

THETURNER

NEWSLETTER OF THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF TURNERS OF LONDON

September 2013

In accordance with our ancient Charter, on the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord to Heaven, which this year fell on Thursday 9th May, the Court did me the signal honour of electing me Master of the Mistery or Art of the Turners of London.

Following over four hundred predecessors in this office is a great privilege, but one in which the hand of history sits heavily upon your shoulder. Whilst grateful to be given this opportunity to serve, I am therefore conscious of the responsibility I bear.

Fortunately, the Company did not get where it is today by placing candidates in office without a supportive structure, and a process of familiarisation. I am delighted to be following an outstanding Master in Peter Gibson, whose counsel will be available to me as Deputy Master, and I have two capable Wardens with whom to share the burdens of office.

When I joined the Company over twenty years ago, I never imagined that I would reach this stage. It was Past Master Barrie Johnston who encouraged me to join. My only qualification for membership was being a partner in a City law firm using the name "Turner", but I welcomed the suggestion as both my Swedish wife, Monica, and I share the Nordic love of traditional wood crafts. Sadly, Barrie died last autumn, but he did live to see me progress within the Court, and I shall always be grateful to him for showing me the welcoming atmosphere of fellowship we share.



Photo: Gerald Sharp

The Company has, of course, a very good motto of its own, but I propose to adopt personally for my year the motto of my rugby club, Ealing, *respice*, *prospice*, (look back, look forward). The Master's badge was given in 1877, when The Ealing Football Club was just six seasons old, by a committee chaired by Samuel Graham Bake, later Master in 1886. The reverse of the badge describes him as a Deputy Controller, a title associated with the railways. As both my grandfathers worked for the GWR (God's Wonderful Railway), each time I wear it I shall reflect on PM Bake's generosity with fondness, and evoke the unique smell of smoke, steam and hot oil in his and their memory.

The profile of the Company within the City has been greatly enhanced by three wonderful Wizardry in Wood exhibitions. At the same time, the work of the Company in its other two traditional pillars of supporting the craft and charity has also grown.

For the first time in nine years, the Company will be taking part in the Lord Mayor's Show in November when, having made Alderman Fiona Woolf CBE an Honorary Liveryman, we may have the chance to celebrate the first Turner Lord Mayor since Sir Frederick Rowland in 1949.

We have only two part-time staff, and, although their efforts are much appreciated, organising our float in the show and all the other activities of the Company can only be achieved through the hard work of volunteers. So do not ask what your Company can do for you, but what you can do for your Company.

My wife and I are very much looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible on the occasions of our Company's regular social calendar, and the events and excursions arranged by the Livery Committee. As the Upper Warden and I were both born and raised in the Principality, you should anticipate a Welsh flavour to some of our activities. Above all, let's have fun

and at the same time do some good.



Rhidian Jones, Master

Issue 38

Remembering PM Barrie Johnston and John Williams, former Beadle of the Apothecaries

Peter Gibson recalls the highlights of his Year as Master

Celebrating the 100th birthday of Liveryman Julian Scott

Alderman Fiona Woolf welcomed to the Company as an Honorary Liveryman with a Peter Ellis poem

New Liverymen and Freemen admitted in Master's Year 2012/13

Wizardry in Wood 2012 highlights

Reports for 2012/13 from the Charity Committee, Livery Committee and Howe Committee

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Barrie C Johnston Liveryman of the Turners' Company 1977-2012 and Master 1990-91

I did not know Barrie Johnston for very long, but for those years towards the end of his life, when I did know him, it was both a privilege and a pleasure. I have been asked to write a few words to commemorate and celebrate Barrie's life and his achievements.

I have been assisted in this task by Cynthia, Barrie's much-loved wife, and his family who have provided rare and invaluable insights into Barrie as a husband, father, Royal Marine, merchant banker, Turner and charity supporter. Without their help I could not have painted the picture that follows.

Barrie was born on August 7th 1925 and educated at Epsom College. In 1943 he made one of those momentous decisions that live with us for the rest of our lives – he joined the Royal Marines. Barrie had a great interest in the Forces – his father had been in the Royal Flying Corps – and one of Barrie's hobbies from an early age was building ships of the Royal Navy in miniature out of matchsticks.

It was during this period that he learned that "if you are asked a question, you give an answer", a principle Barrie adhered to throughout his life. This period held many very special memories for Barrie which he recounted to me many times; particularly relating to his service time in India.

Demobbed in 1946, Barrie opted for a career in merchant banking, specializing in pension fund investment. Such became his expertise and skill, I have no doubt that he will have wasted no time in advising God and his mates on their pension arrangements as soon as arriving in front of the pearly gates.



Generous by nature, Barrie was involved in innumerable charitable organisations ranging across the Royal Marines Association, the Charities Aid Foundation, Barnardos, SSAFA and many more.

It is a measure of the man that he took on all these additional tasks whilst successfully providing for his family, friends and companies. One of those organisations that benefited from Barrie was the Turners' Company.

In his well-written book (Life's a Lottery: Or is it?) Barrie gives a comprehensive account of how he came to become a Turner. As ever, it was through an introduction. But before being picked out of the bottom of the in-tray of his sponsor, he had little knowledge of the Livery Companies or their purpose.

However, following Barrie's admittance to the Company his knowledge and contribution grew exponentially, leading to Master of the Company in 1990. He marked his year in two ways. First he led the way towards increasing the Turners' Charity Fund from five figures to a substantial six figure sum, a very creditable and memorable achievement which benefits us to this day.

He also fulfilled a longstanding aspiration – that was to have a Royal Marine String Quartet playing during a Ladies' Dinner, whilst his guests included the Commandant General of the Royal Marines and his wife. After relinquishing his role of Master, Barrie stayed on the Court until 2001, continuing to provide sage and invaluable advice on fund management for many years after.

In recognition of all his work with charities, Barrie was awarded the OBE in 1994 at the Palace. He was accompanied by his wife Cynthia and his family – highly appropriate given the saying "behind every great man stands a strong woman".

Never could it be truer than for Barrie and Cynthia. Cynthia's support of Barrie, through 60 years of marriage, was second to none and particularly so during the latter stages of his illness which were challenging and saddening. As a trained Marine, Barrie found it difficult to give in at the best of times. This made life very hard for him and others around him as he wrestled with dementia. He now rests in peace, but he will stay in my memory and that of many of those around him for years to come. I leave you with my abiding memory of Barrie "Once a Marine, always a Marine".

