

## What's Inside

### The highlight of the Master's year

The highlight of any Master's year must be his banquet at the Mansion House when he and his wife have the unique opportunity to entertain the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress. We have been unfortunate in recent years when the occasion has conflicted with the Lord Mayor's business trips abroad. But not 2010. We not only entertained Alderman Nick Anstee and Mrs. Anstee, but both Sheriffs and their wives – one of whom, Elizabeth Wootton, is a member of our Company. Responding on behalf of the guests was a friend of the Master, Mr Richard Sayer, chairman of shipbrokers, Galbraith's Ltd.

Making this even more special was the attendance – his first since 1975 – of Liveryman and honorary Court Member, HRH The Duke of Gloucester. He used the occasion to launch his Gold Medal for Stonemasonry – the third part of Duke of Gloucester Awards. [see centre pages]

### Fellowship

The Banquet shows fellowship at its best and most splendid, but as the Master has indicated we need to strengthen the ways Liverymen are welcomed into the Company and encouraged to participate in our affairs and activities.

He established a working group under Renter Warden Sayer to look at the subject. The result was reported to Epiphany Court which approved the recommendation to establish a Fellowship Committee.

The new Committee will be headed by Liveryman Sarah Grundy and I talked to Sarah about its objectives and what she believes is the missing ingredient at present. [Page 4]

### Has the stone industry a future?

At the *Engaging the Livery* meeting following Epiphany Court I had an interesting exchange with Liveryman Peter Harrison, a design consultant in the use of stone in buildings, about heritage and restoration versus new build in stone – some of our Liverymen believe there is an over-emphasis on heritage work by those involved

in the councils of the Company and we should concentrate our thinking on the 'modern' industry. Peter told me he does his best to get indigenous stone or at least stone converted into finished products in the country where it is quarried – not Italian or other European stone processed in China.

Peter will be penning an interesting article in the next edition on changes facing the industry, particularly those from the new Building Regulations, introduced this month, and how he believes they will impact on the stone industry.

Whatever the fears for the future our craftsmen are producing some outstanding work and examples of this can be found on page 7 - the new stone bench erected in the City in December 2009, which was part of a competition promoted by the City, CWO and the Masons Company – and on page 11, the Angels of Westminster.

### Honoris Causa

Our Charter says: *The Court may admit a person to the Freedom or to the Livery 'Honoris Causa' in recognition of some public service of distinction or of benefits rendered to the Company.* The honour is rarely given – the only one currently listed is the former Dean of St. Paul's, Dr. John Moses KCVO – but at the Epiphany Court in January two were sworn, General Sir Kevin O'Donoghue KCB CBE – the Master General Logistics – and Dr. Moses's successor, The Rt.Rev. Bishop Graeme Knowles. [See page 14]

### A look at History

The Company is considering a new history and whatever the final decision, the role of our benefactors has played a part in the way the Company has developed. On page 12 Past Master Barry Woodman looks at the fascinating background to Frederick Dray and why each year the Master and Wardens attend his grave.

Those of you who have joined the Livery in the last few years will probably have been interviewed at Temple Bar. Past Master Sandy Copland looks at the history of this historic building on page 13.