

#### NEWSLETTER OF THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF TURNERS OF LONDON June 2011

Dear Fellow Turners

It seems like only yesterday, that in 1989 I stood before you, taking my oath and becoming a proud member of this great Company. And now here I am as your Master. What a humbling experience!

In 1968 I joined what was then London's oldest Lloyd's insurance broker, and since then I have spent all my working life within the City's square mile.

I accepted the invitation of my late chairman (and dear friend), Mike Pragnell, to join a livery company of which he was a member, as a normal progression to working in the City. Everything I have achieved in the succeeding years, both in business and socially, has come from this great City and I have always felt the importance of giving back something of what I have been fortunate enough to receive.

The easiest way is to put one's hand in one's pocket and contribute to charity or give to the needy. It takes much more than that to be involved yourself and give your time and energy to what you believe in.

Being the Master of this ancient Company gives me the opportunity to be involved in a different aspect of City life, the aspect of 'giving'. It will provide me the opportunity to be more involved in preserving and supporting our craft and being more involved in charitable work.



I am fortunate to have around me not only able but willing friends upon whose support I know I can count. Many of you, from our immediate Past Master to the incoming wardens, the Clerk and the various committee chairmen, have sent me warm words of encouragement and genuine offers of support. This has allowed me to approach the coming year with confidence.

My main tasks for the year will be:

- To maintain the high standards set by previous Masters of the Company.
- To encourage stronger fellowship throughout the Company and try and get a wider range of members actively involved.
- To maintain our strong financial position, so skilfully handled by our Finance Committee headed by Past Master Levy.

• To have greater involvement with the Charity Committee, headed so effectively by Past Master Lucas, which is doing such an excellent job. I would like to be able to give them even stronger backing by raising more money, both from within the Company's membership and through special events similar to those so successfully organised last year. Both our charity fund raiser Past Master Kieffer and the newly appointed Chairman of the Livery Committee, Assistant Andrew Sindall, would be delighted to hear from any member of the Company with suggestions for events.

• Last, but not least, to maintain our connections with the craft and the services, so successfully managed by the Howe Committee headed by Assistant Nic Somers, and to support the preparation for the Wizardry in Wood exhibition in the following year which is being handled by Assistant Nick Edwards.

I will be doing my utmost to maintain the high standards we are all accustomed to, but can only do so with your help. I look forward to my year of office with great anticipation and I hope you will help me fulfil my aims.

The standards set by our immediate Past Master Peter Ellis will be a difficult act to follow but I intend to give it my very best shot!

Non Kill. Ilan Krieger

Issue 36

In memoriam, Bert Marsh

Peter Ellis' year as Master

The Charity Committee and its visits to Valence, Charlton and Treloar's Schools

More about the medieval turners

Golf; Clerk's Notes; WiW 2012

#### Bert Marsh 1932 - 2011



Bert Marsh *(left)* with Liveryman Geoff Brandon

With great sadness we report the passing of our distinguished Liveryman Bert Marsh, who died in hospital on the evening of 22nd May following major heart surgery. Many of us have greatly enjoyed his company. He was a true "original" and genuine character.

#### Early Life

Bert was born in Brighton in 1932. His parents owned successful bicycle sales and repair shops there and in Hove, to where the family moved soon after Bert's arrival. His early formative years were spent in Hove where he started school. After war was declared, Brighton and Hove were identified as areas at risk from air attack by the Luftwaffe.

Consequently, many local children were evacuated to safer areas to the north. Bert and his elder sister were more fortunate than most as his mother decided to send them to the care of their grandmother and an aunt who lived in what was then a small village near Ledbury in Herefordshire. Their education was resumed there and they had to walk over five miles to and from school each day.

They also had to learn to cope with the absence of electricity and running water.

Both children enjoyed the freedom of the open spaces and woods around the village but after two years were glad to get back to their mother and friends in Hove. Both went back to school there, although Bert left at the tender age of thirteen. As wood had for long held a fascination for him, and woodwork was his best subject, he planned to serve an apprenticeship in cabinet-making. He was determined to make furniture.

