NEWSLETTER

April 2013

www.arbitratorscompany.org



HMS Mersey



Our affiliated Royal Navy Ship expects to be alongside at Liverpool on **25-29 July 2013** to celebrate her 10th anniversary. The Ship's Company are planning a series of events and plan to extend an invitation to members of the Company to take part. It may be possible to arrange a 'miniweekend' of activities in and around Liverpool but for now please put the date in your diary.

Dates for your diary

Monday 13 May 2013 Charter Commemoration Banquet at the Mansion House

Wednesday 12 June Visit to Tower of London and Ceremony of the Keys.

Friday 14 JuneThe Consorts' Lunch at Brewers' Hall

Tuesday 9 July Annual Service at St Mary le Bow Church, Cheapside followed by Summer Lunch: Painter Stainers' Hall.

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

A MESSAGE FROM THE MASTER

This month marks the mid-point in the Company's year and by coincidence the first anniversary of our Royal Charter coming into effect. This provides an opportunity to see how well we are achieving the objects in the Charter to foster the profession of arbitration and other forms of private dispute resolution in the UK and to support the Lord Mayor and the Civic Team.

In March we hosted a lunch for the wider Dispute Resolution Community. Representatives of nineteen organisations began a dialogue about promoting the UK in the face of international competition and how best to work with agencies such as TheCityUK and benefit from the opportunities available from the overseas visits by the Lord Mayor.

At the Master's Lecture well over half of those who attended were non-members several of whom have since expressed an interest in finding out more about the Company and we will be holding an Information Evening on May 8th. If you know of anyone ready to give some of their time and talents and join the Company do bring them along as well.

Encouraging students is one of our priorities and it was good to see more than thirty students at the Lecture. Next month the Education Committee is having an informal meeting with invited representatives to explore how we might best support universities and colleges that include arbitration and other types of ADR in their syllabus.

Overall it is fair to say that we are on course.



Photograph of the Master and Senior Warden outside St Paul's Cathedral after the United Guilds Service (for details see the side panel of the next page)

Members' News

Freeman Eileen Carroll has been appointed a QC *Honoris Causa* in recognition of her pioneering work in commercial mediation.

WATCH OUT FOR

The Company's new website

Our new look website was launched at the end of March. It seeks to highlight those areas where the Company offers support to others as well as featuring a streamlined booking facility for events. To look at the new web site go to: www.arbitratorscompany.org.

The Consorts' Lunch

The lunch for the Consorts of members will now take place on Friday 14th June at 12.30 for 1.00 pm at Brewers' Hall just off London Wall. Booking details will follow as soon as arrangements have been completed.

UNITED GUILDS SERVICE

On Friday 15th March a group of Liverymen from the Company, some with their consorts, joined the Master, Senior Warden and Clerk at the 71st United Guilds Service at St Paul's Cathedral. The service began in 1943 as an act of thanksgiving following the Blitz of the Second World War and is one of the few occasions in the calendar at which all the Livery Companies and Guilds of the City can gather together. The service was led by the Dean of St Paul's and the Bishop of Chelmsford gave a thoughtful and engaging address. The final Blessing was pronounced by the Lord Bishop of London.

Afterwards the members of the Company and their guests enjoyed a fine lunch at Stationers' Hall.

The Master's Lecture 2013

On Tuesday 5 March 2013, retired High Court Judge, arbitrator and mediator, Sir Peter Cresswell delivered the 2013 Master's Lecture to an audience of over 120 in the London offices of DLA Piper, welcomed by London Managing Partner, Lord Clement Jones.

Sir Peter delivered a tour de force on the private dispute resolution scene. He said it was the users of private dispute resolution services whose interests should be paramount.

Sir Peter emphasised how the various forms of dispute resolution could be combined, as they were with litigation and conciliation in the Lloyd's of London reconstruction, the largest piece of litigation in this country. He said that mediation should not be seen as the enemy of arbitration and commended the role of market specific dispute resolution such as the IDRS /ABTA Travel Arbitration Scheme and the City Disputes Panel, the latter which he would like to see brought back to life, as he put it. He said that there was a great opportunity to bring together all the various forms of private dispute resolution, arbitration, adjudication, mediation and expert determination, in London and closed by returning to his theme that the most important group in all this is that of the users.

There followed a question and answer session and then a drinks reception hosted by DLA Piper. A very successful evening all round for the Worshipful Company of Arbitrators. The full text of Sir Peter's lecture is available on the Company's website www.arbitratorscompany.org

St Mary le Bow Young Homeless Charity

The Company supports this Charity by donating the collections taken at our Annual Service and at the Carol Service. Michael Kenny who has run the charity since it was formed 22 years ago writes:

This small City of London charity takes 6 to 8 young homeless people at a time out of the emergency hostels and off the streets of London. We have flats rented cheaply to us from the Peabody Trust. There the young people learn how to live in a flat instead of institutions.

Some are ex-prisoners, few have any qualifications, many are affected by drug, alcohol or mental health problems. They are given time to recover and the support they need to do it, and are helped to develop some confidence, with further education, perhaps in literacy, or training, perhaps to drive a truck. They may stay in our flats for as long as they need to stay. When they are stable and ready for independence we help them to obtain their own flats.

In addition some thirty more, mostly young ex-prisoners, are helped to prepare for a job, often for the first time in their lives, often with Pret a Manger. Four years ago, Pret started a three month apprenticeship scheme. If the young people behave, they get permanent jobs. It works: 75% are still at Pret six months after starting, and many for up to three years.

They can come back to the charity if they need to return. They do not go back to being homeless. Ever.