



WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF ARBITRATORS

ARMORIAL BEARINGS

The Company's Armorial Bearings (or Coat of Arms) were granted by Letters Patent on 20th April 1983. They are formally described in the historic language of the College of Arms as:

Ermine a Chief checky Vert and Or overall a Sword in pale point downwards Gules pendent from the hilt by a Ring and surmounting the guillons by its beam a Balance also Gules

And for the Crest upon a Helm with a Wreath Or and Vert Out of the top of a Tower Gules masoned Argent a double-headed Lion Gules supporting a Torch checky Vert and Or rimmed Gules and enflamed proper, Mantled Vert doubled Or.

Supporters: Two Dragons Ermine winged Gules, Collared checky Or and Vert their forelegs Argent and each supporting by the outer foreleg and angled to the Shield a Portcullis chained Gold the Compartment comprising a flight of stone steps proper the middle tier incised with the motto 'Law and Custom'.

The features and colours of the Coat of Arms do not have specific meanings but certain allusions and inferences can be made.

Green and gold (Vert and Or) are the Company's livery colours. The chequered pattern is said to refer to exchequer and hence money or commerce. Several features reflect the fact that we are a Livery Company of the City of London: the use of the City's colours of red and white or more correctly silver (gules and argent); the Tower in the crest; the stone steps and the Dragons as supporters. The Dragons have been 'differenced' from those of the City of London by the addition of Collars in the Company's colours and by the marking with Ermine spots. Ermine, the fur used to refer to the law, also features on the Shield. The Sword and Scales are the tradition symbols of justice and the Portcullis can be said to represent Westminster Hall, the original location of the Law Courts and to refer to the modern Parliament whose Acts govern the manner in which Arbitrators function.

The Crest features a doubled headed lion - one able to see both sides - and mirrors a similar lion used as one of the Supporters in the Arms of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. The torch, shown in the Company's livery, is a traditional symbol of learning and education.