Past Master Dr. George Daniels has had a remarkable year.

In January he was awarded the CBE in the Queen’s New Year’s Honours List, the citation reading *Master Watchmaker, for services to Horology*. He is the only watchmaker to receive such an honour.

As a result, he has been the subject of many articles and interviews, both locally and internationally, and not a week has gone by without more requests. This, of course, may be due to the announcement that George and Roger Smith are collaborating to make a wristwatch of limited production containing the co-axial escapement, to celebrate 35 years since its invention.

In March, the Lieutenant Governor of the Isle of Man, His Excellency Vice Admiral Sir Paul Haddacks and Lady Haddacks gave a reception at Government House to celebrate George’s CBE. In his speech His Excellency referred to the monumental contribution George Daniels had made to the horological industry, being acknowledged as the world’s greatest living watchmaker. He also made special reference to the enormous kudos George had brought to the Isle of Man, as the world’s centre of excellence for hand-made watches.

It was then on to Switzerland for Baselworld where Omega hosted an exhibition to celebrate 10 years of their use of the co-axial escapement together with a reception held in George’s honour. During the Fair, the Horological Academy of Independent Creators celebrated its 25th anniversary. George, as one of the founder members, was received with great acclaim and was in constant demand throughout the event. A celebration book, *The Hands of Time* has been printed and to quote from the book, .. *It is impossible to exaggerate the influence George Daniels has had on the world of mechanical horology. His legacy is colossal.* Omega is running a series of advertisements using well-known stars such as Nicole Kidman, George Clooney, Buzz Aldrin and others, to publicise their wristwatches.

On May 21st, he was at Buckingham Palace for the CBE investiture held by HRH the Prince of Wales. A magnificent occasion with all the pomp and circumstance one would expect. The day ended with a celebration dinner where George entertained his friends and horological colleagues.

The Company warmly congratulates George on his well deserved award.

by Liveryman David Newman

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**Calendar 2010**

| Thu 15 Jul | Mon 27 Sep | Mon 29 Nov |
| Snowshill Manor | Michaelmas Court, Dinner and Harrison Lecture, Salters’ Hall | The Dingwall Beloe Lecture, The British Museum |
| and Keith Harding’s collection. Broadway & Northleach, Glos | Wed 29 Sep | Fri 3 Dec |
| | Election of Lord Mayor Guildhall | The Livery Dinner Mansion House |
| | Wed 3 Nov | Thur 9 Dec |
| “Greenwich Mean Time” Lecture, Bakers’ Hall | Sat 13 Nov | Carol Service |
| | Lord Mayor’s Show City of London | St. Sepulchre-without-Newgate |
| | Wed 24 Nov | Mon 31 Jan |
| Festival of St Cecilia St Paul’s Cathedral | Installation Court and Common Hall Painters’ Hall & St James Garlickhythe |
Those of us who were elected Stewards in 1999, Michael Sanderson, Derek Rapport, Terence Camerer Cuss and myself, consider ourselves fortunate as after our period of office we have kept very much in touch. We meet every year on the last Friday of January for lunch. I think it was Michael Sanderson who suggested the idea and it was certainly he who hosted the first of these occasions to which we usually invite the Master, the Clerk and their wives to join us. We take it in turn to host the luncheon either in our homes or at a convenient restaurant. Derek Rapport invited us to lunch in Cardiff Castle which was very special. I feel we have all contributed in our various ways to the art of horology.

Terence Camera Cuss has recently published an excellent book on watches, Michael Sanderson was Master of the Company in 2008 and Derek Rapport, in addition to his clock manufacturing activities, was appointed High Sheriff of South Glamorgan. I am the author of a number of books of a practical nature. 2010 was my turn and as we have recently moved house (down sizing) we met on Lurgashall Green where I was able to show the other Stewards the very fine three quarter Westminster chiming clock in Lurgashall Church, (a late Dent movement) followed by a visit to my workshop where I have been designing and making various types of clocks in Meccano.

