

# NEWSLETTER



July 2013

[www.arbitratorscompany.org](http://www.arbitratorscompany.org)



Past Master John Rushton  
1950-2013

## Members' News

Common Hall, the Company's annual general meeting, took place at Tallow Chandlers' Hall on the evening of 11<sup>th</sup> April.

**Derek Ross** was elected to be Master from October 2013.

**John Uff** was elected to be Senior Warden and **Michael Goodridge** as Junior Warden.

**Robert Sliwinski** and **David Steward** were elected as Court Assistants.

## Dates for your diary

### Friday – Sunday 26-28 July

Visit to HMS Mersey in Liverpool during the Ship's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations

### Tuesday 10 September

Evening Musical Tour of Charterhouse

### Monday 30 September

Election of the new Lord Mayor at Guildhall

Further details of all events, with details of how to book your place can be found in the Members' area on the company website,  
[www.arbitratorscompany.org](http://www.arbitratorscompany.org)

## Past Master John Rushton

At the Installation Dinner last October I made mention of Past Master John Rushton recording my personal gratitude for the support and encouragement he had given me. Even last October it was clear that John's health was failing and so whilst his death in May was not unexpected it is still a cause of great sadness for those who knew him and for the whole Company. We have lost a wise counsellor. A more formal tribute will appear in the next Newsletter but I want to take this opportunity to look at the example he set.

He was a hard working member of the Court and an exceptional and generous Master. His gifts, small and large, were usually anonymous – typical of his modesty. He was a tireless advocate of the Company's charitable works: a trustee and chairman of our charitable trusts, always seeking to encourage contributions.

Perhaps less well known is the many hours of time he gave to supporting disadvantaged school children in the Inner London Boroughs through the Financial Literacy initiative and the Livery Schools Link. In addition he was keen that the Company should play its part in the supporting the wider community: he was the driving force behind our affiliation with HMS Mersey. He also encouraged us to play a full part in supporting the City and the Lord Mayor through his early championing of the Financial Services Group of Livery Companies.

At the Mansion House banquet in 2009 when making the civic toast John made play of the letters in the Lord Mayor's surname: L U D E R pointing out that they formed an acronym for what he felt should be a guiding principle for all the Company's activity namely "Let Us Do Everything Right". As we remember John's life and his contribution perhaps every member of the Company might want to reflect on how they respond to his challenge.

*Karl Davies*  
Master

## HMS Mersey – 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Our affiliated ship was launched on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2003 and this year she is holding a celebratory weekend in Liverpool to mark her 10<sup>th</sup> birthday. The Ship's Company have issued an invitation to Members of the Company and their family and guests to the 'birthday party' on Friday evening 26<sup>th</sup> July. On Saturday afternoon there will be a private visit to the ship followed by an evening cocktail party. The Programme Committee are coordinating arrangements and details will be issued shortly. Do please make every effort to support HMS Mersey and her crew and to join in the celebrations.

## The Company's Charity

The Charitable Trust faces challenges. The Trustees are anxious to support the Company's charitable objectives, and to support causes that catch the imagination of its members, so that they will donate more funds to do good. The Lord Mayor's appeal is supported each year as well as education and training in arbitration and in alternative forms of private dispute resolution for prizes, scholarships and research. For example prizes are provided for the Annual Mediation Skills competition and the International Maritime Law Arbitration Moot.

The Trust is administered by a group of trustees which always includes The Master and the Senior Warden, with the immediate Past Master as an observer. As from October this year Philip Fidler will be taking over as Chairman.

What do you think your Charity should be supporting? Please contact the Chairman of the Trustees.

## Common Hall – Thursday 11 April 2013

The Master gave a short report about the current year highlighting some of the ways the Company was responding to the Royal Charter.

Common Hall was followed by an informative presentation about the work of the Financial Services Group of Livery Companies given by their Chairman Karen Richardson a Past master of the Solicitors' Company. The evening was rounded off with a drinks reception and closed with the Beating Retreat by musicians from 13 Company Greater London ACF.



## Charter Commemoration Banquet at Mansion House

Members and their guests enjoyed what some have described as the 'best meal ever' in the wonderful setting of the Egyptian Room at the



Mansion House. Guests of the Company included Sir Michael Briggs, newly appointed to the Court of Appeal, and Lady Briggs; Lord Tim Clement-Jones London Managing Partner of DLA Piper; Sir Peter Cresswell and The Hon Sir

William Blair who proposed the toast to the Company. Those members not able to attend missed an excellent evening with highly entertaining speeches by Sir William and by Alderman & Sheriff Jeffrey Evans who was representing the Lord Mayor and was accompanied by his wife and by Sheriff Nigel Pullman. As always Ken Tappenden with his usual panache as Master of Ceremonies kept the whole evening running smoothly.

## Visit to the Tower of London

About 40 Members and guests accompanied our Master on a visit to the Tower of London on the chilly and wet summer evening of June 12. This was not an ordinary tourists' visit, but a special one, which culminated in the 'Ceremony of the Keys', which only relatively few people are able to see. Visit the Company's website for the full story.



## Consorts' Lunch

The first Luncheon for the Consorts of Freemen and Liverymen of the Company was held on 14th June 2013 at Brewers' Hall, hosted by Joy Davies, the Master's Consort, with Dame Janet Smith as the Guest Speaker.

After the lunch and toasts, Joy spoke about how consorts might support the Company in the future and, in particular, contribute to fund-raising activities. She invited consorts to contact her with ideas in the following days so please do so, whether or not you were able to attend.

Dame Janet regaled those present with a delightful speech, both amusing and informative. For the full story visit the Company's website.

The Worshipful Company of Arbitrators  
Incorporated by Royal Charter

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