
JOURNAL

of



1994-95

THE UNITED WARDS' CLUB OF THE CITY OF LONDON

Patron
THE RT. HON. THE LORD MAYOR
ALDERMAN CHRISTOPHER WALFORD, M.A.



FOUNDED in 1877 by Joseph Newton Esq, C.C., as a General and Central Ward Club, having for its objects the consideration and discussion of public matters affecting Imperial, Civic, Guild and General interests: the promotion of the spirit of Citizenship and maintenance of the high traditions and prestige of the City of London.

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GOVERNING BODY 1994-1995

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(PAST SHERIFF)	1991	+GEORGE K. TODOROVITCH
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*+PHILIP F. ALLDAY <i>F.C.A.</i> 1978	(PAST SHERIFF)	
+BERNARD E. PETITPIERRE 1979	1993	DOUGLAS C. MORGAN <i>F.Inst.B.M., F.R.Inst</i>
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* Past or Present Master of Livery
+ Past or Present Master/Chairman of Ward Club

OUR PRESIDENT

Architects and surveyors frequently join the presidential ranks and John R Owen-Ward is the latest so to do. John has been in private practice for over thirty-five years and is still expanding his expertise. He recently undertook a diploma course in arbitration and became a fellow of the professional body, the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, adding the FCI Arb. initials to his other qualifications. He is now mostly involved in consultancy work and appears as an expert witness.

Thirsting for yet more detailed knowledge, John recently studied wine, in which he received a diploma and has become a lecturer on the subject - a precedent which others may be pleased to follow.

As a busy professional man, how did our President become involved in City civic life, you ask? Well, this started when he attended the Mercers School. In 1993

he became a Common Councilman, serving on Planning and Port Health committees and he is also a director of City Arts Trust which runs the City Festival. Latterly, he has become Clerk to two liveryies, namely, the Bowyers and the Fletchers companies. He has been Master of the Architects Company which he helped to found and has been a member of the Masons Livery since 1977.

Presidential duties always need family support and John is blessed with a loving and attractive wife, Lois and two married sons. His hobbies - additional to the one mentioned above - are music and photography. With such a variety of interests, John clearly leads a busy and most interesting life.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

22nd March

Without exception, United Wards' Presidents arrange enjoyable programmes and in no time the final event is reached. Can it really be a year ago when Douglas took command? Well the calendar tells us so, as does the notice requesting us to attend yet another Annual General Meeting, again held at the City Livery Club.

Opening the meeting, President Douglas welcomed all present, a good turnout by all accounts. He mentioned that Past President Ronald Nichols - Nick to his friends - and his lady, Estelle, were unwell. Stanley Flintham and Ada were keeping in touch - a duty that they had performed in other cases.

Proceeding through apologies for absence, last minutes and the Governing Body report we came to the Treasurer's report - admirably dealt with by the Hon. Treasurer, John Mitchell. In turn, thanking the Hon. Auditor, Ian Williams, John said that he was happy that they had, as he put it, survived the traumas of the usual audit/client relationship. Pressure of work forced John to shed these onerous duties and much appreciation was expressed by those present for the six years work so efficiently undertaken.

At this point John's successor was introduced - Gerald Morgan, a chartered accountant by profession, and finance director in the family business of D.C. Morgan & Co.

Election of the 1994-95 President was the next item on the agenda - the only nomination being the Senior Vice, John Owen-Ward. The usual enchainments then followed, Immediate Past President Douglas Morgan first being presented with his badge. Frank Wooldridge was promoted to Senior Vice-President



and unusually, Junior Vice Wilfred Hammond continuing to act - for one year - as Secretary.

On to Governing Body nominations - eight candidates for six vacancies, necessitating a poll. The outcome was announced later in the evening, the successful candidates being Don Daniels, Colin Donaldson, Arthur Kennedy, John Mitchell, Graham Redcliffe and Sylvia Tutt.

The remaining business was speedily dealt with - election and thanks to the Hon. Chaplain, the Revd David Burgess, also the reading of reports from the Golf Section and of the Soirée and Newsletter sub-committee respectively. This brought the meeting to a close and after joining other members and guests for refreshment at the bar we were called to dinner by the indefatigable "two-hatted" Wilfred Hammond - so described by the President. A new Basil Watson grace was said by, well, Basil Watson, as follows:

AGMs are a bit of a chore,
But they do give us a chance,
To express grateful thanks,
To those who have gone before.
As well as to offer our very best wishes,
And ask the good Lord to bless our dishes,

So as to honour our President and his lady,
United Wards' are they, par excellence, so say we.

Following an excellent meal, grace was sung and the formal toasts proposed. In proposing "The United Wards' Club and the President", Bunny Morgan recalled some events taking place in the late Victorian period when the Club was in its formative stage. He also mentioned that, until 1959, there were no lady members - ladies were in fact "the angels in the gallery".

Bunny was duly thanked by the President who then proposed a toast to Douglas for a splendid year - a difficult act to follow. In his response Douglas said that it had been a year which he and Jean would never forget; working with Wilfred and Audrey made a brilliant team. The applause which followed these concluding remarks indicated that those present concurred with the view that "the team" had indeed produced a happy and successful United Wards' year which will stay in the memory.

◀ And now for enchaining

DINNER AT FARMERS' AND FLETCHERS' HALL

13th April

President John Owen-Ward started his year of office in fine style, with a four course dinner. As is usual at club functions, the volume of chatter increased as both long-standing and new friends partook of, and enjoyed, this excellent meal. All too soon the assembled company was called to order for the formal toasts, after which the President introduced the speaker, Christopher Stevens, Bridge Master of Tower Bridge. A footnote to the menu tells us that John is Common Councilman for Bridge and Bridge Without Ward and as such, he established a close acquaintance with the Bridge Master.