Assistant Gerry Thwaites

John Williams: The Society of Apothecaries' Beadle



Entering the beautiful Apothecaries' Hall, the Turners' "home" for over seventy years, the first person you often saw was the Beadle, John Williams.

Aways cheerful and helpful, John was a vital part of the Hall, quick to solve any problem and to make every visitor feel at home.

John hailed from Aberfan, where in October 1966 a colliery slag heap collapsed, killing 28 adults and 116 children. John, aged nine, had stayed at home because he was sick.

In 1975 John joined the Welsh Guards. In 1982 he was on the Sir Galahad when a massive explosion threw a fellow soldier across the galley, a huge fireball singed him and a large metal door fell on top of him, breaking his ankle. In the pitch dark, panicking guardsmen

ran through the smoke across the door. John escaped burns, but not the emotional scars.

John subsequently became Beadle to the Apothecaries and grew into an integral part of the Society. But in 2009 Warrant Officer (Class Two) John Williams was persuaded to rejoin the Welsh Guards as an Operations Room watchkeeper for a tour in Afghanistan. Aged 52, he was the oldest man in the Welsh Guards Battle Group in Helmand. He would not speak about what he saw there, but it haunted him.

His death on September 15th 2012 was a shock. He is remembered with gratitude and affection by many Turners, especially Past Masters to whom his experienced advice, humour and kindness were invaluable.

PM Penrose Halson

My Year As Master

It has been the most tremendous honour to be the Master of this ancient Company of Turners for the past year. Both the Mistress Turner and I have been fortunate to have had a wonderful, unique, but exceedingly busy, year.

In most years, the activities of a Master are very much the same as that of his predecessor; but not in 2012/13! Within days of becoming Master, the Mistress and I were attending a garden party at Buckingham Palace; Di getting herself into the official DVD of the afternoon. There is no sign of me.

The very next day we were back again, albeit at a REME function on this occasion, with Prince Philip joking that he didn't think much of Livery Companies – he is Patron of a number and a Past Master of others. To show him what the Turners can do, I sent him a couple of Ray Key bowls and a framed picture of him standing, with the Queen, behind Stuart Mortimer's finials on the Jubilee Pageant barge.

As thanks to the Turners' Company for providing the finials, the Mistress and I were invited to watch the river pageant from the Millennium Bridge over the Thames. It was a wonderful experience and, as even more of a bonus, we were not quite as wet as those in the small boats on the river below.

I had a few hours to dry off before being in the presence of the Queen once more. This time at the lunch in Westminster Hall when she – and most of the top-ranking members of the Royal Family – were entertained by the Livery. The Livery Companies had been encouraged to invite some of those who benefited from our charitable giving and who belonged to our Craft and so I was joined by Reg Hawthorne (the AWGB Chairman), Guy Ravine (the RPT Chairman), Colonel Mike Pendlington (from REME) and Mr Aonghus Gordon (from Ruskin Mill School).

Once the Jubilee celebrations and the wonderfully successful Olympic Games were over, the highlight of the remainder of the year was our Wizardry in Wood exhibition, organised by Master's Steward Nick Edwards, which was held at the same time as our biennial Turning Competitions.

The Competition entries were outstandingly good and, on this occasion, included the Company Candlestick competition – the brainchild of the Chairman of the Howe Committee, Assistant Nic Somers. The outcome of the candlestick competition is thirty splendid candlesticks to grace the tables at Company events.

Amazingly, the exhibition gets better each time we put it on. This year it was opened by

Alderman Woolf who, in the same evening, made our first award of Master in Turning to Freeman Ray Key and handed over the prizes and certificates to the Competition winners.

Wizardry in Wood was a fantastic success and considerably enhanced the Turners' Company's reputation within the City of London and beyond. The name and logo have now been registered as our trademark.

The award of Master in Turning was able to take

place thanks to the work undertaken by Past Master Peter Ellis over a number of years. Not satisfied by this great achievement, Peter Ellis has gone on, in partnership with the AWGB, to inaugurate the first Certificate in Turning courses. I had the great pleasure of presenting the first two certificates at a meeting of the Crow Valley Turners in South Wales in March this year.

I have visited a number of woodturning clubs and courses through the year and, of course, there was the Company turning course that I arranged in the South of France. I particularly enjoyed visiting some of the youth training courses, co-sponsored with the AWGB, which play such a valuable part in encouraging young people to take up woodturning.

Another interesting event was a dinner held in honour of the King of Romania, one of the Queen's cousins and 91 years old. King Michael is a Liveryman of the Wax Chandlers and a Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order. The dinner was attended by a large number of Masters and partners (all of whom were presented to the King) and other dignitaries including most of the Romanian Royal Family and Royal Household.

Di and I were seated on the same table sprig as Sir Ben Kingsley and quite a few of the Romanian Royal Household. Next to me was seated the most amazing woman – the Secretary General of the Household - who spent much of the, very formal, meal on her mobile phone, while she coordinated the arrival of the Romanian TV cameras and other activities.

This amazing year concluded with a final memorable event. Immediately before the Ladies' Dinner on 24th April – by coincidence, the Mistress's 29th birthday – I had the great privilege of making Alderman Fiona Woolf the Company's first female



Master Peter Gibson in the Guard of Honour at the Lord Mayor's Show

Honorary Liveryman of the 21st century and only the second Honorary Liveryman for nearly 100 years.

Most of the Company will be aware that Fiona Woolf is to be the next Lord Mayor after Roger Gifford, but may not be aware of her interest in all things wood and particularly turning.

To show our Company's support for her, the Turners' Company will take part in the Lord Mayor's Show in November 2013. Members of the Company who wish to take part by parading, or helping with the float, should contact the Clerk without delay.

In addition to everything mentioned above, the Charity Committee has continued to raise money and to make donations to schools, the military and the City.

We have held some very successful and wellattended Company functions; attendance at the Masters and Clerks lunch was at record levels – virtually nobody refused their invitation.

I have processed with the Masters of all other Livery Companies at the Sheriffs' election and the Lord Mayor's election. I was a member of the Guard of Honour when The Lord Mayor finally arrived back at the Mansion House at the end of the Lord Mayor's Show.

