led a group of nearly 50 members and guests through the nosing, providing both instructive and witty comments. Master John Smith and Warden David Moorcroft performed bar tending duties, while guest Nigel Napier-Andrews provided the location - the lovely Crest Theatre Green Room at the Performing Arts Lodge in Toronto, for which the Company is most grateful. This was a great evening and enjoyed by all, especially as it commemorated one of the great aficionados of Scotch, the great bard himself.

This report was contributed by David Moorcroft, Warden



Activities of the Charity

The trustees have developed an essay scholarship plan, which will make a scholarship award to student essayists for the best essay relating to some aspect of the City of London and its connection with North America. It is proposed to offer 4 awards for a total of \$2000 per annum, with the gold award being \$1000, silver \$500, bronze \$250 and one special merit award also of \$250. The competition will be announced at the commencement of the 2005-06 academic year with a closing date of 31st November. The winners will be announced in 31st March and would also be invited to attend the AGM dinner in May.



New Members

The Honourable Company is pleased to welcome seven new members:

Tom Boduch

Tom was introduced to the Honourable Company by Neil Purcell and has been excited by the interesting people he has met and the wonderful time that he has had. He states that the fact that the central theme of both events has been a “tasting” is purely coincidental. However, many other members also seem to respond positively when there is good food and good drinking to be had.

He is an IT consultant and recently joined Fidelity Investments as an applications architect.

Born in Toronto, he now lives in Pickering with his wife, Cathie and three children who are now approaching the age to “fly the coop”.

Michael H. Charles

Michael Charles is a Board Member of the St. Georges Society of New York and applied to join as a result of the joint Christmas reception held in New York in December. He was born in Ft. Lauderdale Florida in 1952 and his University Education took him to the University of Florida, Florida State University and New York University. His father was a career diplomat serving as an attaché to the US Embassy in Seoul, Korea and in Rio de Janeiro. Michael is a well-known interior designer eventually founding his own company, Michael H. Charles Associates in 1985. His designs have received much acclaim and he has been the recipient of the Wool Bureau Award for fabric design.

While his business life is very full, he is a man of great energy and participates in a large array of social and charitable organizations. These include the General Society of Colonial Wars (New York and Florida); Saint Nicholas Society of New York; Colonial Order of the Acorn; Saint Andrews Society of New York, Saint David Society of New York, Society of the Sons of Saint George of Philadelphia; Military Order of the Stars and Stripes, Huguenot Society of America and of Pennsylvania to name but a few.

He is fascinated by the English Guild system of the past and present, is already researching ancestors who were members of some of the early guilds. He is anxious to seek the Freedom, not only for involvement in the City but also for the links to his heritage and the heritage of the City.

General Robert E. Lee Goodwin III

Robert received his Freedom of the City of London in 2002 and became a life member of the Guild of Freemen that same year.

He has very recently retired from his extensive and very proud military service and moved back to his home in Seattle, WA, with his wife Viola. Before retiring, he was General (four star) of the Missouri Naval Militia (Marine

Corps), Commanding General of the Missouri Naval Militia and Special Advisor to the Governor of Missouri.

Robert began his stellar military career in 1972 as an enlisted infantryman in the US Army serving with the 25th Infantry and the 9th Infantry Division. After receiving his commission, he held numerous command and staff positions with various state militias and departments rising quickly through the officer ranks. He served as Brigadier General in South Carolina (1997-1999), Major General in Alabama and then South Carolina (1999-2001), Lieutenant General in Alabama (2001-2002), General in Alabama (2002-2004) and General in Missouri (2004).

With his state militia responsibilities, he has advised State Governors, including being Special Advisor on Military and Economic Affairs to the Governor of Alabama. He has advised on national and homeland maritime security.

John Overstreet

John is a Freeman of the City of London (admitted in 2004) and a member of the Worshipful Company of Coopers.

He was educated at the Hampden-Sydney College, which was founded in 1776, and received his Bachelors degree in Law from the University of Richmond, Virginia, in 1974. He returned to Hollins University to obtain his MA in Liberal Arts, graduating in 1999.

John has done a lot of work tracing his relatives and is descended from Thomas Harris who settled in Jamestown Virginia in 1611. This is only one year after the Company of Adventurers and Planters of the City of London for the Colony of Virginia sent their first three expeditions to settle Virginia, so Thomas must have come to face a very testing sea crossing and some extremely hard conditions as yellow fever and plague devastated the colonial settlers.

Tracing further back, he is a descendant of King Edward I and King Edward III through Thomas Ligon.

