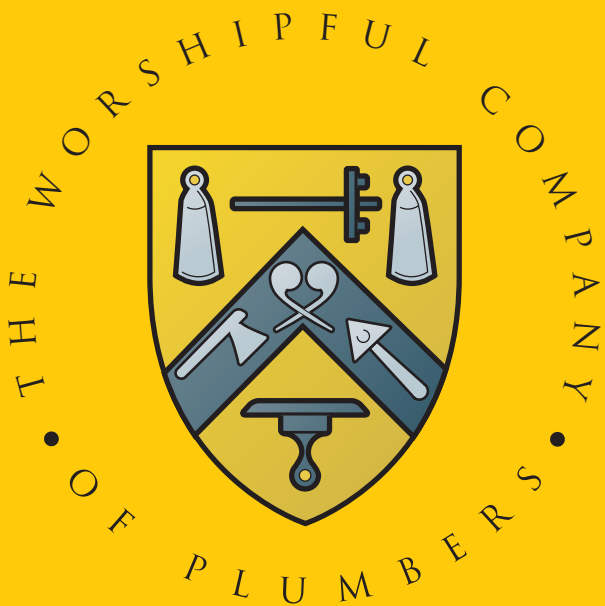


ANNUAL REVIEW 2024



An ancient Company
with a modern purpose

WELCOME TO THE NEW MASTER

By Charles Brooks

Introduction and thanks

I am truly honoured to be elected as Master of this ancient Livery Company. It is an enormous privilege for which I thank you all.

I am proud to be supported by Penny, the Mistress Plumber. She has been a huge support for over 40 years now, and I am not sure I could have taken on this commitment without her. We have thoroughly enjoyed the warmth and fellowship of the Plumbers over the last 13 years. We will do our very best to represent you in the year ahead.

I have learned so much from the Masters I have served as a Warden, PM Paul Nash and IPM David Adams. They have both represented the Company in an exemplary manner and increased its profile and effectiveness in the City and in industry generally. Thank you, David and Kathy, for a memorable year.

I am grateful and relieved to have the experience of Sandra Raine and Janet Rivers as Wardens for the year ahead. May the watery connections of Brooks, Rivers and Raine flourish over the coming year!



Master and Mistress with the plumbers Team at the Lord Mayor's Show

Events

The 2024/25 Calendar of Events has now been published and you will also find details on our Website. May I highlight a couple.

The Annual Lecture in May will focus on UK river water quality — what are the issues, how did we get ourselves into the current mess, what needs to be done to protect our rivers in the future and ensure their water

quality. Given that this is all so topical and in the news at the moment I hope we will see an engaging, interesting and fun evening.

The Master's Break between 17 and 19 June will be in North Hampshire close to where I was born and still live.

Penny and I have been working on a varied and enjoyable programme of Social Events for our year. We will be visiting the Royal Observatory, the Gunmakers and the London Proof House, the London Archives (formerly known as the London Metropolitan Archives) where we should be able to see our old deeds, to Amberley Museum to see our Plumbing Museum and Workshop Trust in operation and lastly to the Royal Kennel Club. Penny and I recently enjoyed a marvellous day at the Gin Building in Amberley with our Museum colleagues learning how to cast lead, and I wish to support that part of our Livery, our Heritage and our Craft, as best I can.

Themes

My aims for the year are to promote the theme that holds us as a Company together, namely Fellowship. I would love to see more of our Liverymen and women becoming more involved in the Company's affairs. This can mean many things, from serving on Committees and working groups, to attendance at our major events and at our Social Events, to joining in or supporting our sporting events, to volunteering particularly if you



Master serving soup to the Senior Steward at the Ladle Dinner

can offer some time to support our Craft at our Museum in Amberley. I am very conscious of the tough economic climate that will not make it easy for anyone. The Membership Committee is crucial in this regard, with its working groups looking at initiatives to ensure the retention of Liverymen, to engage them and win their commitment, quite apart from our need to ensure a healthy level of recruitment of new members, so as to maintain the lifeblood of the Company. We can all play our roles in this regard, and I can but urge you to think about how and where you can offer your support.

My other aim is to continue to support our initiatives with youth, particularly through the Plumbing Professional Development Scheme (PPDS), run jointly with the CIPHE, our Bursary scheme, and not forgetting our affiliations with and support of the Military and Cadet movement. Although we are an ancient Livery we must look to the next generation to ensure the future of our Craft as well as of our Livery Company.