On top of all this, I have done my best to train our new Clerk. Despite my poor training, it is clear that Alex Robertson is going to be a great success and I wish him well for his future years with the Company.

In conclusion, I want to thank the Company, the Court, my two outstanding Wardens and the Clerk and Clerk's Assistant, for helping me through this amazing year and to wish the new Master and Monica every good wish for their year.

PM Peter Gibson

Julian Scott



To be a Centenarian at any time is exceptional, but to have done so through one of the most dramatic epochs in human history is an even greater achievement.

Julian was born Julian Kornspann on 5th June 1913 to Adolf and Gusti, a prosperous middle-class Jewish couple who lived a very comfortable life in Vienna, supported by the family business manufacturing margarine, and interests in soap and candle factories.

But the seeds of the forces which would undermine that life were already sown. So it is appropriate to outline some context.

The American historian, Barbara Tuchman, chose the funeral of Edward VII as a metaphor to capture the spirit of the pre-First World War age. Think of a vastly more elaborate funeral than that of Margaret Thatcher as I share her words with you:

"So gorgeous was the spectacle on the May morning of 1910 when nine kings rode in the funeral of Edward VII of England that the crowd, waiting in hushed and black-clad awe, could not keep back gasps of admiration. In scarlet and blue and green and purple, three by three the sovereigns rode through the palace gates, with plumed helmets, gold braid, crimson sashes, and jewelled orders flashing in the sun. After them came five heirs apparent, forty more imperial or royal highnesses, seven queens – four dowager and three regnant – and a scattering of special ambassadors from uncrowned countries.

The 100th birthday of Liveryman Julian Scott was celebrated at a lunch held on 2nd July at Skinner's Hall. On these pages we commemorate Julian's centenary with extracts from the Master's speech at the lunch and photographs from his wartime service and birthday trip with family to Kew Gardens. Guests at the lunch included his son David, daughter Assistant Melissa Scott, other members of the Court and his nephew Liveryman Jeremy Coller.

"Together they represented seventy nations in the greatest assemblage of royalty and rank ever gathered in one place and, of its kind, the last. The muffled tongue of Big Ben tolled nine by the clock as the cortège left the palace, but on history's clock it was sunset, and the sun of the old world was setting in a dying blaze of splendor never to be seen again."

Into that twilit and uncertain world came a much-loved little boy.

Only one month before his birth the unsuccessful Austrian art student, Adolf Hitler, having failed to gain entry to Art School, had moved from Vienna to Munich.

And just a year later a shot rang out in Sarajevo, the starting pistol for the Great War, which swept away most of those kings and queens and brought the end of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

This enabled the late Otto von Hapsburg much later to crack an excellent joke. After a recent match between Austria and Hungary a friend asked: "Do you know the result of the Austria – Hungary match?" Otto responded: "Whom were we playing?"

The privations of the Great War impacted harshly on the life of the Kornspanns, and the glittering and vibrant pre-war Vienna of the Expressionists, Schiele, Klimt and Kokoshka was no more.

But Julian later became a chemistry student at the University of Vienna, enjoying dances, balls, and sport, until he left after a year to work in the family firm.

Despite the rise of anti-semitism life was tolerable, but in March 1938 the Nazis imposed an Anschluss, or union, between Germany and Austria. From then on the fate of Jews in Austria was sealed and Julian lost most of his family in circumstances too grim for the telling.

His own adventure was, however, just beginning. At the age of 25 he escaped to Poland, courageously evading capture on a train, and eventually got to England in 1939.

After the outbreak of war in September he was interned as an enemy alien and sent to Canada. Later, like 4,000 others, sometimes called, in a parody of a regimental name, the King's Most Loyal Enemy Aliens, he enlisted in the Pioneer Corps. They were engaged in construction and maintenance of barracks and other public works.

Knowing what their families had suffered, many, including Julian, naturally wanted to strike back in a more direct way.

Their chance to do so came after 1942 when they were allowed to join fighting units. This was doubly dangerous for them as if captured they would be liable to execution as traitors, and they were required to adopt Anglicised names, which several, like Julian, retained after the war.

Julian trained in tanks and as a parachutist in the SAS. His knowledge of German was an added advantage, of which full use was made when he was called upon to assist in interrogation of captured prisoners for army intelligence.



Alderman Fiona Woolf CBE

Alderman Fiona Woolf CBE was admitted to the Company as an Honorary Liveryman on 24th April 2013 at a specially convened Court Meeting, held immediately before the Ladies' Dinner.

At the dinner, Fiona Woolf was welcomed into the Company by the Master, Peter Gibson, with these words:

"I have the pleasant duty this evening of welcoming a new Honorary Liveryman to the Company. As members of the Company will know, the Turners were once well known, throughout the City of London, for their policy of granting Honorary Livery status to well-known and even famous members of the community and the wider world.

Amongst our previous Honorary Liverymen were Baroness Burdett-Coutts, H.M. Stanley, famous for locating Livingstone, William Gladstone, David Lloyd George and latterly Theo Fabergé, Assistant Sarah Fabergé's father.

It is therefore with great pleasure that I welcome Alderman Fiona Woolf as a Liveryman of our Company.

Fiona studied Law at Keele University, qualified as a solicitor in 1973 and worked in the corporate and banking fields at Clifford Chance. She became a partner in CMS Cameron McKenna in 1981.

She was awarded a Senior Fellowship at Harvard University in 2001/2. She has been awarded honorary doctorates by Keele University and the College of Law and is an Honorary Bencher of Middle Temple. She was President of The Law Society of England and Wales in 2006/7.

Fiona is the Alderman for the Ward of Candlewick and was elected as the Aldermanic Sheriff for 2010/11. In the charity field she is a Trustee of Raleigh International and the Chelsea Opera Group Trust. She is a member of the Council of the London Regiment of the Territorial Army.

In her capacity as Alderman, she sits as a Member on the Court of Common Council and on various committees of the Corporation of London. Fiona is a Court Assistant of the Worshipful Company of



Solicitors (her mother company) and of the Plumbers. In addition she is a member of no fewer than seven other companies including, as of this evening, the Turners' Company."

At the Court Meeting, Fiona Woolf signed the Company's Register and made a charming speech about her connection with the Turners, which dates to her friendship with Liveryman Brian Lewis.

To conclude the proceedings, she was read a poem by PM Peter Ellis, *below*.

Julian Scott, continued ...

