

NEWSLETTER



The Worshipful
Company of
Arbitrators

April 2012

www.arbitratorscompany.org



Hew Dundas - Master

Members News

LIVERYMEN AND FREEMEN

At the April Court Meeting on 19 April 2012, Christopher Gilbert was admitted as a Freeman.

Following the recent **Introduction Evening** the Company had five applications for membership.

Don't miss:

THE ROYAL CHARTER BANQUET

Wednesday 14th May 2012

The event will take place at Plaisterer's Hall and His Royal Highness Prince Michael of Kent, GCVO, will be presenting the Company with its Royal Charter on behalf of Her Majesty The Queen

THE ANNUAL CONCERT

Wednesday 13th June 2012

This will take place (as usual) at St Mary-le-Bow with (provisionally) five performers, including "our very own" Mike Gifkins, giving a wide variety of music.

THE MASTER'S MESSAGE

I write these words a mere 70 hours away from the Company's Royal Charter being sealed by the Crown Office upon which it comes into legal force and we cease being (in legal terms) a "club/association" i.e. no different in principle from a golf or chess club) and become instead a "Company Incorporated by Royal Charter" as opposed to being "Incorporated under the Companies Acts " etc. This is powerfully reinforced by the opening words of the Charter " ELIZABETH THE SECOND by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Our other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith. ... NOW THEREFORE KNOW YE THAT WE by virtue of Our Royal Prerogative in that behalf and of all other powers enabling Us so to do of Our Especial grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion do hereby for Us, Our Heirs and Successors will grant, direct, appoint and declare as follows: ..." On re-reading this today, my response is (although I have been living with the Charter for 18 months) WOOOOOW !!!!

However, the possession of a Royal Charter brings with it a significant reinforcement of our obligations . Our new objects are twofold with the two interlocking closely: first, the Company exists to foster the profession of arbitration and other forms of private dispute resolution and, secondly, to exercise the role of a Livery Company within the traditions of the City of London and particularly to support the Lord Mayor, the Sheriffs and the Aldermen. These are onerous obligations but are ones that we have been living up to for over 31 years even if the bar has now been raised and we have to "up our game" in all aspects of the Company's existence.

I, the Wardens and the Court are wholly confident that you, whether Liveryman or Freeman, will play your part in the New Era which starts on Tuesday 24th April 2012.

THE MASTER'S LECTURE

On 14 March the Rt Hon Sir Bernard Rix (Lord Justice Rix in his day job !) delivered the 2012 Master's Lecture entitled "The Arbitration Act 1996 – 15 Years On" to a full house in the offices of Herbert Smith LLP. In a veritable tour de force, Sir Bernard's Lecture (to be published on the website and in "ARBITRATION" shortly) combined deep intellect, meticulously-researched scholarship and a great deal of that legendary Rixian character and wit, not least because Sir Bernard had sat in so many of the leading cases in recent years including (most recently) *Dallah* and *Ust-Kamenogorsk*. While it is presumptuous to attempt to summarise a 70-minute masterpiece in a very few words, one could infer that the 1996 Act is in good shape and is functioning very much as intended (the Master hopes that he can say the same in Scotland in 2025 !). Only time will tell whether or not Sir Bernard's discourse will become THE definitive 15 year status review but it will certainly live long in the minds of those privileged to have been present. Sir Bernard – the Company owes you a huge Vote of Thanks.

THE SPRING LUNCHEON

Approximately 60 attended the Spring Luncheon on 19th April in the splendid surroundings of Tallow Chandlers Hall and enjoyed an excellent occasion. The Master based the Luncheon on a naval/maritime theme to reflect his being a Liveryman of the Shipwrights and having been elected to the Master Mariners, in each case based on his own nautical involvements and connections. The guests include Lt Cdr Sarah Oakley QCVS RN (the incoming commander of HMS Mersey), the Master Master Mariner, Captain Terry Jewell, and the Earl of Cork and Orrery, not only a former Lt Cdr in one of Her Majesty's nuclear submarines but also the great-great-nephew of a particularly distinguished Admiral of the Fleet in the 1940s.

CONTINUED.....

