



# THE ARCHITECTS' COMPANY

## WCCA Summer Newsletter 2019

### Master's Notes



Since the last newsletter much has happened, including the appointment of our new Clerk, Phil Gibbs. Phil has quickly settled in and is already looking at how we can improve our service to members. He looks forward to meeting all of you in due course but in the interim he has set out a short personal history and “first impressions” of WCCA below.

We have also said farewell to Ann Head who is retiring from her role as Clerk's Assistant which she has carried out formally for the past 3 years and before that, less formally when her husband Ian was our Clerk. Ann has worked tirelessly to keep our finances on track, and we owe her a huge debt of gratitude. We wish her a long and happy retirement and hope to see her at many future events.

At our July Court Meeting we welcomed on-board Cheryl Reid in a new position of Assistant Clerk. Cheryl has until recently been working as a school matron but has a background in marketing and public relations. Her role will encompass bookkeeping and financial management but will gradually extend into assisting with the management of Temple Bar.

As I write it seems incredible that my year has almost passed, and I will be handing over to our new Master in September. However, there is still much to report on and to look forward to.

### **An introduction from our new Clerk, Phil Gibbs**

I originate from Rugby in Warwickshire, from where I went to read Pure and Applied Physics at Salford University, Manchester. I joined the Royal Navy straight from university and travelled to all corners of the world including an overseas posting as Professor of Systems Management at the Information Resources Management College of the National Defence University in Washington DC. In my time in the Navy I also achieved Masters' Degrees in Information Systems and Education.

On leaving the Navy I changed direction completely and became a Company Secretary within the Outdoor Leisure Trade. An enthusiastic downhill Skier, I also umpire hockey in Hampshire and Surrey, and play golf and tennis. I am a Fellow of the RSA, Freeman of the Worshipful Company of Furniture Makers, Chairman of



School Governors locally to my home in Hampshire and have two children who have just completed university (although one is now doing her own master's degree at our expense!)

Having applied for the Role as Clerk to the Company in late March, following a rapid set of interviews, acceptance and planning, I joined you on 9 May at the Accounts Court; being introduced then asked to take the Court minutes before being sworn in was quite a baptism of fire. Then a whirlwind handover from Jonathan, when I tried to assimilate the role, and take over much of the equipment and muniments of the Company, I grasped the reins and in a headlong charge headed for my first event as your Clerk, notwithstanding all the administration in between.

I was warned by the Master, on joining, that Architects are notorious 'last minuters' when it comes to booking, and so it proved, with even some arriving at the dinner without having booked! As no plan ever survives first contact, the fantastic staff at Salters' Hall helped me resolve the challenge by squeezing an extra 4 places in for dinner (and Cheryl popped out for her dinner with the Beadle to give me the extra place I needed!).

I am delighted to be your Clerk; every day brings its new challenges and knowledge, as I endeavour to update systems, processes and information management to enable the Company to move forward in a modern fashion. I have applied to be a Liveryman of the Furniture Makers and that process will hopefully be completed in October so I can join the fun at Common Hall. As one Past Master said to me at the dinner, "Welcome to the Company, 30 years old and steeped in 900 years of tradition". I will never claim to be your "umble clerk", but hope I bring a positivity and forward-looking attitude to this important role.

#### **Accounts Court Luncheon at Innholders Hall 9<sup>th</sup> May**



This new venue for our Company proved to be popular, providing as it did a very attractive and high-quality luncheon under the direction of Michelin starred resident chef Herbert Berger. The "round table" format provided a relaxed and informal setting for conversation.

We were also pleased to receive a talk by Liveryman Andy von Bradsky, now Head of Architecture at the Department of Housing, Communities and Local Government. Andy was somewhat encouraging that design quality is on the Government agenda and that there is more to life than Brexit!

#### **Hamburg Trip 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> May**



With a group of almost 40 our Hamburg trip was a great success. The sun shone on us for most of the weekend and we enjoyed a wide range of experiences including architecture, history, two boat trips and a stunning concert at the Elbphilharmonie. More details are available on the blog.