John is married to Vickie

Christopher (Chris) Pringle

Chris has attended a number of events of the Honourable Company at the invitation of the Deputy Master, Martin Walmsley. At one time, Chris worked with Martin in the Research And Technology branch of the Ontario Ministry of Economic Development, Trade and Tourism.

His ancestors trace back to Scotland, emigrating to the “colonies” in the 1650’s, and later moving to Canada as one of the United Empire Loyalists.

Chris and his wife, Carol, are dedicated anglophiles and enthusiasts for most things English. They see London as the driving force of business, culture and politics. They live in Kitchener Ontario

John Sleeman

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John is a great-great grandson of John Sleeman who founded Sleeman Breweries in the 1830's after emigrating from England to Canada in 1834. He was born in 1953. Following the family's historical ties to Brewing, John started his career by building and running the British Pub in Oakville between 1977 and 1979. In 1979, he became a partner in the Imported Beer Company, a company that represented all the top British and Irish Brewers in all the Provinces of Canada, a venture that was eventually sold in 1991. However, not one to be happy with only a few successes, John restarted the Sleeman Breweries in 1985 as the President and CEO. Going from success to success, John became Chairman of Sleeman Breweries Ltd in 1996, a position he continues to hold today.

With such a career, John has received many honours and awards including American Marketer of the Year in 1999, one of the "50 Best" Managed Private Companies in 1995 and as one of the "Top 100 Entrepreneurs" in both 1995 and 1996.

He has also been on the Boards of a number of Brewing Organizations and Associations, is a Member of the Board of the University of Guelph Foundation and of the Alcoholic Beverage Medical Research Foundation.

John is married to Julie and has two sons and two daughters, and lives in Oakville.

I imagine that some of our members are hoping that John might arrive at a few of our events with a few bottles left over from the Sleeman's brewing capacity of 1.25 million hectoliters.

Ellsworth Stanton III



Ellsworth was born in Illinois and graduated from Roosevelt University in Chicago and pursued post-graduate studies at Northwestern

University and the Baruch School in New York. He served with the US Army Corp of Engineers in the Philippines where he also played in the Manila Symphony Orchestra.

He is currently Executive Director Emeritus of the James N. Jarvie Commonwealth Service that provides services and financial assistance to the elderly in Greater New York. Previously he was Assistant General Secretary for Personnel and Business Services to the National Council of Churches of Christ, and worked for the US Committee for UNICEF.

He studied voice with the late Herbert Janssen of the New York Metropolitan Opera and is a Chorister with the Brick Presbyterian Church in New York. He is a patron of music organizations and related charities including the Metropolitan Opera Association, the NY Philharmonic Society and the Brooklyn Academy of Music.

11/08/2005



Member's News

The Master and the Court is very pleased to recognize the receipt of the Provincial Service Award by John Lawer QC, in recognition of his 40 years of service with the St. George's Society of Toronto. The Master sent a note of congratulations on behalf of the Membership of the Honourable Company to John in January.



Other News

Most of our Members and many of our guests will have fond memories of the 25th Anniversary Dinner at which we were honoured with the presence of the Lord Mayor, Robert Finch and entertained by his excellent and most interesting talk. We are very pleased to report that his knighthood was announced in the New Year's Honours list, and we have received a note of thanks from Sir Robert in response to the Honourable Company's message of congratulations.



Obituaries

Sir Edwin Leather

It is with regret that the Honourable Company has to announce the passing of Sir Edwin Hartley Cameron Leather.

He was born in Hamilton in 22nd May 1919 and educated at Trinity College and the Royal Military College at Kingston. He served with the 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion in England and Europe during the Second World War. In a practice jump, his parachute failed to open and he was badly injured only rejoining his Battalion for D-day. After the war, he remained in England as an insurance broker, and was elected MP for North Somerset in 1950. He was an active backbencher in the Heath government but interestingly, he was also an active member and strong supporter of the Unions, holding office in the Association of Supervisory Staffs, Executives and Technicians and supporting the miners.

When nominated for a knighthood, this was opposed by then PM of Canada, John Diefenbaker. Sir Edwin took British citizenship and was knighted in 1962. In 1974, he was appointed KCMG and, in 1975, KCVO, the first Canadian to receive this honour since Lord Shaughnessy in 1907.

He quit Westminster in 1964 because of illness but went on to become a Vice Chairman of the Conservative party. He was appointed Governor of Bermuda in 1973, after his predecessor, Sir Richard Sharples and an aide had been shot to death. A true extrovert, he was in trouble with the chief of police for recklessly riding his bicycle on the island. As Governor he did a great deal of fund raising on the island but local society was not always impressed, earning him the nickname "Imperial Leather".

