



The Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths

Special Edition
Newsletter

*The Lord
Mayor's Show*

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First Time in Ages

This was the first time in over 250 years that The Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths, one of the ancient livery companies of the City of London, has had a float to support Lord Mayor's Show. Year 2005 is special to the Blacksmiths as The Lord Mayor, Alderman David Brewer, is a Liveryman and Honorary Member of the Court of the Company.



Photography courtesy of Clive Jenkins

The Lord Mayor on election day holding the traditional nosegay

The Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths was incorporated nearly 700 years ago (1325) to control ironwork in the City of London and set standards. Today, the Company still sets standards and offers a range of awards and prizes to working blacksmiths, who have to meet demanding criteria.



Photography courtesy of M. O'Sullivan

The Prime Warden in the thick of it

Prim^e Warden John Smith said: "We are excited and honoured to be able to join the parade with such an unusual float, obviously with a fire that reaches

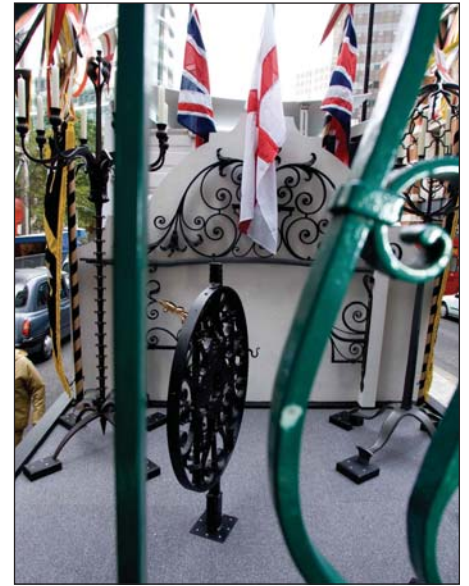
1200 degrees we are a little cautious as we do not want to set the show ablaze and be responsible for another Great Fire of London when we lost our Livery Hall! We want our float to be memorable for the right reasons!"



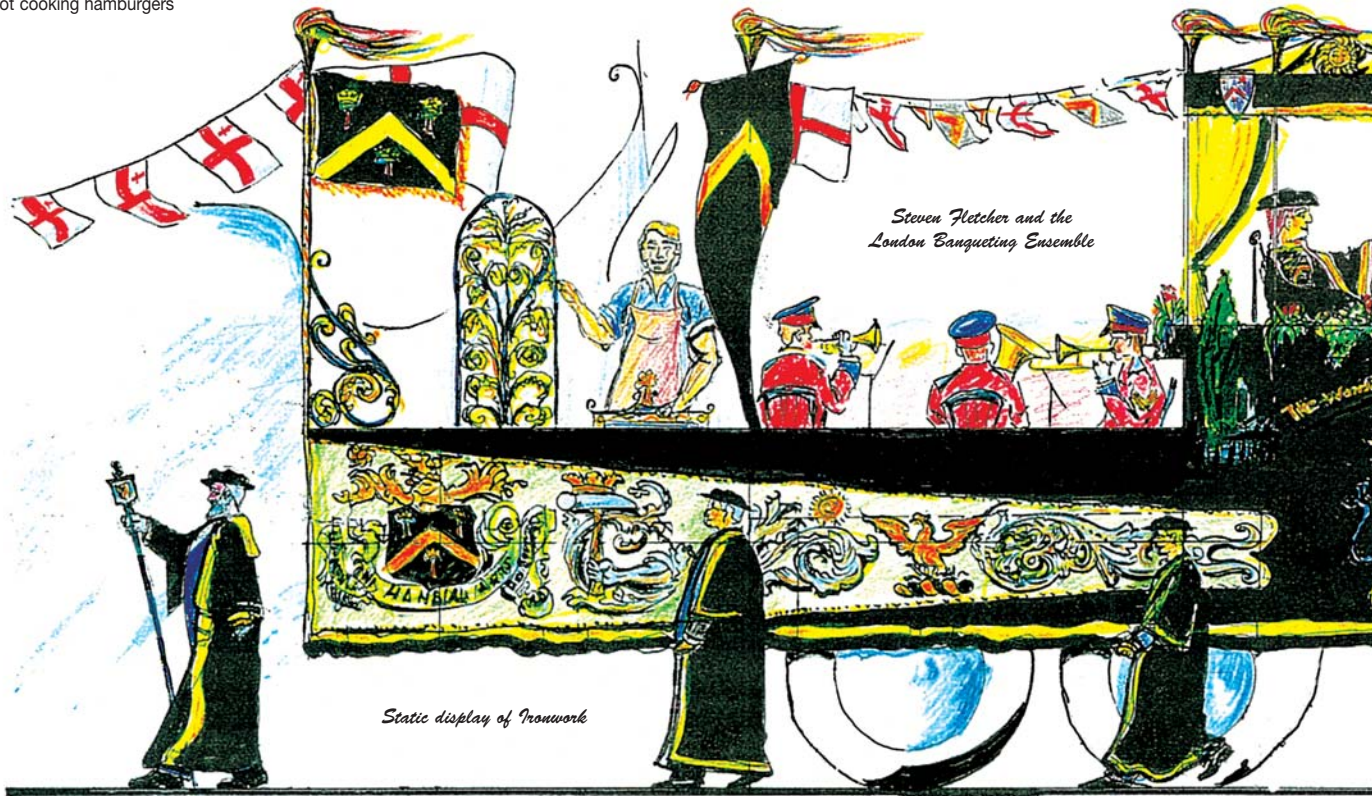
This is how you do it – 'A tap here and a tap there'.
 Meanwhile despite calls from the crowd, Steve was
 not cooking hamburgers