Meccano went out of business some years ago, but is now enjoying a strong revival, not with children, but with adults who played with it when young. As a child, it was frustrating as one never had enough money to buy the big expensive sets, but now as adults the problem does not exist. Meccano is still being made and there are numerous Meccano clubs not only in this country but also overseas.

Meccano is an assembly constructional toy. No machine tools are required. The models can all be put together with a screwdriver and spanner. In the 1930’s Meccano produced leaflets on a number of “super models”. There were about thirty, one of which was a Meccano Grandfather Clock. The design was terrible and in the introduction to the construction it stated the clock required an 18lb. weight which would run for 12 hours! At a later period after the war Meccano started to introduce kits which would produce specific models. There were two clock kits, neither very good, and Meccano realising this, wrote and asked if I would design a clock for them, which I duly did. It was a weight driven wall clock with a large dial, requiring only a light driving weight automatically wound by a battery-driven electric motor. I can remember, it was a Mr. Potter from the sales staff who came down to collect it and he seemed very impressed and took it back to Liverpool. In a few days they sent me a cheque and said the clock was in the manager’s office performing well. However it never appeared as a kit or in print as Meccano suddenly went into liquidation.

To make satisfactory clocks in Meccano one must realise its limitations. The principle is based upon the Meccano spindle which is 5/32” or 4mm. in diameter. All the other parts fitted on this spindle such as gears, pulleys, collars etc. have a central hole of that diameter. One can see that hanging an 18lb. weight on a 5/32” diameter spindle is doomed to failure, the spindle flexed under the weight.

I have spent considerable time in overcoming this restriction in the Meccano system where it applies to clocks and have now made eight different examples including a Congreve, a flying pendulum clock, a church clock (which uses a gravity escapement), and the Thwaites & Reed single six-legged escapement. This last, is particularly suitable for construction in Meccano and works very well. Having finished the clock, I rang John Vernon, the technical director of Thwaites & Reed and remember him looking at it with amazement that it could be made from Meccano and saying that the action was absolutely correct.

All these clocks are included in my book Building Meccano Clocks available from RiteTime Publishing, 18 Woolmer Way, Bordon. GU35 9QF Tel: 01420 487 747
Having only been admitted to the Company last year, I am delighted to have been invited to be with you this evening. And I am sure that we all wish well, and a speedy recovery to the Master’s Chaplain, Roger Holloway and the Rector of this Church Dr Alan Griffin, who find themselves in ill health at this time.

If there were a Livery Company for Clergymen, then the motto of the Clockmaker’s Company, Tempus Rerum Imperator, would suit it very well. It would remind them, amongst other things, to get their skates on when they ascend the pulpit, not to drone on, not to repeat themselves, and not to take 30 minutes to say what can be said in a third of the time! So best I crack on.

I have always had a heart and deep feeling for our national tradition and ceremonial. It is part and parcel of the temperament and psychological make up that I have been born with and the influences that moulded me as a small child. I value the way in which tradition transmits and keeps history and culture alive. These externals are precious and they define people and nations who have a common root. And good traditions are worth defending and protecting. The Latin word ‘traditio’ from which we derive our word tradition means handing on; something passed on to hand rather like the baton in a relay race. Tradition permeates all that we experience this evening and the fact that so many people are here reminds us that tradition is not a dead thing but has the potential to be the conduit of activity and dynamism.

In the ceremony of the Installation, in the Choral Evensong of 1662 and later on when we sit at table, the traditions of the Worshipful Company of Clockmakers are observed. In word and in deed, in profession and intention, in expression of loyalty and honour, in garb and in ceremonial, the traditions associated with the Company have been executed. And all these things are imbued with meaning. And the meanings associated with these things are alluded to in the words of St Paul read to us this evening. St Paul refers to kindness, humility, meekness, long suffering forbearance, forgiveness and charity – which is love. St Paul suggests that these virtues ought to be the hallmarks for the embryonic Christian community of the time and to whom he writes, and yet they also have a universal appeal. He uses the expression to “put on a new garment” a metaphor that everyone in this Company is familiar with through installation and admission services. An acceptance of responsibility that is physically expressed when gowns or robes are presented and worn. In addition, St Paul also uses the expression, “one another” three times in this section of his writing. And in so doing he underlines the obligation of service to others that members of the Christian community are bound by. Again a concept that is familiar to this Company and indeed every livery company in London. St Paul is suggesting to his readers that words are simply not enough, and that the natural out flowing of their belief must be expressed in good deeds and in noble actions.

