

July 2011

# The Clockmaker

The Newsletter of the Worshipful Company of Clockmakers



## CLOCKMAKERS VERSUS EGGHEADS

In April 2010 the Clerk emailed the Company with an invitation from the BBC to make up a team for Eggheads. It was not a programme your correspondent had ever seen, but a visit to the show's website and a reassuring performance on its test example, I volunteered to accept the challenge. Any glance down the Livery List will provide a plethora of professors, a display of doctors, an aurora of astronomers – a veritable queue of qualification - and I reckoned culling a team would be the easiest of tasks. But Clockmakers are a modest lot and parapets are not to be lightly overlooked. Thus it was five months later I was able to inform the TV producer we had the requisite six team members to take on the Eggheads.

The show is broadcast each weekday evening at six o'clock and every contending team has just one appearance, the prize for beating the resident team being a hefty cheque for charitable purposes. There are seven Eggheads (all past quiz champions, a seriously able lot and not your average pub quizzers) who rotate to provide five Heads for each show. The Clockmakers' team

of five friends comprised Mark Elliott, Richard Stenning, Gwynneth Flower, David Reich and myself with Jill Hadfield as reserve. The BBC insists that each team has six people, so that in case of illness or accident, there will be five to film. The producers make their decision at the last moment.

In late November 2010 auditions took place in Manchester and London which allowed our geographically spread team the opportunity of showing off their quiz skills. Despite this and Jill Hadfield's commitments elsewhere preventing her from auditioning, we were pleasantly surprised to receive an invitation to take on the Eggheads and travel to Glasgow for the filming.

It is remarkable how fussy television cameras can be. Clothing cannot be white, black, pale blue, polka dotted, thin striped, decorated with a logo or zigzagged, as the camera will either strobe or make the wearer appear washed out. Bright, strong colours seemed fine. We were keen to sport the Company tie but were aware the show look is informal, but the charming wardrobe mistress deemed the ties a welcome

addition. Not to be outdone, Gwynneth sported the gold Clock motif necklace loaned to her by Jill.

Make Up was next. David, fresh from a sunny holiday looked the least in need of cosmetics, but we all emerged powder brushed and camera ready. Apprehensive nous? What questions could the presenter, Jeremy Vine, possibly throw at us that we Clockmakers could not confidently answer? Ushered into the studio, everything looked oddly familiar. Those early evenings spent watching past programmes had not gone wasted. The floor manager explained procedure and introduced the Eggheads who were all very charming – Judith, CJ, Daphne, Chris and Kevin – the original show team and razor sharp. Finally Jeremy Vine arrived to put us all at our ease. He signalled to the floor manager and the show began.

Until the programme is broadcast, the Clockmakers' team is sworn to secrecy as to the outcome of the quiz. No date has yet been provided by the BBC but the Company will be emailed when the date is fixed. By Mark Levy

## Calendar

2011 - 2012

- Mon 4 Jul Midsummer Court
- Mon 1-5 Aug "Picturing Time" Competition Exhibition at Sotheby's
- Mon 22 Aug Charter Day
- Tue 13 Sep Master's Invitation Concert at Girdlers' Hall
- Mon 26 Sep Michaelmas Court Dinner & Harrison Lecture
- Mon 3 Oct Election of Lord Mayor & lunch for Liverymen

- Mon 10-12 Oct Master's Visit to Patek Philippe in Geneva
- Wed 26 Oct Livery Dinner at Merchant Taylors' Hall
- Sat 12 Nov Lord Mayor's Show
- Fri 18 Nov Master's Visit to University of London Observatory
- Mon 28 Nov Dingwall Beloe Lecture
- Wed 14 Dec Carol Service
- Mon 30 Jan Installation Court Choral Evensong & Dinner
- Mon 16 Apr Lady Day Court





Above left: The Greenwich Observatory (© NMM); Above: H3 dismantled

## VISIT TO GREENWICH

On 24th February, the Master led a unique visit of 48 Liverymen and Freemen to the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich. The purpose of the trip was to view Harrison's third timekeeper, H3, in the process of being dismantled in the NMM workshop.

