

The Worshipful Company of Water Conservators and THE WATER CONSERVATION TRUST

(Registered number 1007648)

Charity Update – November 2011

The Company and the Water Conservation Trust (WCT) are very active in charitable activities in the water and environmental sector and also in the City of London. *Charity Update* sets out some of the things we do. To find out more about the WCT and how you can help please use the contacts on page 4.

Maidstone Sea Cadets

The Company has a long-established link with the Maidstone Sea Cadets. Every year the WCT grants the cost of a berth on a training ship to the *Best Cadet*. This year it is on board *TS Jack Petchey*. The winner for 2011 was Leading Cadet Callum Vickery and the presentation in June, hosted by Lt Cdr Peter Lewis, included a tour of the base and demonstrations of marching and musical drill.



TS Scott: Maidstone Sea Cadets in their recently refurbished crew facilities.

As a result of this year's Royal Naval annual efficiency assessment, TS Scott has been awarded an efficiency *Burgee* making it one of the top one hundred units in the country. The last time it was awarded this honour was in 1971.

With the Company's help, the cadets are hoping to purchase a new rowing boat for the unit, at a cost of £2,500, to enable them to participate in more Sea

Cadet events. personal donations from Company Members have already reached £1,250, and Trevor Harrington, the Company's liaison person, would like to hear from any Member able to contribute to this worthwhile cause.

The Children's Magical Taxi Tour

For the third year running, through a collection made at the Installation Lunch, the Company has supported the three-day "trip of a lifetime" to Disneyland Resort, Paris, for children suffering from a range of life-limiting conditions.



The Lord Mayor, Alderman Michael Bear at the send off.

The event, which is widely sponsored by the Livery, is organised by the Worshipful Company of Hackney Carriage Drivers.



Micky and Mates.

This year's run departed on 23 September, at breakfast time, returning two days later. A great time was had by all.

The London Water Walk 2012

The Water Conservators' *London Water Walk 2012* will take place on 23 March 2012. Organised again by David and Alison Cowie, the walk will start at Westminster Bridge and continue to Greenwich, following the Thames and passing several historic watery attractions.



The River Thames from Charlton.

The 2012 Walk will raise money for *The Cirdan Sailing Trust*, an Essex-based group helping young and socially or physically disadvantaged people experience the joys of sailing. If you are interested in joining the Walk, please contact David via, *Who to Contact*, on Page 5.

The 2011 Walk and a collection at the Company's Banquet raised £2,300 for sustainable development projects in the forests in the Kelabit Highlands, Sarawak. It helped support community initiatives in forest conservation and education for local people and visitors.

The Universities Programme

Since 2006, the Company and WCT have offered *Water Conservation Bursaries* (to supplement course fees); *Dissertation Support Grants* (which contribute to research and dissertation expenses); and the prestigious *Water Conservators' Dissertation Prizes* (for the best dissertation at each institution) to post-graduate students in water and environment related departments in UK universities.

The WCT also co-sponsors *Water Conservators' Lectures* with these universities, which further encourages close relationships and keep Company Members in tune with the latest developments in applied science and technology.

In 2009, Brunel University invited **Professor Martin Cave** to speak about *The Prospects for Competition in the UK Water Industry*. In June 2010, Sheffield University also hosted a Water Conservators' lecture on *The potential for anaerobic digestion* in the UK.

In July 2011, Imperial College hosted a lecture by **Professor Paul Leinster CBE**, Chief Executive, the Environment Agency entitled, *Water – for people, business and the environment*. All events were well attended.



Prof. Paul Leinster at the Water Conservators' Lecture.

The Company was delighted when Castle Environmental and COSTAIN agreed to co-sponsor the Water Conservators Lectures, thus further linking the Company with academia and business.

The success of the Company in engaging with universities through its Water Conservation Bursary programme has attracted funding from two waste industry bodies, WAMITAB and the ESAET. The WCT has received £100,000 to provide bursaries to universities specialising in waste issues directly relevant to their activities. Through this programme the WCT will help build relationships and establish partnerships between universities and the waste sector.

The WCT has continued with Water Conservation bursary awards to postgraduate students at Oxford Wadham, Brunel and Sheffield. In July 2011, it was agreed that two further universities should be brought within the programme specifically to develop expertise in waste control and land contamination issues. They are the University of Northampton (MSc School of Science & Technology) and Birmingham University (MSc Hydrogeology).