### Annual Lecture by Ian Ritchie 29<sup>th</sup> May

Ian Ritchie provided us with a memorable lecture in the stunning surroundings of his new performance spaces at the Royal Academy of Music. A violin solo by one of the students in the recital hall set the tone for the evening before Ian launched into a wide ranging and thought-provoking talk about how architecture is made. The many visiting Masters have been fulsome in their comments about the evening and how their eyes were opened to how much thought goes into designing buildings! Who knew?



### Past Masters' Luncheon at Temple Bar 30<sup>th</sup> May



Twelve Past Masters of WCCA, plus the present Master and our Renter Warden and Temple Bar project leader, Phil Cooper, gathered at Temple Bar for what we hope will become an annual event. It was a great opportunity to test drive the facility and the food and wine offering from Paternoster Chop House.

### Election Court 9<sup>th</sup> July

The Election Court confirmed the election of the following for the year commencing 19 September 2019

Master	Valerie <b>OWEN LE VAILLANT</b> OBE
Upper Warden	Philip Leslie <b>COOPER</b>
Renter Warden	Christopher Edward <b>DYSON</b>
Junior Warden	Dr Stuart <b>LE SAGE</b>
Deputy Master	Stephen <b>WAGSTAFF</b>

Audrey **HESSE** and Chris **WILLIAMSON** were invited to join the Court as Assistants and both have accepted.

Congratulations to all of them.

Michael **WILKEY** is retiring as Court Assistant

Sandra **PAPWORTH** retires as Court Assistant and becomes Assistant Emeritus.



David **FALLA** and James **WALKER** are retiring as Assistants Emeritus  
We thank all of them for their long service to the Company.

### **Election Court Dinner 9<sup>th</sup> July at Salters Hall**

A beautiful summer evening found us in the delightful garden of The Salter's Company, next to their hall, for the drinks reception prior to the dinner. Our new Clerk's first major event was a sell-out, indeed a little bit more than that!

The packed hall saw the presentation of the many awards described below. We were also treated to a very entertaining speech from Sir Nicholas Kenyon, Managing Director of the Barbican Centre



### **City of London Building of the Year Awards 2019**

Judging of this year's awards took place under a new chairman, Jo Bacon, along with Barry Munday (Master), James Goldsmith ( Axa ) , Nigel Webb ( British Land ) , Victoria Fairhall ( Brookfield) and Chris Williamson ( WCCA )

### **Winner. Fen Court**



Architects. Eric Parry Architects

Developers. Generali Real Estate

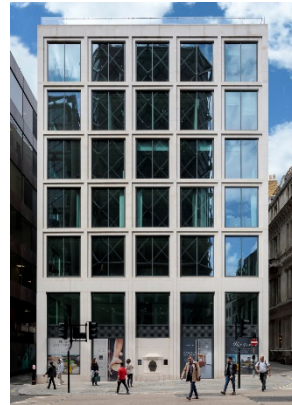
**Best Refurbishment. Cannon Green**



Architects. John Robertson Architects

Developers. Ocubis

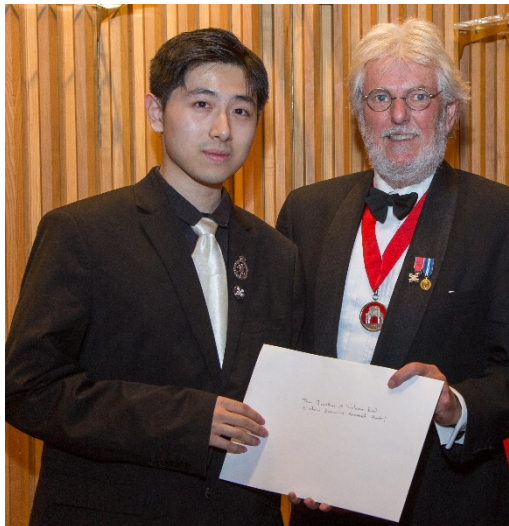
**Special Award. London Stone**



The Worshipful Company of Masons

with Fletcher Priest Architects

**Jonathan and Victoria Ball Drawing Prize**



Part 1 winner Abraham Huang and Part 2 winner Andreas Mullertz with Jonathan Ball