There then followed a most interesting talk on Tower Bridge - why a high level was needed, the construction,



started in 1886, involving distinguished engineers of the day and a variety of other interesting facts. Many questions then followed about this "marvellous Meccano set" (so described) followed by votes of thanks to the speaker and to the President respectively by the two Past Presidents present. A memorable evening indeed and highly appropriate, falling as it does in the centenary year of Tower Bridge opening.

SPRING WEEKEND

19th - 22nd May 1994

The weekend commenced officially with a reception at the Novotel, Fishergate, York, our base for the weekend. John and Lois Owen-Ward greeted us and so to dinner. There followed a special introduction to York given by Mark James, the local historian, whose talk with slides and music entitled A Walk Around the Snickelways (through snickets, ginnels, alleyways, courts, yards and footstreets) really was a marvellous beginning to the weekend.

On the spring Friday morning we went by coach through the beautiful countryside to join the North Yorks Moors Railway built by George Stephenson some 150 years ago. Joining the steam train at Pickering and chugging through the valleys with banks of primroses and violets we arrived at Grosmont an hour later. The coach took us on to Northallerton where we enjoyed an excellent luncheon at the Golden Lion Hotel.

The evening was to be one of those to be long remembered, starting with the short trip to Castle Howard. The guided tour of the beautiful house was divided by a cocktail reception and ending in the Long Gallery. There followed a marvellous musical recital given by a fourteen year old recordist who made the instrument

sound almost as an orchestra. By her performance we understood why she had reached the semi-final of the BBC's Young Musician of the Year Competition. Two encores were required before she was allowed to depart. The four course dinner was splendid as was the speech given by the President's friend and Castle Howard's manager, Ian Martin.

We set off on Saturday in good style to Harrogate where shopping took up the morning. Lunch at the Majestic Hotel was preceded by a talk given by Peter Hopkins, a New Zealand vintner, an in-depth introduction to five of his country's wines, all of which we enjoyed at lunch. A number of members attended evensong at the Minster.

The Merchant Adventurers of York hosted a very pleasant evening at their hall with a reception in the medieval undercroft followed by a four course dinner. The evening was completed by an enthralling musical entertainment by two of the York Waites performing Courtlye Musick of the fifteenth and sixteenth century on a variety of instruments: bagpipes, crumhorns, sackbuts, lutes, serpents, racketts, recorders, cornetts, shawms, gemshorns, viols and the hurdy gurdy.

Sunday's breakfast launched us onto the final day. A short walk took us to the Lendal Bridge where we boarded the River Palace, pride of the Whiterose Line, for a trip along the river Ouse with Captain Mark Brownbridge commenting on the geography and wild life of the area. Coffee and Yorkshire curd tartlets were

served on board before we disembarked and returned to the Novotel for the farewell luncheon. We travellers are grateful to John and Lois Owen-Ward together with Wilfred and Audrey Hammond for giving us a memorable holiday weekend.

DESMOND AND RITA YATES

MIDSUMMER VISIT TO CONSTABLE COUNTRY

22nd June

What a superb day out this proved to be. Some members foregathered in Guildhall Yard to travel by coach. This was the day of the tube and train strike and getting to London by car had its moments but we still left at 8.30a.m. – just! The Secretary and assistant Secretary travelled 23 miles by car – a journey which took 2½ hours to complete.

Some of the party drove to Le Talbooth Restaurant at Dedham, where morning coffee with shortbread was served. We then boarded the coach and under the direction of an experienced professional guide, Miss Caroline Bridge, we toured the Constable country. The weather was fine and warm and we visited many of the

beautiful spots associated with the fine paintings of Constable, backed up by comprehensive information given by Caroline.

An enjoyable luncheon with wine was served in the beautiful Le Talbooth Restaurant, after which we continued our tour, absorbing further beautiful Suffolk scenery and returned to the same venue for a wickedly fattening full cream tea with scones, jam, cream and a selection of cakes.

31 members and Club guests attended this delightful outing in the tranquil heart of Constable country and all voted it a great success.

WILFRED HAMMOND

GOLF REPORT 1994

The annual golf match against the City Livery Club was held at Worplesdon Golf Club on Friday 3rd June 1994. We were severely depleted by injuries, and indeed had to enlist one of the Livery team, Stanley Heather, to complete our contingent. The Livery were worthy winners by 6½ matches to 1½.

The following represented United Wards: Andrew Cruickshank, Joe Brown, Allan Warner, George Harrop and Stanley Heather.

Star of the side was undoubtedly George Harrop. In the morning foursomes, partnered with Allan Warner, he secured a fighting half. In the afternoon he secured our only win of the day with a victory over Derek Robinson.

This year's match will be at Worplesdon on Friday 2nd June, 1995. Any member wishing to play should contact the Secretary Andrew Cruickshank, at The Doone, Byfleet Road, Cobham, Surrey, KT11 1EA Tel 01932 864714.

NINETY YEARS AGO

The following notice appeared in the Journal of June 1905:

“Outing – Hampton Court, 10/- each including lunch, tea and dinner but exclusive of wine, railway fare from Waterloo.”

AROUND THE WORLD IN SIXTY MINUTES

13th July

John and Lois laid on a very special trip for us to the splendid relocated Spitalfields Market at the old Temple Mills goods yard at Leyton, all part of the emphasis John has had in his year of showing United Wards' members how the City works.