The team and the future

We have big changes afoot over the next 12 months. Sadly, Adrian Mumford retired as our Clerk after the Ladle Dinner and will take over the accounting side of the Company, whilst Debbie Abergil, our bookkeeper, will be promoted to Clerk. They have both been fantastic in their

support and organisation of the Company for many years, and we wish them both well for their future positions. The one constant is Peter our Beadle who we could not do without. I much look forward to working with them all.

We have a superb group of Stewards, who work so hard both behind the scenes and up front at events and who keep Masters on the straight and narrow! I am most grateful to Kevin Thomas who has accepted the role of Senior Steward in succession to the excellent Philippa Stary who continues as Webmaster.

Carpenters' Hall will be undergoing major refurbishments towards the end of 2025 and so we are going to have to move offices which we are planning for next summer. There will be more to follow on that as we progress our plans and negotiations over the coming months.

I will do my best to keep you informed of my activities as Master throughout the year via the Clerk and the Website but I do hope to see you on a regular basis throughout the coming year. Penny and I are looking forward enormously to our year, so please do join us at our events. The Plumbers Company has a reputation as being the Friendly Company so let us keep that mantra going by having fun and enjoying fellowship and companionship.



Master and Mistress Charles and Penny Brooks at the Installation Lunch



Master with CEO CIBSE, Chair of SOPHE and Assistant Kevin Wellman CEO CIPHE



Master at Remembrance event at St Paul's

REFLECTIONS ON THE MASTER'S YEAR

By David Adams

A colourful year of camaraderie and change

In a flash our year as Master and Mistress Plumber has ended! An amazing experience we would not have missed for the world. It has been an honour to serve you.

Leadership

Leadership includes giving great people space to get new things done. I applaud many Liverymen, amongst them Martin Shouler (PPDS, coffee colloquy), Michael Cooper (plaque project) Kevin Wellman (virtual lecture), Graham Setterfield (Plumbers' lecture), Kevin Thomas (reserves project), Julie Spinks (Plumber of the Year competitions), and Damon Reynolds (climate initiative).

Peter Cheesman ably led the Amberley demonstrators to produce the King's and Queen's planters for Sandringham. Subsequently they manufactured 70 commemorative planters.

It's been a healthy recruitment year with 25 new Liverymen! I thank John Wilson for causing many new members to join.

International and environmental

My theme was to take an international, environmental stance to promote better water. Dr Susanne Surman-Lee and Martin



Master and Mistress with the Wardens and Clerk at the Old Bailey with Alderwoman Dame Susan Langley

Shouler spoke at the Coffee Colloquy 'Clean Water and Sanitation for All'; Kevin Wellman addressed 'Global Warming, Energy Costs, Water Poverty — The Need for Green Plumbing' in the Lord Mayor's lecture; Gareth Owen, Save The Children, stressed the importance of clean water after global disasters at our Annual Lecture; his colleague, Rachel Cummings, moved us reporting from the Gaza front-line.

I thank my four guest speakers at our major events for their expert multinational perspectives.

Pan-livery

We raised our contribution to mayoral/ pan-livery affairs. The Lord Mayor, Michael Mainelli, exchanged ideas with our Court members in July, and joined us celebrating Past Master John Rae's fifty years on the Court.

We reviewed the Construction Livery Group's purpose, and your former Master facilitated a lively Q&A session at the inaugural 'London 2030 Skyline' Symposium. Michael Cooper upgraded the Plumbers' contribution to the Pro-Bono Group.



Master and Mistress enjoying a Thames Cruise as guests of the Master and Mistress Water Conservators



The Master with Past Master Brian Wadsworth meeting the Queen at a function for Medical Detection Dogs.

A new Plumbers' working group, led by Damon Reynolds and Patty Grant, is focussed upon how the Company will meet its climate responsibilities.

Charity

I am grateful to the Charity Committee, touched by what we heard at the Plumbers' Lecture, for making a major donation to Save the Children.

Medical Detection Dogs celebrated its 15th Anniversary this year at Clarence House. I was honoured to speak briefly with Queen Camilla about 'Plum', the dog we sponsor; Plum was a star that day demonstrating her olfactory skills.

Our Charity's grant giving has increased significantly with a focus on clean water and sanitation projects, balancing UK and international causes, and we applaud its work.

Young people

The Plumbing Professionals Development Scheme (PPDS) was launched. Working jointly with CIPHE, we offer training and mentoring to early-career professionals.

One member, Ruben Duggan, won the Plumbing Silver Medal at the World Skills Competition.

The Plumbers now sponsor the HIP 'Learner of the Year' and 'Female Skills' competitions; Julie Spinks and I attended the Finals Days where we saw top-class skills displayed. Both competitions were won by a female young plumber as our trade strives for greater diversity. Liveryman Jerry Whiteley was the lead judge for both competitions.

