



September 2014

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A MESSAGE FROM THE MASTER

Sadly for me, this is my last Newsletter Message before I install Professor John Uff CBE QC as Master of the Company on 28 October 2014.

My year has simply flown and has been a wonderful experience. Very many thanks to you all for electing me Master, and for your tremendous support during the past eleven months. Sylvia and I have many happy memories to treasure.

On 18th August, by kind invitation of their Commanding Officer, Major Sarah Garrett, I attended an open day at 13 Company ACF's summer camp at West Tofts Army Training Camp, Norfolk, and saw the cadets being put through their paces. I used the occasion to present last year's winners of Peacemaker Cadet of the Year and Detachment of the Year with their framed certificates, which unfortunately were not available when I visited their Christmas Camp last December.

September has been busy so far: between Friday 5th and Sunday 7th, 24 of us went to Dublin for the Master's Weekend and the weather was fantastic, for Dublin. We kicked off with a traditional Irish singing and dancing show on Friday evening. This was followed next morning by a tour of my alma mater, Trinity College Dublin, under the amusingly eloquent guidance of philosophy lecturer, Joseph O'Gorman. We also saw the Book of Kells, after which, transported by Hop On Hop Off bus, we had lunch at the Guinness Storehouse. Dinner that evening was at the Kildare Street & University Club, only a stone's throw from the Shelbourne Hotel, where we were staying. Sunday morning saw us at the State Apartments of Dublin Castle and we concluded with lunch at the Shelbourne. Particular thanks to our Dublin member, Freeman James Bridgeman, and his lovely wife Jean Dunne, for the picture below, taken by Dublin photographer Paucic McGroder.

Members' News

50th Wedding Anniversary

Hearty
Congratulations to
Past Master Chris
and Ursula
Dancaster who will
be celebrating their
50th wedding
anniversary on 11th
October 2014.

Dates for your Diary

**Monday 29th
September 2014**
Election of Lord
Mayor.

**Sunday 5th
October 2014**
10am to 4pm:
Sheep Drive on
London Bridge
and
6pm to 8pm:
London Reception
on HMS Mersey for
Members.

**Wednesday 8th
October 2014**
Treloar's Charity
Gala Dinner at The
Mansion House.



Members of the Company on the Master's Dublin Weekend

I spent the night of Wednesday 10th of this month and most of the following day aboard HMS Mersey as the guest of the Commanding Officer, Lt. Cdr. David

Dates for your Diary continued

**Friday 17th
October 2014**
Lord Mayor's
Charity Ball at
Guildhall.

**Tuesday 28th
October 2014**
Installation Dinner,
Painters' Hall

**Saturday 8th
November 2014**
The Lord Mayor's
Show

**Wednesday 12
November 2014**
Celebrity Panel
Discussion on
Arbitration Issues
at Coutts, Strand

**Tuesday 25
November 2014**
Wyndham's Theatre
'Charles III' with pre-
theatre dinner

**Tuesday 16th
December 2014**
Company's Annual
Dispute Resolution
Seminar at Keating
Chambers

**Thursday 18th
December 2014**
Carol Service at St
Mary-le-Bow with
Supper afterwards
at the Furniture
Makers' Hall.

**16th to 18th
January 2015**
Arbitration
Competition
Weekend for UK
Universities

**22nd to 24th
January 2015**
Chartered Institute
of Arbitrators'
Centenary

Conference in Birmingham.

Master's Message continued:

Gillett RN. What a super experience I had on the bridge of the ship watching them navigate this modern warship into and out of Portsmouth Harbour, made all the sweeter by the Company's Ensign fluttering aloft. David also put on a very efficient demonstration of Mersey's Man Overboard rapid rescue drills, by boarding rib and by swimmer. A memorable experience David, thank you.

On Sunday 14th of this month, we held the Company's first Charity Walk in the City, courtesy of our Assistant to the Clerk, John White, who was our guide; very many thanks, John. Those of you who were unable to attend missed a treat, exploring the iconic buildings and Livery Halls of the City of London.

On Thursday 16th, the Court held a Farewell Dinner in the Crypt of St Etheldreda's Church to say 'bon voyage' to our Clerk of the past 16 years, Mrs Gaye Duffy. In recognition of her distinguished service to the Company, the Court has unanimously decided to recommend to the next Common Hall that Gaye be made an Honorary Freeman of the Company, for life. I'm sure you will all wish to join me in wishing Gaye a happy retirement. We will miss you, Gaye.

In an end of term moment of madness, I decided to take part in the Lord Mayor's Lloyds Building Abseil Challenge on Friday 19th instant, in aid of our Charitable Trust. As you can see from the picture below, I did it and I survived!



If you would like to sponsor me for the benefit of our Charitable Trust, the Trustees and I would be most grateful. The link for donations is:

<https://www.justgiving.com/J-Derek-Layng-Ross/>

Very many thanks in anticipation of your generosity.

Looking ahead, I plan to herd some sheep with Liveryman Ken McLean on London Bridge on Sunday 5th October and, later that day, attend the Reception for Company members on HMS Mersey when she will be moored alongside HMS Belfast in London. I am also looking forward to the Gala Charity Dinner at Mansion House on Wednesday 8th October in aid of Treloar's Trust, which does marvellous work teaching life skills to severely disabled young people. I am particularly delighted that the Company's complement that evening will be 16 attendees. This will be followed on Friday 17th October by the Lord Mayor's Charity Ball at Guildhall in aid of the Lord Mayor's Appeal where, again, I am delighted to say the Company's complement will be 12 attendees.

And finally, I hope to see as many of you as possible at Painters' Hall on 28th October to welcome Professor John Uff CBE QC as our new Master.

Dr Derek Ross, Master

The Worshipful Company of Arbitrators
Incorporated by Royal Charter

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