Senior Specialist in Horology and Junior Warden, Jonathan Betts, who was the host for the evening, explained that H3 was being dismantled, not that there was anything

wrong, but as part of the preparation of a new catalogue of the chronometers at Greenwich. Last taken apart and restored between 1924 and 1931 by Lt Commander Rupert Gould, this also afforded a fascinating opportunity to study Gould's restoration in some detail and of course to photograph and precisely measure every single one of the 1200 plus parts of the timekeeper. The participants were thrilled to be able to witness H3 in pieces at such close quarters, mindful of the

fact that such an opportunity might never pass that way again, almost certainly not in their lifetime.

In Freeman Charles Carey's words, "It was an excellent, highly memorable evening at Greenwich: enlightening, absorbing, fascinating and wonderful. We were fantastically fortunate to have had a cloudless mist-free sky, allowing us a fine clear view through the 28" refractor telescope to a small cluster of stars somewhere in Orion".



## AFFILIATIONS

The Clockmakers' Company is affiliated to the Royal Navy's Ice Patrol Ship. Until recently, and for several years, this was HMS Endurance, but she has now been taken out of service. We are now affiliated to her successor HMS Protector. Past Master Commander Peter Linstead-Smith and the Clerk witnessed the Commissioning Ceremony in Portsmouth in June. Protector's role is the same as Endurance, an Ice Patrol Ship, charged with the patrol and survey of the Antarctic and South Atlantic and maintaining a Sovereign Presence and support of the global community of Antarctica.

The Company is also affiliated to HMS Archer. She is a P2000 Patrol Craft, and the vessel primarily used to train students from the Aberdeen Universities' Royal Naval Unit. HMS Archer is a member of the First Patrol Boat Squadron and occupies a permanent berth in Aberdeen harbour. She has a ship's company of 5, but regularly sails for weekend sea training to local ports with up to 12 students and a training officer. Whilst at sea, the students are able to put into practice navigational skills they are taught in the classroom, and receive instruction in engineering, damage control, first aid and boat-handling using the ship's 'Gemini' inflatable boat.



Above left: HMS Protector; Above: The Master presenting a Company shield to the Captain of HMS Archer, Lieutenant Michael Hutchinson RN with the Clerk and ship's company



Liverymen on the top deck of HMS Archer, about to cast off for Greenwich in May.





# PICTURING TIME

## A COMPETITION FOR STUDENTS

The Clockmakers' Company Horological Industries Advisory Panel, chaired by Court Assistant Roy Harris FBHI, recently announced plans for the judging and display of the entries in the Picturing Time Competition, and the reception and prize giving event at Sotheby's in August. Details of this first Picturing Time Competition were given to course tutors at UK Universities and Colleges in August last year as part of a regular cycle of such events in the UK to create interest and awareness in various facets of time. Current UK university and college students were invited to submit entries by 31st March 2011, for which there are cash and other prizes totalling £2,500 provided by the Clockmakers' Charity.

Students were invited to use the title as a vehicle for inspiration to explore "time" through their chosen medium. Their entry - a photograph, illustration, or design, in two dimensions, or a digital computer animation - must be their own recent original work, and should elucidate any aspect of the understanding of time. The Company has invited a group of eminent experts in the relevant fields to shortlist the entries and decide upon the prize winners. They comprise Christoph Behling, Peter Grundy, James Gurney, Martin Kemp and Brian Webb. Each of the judges has provided a summary of their background and qualifications which appears under "Picturing Time - Judges" on the Clockmakers' website. Prize winners as well as other entries may subsequently be used in publicity to help promote

horology within the UK

221 entries have been received from 182 students at 33 UK Universities and Colleges.

"I am delighted with the response we have had", said the Clerk, "the entries are extremely imaginative and there are some really stunning ones.

Messages have been received from Course Directors, up and down the land, saying how much they and their students have enjoyed the challenge, and the judges have expressed their enthusiasm for the project".

The Exhibition of the finalists' entries will take place at the Sotheby's Colonnade Gallery, 34-35, New Bond Street, London W1A 2AA, and we are delighted to announce that the reception and prize presentation event at Sotheby's is being sponsored by the highly prestigious watch maker Vacheron Constantin in association with Liveryman James Gurney's QP Magazine. There will be two display cases and a Vacheron Constantin watchmaker will be demonstrating her skills during the Exhibition. Short-listed exhibits will be shown at Salon QP Saatchi Gallery in November.