The socials, the stewards, the island

At the very heart of our Company is warm camaraderie when we meet together. We found every event, formal and informal, memorable! We thank all the Stewards, led by Philippa Stary Senior Steward, whose dedication has ensured our programme was rolled out with amiable assurance.

The Master's Break on the IOW was blessed by sunshine, and fifty folks had fun! We have fond memories, like exploring Yarmouth Lifeboat, Adrian's playing at Quarr Abbey, cutting the ribbon at Isle of Wight College for their new plumbing workshops and seeing committed leaders and students in action.



Mistress enjoying a stein of beer at the Bavarian Ball, Mansion House

Miscellaneous highlights

Some memorable highlights amongst our 200+ activities. The Mistress: sipping champagne at 7.45 AM in the Butchers' roof garden after visiting Smithfield Market, private lunch with the Lady Mayoress. The Master: the Banquet for the King & Queen, veterans pouring lead, teamwork afloat in Cowes, excellence at RSME Chatham; Sir Paul Nurse asking me to fix his sink! Together: Adrian's anthem for our Installation, lederhosen & dirndl at the Bavarian Ball, Sheriffs' hospitality at the Old Bailey, glorious Christmas choirs at Brigantes in Carlisle Cathedral; sixty-five guests loving our City Churches Walk despite pouring rain!

Gratitude and good wishes

Kathy and I would have been lost without the guidance of the office team. Adrian, Debbie, and Sharon, thank you so much. Our sincere gratitude to Peter the Beadle and to Father Philip as well. And warm thanks to Philippa Stary (Webmaster) and James Dalton for expertly managing web communications and SM postings.

Finally, my heartfelt appreciation to UW Charles, RW Sandra, and SA Janet, who kept me in order and showed great patience! Kathy and I wish our new Master & Mistress, Charles & Penny Brooks, all happiness and success in their year. They will do an excellent job for this 'ancient company with a modern purpose'.



Master with the Wardens and Corporal Sam Prescott (RSME and Plumbers' Award Winner) at the Royal Engineers' Museum, Chatham

THE PLUMBERS CHARITY 2024

The Plumbers Charity is changing lives for the better in everything we do!

Our vision is to promote:
Better Plumbers, Better Plumbing,
Better Health and Better Lives

We continue our focus in making a real difference to the lives of people both here in the UK and internationally, through our support of projects that improve the provision of clean water, sanitation, improving public health and community welfare.

All achieved through your wonderful support and donations!

In 2024, with your valued support, we have delivered some life changing projects both in the UK and abroad and have supported various charities in the City of London.



We continue our support of the excellent charity through our sponsorship of medical detection dog Plum, who is part of a team of four dogs who work in the Community Medical Detection Dogs project, to assist in the detection of urinary tract

infections (UTI) in the community. Plum has also aided Research and Development and Continuation Training, using her amazing nose in the organisation's specially built Bio-Detection facility.



Our second project with Just a Drop has now been completed, providing 45 bio-sand water filters to the Ta Tork and Trapeang Svey villages in Cambodia. Over 2,000 people now have access to a supply of water as well as having received comprehensive hygiene training and education.

We have just confirmed our third project with them in Nicaragua, keep an eye on our Charity webpage for progress updates.



In 2024, we confirmed a new 3-year partnership with Aquabox, who provide emergency water filters across the globe where access to clean water has been affected by natural disasters or conflict. Through our support, Aquabox

have upgraded their manufacturing workshop to double the output of their amazing water filters from 3,000 to 6,000 filters so they can support even more people in need, called Project Aquaboost!

village by village

We have been supporting Village by Village, for several years, with the work they do providing clean water and sanitation for villages across Ghana, and also essential training on the maintenance of the facilities and basic hygiene training.

Our support has also enabled them to demonstrate to thousands of children how to correctly wash their hands with soap and running water after going to the toilet, and before cooking, and thereby very cost effectively reducing potential illness and saving lives. It allows children from remote rural villages to dream bigger by giving them more time to access education because they are spending less time collecting water for their families and given children from remote rural villages access to primary health care.



Continuing our work with the Dolma Foundation in the Dhunche region of Nepal. Using some of the plumbers from our first Plumbers Training project, we have funded a scheme to install freshwater tanks, and delivery pipes, and taps to the village of Thade, and 150 households now have access to water, up to 10,000 litres per day. Battling through the monsoons, the project took a little longer than expected, but it is great to see the smiling faces of the villagers whose lives are now improved with the delivery of a safe and reliable water source, something that we take for granted.



