

## The Worshipful Company of Insurers

Incorporated by Royal Charter





### Membership

The Worshipful Company of Insurers is a modern Livery Company promoting excellence in insurance and maintaining the ancient traditions of philanthropy and support of the Mayoralty and the City of London.

It brings together two key elements of the City of London; Insurance which is now the largest employer within the City, and the City Civic in which Livery Companies have taken an active part for centuries. The Insurers Company gives insurance professionals the opportunity to meet, network and socialise, both formally and informally, with fellow professionals. Members of the Livery also have the opportunity to contribute to the profession and wider community through educational activities, participation in City life and tradition and by supporting a wide range of charitable causes.

We facilitate the sharing of ideas on best practice and innovations across the UK Insurance industry, the London International Insurance Market and the City of London.

#### Our Mission

- Provide diverse and rewarding fellowship and network opportunities
- Make a significant contribution to the needs of wider society
- Promote the highest professional and ethical standards in insurance
- Foster education, research and excellence in insurance practice
- Encourage diverse talent into the profession and provide broad educational opportunities
- Represent the insurance industry as a force for global economic and social benefit
- ✓ Play an influential part in Civic life of the City of London







## Philanthropy

All members of The Worshipful Company of Insurers are expected to make an annual contribution to support the work of the **Company's Charitable Trust** (Registered number 1175425). The Trust is primarily concerned with the furtherance of education within the insurance industry, mentoring young people from disadvantaged backgrounds and City charities supporting ex-offenders and social welfare charities in the poorest boroughs of London.

## History of the Company

The Company of Insurers, a Guild company, was incorporated in June 1979. It was granted its Livery status in September 1979 and became The Worshipful Company of Insurers.

It was presented with letters patent of the grant of the Livery by the then Lord Mayor, Sir Kenneth Cork GBE, DLitt, at the Mansion House in October 1979. In achieving Livery status within three months of incorporation, the Company of Insurers probably holds the record for speed, a fact that recognises the high esteem in which the insurance industry is held in the City. On 1st September 2015 the Company was granted a Royal Charter and on 28th June 2019 the Company celebrated 40 years as a Livery Company with a splendid event in Guildhall.

The Company is governed by a Court of Assistants. Each year the Court elects from its ranks a Master, together with a Senior Warden and a Junior Warden.

The Court is responsible for policy, strategy and overall management of the Company and appoints the Clerk.

From our foundation, the Company has been closely associated with and fully supportive of the goals of the Chartered Insurance Institute. We promote standards of honourable practice and ethical behaviour and support the Code of Ethics for the insurance profession, published by the CII. We also have a Dignity Policy underpinning our standards of conduct and behaviour to ensure all our members and guests are treated with respect and can experience a warm sense of belonging in our fellowship.



#### Formal Social Events

These are the formal occasions which are held in City Livery halls, the Mansion House and other historic buildings in the City. All members are encouraged to bring family, friends and colleagues to the Great Social Events.

- Common Hall (The Company's AGM)
- Installation Dinner and Church Service
- ✓ Winter Lunch
- ✓ Banquet at Mansion House in honour of the Lord Mayor

There are also less formal, and generally less expensive, events and activities throughout the year, including lunches, City walks, golfing with the WIGS, inter-Livery events and visits to many of the interesting places in and around the City.



## Professional Networking

There are many professional and social occasions throughout the year. These provide opportunities to meet regularly with the key people within the industry.

There are groups for insurance **Non-Executive Directors** (iNED), Women in Insurance (iWIN) and younger members (iENGAGE). All of these have their own educational and social programmes open to all members.

Those interested in finding out about membership are welcome to join one of our informal, once-a-month lunches at the City University Club (inc The Lloyds Club), 42 Crutched Friars, EC3N 2AP. These usually take place on the first Friday of every month. Check the website for details of all these events.

# Admission to the Company

Membership of the Company is open to those engaged in the widest sense in the business of insurance.

The Company aims to secure the participation of senior leaders in our profession and develop a broad and balanced membership. In recent years, we have worked hard to broaden our membership to be truly representative of all sectors of the market and of the diverse talent within it. We want the unique Fellowship of our Company to create a sense of genuine belonging and inclusion for all our members.

To apply for membership you will usually need to be proposed by two Liverymen/women (one of whom should be a Court Assistant). Your proposer will be asked to provide a covering letter of support. Alternatively, you can forward a CV and be interviewed by the Chair of the Membership Committee.

Your application will then be placed before the Membership Committee, and then recommended to the Court, which is the governing body of the Company.

Once you have had time to experience our fellowship and demonstrate commitment to the Company and its goals, you will be invited to apply for the Freedom of the City of London and to become a Liveryman/woman of the Company, known as being "clothed in the Livery". You will enjoy a special ceremony at the Guildhall and receive a Freedom certificate.

Once clothed, Liverymen are entitled to take a full part in the life of the Company and the City of London, being eligible to serve on our committees and Court, as well as to vote for the Lord Mayor of London.





## Responsibilities & Costs

Members embrace the WCl's goals of Philanthropy, Education and Fellowship. Becoming a Liveryman/woman is normally seen as a lifetime commitment. Members participate fully in Livery life promoting a positive culture of mutual respect. They also support our objective to provide education and development opportunities that underpin professional standards and ethical practice in the insurance industry.

You will be asked to pay an Annual Quarterage (or membership subscription) and two one-off payments - the Freedom Fine and the Livery fine. Quarterage and the Freedom Fine are reduced by half for those under the age of 40. Please refer to the website for the current rates.

In addition, there is a commitment to support the Company's Charitable Trust regularly in whatever sum you can reasonably afford or by volunteering.

#### **Affiliations**

Many of the older Livery Companies had established links with the armed forces and, encouraged to follow this pattern, the Company of Insurers has forged a relationship with the Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomanry, who have always had strong ties with insurance. The Company is also affiliated to HMS AUDACIOUS, an A-class submarine, 71st Signal Regiment, Middlesex & North West London ACF 21 Company and 1034 Surbiton & Esher Air Training Corps.

The Guild Church of St Lawrence Jewry is the Company's church and its Vicar acts as our Chaplain.

For further information about the Insurers, visit **www.wci.org.uk** or contact the Clerk:

The Worshipful Company of Insurers, PO Box 55873, London, N18 9DJ

T: **020 7600 4006** E: clerk@wci.org.uk



If you would like more general information about the City of London and its Livery Companies, visit **www.cityoflondon.gov.uk.** 