#### Starting Work

His apprenticeship started with a local firm of furniture-makers in 1945 where he developed the hand skills which were to serve him so well throughout his career. It was in this job that he first saw a wood-turner's lathe. Eventually, upon reaching the age of sixteen, he was shown how to use it. Bert was asked to produce some stool legs. The first one was easily the best ever turned, the problem was how to match it with the rest of the set. Later, and with more proficiency, he turned small lidded bowls, tiered cakestands and legs for tables and stools.

#### National Service

After completing his apprenticeship, and in common with all young men in the late '40s and early '50s, Bert was called up for two years of national service in the armed forces. He was drafted into the RAF and was trained as an aero engine mechanic. After this, Bert volunteered for overseas posting and was duly selected to serve on an airbase in Selar, Malaya (as it then was), where he trained to become a fully qualified engine mechanic. He worked on the engines of Spitfires, Mosquitoes and Hornets.

#### Back to Civvy Street and Studies

After demobilisation in 1953 Bert returned to Hove where he discovered that there was no job awaiting him, as his old employer had gone bankrupt. A short series of jobs with other employers failed to provide satisfaction. During the last of these he learned that a City and Guilds course in cabinet-making was to start at Brighton College of Art. His time in the RAF had shown him that education and training were the pathway to personal development so he enrolled on the fouryear course, which entailed college attendance three evenings a week.

During these studies Bert's practical skills became evident to lecturing staff, who sought his help in teaching them to his fellow students. He was awarded first class passes and upon completion gained a City and Guilds Full Technology Certificate in Cabinet-making. This enabled him to start the teaching phase of his career.

He continued to study. Completion of a two-year course on timber technology resulted in his election to membership of



A vase in red burr resin, characteristic of Bert's extraordinary skill and artistry as a turner

the Institute of Wood Science. Bert then studied for two further years to gain the Licentiateship of the City and Guilds of London Institute in Furniture Making.

He followed this with yet more study, a two-year course in machine woodworking, at the end of which he became a member of the Institute of Wood Machine Technology and was awarded a further City and Guilds Licentiateship, this time in wood machining. Bert's last academic ambition was next fulfilled when he studied for and passed the advanced examination of the Institute of Wood Science.

#### Academia

Following a period of teaching evening classes after his normal day's work, in 1965 Bert was offered a full time teaching post at Brighton College of Art. He accepted it and gave up the day job. In 1969 he became responsible for all their furniture-making courses, which included full- and part-time studies and special courses for architects and arts and crafts teachers.

In 1971 Brighton Polytechnic was formed by the amalgamation of Brighton College of Technology with Bert's employer the College of Art. He had a hand in the development of new degree courses and stayed at the Polytechnic to teach on one of these: Wood, Metal, Ceramics and Plastics.

#### Illness

After eight years of lecturing at the Polytechnic, Bert suffered a severe heart attack. A period in intensive care followed by hospitalisation gave him time to consider his future. Upon recovery he resumed his teaching, but soon his heart problem returned. After four troubled years his doctor advised that he was not fit enough to continue to teach. He retired from teaching and decided to launch himself on a career in woodturning.

#### Early Turning

Bert's first turning experience was during his apprenticeship years, producing simple items on a crude machine. He did none during his national service nor in the jobs he had before starting to teach. The next turning he did was as a student at Brighton College of Art and comprised standard and table lamps and bowls. When he moved with his family to a bigger house in 1974 this provided him with space to set up a workshop and continue the turning he enjoyed in college as a relaxation at the end of the teaching day.

#### **Professional Turning**

Upon the creation of Brighton Polytechnic, some lecturers were offered six month sabbaticals to pursue activities which would help their teaching. Bert was the first to enjoy this facility and chose to research wood crafts in the UK and Denmark, visiting practitioners and galleries in both countries. He also chose to spend time designing and turning a number of wooden bowls.

These were not ordinary bowls, because they were produced from blanks made of small pieces of contrasting woods glued together, so that the grain of the finished product ran horizontally or vertically to the base. He also devised a technique for making large bowls from a ring of smaller bowls, precisely cut, glued together and to a base. The designs for these had been refined in his mind for some while before his sabbatical provided the opportunity to realise them.