His relationship with Canada was tested by an incident involving 60 Canadians who were turned back at the airport because of papers that were “out of order”. He took this up with then Governor General of Canada, Jules Leger, and discovered there were no formal relations between Bermuda and Canada. The matter was resolved and he was invited to Government House in Ottawa.

Sir Edwin retired as Governor of Bermuda in 1977 and bought a home in Devonshire on the Island.

He was a Senior Freemason in England and in Canada. In 1990, he became a governor of Niagara-on-the-Lake’s Shaw Festival.

Ted Leather married Sheila Greenlees in 1940 and they had two daughters. Sheila died in 1994, a loss that he felt very deeply. In recent years, he became unable to travel and has been unable to attend events of the Honourable Company.

Information for this obituary was provided by John Smith and an article in the London Times, reproduced in the Ottawa Citizen in 11th April 2005.

Andrew Cox

The Honourable Company is sad to advise its members of the passing of Andrew Cox in February 2005 after a short fight with cancer.

Andrew was born in the UK in 1950 and emigrated to Canada with the Bank of Nova Scotia in 1980 and worked as an international auditor in locations around the world including Europe, the Middle East and the Caribbean. His stay in Lebanon was cut short very prematurely when security in Beirut broke down. Work continued on the Beirut audit from Cyprus with the material and ledgers he was able to rescue.

On leaving BNS, he joined the partnership of the Canadian Banking Consultants to provide litigation support in cases between lenders and borrowers. Most recently he held the post of Executive Director of the British Canadian Chamber of Commerce.

An enthusiastic sportsman, he was a long time member of the Toronto Racquet Club and a board member of the National Squash Training Centre.

He leaves his wife Caroline after 22 years of marriage – too short a time by far.

Andrew was a close colleague of our Master, John Smith, and while he had only been a member for a short time, his enthusiasm and energy will be much missed.



Thanks

The editor would like to thank all the correspondents who provided material for this and other issues. Without these contributions, this would newsletter would not have the content that helps in satisfying the Members of the Honourable Company. The editor would also like to thank Neil Purcell for proof-reading the Newsletter and picking up the numerous mistakes before it goes to press.



Company Website

The Honourable Company refers members and friends to the Company Website, which carries information about the Company and its activities. Our calendar of events and this newsletter, together with membership information, our history and other useful links are provided for your convenience. The Membership Form for the Honourable Company can be downloaded in Adobe Acrobat format under “How to become a Member”.

The site address is www.freemenlondon.org. We welcome your comments and your ideas for the addition of useful information.



Information on the Livery Companies and Guilds

The easiest way of finding out about the City Livery Companies, City Companies without Livery and City Guilds is to visit their websites. With 88 of 106 Livery Companies, 3 of 4 City Companies without Livery and all three Guilds having websites, this is now much easier. The easiest way to find these sites is via the City of London site at www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/leisure_heritage/livery/linklist.htm. Not all of the site addresses are self evident, some being under the “.co.uk” subgroup and others under the “.org.uk” and “.com” address subgroup. In addition, the website of the Guild of Freemen is www.guild-freemen-london.co.uk.



Communications with your Company

Honorary Clerk

Most matters concerning the Honourable Company (except financial and membership) should be addressed to the Honorary Clerk.

Mrs. Gail Moorcroft
14 Bonfield Av.
Toronto ON M5P 1C1
Phone: 416 691 8848
Email: Gailinthebeach@sympatico.ca

Honorary Treasurer

Quarterage payments and any financial questions should be sent to the Honorary Treasurer.

Dr. Michael E. Charles
38B Summerhill Gardens

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Toronto ON M4T1B4
Home phone: 416 960 5001
Office phone: 416 978 3131
Email: charles@ecf.utoronto.ca

Membership Secretary

For membership, the main point of contact with the Honourable Company is through the Membership Secretary. A lot of information about membership is also available on the Honourable Company's website:
www.freemenlondon.org.

Neil F. Purcell
8 Carman Court
Barrie, ON L4N 5E8
E-mail: neilivia@rogers.com
Phone (home): 705 721 0307
Fax (home): 705 721 1230
Phone (office): 905 738 6785
Fax (office): 905 738 2441

London Clerk

The position of London Clerk is currently vacant. London affairs are currently being managed by Neil Purcell – see contact information of the Membership Secretary above.

Local Representatives:

East Coast Chapter
Kenneth E. Wood
589 Young Avenue
Halifax, NS B3H 2V6
Phone: 902 425 8013
Fax: 902 425 8013

West Coast Chapter:
General Robert E. Lee Goodwin III
1426 Harvard Avenue, Suite 49
Seattle WA 98122
Phone (home): 206 255 9191
Phone (Office): 206 490 1111
Fax (Office): 206 490 1112
Email: Generalgoodwin@aol.com