This evening the baton has once again been happily handed on. A baton that carries with it responsibility, a responsibility and a custodianship of the Company that goes back to 1631 and to David Ramsey. It is a tradition of custodianship to hold Office in trust for and on behalf of others. And this is a happy and joyful commitment. It is a commitment to ensure the safekeeping of the Company, to guard and represent its integrity. It is a commitment to be loyal to its precepts and to bring further honour to them. It is a commitment that will bring with it cause for rejoicing in the attendant fellowship and friendship that naturally flows from the bonds of common association. It is a commitment to make sure that we in our time will cherish all that is of the very best in our tradition and to hand the baton on to future generations with a loosening, but solid and confident grip that it will not fall to the ground. And of course that is a commitment for all of us, not only the Master.

It is significant that the first thing the Master does following his installation is to go to Church. In so doing he, along with the rest of us, acknowledge, do we not, in the ancient formularies of the Church, in psalm and hymnody, in the inspired musical genius of Haydn, Purcell and Stanford, in the words of Holy Scripture and in prayer, the priority of those seven cardinal virtues in the life of any healthy and life giving fellowship? We set in context events that happened earlier on at the Installation, and also what goes on, in the day-to-day life of the Company. For as we sit here we remind ourselves of the absolute necessity to live out, as best we can, as individuals and as a Company, the seven fold virtues that St Paul commended to the Church in Colossae. We acknowledge the Source of all that is good and true and noble and honourable in human life. In this place, and at this moment in time, we collectively acknowledge the Source and the wellspring of the gifts and talents with which we have been blessed. And the Source? Of course, it is God. God, to whose glory and honour and purpose this place was built. God the Holy Trinity, under whom, even time itself is governed.

“Put on therefore brethren, kindness, humbleness, meekness, long suffering, forbearance, forgiveness, and above all these things put on charity which is love” Amen

Sermon
delivered by
Freeman Hugh Bearn,
Chaplain to The Queen
at St James Garlickhythe
on 1st February 2010
As a restorer of antique clocks I have seen and handled many clocks and automata, admiring the craftsmanship put into these pieces of art. Antiques have always interested me as a witness of times gone by, and I was lucky to grow up surrounded by many beautiful and interesting objects as my father was an antiques dealer.

In this context, clocks especially have a magical attraction as they often still perform their function and indicate the passing of time. This must have been what attracted me to become a clockmaker and aged 17, I started a four-year study at the Watch and Clock making school “Christiaan Huygens- van het Hoff” in Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

As a clockmaker the making of a clock is like a birth, the first action of its escapement “a sign of life” (like a heart), which performs for many years to come. Although not many, there are still a few clockmakers designing and making their own hand-made clocks from beginning to end. The majority making complex and beautiful clocks, admired by many.

During my first year at West Dean College I won the “Clockmaker of the Year” competition, and became a Freeman of the Worshipful Company of Clockmakers. They sponsored part of my second year at the College at which I was able to see and familiarise myself with even more interesting and amazing clocks and their mechanics. A work placement at The Hermitage, in St. Peters burg gave me the chance to see amongst others, the famous “Peacock” automaton in action. It is certainly one of the great examples of man’s fascination with mechanics!

In between repairing and restoring antique clocks I have started to make my own clocks, of simple design and function but made to a high standard of quality. I like to refer to these clocks as “domestic clocks for everyday use”, and made to last for several generations. Although I had been thinking of making clocks along these lines for years, the one thing holding me back was the case. However when on the Antique Clock Restoration course at West Dean College from 2001 to 2003, I came into contact with Tom Kealy, a maker and designer of contemporary furniture.