A YEAR IN PICTURES



Master's Break to the Isle of Wight



Plumbers' Table at Ironmongers Hall



Visit to the Museum of the Home at Hoxton



Our team for the Pancake Races



Our team at the Inter-Livery Charity Clay Shoot



The office team enjoying Christmas Lunch



The staff of 23(RE) Detachment Army Cadets with Paul Nash



The Master 'driving' sheep across Southwark Bridge



St Michael Medallion holders together at the Ladle Dinner



Lunch at Stationers' Hall to celebrate the election of the Lord Mayor



Inter-Livery Rifle Shooting event at Bisley



Master and Clerks Lunch at Carpenters Hall



Visit to Crossness Pumping Station



Visit to the Royal Albert Hall



The Lord Mayor meeting members of the Court prior to the July 2024 meeting at Haberdashers Hall



Plumbers Golf Society retain the Newson-Smith Cup



The Master and his family enjoying the hovercraft ride on the Master's Break



The Master with Award Winners from Isle of Wight College



Master and Mistress at the Inter-Livery Sailing Regatta



Enjoying the visit to Reigate Priory Cricket Club



Alderman Alison Gowman and the Master at Training Awards



Our sailing crew at the Inter-Livery Sailing Regatta



Master and Mistress at Bavarian Ball, Masion House



Brigantes Winter Gathering in Carlisle



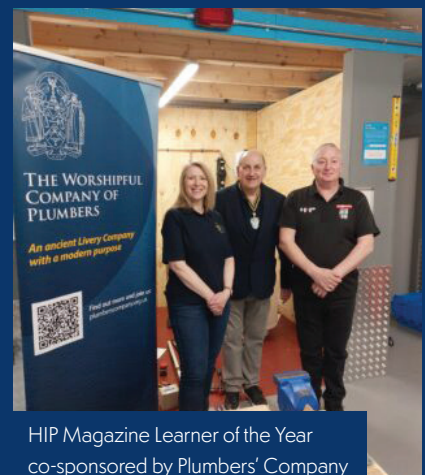
Visit to the Plumber's Apprentice at Cannon Street Station



The Plumbers' stand at the Installers Show at NEC



Master awarding the Freedom of the Company to the best student from HMS Sultan



HIP Magazine Learner of the Year co-sponsored by Plumbers' Company

FREEDOM AND LIVERY COMMITTEE

The prime function of the Freedom and Livery Committee, the Company's "Senior Committee", is to provide overall strategic guidance to the Court and the other committees, and to ensure they follow the principles of its aims and objectives as laid down in the Company's Charter and Ordinances.

Following the review of the Company's Strategic Plan, the strategic actions arising from it were prioritized, with the principal ones highlighted. These will be kept under continuous review and the top three were identified as maintaining Court governance, keeping all the committees fresh by reviewing their actions and governance, and continuing to improve communications.

Appointment of and mentoring of Court members is a key aspect of Court governance and, as happens from time-to-time, some adjustments to the sequence of appointing Masters and Wardens were agreed. Invariably changes to individual's personal and professional circumstances have to be accommodated to maintain a healthy Court succession. We were also delighted to appoint Liveryman Julie Spinks, the Managing Director of Water Regs UK, as a new Court Assistant.

The Coronation Planters, designed in conjunction with the Gardeners' Company, to celebrate the coronation of



Queen Camilla's planter

King Charles III and Queen Camilla were created by our outstanding volunteers at the Plumbers' Museum Workshop in Amberley and delivered to Sandringham House. We hope to be able to formally present them to Their Majesties on a suitably agreed date.

We will have to move offices in 2025, probably in August, as Carpenters' Hall is closing for refurbishment and new offices have been identified in Painter-Stainers' Hall. This will involve some downsizing and a review of all our treasures and stocks is underway to ensure we will fit comfortably in our new location. Our new landlords will be completely refurbishing the new offices for us.

While on the subject of our office location, an earlier Plumbers' Hall has been discovered. It was used prior to the one in Chequer Yard, which we have marked with a plaque and statue at Cannon Street Station. This earlier Hall was leased from the Vintners' Company for over a century and sat in Anchor Lane adjacent to their Hall. Discussions are ongoing to mark this with another plaque at that location.

Continuing on an historical theme, all our ancient Court records are being transcribed to make them much more readily accessible and this has been completed up to the year 1798. Work continues on this into the 19th Century records.

Looking forward, we have signed up to support the City of London initiative to make the City carbon neutral by 2050. We are looking at where we can most bring influence to bear, particularly through our links with the plumbing and heating industry.

