



The Conservator

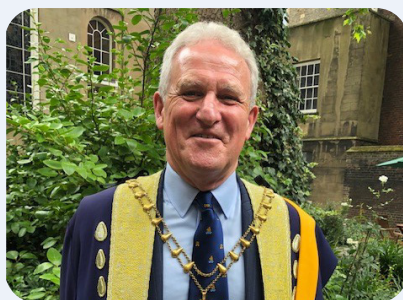
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The Newsletter of the Worshipful Company of Water Conservators

Update from the Master

As we approach the end of the calendar year, I can scarcely believe that Judy and I are nearly half way through our year as Master and Consort. For those of you who follow my blog on our website, you will know what a busy and thoroughly enjoyable few months we have had. Being Master of a Livery Company brings opportunity to visit places and events of incredible diversity and of course to meet so many fascinating people in our role of representing the Water Conservators.

With successful formal events (such as the Michaelmas Lunch and the Annual Banquet) already behind us, we have also enjoyed the less formal occasions such as the Globe Theatre and Lord Mayor's Show. However, I also gave a commitment of "continuity" for my year as Master with particular emphasis on the H₂O Outreach initiative to gain new Members. This is showing considerable signs of success (see details of new Members on page 3) and our regular Networking Receptions have played a key role.



In September our Autumn Reception was held in a private room at The Crown Inn at Clerkenwell Green. This attracted some 25 guests who were keen to chat and learn more about our Company. The evening was given added focus with Siraj Tahir of Arup making a very informative short presentation on "Water and the Circular Economy". Our next networking event is planned for 22nd January at the King Stores pub in Spitalfields. I hope to see many friends, old and new, there.

We have a number of exciting events planned for 2020 and details, as always, will be posted on our website (www.waterconservators.org). Judy and I look forward to seeing you.

Mark Lane
Master

Globe Theatre

On a glorious sunny September afternoon, the annual Company visit to the Globe Theatre was hosted by the Master and his Consort. Thirty Members and their guests filled the three Gentlemen's Boxes (which provide cover from the elements and more comfortable seats) to see a splendid matinee performance of Shakespeare's "As You Like It". The Master kindly provided champagne during the interval.

Keith Tozzi
Past Master & PR Manager



Master's Weekend



The Master and his Consort organised their Master's Weekend in Bridport (close to their Dorset home) over the weekend of 27th - 29th September. Despite dire weather warnings, the weekend remained dry and clear for the numerous events that had been organised.

The weekend started for the 22 participants on the Friday evening in The George pub with a welcome drink followed by a very fine dinner. Up early on Saturday morning, the Master encouraged as many as possible to join him in the 5K Bridport Parkrun before everyone enjoyed The Charter Fair, which celebrates the grant of Charter by Henry II to hold a market in the town. The Church Tower of St Mary's Church was especially opened and the clear weather afforded a wonderful view of Bridport to those brave enough to climb the narrow steps and tiny doorway onto the roof.

Saturday afternoon saw everyone gather at the Furleigh Estate vineyard

for a tour and excellent wine tasting (see photograph). Back in Bridport, at the Literary & Scientific Institute, a fascinating talk on "Churchill's Secret Army" was enjoyed by everyone before dinner (which included the Master's own apple juice and pork sausages!) was served. Entertainment was provided by the West Dorset Community Strings who played a number of pieces inevitably including Handel's Water Music!

After coffee in West Bay on Sunday morning everyone set off home after a very enjoyable weekend.

Mark Lane
Master



Lord Mayor's Show



The Lord Mayor's Show is 804 years old and has been a fixture of London life for centuries. The modern Show, the world's greatest unrehearsed civic procession, is a joyful and diverse civic parade of over 6000 people, with dozens of marching bands, military detachments, carriages, dance troupes, inflatables, giant contraptions and ceremonial displays.

This year the Show was held on Saturday 9th November, following the Silent Ceremony where the new Lord Mayor swears his oath of office. Alderman William Russell (of the Bread Street Ward) is the 692nd Lord Mayor of London.

Master Mark Lane and his three Wardens took part in the Show by walking with other Modern Livery Companies and thoroughly enjoyed the atmosphere and pageantry.

Keith Tozzi
Past Master & PR Manager

Did you know...? HQS Wellington is the only floating Livery Hall

The Worshipful Company of Water Conservators regularly uses HQS Wellington for its formal events. It is unique in being the only floating Livery Hall, but the history of the vessel is equally unique.

The Honourable Company of Master Mariners had a longstanding ambition to have a Livery Hall of their own. Up to the outbreak of war in 1939, various proposals were examined, including the purchase of the sailing ship, the Archibald Russell.