## Charitable Donations



Cheques were presented to Sonia Watson OBE , Chief Executive of The Stephen Lawrence Charitable Foundation, and Robert Ball of The Architects Benevolent Society

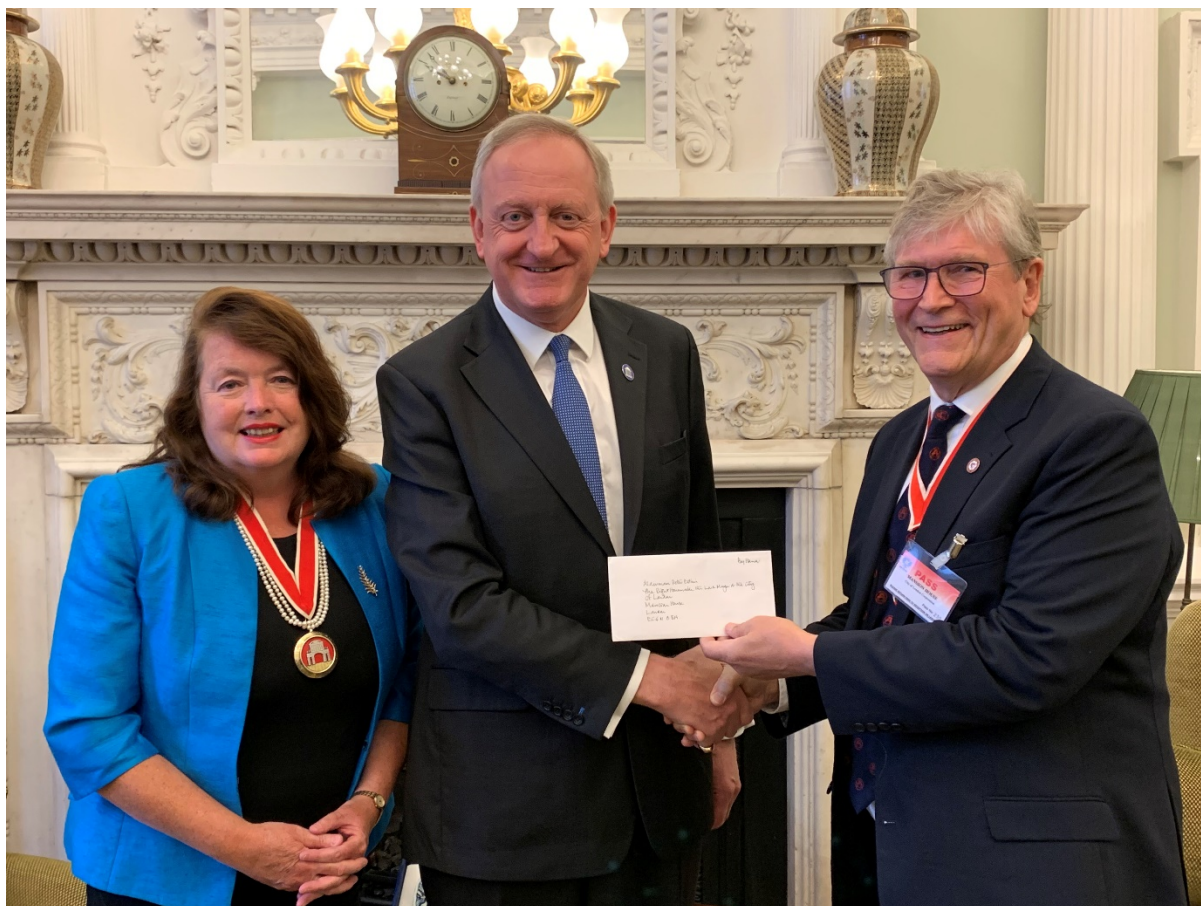
## ABS Plate Award



This year the ABS Award was presented to Chris Williamson for his heroic fundraising efforts through running the London Marathon. The commemorative plate was designed by Chris Dyson.