Sotheby's is open to view the exhibits on Monday 1st August to Friday 5th August from 9 am. to 4.30 pm. Final judging will take place on Monday 1st August, and the Prize Giving will take place on Thursday 4th August at 6 pm. at a reception which is by invitation only.

## THE MASTER'S WIFE AT THE MANSION HOUSE

By Caroline Crisford

In March I was privileged to be among eighteen Masters' Ladies invited by the Lady Mayoress to a luncheon at the Mansion House. On arrival we were shown up to the Lord Mayor's private apartments on the first floor where we were warmly welcomed by Mrs Bear and her staff. After a delicious lunch our charming hostess gave us a guided tour of what her husband calls their 'council house'. The rooms are decorated and furnished in the same manner as the great formal reception rooms downstairs, the only strictly 'private' room being a tiny old-fashioned kitchen where Mr and Mrs Bear can enjoy a morning pot of tea together without fear of interruption. The visit gave us all an insight into how the couple's lives have changed during their mayoral year. On their first evening in the Mansion House, and after a very long day, they discovered that all their personal effects had been transported



Left: seating plan; Above: Lunch with the Lady Mayoress

Private Luncheon	
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> March 2011	
Elaine Mould <i>Distillers Company</i>	Jennie Clegg <i>Watermen &amp; Lightermen Company</i>
Rosemary Ray <i>Felmakers Company</i>	Judy Ross <i>Drapers Company</i>
Evelyn Lewis <i>Saddlers Company</i>	Jenna Bould <i>Chartered Surveyors Company</i>
Pippa Cope <i>Barbers Company</i>	Annabel Barton <i>Spectacle Makers Company</i>
Marianne Prynne <i>Cutlers Company</i>	<b>The Lady Mayoress</b>
Mary Price <i>Curriers Company</i>	Caroline Crisford <i>Clockmakers Company</i>
The Lady Strathairn <i>Girdlers Company</i>	Beverly Hopkins <i>Builders Merchant Company</i>
Susan Freeman <i>Gleaziers Company</i>	Sarah Humphreys <i>Armourers &amp; Brasiers Company</i>
Elizabeth Donaldson <i>Peniters Company</i>	Allison Lewis <i>Launderers Company</i>
↑ ↑ DOORS	

from their home in North London and were now stacked in huge boxes in their new bedroom. In despair they agreed to postpone the huge task of unpacking, and decided instead to go out for dinner. When they returned they found to their astonishment that every single item had been unpacked and put away by their dedicated staff. A wonderful surprise maybe, but an indication that for the duration of their year in office their lives would not be entirely their own.





The Charter



# Happy Birthday to our Charter

The Charter of the Worshipful Company of Clockmakers passed under the Great Seal of England on 22nd August 1631, 380 years ago this summer. Those practising horology in the City before that date, had been obliged to join one of the existing companies in order to trade. They joined a host of disparate companies, from the Blacksmiths' and Needlemakers' to the Grocer's and the Clothworkers', because they had no obvious home. This caused increasing dissatisfaction among them. Unlike the trades whose halls they used, they were not incorporated and so had no monopoly of their trade within the City or right to control standards within their art. It was for these reasons that in 1629 they petitioned the Crown for a company of their own. The King "being acquainted with the petitioners humble request" and conceiving "it fit that some good government be established" acceded.

There is little doubt that Clockmakers had high hopes for their future status. The Charter amongst other rights, granted them power to hallmark all imported clocks, watches and other horological goods, which would, if they had taken it up, perhaps have guaranteed a yearly income comparable with that of the Goldsmiths. It may have been in the light of this that the Master and Wardens laid out four pounds with Mr. John Chappell for "flourishing and finishing" the document itself. This was a serious sum of money.

Mr. Chappell did not disappoint them. Although he was forced to leave some blanks, against the day when the Company might acquire its own corporate arms, there



King Charles I

is little doubt that he excelled himself. To this day the Clockmakers' Charter is regarded as one of the most beautiful in the City. Perhaps the date of payment to Mr. Chappell (3rd November 1634) may provide some indication of the time it took him to complete his work.

