



## THE COMPANY OFFICE

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## Diary 2008

17-19 May	Livery Club Isle of Wight visit
20 May	The Prince's Prize Finals 7.00pm. Bishopsgate Institute
25 June	Midsummer Banquet 6.30pm. Stationers' Hall
10 July	Informal Lunch 12.30pm. Cutlers' Hall
13 July	Livery Club visit to Finchcocks all day
9 September	Bach Cantata 12.00 noon. St Mary at Hill
1 October	Musicians' Evensong 5.00pm. St Paul's Cathedral
8 October	Conference all day at Royal Overseas League
13 October	Maisie Lewis Concert 7.30pm. Wigmore Hall
12 November	Installation Dinner Clothworkers' Hall

# The Master's Column

The Master's year is nothing if not varied. Alongside the numerous social occasions to which the Master is invited – far too many to mention, let alone attend – there are a myriad of musical events. Our active Livery Club, energised by its President Eugenie Maxwell, has provided some of these, of which special mention must be made of the evening at St Ethelburga's on 5 March. This church, the smallest in the City, was destroyed by the IRA bomb in 1993 but has been beautifully reconstructed to serve as a Centre for Reconciliation and Peace. The Club's evening there was an inspiring mixture of education, socialising and musical entertainment.

Other musical invitations have taken me to Edinburgh for the Royal Scottish

Academy of Music & Drama's production of *Eugene Onegin*, to the Royal Albert Hall for the Royal Marines' Massed Bands concert, and to the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester for the première of Andy Scott's *Tuba Concerto*, commissioned in part with funds from the Company as part of our sponsorship of the British Composer Awards. Composers are a focus of my year and the most recent Awards have identified Tarik O'Regan as the next recipient of the Company's commission. We have also had a new carol from Anna Meredith at our Carol Service and Eugenie Maxwell commissioned a new piece for flute and harp for the St Ethelburga's event.

Meanwhile, two other projects are

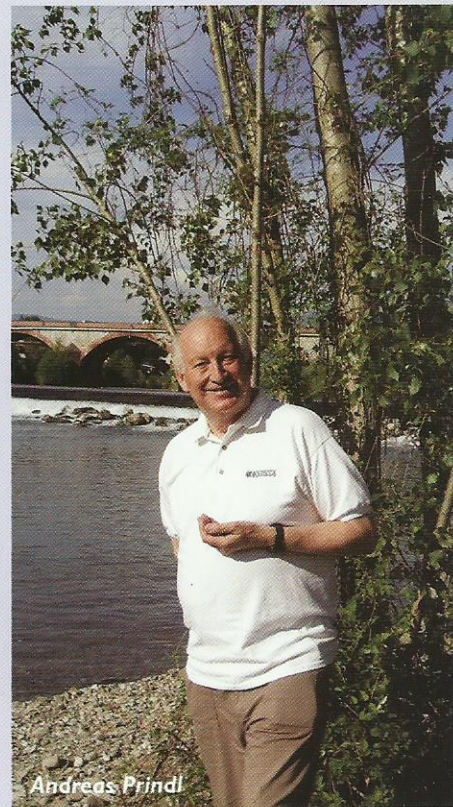
## The Company's Capabilities

Rather than describing my year as Master and the various events attended, this concentrates on the many capabilities of our Company and what we did last year to utilise them more fully. We were already in excellent shape and I wanted to build on this.

Our assets include our active and talented Livery and Freemanry, our reputation in the conservatoires, our significant charitable giving, backed by over £7,000,000 in investments, and our 100 Yeomen. We use our abilities in many ways already: our annual prizes and awards help scores of young musicians in their studies or early careers or recognise achievement throughout the music world: military music, brass bands and jazz as well as classical. The Spring 2007 issue of *Preserve Harmony*, one of the best livery magazines, perhaps the very best, included a number of our past prize winners writing about how much their awards from the Musicians' Company had meant to them.

We have an array of events centred on musical performance: two Maisie Lewis concerts at the Wigmore, the annual Bach Cantata, the Guildhall Gold Medal Competition at the Barbican, the Prince's Prize evening, five lunchtime concerts of jazz in Finsbury Circus during the City of London Festival and two gigs at Pizza on the Park, and two grand dinners.

But I felt that a lot more could be done with our assets, that there was far too little communication within the Livery as a whole, not enough participation except by the usual suspects, and that we should expand our charitable giving to bring good



Andreas Prindl