Further development of his skills in design and execution over the years led to winning major competitions, many exhibitions of his work at home and abroad, and of course sales to discerning collectors worldwide. Suffice it to say that his work is at the pinnacle of achievement in our craft.



A masur Birch natural edge vase by Liveryman Bert Marsh

To list Bert's achievements since those early days would, in itself, be a substantial task. However, it is appropriate to express, in his own words, the philosophy which underlay his work and which came from his long years of study and practical perfectionism.

"From an early age, I felt a profound need to work with wood. I love the material passionately. There is no complex philosophy attached to the work I do. I am simply striving to achieve the perfect form, the purest possible curves expressed in simple, uncluttered shapes that will expose the beauty of the wood to the full.

I find inspiration in the wood itself. My very thin and delicate vessels are made from a wide variety of bland and exotic timbers, paying particular attention to natural defects, discolouration and grain malformations. Sensitive turning exposes the textures, colours and patterns which are enhanced by meticulous finishing."

Bert was also a communicative author and writer on the craft, wrote two books and contributed many articles to turning and woodworking publications.

#### AWGB and RPT

In 1986 a small group of accomplished turners led by Ray Key, and including Bert, met at the first of two inaugural meetings and set up the robust association which has done so much to raise our craft in public awareness and standards of execution. Although never an office bearer, Bert was an unstintingly supportive member who regularly exhibited, demonstrated and taught at many national and branch gatherings.

An enthusiastic member of our Register of Professional Turners, Bert was a popular figure at our annual Craft Meetings and an inexhaustible source of good humour both during the formal proceedings and afterwards when members withdrew to refresh themselves after the rigours of the day.

#### Freedom and Livery

For the past twenty or so years our members have become more aware of our craft and of the beauty and practicality it can produce.

It was with particular satisfaction that in 2002 the Court conferred Freedoms by Presentation on both Bert and Ray Key, both highly regarded turners of international standing, to mark our appreciation of their exceptional service to the "misterie or art" of turning. Bert took the Livery later that same year.

#### In Conclusion

Bert was admired and respected by his peers and most who met him. He faced life with a wealth of good humour and was unfailingly helpful and constructive. He will be much missed. Our craft and Company have been fortunate to know and enjoy him.

He leaves Mary, his wife for fifty-six years, and two sons, John and Peter.

Past Master Gordon Sloan

# Charity C

I took over the Chairmanship of the Charity Committee last May, at the Election Court, and would like to start this article by thanking Past Master Andrew Mayer, the past Chairman, for his work and enthusiasm in guiding the Charity Committee through its first three years.

He has focused our rather haphazard charitable giving and greatly increased our support for the craft of turning.

This was very clearly demonstrated when we purchased computer controlled lathes for Valence and Charlton Schools, both 'Special Needs' Schools that cater for students with severe disabilities, thus allowing them to design and make simple turned objects.

I have spent my first nine months visiting the Schools and organisations which have been awarded donations from the Company, often in the company of Assistant Nic Somers, Chairman of the Howe Committee.

I believe that follow-up visits are very important, not only to show our continued interest, but also to allow us to keep in touch and provide any further training required to maximise the full range of capabilities of the lathes and equipment.



A Valence School pupil working at his computer - photo courtesy of Nic Somers

Two weeks later, Andrew Mayer organised a visit to Valence School in Westerham, Kent. We were given a demonstration of our computer controlled lathe by one of their students and the photographs below show the sequence of operations that take place.

We have developed a close relationship with Valence School and a team from the Company will be playing in a Charity Golf Day in aid of School funds in June.



In March we organised a visit to Treloar School for members of the Company, which included Stuart Mortimer as our wood turning expert. As you can see from the photograph on the next page, his expertise was put to good use.

We have supported Treloar's for many years and they have a computer controlled lathe as well as a small bench lathe.

Our visit was a moving and enlightening experience for us all. Jennie and Richard Blackburn wrote of their experience and their report appears opposite.



Next time we organise a visit, do try and come along as it is a very uplifting experience.

I have recently made two visits to Ruskin Mill College, near Nailsworth in Gloucestershire. This College also takes pupils from around the UK who have complex behaviour and learning difficulties.

