



The Conservator

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The Newsletter of the Worshipful Company of Water Conservators

A Message from the Master



It is a great honour to be elected your 33rd Master. I look forward to serving the Company during the year ahead. Regrettably, the ceremony surrounding my Installation was prevented by the ongoing pandemic, as was the Installation Court Luncheon where my first task was to stand before you and set out my strategy for the coming year. This Message can only partly cover this.

I cannot start without recording my, and the Company's gratitude to the immediate Past Masters Mark Lane and Rob Casey. Together they have carried forward the Company's values and actions using all the means available to them during the Covid-19 pandemic. Some of their innovations will remain. Whilst face to face meetings are at the heart of our Company's fraternity, monthly webinars on matters of current interest, and committee and technical meetings using Zoom or Teams are here to stay. Implementing Rob Casey's themes - Charitable Giving and Governance - have mostly been delivered and I intend to finish the job.

Many of you contribute to the Company's charity, The Water Conservation Trust, and the path is now clear for Trustees to move forward from the original 1991 Trust Deed to incorporation under the Charity Commission's direct regulation, which will give confidence to Trustees, donors and beneficiaries. The Company has agreed to set up a regular dialogue with Trustees to determine how, jointly, to go forward to make charitable giving bigger and targeted.

At the end of 2020, Past Masters had called for a review of Company governance documents, to consider whether our Ordinances and Standing Orders are in line with best practice and whether compliance is monitored. This review, carried out by the Master and Wardens is coming to a close. My particular concern here is that the Company should be both more responsive to its membership and be better organised to play an effective external role. This is particularly relevant with the current focus on climate change and related issues such as biodiversity.

Rob Casey has established the links and built our reputation in the City for knowing a lot about the major challenges and, more importantly, where to go for the solutions. The Company is establishing itself as a pool of excellence on water and the environment within the City and this important activity needs to be set within our existing institutional arrangements - probably the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

Livery companies are being challenged to make a statement about their position on climate change issues and this has to be done within the next three months. So, my theme for the year? No choice - climate change and how we, as a Livery Company, can

help - starting with the identification of actions our Company and our Trust can make. These will be supported by webinars and technical discussions with wider involvement for Members, especially the Court, an updating of our knowledge and skills at Company events and the demonstration of our potential through events such as the WET 10 Event held around World Water Day in March 2022.

This year you will have noticed there are two Past Masters in the Master and Wardens Team. This has been caused by the reluctance of two Wardens to progress to Master and the relative inexperience of the Court Assistants. This latter point will be addressed in the coming year so that the Company can move forward again with an active Court. Knowledge sessions will be targeted at prospective Court Assistants, so that they can make a contribution to the life of the Company when they are elected.

I have not forgotten our fraternity. None of these plans will come to anything without the goodwill and trust engendered through social contacts. With Georgina's help, recovering the social programme will take place as quickly as possible and we can resume lunches, visits - including the Master's weekend - and other activities designed to interest you, the Members.

At this point, nobody can be sure of the return of our modified normality, but your Master and Wardens will do their best to ensure we are safe and engaged.

I intend to enjoy my year and I hope you do too.

Peter Hall
Master



Our Wardens 2021 - 2022

Thames Warden

Christine Jarvis B.Sc Econ (International Relations) has been a Freeman of the Company since 2014 and was installed as Thames Warden in July 2021. Graduating from LSE, Christine began her career in the American First National City Bank. However, her interest in law and politics (when young and idealistic!) resulted in a move to the Civil Service in Whitehall to draft Private Bills and take their passage through Parliament.

Subsequent years saw her return to negotiating/drafting/promoting legislation and draft regulations both in the UK and Brussels. This included the Water Privatisation Bill and then transposing EC Directives into UK law. Other work in central Government included

the Parliamentary Ombudsman's Office, investigating claims of public maladministration, Deputy Director of the Joint DoE/DTI Environmental Markets Unit (promoting UK environmental technology in the world market) and Head of Construction Materials.

During her career, Christine never gave up her interest in international affairs and she has also worked on the Afghanistan / Pakistan Desk in Overseas Development covering topics as varied as help for refugees displaced by war, the role of women in Islamic countries and the repair and maintenance of British built dams in Pakistan. This was later followed by 2- year stint in Rome working for the United Nations as an economist at the International Fund for Agricultural Development, where water (or a lack of

it) played a vital role.

Since taking early retirement, Christine has trained to become a London Blue Badge, City of London and Historic Royal Palaces Guide. She also is a great theatre fan and has travelled extensively (including taking 30 tourists around the whole of India on the railways).