Bursary awards

During the autumn, post-graduate Water Conservation Bursaries have been awarded to Helen Parker (Wadham, Oxford), Abbas Rasul (Brunel) and Anthony Hall (Sheffield) for study in the year 2011-12. Nominations have also been received from Northampton and Birmingham Universities.

University Links

Students and university staff are encouraged to play a full part in our affairs, including attendance at Company functions. Both the university staff and the students find the opportunities for networking extremely useful, particularly with the specialists in their area who are Company Members.

In 2006, the WCT awarded a travelling scholarship to **Parneet Paul**, who was then at Birmingham University. He is now at Brunel University, and is Course Director for the new *MSc in Water Engineering*.

We were particularly pleased to welcome him to our 2011 Michaelmas Lunch.

His course addresses the global shortage of qualified civil engineers in areas associated with water. Company members are providing technical and professional support.



In addition, the Civil Engineering School has identified the quality of undergraduate's industrial experience as key to eventual employment. The Company has therefore agreed to award a Certificate to the student with the best account of his industrial placement.

Dissertation Prize Award

In May 2011, an award was made for the Water Conservators' Dissertation Prize for the best MSc dissertation in the water and environment sector at Brunel University. It was entitled *The Budget Approach Equity in Allocation, Flexibility in Delivery*. The winner, **Antony Wright**, his wife and his tutor were invited to the Election Court Lunch to receive the award.



Brunel University WC Dissertation Prize Winner 2010
The Master (Roger Hewitt) and Antony Wright at the 2010 Election Court Lunch.

Previous Bursary Student News

Keeping in touch with bursary students provides feedback about the usefulness of the scheme.



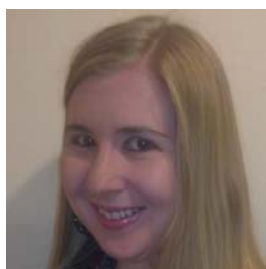
Kristian Metcalf (Exeter 2007, Bursary Student) published his MSc Dissertation in *Oryx*, the International Journal of Conservation.

He is now completing his PhD at the University of Kent. He is investigating the biological & socio-economic impact of marine protected area networks.



Chris Pembroke (Sheffield 2008, Bursary Student) has been working as a contaminated sites consultant involved with investigation, risk assessment,

remediation for international clients. He is currently resident engineer for a remediation project at a former gasworks site.



Hannah Wooldridge (Sheffield 2009, Bursary Student) is working in Leeds as an environmental consultant on a range of

contaminated land and hydrogeological projects.

Pupils' Prizes

The Company's programme for schools, the *Pupils' Prizes* scheme, is available to any school via any Company member.

The WCT awards certificates, gift tokens and **Water Conservators' Goblets** to the winners at primary, junior and senior



schools for the best water or environment projects.

Recent projects at Hugh Myddelton School, Islington include: the influence of water on the local area around the *Clerks Well* (Clerkenwell); a study of local water-related architecture and pond ecology.



Pupils' Prizes Projects at Hugh Myddelton School.

Individuals in Need

The WCT also offers grants to help those either in the industry or were in the industry and who are suffering financial hardship. For a number of years the WCT has awarded grants to two families assessed as being in need of support.

This work is very much a part of the WCT's objectives so if you know of any such cases please contact us. (See *Who to Contact*).

The Charity and the Company

Like all other Livery companies, the Water Conservators Company has charitable giving as a major part of its *raison d'être* and it established the WCT to provide focus and funding for its public interest projects.

Trustee News

At the Trustees' AGM earlier this month, Jeff Rasbash stood down as Chairman of the Trustees after 11 years as a Trustee and the last eight as Chairman.

Colin Bland, also a long serving Trustee has been elected to succeed him.



Colin Bland

Colin paid tribute to Jeff's tremendous dedication and commitment to the work of the Trust.

Roger Hewitt, the Company's Deputy Master, was appointed a Trustee in November 2011.

Trustees are actively involved in the projects, supported by Company representatives and volunteers. Individual project grants are small and the trustees are particularly interested in a strong multiplier effect and replication.

WCT Objectives and Funding

The activities of the WCT reflect the objectives set out in the trust deed:

- Grants to individuals in need, and
- Education and Research.

Over half the regular funding comes from Company members' giving; the balance comes from investments and donations.

Who to contact:

The Water Conservators Company,

The Clerk, Ralph Riley at waterlco@aol.com

The Water Conservation Trust,

Hon Treasurer, Peter Hall at peterbhall@gmail.com

Hon Secretary, Mike Williamson at williamson.m@virgin.net

More about the WCT on - <http://www.charity-commission.gov.uk/>

...then enter **charity number 1007648**