After the end of the war, Julian, and many of his comrades, returned to the UK to take British citizenship and make other valuable contributions to our national life.

In Julian's case that consisted of building a successful business, utilising his knowledge of chemistry to produce shampoo and other beauty products. He did this in partnership with the renowned society hairdresser, Freddy French, whose name lives on in the industry.

He also gained a family, Melissa and David, who we are very pleased are here with us today. In his life in London Julian has been greatly comforted by the support of his cousin's son, Jeremy Coller, one of our Liverymen, who we are also very pleased is able to be with us today despite his pressing business commitments.

A writer has described the many Jewish scientists who enriched our intellectual life after the war as Hitler's Gift to Britain. Julian, you are Hitler's Gift to the Turners' Company and we have been privileged to enjoy your company. Long may that continue.

When Baroness Coutts, of banking fame, was honoured by our guild The Company rejoiced in verse, our cup of joy was filled. History dictates in rhyme we greet Honorary Liveryman of fame Alderman of Candlewick, Fiona Woolf, née Swain.

Appointing Honorary Liverymen is something truly rare, Over the centuries, few were called; we Turners have a care. Disraeli, Gladstone and Lloyd George, great turner Fabérge, We bid you join this special band, on this auspicious day.

We will not heap embarrassment by quoting all you've done, There is another cause for this, my time would overrun. But some achievements must be known, by this assembled throng outstanding is inadequate, amazing would be wrong.

A lawyer and economist, achieving world renown, Chairmanships and trusteeships, a Sheriff of this town, CBE for services to our great country fair, Fellowship of Harvard, there's few who can compare.

Already we are in your debt, embracing works of good, By opening our premier show, Wizardry in Wood. Viewing competition work, from expert and from learner, Presenting prizes, shaking hands, with our new Master Turner.

Dear lady rare you're soon to be Lord Mayor of this great town, How proud we'll be, when you process, in tricorn hat and gown. Like that band of brothers, who fought on Crispin's Day, As you pass by, in your golden coach, "She's one of us", we'll say.

Our heartfelt greetings we proclaim, to Nicholas and to you. Our fervent hope is that you will enjoy and like us too. Your reputation goes before, exemplar to our guild. Warmest welcome from us all, our wish is now fulfilled.

New Liverymen and Freemen 2012/13

Liveryman David Meara



David Meara is the Honorary Chaplain of the Turners' Company. He studied classics and then theology at Oxford. Ordained in 1973 he began his ministry in Reading, and then became Anglican

Chaplain to the University of Reading. He moved in 1982 to become Vicar of three Berkshire villages, and served as Rural Dean of Bradfield. He was appointed Rector of Buckingham in 1994, and Area Dean in 1995.

Since 2000 David has been Rector of St Bride's, where he is also taking a leading role in the 'Inspire' fund raising appeal to restore the spire of the church.

In 2009 he was appointed Archdeacon of London. He is also an Honorary Canon of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford and is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London. He is Chaplain to two other City Livery Companies, the Stationers and Marketors. He has been President of the Monumental Brass Society since 2002, and has published extensively on Victorian and modern brasses. He was admitted to the Livery by Presentation in September 2012.

Liveryman Nigel Luson



Nigel Luson was introduced to the Turners' Company by his good friend Liveryman Roger George, with whom he shared enjoyable rounds of golf at Bletchingley GC near his home in Surrey. Nigel is a

specialist on trade and investment in Latin America. He advises companies and he is also currently Chairman of the British & Colombian Chamber of Commerce.

Nigel and his wife Marilyn spent 25 years on the international circuit with Lloyds TSB, in France and the Benelux countries, Canada, the USA, Brazil and Colombia before moving back to the UK seven years ago. They have two sons, Mark who is Assistant Military Attaché to the UK High Commission in Islamabad, and David, a corporate lawyer with a City law firm. Nigel read Economics and French at the University of Reading, and subsequently added Spanish and Portuguese to his

repertoire of languages. Besides golf, he enjoys travel, reads widely and lectures at the European School of Economics.

Liveryman Joey Richardson



Joey grew up surrounded by trees on a small farm within the heart of Twigmoor Woods in Lincolnshire, where her love for wood, nature, fauna and flora developed. In 2002 her great enthusiasm for

woodturning evolved into a full-time profession.

She was accepted on to the RPT and in 2005 was awarded the Company's Bursary. This allowed her to travel to America, where she studied with Binh Pho, the world-famous turner and a great supporter of the Company. With Binh, Joey learned to refine her traditional methods and to add new, innovative techniques: piercing, colour and texture.

In 2008, Joey was chosen to show her work in the exhibition *Wizards in Wood: Stuart Mortimer and Joey Richardson* at LINLEY Mayfair, the first major exhibition of turned wood art in the UK.

Since then Joey has given demonstrations and exhibited and sold her work at major exhibitions, schools, symposia and galleries in both the UK and the USA, including the prestigious SOFA expos in New York and Chicago. She has won many medals and prizes for woodturning, including awards in Company competitions.

One of Joey's best known pieces, which featured on the cover of the catalogue for the 2012 Wizardry in Wood exhibition, is 'Gladius' (top right). Turned from sycamore and decorated with acrylic colours, Gladius celebrates milestones in the history of the Turners' Company.

The piercing and airbrushing contain images of the Catherine Wheel (which forms part of the Company's crest), the dates 1604 and 1295, and swords and butterflies. One butterfly (Joey's symbol) is perched on St Catherine's sword.

Joey donated this wonderful piece to the Company at the Masters and Clerks Lunch held on 27th March 2013.



Liveryman Reg Hawthorne



After grammar school in Northern Ireland, Reg Hawthorne joined Pye as an apprentice electronic engineer, before progressing via Marconi and Mullard to join the BBC at the start of BBC2. After a very

enjoyable career with the BBC, Reg took early retirement in December 1994. His hobby was woodturning.

He joined the AWGB and eventually became a committee member and he has recently completed a four-year term as Chairman. During this period, Reg worked closely with the Turners' Company, particularly on youth training and more recently on the Certificate and Diploma initiatives. Reg Hawthorne became a Freeman of the Company by Presentation in February 2011 and was admitted to the Livery in March 2013.

Reg made a special piece for the AWGB stand at Wizardry in Wood 2012 to mark the occasion. This is an egg made out of masur birch mounted on an ornamental turned lignum box.

