

The Conservator

The Newsletter of the Worshipful Company of Water Conservators

Master's Report Winter 2009

Dear fellow Water Conservator

As some of you are aware Past Master Colin Bland has decided to hang-up his pen as the founder-editor of *The Conservator*. We are all indebted to his sterling work over the years. The Finance, Membership & General Purposes Committee have commissioned a small study team under the leadership of Court Assistant Nick Reeves to review all of our methods of communication - including *The Conservator*, and the Website, - the latter run by Court Assistant Bill Halson. I have asked the committee to look at how we can not only improve on what has been achieved by the dedication of these two Liverymen, but also how the burden of production can be shared or reduced. In the meantime may I welcome you to a special "mini" edition of *The Conservator* which is designed to fill the gap while the committee does its work.

I am now half-way through my year as your Master. It seems timely to reflect on where we are and what has been achieved.

Livery Events

Our social events continue to be well supported: notably this year's Banquet at the Carpenters' Hall and the Livery Weekend in Portsmouth.

As an experiment, I programmed the Master's Weekend event at the beginning of my year to involve more Liverymen, and am pleased to say that the nautical theme and in particular the Trafalgar Night Dinner in aid of the Warrior Restoration Trust was a great success. The Warrior would be pleased to host us again and form a link should we be so minded. I am delighted that we have managed to arrange a combined Carol Service with the Musicians and Turners this year to make the numbers work; given the Fuellers' wish to have their own event to mark their anniversary.

The Lord Mayor has once again agreed to be our guest at the Myddelton lunch: this is becoming a welcome diary fixture. Finally we have held an enjoyable Recruiting Event at the Guildhall on 8 December and plan to hold a further recruiting event later in my year.

Charities

Some of you will have taken up the opportunity to hear our recent speakers, the Master of Wadham and the Vice Chancellor of Brunel - passionate about what we do through our bursaries - I hope you will join me in redoubling our very modest efforts to make the post-Graduate Education at the core of our Charity strategy more successful.

The message is quite clear, intelligent, far-sighted charitable giving should be at the heart of what we do. I can think of no better way of maximizing your ability to lay down talent - like fine wine - for the future by personally subscribing to a modest donation for our bursaries. This country, our profession, our industry and our science will live or die through the quality of education in Water. Please support this initiative.

Affiliates

CO HMS SCOTT & his wife attended part of our Livery Weekend as my guests. Wendy & I have attended a SCOTT event during the refit. This relationship is healthy. I have agreed with CO SCOTT that we will both work to improve links with TS SCOTT Sea Cadets. I am pleased to report that Court Assistant Trevor Harrington has agreed to take over Sea Cadet liaison. There is a new Sea Cadet CO who you will be able to meet and welcome at one our lunches in the new year. Our RAF affiliates - No 1 AIDU with the able assistance of Court Assistants Ivor Richards and Bill Halson are working on a Charity Project part-funded by us this year at Ruislip School.

The Bishop of London has become an Honorary Freeman.

Impact in the City

The "Wet -10" initiative gathers pace. Past Master Colin Drummond was elected Chair at the planning dinner held in the Farmer's club which I attended with the Walbrook Warden. We have drafted some general fact-sheets adopted by the Liveries participating. The previous Lord Mayor, this year's Lord Mayor and Alderman Michael Bear are all supporters. There will be a "Wet -10" Debate on 1 March organized largely by the Water Conservators. Jonathan Porritt (Forum for the Future) and Ken Harvey (Chairman of Pennon) will lead the discussion.



Impact in the City - continued

I presented the Water Conservator's Bio-Diversity Prize at the Annual Thames Fisheries experiment in the presence of the Lord Mayor. I have continued the tradition of laying a wreath on Remembrance Sunday at the Merchant Navy Memorial. An event well organized by the Honourable Company of Master Mariners who continue to welcome our support. This year our Livery was selected to be part of the guard of Honour for the Lord Mayor on his arrival at Mansion House. A duty I performed with much pleasure, although as you can see from the accompanying photo we did not lack for water - in fact it was one of the wettest parades on record!



Impact in Our Industry & Science

I am pleased to report that I am in discussion with Brunel University to co-host a joint lecture next year for which we have a promise of industry sponsorship. I hope to finalise the arrangements before the end of the year and advise you about the proposed arrangements in the Spring.

The Court supports my intent to establish a Water Conservator Prize. We have decided to avoid confliction with the Lord Mayor's Sustainable City Awards (18 February). Accordingly I hope to announce the arrangements at the Myddleton lunch and award the prize at the Election Court lunch. The aim will be to involve the Livery in choosing nominees and to enable my successors to build the prestige of the prize and so enhance our Livery moving forward.