Several brave souls had undertaken the walk from Leyton Tube Station, only to find that it was considerably further than expected, among them Dennis Cotgrove and Stanley and Diana Samwell. Past President Hugh Olson and Vera arrived by car as did Senior Vice President Frank Wooldridge.

Michael Culverwell, the Market Superintendent outlined the history of this important market which was originally on the old Spitalfields site just beyond the City of London walls. This market was granted a Royal Charter in 1682 by Charles II to John Balch, a silk thrower, giving him the right to hold a market on Thursdays and Saturdays “in or near a certain place called Spital Square”. The ‘spittle’ from which the market derived its name was a hospital founded in 1197 by Walter Le Brune. Under John Balch the area became a thriving market and almost 200 years later Balch's ‘assigns’ were sold to Sir Julian Goldschmidt and remained in this family until 1897 when Robert Horner, who had first arrived in the market as a porter, bought what remained of the lease.

In 1902 the Corporation of London bought the freehold of the market and 20 years later obtained the lease from Robert Horner by use of compulsory purchasing powers when a £2m modernisation programme was undertaken. The encroaching City rendered the fruit and vegetable market too noisy and congested and the Corporation decided to seek a larger site; this took an Act of Parliament passed in February 1990. The new building opened in May 1991, a fast move made possible by the barn-like structure of the new building. Now there are 112 tenants and the market is flourishing.

At the end of this very interesting talk we made our way into the main market where Don and Mimi Daniels joined in the first group which included Christine Dyer-Simpson, Rhona and Albert Davis and John and Patricia Allen and this group was led by the President and Lois. I joined up with the second group and we commenced our tour of the world's fruit and vegetables. There were Spanish nectarines, Marayon melons,



limes from Brazil, pears from Provence, bananas from Costa Rica, mangoes from Pakistan and garlic from Iran - all seemed less exotic compared with the curious root vegetables from the West Indies.

At this point I was offered a strange green fruit to taste that bore a passing resemblance to cape gooseberries - a big mistake! We crowded into the largest banana ripener in the country that is now owned by Del Monte and the complex system of ripening by the use of special gases was explained - it is really quite an art.

Frank and Audrey Wheeler and Roy Collingsworth were in the group when one of our party expressed his concerns about large spiders emerging from the cases, but it seems that this is now very rare.

Michael and Peggy Wright and Peter and Jenny Istead wandered through the Flower Market where in the cold room were those new flowers beloved of flower arrangers called Lizianthus from Jerusalem and lovely roses from Guernsey waiting to be despatched. Audrey Hammond purchased a collection of delphinium plants to take home to Kent.

Among the British products I noticed were Norfolk carrots, Evesham onions, cucumbers from Roydon, raspberries from Sutton Valence, red currants from Halesworth, lettuce from Manchester, celery from York and the first of the new peas from Kent. At a very good breakfast we were joined by Arthur Hutchinson, Chairman of the Tenants Committee, who told us how very successful the Market is now and this is borne out by the fact it generates some £450 million of business per annum. I was so delighted that I had made the effort to beat the rail strike that day and listen to the dawn chorus as I drove up to the Market at 6 a.m. Thank you Mr President for such an interesting outing.

ANN BALL

HOLIDAY IN FLORENCE AND PERUGIA

28th September to 9th October REPORTED BY VALERIE AND TONY MARTIN

Wednesday, September 28th

Bewlay's Restaurant at Stansted Airport was the meeting place for what was to be a superb holiday in Italy. After a full English breakfast we checked in and went off to the Departure Lounge, only to find that our plane had been delayed for an hour. This gave ample time for duty-free shopping where most of us spent far more than we intended. However, we were rewarded for our extravagances by the gift of a colourful beach towel.

After a champagne flight we arrived in Florence and had a short coach journey to the excellent, refurbished Hotel Albani. 76 bathrooms were of marble with mirrored ceilings. After all the pasta we ate, the mirrors revealed far more than they should have done. There was an enticing street market nearby, displaying all kinds of leather goods, and a short walk took us to the cathedral and the wonderful baptistry.



▲ John and Lois take wine

Thursday, September 29th

We departed on a warm and sunny day for a feast of wine-tasting. Our first stop was at the Enstecca Serriston. We tasted various Chianti wines, the oldest being 1985. We were also given Grappa - a strong liqueur. The vineyard workers were busy picking grapes which were piled into small dumper trucks. The truck was driven to a large trailer towed by a tractor, and the grapes tipped in. We then boarded the coach again and went off to a second vineyard. We were given a tour of the cellars and a little history of the farm. By this time we were ready for lunch but after so much wine-tasting some of the party seemed to have lost interest in food. Gradually the level of laughter rose and the jokes and stories began to circulate, saying much for the power of Chianti Classico. The starter was a sort of rusk with tomato and pâté.

Very tasty but rather hard on the teeth. This was followed by cold meats and salad. We returned to the Hotel Albani in a very happy state.

Friday, September 30th

A morning at leisure. Some visited the museums and art galleries, others spent the time shopping. After lunch our guide took us on a walking tour of Florence. Across the Ponte Vecchio, we saw the Palazzo Vecchio, went into the cathedral and the really breathtaking Baptistry. This has famous bronze doors by Pisano made between 1336 and 1360 and the Gates of Paradise by Ghiberti. His brief was to produce the most beautiful doors ever made, regardless of the time it took or of the expense. The exterior of the Baptistry is in green and white marble and the interior is completely decorated with either paintings or mosaics - a most richly decorated building. We ended the day with the President's Dinner, the ladies looking glamorous in their finery and gentlemen looking very handsome in white dinner jackets.