The egg (lower photo on the opposite page) is approximately 11 inches high and is decorated with the Company's arms. It also has a revolving brass Catherine wheel finial. The egg opens to reveal a miniature brass woodturning lathe (middle photo). Reg donated this wonderful piece to the Company at the Masters and Clerks Lunch held on 27th March 2013.

Liveryman Edward Windsor Clive



Edward Windsor Clive spent 18 years in the Coldstream Guards, in which his service included Australia and Korea as well as commanding Companies in Cyprus, Germany and the UK, including

Northern Ireland. He worked in the Lloyd's Market until 1999. He then became Clerk to the Turners' Company for 13 years until May 2012, through which he met and got to know many members of the Company. He estimates that he wrote more than 300 sets of minutes for the Company's various committees and prepared dozens of seating plans, the largest being for 322 at the 400th anniversary dinner at Mansion House in 2004.

Edward also became Secretary of the Fellowship of Clerks in 2001 and so was,

in effect, the Clerk to the Clerks. He was admitted to the Livery by Presentation in May 2012.

Liveryman Alex Howard

Alex Howard was educated at Blackrock College, Dublin and then University College Dublin. As a prestigious sports establishment, education was sandwiched between a staple diet of rugby, rugby and then some more rugby. Alex is Head of Operations for Healthcare and Transport Services (HATS Group). On behalf of approximately two-thirds of the Capital's local authorities, HATS provides bespoke transport services for children with special needs. Predominantly this involves bringing them to and from school.

Alex joined the Company in 2010 and was made a Freeman of the City in 2011. He is married to Amanda and has two young daughters, Charlotte and Matilda. What little spare time this leaves him is spent following sports and world affairs, in each of which he has a keen interest.

Freeman Joshua Fabergé Crunden



Josh Fabergé Crunden studied music technology, photography, graphic design and ICT at his local college in Bexhill, Sussex. While studying, he featured in Fabergé's black and white advertising campaign. A keen

"Gamer", he is currently undertaking a Diploma in Computer Games Design and plans to pursue a career in this field.

Josh's hobbies include music and the composition of modern music, sketching and concept art, computer games, airsofting, and socialising with friends. He recently ran the Hastings half marathon for the second time in support of his local Hospice and jogs to keep fit. Apprenticed to PM Gordon Sloan, Josh follows in the footsteps of his grandfather and mother in becoming a Freeman of the Company.

Freeman Tim Johnson



Tim was educated at Eastbourne College and read Economics at Guildhall University. Having completed Officer Training at Sandhurst, Tim served five years in the Black Watch (RHR).

On leaving the army in 1995 he embarked on a career in the City, first training with Kleinwort Benson Private Bank before moving to Rathbones Investment Management in 2000. Tim is married to Fiona, eldest daughter of PM Andrew Hamilton. His main interests away from financial markets include shooting, fishing and skiing.

Freeman Paul Logan



Paul grew up in North London and was educated at Harrow County School for Boys and Kingston Polytechnic, where he gained a degree in Geology. He has spent 35 years as a geologist

in oil and gas exploration and has taught courses on the geological evidence for climate change.

Paul is currently Chief Geologist for Heritage Oil in London. His hobbies include; archery, shooting, gardening, genealogy, model railways, mountainwalking and hypnosis. He is a Freemason and member of St Catherine's Lodge and also a Fellow of the Geological Society and of the Royal Society of Arts.

Freeman Frederick Pragnell



Freddie Pragnell was educated at Shrewsbury school from 2003 to 2008 and then went on to read English Literature at Royal Holloway College, University of London. He is currently completing his Master's

degree in English Literature at University College London. While studying for his undergraduate degree, he was a member of the University's first XI for three years. He also represented UCL's first XI for football and is currently playing for the Combined University of London squad. He is very interested in current trends in literature and philosophy and hopes to pursue a career as a solicitor.

Freeman Hadley Pritchard

Hadley Pritchard attended St Faith's in Cambridge where he was a boarder before moving to Haileybury and ISC in Hertford Heath. During this period he dabbled at County level tennis (Essex) and also played hockey, cricket and rugby for school 2nd XI and 3rd XV appearances. After school he went to Exeter University and read Politics and Society. He has worked for ABN AMRO for the last seven years and was previously at Morgan Stanley and Lazard Bros. His sports include golf, coarse fishing and shooting (clay pigeon and game). His father is Liveryman Steven Pritchard.

Wizardry in

The Turners' Company showcase event, Wizardry in Wood, has now developed a formidable reputation since its beginnings in 2004 as the woodturning exhibition par excellence.

It was held in October 2012 and attended by over 2,000 people, including groups who had flown in from as far afield as Iceland, Scandanavia, Germany, Belgium and France just to see the exhibition.

Set in the impressive surrounding of the Carpenters' Hall, London Wall, attendees were treated to an amazing display of work by 20 of the best contemporary wood-turners in the UK. It was the diversity of specialisation that was truly remarkable. There was beautiful classic work, fretted work, ornamental work, coloured work, segmented work - the range went on and almost beggared belief.

The opening reception and preview was held on 16th October, immediately after the judging of the biennial Turning Competitions of the Turners' Company, that attracted over 200 entries.

A particular feature was the Candlestick competition, the entries for which will be used at ceremonial dinners of the Company – a stunning display of the diversity of the turner's imagination. (See pages 14 and 15 for examples.)

A retrospective display of work by the late Bert Marsh attracted huge attention.

Presenting the prizes and the Master in Turning award and also opening the Exhibition, our guest of honour, Alderman Fiona Woolf, wrote afterwards "I was overwhelmed by the standard that the Company promotes".

Also talking at the opening ceremony was John Lippiett, Chief Executive of the Mary Rose Museum. The Mary Rose turned exhibits acted as a perfect counterpoint to the contemporary work on show.

Other collections of turned items reflected the history of the Turners' Company, including items from medieval times. Showing the development of techniques were exhibits from the Victorian era from the Science Museum's Holtzapffel collection.



Also on display was a range of historic lathes including a massive pole-lathe which was used by craftsman Robin Wood to demonstrate just how turned plates and bowls would have been made for the Mary Rose.

Another was a replica of a Leonardo da Vinci design. The third historical lathe on display was a 19th century ornamental turning lathe in all its glory of polished brass, steel and mahogany.

