



## Upholding Our Livery



Court Assist.  
Stephen Tanner  
World Traders'  
Sheep Drive  
Sept. 08



Shrove Tuesday  
2009 Poultry  
Races, Pancake  
Races, Guildhall  
Yard



IMP Richard Nevard



Gunmakers' Inter-Livery Shooting Competition May 09 Sen. Warden Julian Squire, Court Assist. Tony Lofts and guests Sean Richards and the Viscountess Mackintosh of Halifax

City Livery Yacht Club  
Inter Livery Race 16/5/09  
(IMP sailed with Woolmen)



Rolls Royce Enthusiasts'  
Club visit May 2009

London Bridge 800th Anniversary  
Fayre Sheep Drive 11th July 2009



Master Michael Gilham

### Sept 2008

Environmental Cleaners'  
Sponsored Walk to all 40 Livery  
Halls - IPM with Liveryman  
David Johnson Raised  
£2,435 for our Charities.

**These charity events are open to  
all Liverymen & Freemen. To take  
part please write to the Clerk  
expressing your interest.**



30 Sept 09 - Surveyors' Inter Livery  
Swimathon - PM Michael Brecknell  
and IPM Richard Nevard raised  
£390 for the Lord Mayor's Appeal.  
**Thank you all for your support.**

### London Bridge 800th Anniversary

In 1209 King John opened London Bridge. On Saturday 11th July 2009 the City celebrated this with an Anniversary Fayre. The right to drive sheep across London Bridge without paying a toll is an ancient right of City Freemen dating back to 1189. As part of the celebrations the Master Michael Gilham exercised this right, raising money for the Lord Mayor's Appeal in the process. His sheep seemed a little camera shy but under his masterly control it was coaxed over the central span of the bridge.

Across the bridge from the sheep drive The Lord Mayor Ian Luder and the Lady Mayoress visited the Upholders sperver and spoke with Sally Bell and Anna Hollinshead, students of London Metropolitan University, who were demonstrating how to upholster two stools, under the expert eye of their tutor Liveryman Malcolm Hopkins. The Lord Mayor assisted by hammering in one of the tacks.



The Newsletter of



The Worshipful  
Company of Upholders



Issue 13 - Summer 2009

## Master's Message

The following is extracted from the Master's speech at Drapers' Hall on the occasion of his Installation on 21st April 2009:



### Distinguished Visitors, Wardens, Liverymen, Guests

Life is certainly full of surprises for 6 months ago I had no idea that unfortunate circumstances would lead to me standing here as Master for the coming year. I, and indeed, all Upholders here this evening wish that Rev John Cowling, our Chaplain and last year's Senior Warden, had been well enough to have taken on this role. However he will continue carrying on his spiritual duties as Chaplain of our company.

Our Company has enjoyed a very successful year under the leadership of one of our youngest Masters on record. Richard we thank you for your enthusiasm and

dedication in not only working to enhance our administrative and educational aims, but also the time given to promoting our interests within the City.

Your stalwart support for the Wood Group has certainly helped influence its standing within the Livery Movement, and I was pleased to note that the Lord Mayor made reference to the 'Wood Group' and 'Craft Qualifications' when speaking at the recent Livery Banquet at the Guildhall.

During our earlier Court Meeting Richard's last formal duty before installing me as Master was to admit two new members onto our Court, Jeremy Peter Appleyard and Stephen Paul Tanner. May I extend to you both on behalf of all here this evening our congratulations.

After the Court had closed it gave me great pleasure to clothe Wendy Alison Shorter in the Livery. Wendy sits on the board of the Association of Master Upholsterers and Soft Furnishers, and has recently been appointed as Director responsible for training.

John Houston, Honorary Court Member and Archivist, whilst foraging for information on the Company's past, has uncovered the earliest known image of one of our members, Humphrey Skelton, who was admitted as a Freeman in 1699 and worked as an Upholsterer at least until 1734. I thank John for the time he has committed into researching and obtaining the information.

