



Message from the Master



Being a Water Conservator is learning about and tackling some of the most important issues we are facing, and enjoying what we do. Thanks especially to Andy Williamson and supporters at the Livery Pancake races; regretfully the rain won.

Recently we had a fascinating and enlightening dinner with Sir John Armit. The Company continues to respond to and feed into the Government on water and environmental issues. Having watched as the high tide approached the top of London's flood defences I am looking forward to 7 March when our Fleet Warden, Professor Carolyn Roberts, is giving an online Knowledge Mile Lecture on the Thames Barrier. On 21 March we are holding our City Water Debate on working with nature and managing catchments at the Bakers' Hall. There are a few places left for these events.

In April we are visiting the Thames Barrier in collaboration with the Environment Agency. I am also looking forward to the Master's Weekend in Bristol. Please see the details over.

At our recent Growth Workshop we committed to setting up groups on Membership, Social, Communications and New Business Activities. These are in addition to existing groups on Finance, SERE (Sustainability, Environment, Resources (including waste and Energy), City Water Debate

and Technical matters. If you would like to be more involved with one of the groups please let a Warden or me know. Thanks to everyone who has contributed their thoughts on the future of the Company. A small group led by Court Assistant Dinah Nichols has also made recommendations on reducing the workload of the Clerk.

Our new Sustainability Policy has been agreed with the Water Conservation Trust CIO and is going to the April Court meeting for adoption. We are also revising various Company forms and details in preparation for the launch of our new website. Our thanks to Past Master Rob Casey for successfully completing all four modules of the Heart of the City Climate Action Course, such that the Company is now entitled to display the "Heart of the City" logo. Recently I met with students and staff from the University of Sheffield and heard about the benefits of the Water Conservation Trust's bursary awards and dissertation prizes to students.

If you know of anyone who may be interested in joining us to tackle the exciting challenges we face, and to enjoy good company, please ask them along to an event. It only needs each of us to introduce one new member to the Company and we double in size (maths was my strong point)!

Full speed ahead!

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

- 7 March 2024 - Webinar: Professor Carolyn Roberts, Thames Barrier
- 12 March 2024 - Webinar: Helen Orton, Commercial Models for Major Projects
- 15 March 2024 - United Guilds Service, St. Paul's Cathedral
- 21 March 2024 - City Water Debate, Bakers' Hall
- 11 April 2024 - Visit to Thames Barrier and River Thames trip
- 15 April 2024 - Associates Webinar: Alex Money, Making water work for you
- 17 April 2024 - Election Court Lunch with the Lord Mayor
- 18 April 2024 - Lord Mayors Big Curry Lunch, Guildhall
- 26/28 April 2024 - Master's Weekend, Bristol
- 16 May 2024- Bletchley Park code breaking centre by train

Climate Action



On 30 January the Livery Climate Action Group carried out its first Peer Review of a Livery Company's climate action plan. Invited by the Merchant Taylors' Company, Chair Alderman Alison Gowman and benchmarking lead PM Water Conservator Rob Casey, met the Clerk, John Clink. Aspects ranged from energy and heating to investments and policies. John and his in-house surveyor are exemplary leaders in the work that they are spearheading, and they are encouraging personal behavioural changes as well as changes to the building and operations.



Webinar: Helen Orton, Commercial Models for Major Projects 12 March



Helen Orton, Project Director at Agilia, will be presenting our March webinar on 12 March 6.00pm to 7.15pm. For the water sector in England and Wales, meeting the needs of customers and the environment will require significant investment over the coming decades. The water sector has various innovative and successful commercial models available for the financing and funding of major projects, such as the model developed for the Thames Tideway Tunnel project. She will explore and explain the key features of these models, their evolution and their application in other sectors. Please register via the link <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/>

Visit to Thames Barrier 11 April

The barrier completed in 1982 still protects London from flooding (just). The visit should coincide with the testing of the barrier. We will hear about the history of the river and the risk of flooding in London, the environment and wildlife of the Thames. After lunch we will return to central London by boat. Contact the Master for details masterwaterconservator23@gmail.com



Associates Webinar: Alex Money, Making water work for you 15 April

This talk will look at some of the inter-disciplinary career options available to those with a background or interest in water. The career sectors in focus will include finance and investment, start-ups and for-purpose companies, academia and sustainability consultancy. The speaker has 30 years of career experience, spanning each of these areas. Emphasis will be on practical approaches to identify the role you really want, and standing out from the pack. Details will be confirmed shortly.

Election Court Lunch 17 April



We are looking forward to welcoming the Lord Mayor, Alderman Michael Mainelli, to our Election Court Lunch, together with the Lady Mayoress, Elisabeth Mainelli, Sheriff and Alderwoman, Dame Susan Langley and Gary Langley. The Lord Mayor will be sharing his vision for a growing, prosperous and sustainable future. Space is limited so book early with our clerk, Christine, clerk@waterconservators.org.

Master's Weekend, Bristol 26/28 April



Join the Master, Wardens, Court and Company for a relaxing, educational and enjoyable weekend for everyone. On Friday we have an orientation walk including Banksies and Breweries in the centre of Bristol and dinner. On Saturday we will be cruising up-river towards Bath then returning for a guided tour of SS Great Britain. In the evening we have a local speaker and a locally sourced meal. On Sunday we will be walking over the Clifton Suspension Bridges before a lunch overlooking the Avon Gorge. Contact the Master's Consort for details and booking Eileen.biggs@outlook.com.

April Webinar

Our April webinar will be presented by Matthew Doran, Land Use Policy Adviser – Climate Change and Water at the Country Land and Business Association (CLA). Matthew's presentation will cover the CLA's approach to the wider water environment, the landowner and riparian manager's perspective, and where they see opportunities to make progress in terms of policy, as outlined in the CLA's Water Strategy, a long-term vision for the water environment. Webinar date to be confirmed shortly.