Encapsulating the spirit of the occasion was a stunning contemporary piece by Joey Richardson with motifs of the 800-year history of the Turners' Company. This piece graced the front of the catalogue and can also be seen on page 6.

There were two evening receptions during the exhibition, the first of these was for the Company and guests. At the second we hosted Masters and Clerks from our kindred Livery Companies.





Mortimer's stand; Joey Richardson and Alderman Fiona Woolf; exhibits from the Mary Rose collection; Carpenters' Hall; Katie and Nick Abbott demonstrating chair-making. Photos taken by exhibitor Stuart Hales and Freeman Stuart King seen in the centre photo demonstrating turning on his replica of the 'Leonardo lathe'.

Charity

The appreciative comments made by visitors to the Charity stand at the Wizardry in Wood 2012 Exhibition put into context the tremendous work undertaken by the Company's charity over the last five or so years.

"What fantastic opportunities you are giving children at these specialist schools" ... "I didn't realise we were involved with so many schools."

"I'm so pleased we can see examples of the turned objects that the children have made."

"Despite its obviously high cost, I can now understand how a Boxford lathe can really make a difference to the lives of the severely physically handicapped children and I'm so pleased we can actually see one in operation."

And finally, from an Alderman, "I had no idea that the Turners had such an active charitable side which clearly benefits so many young people. You are punching above your weight and I hope that more Livery Companies will now be following your example".

With comments such as these, and the persuasive powers of PM Penrose Halson, PM Rob Lucas and others and with the generous donations of prizes by members of the Company and exhibitors, it is little wonder that so many raffle tickets were sold, raising over £3,600.

Most of our charity funds are used to purchase lathes and turning equipment for schools and academies and similar organisations that cater for young people with a wide range of handicaps.



Valence School

Charlton Park Academy is located in Greenwich and has been directly funded by the Secretary of State for Education as a Residential Special Academy since August 2012. The school's places are primarily for pupils for whom a special education setting is required. The Academy has a small residential unit for pupils admitted with complex medical healthcare needs which require extended educational provision.

City of London Academy, Islington opened in September 2008 and is jointly sponsored by the City of London Corporation and City University London. The Academy is mixed and non-selective. It has no religious affiliations and is committed to providing education and opportunities for all. The Academy promotes excellence in the areas of critical thinking, creativity, leadership and Business and Enterprise.

Headley Court, Leatherhead is a Defence Medical Rehabilitation Centre (DMRC) for injured members of the British Armed Forces, including patients suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder. There are around 200 staff, from all three services. These include specialist medical officers, nurses, remedial instructors, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech and language therapists, a cognitive therapist, social workers, engineers and support staff.

Ian Mikardo School, Tower Hamlets, London is a special school with around 25 students, who are some of the most disadvantaged in the country. They all have severe and complex social, emotional and difficulties behavioural and educational needs. Many have been excluded from other schools and are regarded as unteachable when they join the school, from the age of eleven. The purpose-built school gives them a safe haven and despite their challenging personal circumstances, the students make tremendous progress and when they leave the school at 16 they are ready to engage with a positive future.

Marsh Academy, Romney Marsh provides its students with a broad, varied and personalised curriculum that encourages a smooth transition from primary school to secondary education, which includes a wide range of academic and vocational courses including GCSEs, NVQs and BTECs.

The Academy's Business and Enterprise specialism underpins the development of students' workplace and life skills and is key to both curricular and non-curricular activities at school. For example, students are encouraged to make the most of opportunities to use ICT and take part in enterprise activities, whilst developing self-confidence and team work skills.

Oakley School, Tunbridge Wells is an age phased community special school for around 190 children with severe or complex needs, almost all of whom also have communication difficulties. The age range is from five to 18 years and most of the children transfer from the primary to the secondary school.

Ruskin Mill College, Nailsworth, Gloucestershire is one of three independent specialist further education colleges operated by Ruskin Mill Trust. The colleges provide practical skills and therapeutic education for young people aged 16 to 25 years who have a range of learning difficulties, including autistic spectrum disorders and challenging behaviours.

The College is situated in 100 acres of woodlands and countryside and includes a farm, two market gardens, a trout farm and a large area of sustainable woodland. These provide opportunities for learning activities in a wide range of practical skills, land-based and traditional crafts.

Valence School, Westerham, is a centre of excellence offering high quality learning opportunities and social and health care to children and young people who have physical disabilities and complex medical needs. The School has both day and residential places and has many outstanding specialist facilities.

Committee

Many of them find life generally very difficult with not much to offer and so it is very uplifting to see the real joy in their faces when they actually produce something on their lathes.

Over the last five years, lathes have been provided to ten different schools and other establishments, including those described in the separate section on the opposite page.

I am sure you will all agree that this is a very impressive list. However, the increasing number of lathes means more work for the Committee, so I am delighted that several Liverymen have joined it over the last year. We have to ensure that each recipient organisation is supported not only by a designated Company member but also by an experienced turner.

There are several other schools who have asked if we could provide lathes for them. These have been visited and assessed by Committee members, who consider that some would be most worthy recipients.

These schools then provide their detailed cases for the Committee to consider, as we need to ensure that they have suitable accommodation, skilled staff (although we can also send them on training courses) and that any lathe would be well used.

On 23rd April we visited Oakley School, where their pupils suffer from Aspergers, autism, acute dyslexia, and ADHD amongst others and Valence School where all their pupils are physically handicapped among other difficulties.

These were 'hands on' visits – at Oakley I had to guide the hands of their children showing them how to make certain cuts and, at Valence, we all had to pair up with their pupils and design a threaded bolt to a detailed specification before instructing their computer-operated Boxford lathe to make it.

It was both a fascinating and a humbling day for us all. We will be organising more visits to these and other schools and I would strongly urge every Company member to go one on at least one. It would show you the real benefit your charitable donation is making.

It is worth noting an extract from the note from the Headteacher of Valence School, Roland Gooding, to parents and carers following his visit to Wizardry in Wood: "I went because we have an on-going connection with the Turners through their charitable work. A few years ago they presented us with a computerised lathe so that students can design something on a computer and then have it made by the lathe, thus making turning accessible to all.

I have to say the exhibited works were truly outstanding and a credit to the ten thousand people in this country who practise the craft of turning. This exhibition, and what it communicated about including people who have physical disabilities in activities that seem beyond their reach, was a helpful reminder to me that we should never stop striving to make accessible every aspect of life and every opportunity to our young people."