Wishing to support the Centenary celebrations of Castle Baynard Ward Club I have arranged with their Chairman Tony Rogers, to share in a Banquet at the Mansion House on Thursday 16th July. This will take the place of our October Ladies Banquet at which time I will be holding an Autumn event.

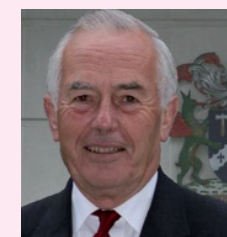
In concluding I wish to thank Wynne for her unstinting support for me as I take on the role again.

The election for City Sheriff was contested for the first time in a number of years. As well as the Aldermanic candidate David Wootton, Peter Cook, Past Master Plaisterer and Tim Oliver, Past Master Ironmonger stood as candidates for Sheriff. The results of the poll held on 8th July at Guildhall to elect Sheriffs for 2009-2010 are as follows:

- COOK, Peter Joseph Votes cast: 1199
- OLIVER, Timothy Patrick Camroux Votes cast: 689
- WOOTTON, Alderman David Hugh Votes cast: 1711

The two candidates with the highest number of votes cast are therefore elected and will be admitted into office on Friday 25 September ready to

preside at the Election of the Lord Mayor on Tuesday 29 September. The office of Sheriff of is one of the oldest in existence, dates back to the Middle Ages and is a pre-requisite to becoming Lord Mayor.



Peter Cook



David Wootton

### For your Diary

**16th July**  
**Banquet with Castle Baynard Ward**  
Mansion House, 6.30 for 7.15pm  
Liverymen, Freemen & Guests

**24th September**  
**September Court & Dinner**  
Tallow Chandlers' Hall  
7.00 for 7.30pm  
Liverymen & Guests

**Autumn Event**  
**Windsor Castle - tba**

**Red Cross Christmas**  
**Market, Guildhall,**  
Tue 1st Dec 11am-8pm  
Wed 2nd Dec 11am-3pm

**12th January 2010**  
**Court & Dinner**  
Watermen's Hall  
7.00 for 7.30pm  
Liverymen & Guests

**11th February**  
**Church Service & Dinner**  
St Michael Cornhill 6pm,  
Dinner 7.00 for 7.30pm  
Armourers' Hall  
Liverymen, Freemen & Guests

**23rd March**  
**Court Ladies' Dinner**  
**Bakers' Hall**  
7.00 for 7.30pm  
Court Members & Partners



Upholding the Craft of the Upholsterer

London Metropolitan University,  
Sir John Cass Department of Media & Design  
Worshipful Company of Upholders Awards

This year the annual prize giving took place on 11th June. Despite the tube strike several Court Members and Liverymen attended the event. The standard of workmanship was again very high and the tutors were commended for this. The Master presented certificates and prizes for Upholstery and soft furnishing:

Advanced Upholstery Skills	1st	Sally Bell
	2nd	Valerie Thompson
	Highly Commended	Judith Dennis
Intermediate Upholstery Skills	1st	Hannah Draper
	2nd	Amelia Bailey
	Highly Commended	Hannah Stanton
Advanced Soft Furnishing Skills	1st	Hilary Wilson
	2nd	Linda Behnam

The Derek Austin Awards for the Foundation Degree in Furniture Making and Conservation and Restoration were also presented by the Master, funded though the generosity of Past Master Derek Austin.

Foundation Degree in Furniture Making Winner Joshua Penn-Watson. Derek Austin Award in Conservation & Restoration Winner Veronica Aslangul. A full list of all the prize winners is on our website.

Although the continuation of Upholstery and Soft Furnishing at London Metropolitan University was not certain we are pleased to hear that for the coming year they are not only financially viable but also over-subscribed.



Sally Bell and Anna Hollinshead at the London Bridge 800 Fayre



Hannah Draper, Intermediate Upholstery



Sally Bell Advanced Upholstery

Education, Qualifications and Awards

The Warden to the Trade Committee has been working to create a comprehensive framework to support our trade.

