

## Installation Court Lunch

The Worshipful Company of Water Conservators installed its new Master, Ivor Richards, at the Master Mariners Hall based on HQS Wellington on the River Thames in London on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2013. Ivor is the 25th Master Water Conservator and will serve for one year, supported by his three newly elected Wardens: Roger North (Thames Warden), Peter Hall (Fleet Warden) and Keith Tozzi (Walbrook Warden).



*From r to l: Master Ivor Richards;  
Thames Warden, Roger North; Fleet Warden, Peter Hall, Walbrook Warden, Keith Tozzi.*

At the Installation Lunch, following the ceremony, Ivor welcomed his guests, Paul Cutill OBE (Master, Fuellers' Company and his Clerk), John Freestone (Past Master, Master Mariners and their Clerk), Andrew Parmley (Alderman), John Redmond (Master, Watermens' Company and his Clerk) and Maureen Marden (Master, Environmental Cleaners and her Clerk). Ivor had a particular welcome for his Principal Guest, Lord Elis-Thomas (Welsh Assembly) and proposed a toast (in water) to all the guests of the Company.

Lord Elis-Thomas in responding on behalf of the guests, explained his longstanding friendship with Ivor, (dating back to the 1960's), their love of rugby and his support for the essential work of sensitive environmental planning for both reclamation and new construction. Lord Elis-Thomas proposed a toast the Company "Root and Branch, may it flourish for ever".

In responding, Ivor confirmed that both he and Lord Elis-Thomas were from Wales! He reinforced his intention of creating stronger links with Universities during his year and sadly recalled the Aberfan disaster of 1966, where a colliery spoil tip collapsed with tragic loss of life, and explained how it had shaped the rest of his professional career and that of his late wife Marj.

A collection after the lunch raised £875 for the Worshipful Company of Hackney Carriage Drivers' MAGICAL TAXI TOUR to Disneyland Paris in September 2013.

*Keith Tozzi*