Saturday, October 1st

We had a visit to Siena. The first thing the guide did was to take us to a "comfort stop". The gentlemen in the party were quite put out when they were charged the equivalent of 40p. Siena is the centre of banking in Italy and it was the first town in Europe to have a bank. Today half their profits are given to the town to pay for the upkeep and restoration of the historical buildings. Siena is supposed to have been founded by the children of Remus and many statues of the she-wolf with Romulus and Remus commemorate this. We walked through many narrow, steeply curving streets to reach the cathedral, a magnificent building decorated in horizontal stripes of black and white marble, the two colours of Siena. Inside, there are many beautiful paintings and statues and a pulpit carved by Pisano.



▲ The party at Siena

Lunch was taken at a restaurant in the main square of Siena, the Piazza del Campo, which is concave in shape. It is vast, and this is where the famous horse race known as the Palio takes place. During lunch we heard the sound of drum beats gradually coming nearer. We were fortunate to be there when a parade of three boys from each of the seventeen districts that form Siena were parading in their colourful medieval costumes.

Somewhat later than intended we boarded our coach for San Gimignano. A delightful small town, it is still enclosed by its ancient walls and set high on a hilltop. It is a Town of Towers. The reason for building so many towers was apparently to show outsiders what a very wealthy and important town it was. As in every town we visited, there was an imposing church. Again, the pulpit had been carved by Pisano. One wall of the church was covered with panels denoting scenes from the Old Testament and the opposite wall had scenes from the life of Jesus.

That evening we enjoyed an informal dinner at a local restaurant much favoured by young Florentines. Please note that members of the United Wards' Club walked for ten minutes to reach the restaurant and afterwards returned to the Hotel Albani at midnight in the same manner.

Sunday, October 2nd

We went to the outskirts of Florence to the British & Commonwealth Cemetery. Here Wilf Hammond led a short Service of Remembrance, assisted by Mike Wright, Larry Cox and Tony Martin and afterwards laid a wreath on the memorial. Then, Club members took time to wander among the hundreds of graves of such young men and women that we were all close to tears. It was a most moving occasion and as if the weather sensed our mood, the skies darkened and we had a terrifying thunderstorm. This gave us an excuse to put our feet up and read a good book during the afternoon. That evening President John held his gala dinner.

Monday, October 3rd

We left the hotel after breakfast for a visit to Pisa. The skies were still overcast and we had some rain, and when we arrived in Pisa we were surrounded by umbrella sellers - they don't miss a trick. Fortunately, within a very short time the sun appeared and stayed out for the rest of our holiday. We met our guide who took us into the cathedral, right next door to the famous Leaning Tower. This cathedral is the most

wonderful of all the churches we have seen. Galileo's Lamp hangs in the centre of the nave. It is known as Galileo's Lamp because it is supposed to have been by watching the movement to and fro of this lamp that the scientist understood the isochronous movement of the pendulum. Here also is the most wonderful pulpit, carved by Giovanni Pisano between 1301 and 1311. There are scenes from the life of Christ, the Evangelist and superb animal carvings. In 1595 there was a disastrous fire which destroyed the ceiling of the cathedral. The Medicis planned and paid for the restoration work that was needed. On leaving the cathedral our guide invited us to look at the bronze doors, which if you rub them, are supposed to bring good fortune. All the ladies of the party took the chance to enhance their future but the men were far too sceptical to trust such mumbo jumbo.

We then visited the Monumental Cemetery nearby, built in the early 14th century. Beneath the floors of the vast corridors lie about 600 tombs containing successive generations of the most famous Pisan families. Numerous Roman sarcophagi line the walls and there are many lovely frescoes. These were damaged in 1944 when an incendiary bomb fell through and damaged the lead. There has been a great programme of restoration work, though many of the frescoes were completely destroyed.



▲ John and Lois at the Leaning Tower

We then walked to the restaurant, passing the famous Leaning Tower. On arriving there we found our tables and realised that two of the party had gone missing. A search party went out and after some little while, Don Bishop and Jim Campfield were brought back to the fold to be greeted with great cheers.

From Pisa the coach took us to the delightful walled town of Lucca. We found many interesting old streets, another wonderful cathedral and attractive squares.

Tuesday October 4th

This was a free day to explore Florence at our leisure. Some queued at the Uffizi Gallery to savour the medieval paintings of Botticelli, Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo. Others visited the Palazzo Vecchio and the Palazzo Pitti. The leather market also proved very popular for presents to take home to the family.

That evening we dressed up in our finery and went to the opera. The Opera House itself is fairly modern and something of a disappointment after all the beautiful buildings we had seen in Florence. However, the production of *Così Fan Tutti* by Mozart made up for it. The orchestra was conducted by Zubin Mehta, the exuberant character who conducted the three tenors at the football world cup. The international soloists were excellent and we all thoroughly enjoyed the evening, which did not end until midnight.

Wednesday, October 5th

We left the delightful Hotel Albani by coach on our way to Perugia. We had lunch en route at a delightful restaurant, the Hotel Paradiso, near Lake Trasimene. After lunch we had time to stroll round the lake and then continued our journey to Perugia. We settled into our new surroundings and met up later for drinks with the President before having dinner.