Fleet Warden

Colin Drummond OBE DL was elected to the Company in 2000 and served as Master in 2007/08. With the Master Launderer he convened the so called WET 10 group of Livery Companies (actually thirteen) and served as their first chair until [2013.].He is also a Liveryman of the Gardeners' and Musicians' companies.

Colin was born in Belfast and is a graduate of Oxford University and Harvard Business School. He worked in Economic Intelligence at the Bank of England, as a consultant with the Boston Consulting Group, as a director of Renold

PLC (chains and worm gears) and chief executive of Coats Viyella Yarns Division before joining the board of South West Water PLC (now Pennon Group). These roles proved a suitable introduction to a career as a 'bin man' where he was chief executive of Viridor for 20 years during which time it became one of the UK's leading waste management and renewable energy companies. Since retirement from Viridor he has been appointed chair of Somerset NHS Foundation Trust and of the University of Plymouth.

He was appointed OBE in 2012 and a Deputy Lieutenant of Somerset in 2016. He was organist and choirmaster of St John the Baptist Church Wellington

for fifteen years and enjoys growing vegetables in the manner of a peasant farmer.



Walbrook Warden

Martin G Bigg BSc MSc PhD FRSC FIEMA CChem CSc CEnv has been a Freeman of the Company since 2019 and was installed as Walbrook Warden in July 2021. As Emeritus Professor of Environmental Technologies Innovation at the University of the West of England (UWE) in Bristol, Martin continues to be a committed champion for the environment, sustainable development and better regulation.

After study and research in chemistry, Martin moved on to manage more exciting pharmaceutical and agrichemical manufacturing. He then crossed to the other side, joining Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Pollution (later part of the Environment Agency), regulating everything from power stations to rendering plants, establishing national pollutant reporting and supporting local authorities on air pollution control. As

Head of Industry and Waste Regulation he led the delivery of many EU Directives, including on major accidents, incinerators and industrial emissions, and UK environmental permitting regulations. Recruited by UWE in 2011, Martin directed a multi-million EU programme involving universities, NGOs and local authorities, supporting regional enterprising businesses develop innovative environmental technologies.

Reflecting his community commitment, Martin became a Board Member and Chair of the Bristol Green Capital Partnership and steered the winning Partnership bid for the European Green Capital 2015 for the City of Bristol. Martin has always supported the environment profession and until 2020 was Chair of Council and Board Member at the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA).

Recently he has collaborated in an EU/China government project on

future environmental regulation. He has also worked with the World Bank on environmental inspection, permitting, better regulation and tackling environmental issues in Russia, the Middle East, Tajikistan, and Mongolia.

Martin is a Trustee of the Water Conservation Trust. Martin is supported by his wife, children and grandchildren. He loves travelling and challenging experiences.



Reflections on my year as Master



This year was a very different from a normal year as Master, and due to the ongoing social restrictions of the pandemic, not as I had originally planned. It was with great regret that I was unable to host any of physical social events that I had planned for this year which included a visit to the Museum of Water and Steam at Kew, a visit to the Pathfinder Museum at RAF Wyton, and a visit to AIDU at RAF Northolt. I also had to cancel my booking for the Globe Theatre last September, and my hotel booking for the Master's Weekend at Holmfirth in May.

Nevertheless, it has been a great privilege to serve this Company, and despite being restricted to the virtual world of zoom throughout the 9 months of office, the Company still managed to host an number of successful technical and social events, with the excellent support of our members. I continued



the monthly webinars started by the previous Master, Mark Lane, and these have been very popular and well supported with up 143 attendees including company members, other livery companies, city businesses and young graduates. The webinars have been themed around climate change and its impact on the environment, a topic of great interest to others in our key area of expertise. The 2021 WET 10 event titled "Which Way Water 2050" organized by Deputy Master was also a very successful virtual event on the 22nd March (World Water Day) with speakers from AECOM, Stantec and Phil Beach, CBE, CEO of Energy and Utility Skills, showcasing the future challenges for the water sector globally.



Although it hasn't been possible for us to meet up in my year, we still had great support for five social events, including a virtual wine tasting evening, a pumpkin carving competition (see photo of winning entries), a virtual "cocktails evening", and my personal highlight the virtual Carol Festival with the Chaplain (Rev Katherine Hedderly), which featured some excellent contributions from our members (see photo of the Williamson family). In March I hosted a successful virtual networking event for young members and potential young members. Afzal Ginwalla gave a short presentation outlining his journey from a bursary student supported by our Water Conservation Trust to becoming a liveryman of the Water Conservators Company. This was followed by breakout networking sessions that gave our members a unique opportunity to mix with some of our past and present Trust bursary students.

