

▶ Offshore Wind, Limited, is scheduled to begin next winter for completion by the summer of 2003. The project is the first off-shore wind farm to be approved from the 18 potential sites identified by developers who successfully prequalified, last year, for Crown Estate seabed leases. ■

Further Government support for UK coal industry

The UK Government recently announced that four coal mines in England and Scotland were to receive over £4 million in aid, following European Commission approval. This takes the total amount of aid approved under the UK Coal Operating Aid Scheme to over £142 million. The latest payments are to be made to Hatfield Colliery in Doncaster (Coalpower, Limited), the recipient of £1,157,250; £832,000 for H J Banks' sites in Yorkshire and Derbyshire; £739,000 for H J Banks' sites in Northumberland, and £1,327,000 for LAW Mining's sites in Ayrshire. H J Banks and LAW Mining, Limited are open-cast producers. Their claims cover a number of different sites

and the localities in which they mine may change over the three-year subsidy period.

The money is being paid under the UK Coal Operating Aid Scheme which was approved by the European Commission last year. It applies to UK coal produced between 17 April 2000 and 23 July 2002, and provides support by the UK Government to the UK coal industry. It is designed to allow UK coal mines with a viable future, without aid, to overcome short-term market problems. These difficulties have been caused, in particular, by low world coal prices and the lifting of the stricter gas consents policy on the building of gas-fuelled power stations in Britain. The Aid Scheme has an overall limit of £170 million, although the Government does not anticipate spending this amount. ■

Wave power surges on

North Hydro Technology Ventures (NTV), Hydro's venture capital vehicle within the energy sector, is supporting a Scottish company, Ocean Power Delivery (OPD) in its development of a wave

energy device known as Pelamis, described as a computer-controlled "snake". NTV has acted as lead investor for a group that includes SAM Private Equity in Zurich and 3i, one of Europe's leading venture capital groups. Together they are committing £6 million (EUR 9.8 million) in equal shares to OPD with the aim of getting a working prototype in the water, producing electricity to the grid, within two years.

Pelamis is a semi-submerged structure composed of cylindrical sections linked by hinged joints containing hydraulic rams. Each device will be about 150 m long, 3 m in diameter, and generate about 750 kW of electricity. Several devices can be connected together and linked to shore through a single seabed cable, with a 30 MW wave farm occupying a one sq km of sea. Pelamis's hydrodynamic design, its ability to change characteristics, and the incorporation of the latest offshore oil industry technology will enable it to survive storms and keep construction costs down. ■

Fullers' Game Day was a great success

Early this year, 10 Fuellers and their guests took part in the first Fuellers' Game Day, a new event in the Company's calendar.

The group partook of a little light refreshment on their arrival at the Easton Court Hotel in Chagford, Devon, before sitting down to a team dinner where many were tempted to try the ostrich steaks. The party realised from the start that their hosts, Paul and Debra, were "their sort of hoteliers". The stirrup cup after dinner could have been improved if the Junior Warden had not discovered the house guitar, especially when the rest of the team realised that he could not play B Flat (unlike his ability to sing flat!). This was a slight encumbrance considering every Simon and Garfunkle song — the only music in the house — included B Flat. Those remaining in the music room ignored this and sang along anyway. Those with a keener ear for music retired to the bar. Full English breakfast the

following morning was a quiet and sombre affair.

The shooting party consisted of Past Master David Waring, Freeman Hill, Latham and Garner, and the Junior Warden Doug Barrow, accompanied by his son, guest Trevor Fairhurst (a member of the Shipwrights' Company), June's sister Wendy and husband Alan Ticker, with Peter Pybus (son of Bill and Elizabeth) making the tenth gun. The group was honoured to have Elizabeth as one of the beaters, making it a real family affair.

On arrival at "Coffyns", the Fuellers' party was greeted by their shoot captain, Bruce Ross-Smith and their hosts, Bob and Nanette Unsworth. After a quick coffee, peg selection, and safety briefing, the members were off on the shoot.

