



September 2015

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The Master completing the Morecambe crossing

## Morecambe Crossing

The Master successfully completed the crossing of Morecambe Bay on 9 August. Although the distance from Arnside to Grange is a mere 2 miles or so, the actual route is about 8 miles, crossing each of the rivers that flow into the bay at their lowest point and then wading back through the marshes on the far side which are famous for supporting the salt-march lamb, a local delicacy. Through the generosity of members and others the walk raised over £1200 plus gift aid for the Charitable Trust.

## New Admissions at the July Court:

**James Pickavance**, Partner, Eversheds (Construction Litigation and Dispute Management);  
**Leigh Belasco**, Belasco Associates Ltd, Imtech UK and Tamesis Joint Venture;  
**Major Mark Gubby**, Officer Commanding, 13 Company, Greater London ACF (SW Sector)

## Buxton week-end, 17-19 July 2015

Members of the Company enjoyed a wonderful week-end in Buxton in fine July weather, staying at the historic Old Hall Hotel in which Mary Queen of Scots resided during her incarceration under the care of the Earl of Shrewsbury in the 1570s. The Buxton Festival was in full swing and members attended many different events from plays and recitals to Morris Dancing in the streets. The highlights were two performances at the splendidly restored Opera House of Verdi's early work *Giovanna d'Arco* on Friday and Donizetti's masterpiece *Lucia di Lammermoor* on Saturday, both well reviewed in the National press. Our hotel was just across the road, allowing the opera-goers to take a split dinner, with dessert, coffee and conversation continuing until late.



*Hilary Goodridge, Sue Bastone, Kate Wilson and other Company members and partners enjoying coffee and a final glass of wine after the Opera at the Old Hall Hotel. Particular thanks are due to Assistants David Wilson (above, right) and Bob Sliwinski who undertook the bulk of the organization, all of which proved to be spot-on.*

## New Court Assistants at the July Court

We are delighted to announce two new Court Assistants: Ken McLean, a maritime arbitrator and the Company's liaison officer with HMS Mersey, and Dr Chris McArdle who has spearheaded the Company's very successful pupillage scheme. Ken also has an HGV licence which allowed him to drive the Company's float in the Lord Mayor's show in 2013.



Court Assistants Ken McLean and Chris McArdle with the Master

## Forthcoming Events

The Election of the new Lord Mayor, which is reserved for Liverymen, takes place at Guildhall on 29th September, followed by lunch at Stationers' Hall.

**Members are also reminded that booking for the Company's Charity Concert on 6th October is open. This special event is at the historic Charterhouse and features notable works by Mozart performed by renowned soloists. Please show your support by attending the evening.**

### Don't miss:

There will be a visit to the Magic Circle on 17th November (7pm). The evening offers a history of magic, close-up conjuring and a magical stage show provided by some of the club's top magicians. Entry price is £34 pp. Further details will be on the website.

## Chartered Institute Centenary Dinner

On 15 September the Master and Wardens led a good turn-out from the Company at the CI Arb-Livery dinner to celebrate the Institute's centenary. The Master Surveyor, Graham Chase and the Master Solicitor, Dame Fiona Woolf, both Liverymen of our company, were in attendance, with Sheriffs Andrew Parmley and Fiona Adler. After speeches from the Master and from Charles Brown, president of the CI Arb, the two Sheriffs gave us a stand-up double act which brought the house down. Apparently they perform together on only very special occasions!

## In Memoriam

With much regret we record the passing of a number of friends and colleagues.

Liveryman Barbara Calvert QC, Lady Lowry, died in July. Barbara was a major figure in promoting women at the Bar. Her first Husband, John Calvert, was a civil engineer who also sat as an arbitrator.

Past Master Francis Goodall died in August. He was Master in 1994 in succession to Sir Ian Percival QC. After a successful career as an architect as expert witness Francis had re-located to South Africa where he died.

Barry Hall, who had been a Liveryman since 1987, sadly died in June.

With regret we note the sudden death just a few weeks ago of Betty, for many years the devoted wife and companion of our Founder clerk Bertie Vigrass. Betty and Bertie were remembered with affection at the CI Arb-Livery dinner on 15 September.

Past Master Andrew Drysdale died at his Somerset home, on 3rd September 2015 aged 83. After being commissioned into the KRRC he worked in the City in the insurance sector. We last saw Andrew and Merida in May when they participated enthusiastically in the Company's trip to the First World War battle fields. There will be a service of thanksgiving at 2.00 pm on 29<sup>th</sup> October at St Mary's The Virgin, Silver Street Bruton, Somerset BA10 0EF.

We send our condolences to all the families.

## Letters to the Editor – Past Master James Mackie writes as follows:

During the Company's recent visit to Ypres and the Western Front Battlefields of Flanders, we attended the Remembrance Ceremony at the Menin Gate. I found myself in the crowd together with a group of retired senior NCO's from the Scots Guards. I asked them if they knew of Drum Major Brian Abethell who had been the first Beadle of our Livery Company. They immediately responded by saying that he was very well known and respected and had led the Band on many overseas tours and functions. He now has a memorial plaque in the Guards Chapel at Wellington Barracks which is most unusual for an NCO. He retired from the Company in 1998 and died in about 2003 and his funeral was organised by the Scots Guards in Kent

### FINALLY

And with sadness we must report the resignation of our clerk, Elinor, effective from December. We are in the process of recruiting a replacement and will welcome applications or suggestions for suitable persons to approach.

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The Worshipful Company of Arbitrators  
Incorporated by Royal Charter

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