

The Worshipful Company of Tax Advisers

CITY OF LONDON

THE MASTER

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Dear Members,

This is my final Master's Mailing. In addition to bringing you up-to-date with Company news since my last Mailing at the beginning of June, I would like to use this opportunity to thank all those who have made 2025/26 another successful year.

Corporate Partners

Corporate partnerships with commercial sponsors, Croner, QX Global, Rathbones and Thomson Reuters have been an important part of this success and I am delighted to report that an exciting new sponsorship agreement is close to finalisation and is expected to be launched in Spring 2027.

Sponsorships to date have allowed the Company to host professional events in high profile City venues like The Shard and Gresham Street offices overlooking Guildhall Yard; given our members complimentary or discounted access to tax publications, webinars and other services from some of the leading providers of tax information to the profession; and enabled the Company to protect its members from some of the impact of inflation on the costs of running a livery company in today's economic climate.

Membership

The Company's membership continues to grow steadily and now stands at a total of 262. Thank you to everyone who has sponsored a new member through to admission within the last 12 months and, in so doing, qualified to bring a guest to one of our major events free of charge. If you would like to sponsor a new member, please get in touch with the Clerk (clerk@taxadvisers.org.uk).

Our charities

Charitable giving is one of the three objectives of our Company and something that we all undertake to do when we join. About half our members support one or both of the Company's charities: the Tax Advisers' Benevolent fund and the Tax Advisers' Charitable Trust. In 2025-26, the Charities made grants of about £75,000, approximately £30,000 of which came from income from the charities' investments.

Without funds under investment, we would not be able to deliver on all of our charitable objectives as members' donations, much appreciated as they are, do not raise sufficient funds.

If you would like to begin or increase contributions to either the Tax Advisers' Benevolent fund and the Tax Advisers' Charitable Trust, you can find out how to do so on the website at <https://www.taxadvisers.org.uk/making-a-donation/>. Please don't forget to Gift Aid your donations if you are able to do so.

You may also wish to consider leaving a legacy to one or both charities to support their future growth in income. Please contact our Charities Chair, Lorraine Parkin (lorraineparkin6@gmail.com) or Treasurer Bill Dodwell (bill@dodwell.org) if you would like to discuss any aspect of legacies.

Affiliations

Our new affiliation with the Greater London Scouts was launched at our Civic & Charities Lunch at Bakers' Hall in June. Our particular affiliation is with the Bromley Scouts and a number of Company Officers will attend their Annual District Camp in September. Thank you to Liveryman Adam Taylor and Freeman Nicholas Thompson for all their work to introduce this new affiliation to the Tax Advisers.

I also attended the City of London & North East Sector Annual Cadets Visitors Day in August and the Farewell Parade for their Commandant, Colonel Wendy Adams in early September. Colonel Adams will be our guest at the Installation Dinner on 21st September.

Other highlights of the Summer

Our series of professional webinars continued in June with a joint event with HMRC. Chris Irwin, HMRC's Deputy Director, Agent Policy presented 'HMRC's approach to the tax advice market – a strategic perspective'. Thank you to Liveryman Craig Chatwin for delivering our webinars throughout the year.

Among the Inter-Livery events on offer to members was our own ever popular, highly entertaining and fiercely contested Inter-livery Quiz, this year won by the Makers of Playing Cards. The Tax Advisers' two teams came second and fifth, our best performance to date. Thank you to Liveryman Kevin Offer for delivering another successful Quiz. I am only sorry that the Tax Advisers couldn't quite clinch the trophy in my year.

On an uncharacteristically wet day in June, we gathered at Bakers' Hall for our Civic & Charities Lunch, where Sheriff Keith Bottomley presided. We celebrated our charity and education work and our engagement with the Civic City. In addition to launching our new affiliation with the Greater London Scouts, we welcomed three new Companions: Carolyn Finch, the Company's Administration Officer until her retirement in February; Sarah Citron, widow of enthusiastic and energetic contributor to the Company, Court Assistant Richard Citron; and Irmgard Murcott, whose late husband, Peter, was one of the Company's founder members and its sixth Master.

Temple Bar, the Architects' Hall, was the venue for our Court Dinner in July. On a fearsomely hot evening, Court members and Past Masters gathered in the Temple Bar Chamber for a drinks reception and short recital of early keyboard pieces contemporaneous with the building performed by Royal College of Music graduate, Andrew Cowie. This was followed by a presentation on the history of Temple Bar, dinner and a stirrup cup back in the Chamber.

An extra event was squeezed into the summer just before the City took its August break: a joint lunch at the rarely visited Dyers' Hall with the Makers of Playing Cards whose Master, Nick Prentice, is also a Liveryman of the Tax Advisers. The Guest of Honour Michael Mainelli, Alderman, former Lord Mayor and Liveryman of both the Playing Card Makers and Tax Advisers, gave a speech on giving Artificial Intelligence a conscience concluding that the real risk posed by AI is that we surrender our judgment, our ethics, and our critical thinking entirely to automated systems by pretending that an algorithm can replace the deeply personal, moral duty of a professional to a client or a player to their peers.

Finally, as the end of the Company's 2025/26 year approached, 24 members gathered at Squerryes Vineyard near Westerham in Kent for a lunch among the vines.

Finally, my thanks to everyone who has contributed to the life of the Company in 2025/26

Thank you to the Deputy Master, Wardens and Court, in particular to Past Master Clive Tulloch as he stands down after his many years as Honorary Secretary to the Court and to our Charities Committee.

Thank you to all those who have served on committees; administered or contributed to our charities, our educational initiatives and our affiliations; delivered or participated in our professional and social events; and been such good company at lunches and dinners.

Thank you, too, to Marcus Walker, our Honorary Chaplain, and to Rose Murphy and the team at St. Bartholomew the Great.

And thank you, especially, to our Clerk, Robert Lowth, and to our Administrative Officers, Carolyn Finch and her successor Petra Repkova. Their contribution to the life of Company has been immense throughout 2025/26.

I look forward to supporting my successor as Master, Caroline Turnbull-Hall, and Wardens Howard Ashmore, Michael Ashdown and Lorraine Parkin in 2026/27 and wish them every success.

With my best wishes,

Matthew