That Charles I claimed the thrones of France and Ireland, in addition to

the thrones of England and Scotland gave Mr. Chappell enormous scope to include vivid heraldry, including the badges of England and Scotland. To this he added every element of 'Renaissance' decoration he could think of: exotic birds and flowers of every kind, including gillyflowers, pansies, roses, marigolds and honeysuckle together with vines, strawberries and cherries, all realistically interspersed with insects, snails and slugs.

Only once has this joyous document left the hands of the Company. On December 21st 1652, three years after King Charles's execution, the Master, Wardens and Court of the Clockmakers' Company received a chilling order under the hand of Daniel Blagrove, one of the Regicides. It ordered them "to fail not" to appear in Westminster and to give up their Charter of incorporation for examination "upon the fourth day of January next at

two of the clock." Once delivered, it was referred to John Farwell, a Commonwealth barrister, for inspection. It must have been with the greatest relief that on 27th January, (again on the orders of a group of Regicides) the Charter was returned unaltered and undamaged to the Company's care. It remains, without doubt, the Company's most prized possession.





The Berkleys arrive



Colin & Isobel Lattimore's table at lunch



Colin Lattimore

## Master's visit to Cambridge

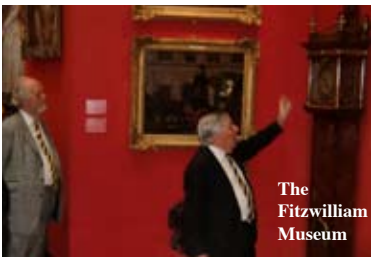
May 10th was blessed with wonderful weather and a large group met at the Fitzwilliam Museum where Past Master Dr. Colin Lattimore gave an excellent talk on the Museum's magnificent longcase clocks. Owing to numbers the group was split into two sessions during the morning and at 12 p.m. a large double-decker bus was outside to transport everyone to Caxton Court, the home of Colin and Isobel Lattimore. They had recently celebrated their Golden Wedding and very generously kept the beautiful marquee and arranged for an excellent luncheon for the entire party.

In the afternoon, the bus took everyone back to the Fitzwilliam where there was a choice of a visit to the Whipple Museum to view the Scientific Instruments or to the Porcelain Gallery where Dr. Lattimore gave another extremely interesting talk.

At 5 p.m. the party met in the McCrum Lecture Hall where Liveryman Dr. John Taylor gave a fascinating lecture on his early life and inventions, culminating in the Chronophage Grasshopper Clock he gave to Corpus Christie College in 2008 and which everyone passed on the way to the Lecture Hall.



Caxton Court



The Fitzwilliam Museum



Master in Oman: Muscat

## MASTER in OMAN

The Master in the Al Alam Palace of His Majesty Qaboos bin Said, Sultan of Oman. In the showcase is the Breguet Pendule Sympathique, sold to Prince Anatole Demidoff in 1830. The Master is holding the original tourbillon watch, made by the inventor, Abraham Louis Breguet in 1800. Its design closely follows that of the Patent application granted in the following year.



The Tourbillon movement



The Tourbillon watch



# Saving Archives

Andrew King

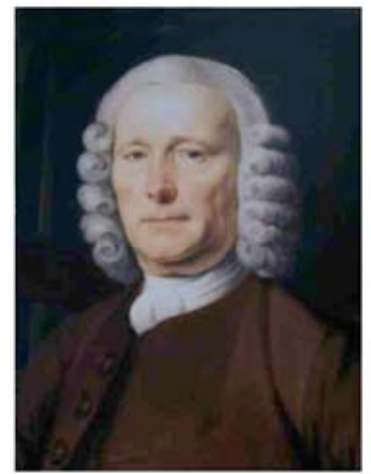


book, by his own account,...” a comparatively short story of John Harrison and his family,” he acknowledged Martin and regretted that “Only a small portion of what he has been so successful in unearthing, could be included.” When Martin died, I spent a day in 1983 with his eldest daughter who held her Father’s papers, and was finally given a box full of material concerning the Harrison story. Amongst these crucially important papers were all Quill’s letters. When Quill died, I had the opportunity to buy all his research papers covering further aspects of Harrison’s life. Colonel Quill was an equally thorough and committed historian and his papers included the original draft of his book, much of it unpublished, and all the letters from John Martin, the complete correspondence amounting to ninety letters. It is surely rare for both sides of a correspondence to survive.