“Centres of Excellence”

During the past year the Warden to the Trade and his Committee has spent some considerable time exploring how best to support our trade. The existing City & Guilds qualification no longer meets the needs of the trade, so the committee studied first the possibility of becoming the government recognised Awarding Body for the National qualification in modern and traditional upholstery and soft furnishing. Ultimately this has been rejected as it was felt government’s requirements for the course were too prescriptive and the conditions of recognition were too onerous and costly.

In place of this the committee is recommending establishing our own awards in collaboration with the AMUSF. These would be made available to training centres that provide Upholstery & Soft Furnishing courses. The providers would have to follow a recognised syllabus and achieve a good standard of workmanship. This scheme will be known as the “Centres of Excellence Scheme”. Planning for this has started and if pilots are successful it will be possible to roll it out nationally.

We believe this scheme will be attractive to training centres, students and our trade. It has the potential to fill the gap for a standard recognised nationally by our trade.

“Apprentice, Journeyman & Master Awards”

In parallel with the “Centres of Excellence Scheme” the committee is continuing work to establish individual awards.

It is proposed that the Master awards will be available to craftspeople who have worked in the industry for many years and who may or may not have a recognised qualification. In the case of Upholstery, the distinction between traditional against modern Upholstery would apply, and for soft furnishing the distinction between hand craft rather than modern machine-made techniques would apply.

The apprentice and journeyman awards would be for those craftspeople achieving recognised standards but who have not yet built up the portfolio of work required for the higher awards.

“Merit Award”

Our Merit award will continue to be made to companies whose principal business is Traditional Upholstery or Soft Furnishing. This award is to the organisation and not an individual and it requires not only a high standard of workmanship but also the company must demonstrate satisfied customers, suppliers and a professionally run business.

Warden to the Trade Stephen Chapman

Royal Visit to the Sir John Cass Department of  
Design, Art & Media, London Metropolitan  
University, 4th June

HRH the Duke of Kent visited the Frederick Parker Foundation to celebrate their 10th Anniversary of acquiring the Chair Collection and placing it for study by furniture students interested in the history, design, restoration and manufacture of chairs.

Jonathan Arnold, Chairman of the Foundation, escorted HRH around the gallery and introduced him to supporters including Masters and Clerks of the Furniture Makers and Upholders Companies.

Extracted from [www.frederick-parker-foundation.org](http://www.frederick-parker-foundation.org)

Naval Links



Naval Links

One of the last Duties of Immediate Past Master Richard Nevard was to visit Devonport accompanied by Senior Warden Julian Squire. We were made most welcome by Cdr Sykes and HMS Triumph’s crew and presented with the ship’s crest.

As the stage of her refit made visiting Triumph difficult we were given a guided tour of her sister ship HMS Trenchant. For those who have never been aboard a submarine the conditions are difficult to describe; only the captain has the luxury of his own space which is little more than sleeping under his office desk, and the one luxury aboard these boats is a chip fryer. After this tour we enjoyed lunch in the mess with models of the ships of the Armada and Drake’s fleet suspended above us.

IPM R Nevard

Refit Progress

HMS TRIUMPH is entering a critical and complex phase of system re-commissioning. The reactor plant is in the process of being prepared and tested thoroughly, so that the supporting systems are ready in all respects for the testing of the refuelled reactor itself, later in the year. Within this period, the submarine will conduct a ‘basin dive,’ where the control of trim and buoyancy systems can be tested whilst submerged within the confines of the Dockyard Basin. State of the art Command and Navigation systems are almost complete and awaiting full trials at sea. Accommodation and living compartments are now taking shape and work will continue through this demanding period of the Submarine’s overhaul, right up to the point of handover. The Ship’s Company is rapidly building towards a full strength complement, and their training and qualification processes continue vigorously in parallel with the Submarine’s program. Team building is now high on the agenda for management, and various sporting and social events are being conducted to improve cohesion within the expanding Ship’s Company as well as planning some hard-earned summer leave.

By Lt Peter Still, AMEO



TS Upholder

The photos here show some of the cadets’ recent activities, including a visit to HMS Illustrious. In addition to the Livery’s regular donation this year we were able to provide 2 bursaries to support cadets on sea going courses.