The College runs an innovative practical skills therapeutic education programme that draws its inspiration from Rudolf Steiner, John Ruskin and William Morris. We gave a donation of  $f_{1,000}$  last year for the College to buy tools for their wood craft programme, essentially for ten pole lathes. The College has its own woodland which it coppices and uses the off cuts to make charcoal for their Iron Age forges in the Blacksmith Shop and billets for the pole lathe class to make spokes for chairs and many other turned items.

We are now in discussion with the College to help with further financial support to build a wood shed for their tools and students' work. Another exciting project is coming to fruition thanks to Nic Somers and Greg Morton, a member of the RPT. The three of us visited Headley Court, the MOD's Rehabilitation Centre, to see whether we could help in a small way to give our severely injured soldiers a worthwhile activity.

We have now purchased a bench lathe plus associated tools, accessories and training for them to learn turning. We have a member of the RPT who works from a wheelchair and in due course he will go to Headley Court to demonstrate his wood turning skills and hopefully provide inspiration for our injured soldiers to learn and do something different.

We are investigating whether we can provide four other Schools and Foundations with lathes, as we are always on the look out for other organisations to support.

## Committee

If any member of the Company knows of any that might benefit from our support, please let me know and I will take on the necessary follow-up action.

We have been very fortunate over the past year as the Charity fund has had a number of anonymous donations, one of which funded the lathe at Charlton School, and others in support of the Master's Charity Musical evening.

However more cannot be done without your continued contributions to the Charity fund.

The more we can build up our income, the more we can achieve in helping others less fortunate than ourselves.

Rob Lucas



## Turners' visit to Treloar's on Thursday, 10th March 2011

The Master and a small group of Turners and some spouses were delighted to accept an invitation to visit Treloar's School and College, near Alton in Hampshire, and to witness in action the computer controlled lathe which the Company had donated to the school.

Morning visits to therapy and music sessions were followed by an opportunity to see the lathe, plus a small bench lathe, in use in the Design and Technology department. It was most fortunate that we had a professional turner with us, in the shape of Stuart Mortimer, who was able to give expert tuition to an enthusiastic young student.

It became clear that, in donating sophisticated equipment, we needed also to ensure that the staff who were instructing the students in its use are themselves given guidance in using it to the greatest advantage. The Turners are very happy to arrange this extra tuition.

Indeed, offers of return visits to that effect by Stuart were welcomed with open arms, and will surely greatly benefit the students.



The on-site engineering workshop particularly impressed us, with its ability to repair the huge variety of high-tech wheelchairs, used by 90% of the students, without delay. The cheerful staff clearly enjoyed the challenges of adapting all types of communication aids to suit each student's particular needs.

A visit to the new site for the school, nearing completion in the College grounds two miles away from the present school, was followed by lunch, and a busy afternoon, showing us aspects of preparing the older students for independence in the community and the world of work.

The courage, determination, and aspirations of all the students we met, all with multiple disabilities and physical challenges, were inspiring and humbling, and they are fortunate indeed to have such dedicated and enthusiastic staff to help them to their goals.

Those of us lucky enough to participate in the visit were filled with admiration and optimism at the conclusion of a stimulating day.

Jennie and Richard Blackburn

## My year as Master

The honour and privilege of my election to Master of our ancient Company and Lynette's role as Mistress, is something we will never forget and for which we will be eternally grateful.

We have enjoyed marvellous support and encouragement in our endeavours and we have delighted in representing our Company at the many varied and interesting events, both in the City and other parts of the country.

It is difficult to single out any individual event but some clearly have greater ceremonial, charitable and personal significance. Ironbridge gives you a unique opportunity to start your year meeting most of your fellow Masters and their wives and partners, in an historical setting of great relevance to craft related Livery Companies and to be a party to forming your Past Masters Association.

Dining at The Mansion House is a great occasion and in my year Lynette and I had the opportunity to enjoy this on four separate visits with the Engineers, the Furniture Makers, The Lord Mayor's 'at home' dinner with the Masters and Clerks and the most unique event of all, as a member of The Lord Mayor's Guard of Honour during The Lord Mayor's Show.