Finally, we were also delighted to increase our military Cadet affiliations in 2024 to include No 1147 Squadron Air Cadets in Barking and 23 Detachment (Royal Engineers) Army Cadets in Islington. They honoured us by providing a joint Guard of Honour at our Summer Festival in Haberdashers' Hall in July.

Paul Nash
Chairman of Freedom and Livery



Members of the Plumbers' and Gardeners' Companies presenting the Coronation Planters to HM The King at Sandringham House on 25th November 2024.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

It's been an exciting, interesting and busy year for the Membership Committee. We clothed 27 new Liverymen and ended the year with around 350 Liverymen. Before I cover the year, I think it's useful to explain the full range of the committee's activities.

We drive recruitment into the Livery, we develop engagement and retention schemes to ensure the membership feel they are valued and are getting value for their input. Also, we run a Corporate Member's scheme. This year we launched our special scheme to support talented young professionals in the plumbing industry with all aspects of career development. It's called the Plumbing Professionals Development Scheme (PPDS). It was developed with The Chartered Institute of Plumbing and Heating Engineering (CIPHE) and we jointly run the scheme. Two further independent committees report into us and they are: Admissions (interviewing) panel and the Women in the Livery Group (WIL) who aim to increase our diversity by inspiring more women to enjoy the benefits of the Livery.

This year has been a bumper year for recruitment into the Livery and three quarters of it is due to the stellar input of one Liveryman, John Wilson. Also, during the year, we have developed an exciting set of plans and actions to build upon this initiative and continue with this volume of recruitment. This will most likely be spread throughout the Livery. Our overriding aim is to create a culture of continuous recruitment amongst the whole Livery.

Alongside these bold recruitment plans we are also developing plans to create a range of actions that will ensure all Liverymen are engaged to whatever level they seek. This is in addition to engagement actions, hosting and induction evenings, for new Liverymen already underway.

In the hosting scheme, each new Liveryman is hosted by an experienced Liveryman at the first two events they attend. Thus, supporting the new Liverymen to establish their own networks within the Livery. Both new Liverymen and hosts enjoy this and it's been the start of many friendships.



Medal winner Ruben Duggan



Corporate Members enjoying an evening reception at Lords Cricket Ground

The induction evening each September for new Liverymen takes place in the Aldermanic dining room in the Guildhall, which has the most magnificent view of the City.

This event aims to build upon the developing sense of community among recent joiners, create a deeper understanding of the company aims, initiatives and inner workings. And learn about new Liverymen's views about their experience so far.

Attendees complimented us on their welcome to date and inclusiveness. We had a wide-ranging discussion expertly facilitated by the Master, ensuring that all participated. The two big discussion topics were diversity and charitable giving.

The Corporate Members scheme is a vital part of the Company's structure and appeal. And in these challenging times we have retained a strong core membership group and continue to offer executives of member companies a unique opportunity to network at a high level with fellow professionals across the

wider construction sector. The committee continue to work hard to refresh membership benefits and offer increased value for money.

Our young professionals emerging talent scheme PPDS was launched in January 2024. It has three key elements: continuing professional development, mentoring and introduction to relevant networking events supported by industry bodies and associations.

There are 10 talented young professionals in the first intake, who have all completed at least NVQ Level 2. Eight men and two women. Three of them, Daisy Turner, Tiffany Baker and Ruben Duggan, were already award winners when the scheme started. In September 2024 Ruben surpassed these achievements by demonstrating exceptional skills across a very challenging task to win the Plumbing & Heating silver medal at WorldSkills 2024 in France, shortly after the Olympic Games.

Janet Rivers
Chairman of Membership Committee

EDUCATION AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEE



Annual Lecture

Annual Lecture at Carpenters Hall

No Life without Water ... Saving Lives with Water in a Humanitarian Crisis

On 13th May 2024, the Company experienced an insightful and impactful Annual Lecture from speaker Gareth Owen OBE, Humanitarian Director at Save the Children UK, who talked about his thirty year career and the places he has worked, starting as a 24 year-old in Somalia, to the current devastating humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

Gareth explained a range of practical examples of how Save the Children have brought water, sanitation and hygiene to different communities. This is central to everything the organisation does. For example the reason many girls don't go to schools is due a lack access to sanitation.



Gareth Owen OBE

Gareth introduced his colleague Rachel Cummings, who explained the devastating scenes on the ground. It was impossible not to be moved by the plight of refugees.

His final message was about hope: 'Choose hope everybody, choose to engage, choose hope and human connection and turn that into action'



Rachel Cummings video message

The Plumbers' Charity did just that by donating a one off grant of £3000 to Save the Children to support their water and sanitation work in response to the lecture.

Two of our bursary winner also received their certificates at the lecture and Daisy Turner received a certificate of excellence.