## Upholding Our Charities

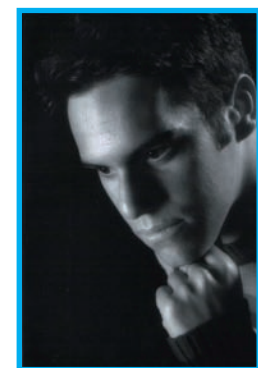
Few people know the work our Charity Committee does and how the charitable causes we support are selected. The Peter Jackson Charity was instituted in the 18th century for the purpose of paying up to 20 pensions to retired upholsterers. Today we have 12 such pensioners, and nominations are made by the Warden to the Trade's Committee. These payments take priority, but the available surplus income is used for donations to well established City Charities and HM services charities. 10 of these are paid automatically and the Committee makes a further 12 or so donations every year. In addition there is the Master's list, where the reigning Master can select donations to charities of his choice up to a total of £600. Last year the latter included bursaries for TS Upholder, a donation to Ballet Central who danced so superbly for us at the Mansion House and a donation to support St. Bart's following a visit there by the Master. There is not space here to list all the causes we support so this will be available on the company's website. The Neville Hayman charity is of course of more recent origin, and was instituted to make bursaries to upholstery students, one for the education of the child of an upholsterer, to grant prizes to students for their work and awards to upholsterers for their achievement. This is a specialised charity for the purpose of education and the highest achievement in the upholstery craft. Fund raising activities can be much fun (see page 8).

### Henry VIII's Tapestries Revealed

For the Henry VIII 500th anniversary celebrations, the Livery contributed to the re-colouring of the History of Abraham tapestry at Hampton Court Palace. A magnificent 16th-century tapestry, part of the internationally acclaimed series depicting the History of Abraham, commissioned by Henry VIII after the birth of his long-awaited son Prince Edward for display in Hampton Court Palace's Great Hall, will be 'virtually restored' using special lighting to replace the colours that have faded. This gives visitors a unique glimpse into the beauty and opulence of Henry's stunning tapestries as they would have been nearly 500 years ago. The display runs until 3 January 2010 in the Queen's Guard Chamber and is a one-off opportunity to view the magnificent tapestry in its original splendour, as seen by Henry VIII and his court 500 years ago.



PM JCFB Byllam-Barnes



### Carlos Nogueira

One of the lesser known charitable donations made by the Upholders supports a student at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. For the last three years this has gone to Carlos Nogueira, who completed his studies this summer. In June the Master saw him perform in the double bill GSMD opera production "The Marriage" by Martinu and "La Cambiale di Matrimonio" by Rossini, and the Immediate Past Master saw him in "The King Goes Forth to France".

Carlos writes: "It is hard to express in words how important it is for me and how grateful I am for the Worshipful Company of Upholders' support. The possibility to study in such a renowned institution like the Guildhall School of Music & Drama and to be part of its award winning Opera Course was my big aspiration for a long time and its achievement only became possible with your help.

In this demanding course I have been able to develop every aspect of my musical and performing persona - singing lessons, drama, stage makeup, combat, dance and movement classes as well as coaching sessions and master classes with numerous personalities of the musical world, allied with the exciting opportunity of performing on stage, both

opera scenes and complete opera roles, to a wide audience that includes press and agents.

The preparation that we undertake in this course and the knowledge we receive from its amazing teaching staff is invaluable for the start of a singing career. My big dream is to become an opera singer capable of expressing the unique beauty of this art form and with emotion touch the people's hearts.

A big, big thank you to all of you who are allowing me to keep dreaming."

### Obituaries



#### Past Master Robert Carroll Olney

passed away, after a long illness, on February 27, 2009 aged 82 in his native Pennsylvania. He became a Liveryman in September 1986 and

progressed to Court Assistant 5 years later. After retiring, his love for this country kept him here and In April 2001 he became Master of our Livery. It was his and our proud boast that he was the First American to be a Master of any Livery. We remember him as a gracious, genial and yet quite private person accompanied on so many occasions by his charming wife Ann. Court members remember that he was a strong Upholder of our traditions and certainly did not want to be remembered as an American who oversaw great changes.

