



The Conservator

Summer 2012 | Issue 45

The Newsletter of the Worshipful Company of Water Conservators

A Message from the Master

Dear Water Conservator,

One of the most important things that you need to know about me is not my career, but that Lis, my wife, and I will do as much together as we can for the Company. We are both very proud to have the privilege of serving in the year of 2012/13. It is also important for you to know that we live in an old house – 400 years old – and that we collect antiques. So what – I hear you say – has this got to do with being Master and Mistress?

Let me explain – we love old things and our old house is perhaps a little too full of them! However, we have running water, double glazing, electricity, gas, broadband and all sorts of gadgets. So it is possible to honour tradition and enjoy the most contemporary benefits – indeed, to constantly exploit whatever makes our life better in a sustainable way. There was a passing reference to this by the Master Mercer in his Jubilee Speech at the banquet in Westminster Hall on June 4th. The Country did it on June 3th with the Thames Pageant – we combined the very rich traditions of the River, with modern technology, so that everyone could be included. The Livery movement has survived for a Millennium by doing this. And so this must be for the Company. In the words of a strapline I saw for a business – we move forward by drawing together tradition and innovation. This will be one of my principal themes.

I know that it is important that Lis and I must represent the Company at as many events as we can, but I

think that it is also important to focus as well on internal matters and to ensure that the Company provides a satisfying home base for us all. And so, I want to balance the work for the Company externally with work inside and strive to increase satisfaction in our membership.

An important objective for me is that the Company will use the experiences and knowledge of our members to engage in as many activities as possible. I want our members to feel satisfied at the end of my year – not saying that they wish that they could have done more. Watch this space!! This commitment will also help with recruitment, which is a constant and demanding objective. Of course I will also give my support to our charitable work, which I think is really taking off – well done to the WCT.

I want to use my long association with the water industry to engage with the leadership of the sector and to continue the push for organisations to join as Corporate Members.



Now finally – my CV. As many of you know I have spent almost 50 years in water and environmental management and most recently I have been appointed to the Board of the General Lighthouse Authority in Trinity House. I finished an appointment of over six years as the Chair of the Northern Ireland Utility Regulator at the end of June. So my experience includes water utility and port management, environmental and economic regulation of waste, water and energy, as well as research and academia. But, this has been in parallel with a strong involvement in the professional sector, particularly CIWEM, and the European Water Association, but also with CIWM as well. It was my involvement with CIWEM which brought me into the Company in 1994.

So I hope that you will enjoy our year as much as Lis and I will. We will keep you informed of our activities through a blog (<http://masterwaterconservator.blogspot.co.uk/>).

Peter Mathews
Master





Deputy Master's report

Reflections on a Year as Master | 2011 – 2012

by Barry Dennis

It has been a privilege to be Master and represent the Company around the City of London, one of my main aims at the start of the year was to attend as many events as possible and to raise the company profile and let people know who we are and what we stand for. From comments made by the Chairman of the City Livery committee in his speech at the Election lunch our company profile and reputation has been enhanced and the City know we are active. It is essential for the Company that this is continued in my view.

I have attended over 100 events on behalf of the Company (one more than the previous Master!). They have all been very interesting and I must confess fun as well. If I had to highlight a few events they would be attending the Garden Party at Buckingham Palace, lunch with the Judges at the Old Bailey, The United Guilds Service at St Pauls and "walking" in The Lord Mayor's Show along side the other Modern Livery Companies.

One event, which is very moving, is attending the Hackney Carriage Drivers Company event at Canary Wharf when over 100 London taxis depart with families with very ill, some terminally and disabled children on a trip to Disneyland Paris. This is often the only holiday these families have in their lives and to see the smiles on the children's faces is an amazing and moving sight and also makes me realise how lucky and privileged some of us are.

The Mistress and I took part in the Jubilee Pageant on the Thames riding in our cutter rowed by our Ladies rowing team. It was a unique event and a privilege to be part of and it was the opportunity of life time. I have put a full report, with photos; on the website so please do take a moment to read it.

The Company continues to take the lead role with the WET 10 and the City Water Debate was well attended earlier in the spring. Next year's event is now being planned and details will be published in the autumn.

Our own Company events have been well attended during the year and the banquet at Drapers' Hall last November was one of the highlights.

I am pleased to say during the past year we have welcomed 14 new members to the Company and recruitment is still high on our Company agenda.

Financially the Company is stable and costs have been tightly controlled and savings made where possible and of course the new members during the year have helped our income considerably.

I would like to thank my Wardens, my Bailiff, the Beadle and especially the Clerk for all their help and support during my year. I must also record my thanks and appreciation to the Mistress for all her support as well.

Finally, I wish Peter Matthews and his Wardens every success in the year ahead.