Tom also had been thinking of making contemporary long case clock cases, so the idea of a joint venture was born. It just took us rather a long time to get on with it!

Our first contemporary long case clock “Grace”, was made last year and shown at several exhibitions, as well as at the Worshipful Company of Carpenters’ Hall, since when it has received a Carpenters’ Guildmark. A second clock has now been made and more designs are in progress.

My workshop is based in Fulham, London, where I restore and conserve antique clocks and antique mechanics. I am also currently working with Historic Royal Palaces in restoring and repairing the locks at Hampton Court. After a few hundred years of daily usage they have suffered a lot, not in the least due to the many daily visitors, some of whom have been liberating many parts as souvenirs! Lock and clock-making have quite a few similarities and it is always interesting to see these applied in other antique mechanics. It also gives me the excuse for some noisy blacksmithing.
GRACE: Longcase Clock
Designed and made by Tom Kealy & Julius Schoonhoven

Grace is a contemporary evolution of the traditional longcase clock, made from bleached solid oak and burr oak veneer. It is one of a series of contemporary clocks designed by Tom Kealy, in a unique collaboration with clockmaker Julius Schoonhoven.

The hand-made eight-day brass and steel movement has a recoil anchor escapement and is spring driven with a fusee compensation. It is regulated by a one-second (Royal) pendulum.

With its sculptural form and the innovative use of space inside the case to accommodate a set of five drawers, ‘Grace’ is the first of a collectable series of contemporary longcase clocks to be made by Tom & Julius.

Tom Kealy trained at Parnham College in 1977, and later worked as senior craftsman in the John Makepeace workshops for ten years. Based in Somerset, he now designs and makes one-off contemporary furniture and clocks and as an experienced craftsman teaches regularly in Britain and America. Influenced by his love of trees and the natural environment, the strength of his designs and high quality work lie in their simplicity of form and elegance. www.tomkealy.com

Dimensions of the clock: Height 210cm: Width 60cm: Depth 30cm.

The Bristol Aeroplane Company

February 19th 2010 marked the 100th Anniversary of the founding of the Bristol Aeroplane Company by Sir George White (1854-1916), the great-grandfather of the Keeper of the Clockmakers’ Museum. The original Sir George was a self-made transport entrepreneur, who built up a substantial horse tramway empire as a young man. In 1895, he constructed the first conventional electric tramway system in England and in 1901 introduced electric trams to the streets of London. He later pioneered the use of motor buses and motor taxis, manufacturing “Bristol” buses and lorries from 1908. His skill was in identifying the potential in new technology and putting it to successful use. So it was that he observed the progress of aviation from 1904, visiting the Wright Brothers at Pau in early 1909 and attending the Rheims Air Meet in August of the same year.

In February 1910, he was able to announce that he not only intended to build aircraft, but that he proposed to found an aviation industry in Great Britain. This he did. Airbus, Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Rolls-Royce and BAE Systems (once known as British Aerospace), all of whom own surviving parts of his pioneering business, have planned many events to celebrate the centenary this year.

The ceremony took place in the cavernous hangar at Filton, where in the late 1940’s our Past Master’s grandfather had been responsible for building the Bristol “Brabazon”, then the largest civil airliner in the world. As the “Sir George White” Airbus was named, Liveryman Joanna Migdal poured a bottle of champagne over its nose and the RAF Band played the newly composed “Sir George White March”.

Sir George’s introduction of the electric tramway to West London had horological implications. In the planning stages, it was feared that the tramway’s magnetic field would interfere with the geomagnetic instruments at Kew Observatory and numerous meetings took place between Sir George and Dr. W.H.M. Christie (Master of the Clockmakers’ Company in 1901). The solution was that Sir George paid for the removal of the instruments to the Royal Observatory, Greenwich.
Commander Tom Sharpe, the Commanding Officer of ENDURANCE and recipient of the Master’s Medal in 2009, recently wrote to the Deputy Master on being re-appointed. In his letter he specifically mentioned how much the Ship’s Company had valued the Company’s support over the last two years, especially following the flooding incident. Following the flood, to quote from his letter, ‘members of the Ship’s Company achieved awards on the latest Operational Honours List’.