Thursday, October 6th

Today we visited Assisi. Our guide was a Swedish lady, married to an Italian and talking to us in English, which caused some interesting comments at times. Assisi is a splendid place. The monks built a church to house the tomb of St. Francis. The Pope himself laid the foundation stone in 1288 on a steeply sloping site on the edge of the Asio Hill. For this reason they built a two storey building. The lower church is in the form of a crypt which houses St. Francis' tomb. The walls are covered in beautiful paintings and the nave above has many mosaics. The work was mainly carried out at the end of the 13th century involving the greatest artists of the time. Here on view is the cloak worn by

St. Francis. A third church was built in the 18th century to cope with the thousands of pilgrims, who came to worship at the shrine of the saint. It is high-pitched with plenty of light to show off the paintings of the life of St. Francis and Jesus. Walking in Assisi proved quite difficult in the steep streets. We finally reached a pleasant open square and sat down for a welcome cup of coffee. After a brief respite we rejoined the coach and took off for our lunch at a vineyard and restaurant called Sasso Rosso. We were met by our very genial host who welcomed us with several glasses of his champagne. It was then time for lunch, served in an old beamed dining room. With our meal were served various bottles of our host's wine and the party became quite merry. In fact we enjoyed the Chianti Classico so much that several cases were ordered for delivery in England. After this wonderful day out it was back to the hotel for a short rest before dinner.

Friday, October 7th

This morning we had a trip into the countryside to visit an olive oil farm run by Signore Chipolloni. We were given hard toast dipped in garlic-flavoured oil and of course, wine to help it down. Signore Chipolloni gave us a brief talk on olive oil and olive trees. On arrival back at the hotel, which was some way out of Perugia, several members of the party decided to go up into the town for lunch. This was quite a surprise. The coach took us a fair way up towards the town, then we had to leave it and go the rest of the way by a series of escalators. The last two were actually inside a castle which had been completely lost to view until the excavations to build the escalators took place. Perugia was the third most important town in Italy in the Middle Ages being a free town, but lost its freedom in 1540 and was annexed by the Papal States during the Salt Wars. The people were so incensed at the imposition of the Salt tax by the Pope that to this day they bake their bread without salt.

Perugia has a fine church and the most ancient monument is the magnificent Fontana Maggiore, said to be the greatest piece of medieval statuary created by the workshop of Nicola and Giovanni Pisano (1278). It was built to celebrate the completion of an aqueduct which brought water into the town.

Saturday, October 8th

In the morning we left the hotel for the coach ride to Gubbio. Just outside Perugia we stopped at an Etruscan building which contained many beautifully carved Etruscan stone containers, for the funeral urns of the period. Beneath was a crypt containing more

tombs. We then went on to Gubbio. The road climbed over the Apennine mountain range giving stunning views over the countryside. The mountain top carried the first snows of winter. Gubbio is another delightful hill town. We visited a church which our Swedish guide pronounced "Shersh". We then went up a steep road and a flight of steps to the Palazzo Ducale. We were left to find our own way down to the coach. This was not difficult as all roads went either up or down!



▲ The party at Gubbio

When we got back to the hotel we said goodbye to our guide. She had been a charming lady but her pronunciation made listening to her for three days a little trying.

Most of us went up to the town for lunch and a final walk round. The ride back to the hotel in a local bus was a hair-raising experience round all the hairpin bends and down the steep roads. We all kept our fingers crossed that the brakes worked properly. In the evening the coach took us up to the old town for

a special dinner at the Ristorante La Taverna - an excellent meal and wine, which we all enjoyed very much. Unfortunately, Secretary Wilfred could not come as he had a bad cold. So he retired to bed with a bottle of "medicine".

Sunday, October 9th

This was a day of rest but twenty-one of the party were still full of enthusiasm so they hired the coach and went to Spello and then to Spoleto. Spello was one of the prettiest hill towns we saw. Steep, narrow roads - the main street had a rubber surface so you could get a good grip going down. On investigating a small car park it was found that there was a double wall along one side. On looking over you saw the reason - a drop of 40 feet onto the houses below.

From Spello we went to Spoleto. A much larger medieval town but like all the others, built on the top of a hill. En route to Spoleto matron Pat livened up the journey with a supply of gin and tonic - she even remembered the lemon.

After a leisurely lunch at Spoleto and a walk round the town, we boarded the coach and returned to the hotel.

That evening, being the last of the holiday, we had our gala dinner. Everyone was very smart in their evening dress. President John and his charming wife, Lois, were thanked by Vice-President Wilfred for their hard work and planning which resulted in a most memorable holiday.

The next morning the coach left the hotel for Florence Airport where we boarded the 'plane for home. Everyone arrived safely at Stansted.



▲ The President's Dinner

FOUNDERS DAY BANQUET

31st October

117 years ago to this day the United Wards' Club was formed and many members and guests joined the President to celebrate the occasion at Tallow Chandlers' Hall.

After a delicious three-course meal, followed by the customary toasts the President entertained everyone with an 1877 factual journey and we were shocked to hear that a ten pound note then, is now worth just under 3p! We were also told that in our Founder's year, the American President, General Grant, was presented with the Freedom of the City. The document was enclosed in a gold oblong casket, enriched with enamel and supported at its four corners by the American eagle. The front was a chased gold relief of the Grant monogram and the Lord Mayor's coat of arms. One wonders if this magnificent piece of work is still in the Grant family.

It was interesting to note that the first duty of the incoming Lord Mayor that year was to open the new steam ferry across the Thames at Wapping. On a lighter note the President said that people were as gullible then as now and quoted an advertisement: "Grey hair restored to its original shade, after which it grows to its natural colour, not grey. Price 10/6d. Testimonials post free."

After flights of fancy in the nature of pills to purify the blood and to cure all liver disorders, ointment to cure bad legs, old wounds, gout and rheumatism, it was pleasing to hear that the down-to-earth Michael Cassidy BA MBA, Chairman of the Policy Resources Committee, was to address us. He is a committed City man and often appears on television, giving the Corporation point of view.