We also attended The Big Curry Lunch at the Guildhall in support of The Soldiers Charity and had the privilege of being part of a small number who attended the Royal Reception held in the Old Library before the lunch.

The other unique occasion was to find myself as the only Livery Company Master to be invited to a particular lunch with the judges at the Old Bailey. I believe this might have had something to do with the Company supplying the court with new gavels, produced by Garry Rance RPT.

Another wonderful sequence of events has been attending St Paul's Cathedral on no less that six occasions, from the large and imposing services of Sons of the Clergy and The United Guilds to the more intimate Knights Bachelor service in the crypt.

Charitable events are clearly amongst the most important and visiting Treloar's, as part of the Lord Mayor's entourage and again with the Turners Company, was both a humbling and enlightening experience. Watching a disable child being gently assisted on the lathe by Liveryman Stuart Mortimer, exemplifies the link between the craft and the self-esteem working the lathe brings to disabled children.

The other significant charitable event was our Musical Evening at Wiltons Music Hall Theatre, which was magnificently supported by members of the Company who gave generously as 'Angels and Cherubs' and I thank Past Master Penrose Halson for this innovative, 'Biblical' idea. I am delighted to report that in my year we raised some thirty thousand pounds above the normal intake of funds and countless unknown children will benefit from the generosity of our members.

Attending functions at other Livery Companies remains a key principal method of enhancing the Fellowship of Livery. This is more than simply dining, albeit my new waistline attests to this being a frequent activity. There are a wide variety of events from prize givings, lectures, church services, exhibitions and historical visits.

These occasions provide the opportunity to discuss the activities of our Company and confirm our significance in the 'Livery World'. In this category of activity I dined with three Modern Livery Companies and it is fascinating to see how they conduct their new traditions. I was also the first Master Turner in living memory to dine with the Tin Plate Workers – another example of Livery fraternity.

There is also great joy in hosting the hospitality of our Company to our many guests from within and without the Livery environment. The attendance of Lord Mayor Michael Bear, together with his Sheriffs and the Sword Bearer at our December Dinner made this a very special occasion, enhancing the standing of our Company in the City.

The Patronal Service and luncheon is another memorable day. This year I had the privilege of listening to my friend Cannon David Slater from Salisbury, give his ecumenical address to the Company at St Bride's.

The summer reception in the yard at Apothecaries' Hall is always a special event and we were blessed with good weather and a most interesting talk on wooden spoons from Freeman Stuart King RPT.



The final 'icing on the cake' for me was the Ladies' Dinner Night at which I had many personal friends and my principal personal guest, Bill Doult, Lobby Correspondent and the 'Father of the Press Gallery', gave an excellent speech of thanks on behalf of the guests.

I also had the privilege of making the ladies' presents on my lathe at home, and to have my



fourteen year old granddaughter Ellie provide the evening entertainment, accompanied by Peter McCarthy on piano, was unforgettable.

Finally, having dealt with the City and Charity, I must conclude with aspects of the Craft in my year. We are blessed to have a live craft from which our Company evolved and we are doubly blessed with a number of Court members who are passionately supportive of the craft and who work hard to ensure that we foster and support its mystery.

None more so than our current chairman of the Howe Committee, Assistant Nic Somers, who has brought the essential art of auctioneering to support the wider craft fraternity, as well as all the attendant duties of his appointment.

The Livery Wood Group created 'Branching Out', which was held at Castle Howard, and the subsequent on-line and auction at Bonham's raised a significant sum for the charity.

We continue to support Teenage Training in conjunction with the AWGB, at which I presented prizes at the weekend held in August at Stuart Mortimer's home. We also attended exhibitions in association with the RPT at Alexandra Palace and Harrogate.

I have also been able to complete the proposal for a 'Master in Turning' award and initiate work to create a 'Diploma in Turning' in partnership with the AWGB, both of which were aims in my Election Court speech.

Looking ahead we have Wizardry in Wood 2012 and the task of managing this has fallen to Assistant Nick Edwards. From personal experience I know this to be a significant commitment and I am sure future Masters will do all in their power to help him, with others in the Company, to make this milestone event a great success.

In conclusion, I have mentioned some by name but there have been many in the Company to whom Lynette and I owe a huge debt of gratitude for the support and advice we have received through this memorable year. We sincerely thank all for making our year such a wonderful period in our lives.

