

## Message from the incoming Chair of Trustees, Court Assistant Jeremy Batchelor

To all Company Members



As the new Chairman of the Trustees, I wanted to write a brief note to all Members of the Company in order to introduce myself, and set out a few aims and objectives for the Trust over the coming year or so.

For those who don't know me, my name is Jeremy Batchelor and I joined the Company in 2011 and was admitted into the Livery in 2013. I have been a Trustee for 5 years, and most recently have had responsibility for administering the Security Benevolent Fund within the Trust. I have run my own security integration and installations company in Central London for the last 28 years, and have been involved as a board member with a variety of other charities in London and Essex throughout that time.

One of the main objectives for the Trust going forward is to ensure better and more frequent communication with the wider Company to outline how we use the money which you, as Members, donate through your attendance at events and generous sponsorship - and this email is the first step along that road. Our aim is to publish an up-date after each one of our meetings which will be available on the Company's website and linked-to in other appropriate Company bulletins. Communication is always at its best when it's a two-way thing, and the Trust has its own email address: [trustees@wcosp.org](mailto:trustees@wcosp.org) which is monitored daily by me as Chairman, and if there is anything that any member of the Company would like to know or has a query about regarding the Trust - please do feel free to get in touch.

Looking ahead, the Trustees will shortly be undertaking a review of all aspects of our strategy, our future planning and how we operate. This will encompass our donation and funding criteria, our investment strategy, the vital run-up to March 2022 when the accumulation period for the Trust comes to an end; and as I have already said, central to all of those issues will be how we communicate to the Company as a whole, in order to let you know what we are doing and why we are doing it.

Future up-dates will (I hope!) be in an improved web-based format and will be more focussed on specific areas of our work, and they will be written by a different Trustee each time which I hope will assist you in getting to know all the Trustees better - there is even talk of Twitter feeds and Facebook pages..... This may take time, so please bear with us while we get our technological ducks into line, but at the absolute minimum an email up-date like this one will be sent to all Members after every meeting.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Past Master Simon Imbert for his tireless work on behalf of the Trust, especially in the field of supporting our educational projects for which he gave up a great deal of his personal time and did a huge amount of work behind the scenes. Simon stepped down in June at the completion of his 6 years term as a Trustee, having served for the last 18 months as Chairman. Unfortunately, Simon is not the only Trustee who has left us recently; Philip Willoughby has also had to resign as he is no longer able to travel to London

for our meetings, and he has kindly stepped aside to allow for the recruitment of a new Trustee. Philip has been a long-time supporter of the Trust and the Company as a whole, and we are all most grateful for the contribution that he has made, and we are sorry to see him leave us.

All of this does mean that there are now two vacancies on the Board of Trustees, and invitations for applications to fill those vacancies will be sent out to you soon. Please do think about joining us, and as ever, we'll be happy to deal with any queries or questions about what is involved.

With very best wishes to all.

Jeremy Batchelor

Chairman of Trustees