It is his opinion that the City thrives because its business is done by face to face contact, a method not matched by any phone conversation. Against foreign competition London beats New York in the funds battle, Treasury figures make it an economy as big as Saudi Arabia and Russia. It also owns 10,000 acres of open spaces outside its own boundaries. In fact, the City of London is the dowry house of world finance.

If one was not convinced of the efficacy and efficiency of the City of London government, Michael Cassidy's

To Meet
His Royal Highness
The Duke of Gloucester
K.G., K.T., K.P., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., P.C.



Diamond Jubilee Dinner

Alderman Sir Charles A. Batho Bart. JP.
President

Connaught Rooms December 14th 1956

▲ Another sixty glorious years – well nearly!

final points were very convincing. He said that the police surveillance of 250,000 workers arriving daily, plus 20,000 visitors per week, was second to none. Listeners were told that the City covers the costs of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and the green belt open spaces which include Epping Forest and Burnham Beeches, also the Old Bailey. However Tower Bridge is financed by a City charitable trust and there is no cost to the ratepayer.

Mr Cassidy's informative talk was followed by a reading of the minutes taken at the earliest Governing Body meeting. The President then closed a happy evening with his thanks to everyone for coming. He asked all to join him in a toast to "The Founders", to whom we as a Club are eternally grateful for so many successful occasions as this.

BAR BARBER

A DAY AT NEWMARKET, OR – HORSES WITHOUT A BET

24th November

Having dutifully followed the instructions received, we parked our car in the spacious area of Tattersalls, at the south end of Newmarket, and being duly thankful that the day was mild and quite dry, we took a leisurely stroll up the busy High Street to arrive at the north end, there to be greeted by the smiling face of secretary Wilfred, stationed outside the premises of Corney and Barrow, Wine Merchants. We were directed to join the other members of the expedition, assembled in the Newmarket Gallery, and whilst awaiting the experience of the wine tasting, there was much to appreciate in the contents of the Gallery - with a fine display of paintings and prints, covering the essence of Newmarket, and especially the works of Nigel Cawthorne, considered by many as the modern equal of Alfred Munnings.

And so upstairs to sample the wines supplied and expounded by Mr. J.A.B. Long, the Managing Director of Corney and Barrow.

A tasting of a number of whites, followed by the reds, was much enjoyed by following the ritual of - appraisal of colour, a swirl round the glass, the nose to be inserted into the depths of the glass, for a severe intake of breath to take the bouquet (to simple folk, - to know how it smelt) and then a good sample taken into the mouth to be, in technical terms - chewed, which means pushing it back and forwards through the front teeth, and then flushing round the mouth. And then, "ah" - one must spit out what one has taken, and then throw away what is left in the glass. This can be somewhat disheartening, if one is really enjoying the "flavour". And so it was interesting to observe the varying degrees of expertise in swizzling the wine round the glass, the use of the nose, and after sampling, the resultant facial expression, which could vary from a degree of ecstasy, a quizzical look of uncertainty, to even a look of downright dislike. Ah well, chacun à son goût.

One can always wonder as to whether granny with her home-made elderberry, gets as much pleasure as the expert with (if he can afford it) a '64 Latour. Happy is the person who can say - "I know what I like".

Still firmly on their feet, all then crossed the road to the wine store, and managed to negotiate a very steep stairway down to the cellars, there to sit at a long table, surrounded by many cases of wine, many of great value. A delightful luncheon was enjoyed with leisure-

ly appreciation of the wines which accompanied it. The enjoyment extended into the late afternoon. Then followed a walk back down the High Street towards Tattersalls, a chance for healthy exercise and after 20 minutes or so (no hurry after that lunch!) Tattersalls impressive premises were reached, and entry made past the exercising yards, and so into the sale room. The history of Tattersalls covers some 250 years past, since Richard Tattersall set up a horse sale and exchange mart at Hyde Park Corner. A complete history has been written as to the progress of the site established in Knightsbridge, with the ownership to preserve the name through the male line until Somerville Tattersall died in 1942.

Fortunately other directors had made names for themselves with their integrity and efficiency, and the firm gradually recovered after the war years. Extensive development was carried out in the mid '60s for the fine complex as now established. The arch, which had been for so many years the entrance feature in Knightsbridge, was moved entirely to Newmarket and is there located at the top of the car park. On entering the sales area, a fine cupola can be noticed, under which is the figure of a fox sitting with a raised paw. This was a feature of the ring at Knightsbridge since the 1780's, with the affinity of the horse, hunting and the fox. When a move was first contemplated to Newmarket, Bob Needham, then the senior partner, was told that it would cost £700 to take the cupola and fox down, and resite the whole in Newmarket. His classic comment - "What! That old thing - it is not worth it" was fortunately talked out by the other partners and the fox and mountings were moved to the site in the front parade ring, where the whole is a prominent feature, and most attractive when, as dusk descends, it is floodlit.

And so into the sales arena to watch the auction of the foals. Any concern that after the wine tasting and extensive lunch, that one could drop off to sleep and might make a nod which could lead to the expensive acquisition of a large piece of unproven horseflesh, was settled in observing that a white railed area was for occupation only by would-be buyers, and to that area the auctioneer paid the most attention. However, one could not be too careful.

There are several sales throughout the year, others to include horses in training, and with some record of racing success (or otherwise) and that is when the big money can create a sensation. In 1982, the horse Tenea made auctioneering history, being the first horse to pass the million mark, being sold for 1,020,000 guineas as a three year old. The December sales, of which we were to observe part of the three day event are concerned solely with the foals - colts and fillies (boys and girls) born in the early months of the year, and some 250 were to pass before the auctioneer each day.