The day consisted of two drives, a stop for bullshots, another two drives, a hearty lunch back at Coffyns, closing with a further three drives, the last one being

made slightly more difficult as a result of the descent of the Devon mist. The party achieved a small but well earned bag from a mixture of driven and walked-up birds — 50 in all. No mention will be made of the cartridge tally!

The group then returned to the farm to relive the day on homemade cake, tea and liberal quantities of whisky and sloe gin. The return to the hotel in heavy fog was interesting to put it mildly.

The final evening saw the guns joined by Bill, Elizabeth and Keelin Pybus for another tremendous round of true Devon Hospitality.

After breakfast on Saturday morning, the party said their farewells to one another before going their separate ways. All agreed that this was not to be the first and last Fuellers' Game Day, since the shoot and the hotel have been provisionally booked for the second such event, to be held on January 3, 2003.

Doug Barrow

CITY AND COMPANY DIARY OF EVENTS 2002

Month	Day/Date	Event	Venue
June	Monday 24	Election of Sheriffs followed by Livery Lunch and Court Meeting	Guildhall/Stationers' Hall, then Wax Chandler's Hall
July	Saturday 13	The Master's At Home	Wiseton Hall, Doncaster
September	Friday to Sunday 20 - 22	Champagne to England	Stamford, Lincolnshire
September	Tuesday 24	H & E, F & GP Committee Meetings	Gun House
September	TBA	Dinner	Cutty Sark
September	Monday 30	Election of Lord Mayor followed by Livery Lunch and Court Meeting	Guildhall/Stationers' Hall. Venue of Court Meeting TBA
October	Thursday 3	Installation Dinner	TBA

This publication is produced and distributed by the Worshipful Company of Fuellers. Comments on this edition and suggestions for inclusion in future issues are welcomed and should be directed to :

'The Editor - The Fueller' c/o 22 Broadfields, Headstone Lane, Hatch End, Middlesex HA2 6NH.
Tel/Fax 020 8421 6616. FUELLERS@aol.com

Fuellers hold Second Livery Dinner



Attending this year's Livery Dinner were, left to right, Nigel Draffin, Brendan Martin and Junior Warden Doug Barrow



In conversation at the Whitbread Brewery event were, left to right, Gordon Banham, Nigel Draffin and Graham Watson



Photographed at the Livery Dinner were, left to right, Ian Frazer, Roger Cloke and Rex Rose

Earlier this year, the Company again organised a dinner for its Liverymen. The event was held, as previously, at the

old Whitbread Brewery in Chiswell Street, within the City of London. On display for the first time was the new

216 Squadron Trophy, donated to the Company by the Master, Richard Budge.

Fuellers launch Apprentice Scheme in bid to foster recruitment

The Court has approved a new membership category for Apprentice Freeman. The scheme is aimed at young people in the energy industry, and provides a route to become a Freeman of the Company of Fuellers by demonstrating knowledge of the industry in general, together with specialised knowledge of particular areas and disciplines.

Candidates for apprenticeships should be between 21 and 35 years of age, and be

employed in the energy industry either in a training post, or in a personal development position. The apprenticeship will last for a minimum of two years, depending on age and experience. Each apprentice will have a mentor, who will be a Liveryman of the Fuellers' Company. Individual programmes will be drawn up for completion against a timetable. The programme will consist of a number of projects which demonstrate the depth of knowledge of the apprentice. The

mentor will oversee progress toward completion of the programme.

A pilot scheme has been set up, and Liverymen are asked make nominations to the Clerk for anyone who is interested in an apprenticeship, and can meet the criteria outlined above. It would be helpful, though not essential, if an indication of support from the employer can be given.

Further clarification on aspects of the scheme can be obtained from the Clerk.



Biomass energy projects gain momentum

This year has seen increasing emphasis on projects designed to provide electricity from biomass-fuelled power stations. Added momentum has been given by a £2.9 million Government grant to develop the next generation of biomass-fuelled technologies. This grant, which is the largest awarded by the DTI Renewables Programme for a biomass project, is designed to support a £7.3 million development initiative involving Alstom Power UK, Limited and First Renewables, Limited. This project will push forward the development of the technology which is available to generate electricity from energy crops and other fuels from farming and forestry.