In October it was also a great pleasure to organise and attend my one physical event, the Water Conservation Trust's

annual sponsored walk (see photo), which this year was along the River Thames from Bourne End to Cookham to Spade Oak Reach. The money raised will go to support the Trust's Schools Programme to enhance water related science and environmental learning in schools. Despite being limited to 6 participants due to the pandemic, in terms of fund raising it was our most successful walk ever, raising around £5,000 for the Trust.

One of the key themes for my year was strengthening our relationship with the City and the Water Conservators have been key supporters of the Livery Climate Action Group (see article on Page 4) to progress various aspects of the City's Climate Action Strategy.

I am also pleased to report that this year we reached agreement on the future structure of the Trust and its relationship with the Company in accordance with the wishes of the both the Court and Trustees. And finally, I would like to thank everyone for their support in making my year one with some very special memories and newly formed friendships.

*Rob Casey
Deputy Master*



The Water Conservation Trust

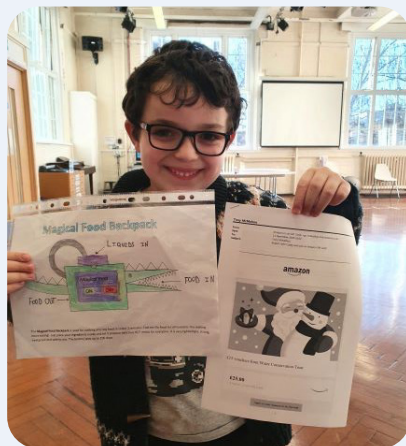
Although the pandemic has reduced opportunities to meet beneficiaries, Trustees have been very active. The Water Conservators' Court has agreed that an application to the Charity Commission to incorporate the Trust should go ahead. The Trust will continue to operate as now, with active Trustee and Company involvement. Trustees are currently assessing the ethical and green credentials of the Trust's investments.

COVID-19 has particularly affected our Schools Programme. Although school children returned to schools from September, the pandemic strictly limited visits to schools and outside visits by schools. Also, teaching staff were under extreme pressure and understandably unwilling to sign up to activities that fell outside the basic curriculum.

However, four London schools agreed the Trust could sponsor prizes for pupils working on projects/activities that were already part of the curriculum related to STEM, water and/or the environment (see photo).

As soon as possible, Trustees will implement a broad range of activities which have been planned during the last 18 months. It is hoped that the number of schools benefiting from Trust-supported activities will increase substantially.

The Universities Programme has been affected but to a lesser extent, with only two universities dropping out of the Bursary Programme in 2020-21 - but hopeful of re-joining the Programme in 2021-22. The challenges of maintaining academic quality have been overcome but Company engagement with MSc students has been minimal.



Trustees welcome any proposals or suggestions from Members for charitable activities. We encourage Members to participate in the charity activities of the Company so please contact a Trustee if you have any ideas. For more details on current Trust activities see the latest Water Conservation Trust newsletter which is on the Water Conservators website.

*Roger North
Chairman of the Trustees*

Livery Climate Action Group

The Livery Climate Action Group, led by Alderman Alison Gowman (see below), consists of around 50 volunteers from various livery companies, including 8 Water Conservators, in 4 working groups (Investment, Property, Education and General) to progress various aspects of the City's Climate Action Strategy. The group is working on a guidance document that can be used by each livery company to produce their own climate action plan. We are currently advising other companies on water efficiency, wastewater and waste management/recycling, and we are looking to produce a draft action plan for the Water Conservators Company for approval by the Court in the autumn.



Forthcoming Events

Steve Kaye, CEO of UKWIR, will be presenting our next webinar at 5,30pm on 22nd July titled "Achieving Net Zero in Wastewater Management". After a summer break we will be continuing our monthly webinars from September. Details will be posted on our website.

Our next lunch event will be the Michaelmas Court lunch at Trinity House on 27th September 2021, followed by the Annual Banquet at Culter's Hall (pictured) on the evening of 11th November 2021.

The next edition of The Conservator will be published in early January 2022. Please contact our PR Officer at rob.casey1@hotmail.com with details

of any articles you would like to see included.



Our Beadle

Our Beadle Tim Gutteridge has been accepted as a direct entry detective for the London Metropolitan Police. This is an exciting career opportunity for Tim and so he is leaving us to take up this full-time employment. We would like to thank Tim for his excellent service to Water Conservators as our Beadle and wish him all the very best for the future.