## Lord Mayor's Appeal



The Master and Upper Warden were delighted to take coffee with the Rt Honourable the Lord Mayor of London, Alderman Peter Estlin and the Lady Mayoress, Lindy Estlin, at Mansion House on 19 July where they handed over a cheque for £1500 on behalf of the WCCA Charitable Trust.

### Future Events and Royal Charter

Next year promises to be another momentous year for the Company, not least because we will be receiving our Royal Charter. The Charter document is in the process of being printed and receiving the Great Seal, whereafter it will come into legal effect.

This has given us the confidence to plan the presentation event. This will be combined with our Annual Banquet which will be taking place on the evening of Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February at Mansion House. A member of the Royal Family will be making the presentation and the newly elected Sheriffs have it in their diaries. We are hoping that the new Lord Mayor will also attend. **PLEASE ADD THIS TO YOUR DIARY, we expect a very full attendance for this historic event!**

### To further assist your forward planning, the Clerk writes

The Events Committee have asked me to look ahead to the next Masters' Year and propose some planning dates for your diaries. The venues for the events will be promulgated in due course

Please "Save the Date" for the following events if you are potentially involved in any of the proposed events:

Date	Event
Thursday 19 September	Installation Court (Armourer's Hall)
Thursday 19 September	Installation Service (St Lawrence Jewry)
Thursday 19 September	Installation Court Lunch (Armourer's Hall)
Friday 27 – Sunday 29 September.	Master's Weekend - Deal
Monday 21 October	Master's reception on Trafalgar Day at Trinity House
Tuesday 3 Dec 19	Committee Meetings (Temple Bar)
Thursday 12 Dec 19	Annual Carol service and Supper (St Lawrence Jewry)
Tuesday 21 Jan 20	New Year Court and Court Lunch (Temple Bar)
Tuesday 18 Feb 20	Royal Charter presentation followed by Company Banquet (Mansion House)
Tuesday 3 Mar 20	Committee Meetings (Temple Bar)
Friday 27 Mar 20	United Guilds Service (St Paul's Cathedral)
Wednesday 22 Apr 20	Stephen Lawrence Day - launch of WCCA Apprentices & Employers digital networking platform (Temple Bar TBC)
Tuesday 28 Apr 20 (dtbc)	Accounts Court and Lunch (Venue TBC)
Thursday 14 May - 17 May 20	Master's Weekend in Lisbon, Portugal
Tuesday 2 Jun 20	Committee Meetings (Temple Bar)
Tuesday 9 Jun 20	WCCA Annual Lecture
Tuesday 7 July 20	Elections Court and Dinner (Venue TBC)
Tuesday 8 Sep 20	Committee Meetings (Temple Bar)
Tuesday 22 Sep 20	Installation Court (Venue TBC)

Please remember these are for planning purposes and appropriate calling notices will be sent to you all well in advance of the event.

These dates and any additional events, or amendments, will be posted on the WCCA website in due course.

## Members news

### Ethan Kitto

Ethan Kitto, the Company's newest student, has made a spectacular start to his training by receiving the Year 1 Best Portfolio prize at the University of Kent School of Architecture's End of Year Show and Awards Evening on Friday 14th June 2019.

In 2018 Ethan, then a student at the City of London Freeman's School at Ashted in Surrey, received the WCCA's annual book token award for the best Architectural Draughtsmanship project. On gaining a place at the University of Kent in September that year he became a student member of the Company and at the Accounts Court meeting on 9th May 2019 he was formally bound to Immediate Past Master Stephen Wagstaffe who will be his mentor during his time at university.

### Lucy Musgrave OBE

We were delighted to hear that Liveryman Lucy Musgrave, founding director of urban design practice Publica and recently appointed National Infrastructure Commission design champion, was awarded an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours list.