The project consortium will work on extending the technology and techniques that will eventually lead to commercially viable, grid-connected power stations that will help the UK reach its renewable energy and greenhouse gas targets. The industry estimates that around a 1,000 MW of new biomass projects will be required to contribute to the achievement of the 10% renewables target by 2010 and it is hoped that the use of biomass fuels in the form of traditional forestry, energy crops and crop residues will provide a

much needed boost for the agricultural sector.

The project will build upon the successes of the ARBRE (Arable Biomass Renewable Energy) project, the first commercial wood-fired power station to utilise high-efficiency gasification technology in Europe. The ARBRE project team, including Alstom Power UK, Limited is led by First Renewables Limited and this investment is the ideal platform from which to build the second generation programme.

An example of a biomass electricity source — the UK's first and the world's largest and most efficient straw-fired power station — is to be found in Sutton, near Ely. This £60 million project, developed by EPR Ely, uses new techniques to burn surplus straw to generate electricity. The 36 MW plant is designed to generate over 270 Gwh of electricity a year; enough power to heat and light 80,000 homes. The electricity generated is fed directly into the National grid via an 11 km connection to a nearby substation. The power station is expected to consume around 200,000 tonnes/year of straw collected from farms within a 50 mile radius. The plant comprises of 18-m

high straw barns flanking a 25-m high central boiler. To blend in with the surrounding business park, the design had to resemble the existing warehouse building.

Britain is also the site of the world's largest power station dependent on poultry litter. The 38.5 MW plant, based in Thetford, burns 700,000 tonnes of poultry litter per year, drawn from a wide area, supplemented by 60,000 tonnes of wood chips and other biomass residues. The electricity from the plant feeds over 80,000 homes a year.

Fibrowatt, the company behind the project, has other UK plants at Eye in Suffolk and Glanford in Lincolnshire. These plants specialise in burning meat and bone meal. The organisation is also pursuing similar projects in Italy, Netherlands and the US. There are prospects in Japan, France, Ireland and a range of other countries. Usually, this interest is driven by environmental concerns over increasing stocks of agricultural wastes polluting land and watercourses. Fibrowatt have a joint venture with First Renewables, Limited to develop the US market.

Fuellers' Prize for 2002 is awarded to PO Claxton

The Fuellers' Prize for 2002 was awarded to Petty Officer Andrew Claxton of HMS Sultan. The official citation says that with over 20 years of loyal and dedicated service, POAEM (M) Claxton has demonstrated outstanding enthusiasm and genuine professional pride throughout his entire career. Currently employed as an Initial Training Instructor and the Hangar Manager, his considerable pride and energy are very much in evidence. These strengths underpin the quality of training he provides and are reflected in the marked success of the young impressionable trainees under his tutelage. His meticulous planning, management and restructuring of the hangar training environment, aligning it to a realistic, squadron-based scenario, is

reaping great benefit to the students, giving them the opportunity to taste the real-time environment of their future professional careers, whilst firmly consolidating the academic and practical elements of their training.

Not content to sit back in his spare time, Petty Officer Claxton's efforts in assisting a local children's charity, "KIDS", has seen him emerge as "Captain Plank" the undisputed leader of the "Sultan Chapter", where he has continued to raise substantial sums of money in support of children with special needs. His infectious good nature, extrovert character and commitment to the task seem endless. He carries out his charitable work in a totally selfless and

low key manner, content with nothing more than a kid's smile as reward.

As the Initial Training Group representative for the annual Sultan Show, akin to a Village Fete, he once again turned his attention and considerable organising skill to raising a commendable sum of money from a single attraction at the event, gaining universal praise from personnel both inside and outside of HMS Sultan.

Petty Officer Claxton is a genuine, sincere and highly respected person, whose many talents are used to consummate effect, both in benefiting the under-privileged and enhancing the reputation of HMS Sultan and the Royal Navy within the local community.