Adnan from Windsor Forest Langley Campus, 2024 Bursary winner



Daniel from Dundee and Angus Kingsway College, 2024 Bursary winner



Daisy — HIP Learner of the Year and Female Skills Competition winner

Bursaries and Silver Medal

An unprecedented 172 applications were received and six bursaries were awarded, providing Monument tools worth £1000. One winner, who excelled in his plumbing studies in difficult circumstances, was also awarded the silver medal.

The Company exhibits at Installer Show, 25–27 June 2024

The Livery was represented on the stand by Liverymen Sarah Oliver, Kevin McCallister, Janet Rivers, Jason Clerk, Julie Spinks, Renter Warden Sandra Raine and Upper Warden Charles Brooks. Our amazing volunteers spoke to stand visitors about a range of topics including bursaries, the plumbing professional development scheme and membership. The highlight was the Master presenting Sam, from St Helens Green Energy Centre with his bursary certificate and the silver medal, supported by his fellow students.

HIP Learner of the Year and Female Skills Competitions 2024

For the first time the Company sponsored two student competitions run by HIP. Encouraging the students during the regional heats, were Livery representatives Liverymen Kevin McCallister, Richard Soper, Janet Rivers, Sarah Oliver, previous Gold Medalist Ruben Dugan, Assistants Erica Stary and Fiona Wolf. Master David Adams and the Chair Lvy. Julie Spinks attended the finals. The Liverymen were exceptionally talented and it was great to see previous bursary winner Daisy Turner win both competitions — an impressive achievement!

Julie Spinks

Chairman of Education and Technical Committee



L-R Chair Julie Spinks, Daisy Turner, Megan Emerson, Maizie Williams, Sophie Maguire, Ciah Hooch Llewellyn Davies, Sharna Wringly-Sothcott and Master David Adams



Sam shown here in a white T-Shirt

NEW COURT ASSISTANT AND MEMBERS

New Court Assistant Liveryman Julie Spinks

Julie Spinks joined Water Regs UK in December 2011 and is a founding director of WaterSafe. Julie is also the Managing Director of WRAS. Previously, Julie had 18 years' experience working in the water industry. This included 17 years with United Utilities in a variety of roles in water supply and wastewater operations, before becoming involved in investment planning and asset management, culminating as Director of Wastewater Asset Management. She is a graduate in Biological Science, has an MBA and is a Chartered Director.

Her prime responsibility as MD of Water Regs UK, is to lead the organisation and its subsidiary WRAS with a group turnover of circa £2m with activities including:

- strategy and business planning
- providing development opportunities for water fittings enforcement professionals and facilitating development of internal and external guidance

- certification body for plumbing professionals on behalf of 15 water companies
- the largest UK independent certification body for plumbing products
- stakeholder engagement including collaboration with governments and regulators to support policy development
- promotion and awareness of the water fittings regulations

Julie has extensive experience leading teams protecting drinking water from source to tap and proven ability to operate effectively at board level in both executive and non-executive roles. Strong influencing skills and extensive experience of working with key stakeholders collaboratively to deliver better outcomes. This includes UK water companies, government departments, drinking water quality regulators and the key trade and professional associations working in the water and plumbing sector.



New Court Assistant, Julie Spinks

Julie became a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Plumbers in 2014 and Chairs our Education & Technical Committee. During lock-down she co-presented our online annual lecture on water efficiency. She is married with two children and lives in Altrincham.



October 2023 L-R: Tim Rathbone, Andrew Ross, John Holland, Michael Patton and David Randall.



January L-R: Martin Abbott and Duncan Whitfield



April L-R: Donald Barron, Sean Conboy, Paul Hibbert, Maria Netley, the Master, Mark Pellicena, Roger Pinney, Peter Rowland and Peter Smith.



July L-R: Adam Battersby, Kate Birchall, Troy Bowler, Nigel De Jong, Chris Holland, Dominic Holland, Kim Howell, Philip Keeler, Trevor Meboroh-Collinson, Christopher Murphy, Andrew Murray, Stephen Thompson and Alexander Wilson

PLUMBING MUSEUM AND WORKSHOP TRUST

2024 has again been an exceptionally busy year for our Lead Craft Workshop located at Amberley Museum.

The large planters to commemorate the coronation of the King and Queen were completed and delivered to Sandringham House. Following their installation, they have been expertly planted by the Worship Company of Gardeners for all visitors to the house to see. This has been a large, complex and successful project for us to deliver with the Gardeners Company.

A film showing the process of the manufacture and delivery of the planters to Sandringham House has been produced with great thanks to Liveryman Jason Clark. This is available on our website.