Some of the travelling support in the stand
 opposite St Pauls



The Ironwork static display



Steven Fletcher and the
 London Banqueting Ensemble

Static display of Ironwork



Five students from the Camelia Botnar Foundation,
 who fabricated the Prime Warden's canopy, all the
 chairs and tables

The Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths

The Float Concept by the Float designer Geoffrey

The design concept is based on baroque designs used in the various pageants, in former times, with however particular reference to the Art & Craft of the Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths.

Historically the Lord Mayor's Show took place on the Thames; the various Livery barges (floats), being

dressed over all, with the individual company's banners, flags and coats-of-arms.

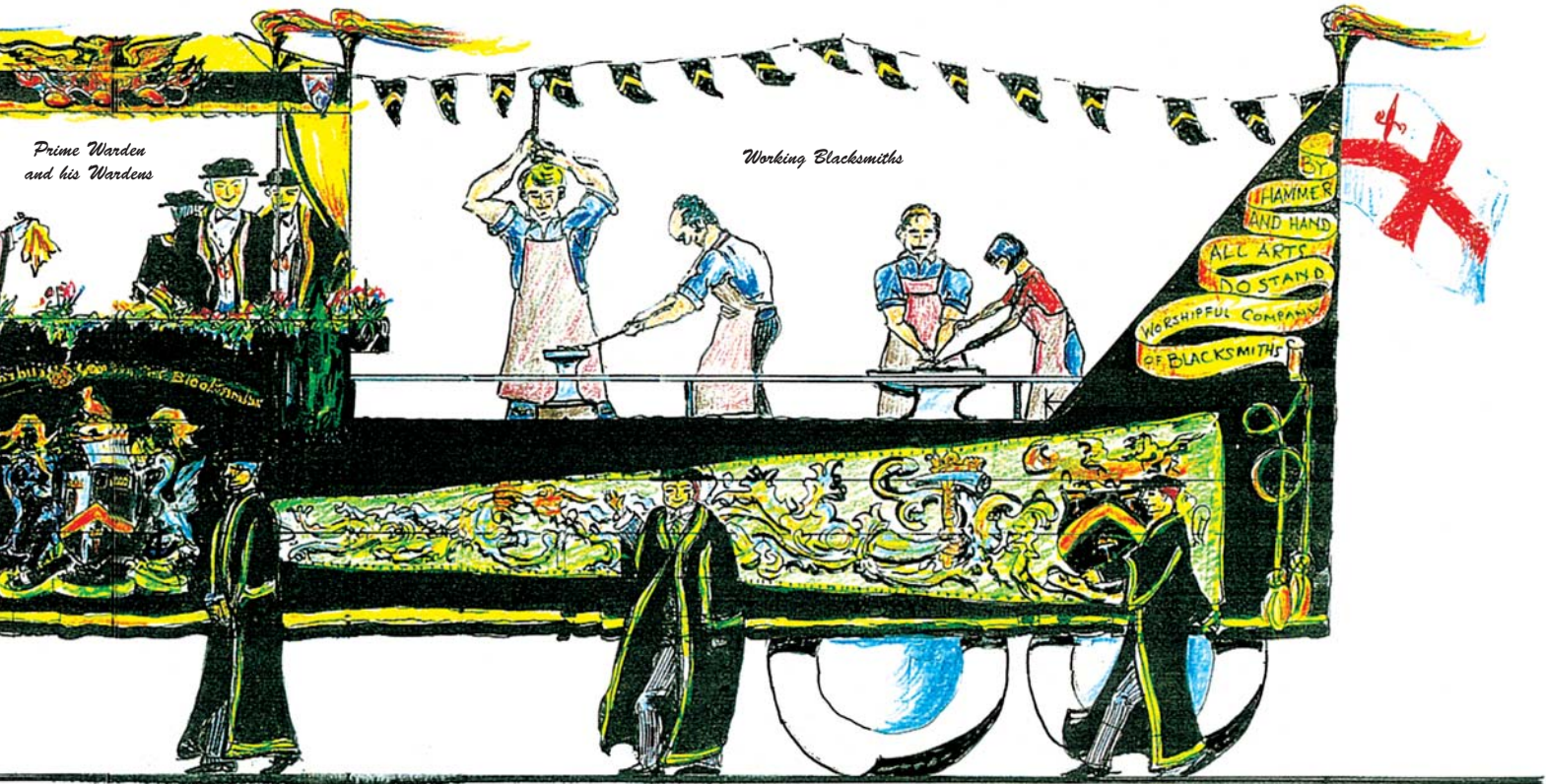
Fortunately the Blacksmith's Company pennant, which would have been flown on these occasions is still intact (and kept in the Museum of London), we have been able to reproduce this historic and valuable



The walkers in Livery Gowns gather at London Wall for the start



The Prime Warden with all the working Blacksmiths – (L-R) Les Armstrong, Clive Mockford, 'Mac' Head, Don Barker, Steve Rook and Godfrey South



Float for the Lord Mayor's Show – 2005

McMorrough Kavanagh

banner – it is attached to the skirt of the float to suggest the rippling of the River.

The various flags, pennants, coats-of-arms and bunting give the whole a merry and festive outlook whilst the palanquin shows the Prime Warden and Court. The torches light up the whole.



Steve Rook and Hugh Adams turned Geoffrey McMorrough Kavanagh's dream into reality



The Prime Warden with his Wardens: (L-R) John McCuin (Fourth), John Shreeves (Third) and John Barber (Renter)



The Stars of the Show

Hugh Adams and Steve Rook spent 6 days working 12 hours a day at the RA Barrack, Woolwich constructing the magnificent float. Their tireless efforts moved the concept into reality.

The drapes by Christine Bridges and the flowers by Jacquie, from Courts of Rayleigh provided the finishing touches.



Steve Rook's Attention to detail

These steps were produced during the week at Woolwich to make Float access easy and safe.

A big thank you goes out to the many Liverymen, the WCB Organising Committee, Dodd's Transport and our many outside suppliers who gave time and resources so generously.

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Illuminated Address: Presented by the Prime Warden to The Lord Mayor at the Guildhall before the Show

Another Blacksmith First

It was probably the first time ever that working forges with a real fire heated to some 1200 degrees centigrade had been towed through the streets of London, with several award winning blacksmiths practicing their craft.