The catalogue gave the lineage of each foal, going back three generations through the dams, to indicate other progeny, so that one could assess what type of relatives the foal has had or still has. Thus the interest of the bidder is as to aspiration for racing fame, or, perhaps consideration as to future breeding, or even both. And so in turn, each foal is led into the ring, with wide-eyed wonder under the glare of the lighting. The first range of prices went from 5000 to 15,000 guineas,

and there then arrived what, to the lay eye, appeared a rather tired looking foal, which however created interest to be sold eventually at 25,000 guineas. The next colt in the ring fetched only 2500, and thereupon showed some resentment by refusing to leave the ring and shying every time at the exit point. The next into the ring managed to reach 10,000 whilst the other was still sulking, but which then accepted his lower status, and meekly followed his superior out of the ring.

It was indeed a pleasant hour to watch the hopeful youngsters, some of which could reach fame in the years to come. The evening approaching, then after a visit to the comfortable refreshment rooms, a walk by the floodlit parade rings, with the bustling activities of the grooms exercising their charges, and so to the car park and the drive home.

Perhaps in the years to come, one may have reason to remember some of the foals (even the 2500 one) Who knows?

JIM CAMPFIELD

ANNUAL CAROL SERVICE AND CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

9th December

One never tires of hearing the Christmas story unfolded by the President each year. Starting with the processional carol "O come, O come, Emmanuel" it continued with the four lessons ably read by Club officers and it heralded for many of the congregation the start of the festive season. Lessons were interspersed with carols and those sung by the choir and the organist, Catherine Ennis were particularly moving. This year they were chosen by the President's lady, Lois and were a joy to hear, sung in the surroundings of St Lawrence Jewry.

Finishing with the Christmas Gospel read by the President, the congregation gave a spirited rendering of the final carol "O come all ye faithful" before departing or stepping across Guildhall Yard for lunch in the Old Library. President John and Lois were quickly in position to receive members and guests and there followed a happy meal in true United Wards' style - a gathering of friends. Then, a few words from Senior Past President Stanley Flintham who, in proposing a toast to the President and the Club described John as a perfectionist "married to a charming and lovely lady", sentiments which were acclaimed.



▲ John with his charming and lovely lady

Replying, the President described Stanley and Ada as "the best double act in the City" and went on to thank those who had made the day so successful - to the Hon. Chaplain, the Revd Canon David Burgess, Catherine Ennis and those who were on duty as stewards at the church service, to Wilfred and Audrey

Hammond, who as always, worked hard to ensure the success of the event. Concluding, he wished all present a Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year. Many lingered on to chat to friends - yet another enjoyable and happy Club event.

118th ANNIVERSARY DINNER

18th January

Interesting information is usually gleaned from the menu and this year was no exception. We were told that the Lord Mayor had no official residence before the present Mansion House was built, the foundation stone being laid by Micajah Perry, Lord Mayor in 1739. It was not ready for occupation until the mayoralty of Sir Crisp Gascoine in 1752-3.

Last year, after a period of refurbishment, we returned to Mansion House for this annual occasion. Again this year we were privileged to dine here and to view parts of the building described in the menu - the dining hall and ballroom having many fine architectural features.

So much for erudite matters. The moment we had been waiting for arrived at 7.25 p.m. with the toastmaster's announcement of dinner and seated among friends, we enjoyed an excellent four course meal. As usual this was followed by sung grace and the ritual of passing the loving cup. Then followed the Loyal and civic toasts, the latter proposed by the Remembrancer, Mr Adrian Barnes M.A. He holds an office which dates back to the reign of the first Queen Elizabeth. In his address he referred to the City as "the heart of the nation" not only surviving but flourishing.

In his response the Lord Mayor spoke in glowing terms of the City's role in the world financial markets and of its huge contribution to the U.K. balance of payments. Concluding the Lord Mayor offered the gift of a pack of playing cards to the President - the former being a Maker of Playing Cards by livery.

The President escorts the Mayoral party into dinner ►

Next it was the turn of the President to speak, thanking the Lord Mayor for his generous toast. John wondered whether with a Q.C. in charge, there would be free legal advice! He went on to welcome the guests, using a cricketing theme, Bunny Morgan being referred to as team manager. The final speaker was John J. Rowe Q.C. and a Recorder of the Crown Court who regaled us with many amusing stories of those whom he had defended during his outstanding legal career. This brought to a close yet another happy United Wards' evening - a meeting of friends, in superb surroundings



VALENTINES NIGHT

14th February

Reference books tell us that St Valentine was the name of an early Italian saint - or possibly two saints - traditionally commemorated on this day. Patron of lovers, possibly connected with the old belief that birds pair together on 14th February.

Maybe much of the foregoing is pure tradition but United Wards' lovers were nonetheless keen to join John and Lois on this day with a planned evening at

the Barbican. A pleasant way to start was to stroll around the conservatory where, glass in hand, one could view the splendid indoor garden. Then, on a call by Secretary Wilf, we seated ourselves for a scrumptious candlelight dinner. Music by three talented artists from the Guildhall School then followed and all too soon the evening came to an end - an informal and friendly evening in United Wards' style.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

NEW MEMBERS

D G W Ballard
W J Goldfinch
J W Lindsey
P R E Monson
Miss H Osborne
E J Scilloe
Miss M Turner

Mrs L R Bartlett
C Green
A I F Mackenzie
M D C Morgan
D R Owen-Jones
Mrs B J Stapleton

G F A Carpenter
P F Kearon
J W Murray
C R Morley

A C Roger
T H Tiller
P P White

RESIGNATIONS

G R Bridgwood
W E Gunn
W H Marle
D G Rees
W I Taylor

I T Carroll
A P Harvey
G H Pugson
Miss E H L Rodgers
J T Williams

D Cotgrove
K W G Langley
Mrs E M Rayner

S Street
Mrs L S Wood

DEATHS

P/President P Allday
V A C Durand
G W Ingram

A A Atkinson
R Gold
P/President R W Nichols

D Daniels
D F Hunt
J J Ware

NO TRACE

J H C Dolby
L W Oliver

IN MEMORIAM

Sadly, we report the passing of two Past Presidents.