Calendar of Events 2012–2013

5 September 2012	Company Visit	Globe Theatre
26 September 2012	Michaelmas Lunch	Pewterers' Hall
1 October 2012	Election of Lord Mayor	Guildhall
1 November 2012	Annual Banquet	Painters' Hall
10 November 2012	Lord Mayor's Show	City of London
11 December 2012	Carol Service	St Mary at Hill
January 2013	Myddelton Lunch	TBA
15 March 2013	United Guilds' Service	St Paul's Cathedral
18 April 2013	Election Court Lunch	Cutlers' Hall
24 June 2013	Election of Sheriffs	Guildhall
3 July 2013	Installation Court Lunch	TBA

The Company would like to welcome the following new members:

Caroline Ayres
 Martin Baggs
 Dylan Barker
 Rao Bhamidimarri
 Malcolm Butchers
 Karen Gadd
 Paul Jenkin
 Peter Jones
 Alan Kay
 Steve Kippin
 Niall Mills
 Robert Owen
 Robert Ryan
 Guy Titman



Installation of the Master

The Worshipful Company of Water Conservators celebrated the Installation of Professor Peter Matthews as the 24th Master Water Conservator at the Tallow Chandlers Hall in the City of London on 4 July 2012. Peter will serve for one year, supported by three Wardens: Ivor Richards (Thames Warden), Roger North (Fleet Warden) and Peter Hall (Walbrook Warden).

Welcoming guests to the Installation Lunch, Peter said, "Never has a time felt so right, when we have the subjects of flood and drought in people's minds, for us to be at the forefront of society, championing the virtues and benefits of water conservation." He added that "Liverymen and Freemen of the Company, with such diversity of experience, can provide a perspective on so many environmental matters by viewing them through the lens of water".

In proposing a toast in water to the guests, Court Assistant Keith Tozzi particularly welcomed Mrs Pamela Taylor, Chief Executive, Water UK, Alderman Parmley and members of other City Livery Companies, and Lucinda Gale from Brunel University, who was awarded The Water Conservators Company Dissertation Prize for her dissertation: 'Empowering individual carbon footprint reduction: Development of a tool to assess the impact of lifestyle choices on carbon footprint and

to personalise emission reduction alternatives'.

Pamela Taylor, responding on behalf of the guests, commented on the excellent record of the UK's water services in protecting and promoting public health, and the wider and unavoidable role in society in pursuit of social, environmental and economic objectives. However, further and significant challenges were inevitable: some could only be addressed by changing the mindset of providers and users to successfully meet changing demands and reduce the sectors carbon footprint. The industry had accepted the need to rethink and constantly innovate. It was well positioned to build on the work of its forebears, and combine continuity with stability and innovation.

A collection was taken after the Installation Lunch which raised £880 for the Worshipful Company of Hackney Carriage Drivers' MAGICAL TAXI TOUR to Disneyland Paris in September 2012.



Peter Matthews and Pamela Taylor



Lucinda Gale, the Water Conservators Company Dissertation Prize-winner 2012

Obituary | Mike Hindhaugh 1929 – 2012

George Michael Atkins Hindhaugh – known affectionately as Mike – was born on the 21st November 1929, in the village of Madeley, Newcastle-Under-Lyme.

He went to Newcastle High School. His rather serious nature didn't include team games or any other kind of sport. His natural leaning was to mathematics, reading and playing chess.

At 18, he became an articled pupil to a firm of civil engineers Ward, Ashcroft and Parkman in Liverpool and remained with them for 42 years, ultimately becoming a Director.

Mike did his National Service, at the age of 20. He spent his two year stint in Cyprus as a sapper, his work there was designing and laying out water pipelines over the mountains.

On April 19th 1963, he was married to Nena in Chester. They set up home in Meols. Over the next six years, three little Hindhaughs appeared.

In Mike's 50th year 1979, tragedy struck.

His son Simon took ill with a mystery virus and died. He was not prepared for this. What helped the situation a little, was that Mike went out to Nigeria and worked on new schemes and projects there. This helped.

For many years he was secretary of the North West branch of the Institution of Public Health Engineers. In 1985 he became the President of the Institution. This involved a year of travel all over the globe, it was a great success.

Mike became a Freeman of the City of London and a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Water Conservators and he was elected to the Court of Assistants.

He was the Clerk of the Company from 1990 to 1996 where everybody remembers him for his hard and dedicated work in this post.



He was a member of the Select Society of Sanitary Sludge Shovellers.

Mike enjoyed his 20 years of retirement in which time he took up shopping and cooking exotic dishes. Mike died in May 2012 and leaves Nena and a son Paul and daughter Sara.

Colin Bland
Past Master



The Worshipful Company of Water Conservators Wardens

The Water Conservation Trust

THAMES WARDEN Ivor Richards

Ivor Richards OBE B.Sc. CEng. MICE FIHT, was appointed Thames Warden on July 4th 2012. He joined the company in 1994 - the year he was awarded his OBE.