After the war, it became apparent that the possibility of building a Hall in the City of London had been rendered very remote. In 1947, the Grimsby class sloop Wellington was made available by the Admiralty. The Company decided to buy her with money subscribed by the Members and convert her to a floating Livery Hall – an appropriate home for a Company of seafarers.

Built at Devonport in 1934, HMS Wellington served in the Pacific mainly on station in New Zealand and China before the Second World War. During the war, Wellington was fitted with two 4.7 inch guns and one three inch gun - additionally, anti-aircraft guns

were fitted for self defence. Depth charges for use against submarines were also carried. HMS Wellington served primarily in the North Atlantic on convoy escort duties - she shared in the destruction of one enemy U boat and was involved in Operation Dynamo, the evacuation of troops from Dunkirk.

After the war she was converted from being His Majesty's Ship Wellington to Head Quarters Ship Wellington at the Chatham dockyards. The cost of this conversion was met by an appeal to which Lloyd's, Shipping Companies, Livery Companies and many other benefactors generously contributed. She arrived at her Victoria Embankment berth in December 1948 to continue service as the floating livery hall of the Honourable Company of Master Mariners.

In 1991 HQS Wellington was dry-docked at Sheerness for three months during which extensive works were undertaken to make the ship a Livery Hall which is admired throughout the City of London.

Keith Tozzi
Past Master & PR Manager



Water Conservation Trust Sponsored Walk

Early morning torrential rain did not bode well for the Water Conservation Trust Sponsored Walk on Sunday 6th October. However, the weather quickly improved substantially to lift the spirits of the walkers who had volunteered to take part.

This annual event is a major fundraising opportunity for the Trust and this year proved to be no exception. The walkers met mid-morning at Chorleywood Station and quickly set off for the planned 7 mile walk along the beautiful Chess Valley

to Chesham. The walk was ably led by Thames Warden Rob Casey and Past Master Peter Hall, who only admitted to getting lost once! After a half-way stop for liquid refreshment at the Red Lion in Chenies, the intrepid walkers made it in the dry to Chesham by 3.30pm for a late pub lunch.

Personal sponsorship and generous matched funding by Thames Water's Charity Committee resulted in over £3,000 being raised to support the Trust's important schools' education programme. Well done to everyone who took part.

Rob Casey
Thames Warden



Annual Banquet

This year's annual black-tie Banquet was held in the beautiful Painters' Hall in the City of London on Tuesday 5th November. The Painter-Stainers' Company is the fifth oldest of the 110 Livery Companies and their Hall re-opened in 1961 after extensive rebuilding.



On arrival some 100 Members and their Guests enjoyed a champagne reception and this was followed by

Water Science, Policy & Management MSc at Oxford

The 20th of September saw a celebration at the Natural History Museum in Oxford to mark the completion of 15 years of the MSc on Water Science, Policy and Management, one of the 12 courses supported by the Water Conservation Trust (WCT). The course is taught at the University's School of Geography and the Environment which, for many years, has been ranked number 1 in the World.

The event was opened by Lord Chris Patten, after which a discussion panel of alumni recalled experiences of their time on the course and how it influenced their career and future work. Among the panellists were Alex Money, Tim Foster and Abishek S. Narayan (winner of the Conservators' Prize for the best dissertation of his year). Alumni from

Past Master Ted Jackson

It was with much sadness that the Company learnt in November 2019 of the death at the age of 80, of Past Master Ted Jackson. Dr Edward William Jackson was Master Water Conservator in 1999/2000, the year in which the Company attained Livery Status and became the 102nd Livery Company in the City of London.

The Lord Mayor presented the Letters Patent to a very proud Ted, as the Master, at a very impressive ceremony at the Mansion House on 25th January. The Clothing Ceremony held at the Guildhall on 15th March was a great success with 107 Freemen being clothed in the Livery. Ted established a number of Committees to guide the

an excellent three course dinner with wines and the Loving Cup ceremony. A very entertaining musical interlude was provided by a pianist and singers from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

Master Mark Lane gave an amusing speech of welcome to the Guests, which included tales of the social life of a graduate lawyer in London in the 1970's. Principal Guest Sir David Wootton (Lord Mayor of London 2011/12), an old friend of the Master, responded on behalf of the Guests and provided an equally amusing and colourful speech. The excellent evening concluded with a Stirrup Cup before everyone departed for home.

Keith Tozzi
Past Master & PR Manager

all years and their guests, including a number of liverymen, enjoyed an evening of recollection and fun that finished with drinks and a range of extremely good canapes.

