



The Livery Society

Worshipful Company of Bakers
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LIVERY SOCIETY EVENT



The Livery Society AGM took place on Monday 28th February at Bakers' Hall.

50 Liverymen, Freeman, members of Bakers Under 40 and their guests attended.

The AGM was completed in less than 5 minutes (as is now tradition), after which Past Master Colin Sach - who established the Bakers' affiliation with 815 Squadron when he was Master in 2012/ 13 - introduced our guest speaker, Cmdr. Russell Clark, the Commanding Officer at 815 Naval Air Squadron.

For many of us this was our first direct contact with the Squadron.

The Bakers Company makes an annual donation to the Squadron, which is not assigned to any specific purpose; it is typically used to improve the environment in which they operate e.g. table tennis table, dart board etc.

Cmdr. Clark gave us a half hour presentation in the Court Room with excellent slides that left us with a clear impression of the role that the Squadron plays.

They are an attack helicopter squadron, that operate the latest generation £40m Wildcats, which can be equipped with missiles or torpedoes. The helicopters are typically based on frigates or destroyers – but not on aircraft carriers.

A 'flight' consists of 8 engineers and 2 crew – the latter made up of a pilot and an 'observer'.

There are c 250 members of 815 Squadron – based around the world.

Until now they have mostly been involved in anti piracy and anti narcotics.

Following the presentation a large number of questions were asked - and answered, and we retired for a glass of fizz before our buffet supper in the Hall, at which both Cmdr. Clark and his guest – Robert Bellfield, Naval Regional Commander Eastern England, played musical chairs to the delight of the hosts and their guests.

Huge thanks once again to Cmdr. Clark for his time and for sharing his passion with us.

Max Elvidge

Chairman of the Bakers' Livery Society