

## **WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF WATER CONSERVATORS**

### **Michaelmas Court Lunch at Trinity House**

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2016**



The Michaelmas Lunch is always a great chance to meet up with fellow members following the summer holidays, with tales of travels to many parts of the world. So, Trinity House seems like an appropriate venue to get together at this fine 1796 built, headquarters of the lighthouse service in the heart of the City, with all its marine travelling links.



The Walbrook Warden, Mark Lane, began the more formal proceedings by ably welcoming the guests. Numerous representatives from Livery Companies included the Immediate Past Master and Clerk of the Plumbers Company, the Master Pavior, The Master Environmental Cleaner and his Clerk, The Senior Warden of the Constructors Company and the Master Hackney Driver and his Clerk.

The principal guest, Lord Bell gave a free ranging and entertaining speech with frequent references to his experience in the PR, or as he saw it, the communications world. Having worked with many campaigns and politicians he had plenty of material to draw on, so he was able to relate several tales regarding our first lady Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher. He also took the opportunity to remark on the efficiency

demonstrated by Thames Water in dealing with his personal water supply issues, which was appreciated by the members of Thames Water present at the lunch!

The Master, Keith Tozzi's first duty was to report the installation that morning of the new Fleet Warden, Richard Waller who had been away at the time of the Installation Dinner in Greenwich.

He then introduced 7 new Liverymen - namely Martin Baggs, Simon Dale-Lace, Robert Epsom, Ross Hilliard, Graham Howells, Adam Latimer and Guy Titman as well as the new Freeman John Flannery.

He also welcomed Christine Jarvis who has been installed as the Thames Warden's Bailiff.



For many years the Water Conservators' Charity, the Water Conservators Trust (WCT) has been supporting schools and especially Universities. Each year many post graduates benefit from grants for their research projects. This year the recipients of awards were present at the lunch and they were asked to stand and acknowledge applause for their success. They were Kath Rothwell from Newcastle University; Grant Tregonning from Queen Mary University, London; Billy Coburn from Brunel University and Afzal Ginwalla from Wadham College, Oxford

The Master then explained that many of the Court Members had been involved in the design and manufacture of a float for the Lord Mayor's Show on the 12<sup>th</sup> November, which will have a dramatic 3m high "magic tap" as its centre piece. We are hoping that as many Members and their friends as possible will come along and cheer us on.

In the two and a half months since his Installation the Master has started a number of new initiatives. These include a new recruitment drive within the water companies, re-engagement with the Chartered Institution of Water & Environmental Management, new links with the Society for the Environment and, discussions with City University to develop a new relationship.

As members and guests left the luncheon, Bailiff Dylan Barker organised a collection on behalf of our charity, The Water Conservation Trust. A total of £874 was collected to further aid our work in supporting inner city and special needs schools, as well as post graduates studying subjects relevant to our industry.

*Richard Waller, Fleet Warden*