After the Lord Mayor's Show - The Prime Warden and Float Designer relax at Davy's Wine Bar



**CORPORATION
OF LONDON**

Mr Alderman David Brewer CMG The Rt Hon the Lord Mayor – 2005/2006

Mr Alderman David William Brewer took office as the 678th Lord Mayor of the City of London on Friday 11th November 2005.

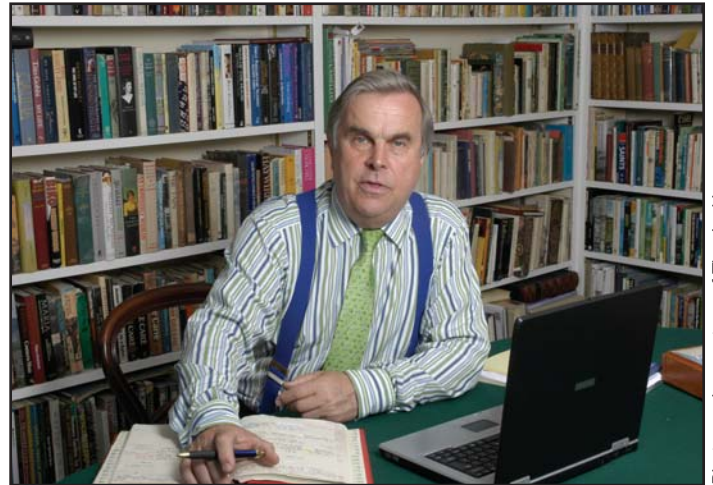
David Brewer was born in Luton, grew up in Hampstead, and was educated at St. Paul's School and the University of Grenoble. He joined the insurance brokers Sedgwick Collins in 1959 and has spent his entire business career in the insurance industry. In 1976 he opened Sedgwick's Japan office in Tokyo, where he lived for three years. He subsequently set up a similar office in China in 1981, leading eventually to the granting of the first broker's licence for Sedgwick in 1993. Since that time he has remained particularly involved with China and he has been chairman of Sedgwick companies in both China and Japan and a director of their international development companies. He retired from Sedgwick in 2003 but remains as a consultant for the Asia-Pacific region of Marsh Inc.

Alderman Brewer has for many years been associated with International Financial Services, London, (IFSL - formerly British Invisibles), where he is now their Senior Consultant for Asia and a member of both their Japan and their China Advisory Group - which he founded. He continues to encourage UK links with China, being Vice President of the Great Britain-China Centre, Honorary Treasurer and a Board Member of the China-Britain Business Council (CBBC) and the Chairman of the IFSL/CBBC Financial Services Committee. He is a non executive director of London Asia Capital plc – appointed in 2005.

He remains a Fellow of the Chartered Insurance Institute and is currently Deputy President of the Insurance Institute of London.

David began a lifelong love of and interest in the City of London when he became apprenticed to the Worshipful Company of Merchant Taylors at the age of 14, serving as Master of the Company in 2002. He is a Court Assistant of the Blacksmiths' Company and the Insurers' Company and is an Honorary Freeman of the Company of Security Professionals. He is also Chairman of the City of London Branch of the Institute of Directors. In 1999 he was appointed a Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George for his services to export.

He was elected to the Court of Common Council for the



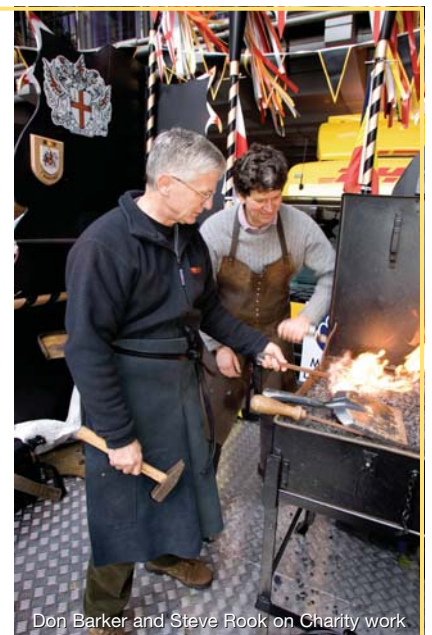
The Lord Mayor in a relaxed working mode