Of the future he said that following ministerial approval to investigate ice Patrol Ship options, a number are now being costed by a senior team in London, of which ‘repair the ENDURANCE’ remains a front runner. Clearly Commander Sharpe was unable to speculate further – however the requirement for a red-hulled vessel to restore the White Ensign presence down south, remains as strong as ever.

On his departure the ship will be in the hands of the Engineer: Lieutenant Eddy Grant, has been with ENDURANCE since before the flood and therefore well placed to advise on the technical options and, in addition, lead the small ice-experienced team that has been held back.

Commander Sharpe’s closing line was ‘Thank you for your support over the last two years – long may it continue. It far outstrips that offered to any normal ship and is an essential part of what makes ENDURANCE so special.’

Some of the Company may be aware that in the interim HMS SCOTT, one of the Hydrographic ships (Ocean Survey Vessel) has taken over from ENDURANCE in the South Atlantic.

The Next Generation........

What is the average age of the clock and watchmakers working in the UK? Unfortunately the Company cannot provide the answer but from anecdotal information it is certainly over fifty - there are, however, less than twenty students who will complete their training in 2010.

Without doubt, the number of students completing their training each year does not meet the demand to ensure that clocks and watches are serviced by skilled clock/watchmakers. For watches, the situation has been summarised by the British School of Watchmaking “The surging interest in mechanical wristwatches is creating a problem: Who is going to service and repair all the masterpieces of micro-engineering when the strain of ticking off more than 32 million seconds per year finally begins to take its toll? The subject is becoming a matter of considerable concern, as the number of student watchmakers worldwide appears to have been declining almost as fast as sales and production figures have been rising. The situation is just as serious for the servicing, and restoration/conservation of clocks.

The Company is doing its part by assisting students with the cost of attending both West Dean College and Birmingham City University. “Harrison Bursaries” were introduced a few years ago for students at Birmingham City University. The Company matches generous funding from the Ogden Trust (a charity supporting students following a wide range of courses) with payments from the Clockmakers’ Charity. First year students are interviewed at the end of their first term and two are selected to receive a Harrison Bursary on the basis of need and potential. Each student receives £1500 per year of the three year course, assuming continued attendance and progress. In addition there are payments from the Clockmakers’ Charity to students at both West Dean College and Birmingham City University, and there is also further funding from the Clockmakers’ Museum & Educational Trust available for apprentices.

In total the Clockmakers’ Company is currently providing financial assistance to nine students.

There will still be a shortage of qualified clock and watchmakers but the Company’s support does help to provide quality training and maintain the remaining opportunities for those who wish to commence a career in horology.

D J Poole.
The Clockmaker • July 2010  www.clockmakers.org

THE MASTER’S OUTINGS

We are only four months into Howard Newman’s year as Master and the calendar has already been packed with activities and events, mostly horological, which is not surprising for a working clockmaker, and one of the youngest to be Master of the Company.

In March, the Master was invited by the Master Actuary to bring a group of Clockmakers to share in the 30th anniversary celebration of the presentation of Letters Patent to The Worshipful Company of Actuaries. Geoffrey Heywood, a Liveryman of the Clockmakers and now in his 94th year, was the Founder Master of the Actuaries and thus the guest of honour. They lunched at The Athenaeum Club in Liverpool. The Master and his wife Inge also took the opportunity whilst in the city to see the clocks in the towers of the Royal Liver Building. They are the largest electrically-driven clocks in the United Kingdom, with dials of 25 feet in diameter.

In April, the Master invited Viscount Midleton, the Museum Curator at the British Horological Institute, to give his lecture to a packed audience at Bakers’ Hall, entitled Exploration Watches of the Royal Geographical Society. Alan Midleton looked at why such watches were made for the Society and why the chronometer proved to be such a failure. In the main part of the lecture he focused on one of these watches in particular, both how it was made and to whom it was entrusted, and finally gave an overview of the watches and what happened to them. All agreed it was a fascinating talk - a convivial evening with much food and wine being enjoyed.

