

The Worshipful Company of Water Conservators

*Promoting a diverse and sustainable
environment*

Monthly Update



December 2023 Issue 36

Message from the Master



As we approach the Christmas holiday, Eileen and I wish everyone Season's Greetings and Best Wishes for the New Year.

We are looking forward to welcoming everyone to Carols by Candlelight at our Company Church, All Hallows by the Tower, on Thursday 14 December, as well as, on 6 December, on our Christmas visit to Westminster Abbey and to David Lloyd-Owen's Webinar on water privatisation.

Looking forward to 2024 we are continuing to support the Lord Mayor and his theme, "Connect To Prosper", celebrating the "Knowledge Miles" of our Square Mile through a Colloquy and lecture. See below for more details.

On Thursday 25 January you are all invited to All Hallows by the Tower where we will rededicate the Company cross and ourselves to the Company and the Livery, at a short service. We will then process via the Tower of London to Trinity House. We will welcome as our guest speaker Tony Juniper CBE, Chair of Natural England and past

Executive Director of Friends of the Earth. Importantly we will award prizes to the postgraduate student winners of the best dissertation at each of the universities that the Water Conservation Trust supports.

We have a full programme of webinars, debates, meetings and social activities coming up. Please see our website for details.

What an amazing time for the Company!



We started November with a fascinating Company tour of the Mansion House. then Eileen and I met the Lord Mayor-elect Professor Michael Mainelli and Elisabeth Mainelli at a superb dinner at the Chartered Accountants' Hall where the Mayor shared his vision for the year. The

Livery Garden of Remembrance Service, Remembrance Service and Commemoration of the Fallen at St Paul's and outside Mansion House gave us time to reflect and give thanks.

The Annual Banquet in the Armourers' Hall was my opportunity to say thank you to the Company. It was a great celebration with lively music by the Strictly a Cappella singers with a selection of modern and not quite modern tunes as is fitting for a modern Livery Company. Past Lord Mayor, Dame Fiona Woolf, spoke to us about the contribution of the Livery to the City of London and the need for and the benefits of collaboration. And we enjoyed the fellowship of the Loving Cup.

The Lord Mayor's Show was a huge success. Our magic tap impressed everyone. The BBC TV commentator observing that "talk about the relevance of the Livery, what could be more relevant than water conservation. The Company works to promote the long-term health of water resources and the broader environment". It was a huge team effort and I am very grateful to everyone who participated and contributed to the best float in the Show.





A highlight of our contribution to the City, water and the environment was our City Water Debate “Water Liquidity – How to Finance the Required Investment in the UK Water Sector to 2050” involving leading professionals and business people from the sector. More details below. I am very grateful to everyone for pulling it together. Watch out for the next one on 21 March 2024.

During November I have had the honour of representing the Water Conservators at various events, many hosted by other Livery Companies. They have reflected the contribution of the Livery to community relations, scientific advancement, young people, ex-service personnel and charity. In 2022 aggregate giving by the Livery was £75million with over 143,000 hours pro bono voluntary support to the charitable sector. Please see my blog for further details.

I welcome everyone to be part of the learning, comradeship and enjoyment of our Company.

Professor Martin Bigg
Master.

Watch out for The Worshipful Company of Water Conservators on LinkedIn

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/clerk-water-conservators-livery-company-467999159>

Follow my blog <https://masterwaterconservator23.blogspot.com/>

Future Events

- 6 December – Christmas at Westminster Abbey tour
- 6 December – Webinar: David Lloyd Owen, Water Privatisation
- 14 December – Carols by Candlelight, All Hallows by the Tower
- 16 January - UN SDG 6, on clean water and sanitation for all, Mansion House
- 18 January - Webinar: John Knights, Developing the Leaders for Sustainability and Regeneration
- 25 January - Myddelton Service, All Hallows by the Tower
- 25 January - Myddelton Lunch, Trinity House

City Water Debate

Around 100 senior figures from the water and environment sectors and Livery Companies contributed to the debate on 22 November 2023 on the financing of the water sector. We heard that massive private and public investment is needed in the sector to meet our environmental and water supply targets. All of us must work to reduce per capita water consumption from 145 to a projected 110 litres per day. There is scope for ‘nature based solutions’ which are less carbon intensive, centred on river catchment areas.

Connect to Prosper

This is the mayoral theme of the 695th Lord Mayor of London, Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli. The City of London is a place where problems come to be solved. On 16 January

2024 at Mansion House, the Worshipful Company of Water Conservators and the Worshipful Company of Plumbers will host the third colloquy, on UN Sustainable Development Goal 6, on clean water and sanitation for all. Ten expert speakers, in front of an invited audience, will highlight the urgent need for water conservation and protection of the broader environment. The event will conclude with a commitment to future debates to provide an ongoing legacy for ‘Connect to Prosper’.

January Webinar

John Knights, Chairman of LeaderShape Global, will be presenting our next webinar on 18 January 2024 at 6pm titled “Developing the Leaders We Need for Sustainability and Regeneration”. John has coached many senior leaders globally and been involved in the design and delivery of state-of-the-art leadership programmes using advanced andragogic methodologies. This includes a post-graduate programme entitled Globally Responsible Leadership for Sustainable Transformation delivered in cooperation with seven universities around the world.

Water Conservation Trust

In response to requests, the Trust has increased its funding for school educational visits, student placements and environmental projects. It has helped over 200 university post graduate students with bursaries and awarded over 90 dissertation prizes. Thanks to everyone who supported the sponsored walk, with matched funding and gift aid we should raise around £4,600 in support of our schools projects. More than half of the Company also contribute to the Trust. Join them.