The third archive consists of the papers of W.S. (Bill) Laycock (1920-1976), author of *The Lost Science of John Harrison*, [1976].

Laycock became interested in Harrison subsequent to a paper by Quill on Harrison’s Grasshopper Escapement in *Antiquarian Horology* in 1971. Following this was a further paper by Martin Burgess on how to draw the escapement using basic drawing instruments. Laycock began a correspondence with Quill but mostly with Burgess continuing up to Laycock’s tragic and untimely death. Some years later, Burgess gave me all Laycock’s letters, completing another valuable and unique correspondence comprising nearly five hundred letters extending to over a thousand pages. Reading the correspondence is both a technical and historic insight into the minds of these horologists, where the progression towards the final publication of Laycock’s book is all too evident. There is also the original draft of *The Lost Science* and an extensive unpublished essay based on an analysis of Harrison’s early work.

The problem is that everything should be catalogued to some degree. Considerable “re-filing” is needed, though everything has been categorised and appropriately labelled. I am actively seeking some assistance where a sympathetic, professional and independent approach would be most beneficial. Finally, it is my wish that the Company would be prepared to accept this archive as a bequest on my death. I am sure that future generations could make much of it and take over the baton to undertake research for further assessments, as views and opinions evolve in the future.



Top left: Andrew King  
Above: John Harrison

I first became interested in John Harrison in 1971 and realised that with a certain diligence I could not only find out more of the life and work of this fascinating and unique character, but possibly provide a revised assessment. It has involved much correspondence, trawling archives and gathering together a considerable amount of material. Every letter and note has been retained. There has also been the acquisition of three other important archives which alone leaves me with a certain responsibility. It is a 20th/21st Century research archive, the earliest papers dating from the 1950’s. My own papers are presently in 102 box files with two writing projects underway, they are increasing. They contain everything from years of research into an extensive family history, quite apart from the central core – Harrison’s working life. They include crucially important material on Nostell Priory, the seat of the Winn family and the Pelhams of Brocklesby as well as much on Harrison’s village of Barrow-upon-Humber and its environs. As for the story when Harrison moved to London, here in many ways everything became even more complex which results in ever extending files.

The first of the three other archives is that of John Martin (1894-1978), a local historian from Barrow-upon-Humber. To the greater horological world he is almost entirely unknown. He lived in north Lincolnshire all his life, mostly in Barrow, and was a natural historian, painstaking, diligent and with good lateral thought. Colonel Humphrey Quill (1897-1987), Past Master of the Company and author of *John Harrison, The Man Who Found Longitude*, [1966], met Martin in the early 1950’s which led to a correspondence from 1957-1977. When Quill wrote his

15 2009  
20 2009  
27 2009  
01 2009  
0 2008  
2 2009  
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2009





# Pancake Races

In 2004 The Worshipful Company of Poulterers inaugurated the City's inter-livery pancake race. The original participants were Livery Companies in some way associated with the making of pancakes and invited teams from the Mansion House and Guildhall. This event now takes place each year in Guildhall yard at midday on Shrove Tuesday by kind permission of the Chief Commoner.

It is a colourful event which includes competitors running in their regalia and/or fancy dress. Each team consists of four competitors who compete for the Trophy – frying pans are awarded to the winner of each class final. Junior Warden, Jonathan Betts, lead the Clockmaker team this year, comprising Sandra Harris, Hilary Winter, and Martin Christie.

Traditionally the Gunmakers start each heat with a bang, the Clerk to the Clockmakers is responsible for the accuracy of the timing, the Fruiterers provide lemons, the Cutlers plastic forks, the Glovers white gloves worn by each runner, and the Poulterers the eggs essential in the making of the pancakes. A recent welcome additional attraction has been a specially commissioned piece sung by the Musicians Company.



The Clockmakers' team  
Martin Christie in full flight  
Past Master Sir Michael Savory  
deputising for the Lord Mayor



## 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF EDINBURGH'S ONE O'CLOCK GUN

Each day, from the ramparts of Edinburgh Castle, a cannon is fired at One O'clock. Its 150th anniversary was celebrated on June 11th with a re-enactment of the first firing by the Royal Artillery. Happily, this coincided with the firing, on a lower battery, of the 21 gun salute for the Queen's Birthday.