Photography courtesy of Tim Jenkins

Ward of Bassishaw in 1992 and as Alderman for the Ward in 1996. During this time he has served on many Corporation Committees; he represents the Corporation as a Governor of the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London and is a member of the International Board of Overseers, Cass Business School. He has been a Justice of the Peace since 1979 and was elected to serve in the office of Sheriff of the City of London in 2002/2003. He is an Honorary Master of the Bench of Gray's Inn.

David Brewer married Tessa Jordá in 1985. They have two teenage daughters and have homes in central London and in Cornwall. He has a particular interest in music and is a member of the Advisory Council of the London Symphony Orchestra, a Director of the City of London Sinfonia and a Director of the Guildhall School Trust. He is also Chairman of the City of London Branch of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, a Vice President of the British Red Cross (City of London Sector) and President of the Treloar Trust Centenary Appeal. He is President of the London Cornish Association and lists music, golf, chocolate and paronomasia amongst his many interests.

Several award winning blacksmiths were working on the float to make pokers, paperknives, flowers, toasting forks and other items which are being auctioned on **e-bay** for the Lord Mayor's Charity, Treloars School at Alton in Hampshire. It provides specialist education and facilities for children with disabilities.



Don Barker and Steve Rook on Charity work

Photography courtesy of M. O'Sullivan

How to become the Lord Mayor

After being introduced to the tale of Dick Whittington, nearly every one of us has been intrigued by the thought of becoming The Lord Mayor.

The first step is to be elected for a 6 year term in his / her Ward as an **Alderman** to serve as a member of the Court of Aldermen and Common Council. Every candidate needs to be:

- Aged 21 or more
- British subject
- Freeman of the City
- Suitable for appointment as a Justice of the Peace on the City Bench,

and have the personal qualities such as good public speaking and be willing to make a time commitment of about 2 days per week.

Providing the Alderman has the support and endorsement of the Court of Aldermen and Livery (*the support of 15 Liverymen is needed for nomination*) then the next step is to become elected by the Livery at Common Hall and be appointed (**Aldermanic**) **Sheriff**. A Sheriff

continues to serve as a member of the Court of Aldermen and Common Council, but additionally officiates at the sessions at the Central Criminal Court and attends in support of the Lord Mayor.

Every year a committee of Aldermen plus two leading City/ Westminster figures assess the list of Aldermen that have served the office of Sheriff and rank them, although ranking does not depend on length of service. The **Lord Mayor** is elected by the Court of Aldermen following nomination of two candidates by the Livery at Common Hall. Any Mayoral candidate has to make a full time commitment to meet the primary responsibilities as:

- Head of the Corporation of London
- Principal Ambassador / Key spokesperson on behalf of the Corporation and Business City

Additional tasks are:

- Chief Magistrate of the City of London
- Head of the City Lieutenancy

- President of the City of London Reserve Forces & Cadets Association
- Admiral of the Port of London
- Chancellor of the City University
- President / Patron of many civic and charitable organisations.

The Lord Mayor has to reside at the Mansion House during his Mayoral Year (Nov – Nov), be able to meet the financial implications from private resources and be willing to make a significant contribution to the wider community by means of voluntary service.

Perhaps you are thinking 'I will leave it to someone else' and after all it was easier for Dick Whittington. Every year the performance of Alderman to Lord Mayor is assessed by an elaborate form of peer review, which ensures the elected Lord Mayor has the full backing of the wider City when taking over the responsibilities as 'Ambassador for Financial Services'.

So it needs a very special person and as editor I ask, *'Is it for you?'*



The Late Lord Mayor, Alderman Michael Savory, shares a joke with his successor

Photography courtesy of Clive Jenkins

The Float featured a full size replica of the Company's original (circa 1750) barge banner (*now in the Museum of*

London) which would have been flown on the barge when accompanying the Lord Mayor on his progress by river.

