

Thorough

Issue 9 - September 2005

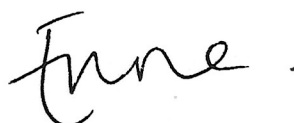
EDITORIAL

As the new University year starts, I'd like to welcome all new scholars to the Association and wish you all the best for your studies.

This is an interesting year to join as there will be special 90th anniversary events - see the Chairman's message on page 2. I look forward to meeting many of you at the 1st of these, the Annual Dinner at the House of Lords in April.

2006 will also see new changes to *Thorough*. After 4 years as Editor, this edition will be my last newsletter. I wish my successor all the best in this interesting role and thank members for the news and feedback you have sent me over the years.

All the very best,



Emma Sanders

ANNUAL DINNER 2005

The 2005 Kitchener Scholars' Association Annual Dinner was held in the pleasant surroundings of the Officers' Mess Dining Room, Inns of Court and City Yeomanry, London on Friday 15th April 2005. We are grateful to Major Paul Kennely for again inviting us to hold the event in such an interesting and historic building. The Annual General Meeting was, as usual, held prior to the dinner and was attended by Lord Kitchener, the KSA Committee and assembled Kitchener Scholars. During the business meeting, guests were able to tour the small but fascinating Regimental museum on the ground floor of the building or relax over a drink in the bar.

There was plenty of time before dinner to chat to old friends and familiar faces and as is always a delight during this event, to make acquaintances amongst the many new KS who were present with their guests, some of whom had travelled large distances from University and College to attend the dinner. Prior to the dinner new KS were formally presented with their Kitchener Scholarship Certificates by

Lord Kichener.

We were then treated to a splendid dinner with excellent 'new world' wines in the gloriously appointed dining room beneath an array of military paintings and Regimental regalia.

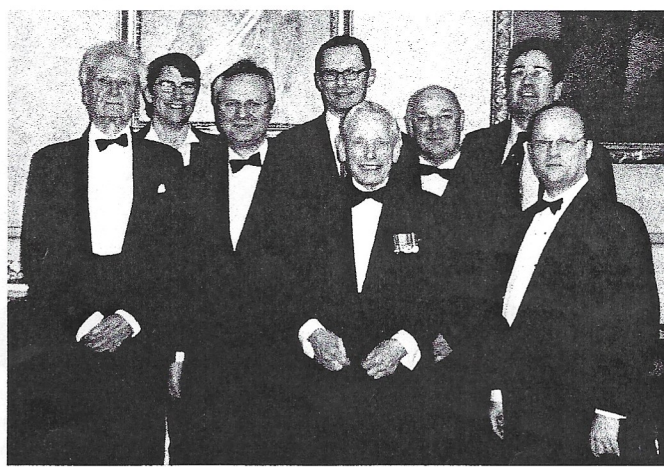
After dinner, the Chairman gave a speech welcoming new KS and their guests to the Association and highlighted some of the social events due to take place later in the year. The guest speaker for the evening Major Gordon Corrigan, MBE, visiting lecturer at the Joint Services Staff College, then gave a rousing and fascinating review of the personal, political and military life of Lord Kitchener with many references to current political and military thinking of today. This certainly seemed to provoke and stimulate much after dinner chat and opinion.

The speeches, toasts and formalities of the dinner were duly completed and we were then free to mingle before departing after a few final nightcaps, looking forward to another delightful evening next year.

Philip Chapman-Sheath



The table set for dinner



Lord Kitchener and the KSA committee



Pre-dinner drinks for scholars

"Education must elevate the mind, improve your faculties of thought, must clear your vision and make you understand your place and duty in the world"
Field Marshal Lord Kitchener of Khartoum

KITCHENER, THE CITY AND ITS LIVERY COMPANIES

Few readers are likely to be aware that Field Marshal, 1st Earl Kitchener once had a link with the City of London. However there was one event that saw his name being added to what has aptly been called "London's Roll of Honour". It was in the year 1898, shortly after becoming a Freeman of the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers – one of the City's "Great Twelve" Livery Companies – that the then Major-General Lord Kitchener of Khartoum, Sirdar of the Egyptian Army was made an Honorary Freeman and was presented with a Sword of Honour by the Lord Mayor.