- and finally

I am supported by a strong team of Wardens. They and I hope you find these brief notes informative - do please drop me a line or an email should you have other ideas which we and the Court should consider. In the meantime may I wish you and your family a happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

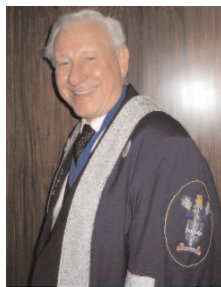
Best wishes

Bob Mark

**THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF WATER CONSERVATORS
WARDENS 2009 - 2010**

Walbrook Warden

Prof. Peter Matthews, Ph. D, FRSC, FCIWEM, is a Chartered Scientist, Environmentalist and Water and Environment Manager. He is now on the Board of the Port of London Authority and Chair



Peter Matthews

of the Northern Ireland Utility Regulator and of the Sustainable Organic Resources Partnership. He is a member of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution and on the governing boards of the Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management, European Water Association and the Society for the Environment, having been the President/Chair of all three. He is Visiting Professor at Anglia Ruskin University, a Past Pitt fellow of Pembroke College Cambridge University and was awarded an OBE in 2007. He runs his own consultancy Pelican Portfolio. He joined the Company in 1996.

Fleet Warden

Barry Dennis has worked in waste and resource management for 44 years and is currently Deputy Chief Executive of the Environmental Services Association, the trade body that represents the waste



Barry Dennis

and resource sector. He holds other directorships of companies related to the sector, and is Vice President of the Chartered Institution of Wastes Management, due to become President in 2010. He became a Freeman and Liveryman in 1985 with the Builders' Merchants Company and joined the Water Conservators in 1999. He was Honorary Treasurer of the Company for several years. Barry is married to Jan and they have 2 sons Toby and Rufus. Barry also has 3 daughters and 4 grandchildren. He played senior amateur football and represented the FA English Schools; he is a playing member of the MCC and held a single figure golf handicap for 40 years.

Thames Warden

Roger Hewitt is a Chartered Engineer, Chartered Waste Manager, Chartered Environmentalist, Companion of the Chartered Management Institute and a Fellow of the



Roger Hewitt

Institution of Mechanical Engineers, the Institution of Civil Engineers, the Institution of Engineering and Technology and of the Chartered Institution of Waste Management. He is also an Honorary Fellow of the Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management. He is currently Executive Chairman of Castle Environmental.

It is customary for the outgoing Master (now the Deputy Master) to report to the Court and members of the Company, the achievements and highlights of the year. Lorna Walker's 'streamlined' review for 2008 - 9 is below: the full version is on the website.

As I took the helm of the Water Conservators, my objectives for the year were to continue to develop the Corporate Strategy and rolling Business Plans, with a particular focus on increasing recruitment and retention of members, achieving a sound financial base and addressing matters of governance and transparency, and, as ever, we aimed to continue to strengthen our links with the City of London, and to develop our charitable works.

The Company was thriving and bursting with new energy when I took over, as the Court had taken a fundamental look at how the Company operated. The development of a new Corporate Strategy and a rolling Business Plan helped to set the stage for the year, in particular the aim of developing a Strategy which will deliver continuity, participation and greater focus to the Company, one of my objectives for the year.

We have taken some best practice ideas from other well established Liveries at the suggestion of one of our most experienced Past Masters to revamp our election process, and ensured that the revised process has a fail-safe mechanism to ensure that an over-70 candidate is properly assessed for competence. The same rules will apply to the over 70s as to any other Liveryman to ensure there is no discrimination. By these means our processes have been enhanced and made more transparent.

Charitable Works

The Trust now supports post graduate students at six universities with bursaries, grants and prizes. This year the Calvert Trust was able to buy a safety boat with our contribution. The boat is to be named "The Water Conservator". Links will be maintained through Frank Jones and Bob Davies. At Ysgol Gogarth, Ivor Richards continues to be our link in supporting the development of the gardens, where there are now polytunnels and paving stones are being installed to enable wheelchair access for the students.

In addition, the Pupils' Prize, which gives support to local schools for environmental education, has been up-dated and re-launched.

Due to the magnificent efforts of Nigel Cartwright to persuade our members and our guests to part with their money after lunch, we raised enough money to sponsor half a taxi for the Company of Hackney Carriage Drivers Magical Mystery Tour to Disney Land in Paris for disabled and ill children.

We had a wonderful evening at the RAF Club with entertainment from the Players to raise money for Treloars and the WCT. My thanks to Bill Halson, for organising the event, the Players for giving their time free and all of you for so generously contributing.

My heartfelt thanks also to Jeff Rasbash and the other trustees for their continuing hard work, dedication and commitment.

Members' Survey

A Members' Survey was carried out to find out the wishes and opinions of all. Over 20% of the Company responded, which gave some interesting insights. The Company is perceived to be friendly, which is excellent because social events are considered to be the most important benefit of membership.

Company Events

The Members' Survey showed us that becoming a Liveryman of the Company and a Freeman of the City of London are seen to be the second greatest benefits of joining the Company. There are many events organised by the City that we are able to attend as Liverymen [see list below] These include the Silent Ceremony, where the current Lord Mayor hands over to the new Lord Mayor and the Lord Mayor's Show.

It has been my privilege to attend many of these and I strongly recommend them to you as part of the City of London's rich history and tradition.