This is an outstanding example of the success and reach of our Bursary programme which is the largest part of our charitable giving. Since 2008/9 Water Conservators have been providing bursaries to students to undertake this Masters course at Oxford. This was the first of our highly successful Bursary programme and the most prestigious. Currently we provide bursaries to 11 other universities for Masters' degree courses in water, environment, and solid waste management.

Roger North, Chairman of the Trustees

new Livery Company through its early years and his influence is still strongly felt in the Company.

Ted will be sadly missed and sincere condolences go to his wife Ann and his three children Sue, Bev and Rebecca.

Keith Tozzi
Past Master & PR Manager



Sheep Drive on London Bridge

Each year since 2013 the Worshipful Company of Woolmen have re-enacted the right of City of London Freemen to drive their sheep over London Bridge. This year, the event took place on a rather wet Sunday 29th September.

The Lord Mayor, Alderman Peter Estlin, led the first drive across the bridge accompanied by former Conservative MP Michael Portillo, who is a Freeman of the City of London. They were followed by a further 600 Freemen representing 70 of the City's Livery Companies.

The huge sum of money raised will be used for the benefit of charities supported by the Woolmen's Company and the Lord Mayor's charities.

Keith Tozzi
Past Master & PR Manager



New Members

A very warm welcome to our new Members who include:

Stantec, as a new Corporate Member.

As a global design organisation, Stantec designs with community in mind whether that is in engineering, architecture, energy, water or project management.



Dharmesh Joshi (Director of Aarda Systems Ltd), **Geoff Parker** (Financial Consultant with Dar Al-Handash) and **Neil Reynolds** (Non-Executive Director with Hydro Industries) as Members and **Emily Catford** (Sustainability Manager with Macquarie Infrastructure) as an Associate Member.

Photographic Competition



As part of the Company's continued drive to raise awareness of environmental issues as they impact on the City of London, we have joined forces with a number of key stakeholders to launch a schools' photographic competition. In partnership with the City of London Corporation, the Cheapside Business Alliance and New London Architecture, a Working Group led by Deputy Master, Simon Catford has been formed and has set the challenge for schools within the City to submit relevant photographs on the theme of 'A Sustainable Future

for London', a central plank in the new Lord Mayors objectives for the year. Interpretation of this theme can take many forms including issues such as climate change, a plastic-free and a car-free city, water use and scarcity and active travel. The scope is enormous and we are looking forward to some striking and thought-provoking images.

The competition was launched in mid-November with closing date of the February half-term. A judging panel will short list entrants who will be invited to a special event at the City Centre, Guildhall on 20 March (prior to World Water Day) where the winner will be announced. The Lord Mayor has pledged his support and if the diary allows, he will present the prize of a digital camera to the successful

student. Runners up will receive places at a free sustainability workshop run by New London Architecture which has received critical acclaim. Entrants must be under 18 and be a pupil of a school or youth club based in the City of London. For further information please contact the Deputy Master at scatford@outlook.com

Simon Catford
Deputy Master



New Event Booking/ Payment System

The Company is currently working on the introduction of electronic banking and an event booking system. This will enable Members to book attendance at Company events and make the relevant payments via a secure and password protected electronic system.

Although the details are still being worked up, this change will be introduced by the summer of 2020.

The current system of posting out flyers with slips and cheques being returned, has worked well since the Guild was established in 1988, however, the world has moved on and many Members report that the only cheques they write are to the Water Conservators!

More details of this change will be sent to Members from the Clerk when available in the New Year, but 2020 will be the year that the Company goes electronic!

Peter Hall
Hon Treasurer



Forthcoming Events

Myddelton Lunch, 13th January 2020



Members of the Company are cordially invited to attend the Myddelton Lunch at Trinity House together with their partners, colleagues and friends for the 20th anniversary of the grant of Livery to our Company. The guest speaker will

be Alderman & Sheriff Michael Mainelli, Honorary Freeman of the Water Conservators Company.

A Church Service (at which the Company Cross is re-dedicated) will be held at All Hallows by the Tower at 11.00am followed by a procession to Trinity House.

See the Company Website for further details.

WET 10 Lecture

Each year the Company takes responsibility for organising a lecture at the Guildhall on key issues facing our industry sectors. The 2020 lecture will be held on Thursday 19th March

and will be entitled "Which Way Water - 2050?".

Look out for details on how you can participate in this very popular event in our calendar.



Next edition of The Conservator

The next edition of The Conservator will be published in July 2020. Any members with interesting articles should contact the editor, keithtozzi@aol.com