Honorary Freedom is the highest honour that the Corporation of the City of London can bestow. Among earlier Honorary Freemen are to be found such distinguished personages as Nelson, Hood, the Duke of Wellington and Florence Nightingale. More recent additions include Sir Winston Churchill, General Eisenhower and Nelson Mandela.

Responding to the presentation of the Sword to him at the Guildhall on 4th November, 1898, Lord Kitchener said: "I have to express my very sincere thanks to the high honour that you have done me as representing the Army recently engaged in the Soudan. This Sword and the Freedom of the City with which you have presented me will always be treasured in my family as one of the highest rewards and greatest honours

that could be conferred on me."

There are not many outside the City, and even those who work within the 'Square Mile', remotely aware of the today's role of Livery Companies like Fishmongers. Originally medieval trade guilds they were created to protect customers, employers and employees alike. They checked standards of work, quality of goods, weights and measures. As Livery Companies they grew and prospered between the 14th and 16th centuries, and some acquired halls as permanent meeting places. Unfortunately many of these old Livery Halls were destroyed in the Great Fire of 1666, and those that survived eventually succumbed to Victorian re-building or the bombs of World War II. Today there are only 38 halls left, several rebuilt on original medieval sites, even though Livery Companies numbers have grown to 108, some of very modern origin like Environmental Cleaners and Information Technology. Those of ancient origin include Fishmongers, number four of the "Great Twelve". The oldest Livery Company, though not one of the "Great Twelve" is Weavers, incorporated in the year 1115.

While some Livery Companies, like Goldsmiths which still maintains links with its ancient craft and today is responsible for the London Assay Office, others like the Tallow Chandlers and the Horners have

been adopted by their modern industrial equivalents of oil and plastics. But all Livery Companies are in one way or another involved with charities and education. There are 124 educational establishments and schools that benefit from £55 million of financial assistance because of their specific links with Livery Companies. The running of almshouses is another traditional role of Livery Companies, and in recent times the management of their more modern equivalent – sheltered housing. Financial assistance of £2.5 million is currently given to these schemes. All in all, at the last count, total charitable giving by Livery Companies was some £43 million.

So if you ever watch the annual Lord Mayor's Show, do remember that there is more to all that than just pageantry, and dining and wining at Mansion House banquets or attending Livery Company dinners. Whether ancient in origin, or not, the Worshipful Companies of the City of London are also trustees of many traditional and innovative charitable endeavours.

*Gerry Clark
KSA Honorary Historian*

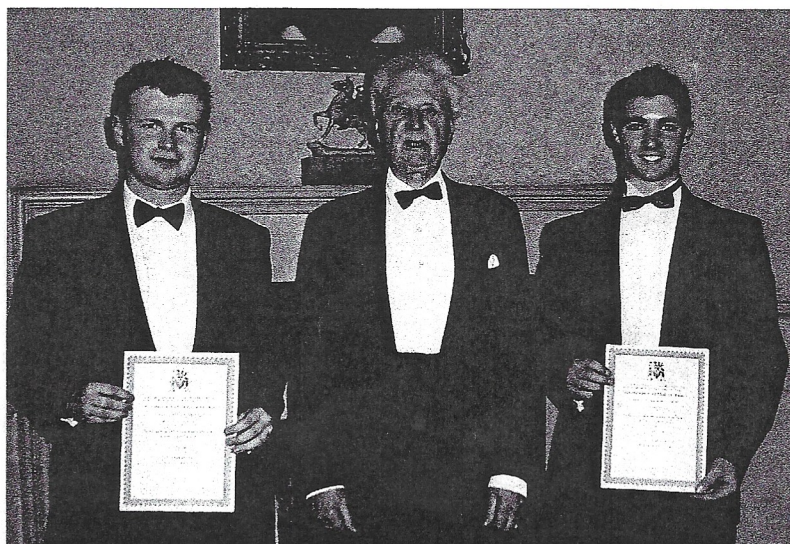
REMEMBRANCE DAY

The Annual Parade for laying a wreath at the Kitchener Memorial in the Horse Guards will take place on Remembrance Sunday 13th November. Scholars attending the Parade should assemble at the Memorial at 10.45. refreshments will be provided following the laying of the wreath.