We had many excellent speeches at our lunches and dinners from the world of industry and government, reflecting the theme of "Water and Climate Change."

Once again this year, our cutter, the Water Forget-Me-Not, has performed outstandingly.

With the invaluable assistance of my Bailiff, Bill Halson, we managed, to organise events which are different, less expensive and not always during working hours!

And finally...

I would like to thank my Wardens, Bob Mark, Ian Staniforth and Barry Dennis for all their help and support. I would particularly like to thank Ian, who has reluctantly decided that he will not be able to progress, for his commitment and enthusiasm to the Company. I would also like to thank Peter Matthews for his work as Hon Treasurer, Peter Mullen for his work as Hon Chaplain and Tony Parker, our Beadle for saving me from embarrassment on many occasions!

We could not survive without the good offices of our Clerk, Ralph Riley and I thank him as well.

My Bailiff, Bill Halson, has worked tirelessly, not only organising events and being webmaster, but in trying to keep me on the straight and narrow, and vaguely sane; my thanks to him.

The members of the committees and task groups have committed time, effort and enthusiasm to the Company and I thank them.

I would not have been able to carry out my duties as Master, and enjoy the year without the support of my husband, Gareth and my special thanks to him.

Finally, my thanks to you all, for your continuing support of the Company. It is a very special organisation for fellowship, charity and furthering the aims of the water Industry: we must support and protect it. I have had a wonderful year, being involved in things

I had never imagined and meeting fascinating and interesting people; I know that my successor will enjoy the experience as much as I have!

Lorna Walker

Deputy Master's events 2008-2009

| July 2008 | September 2008 | October 2008 |
|---|--|---|
| Installation Court & Lunch, Saddlers' Hall Paviors' Dinner, Cutlers' Hall The Queen's Garden Party, Buckingham Palace Port of London Challenge, River Thames Jug Presentation, Mansion House | WCWC Governance Meeting, CIWEM FM & GP Committee, Craven Street C & G Committee, Craven Street Modern Companies' Dinner, Furniture Makers' Hall Company Visit, Globe Theatre - Merry Wives of Windsor Michaelmas Court & Lunch, Salters' Hall | Musicians' Evensong, St Paul's Cathedral Security Professionals' Dinner, Guildhall Fish Harvest Festival, St Mary at Hill Scientific Instrument Makers' Dinner, Glaziers' Hall The British Plastics Federation, Royal Lancaster Hotel |
| November 2008 | December 2008 | January 2009 |
| Wreath Laying, St Paul's Cathedral Annual Banquet, Stationers' Hall Lord Mayor's Show, City of London Wreath Laying, Merchant Navy Memorial | Christmas Court Lunch, Tallow Chandlers' Hall Joint Carol Service, St Michael's Church Company Event, Magic Circle | Port Health & Environment, Drapers' Hall Blacksmiths' Lunch, Painters' Hall Myddelton Lunch, Carpenters' Hall Myddelton Service, St Michael's Church Sea Cadets Prize Giving, Maidstone |
| February 2009 | March 2009 | April 2009 |
| Master's Dinner, Athenaeum Constructors' Dinner, Painters' Hall Nominations Committee, St James Square Sustainable City Awards Ceremony, Mansion House Charity Evening, RAF Club | Past Masters' Meeting, The Gherkin WET Dinner, Glaziers' Hall Modern Companies' Dinner, Painters' Hall Central Criminal Court, Central Criminal Court Company Event, Windsor St George's Chapel | 100th Anniversary of the PLA, Mansion House Election Court & Lunch, Cutlers' Hall Fuellers' Lunch, Grocers' Hall Watermen's Lunch, Watermen's Hall |
| May 2009 | June 2009 | July 2009 |
| IT Business Lunch, Skinners' Hall 100 Plus Club, Innholders' Hall Sons of the Clergy, St Paul's Cathedral Gardeners' Dinner, Barbers' Hall Port of London Challenge, River Thames CIWEM Dinner, Drapers' Hall Company Weekend, France | FM & GP Committee, Craven Street C & G Committee, Craven Street Security Professionals' Lunch, Drapers' Hall Visit to Treloar School, Upper Froyle Tudor Pull, River Thames WCWC picnic, St Michael's Church | Installation Court Lunch, Saddlers' Hall |

THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF WATER CONSERVATORS

Balance Sheet as at 30th June 2009

| | | £ |
|--|--------|---------------|
| Fixed Assets | | |
| Tangible Assets | | 6,477 |
| Current Assets | 32,236 | |
| Stocks | 25,432 | |
| Cash at Bank and in hand | 756 | |
| Debtors | ----- | |
| | 58,424 | |
| Current Liabilities | | |
| Falling due within one year | -1,000 | |
| | ----- | |
| Current Assets less Liabilities | 57,424 | 57,424 |
| | | ----- |
| Net Assets | | 63,901 |
| | | ----- |
| Surplus b/f from previous year | | 64,500 |
| Current Surplus (Shortfall) | | -599 |
| | | ----- |
| Surplus to c/f | | <u>63,901</u> |