PHILIP E. ALLDAY, F.C.A., President in 1978. Much involved in City life, he served on the Court of Common Council for Bishopsgate Ward. A glutton for work, he was for many years Hon. Treasurer of the City Livery Club. His skills will be greatly missed.

RONALD W. NICHOLS - Nick to his many friends. President in 1983-4, Nick was a devoted City man. A liveryman, rising to Master of the Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers, when he was joined on the Court by his son Nigel. In business life he was a Fellow of the Institute of Directors and became chairman and managing director of a family company.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1994

	1994		1993	
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
Subscriptions				
Annual	7,270		5,828	
Life Members (proportion)	476		474	
Associate Wards Clubs	250		145	
		<u>7,996</u>		<u>6,447</u>
Investment Income				
Deposit Account Interest	66		352	
Dividends and Interest	2,619		2,244	
		<u>2,685</u>		<u>2,596</u>
Profit on sale of ties, plaques and brooches		86		96
		<u>10,767</u>		<u>9,139</u>
EXPENDITURE				
Depreciation		526		
City Livery Exhibition		1,737		
Entertaining official guests at functions		799		781
Secretary's remuneration		1,750		1,750
Printing, stationery, postage and telephone		5,995		4,158
Sundry expenses		516		497
Journal		3,212		2,335
Newsletter		1,462		528
Immediate Past President's badge		122		122
Lord Mayor's Show		370		391
		<u>16,489</u>		<u>10,562</u>
Deficit of income over expenditure		(5,722)		(1,423)
Social Functions				
Income	137,382		171,177	
Expenditure	131,720		172,341	
		<u>5,662</u>		<u>(1,164)</u>
Surplus/(Deficiency)		5,662		(1,164)
Deficit for the year		<u>(60)</u>		<u>(2,587)</u>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1994

	1994		1993	
	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS				
Computer Equipment		3,157		-
Less: depreciation		<u>526</u>		-
		2,631		-
INVESTMENTS				
Cost				
(Market Value 1994: £63,860)		24,662		25,418
(Market Value 1993: £75,787)				
CURRENT ASSETS				
Club Banner	325		325	
Stocks at Cost	1,865		2,113	
Debtors & Prepayments	1,452		1,859	
Cash at Bank	<u>20,570</u>		<u>25,014</u>	
	<u>24,212</u>		<u>29,311</u>	
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Creditors	8,603		5,854	
Functions	<u>7,031</u>		<u>14,658</u>	
	<u>15,634</u>		<u>20,512</u>	
Net Current Assets		<u>8,578</u>		<u>8,799</u>
		<u>35,871</u>		<u>34,217</u>
Financed by Accumulated Surplus				
Balance as at 31 December 1994		26,411		26,217
Life Subscriptions		7,457		7,433
Benevolent Fund		<u>2,003</u>		<u>567</u>
		<u>35,871</u>		<u>34,217</u>

AUDITORS REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED WARDS' CLUB OF THE CITY OF LONDON

I have examined the accounts set out on pages 2 and 3, which have been prepared on the historical cost basis of accounting.

In my opinion the accounts give, on the above basis, a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Club as at 31 December 1994, and of its results for the year ended on that date.

Ian D Williams
Chartered Accountant
20 March 1995

1995/96 PROGRAMME

1995

Tuesday 21 March	Annual General Meeting at the City Livery Club
Wednesday 12 April	Literary Luncheon on board H.Q.S.Wellington followed by a talk by Viscount Montgomery of Alamein
Thursday 4 May	Private tour of Hever Castle followed by luncheon and tea in The Pavilion Restaurant.
Thursday to Sunday 1 - 4 June	Week-end in Sheffield
Friday July 7 Lys	Day visit to France with luncheon at The Hostellerie des 3 Mousquetaires, Aire sur la Lys
Thursday August 10	Visit to Denbies Wine Estate (near Dorking) followed by luncheon
Thursday to Tuesday 1 - 12 Sept	Holiday in Hungary
September	Possible visit to Buckingham Palace
Thursday 5 October	Visit to Royal Mail Sorting office Mount Pleasant.
Friday 22 October	Associated Wards Club Reception at Mansion House.
Tuesday 31 October	Founders Day Dinner in Cutlers' Hall with address by His Honour Judge Lymbery QC until recently the Common Serjeant of London.
Saturday 11 November	Lord Mayor's Show
Thursday 16 November	Dinner at Farmers' and Fletchers' Hall followed by a talk by the Commissioner of the City of London Police.
Friday 8 December	Carol Service at St Lawrence Jewry followed by Luncheon in Guildhall.

1996

Wednesday 17 January	Banquet at Mansion House (Provisional)
Wednesday 14 February	Visit to Guildhall Library with supper in Guildhall
Tuesday 19 March	Annual General Meeting at City Livery Club

AUDITORS REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE
THE UNITED WARDY CLUB

The Hon. Editor thanks all scribes and
photographers who have given him
valuable assistance in the production
of this journal.