Peter Ellis

## Fresh light on the medieval Turners

Members of the Livery who attended our Ladies' Dinner in April 2010 will remember the talk given by Caroline Barron, until recently Professor of the History of London at Royal Holloway College, University of London, about the medieval Turners of London. Her talk was published in the October 2010 issue of The Turner.

Our Company's detailed records begin in 1593, the date of the first volume of surviving Wardens' Accounts. For earlier years we have hitherto had to rely on occasional references to Turners in various City documents.

These references, many of which are picked up in the Company history, give a series of snapshots of activities of the Company and its members, but broader conclusions are difficult to draw.

During the later medieval period (fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth centuries) turning was a significant craft in London, and Turners played an active role in the City: but our knowledge of their day-to-day life and work has been patchy and haphazard.

In the course of preparing her talk to the Ladies' Dinner, Caroline Barron identified and looked into several new sources of information about medieval Turners.

Among the records of the two church courts in London she found seventeen wills of men calling themselves citizens and Turners. Eleven of them lived in the parish of St Andrew Hubbard in Eastcheap.

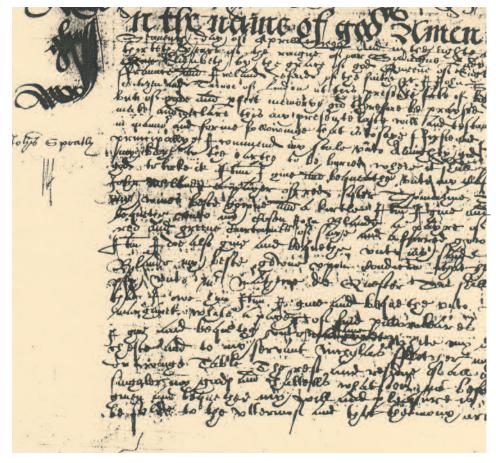
Neither the church nor the parish survived the Great Fire, but by a happy chance the churchwardens' accounts did, and are the second new source of light on medieval Turners. The third are legal cases.

It was clear after Caroline Barron's excellent talk that there was more useful work to be done on the sources which she had identified.

The Company therefore invited Miss Doreen Leach, a postgraduate student at Royal Holloway College who had already worked on the archives of the Carpenters' Company, to prepare a report on "the life and social environment of Turners in the period before the Company's own records are extant". This work was undertaken in the second half of 2010, and is now complete. It draws largely on the new sources, but also reflects older material which appears in the Company history.

In consequence it has been possible to reconstruct for the first time something of the lives of medieval Turners, their families, friends and associates, and their place in the community. A relatively small and not particularly affluent craft would not have been expected to play a large part in the governance of medieval London, and the Turners did not.

However, in their local parish of St Andrew Hubbard, Turners were prominent, running the church, serving as churchwardens, auditing the accounts and supporting the fraternity of the



By the standards of the time, many Turners were quite comfortably off, but not wealthy. Some were prosperous enough to pay to be buried inside St Andrew Hubbard, but none have memorial brasses put up in their memory.

It is perhaps surprising that there were not more of them. The report identifies by name just over 100 Turners working in London between 1250 and 1600: there may have been ten times as many carpenters. Of course there would have been other Turners who we cannot trace, but probably not that many. Basic items like cups and bowls could be produced cheaply and quickly, and there was not much demand for ornamental turning before the seventeenth century. None, alas, sought to fund a permanent event on the Gardner Williams model.

The wills of medieval Turners reflect their affection and concern for their families and apprentices. There is less of a tradition of son succeeding father in the craft than you might expect.

When the Turner John Spratly came to make his will in 1596 his son Joseph was with Sir Francis Drake on what proved to be the great Captain's final voyage to the Spanish Main.

The elder Spratly asked the Company to look after the proceeds of his estate until his son returned: if he did not, the money was to go to the elder Spratly's sister. Extracts of John Spratly's will are shown on this and the next page.

# More light on the medieval Turners...

The Turners' widows seem to have been a robust group, justifying the Clerk's Toast, at the end of all our dinners, to "the buxom widows of the Turners of London".