The funding of the large planters was assisted by the production of small commemorative planters for which the members of the Plumbers and Gardeners Companies could make a donation. These proved hugely popular and over 70 planters were requested in approximately equal numbers from each Company.



Delivery of the planters at Sandringham House



Veterans Club visit the Plumbers' Workshop at Amberley.

The task of producing the planters required a huge effort from the volunteer craftsmen at the workshop and even Past Masters were pressed into action to complete work. All planters have now been picked-up by members of the Gardeners Company and the Plumbers planters are ready for collection.

In March, the Master and members of the workshop trust were delighted to welcome the members of the Horsham Armed Forces & Veterans Breakfast Club to the workshop. The Master and veterans were treated to a demonstration of how lead is poured and cast, and they were talked through the skills and technicalities that needed.

In May our Plumbing Museum and Workshop Trust demonstrators were amongst the volunteers at Amberley Museum to be presented with The



Eddie McCourt presented with the Company's Excellence Award by the Master

King's Award for Voluntary Service. The King's Award is the highest award a local voluntary group can receive in the UK and is equivalent to an MBE. It aims to recognise outstanding work by local volunteer groups to benefit their communities



Lady Emma Barnard, who presented the King's Award, at the Plumbers Workshop, Amberley

We were delighted that the work of volunteer craftsman Liveryman Eddie McCourt was recognised with the Company's Excellence Award presented by the Master at the Installation Lunch.

Great thanks are due to our volunteer craftsmen, led by Liveryman Peter Cheesman.



WOMEN IN LIVERY

Inspirational women lead the way!

In another exciting year women have come to the fore. What we lack in numbers, we make up for in input, energy and visibility. Women constitute just 1 in 9 members of the membership. By taking prominent roles we hope others will see themselves in us and to inspire others to join the Company and to encourage you to do your part to promote diversity.

Air Cdre Barbara Cooper has joined the WIL core team. She is working on our strategy to attract members from the uniformed services. We thank Kate Fuller for her thoughtful contribution to WIL.

Julie Spinks, Chairman of E&T Committee was elected to the Court and will be clothed at the Installation Service in October when I will become Upper Warden and Janet Rivers, Renter Warden. The first time that 6 women will serve on the Court.

In another significant first Debbie Abergil, will become the first female Company Clerk in our history replacing Adrian as he begins his assent to Master of the Musicians Company.

January brought news that Assistant Prof. Mala Rao was awarded a CBE in recognition for her services to public health, the NHS, and to equality and diversity. Later that month Dr Susanne Surman-Lee spoke eloquently at the Lord Mayor's colloquy with Asst Martin Shouler on the subject of 'Clean Water & Sanitation.'

In Spring, WIL supported the HIP female plumbing skills competition. HIP aims to build confidence levels, encourage networking and advocate skill development through provision of competitions. Past Masters Woolf & Stary and WIL members attended the heats. The Master attended the final with Julie Spinks. Daisy Turner a former Bursary winner, won the female competition and the overall competition.

Elise Maynard designed our International Women's Day celebrations in March. Under the theme 'Inspire Inclusion' Kathy Adams, and Ivy, Barbara Cooper, Prof Elaine



Cloutman Green and Dr Carol Joseph outlined what inspired them to join the Livery and what they get from it. Carol has become a Charity Trustee. Barbara and Elise have joined the Membership Committees Recruitment and Retention and Engagement sub committees, respectively, under the overall chairmanship of Janet Rivers.

Philippa Stary continues to manage the Company Website and will conclude a successful year as Head Steward. Pattie Grant has become only the third ever female Steward. We are seeking more Stewards, why not consider volunteering?

Daphne Barber was appointed Almoner to replace Caroline Walsh who did such a super job in launching and performing the role. Jane Palmer and Janet Rivers continue to provide dedicated service on the Admissions Panel.

The team were proud to support the Installers Show in Birmingham in June, an important way of promoting the Company, membership and bursaries. At least one WIL member staffed the stand each day. We would welcome input from more volunteers, look out for the invitation to help.

I introduced the guests and speaker Sarah Mukherjee after dinner at the Summer Festival and was delighted that attendees laughed in the right places when I spoke.



Mala Rao CBE award

Court Assistant Mala attended Buckingham Palace on 19th April 2024 and received her CBE from the Princess Royal, in recognition for her services to public health, the NHS, and to equality and diversity.

Mala's career has spanned public health practice, policy, research and training, and her most impactful achievements have been in workforce development, strengthening health systems and environmental health in the UK and overseas.