PM Peter Ellis has recently taken over as the Company's fund raiser and is preparing a report on how our funds might be increased. As part of his report he is analysing the current contributions and I should take this opportunity of reassuring every member that the



Oakley School

details of your contributions are kept confidential, known only to the fund raiser and the Clerk.

The next organisation where we want to install a lathe is Norwood Ravenswood in Crowthorne, Berkshire. Peter is now raising the necessary funding and we are delighted that one Liveryman has already very generously agreed to fund half its cost. Other Liverymen have indicated that they too would be prepared to make capital contributions.

These can be very tax efficient to both recipient and donor through Gift Aid. If you are in interested, please do not wait to be asked but contact Peter direct at: peter_ellis_uk@yahoo.co.uk.

Another increasingly popular (and painless to the recipient!) method of contributing is by making a Legacy in your Will. Peter has the wording you will require to save you having to spend money on solicitors' fees.

This edition of The Turner marks the end of my chairmanship of the Charity Committee. It has been an honour to have been involved since its inception and I must thank everyone for the tremendous support I have received. To use part of a quotation known to us all "This marks the end of the beginning".

I hand over to PM Colin Field, who I know has many ideas and boundless enthusiasm to take our charity activities forward to the next level.

PM Andrew Mayer

Livery C

The 2012/13 Master's Year was a busy one for the Livery Committee, as it arranged a number of tours and visits of interest for the membership.

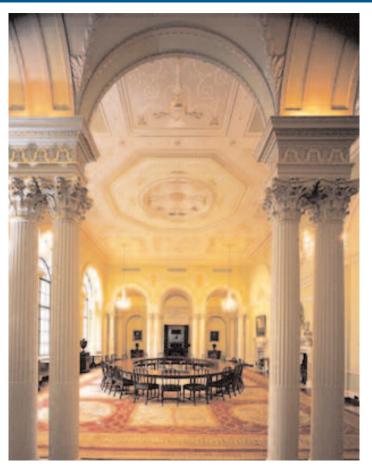
Beginning shortly after the Election Court in May, a group of twenty was given a fascinating tour of the Supreme Court in Parliament Square, which in October 2009 took over from the House of Lords as the highest court in the United Kingdom.

The tour encompassed all three courtrooms specifically designed to encourage an atmosphere of learned debate *(below)*, and in which decisions that help shape our society are made.



A superb demonstration of woodturning was provided by Simon Hope at the Summer Reception on 11th July in Apothecaries' Hall. Guests, fortified by champagne and canapés, watched as Simon showed why he is regarded as one of our most skilled young turners.





His amusing presentation (and rapidly produced whistle) entertained the assembled company. This followed a moving tribute by the Master to Alan Mitchell who was posthumously awarded the Company's Gold Medal (below). His widow Jo was presented with the award on his behalf.



July also saw a group of twenty members and guests visiting the Guildhall for *Butcher, Baker, Candlestick Maker*, a superb exhibition of artifacts provided by the City Livery Companies, many being shown for the first time.

Highlights included the oldest recorded Livery charter (the charter granted to the Weavers' Company in 1155 by Henry II), a portrait of Henry VIII with the Barber Surgeons by Hans Holbein the Younger, and the left-hand coronation gloves of both Elizabeth I and Elizabeth II.

ommittee

The Turners provided three objects for the exhibition including our earliest known bowl (c. 1500) and a beautiful contemporary piece, Gladius by Joey Richardson (see page 6), showing the craft to be alive and relevant in 2012.

In November, twenty seven members and guests were given rare access to the Bank of England in Threadneedle Street.

Beginning with the magnificent model of Sir John Soane's 18th-century building, regarded as one of the City's lost architectural gems, the tour encompassed much of interest in the present building, designed by Sir Herbert Baker and built between 1925 and 1939.

This included the Committee Room (in which monetary policy has been set since 1997) and the Court Room with its magnificent circular table (photo on left). The furnishings, ceilings and paintings make these rooms warm and sumptuous, and entirely fitting to the nature of the discussions held within them.

Livery lunches in September and November (the latter following the annual Patronal Service at St Bride's), were well attended and enjoyed. The Livery Dinner on 18th December saw a full house at Apothecaries' Hall, with Roger Gifford, the recently appointed Lord Mayor, our guest of honour.

The warm welcome by the Master was responded to by the Lord Mayor who outlined his vision for the City and the challenges it faced in the current economic climate. This dinner also provided the first opportunity for the membership to see the magnificent collection of thirty turned candlesticks, all entries for the special competition held in the summer, adorning the tables. These were widely admired and will greatly enhance our future dinners.



Our guide, Andy Rashleigh, talking to the group outside St Bartholomew's Church, Islington

The 2013 Gardner Williams banquet was its usual lively and happy occasion, the warmth of Apothecaries' Hall at least temporarily keeping the snow and the cold at bay outside!

The Sentiment was delivered by Deputy Master Ilan Krieger who, revealing his love of the arts, read from an imagined libretto of an opera covering the life of Richard Gardner Williams. The final act was his great vision for the future of the Turners' Company, his generosity enabling this vision to be fulfilled. Those assembled for the dinner raised their glasses enthusiastically in his memory.



Reg and Margaret Hawthorne with Liveryman and Alderman Fiona Woolf at the reception held before the Ladies' Dinner on 24th April 2013

For lovers of gin, an exciting Masterclass took place at the City of London Distillery in March. This is the first working gin distillery to be opened in the City for over 200 years. In addition to being introduced to the mysteries of gin distillation, the group was invited (no one declined!) to taste four different gins, learning something of the skills required to appreciate the range and complexity of the varying tastes.

On April 18th, twenty members braved the chilly evening air and were rewarded with a superb walk around the fascinating and historically rich area of Clerkenwell and Smithfield. Our entertaining Blue Badge guide brought to life the intrigues and executions, the personalities and social changes of this extraordinary part of the City, along with brief histories of the monasteries of St Bartholomew's, Charterhouse and St John's. An excellent supper at a pub in Farringdon rounded off the evening.

The final event in the Master's year, the Ladies' Dinner, was blessed with good weather giving members and their guests the opportunity of drinking champagne in the courtyard at Apothecaries' Hall, and enjoying the musical accompaniment provided by pupils of the Master's alma mater, Brentwood School.

