

THE LIVERY CLUB

Geoffery Hosier's Year

AT THE AGM on 19 Sept 1990, Geoffery Hosier was elected President and Norman Tribble President-in-Waiting. The President having fallen out of an apple tree because of a badly positioned ladder (surprising for a successful builder!) was regrettably not present. Lawrence Watts therefore continued in the chair. The now established plan of holding the AGM prior to the Annual Livery Lunch again provided an excellent attendance.

At the Guildhall School, the first event in the new President's year was a musically illustrated lecture by Pastmaster John Heddle Nash about his illustrious tenor father - "The Best Messiah in the Business". This was followed by a buffet supper. A delighted audience of over 100, including a very large party from the City Livery Club Music Section, gave a rousing acclamation to our charismatic Pastmaster. A very appreciative letter was later received from the Music Section.

The St. Cecilia's Evensong in St. Paul's was followed by the usual tea party held in the crypt which provided a most attractive and interesting venue.

The immediate Past President Lawrence Watts had his Special Event carried over into the following President's year to obtain event spacing. On 27 January 1991 he gave a musically

illustrated talk "Ecclesiastical Eccentricities" in the Crypt of St. Paul's. Having been a Choral Vicar for 27 years in the Cathedral he was not lacking for anecdotes. This was followed by a splendid buffet provided by the Cathedral Caterers. The event was gratifyingly well supported with over sixty from the Baker's Society who wrote to express their thanks.

The Ladies Night was again held in the Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea. Considered by most supporting members a thoroughly enjoyable evening in spite of the lack of a Ritzzy ambience which vexed a few. How to reconcile a strictly budgeted event with a luxury worthy of our ladies raises perennial problems!

A highly appreciated musical entertainment arranged by Yeoman James Kelleher followed an informative address from our Guest Speaker Maurice Hart C.C.

Despite reservations being expressed about the Maisie Lewis Recitals, the Club's support to that given on 21 May 1991 resulted in a most enjoyable evening, being preceded by an excellent supper in the nearby National Theatre Restaurant.

The Guildhall School's Gala Presentation on 4 July 1991 of Cole Porter's musical "Out of this World" provided a noteworthy event -- the more so because the beautiful summer evening enabled the preceding buffet to be enjoyed by the Barbican Lakeside. The School's reputation for such musicals was outstandingly maintained by this production.

GLYNDEBOURNE EDUCATION

by Katie Tearle, *Education Organiser*

IN 1991 GLYNDEBOURNE resumed a relationship with another Sussex institution, H.M. Prison Lewes. In August 1957 Glyndebourne presented a one-hour concert consisting of well-known operatic arias following the Governor's request for an operatic recital. There were further concerts in the 1960s but they petered out.

Last year Glyndebourne Education took the initiative to pick up where the relationship had broken off over 20 years ago. Over two decades, concepts of community and outreach work have changed immeasurably. This time the opera company was not there to 'bring' opera to the inmates but to lend their skills as a channel for the men's own creative work. Planned closely with the Education Department of the prison, we worked alongside the writer in residence, Stephen Plaice. The project we presented was described to the men as a 'Glyndebourne Musical Workshop'. Fifteen inmates signed up for the four day project in July. The Glyndebourne team consisted of Nigel Osbourne (composer), Eugene Skeef (musician), Robin Tebbutt (director), Sara Lee (musician), Katherine Steffan (singer) and myself. We planned a musical balloon journey which would take us around the world in a westerly direction, discovering the music and rhythms of different cultures. Each musical exploration would be interspersed with drama exercises about journeying and weightlessness. This was the plan and it proved to be the most amazing springboard for creative work and composition.

Cramped in a double classroom in the Education Wing we began to learn the rhythms of the world in a place where, as Stephen Plaice aptly said, 'you can't walk fifty yards in a straight line.' As a group dynamic began to emerge so did the confidence of the men and they began to offer songs, rhythms and dances to the group. As Stephen Plaice wrote in his report of the project, 'for some of these men, this workshop may well have been their first positive educational experience. It was certainly the first time that many of them realised the musical culture of other lands and peoples. Everyone knew they were participating in something special, a collective emotional release achieved through music, a liberation in the last place you would expect.'

We are hoping to present further projects in HMP Lewes and HMP Ford this year, As one prisoner put it, 'The arts are a means of expressing one's self and many people are in prison because of their inability to express themselves.....'

THE COMPANY DIARY to 30 September 1992

ITEMS IN BLUE ITALICS DENOTE LIVERY CLUB EVENTS

8 April	Court & Dinner
10 April	United Guilds Service
29 April	<i>Joint musical evening & supper with Bakers' Society at Bakers Hall</i>
19 May	Maisie Lewis Recital
10 June	Midsummer Banquet
1 July	Master & Wardens Committee
2 July	<i>Gala Evening at Guildhall School of Music</i>
15 July	Court
16 Sept	<i>Livery Club AGM; Livery Luncheon;</i> Master & Wardens Committee