The evening at Pewterers’ Hall in May to view the excellent film British Clocks 1600-1850 was well attended by a mixed audience of Arts Scholars, Clockmakers, Goldsmiths and Pewterers. The evening was officially hosted by The Guild of Arts Scholars, Dealers and Collectors. Ronald A Lee was the family business of the family of Georgina Gough, the current Arts Scholars Clerk, and in 1981 they made this 45-minute film to commemorate the 350th anniversary of the granting of the Charter to the Worshipful Company of Clockmakers on 22nd August 1631 by King Charles I. The technical adviser, Charles Lee and the director and producer James Archibald, were given access to many clocks in private and royal collections as well as those on public view; the production of the film being made possible by the generosity of The Monument Trust. The legendary Dan Parkes was the narrator/presenter.

Later in May, the Master was invited by a Liveryman to bring a party of Clockmakers to visit his impressive private collection in the West Country. The group of 28 had a fascinating and most rewarding day, enjoying an excellent lunch nearby in an old coaching inn.

Smith of Derby was chosen by the Ganzhou Expressway Company to create the world’s most exquisite traditional clock which is the centrepiece of a new business, residential and recreational park in Gangzhou, South East China. Known as The Harmony Tower Clock it has been constructed using the most energy efficient and long-lasting materials available. The clock has four stainless steel dials almost thirteen metres in diameter (nearly twice the size of Big Ben) and carbon fibre minute hands almost eight metres in length. An innovative third hand charts the Chinese lunar chapters. The bell-striking weight-driven movement is automatically wound and will be surrounded by a display platform allowing 10,000 visitors to view it each day. The Tower contains a café, a rotating restaurant, commercial offices and a specially commissioned Time Gallery – also created by Smith of Derby.

The Master of with Bob Betts, the Managing Director of Smiths
ONWARDS & UPWARDS...

Once again the Company’s golfing representatives – John Woods, Mark Elliott, Michael Jarrett and Neale Houlden (who became a Freeman of the Clockmakers at the last Lady Day Court) – deserve our heartiest congratulations, having improved upon last year’s achievement by coming second in the Prince Arthur Cup tournament, held this year on Thursday, 20th May, at Walton Heath.

This event is the largest amateur meeting in the country held on one day and 54 Livery Companies competed for the magnificent cup, donated in 1927 by a Past Master of the Worshipful Company of Coachmakers & Coach Harness Makers, at one of the 100 finest courses in the world according to Golf Magazine. 216 players took part in teams of 4 and our team was paired with the Turners and Makers of Playing Cards.

Last year our team achieved an impressive 5th place; this year’s team put in a solid performance during the morning and went to lunch poised on the edge of the top ten. It seems a combination of Walton Heath’s fine cuisine, perfect weather and the members’ steely determination won through and, during the afternoon, they stormed into 2nd place.

It was a splendid performance and the team deserve the highest praise we Clockmakers can bestow. We hope that all four of you will represent us next year!

We welcome the following new Freemen

Joseph Raymond Bates
Anne Berkley
Teresa Jane Blaxland
Geoffrey Charles Bond
Scott Jamieson Dobbie
Stephen Philip Doerr
Barbara Frodsham
Keith Higgins
Neale Anthony Houlden
Martin Luke Moore
David Pearson
Michael John Pond
Gilbert Aubrey Singleton
William Frederick Turk
John Mark Wandless
David Lewis Wood-Heath

We congratulate the following Freemen on being raised to the Livery

Jane Bisson-Spencer
Geoffrey Charles Bond
Robert Paulin Clinton
Simon Cressy Davidson
Gwynneth Gabrielle Flower
Judith Pleasance
David Frederick Spicer

We much regret to record the following deaths

Freeman John Hendrik Leopold ............................1989
Freeman Ivor Michael Poole.................................2007

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