Security for Remembrance Day will this year be particularly tight, and only those who have, or are in the company of the holder of a letter of authority from the Royal Parks Manager, or a ticket issued by the Royal British Legion, will be allowed inside the security cordon.

Scholars wishing to attend the Parade should contact the secretary, preferably by e-mail, brie@onetel.com with the address to which the tickets should be forwarded by Wednesday 2nd November 05.

Gerry Brierley



New scholars receiving their certificates at the Annual Dinner in April 2005. Past scholars may obtain a certificate by sending their name, address, University attended, year of entry and course taken to the Secretary accompanied by a donation by cheque (minimum of 10 pounds) made payable to the Kitchener Scholars Association.

*"Education must elevate the mind, improve your faculties of thought,
must clear your vision and make you understand your place and duty in the world"
Field Marshal Lord Kitchener of Khartoum*

FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN

As many KS may know, next year is the 90th anniversary of the death of Lord Kitchener, who drowned when HMS Hampshire sank off Orkney in 1916. To commemorate this event, the KSA is planning to make its 2006 programme of events rather special. Our main event of the year, the Annual Dinner, will be held in the House of Lords on Friday 28th April. I expect a full house for this event, so please reserve your tickets as soon as possible. Full details will be sent out later.

The memorial service will take place in St Paul's Cathedral as usual on 4th June and will be followed by a special private tour of a local place of interest and a splendid tea.

Following the memorial service will be an extra event. The KSA will join

with the regimental associations of the British Army on the memorial tour of the Somme from 29th June to 1st July. This will involve travel by coach and channel tunnel with a hotel stay in France. We invite any KS with an interest in history to join us on this trip. Details and costs will be available from the Secretary shortly. Finally the Remembrance Day parade at the statue of K of K on Horse Guards Parade will be followed by a lunch in London.

I would ask that all KS make an extra effort to attend the 2006 events. You and your spouses, partners and families will all be made very welcome!

Jonathan Price

ITEMS FOR SALE

KSA ties

Dark blue or maroon ties printed with the KSA gothic "K"

£6 inc p&p

KSA brooches £4

2cm diameter red enamelled brooches with gilt gothic "K"

£4 inc p&p

Please contact the Treasurer
(address on page 4)

YOUR COMMITTEE

At the AGM, members elected the Committee for 2005/6

Chairman / Treasurer : Jonathan Price
Vice Chairman : Jim Watson
Hon. Secretary : Gerry Brierley

Tracey Ashton
Chris Bunker
Philip Chapman-Sheath
Simon Piggott
Tim Price
Andrew Roland Price
Emma Sanders
Susan Saunders



Jim Watson and Gerry Brierley

All photos Philip Chapman-Sheath

MEMBERS NEWS

Tracey Ashton (KS Derby University, 2003) writes about her summer break in America, "I am coming into my final year at University and wanted to do something different over the summer period, so I applied to CCUSA to work in a summer camp in America. I was placed at an amazing camp in Buffalo, upstate New York called Forrester Farm Riding and Sports Camp.

"I spent 11 weeks in America and found working with 65-70 children a day whilst staying upbeat and motivated a huge challenge but certainly a very rewarding one. To see the children arrive on day one shy and nervous, to watch them grow over the weeks and then to see them leaving happy and confident was amazing.

"It was a great camp to work at. I am very glad to have done it and am hoping to go back next year. Indeed, I would recommend this experience to all Kitchener Scholars."

tracey_ashton4@hotmail.com

You can find more information about the CCUSA at the following web site :
<http://www.ccusa.com>

A PATH TO WORK : *industry*

Continuing our series of articles on different career opportunities, we follow the path of one KS to his current job at Network Rail: Simon Piggott has an MBA from INSEAD.