## Canon Doctor Geoffrey Purves

Geoffrey writes about his recent portrait experience

*"My idea for a portrait followed a discussion with Maria Mari Murga (Leif Martinez's wife). She is a talented artist and had an impressive portfolio of portrait painting with works from the Philippines and Spain, which was recently exhibited at the Philippine Embassy in London. We discussed a formal portrait of me as Master of WCCA with Temple Bar as a background. She presented preliminary pencil sketch ideas (70 x 100 cm) which were then developed into her oil painting using a combination of short sittings and photographic references.*

*It has been a fascinating and successful experience and I am very pleased with the completed work which was concluded with it being presented to me by the artist. I encourage other Masters to do likewise and perhaps WCCA can develop a tradition of Masters' portraits like many other Livery Companies."*

Canon Dr. Geoffrey Purves FRIBA



Maria Mari Murga is a Filipina Spanish artist based in London. For any enquiries, please contact Maria: 0775 4782 127 [mariamarimurga@gmail.com](mailto:mariamarimurga@gmail.com) [www.mariamarimurga.com](http://www.mariamarimurga.com)

## T. S. Whirlwind – The Orpington Sea Cadet Corps



Deputy Master Elect Stephen Wagstaffe writes

At the Installation Court in September 2011 the Company formally approved a link with Orpington Sea Cadets and the unit paraded for its first Carpet Guard at the Company Banquet the 26<sup>th</sup> March 2012. Since then the cadets have performed the same duty at all our subsequent banquets and dinners, plus assisting at each of the annual carol services at St Lawrence Jewry. It is a popular misconception that Sea Cadets are Sea Scouts but with no disrespect to the worldwide scouting movement nothing could be further from the truth. Sea Cadets have a memorandum of understanding with the Royal Navy and as such have formed very close links with the Royal Navy and it's ethos and etiquette. With the Sea Cadets control comes under the auspices of the MOD and they have the right to be considered as an arm of Her Majesty's Armed Forces. Thus, by having a formal link with the unit the WCCA has been able to comply with the Lord Mayor's requirement for all livery companies to support the country's armed forces.

In return for the unit's ceremonial services the Company supports its work in several ways. A nominated member of the Company represents the WCCA on the Unit Management Committee – UMC – and assists with the general running of the unit. During the last 7 years Past Master Michael Wilkey, Immediate Past Master Stephen Wagstaffe and Liveryman Tim Godsmark have filled this role.

Additionally, the Company makes an annual financial grant to the unit which assists with paying for all the cadets to go on a number of specialist training courses each year. And last but not least it has been possible to help out in practical ways – for example Michael and Stephen spent several days one year doing maintenance on the unit’s 44-year-old annex and the next year redecorating the wardroom and bar areas.

In 2017 the unit celebrated its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary and Its latest Commanding Officer, Petty Officer (SCC) Andy Lawson, took charge. “Whirlwind” is clearly in safe hands as in 2018 PO Lawson was named the Best Sea Cadet Corps C/O in the whole of the London Region.

Now in its 77th year the Unit’s priority is to replace it’s sadly dilapidated annex (despite Michael and Stephen’s efforts 3 years ago!). Michael and Tim have assisted with surveying and planning applications work. Appropriate prefabricated units have been identified and quotations been received. All that remains is to raise the funds required and to assist with that the C/O has set up a pay pal pay pool. The details are given below and should any member of the Company feel able to contribute it would be most gratefully received.

<https://paypal.me/pools/c/8fvCuHLbz> Alternatively cheques may be sent to; -Mr Trevor Grinstead, 20 Anglesea Road, Orpington, BR5 4AW

**Important request. We are looking for a member of the Company to take over responsibility for liaison with the Orpington Sea Cadets. For more information contact Stephen Wagstaffe at [stephen\\_wagstaffe@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stephen_wagstaffe@yahoo.co.uk)**

**And finally .....**

**Spot the WCCA member**





**This is the RIBA Council 1992. Can you spot the WCCA members? We think there are 9. A bottle of decent wine for the first correct answer. Please reply to Stephen Wagstaffe**