

PIPELINE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF TOBACCO PIPEMAKERS AND TOBACCO BLENTERS

MASTER TAKES THE COMPANY TO NEW HEIGHTS

Simon Orlik, who was "dared to dangle" to raise money for the Lord Mayor's Appeal by abseiling down the Tower of St Lawrence Jewry was generously supported by various members of the Company and courageously raised the sum of £1,000. No mean feat!

He describes the ascent up the narrow and dark spiral staircase in the Tower of St Lawrence Jewry as "pretty hard going" and which made him assume that the abseil could not be so bad. This was until he looked over the parapet at the top, 100 feet up, to find that the Clerk's lady, Clarissa H-P, witness and photographer of his descent, was barely visible! The abseiling itself was described as not being too difficult with so many safety features, but climbing over the parapet itself and then taking a deep step down to a ledge before the start was a little concerning. "This is where the trust comes in" said the Safety Officer at the top!

We are unsure whether this was the highlight of the Master's year but he certainly deserves our congratulations which enabled us to support the Lord Mayor's Appeal in a meaningful way.



Simon Orlik dangles

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

5th October 1999

7.00 pm - Ladies Banquet at Drapers' Hall.
Principal Guest - Sir Ronnie Flannagan.

27th October 1999

11.00 am - Court Meeting at Guildhall.

8th December 1999

6.30 pm - Carol Service at St. Botolph's, Aldgate.

18th January 2000

January Dinner

16th May 2000

Master's Reception in House of Lords.

24th June 2000

Millenium Ball at Blenheim Palace.

*For further details, please contact the Clerk at Hackhurst Farm, Lower Dicker, Hailsham, East Sussex BN27 4PB.
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NEW MASTER SETS THE PACE FOR THE MILLENIUM

The Hon Michael Richards took over from Simon Orlik as Master of the Company on 29 June. In his installation speech, he pledged himself to work towards increasing the profile of the Company in all directions, but particularly so far as the key companies in the industry are concerned. He also wants to see a strengthening of the Company in terms of numbers, a continuation of all that we do in the charitable field and above all, pledged himself to ensure that we continue to enjoy ourselves!

The Installation Court Meeting and Dinner was held at Stationers' Hall. This was the first time that the Installation had been followed by a dinner rather than a luncheon but sadly numbers remained poor. It has to be said that those who stayed away missed an excellent evening. The principal guest and speaker was John Carlisle, the Director of Public Affairs at the Tobacco Manufacturers Association and a former MP for Luton. He spoke enthusiastically and forcefully of the campaign and fight to defend the tobacco industry.

Prior to his speech, Fiona Adler had proposed the health of all the guests. Undaunted by the fact that this was a brief not previously given to a lady Liveryman, she produced

what was without doubt a model of how the task should be undertaken.

The Master concluded the evening by paying a well deserved tribute to his predecessor, Simon Orlik, and presented him with a Past Master's Badge. In thanking the assembled Company, the retiring Master thanked all those who had been so supportive to him during his year - a year which had been most rewarding and which he would not easily forget.

Finally, the evening was concluded with a spirited performance by a young soprano from the Guildhall School of Music, Tarita Botsman, and who was accompanied on the piano by Lyndal Dawson.

To mark his year in office Simon Orlik has very kindly presented to the company a dozen tobacco jars with the Livery Crest. The design was produced by the potter at the Broseley Clay Pipe Museum and the jars were hand painted at the Coalport China Museum at Ironbridge.

PIPE MAKERS SHOOT - MARCH 4TH 1999

We nearly did it, but the cool nerves of the professional soldiers prevailed in the end. We came second again in our bid to wrest the Sirrah Cup from the HQ Co Champions.

No less than 21 Livery members and their guests tried their luck on the range and some notable scores were registered by Fiona Adler with 45, John Gossage with 49, the team captain, Derek Harris with 47 and the Master, Simon Orlik, with a very respectable 41. Freeman Matthew

Cormack brought as his guest a Bisley champion, who scored the maximum 50, so the HQ Co really hunkered down and started to take us seriously.

In the event the score was announced as a tie with HQ Co and the Livery on the very high total of 192 each. But the TA had another trick up their sleeve - the next best score would decide the issue and that, alas for us, was HQ Co. So the army retain the trophy, if not entirely happy with their usual margin of safety which had us pleading for them to shoot with the

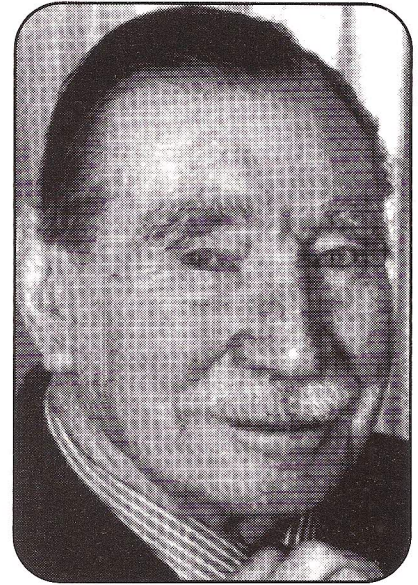
lights out last year!

Our host Captain Brian Welsh laid on a splendid welcome and hoped that we would ask them to provide a Carpet Guard for our Ladies Banquet again. The Master gave thanks on behalf of the Livery and presented a cheque for £300 to the HQ Company.

The evening was only marred by Assistant Roger Makhoulouf's low slung sports car losing its exhaust on some military trap for the unwary in the entrance gate.

OBITUARY

George Ross Goobey died on March 19th aged 87. He will be sadly missed in many quarters but not least in our own Company.