Prior to the reception, Alderman Fiona Woolf had been made an Honorary Liveryman at a specially convened Court Meeting and the reception provided the chance for her to be introduced to other members and their guests.

After dinner Sir George Young, the Master's local MP, speaking on behalf of the guests, gave a most amusing speech on his parliamentary career, particularly under the late Margaret "the Lady's not for Turning" Thatcher!

The Livery Committee has an interesting programme for 2013/14 lined up and we look forward to welcoming members, particularly those new to the Livery, and their guests at future events.

Assistant Andrew Sindall, Chairman, Livery Committee

Howe C

The Howe Committee's mission is to promote the "Mistery or Art of Turning" and to support related Craft activities. It is named after the late Fred Howe, a virtuoso turner and founder member of the Society of Ornamental Turners who did much to promote the craft in his lifetime.

We build and foster relationships with practising turners and with organisations within the turning community including the Society of Ornamental Turners, the Association of Wood Turners of Great Britain, the Association of Pole Lathe Turners and the Register of Professional Turners. All of these organisations are currently represented on the Howe Committee.

The Chairman of the Howe also represents the Company on the Liveries Wood Group. This was established to foster close communication between related crafts within the Livery Community, namely, the Upholders, Furniture Makers, Joiners and Ceilers and of course the Carpenters.

The Howe works with the Livery Committee to arrange the occasional demonstration of woodturning for Company members and their guests.

We also consider those whose achievements, in the practice of the Craft and related technical studies, the Company may wish to reward with, for example, the Freedom of the Company.

The Howe promotes and organises the biennial Company Turning Competitions and Bursary Awards. We were delighted to be able to display the 2012 Competition entries and previous Bursary Winners' work during Wizardry in Wood in Carpenters' Hall for the duration of the exhibition.

Visitors marvelled at the skill on display and the diversity of style and design; from the very traditional to the whimsical and avant garde (see back page, as well as the candlesticks below).

For the last three years we have joined forces with Cockpit Arts (www.cockpitarts.com) to offer the Cockpit Arts Turners' Award.

For this the Committee looks for an aspiring or established turner, who practises the art and craft of turning on a lathe in wood or other materials, who can demonstrate an entrepreneurial spirit as well as creative excellence and craft skills.

This Award provides free access to an equipped studio at Cockpit Arts Deptford, SE8 for one year including business coaching, a personalised development plan and selling and promotional opportunities.

The 2012 Award went to Chloe Robertson who incorporates turning into her silver work. The 2011 Award was given jointly to Eleanor Lakelin (www.eleanorlakelin.co.uk) and Frank Boggis-Rolfe (www.boggisrolfedesign.co.uk). This year's winner was Matthew Corbishley (see opposite page and www.iwoodcreate.co.uk).

We also work closely with the Charity Committee to identify and recommend organisations considered worthy of support by the Company, for example Oakley School in Tunbridge Wells and Valence School in Westerham. The Company paid a visit to these schools earlier this year and the children and their teachers were delighted to show us how they are putting their lathes to good use (see pages 10 and 11).

The Future

The Howe looks to do more of the same and to continue to be actively involved in promoting the Craft. We are currently planning next year's Competitions and hope to continue our partnership with Cockpit Arts. We will continue to arrange mentoring and support for Bursary and Cockpit Arts Award winners and to seek their feedback to ensure they are able to make the most of their opportunities. We will continue our research into accreditation for Turning Skills. Last but not least, we are currently making plans for the Turners' Company float in this year's Lord Mayor's Show on 9th November, so do come along to lend your support.

Assistant Sarah Fabergé, Howe Committee



ommittee

There were six winners of the **Company's Bursary Awards** in 2013. In total the Awards are worth over £8,000 and will principally be used to fund specialist training days and courses. Five of the winners have described how their passion for woodturning developed and how they have been helped by other woodturners to develop their knowledge, ideas and skills.



Joseph Bloor says that he "began green wood working as a hobby in 2006, starting small making wooden spoons from branch wood using knives. Since then I have developed my work using traditional hand tools and heritage craft skills. I am a founding member of London Green Wood, a community-led group who teach green wood working from an outdoor workshop based at Abney Park Cemetery in Stoke Newington. Most

of the wood I use is sourced from local tree surgeons or other woods in London. I demonstrated spindle turning on behalf of the Turners' Company at the Cheapside Fayre in 2012."



Matt Corbishley explained that "from a young age I have always enjoyed creating pieces out of wood and come from a long line of carpenters on my father's side of the family. I run my own small business called 'iwoodcreate' and I am a bespoke cabinet maker/ designer as well as a turner. I am driven to create pieces that are traditionally built but are contemporary with a sharp, strong design and with an eye for detail. I started woodturning around two years ago and have

since created pieces for clients such as St. Andrew's University, where I helped to make the 600th Anniversary Mace. I am currently working on a candle stand for St. Marylebone Church, London."

Kevin Garwood writes: "My first attempt at woodturning was at the end of 2010. For the last three years I have been working with Dave Reeks in my spare time, making bowls, vases, and more apples and pears than I care

to remember. As I am finally managing to juggle both work and woodturning, I look forward to meeting new people and progressing in different areas of my turning. Luckily for me, I am able to spend two days with Stuart Mortimer later in the year, to learn how to make twist spindles."



John Fells says that "I first found the lathe while at school, the one machine we weren't taught how to use. Thankfully, my design technology teacher was a turner and encouraged me with enough information to give me the bug. After obtaining a degree in product design, I knew that my strength was as a maker with wood as my core medium, and I now know that woodturning will be a lifelong passion. As sustainability is also a factor in life I am conscientious about the timber we use. So whenever possible, to collect material and to attend art and craft fairs, you'll find me pulling my trusty bicycle trailer."

John Turner writes: "I have worked with wood since leaving school as a fitter, joiner or machinist. I started woodturning as a teenager but stopped for over 20 years until returning to it in 2010. I joined the Wealden Wood Turners Club and have enjoyed entering a piece



into every competition. In 2011 I was also very proud to have one of my pieces selected for the Top 50 Tour at the Loughborough Woodturning Seminar and both my pieces were purchased by the Daniel Collection."



A selection of entries to the Turners' Company Turning Competitions 2012



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. © 2013 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, 8½ Dowgate Hill, London EC4R 2SP Tel: 020 7236 3605 email: clerk@turnersco.com website: www.turnersco.com