Dates for your diary:

ELECTION OF SHERIFFS

Monday 25th June 2012

ANNUAL CHURCH SERVICE AT ST
MARY-LE-BOW

Wednesday 11th July 2012

COURT MEETING, ANNUAL
SERVICE AND INFORMAL SUPPER
AT A VIETNAMESE RESTAURANT

Wednesday 11th July 2012

MASTER'S WEEKEND IN
EDINBURGH

**Friday 21-Sunday 23 September
2012**

ELECTION OF THE LORD MAYOR

Monday 1st October 2012

COURT MEETING, COMMON HALL
& INSTALLATION DINNER

Thursday 25th October 2012

Further details of all events, with
details of how to book your place can
be found on the company website,
www.arbitratorscompany.org

FINANCIAL SERVICES GROUP OF LIVERY COMPANIES

We are one of the twelve modern livery companies involved in financial and professional services that form this group. The FSG's primary role is to provide a focus of support for the Lord Mayor and the City authorities in their activities to promote globally London and the UK. The Group's most recent meeting was addressed by Mark Boleat (the Deputy Chairman of the City's Policy and Resources Committee). In a wide ranging conversation he raised topics about the vulnerability of the City to criticism such as that of the 'Occupy' campaigners. Mr Boleat suggested that Livery Companies need to think about ensuring they are inclusive and that they focus their educational and charitable support more towards disadvantaged young people for example some of those in the inner London Boroughs.

The Principal Guest was Read-Admiral Sir Jeremy de Halpert KCVO CB whose incisive, informative and witty speech (available on the website) drew on his 36 years service in the Royal Navy including service in the Falklands War, followed by ten years as Deputy Master (to HRH The Duke of Edinburgh) of Trinity House.

Among the other guests were the Master Tallow Chandler, Sir Christopher Pryke Bt, whose great-grandfather was Lord Mayor of London in 1925, the Master Educator, Peter Briggs OBE and the Master Builders Merchant, Graham Ballinger.

Demonstrating that the world is small, Sir Jeremy's service in the Falklands in 1982 resonated both with our very own Assistant Christopher Gardner QC, Chief Justice of the Falklands Islands, but also with the outgoing commander of HMS Mersey, Lt Cdr Mark Anderson RN, who will shortly take up a new command in the Falklands Islands.

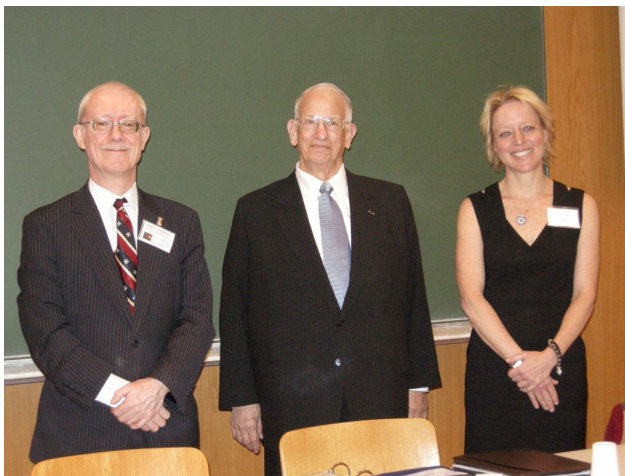
AFFILIATION WITH THE ARMY CADETS

The Court has recently agreed that the Company should form an affiliation with 13 COMPANY, GREATER LONDON ARMY CADET FORCE, SOUTH WEST SECTOR. The ACF is one of the country's largest voluntary youth organisations. It is also one of the oldest and celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2010. It accepts boys and girls from the age of 12 of all abilities and backgrounds. The intention is to help them develop physically, mentally and socially through exposure to a broad range of activities. Some of the activities have a military theme, others have more of a community focus and all seek to provide challenging and educational development in an exciting and adventurous setting. 13 Company is based around Balham and has eight detachments (local units). We are looking forward to developing our support, including through visits, prizes and awards and finding opportunities to showcase the cadets. One such opportunity will be at the Charter Banquet when the Cadet Corps of Drums will be on parade and some of the senior cadets will help with stewarding.

THE WILLEM C VIS ARBITRATION MOOT, VIENNA

The 19th Vis Moot was a huge success with 285 teams from 71 countries participating and, in all, approximately 2,500 people (student participants, coaches, arbitrators (nearly 1,000), administrators and others) were involved. The general consensus in Vienna was that this was a Truly Great Vis Moot, partly because of the record participation including several countries appearing for the first time, partly because of the very high standards. Liverymen Murray Armes (in Vienna) and Paul Rose (in HK) made outstanding contributions as arbitrators.

After 6 days of arguments, the Final Panel (Mr Yu Jianlong (Secretary General of CIETAC), Professor Kaj Hobér (Sweden) and Sally Harpole (USA/Hong Kong) heard a close-fought argument between NALSAR (Hyderabad, India) and UCL (London) in which NALSAR narrowly prevailed. Both teams were, unquestionably, outstanding but only one of them could win.



The Master taking part as arbitrator in one of the semi finals