Election Court Lunch was held in Skinners' Hall



The Master, Richard Budge, accompanied by Mrs Rosalind Budge, is escorted to Divine Service in St Michael Paternoster Royal by the Beadle, Mr David Barnes



Members of the Court assemble prior to Divine Service in St Michael Paternoster Royal

This year's Election Court Lunch was held in Skinners' Hall, Dowgate Hill. The event was attended by 161 people.

The occasion was preceded by Divine Service, held in nearby St Michael Paternoster Royal. The participants in the service included the Master, Richard Budge; Mr Andrew Bainbridge, Senior Warden; Mr Doug Barrow, Junior Warden; Past Masters; Members of the

Court of Assistants; Liverymen; Freemen, and their guests. The Bidding Prayer and the Address was given by the Revd Dr Peter Mullen, recently appointed as the Company's Honorary Chaplain.

The Top Table guests included Mr Dennis Hargreaves, Master, Launderers Company, and his wife; Mr Colin Barnett, Master Carmans' Company, and Mr David Payne, Master, Fanmakers' Company.

After a most enjoyable lunch, members and guests settled back to listen to the several speeches, which included a toast to the Guests by the Senior Warden, Andrew Bainbridge, followed by the response by Mr Dennis Hargreaves, Master, Worshipful Company of Launderers. The final response was given by The Master, Richard Budge.

Earlier that day, The Court had conducted a series of Freedom and Livery Ceremonies. The honour of Freedom by Presentation was bestowed on Mrs Janet Harrison in recognition of her assistance



Photographed at the reception, prior to the Election Court Lunch, were, left to right, Robin Fountain, Fiona Fountain, and Past Master Vaughan Williams. Fiona is Vaughan's niece.

Fuellers make a Splash!

With a final exuberant splash, the Fuellers' team recently completed the 5,000 m Swimathon, held at the RAC Woodcote Park. The event was organised by the Worshipful Company of Chartered Surveyors. There were some 13 teams taking part simultaneously, and as a result it was sometimes difficult to pick a path between the other participants. Nevertheless, the swim was great fun and everyone taking part enjoyed meeting the members of other Livery Companies.

The Fuellers' team included Chloe Andrews-Jones, Edward and Joy Wilkinson, Rex Rose, Robin Sargeant and Jane Ayre and they completed the

5,000 m in about 2.25 hours. The arrangements for the swim were excellent, a beautiful 30 m pool with accompanying facilities. The Chartered Surveyors' Company organised an excellent dinner to follow the event and presented a formal certificate to each swimmer.

The Fuellers' have contributed nearly £2,000 to the Lord Mayor's Appeal 2002, "The Square Smile" through their swimming efforts. The fund is supporting Barts Hospital Cancer Centre of Excellence and Sane, a charity providing resources for young people with mental health problems. The fund is still open if you would like to send a

contribution to swell the Swimathon contribution to the Lord Mayor's Appeal 2002. Please forward your gift to Jane Ayre, 68 Portway, Baughurst, Tadley, Hampshire RG26 5PE.



The Fuellers' team in the Swimathon, designed to raise funds for the Lord Mayor's Appeal 2002, included, left to right, Jane Ayre, Robin Sargeant and Chloe Andrews - Jones (the Junior Warden's partner).

Fuellers Company reprints "Airs & Graces"

The Fuellers Company recently organised the reprinting of the Rev. Basil Watson's renowned book entitled "Airs & Graces". The publication had been out of print for some time and it was thought that it should again be available to a new generation of readers. The Rev. Basil Watson, for some years, until his recent retirement, was Honorary Chaplain to our Livery, as indeed he was to a number of other Companies.

The book, a collection of some 250 doggerel graces, owes its reappearance to the generosity of two of the Company's Masters who have seen fit to underwrite the cost. The author, in addition to providing some very amusing graces composed for City Livery Companies and for private and national occasions, offers a layman's guide to The Freedom, Guildhall, The Shrievalty, The Mayoralty and The Mansion House.