A chartered engineer since 1972, he is Chairman and Managing Director of Richards Moorehead and Laing Ltd (RML) an engineering and environmental consultancy that Ivor and his wife Marjorie established in 1984. He and Marjorie spent 11 years in the water industry in South Wales which included recovery work at Aberfan in 1966, a disaster that triggered the realisation that mineral exploitation did have serious consequences. This has dominated Ivor's work to the present day. In this time delivering large scale projects involving coal-mining discard, iron and steel slags slate waste and metaliferous slimes confirmed Ivor's conviction that civil engineering could and should do much better if only engineers talked to people in other disciplines. A long involvement in a multi-disciplined approach to civil engineering was the result. Ivor's career has been spent producing and diffusing guidelines of good practice in mineral working and land reclamation in the UK and Europe. Much of the work has been innovative. A favourite book is 'Working with Nature - a low cost approach to land reclamation' first published in 1982. With Mervyn Bramley, a fellow Water Conservator, Ivor was responsible for the 1990 CIRIA report on 'The use of vegetation in civil engineering'. Recent interests have involved research and construction involving live willow as an engineering material, the development of low weight structural panels and a process that destroys Japanese Knotweed.

Ivor's current interests include a new hydrocarbon-free porous material for use in footpaths and lightly trafficked areas and low maintenance grasses that will create carbon sinks in public areas.

The Trust's Charity Update has kept Members aware of the work of Trust regularly during the year. It clearly shows how the Trust's programme has expanded.

By far the largest support is given through a major programme of Bursaries for Masters degree students studying water, environmental sciences and waste management. Students are selected by the university on the basis of quality and financial need and the Trust provides up to £4,000 towards the cost of the course.

The Trust also provides grants of up to £1,000 to assist course members to meet specific expenses connected with the research they need to carry out to complete their dissertations. In addition, the Trust funds Dissertation Prizes which are awarded to students who obtain a distinction grade and present the best dissertation each year on the supported MSc courses. It is a requirement of bursary support that a copy of the dissertation along with a précis is made available to the Company.

These linkages provide the Members of Company with the opportunity to work closely with some of the most accomplished research units in the UK and get involved by suggesting dissertations subjects and offering work experience for students.

Peter Hall is the Trustee who acts as the University Liaison person and is willing to help any Member wanting to make contact with one of the participating Universities.

Colin Bland
Chairman of Trustees,
Water Conservation Trust

FLEET WARDEN Roger North

Roger North B.Eng. C.Eng. FICE. FCIWEM. C.WEM. MIAM, was appointed Fleet Warden on July 4th 2012.



Roger was admitted as a Freeman in 1995, became a Liveryman in 2000 and has been a Court Assistant since 2007. He is currently Hon. Treasurer.

Roger has worked in the water and environment business for over 40 years. After graduating from the University of Sheffield in 1969, he started his career in water and wastewater consultancy with John Taylor and Sons.

In 1978 he joined Atkins, one of the world's leading engineering and design consultancies where he is now the Managing Director of Water Operations. He has held a number of senior positions in the UK and overseas including two years as resident manager in Sri Lanka. His career has involved him in a wide range of water related services in the UK and overseas from research and development, design and asset management, to institutional development and operation support services. He has worked in many countries across Europe, Middle East, Africa, Asia and the Far East. He is a member of the UK Trade and Investment Environmental and Water Sector Advisory Group.

Roger and his wife, Christine, have two married daughters and three grandchildren. His hobbies include gardening, DIY and golf.

WALBROOK WARDEN Peter Hall

Peter Hall B.Sc., M.Sc., ACMA, was appointed Fleet Warden on July 4th 2012. He joined the Company in 1999.



After graduating in chemistry Peter qualified as an accountant with the British Gas Corporation. He joined the finance team at the National Water Council in 1977 and, on its demise in 1983, he was appointed assistant secretary at the newly formed Water Authorities Association. He dealt with finance and general policy matters, including industry-side logistics for water authority privatisation. Appointed deputy director at the Water Services Association in 1989 he spent several years coordinating views on policy issues, setting up the European Waste Water Group to lobby for practical and achievable environmental standards. After a year with OFWAT, he contributed to the European Commission's assessment of progress of former centrally planned economies towards EU membership. In the period 1996-2004, working for MWH, he was the evaluation director for Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia and Hungary. During the last ten years, he has undertaken policy evaluation studies commissioned by the Commission and SME developments in Central Asia and South East Europe for the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Since joining the Company, he has been a Court Assistant since 2004 and was appointed a Trustee of the Water Conservation Trust in 2005 where he is the Hon Treasurer, edits the Charity Update, and administers the successful Company Bursary scheme. He was awarded a Honorary Fellowship by Brunel University in July 2012. He is secretary of Thames Valley CIMA branch and long-time treasurer of Reading Coin Club, specialising in Roman Coins.