He was born in 1926 in Brooklyn, New York. He was a graduate of Cornell University and served in the U.S. Navy Air Corp from

1943 - 1945. In the late 1940s he joined the 3-M Company (Scotch tape, post-it-notes) and rose from a salesman to become President of 3-M Europe by the mid 70s. A long time resident of Hinsdale, IL, he then lived in Weybridge England and Chadds Ford, PA.

He was proud to be Master as he was a direct descendant of John Olney, Master of The Mercers' Company in 1432, who became Lord Mayor in 1446.

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News has also reached the Clerk of the death of **John Dudley White**, clothed in the Livery in 1965, and of **Arthur Alfred Hugh Lockett**, clothed in the Livery in 1966.

## Livery News

### James (Jim) Kelly is our new Junior Warden



Currently also Chairman of the Central London Branch of the Institute of Directors, Jim's career spans science and business, commencing as a materials scientist at the Post Office Research Station in Dollis Hill, before moving into computer communications and network technologies at the advent of the office automation and information technology era.

His career weaved in and out of the IT/Electronic Engineering world, through graphic arts and printing, before moving into the more solid world of company direction and business.

Jim is visiting professor at the London Metropolitan University Business School.

Married to Maureen, a former personnel manager turned soft

Union, and the Past Overseers Society of Saint Margaret & St John, Westminster. He is a council member of the City of London branch of the Royal Society of Saint George.

furnishings project director, they live in North London and love country house opera, entertaining friends and good food and wine among many other things. A lover of Cricket, but not fully converted to the 20/20 concept, Jim is a long time member of Middlesex county Cricket Club, a founder member of the Brian Johnson Memorial Trust and a member of the Lord's Taverners. A former school governor, now advisory council member of London Metropolitan University, his memberships include the Institute of Directors, City Livery Club, United Wards Club, English Speaking

### Two New Court Assistants Swear Oaths

### New Liveryman WENDY SHORTER

#### JERRY APPLEBYARD



Educated at Oundle School, a Grocers school, before moving on to Kent University to study Economics. I am now CEO of General Medical Clinics PLC, a PLUS listed company that provides GP /nursing and Physiotherapy services for large corporate firms in the City and West End. We also specialize in travel medicine in all our medical centres but especially for oil companies providing global health advice from Kazakhstan to Algeria to Mexico.

Prior to this I have worked for British Waterways in charge of all the canal networks between Leicester and London as well as being Hotels and Marketing Director for Welcome Break.

I am married to Mandy, a teacher and daughter to Past Master Michael Brecknell. We have 4 children Chris (20) Ben (18) Alexandra (16) and Harry (14) - so have become a glorified taxi driver between University / Rugby Club and parties.

My hobbies include Basketball; I still play for a team every week, as well as Rugby, cooking and travel I also, somehow, manage time for the allotment as well.

I am proud and honoured to be asked to be a Court Assistant and hope to provide active assistance to the Master in delivering the goals of the Company.

#### STEPHEN TANNER

Stephen was born in London on 13th July 1960. Educated at Latymer Upper School in London and at University College, Cardiff where he read Accountancy, Stephen started his city career at Peat Marwick and Mitchell (later becoming KPMG) where he qualified as a Chartered Accountant. He moved to FW Stephens becoming a partner in the firm in 1996 where he is responsible for audit, taxation and general business advice to a wide range of businesses from small private companies to those listed on AIM.

Stephen lives in Pinner and is married to Terrie. They have two children, James (19) and Matthew (17) and a dog, Tilly, who between them keep him busy. He enjoys gardening, walking, good food and wine, together with the occasional game of golf.



After twenty years working in the film industry as PA to film director, Stanley Kubrick and then as a freelance production co-ordinator, I returned to my love of upholstery and soft furnishings. After gaining my professional qualifications I worked on private commissions before going into teaching. I now run my own upholstery and soft furnishings training centre in Hertfordshire where I take great delight in encouraging and developing a new generation of professional craftsmen and women.

In 2008 I was appointed Director of Training for the Association of Master Upholsterers and Soft Furnishers. Having developed the new suite of qualifications, I am now seeking new training centres to take them up.