For those of us called to provide graces at formal occasions, the book contains some gems which will, no doubt, have the audience scrabbling for their pens. Personal favourites include the following:

"Bless us O Lord Divine
Who turned the water into wine
Have mercy on those foolish men
Who try to turn it back again"
Amen

"For boiled and grilled
And fried and roast
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost"
Amen

"There are times when two words are
better than ten
Tuck in, Amen"

For heaped plates and brimming cup
And freedom from the washing up
Good Lord deliver us"
Amen

"Airs & Graces" is available from the Guildhall Library Bookshop, Guildhall Library, Aldermanbury, London EC2P 2EJ price £17.50, plus £2.35 postage and packing. Cheques should be made payable to the Chamberlain of London.



The Master, Richard Budge, photographed with this year's winner of The Fuellers' Prize, Petty Officer Andrew Claxton, HMS Sultan

to the Company throughout the Mastership of her Father-in-law, Mr Brian Harrison CBE. Recipients of the Freedom by Redemption were Michael Ball; Hugh Conway; Kasmin Cooney; The Lord Elibank; Lesley Hoys; Richard Hutley; Peter Marshall; Philip Smedley; Timothy Troy; Gary Walters and David Wilkin. Members clothed in the Livery were John Byrne; James Hill; Graham Hilton; Liz Lockley; Paul Mott and Angus Ogilvie.

Why not contribute to the Fueller?

The Fueller is your journal. Contributions are always welcome. If you are a new Liveryman, why not submit a short biographical note, accompanied by your photograph? If you are a member of an organisation connected with the fuel industry, ensure that the journal receives your company's press releases. If you are interested in history, why not let us have a short piece on some aspect of the fuel industry in times gone by? If you peruse the pages of the last several issues you will gain an impression of the kind of material we seek.

Submissions to the Clerk, The Worshipful Company of Fuellers, 22 Broadlands, Headstone Lane, Hatch End, Middlesex HA2 6NH.

Hampshire museum has it's own coal yard

The Milestones "living history" museum in Basingstoke, Hampshire, features its own coal yard, complete with coal wagon, bunkers, and horse-drawn delivery cart. The coal depot is only one of many exhibits in an under-cover replica of a Victorian/ Edwardian township. The museum also features a large collection of gas and electric

heating and other appliances.

The writer feels that the exhibit is much better presented that the one supported by the Fuellers' Company within the Black Country Museum. There is an essential difference, of course, inasmuch that the street scenes within Milestones are housed in a cavernous purpose-designed building

which offers protection from the effects of the weather.

There has been recent discussion regarding the possibility of installing a coal yard within the Victorian township at Blists Hill, part of the complex of museum sites managed by the Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust.



A railway wagon and coal bunkers form part of the replica coal yard within the Milestones museum in Basingstoke



The Milestones coal yard also features a horse-drawn coal cart

FUEL FOR THOUGHT

Renewables UK is new Government unit designed to exploit market opportunities

The UK Government has set up Renewables UK, an organisation designed to secure maximum benefits for British manufacturers from the rapidly-growing worldwide sustainable energy market. There are seen to be strong parallels with the position of Britain's oil and gas industry some 30 years ago. It is felt that if the same concerted strategic approach is applied to the renewables sector as was directed to oil and gas, there will be very substantial benefits for the UK. World Energy Council projections indicate that cumulative investment in renewables will be worth between £500 billion and £1,500 billion by 2020. Even a small share of that can mean a £1-billion-market-per-year manufacturing sector. It is difficult to predict exactly what this market will mean in terms of jobs, but experience elsewhere points to the scale of the potential. For example, there are some 14,000 people employed in the wind industry in Denmark.