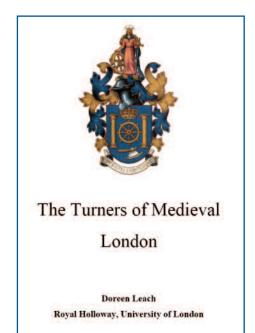
They often acted as their husbands' executors, and although rarely Turners themselves, took on the running of the business, including responsibility for apprentices.

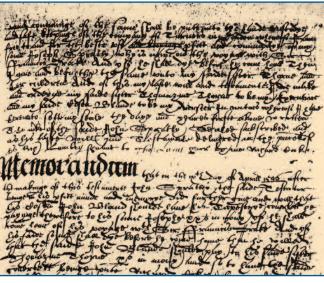
Alice La Turnure, possibly a widow

running her late husband's business, is recorded as having, very properly, raised "the hue and cry" in 1325 after a gatekeeper at Newgate Prison had been murdered.

These highlights are no substitute for reading a fascinating report in full (see below). It is an admirable piece of work, on which the Standing Committee have congratulated Doreen Leach, and a valuable addition to our knowledge of the Company in its earlier days.

It is available on the Company website, under The Company - Company History





- The Turners of Medieval London.

If you would like a hard copy the Clerk will send you one on request.

There are also plans for Caroline Barron and Doreen Leach to make a joint presentation of their findings to members of the Company in the early evening of 16th November, at a reception following the Court meeting.

Christopher Roberts

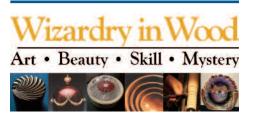
## GOLF

On Thursday 5th May 2011, the Livery Past Masters Spring Golf Cup was played for at Sandy Lodge Golf Club, near Northwood, Middlesex.

Run for a number of years, this competition is open to all Past Masters. The management and organisation of this event passes from year to year to the Past Master winner of the previous year, so that the event normally moves to be played on different courses.

By good fortune, I managed to win the Trophy, the first Past Master Turner to do so and hence next year's event will take place on my home course at Beaconsfield Golf Club. I do hope that the Past Master golfers in the Company will come and support.

Rob Lucas



Plans are now well underway for our next Wizardry in Wood exhibition. This will be held at Carpenters' Hall from Tuesday 16 to Saturday 20 October 2012. All members of the Company will be invited to the exhibition and to attend associated events, which will also take place at Carpenters Hall.

Clerk's Notes

The Court has been enhanced by a new Assistant, Sarah Faberge, who was sworn in at the Election Court.

We are sad to report the deaths of Liverymen Clifford Champion, Major General Dennis Shaw, Steven Hayes and Bert Marsh, whose Obituary is on pages 2 & 3 of this Newsletter.

**Data Protection** We publish your address in the annual yearbook. This is not generally distributed but a copy is available at the Guildhall Library.

The addresses of Liverymen are on the Electoral Roll for the election of Sheriffs and the Lord Mayor. It is used when there is a disputed election (as is likely this year for the Lav Sheriff) so that the notice of a second Common Hall can be sent out. This too can be found in the Guildhall Library. Finally there is the City of London and Livery Companies Guide which is a commercial list (though with limited distribution) which contains addresses of Liverymen. While we know of no example of any problem with this long established routine, I can offer the Company address as the contact if anyone is concerned with this procedure.

**City Briefings** take place four times each year between 5pm and 7.15 pm and are now held in the Livery Hall, Guildhall. The next available dates are Monday 10th October and Tuesday 1st November 2011.

They give a short introduction to the work of the Corporation, especially the relationship with the livery companies. Places, costing  $f_10$ , can be booked on line at: www.liverycommitteecourses.org

Please contact the Editor of the Newsletter, Matthew Gaved, if you would like to suggest a contribution to a future issue: Email: gaved@btconnect.com. © 2011 The Worshipful Company of Turners. Except where specifically stated none of the material in this issue is to be taken as expressing the opinion of the Company. Skinners' Hall, 8 1/2 Dowgate Hill, London EC4R 2SP Tel: 020 7353 9595 email: clerk@turnersco.com website: www.turnersco.com