I also represent the soft furnishing trade on ProSkills, the government sponsored sector skills council.





Assistants and also to the office of Honorary Archivist. This was the year when he first published his book 'Featherbedds and Flock Bedds' for limited circulation. It was published again in a revised edition in 1999 and then in 2006 the hardback edition was published at £25. All members of the Court were presented with a copy, as are all new Liverymen at their installation ceremony.

Producing this comprehensive history of the Upholders from the 14th century to the present day was a great work of scholarship under any circumstances. When you realise that we lost our Hall and much of our archives in the Great Fire of London in 1666 and then again in 1812 when a fire at the premises of Kay & Say destroyed more of our remaining archives, you know what a formidable task faced John as he started his research.

It was a good day in the fortunes of the Worshipful Company of Upholders when in 1989 John Houston was made a Freeman of the Company and again in 1990 when he was admitted to the Livery. In 1993 he was appointed to the Court of

Featherbedds and Flock Bedds is not just a history of importance to the Upholders but also to other Companies and the City of London.

I have had the privilege of serving on the Court with John for many years and have always noticed that his contribution at Court has always been of importance, brief and to the point as has been his work on Upbraid. He has always kept Alan Aldous well informed, enabling him to keep the website up to date.

Before retirement, John had a distinguished career in the Civil Service in the Foreign Office, the National Health Service and the Fire Service, and he also served as a Magistrate.

I am sure that we all send our best wishes to John and Tip in their new life with their daughter Rose, in Thailand.

**Honorary Assistant Derek Austin**

## John Warne, Upholsterer

The woodcut shown has been taken from Foxe's Book of Martyrs and depicts John Warne bound to the stake and John Cardmaker addressing the Sheriffs who are mounted prior to being bound. The woodcut suggests a difference in ages between the two with Warne aged 29 and Cardmaker who had been a friar before the Dissolution. [Cardmaker was a married minister after having been an observant friar.] It is not known whether Warne who was of St. John's, Walbrook, in the City was a member of the Upholders' Company but there is a fair chance that he would have been as an upholsterer at this early date.

The speech bubble Beware of Idolatre is thought to be a biblical reference, possibly 1 Cor. 10:7. The two were executed by fire at Smithfield on 30 May 1555 in the reign of Queen Mary for their Protestant beliefs. It is known that Warne's wife, Elizabeth, and daughter suffered a similar fate at Gallow's Green, Stratford and a son is thought to have either been executed or imprisoned. Hard times and hard lives, indeed.



How should we judge such proceedings today or should we even try? Perhaps it is enough to record that Bishop Bonner of London who conducted the interrogations was known even in his own time as Bloody Bonner. It should be remembered that Roman Catholics also suffered martyrdom in other reigns for their religious beliefs.

In England, burning alive at the stake in public was used to punish heresy by either sex and for women found guilty of counterfeiting. The last burning for heresy was in 1612 and the last for counterfeiting in 1789 although later burnings were usually carried out after strangulation. The penalty was replaced in 1790 by hanging.

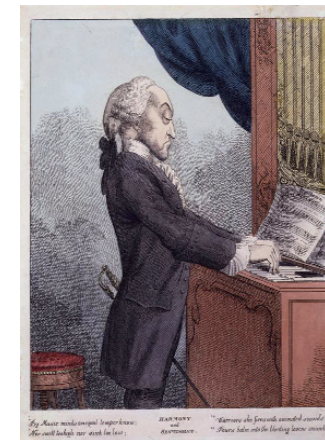
**John Houston**  
Court Assistant & Hon. Archivist

**David Ayres**  
Liveryman

## From the 'Fathers and Sons' series

**Thomas Arne was Master in 1703.** Initially, he traded as an upholder from various addresses before moving to the "Crown and Two Cushions" in Covent Garden where he carried out a successful and fashionable business. He met a violent death on 2 March 1730 when he was murdered. Today he is largely known as the father of the composer Dr. Arne and of the actress Mrs. Cibber.