"I read Engineering Science, specialising in mechanical engineering disciplines, at Cambridge University and was fortunate enough to have won a sponsorship from ICI. After working with ICI in my Gap year and in my University vacations, I joined their Billingham/Teeside complex. At the relatively tender age of 24, I was a plant engineer responsible for the maintenance and smooth running of two ammonium nitrate fertilizer plants producing one million tonnes per annum, with six direct reports and an annual maintenance budget of £750,000 - probably around £3 million in today's money.

Three years after graduating, I was awarded a place on the Master of Business Administration (MBA) programme at INSEAD in Fontainebleau and was awarded a Kitchener Scholarship - my mother had served as a meteorological officer in the WAAF during the war - to supplement a grant from the then Science and Engineering Research Council.

After two years working for strategy consultants, I joined a now defunct engineering PLC in their head office in strategic planning and acquisitions. After a year in which I introduced a formal strategic planning process into the company's six divisions, I was given the opportunity to choose my next role. I think it was a key point in my life. I was 28, had always had a lot of responsibility, but perhaps had missed out on some of the more carefree aspects of life associated with young people in their early twenties. I told the Chief Executive that I would actually be interested in international experience rather than running a small operation, noting that the company had some very significant German operations.

I was duly seconded to their German operations in a suburb of Frankfurt, to a company with six hundred employees, of which four were native English speakers. I had a rather vague business development role. It did however mean that for once, I could leave the office at a reasonable time, and apart from making lots of German friends, I also undertook some language courses at the Goethe Institute. Within a few months, the parent company in the UK, which was in some financial distress due to one single disastrous contract to build an offshore oil facility, decided it had to sell the German business and I became very involved in the sale process.

At the end of a successful outcome to the sale process, I decided to move to investment banking. I wrote off to a dozen or so banks, and after various interviews, was offered a job in corporate finance at Baring Brothers (of Nick Leeson fame,

and often, incorrectly cited as the oldest English merchant bank and banker to the Queen). The work involved advice to clients on buying and selling companies (both private transactions and the headline grabbing public takeovers), initial public offerings or flotations as they are called in the UK, and equity capital raising. I was nearly 30 years old, and I had to grit my teeth and get through a difficult first year when I was doing the same, often repetitive and boring tasks, as 25 year old newly qualified accountants who had switched to corporate finance. I came through this difficult first year, and had had a much more enjoyable and successful four year secondment to the Barings Frankfurt office.

Investment banking is perceived as a highly desirable career. It is unquestionably well remunerated and there is much international travel. The hours can be very long and stamina, ambition and a thirst for hard work are key requisites for a successful career in addition to the more obvious skills in finance, accounting, written and oral communication, attention to detail, ability to meet deadlines and client management. A well positioned senior mentor and a group of close allies amongst one's peers round off the prerequisites. A little greed also helps!

After 13 years of principally mergers and acquisitions advisory work for Barings (latterly ING Barings) and subsequently Deutsche Bank, principally in the industrials sector, I was starting to yearn for a job in the real world, where I would no longer be acting as advisor (where advice can often be ignored, filed or thrown in the bin) and to secure a job acting as principal, where one is truly accountable and responsible for one's actions and decisions.

At the time of writing, I have just started a job at Network Rail Limited, the successor to Railtrack plc, whose demise was very much in the news headlines. I am Head of Major Contracts in the Contracts and Procurement function. Network Rail owns, maintains, renews and enhances the rail infrastructure comprising 21,000 miles of track, 40,000 bridges and tunnels, and 9,000 level crossings. It owns over 2,500 stations, leasing all but 17 of the largest termini (including all London termini) to the train operating companies, and owns a 57,000 hectare property portfolio. It spends £5.5 billion per annum - as we all know, there have been decades of underinvestment. Our target, set by the Office of Rail Regulation, is to become more efficient in how we and our contractors carry out our work such that we achieve the same output for a 30% lower spend by 2009. Effective and professional contract and supply chain management will play an important role in achieving greater efficiency.

The challenge is enormous, the organisation complex, but I hope to be able to make a meaningful and worthwhile contribution.

simon.piggott@talk21.com

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