

Election Court Lunch – Thursday April 17<sup>th</sup> 2008  
Worshipful Company of Cutlers' Hall

120 Members and guests sat down to lunch, the maximum number for the hall. It was an excellent meal with the full complement of good wines and was enjoyed by all.

There were seven Masters from other Livery Companies who, along with their learned and gallant clerks, were welcomed by the Master together with the Warden of Wadham College, Oxford, the Chairman of the Office of Rail Regulation, the Chief Executive of the RSPB and the Editor of Utility Weekly. The main Guest was Mr Ken Harvey, Chairman of the Pennon Group Plc who proposed the toast in water to the Company.

In his speech Mr Harvey pointed out that in his 45 years within the utility sector, he been subjected to regulation in many aspects by both the Energy Regulator and Water Regulator. Among a number of other thoughtful comments, he considered that the Energy Regulator understood the industry that it was regulating much better than the Water Regulator. He cited the demand for the completion of over 400 pages of detailed data each year. He did not know the number of man hours needed to complete it, let alone the use that was made of it. We were privileged to have such a lucid statement of views from someone of such experience.

The event ended with the traditional stirrup cup.