The Master sent his congratulations to the Royal Artillery and The One O'clock and Time Ball Association who, between them, continue this daily tradition. Before reading out the Master's letter Liveryman Mark Levy said:

"Our Livery Company was founded in 1631 and is the oldest surviving horological institute in the world. It is also the proud owner of one of the finest collections of clocks and watches anywhere on public view and can be freely seen at the Clockmakers' Museum at Guildhall in the heart of the City. Amongst our timepieces are watches made by John Harrison of Longitude fame and a silver watch in the form of a skull and made, reputedly, for Mary Queen of Scots.

There are, however, two kinds of clock we are sadly missing - A One O'Clock Gun and a Time-Ball Clock. The first is probably best kept in the safe keeping of the Royal Artillery but as regards the latter, Colonel, perhaps we might have a private word later!"

## The Clockmakers' On-line Shop



Silver Tie Tack

By the time this emerges from the printers, the on-line shop should be up and running. Accessed via the members' page on the WCC website, you'll find all the old favourites along with the beginning of the new lines. The jewellery department is re-designing our stock. We have a new patinated silver tie tack (pictured) which can double as a lapel badge. The cufflinks are undergoing an update and are available in silver, 9ct, 18ct or silver/gilt on special order. The latest must-have is the new line of wooden pocket watch stands designed by Past Master Howard Newman. Available in

three sizes from next month, they are an impressive new addition to our shop. The new company table mats, coasters and serving mats are now in stock. Much admired at the Lady Day lunch, beautifully boxed and designed to be both hard wearing and long lasting, they bring the art of clock making to your dining table! The merchandising panel is determined to introduce the best quality items so if you have an idea you would like us to research, please e-mail Simon Frodsham at [simon@indepot.co.uk](mailto:simon@indepot.co.uk). All net proceeds from sales go to the Clockmakers' Charity.



## Her Honour Judge Ann Goddard QC

Those of you who knew Ann, a Liveryman of the Clockmakers' Company, will be much saddened by her death in March of this year. She was one of the cleverest criminal barristers of her generation and for many years the only woman judge at the Old Bailey. In the words of His Honour Judge Jeffrey Pegden QC, also a Clockmaker Liveryman, "she had a truly distinguished career at the Bar at a time when it was extremely difficult for women to achieve such success and was a quite outstanding Head of Chambers at 3, Temple Gardens. I shared a room with her for well over a decade, watching her dedication to those in her fold – always there for us and leading by example. She was a dearly loved Bencher of Gray's Inn."

As an only child she grew up in Kennington, south London and lived in the same street, Chester Way all her life. Educated at the Grey Coat Hospital in Westminster she read law at Birmingham University and went on to Newnham, Cambridge for an LLM and diploma in Comparative Legal Studies. She was called to the Bar in 1960 and took Silk in 1982. In 1997 she was made a senior circuit judge.

In the months before her death she was much concerned about the future of her beloved Burmese cat Dizzy (Disraeli) that he should be well cared for and was delighted when a friend at the Bar agreed to take him in.

Although she never married Ann had a multitude of loyal and devoted friends all of whom will greatly miss her humour, humility and grace.



### George Daniels WATCHMAKING

## WATCHMAKING by George Daniels

Twenty-eight years after its first publication Watchmaking continues to inspire the art of watch making, especially among new generations of enthusiasts. As a supreme master of his art, George Daniels's advice is constantly sought by both students and watch repairers.

A new book on the life and work of Dr George Daniels is being written by Michael Clerizo. Michael would welcome contributions, anecdotal or otherwise, from members of the Company. He can be contacted at [Clerizo@aol.com](mailto:Clerizo@aol.com)

## We welcome the following new Freeman

Oscar Howard Boyd  
Salvatore Martin Gatto  
John Rupert Malise Harvey  
James Gregor David Nye  
Richard Stephen Jeremy Thomason  
Mark William Wiles

## We congratulate the following Freemen on being raised to the Livery

Honorary Liveryman Keturah Hain  
Liveryman Tony David Burton

Congratulations to Past Master Philip Willoughby on being awarded the OBE.

## We much regret to record the following deaths

Liveryman Harry Ronald Hewitt  
Liveryman HH Judge Ann Goddard  
Freeman Laurence John Grayer