Myddelton Lunch and Service of Re-dedication
13 January 2020

To celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the granting of Livery to our Worshipful Company of Water Conservators and the re-dedication of the Company Cross, a service was held for the first time in All Hallows by the Tower Church. The Service was led by the Rev. Katherine Hedderly and the Rev. Rose Hudson-Wilkin, Bishop of Dover and Chaplain.

Following the service, the Master, Wardens, Past Masters and Members processed a short distance to the historic 18thC Trinity House where we enjoyed a lunch of smoked Orkney Trout followed by Lancashire grass-fed lamb.

Thames Warden, Rob Casey introduced our guests: Peter Alvey, Master of the Worshipful Company of World Traders and their Clerk, Mrs. Gaye Duffy, Alderman, Sir Andrew Parmley, Honorary Liveryman of the Water Conservators and Lord Mayor of London during 2016-17 and finally our guest speaker, Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli, current Aldermanic Sheriff of the City of London and his wife, Elizabeth.

Given the audience, Professor Mainelli gave a speech suitably entitled “Dripping with Green Finance”. He described how his role as Sheriff involved a multitude of different tasks ranging from promoting the importance of the Rule of Law in the City – a major factor in attracting international business to London - to dancing around maypoles (his job description must be interesting!)
Turning to the importance of Green Finance in helping to combat the threat of climate change, Professor Mainelli highlighted the backing the City of London Corporation has given to financial initiatives such as the Green Finance Institute. He observed that past EU legislation had raised standards in areas such as water quality and emissions, but warned that much more needed to be done.

Nevertheless, he remained optimistic that post Brexit it was possible for us to continue to develop environmentally-friendly policies especially using tax and other fiscal measures in order to encourage behavioural change. Given the City’s considerable pool of talent and its financial expertise, we should harness this in order to build new financial systems which can positively promote sustainable development and protection of the earth’s finite resources. Professor Mainelli then proposed the toast “Root and Branch” to the Company in water.

Mark Lane, the Master responded congratulating Prof. Mainelli on his thought-provoking speech before turning to the award of the Company’s Water Conservation Trust’s Dissertation Prizes to Francis Hale and Annabel Page.

Mark next highlighted our forthcoming programme of events which included the Wet 10 Lecture on 19 March ’20 entitled “Which Way Water – 2050” and our co-sponsorship with the City Corporation and others in a schools photographic competition, “A Sustainable Future for London”, plus a Schools Water Workshop on 24 March entitled “The River and the Environment”.

Finally The Master presented the Rt. Rev. Rose Hudson-Wilkin with an inscribed water jug as a momento of her time as the Company’s Chaplain and wished her well in her new role as Bishop of Dover. The Revd Katherine Hedderly, Vicar of All Hallows by the Tower and Area Dean of the City of London, has been appointed as the new Chaplain.

Court Assistant Christine Jarvis