The Renewables UK unit will be based in the DTI's Aberdeen office to be co-located and managed by the Oil & Gas Industry Development Directorate. The unit, which is to employ six people, will be able to transfer tools, techniques and experience from oil and gas business support. Many UK-wide oil and gas companies with a keen interest in diversifying and transferring their skills and technologies to renewables have a significant presence in the city. ■

Wave power stations to be built in the Western Isles

One of the UK's major electricity companies, Scottish and Southern plc is currently working with Wavegen to develop a proposal for a cluster of offshore-based wave power stations in the Western Isles. The intention is that these will be technically innovative and will act both as demonstration plants and also as commercial generators to supply Scottish and Southern. Wavegen are presently undertaking surveys in the Western Isles to establish suitable sites for these developments and are working up outline project proposals. A key feature of these plans will be the use of the former Arnish fabrication yard for manufacturing. Wavegen are now in touch with the owners of Arnish, the Stornoway Trust.

The use of Arnish for this purpose is entirely compatible with the intention of Amec and British Energy to use the yard for manufacturing purposes related to their proposed windfarm on Lewis.

It was announced earlier this year that the DTI was to provide £1.1 million of Renewables Technology funding to support the development of a full-size "Stingray" device prototype designed to convert tidal movement into electricity. The Stingray programme, developed by Engineering Business, Limited generates electricity from the oscillatory movement of hydroplanes driven by flowing tidal current. This transforms the kinetic energy of moving water into hydraulic power, which turns an electrical generator using a hydraulic motor. This system builds on the wide experience that the Engineering Business has in marine equipment design and manufacture. As part of the Stingray programme, Engineering Business are working with a number of universities including Newcastle, Durham, Glasgow and Robert Gordon in Aberdeen. ■

Gas arrives from the West of Shetland

The first gas from the West of Shetland has arrived on-shore. Gas from BP's Foinaven and Schiehallion fields is being pumped to the Sullom Voe terminal in Shetland. It is subsequently being delivered to the Magnus platform for use in enhanced oil recovery operations, designed to provide a significant increase in oil reserves. West of Shetland's gas will also be available for onward transmission, via the Northern leg gas pipeline to the UK ■

Consent granted for Goldeneye Field

Formal consent was recently given for the development of Shell Expro's Goldeneye Field in the Outer Moray Firth. The £300 million project is expected to create 300 local jobs during the construction phase. Goldeneye has 500 billion cu ft of gas reserves and 17 million barrels of condensate. Discovered in 1996, the reservoir, made up of good quality Lower Cretaceous sandstone, should deliver some 300 mmscf/d per day. Production is expected to commence towards the end of 2004. The tieback carrying reservoir fluids to shore from Goldeneye will be the longest in the UKCS, the same distance as Aberdeen to Dundee.

Goldeneye's 105 km pipeline will connect a normally unattended wellhead platform offshore to new onshore processing facilities at Shell Expro's St Fergus terminal. All of the field's produced gas, water and condensate will be transported together under reservoir pressure through the pipeline to the onshore terminal for processing. This will be the first time this type of development option, applied to a condensate field, has been attempted on the UKCS.. ■

£20 million solar power scheme given go-ahead

Thousands of homes and offices across Britain are set to be powered by cleaner energy as part of a £20 million solar power programme. The money is being made available through the DTI's Major Photovoltaics Demonstration Programme (PV MDP) and will help reduce carbon emissions and significantly cut the cost of solar technology over the next three years. Grants will be offered to the private and public sector to install solar systems on new or existing buildings. As a result of this investment, the number of domestic solar power — or photovoltaic — installations in the UK is expected to increase ten fold by 2005. The programme management is being undertaken by a consortium led by the Energy Saving Trust and includes Halcrow and Novacroft as the programme management contractor.

Other DTI solar energy initiatives recently announced by Energy Minister Brian Wilson include £4 million of funding for the installation of solar systems on public buildings including schools, galleries, church halls and sports centres all over the UK, and another £4 million for sun-powered social and private housing developments across Britain. This latter initiative represents 380 houses, flats and bungalows. ■

Off-shore wind site for Norfolk coast

Government support was recently announced for a 76 MW off-shore wind farm to be built at Middle Scroby Sands, some 2.5 km off the coast of Great Yarmouth in Norfolk. The development will be the single largest off-shore operation of its type in Britain. It will consist of up to 38 wind turbines and should provide enough "green" electricity for 52,000 homes. Work on the development by Powergen Renewables