**Thomas Augustine Arne (1710-1778)** was perhaps the most significant English composer of his century. Educated at Eton College he excelled at the flute but at little else. Apprenticed to an attorney he loathed the law and secretly practiced the violin and the spinet while covertly studying harmony and composition-in fact anything but law! He progressed to leading a chamber band of amateurs and his family eventually accepted he should become a full time musician. His music is said to have a freshness and delicacy of melody in a particularly English style. In the 1740s he was fortunate to obtain a royal grant of copyright for his compositions. The University of Oxford in 1759 awarded him a doctorate in music. In addition to his prolific composing for the theatre, instrumental music and songs over many years he was also a distinguished violinist and an effective teacher until



crippled by rheumatism. In 1736 he married Cecilia Young, the daughter of an organist and herself a gifted singer, who contributed to her husband's career by performing his works. It was in 1740 that Arne composed a programme for the Prince of Wales which included "Rule Britannia" which has been described as the finest national song of any nation. It is perhaps for this more than anything else he is remembered for today.

**Thomas Augustine Arne after Francesco Bartolozzi, hand coloured etching (c.1770) (c) National Portrait Gallery, London. Image reproduced by permission.**

**Susannah Maria Arne (1714-1766)** was, like her brother, musically gifted. She had a fine, sweet voice although not of remarkable power. She made her first appearance as a singer in 1732 at the Haymarket Theatre. Her reputation increased and she became a special favourite with Handel who wrote the contralto songs in the "Messiah" expressly for her. However, it was as an actress that she found greatest fame. Trained by her father-in-law her reputation as a singer soon merged with that of a great tragic actress. Mrs. Cibber, as she was known on the stage, impressed many including the great actor Garrick (she played Juliet to his Romeo at Drury Lane) with her fine voice and powerful performances. Although she had a good sense of humour her ability to express it on the stage was limited and she never quite made the transition from tragedy to comedy. Despite two court cases involving adultery she was buried in Westminster Abbey, a distinction achieved by few actresses.

**John Houston, Honorary Archivist**



## Introducing our new Hon. Archivist

When John Houston asked me whether I would like to replace him as Company Archivist, my initial reaction was one of sadness that he would be giving up a role in which he has done so much for the Upholders. I know I speak for the entire Company in thanking him for the outstanding job that he has done and wishing him all the best in his new role as a father. Having had time to consider the role, I was delighted to accept, but equally conscious that he is a very hard act to follow!

For those who do not know me, John and I thought that it would be a good idea to introduce myself. I was born in the Old Street/Moorgate area and live close to the Barbican, as a result of which I have seen many changes throughout the City from the 1960's onwards. My university education included History, Archeology and Egyptology, subjects that I remain passionate about. Recognising these interests, I am a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

I worked for the Corporation of London Libraries and Archives department for 15 years and have been involved with the Civic City for more than 24 years. In 1996, I became a Freeman of the City of London and a life member of the Guild of Freemen. I have since joined many City organisations and hold roles in a number of them, including being a Director of the City Livery Club, Honorary Secretary and Immediate Past Chairman of the City Livery Wine Circle, Court Assistant of Cripplegate Ward Club and Council Member of Farringdon Ward Club. I was very pleased to become a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Upholders in 2004 (my Mother Company) and have since also joined the Livery of the Worshipful Company of Basketmakers.

My main hobbies encompass food and wine. In addition to my role in the City Livery Wine Circle, I am Chairman of the London Branch of the International Wine and Food Society, which is the oldest and largest gastronomic society in the world. Herein is another library connection, in that I currently look after their archives, which are also deposited at the Guildhall Library. Additionally, I am heavily involved with the UK Branch of the Confrérie du Sabre d'Or, a French Chivalric Order devoted to Champagne, where I hold the roles of Maître-Sabreur, Échevin, Officier and Connétable de la Cité de Londres.

You can be assured that I will do my very best in answering enquiries, recording and archiving the Company records and ensuring they are safely deposited in the Guildhall Library to preserve the ongoing legacy of the Worshipful Company of Upholders.

**Judy Tayler-Smith, Liveryman**