George Ross Goobey

Much has been written of his achievements in the official obituaries which appeared in all the major national papers. He has been referred to as "a Stock Market Legend" and "the Father of the Equity" making a name for himself when he was Pension Fund Manager at Imperial Tobacco. Apart from his financial expertise he was no mean sportsman. He represented Eastern Counties at rugby and was an accomplished cricketer and golfer. But we remember him more personally for all his sound and friendly guidance given to us as a Livery Company. He had become a Liveryman in 1966 and served as Master of the Company in 1978/79. It was a rare event for him to miss a meeting although having the busy diary that he had, the Clerk and former Clerk will vouch for the fact that a phonecall to his devoted wife, Gladys, was sometimes necessary. "Well, it's down here in the book", Gladys would say, and that was invariably good enough. George would duly materialise at the relevant meeting or dinner!

He always had a huge repertoire of stories at his fingertips. "Of course, you've heard the one about the chap who...." George would tend to say, for instance, as people were settling down for a GPC Meeting. If you had heard the particular anecdote, it was almost certainly worth hearing again. He was much in demand as an after dinner speaker and frequently at our own functions he treated us to one of his highly amusing, but never irrelevant to the occasion, speeches. It was particularly poignant that George's son, Alistair, was our principal guest and speaker at the most recent January Dinner at Painter Stainers' Hall. By that time, George's health was failing, but we were delighted to see him at such dinner and which he clearly enjoyed.

By March of this year, George had been ordered by his doctor not to drive. But as in many previous years, he had undertaken to represent the Company with Ian Panto in the Inter Livery Bridge Competition. Not to be deterred, and at considerable personal sacrifice, he made arrangements to be driven to London from Bristol. Knowing George, anything less than a win would have been regarded as being unsatisfactory, but in fact our team came an honourable fourth. Not much more than a week later the end had come, but in the meantime, George could no doubt reflect that he and his partner had won the Cup on no less than 6 occasions and had always been well placed - surely a record which will not be repeated.

A man of many achievements. We will miss him in all sorts of ways.

We are also sorry to report the death of Bill Lingley,
a former Gallaher man and who had been a Liveryman since 1967.

BUTT THAT'S NOT ALL

Medley of Mertons Jeremy Merton was installed as an Assistant on the Court at the June Court Meeting. His grandfather, Derek, and his father, Roger, were both present. It must be a record for three generations of one family to serve on the Court at the same time and we congratulate them. There is a fourth generation in the pipeline.

New Wardens Congratulations to the new Wardens who took over at the Installation Meeting - Ian Panto as Senior Warden, Alec Murray as Renter Warden, Michael Walter as Third Warden and Michael Bramwell as Fourth Warden. Until a year or so ago, Michael Bramwell was Chief Commoner.

Benevolent Fund Trustees Due to ill health, John Solomon has sadly had to tender his resignation as Chairman of the Benevolent Fund Trustees. This is a position which he has held for some years and his wise judgement and leadership will be very much missed. Tributes have also been paid by Sevenoaks School for the contributions he has made during the time that he has served as a Governor of the School by virtue of his Chairmanship of the Benevolent Fund Trustees. All is not lost, however, in that we understand John will continue to serve as a Trustee. In the meantime, Past Master John Adler takes over as Chairman of the Trustees.

Golf - Too Many Bogeys Due to our poor performance in 1998 there was a danger we would be excluded from this year's Prince Arthur Cup at Walton Heath but, in the event, we were invited to take part. However, our team finished up a modest 41st out of 56. Perhaps the steady influence of our captain, Alec Murray, was missed and in his absence the Company was represented by Dr John Robson, Robin Philpott, Peter Barrett-Lennard and Ian Kimmins. This year's disappointing score of -19 compares with our winning score of +1 in 1997 and only serves to emphasise how well the team performed 2 years ago. Or is it that we played so badly this year. The Cup was won by the Worshipful Company of Stationers with a score of +3.

Master's Lady Entertains Not to be outdone by her husband's Installation on 29 June, Leonie Richards took the initiative on the same day to invite the wives of members of the Court to a lunch, followed by a visit to Apsley House. The sun didn't shine, but from all accounts the ladies had a good time.

Try the Pipemakers Hardly a day goes by without a request being made to our Benevolent Fund for



Simon Orlik presents the Pipemakers' Trophy at the Pipesmoker of the Year luncheon to this year's winner John Withers of John Hollingworth & Sons Ltd of Birmingham

charitable help. But because most of our charitable funds go down well defined channels there is little, if any, scope for giving assistance. A letter was recently received from The Rev J Njenjema in Central Africa, which commenced "Dear Sirs, the Co. of Tobacco P.M. and T.P.B. Fund, - we are greeting you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and do hope that as you read this letter you're in good health....." There then followed a plea for funds to support an orphanage and concluded by giving in large block capitals details of the bank and account number of the orphanage.

Sevenoaks School Always something of a leader in these things, Sevenoaks School recently hit the headlines when it announced that A Levels were to be abandoned in favour of the International Baccalaureat. It will take some five years for the changeover to be completed.

Memorial Service Not surprisingly, St Lawrence Jewry was packed for the Memorial Service on 20 May for George Ross Goobey. Drinks for those attending were organised at Wax Chandlers Hall by the three companies of which George was Master - the Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers, the Actuaries and the Tobacco Pipe Makers.

Congratulations to John Rodney Gossage on being admitted to the Freedom and who has subsequently taken up the Livery. Also to **John Peter Nokes** and **David Robert Walter** on being admitted to the Freedom and finally to **Rico Bassi** on being gowned with the Livery.

More Charity Not content with his dangling exploits, Simon Orlik joined one morning with other Masters collecting for the Red Cross on London Bridge and which produced £1800.