Professor Mala Rao CBE is Director of the Ethnicity and Health Unit and Senior Clinical Fellow at the Department of Primary Care and Public Health, Imperial School of Public Health. Mala is also Vice Chair of WaterAid UK; Chair of WHO South East Asia Region's Expert Group on the Environmental Determinants of Climate Change and Health; Clinical Adviser on Race Equality to the General Medical Council, and was formerly Medical Adviser to NHS England on Workforce Race Equality.

YEAR IN REVIEW

From The Clerk — Adrian Mumford

It is good to be able to report that Company has had a busy year on many fronts. Events, whether formal or social, have been well attended and, as always, magnificently supported by a great team of Stewards — wonderfully efficiently led by Philippa Stary — while our six committees have been very active, not least working on the Company Strategy, focussing on the future and priorities for the Company over the next few years.

The greatest asset of any Livery Company is its members, and it is always a pleasure to catch up with friends in the Company and to meet and welcome new members leaving me to feel that the Company is in good spirits and in good shape. One of the roles of the Clerk is to swear-in new Freeman before they come forward to be clothed in the Livery and there has been a succession of first-class candidates over the last year or more: indeed, membership numbers have seen a net increase over the year.

Each successive Livery year brings a new Master and I have been fortunate to work with six. David Adams over the last year who — often with Mistress Kathy — has attended just about every event to which Masters are invited, and became is a well-respected figure on the 'Livery circuit', representing the Company with undoubted dedication and distinction. I know that Charles Brooks will be a similarly excellent ambassador for the Company.

As Clerk, I have the pleasure of being a guest of many other Companies and am pleased to report that the Plumbers Company is clearly held in high regard in the City, not least for the warmth and generosity of welcome offered to our guests. I believe that we punch well above our weight in the many things we do in supporting the city, our charities and industry.

In the office, we lost Sharon earlier in the year but have hugely valued Debbie's cheery efficiency as our accountant while Beadle Peter is always calmly reassuring in events. Together with webmaster



Adrian Mumford

Philippa and others who come in to help, we are so lucky to have such a dedicated team.

I feel immensely privileged to have served as clerk to the company for the past six years and thoroughly enjoyed (nearly) every minute of it. I am incredibly grateful to everyone who has helped make my job so fulfilling: seeing many other Companies at first hand, I am quite sure we are the friendliest of Companies (jointly with the Musicians', of course!)

I am sad to leave but know we are in safe hands as I hand over to new Clerk Debbie who has already worked in the company for 12 years. I wish Debbie every success and am look forward to supporting her.



Past Master John Rae receiving congratulations from the Lord Mayor, Michael Mainelli, in recognition for his contribution to the Company for 50 years on the Court.

COURT MEMBERS 2024



The Court Meeting July 2024

Master

Charles Brooks

Upper Warden

Sandra Raine

Renter Warden

Janet Rivers

Immediate Past Master

David Adams

Emeritus Past Masters

Geoff Marsh MBE
George Banks
John Mayfield
Alec Moir
Michael Swallow
Mike Samuel
Edward Hopkinson
Chris Sneath MBE

Past Masters

John Rae
Peter Brunner
John Lockyer
David Alexander
Prof Rodney Cartwright
David Hamilton
Lt Col Antony Paterson-Fox
Charles Yuill
Nick Gale
Stephen Hodkinson
Erica Stary
Brian Wadsworth
Robert Burgon
Dame Fiona Woolf DBE DL
Dr Peter Rumley
Nick Jones
Air Cdre Paul Nash OBE

Court Assistants

Prof Mala Rao OBE
Michael Cooper
Martin Shouler
Mark Wheeler
Paul Flatt
Damon Reynolds
Kevin Wellman
Kingsley Poulton
Julie Spinks

Clerk

Adrian Mumford

Finance Assistant

Debbie Abergil

Senior Steward

Kevin Thomas

Stewards

Gary Lester
Chris Saunders
John Wilson
Melville Gumbs
Jacob Ball
David Pearson
Patty Grant

Beadle

Peter Thompson

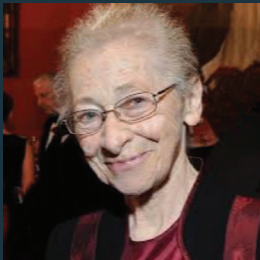
Recently deceased

It is with great sadness that the Company announces the deaths of the following Liverymen:

Leslie Andrews
Michael Bennett
Michael Boon

John Denham
Sylvia Moys

Past chaplain and Freeman of the Company, the Venerable Ken Gibbons.



Liveryman Sylvia Moys MBE who acted as the Escort to the late Past Master Peter Lerwill

Our thoughts and our condolences go to their families.

