



*Our Sea Cadets, learning the ropes*

has built up funds of over £1 million. Its investment income, supplemented by regular annual donations from members of the Company, provides around £110,000 each year. The trustees use this to support many good causes, both at home and abroad, with a particular focus on education generally, especially numeracy, literacy and accountancy. We provide a bursary to a PhD student researching an accountancy topic.



*A new reading system donated by the Company to a primary school*

## The Company's Leadership

The Company's governing body is the Court, comprising the Master and the Senior and Junior Wardens (who each normally hold each office for one year), plus normally up to twenty Court Assistants, and the current President, Deputy President and Vice-President of the Institute.

Our Charitable Trust, which is independent of the Company, but supported by our members, is headed by the Almoner (a Court Assistant), assisted by trustees drawn from the Livery, including the Master.

The Clerk and the Assistant Clerk are responsible for the administration of the Company and the Charity.

## Coat of Arms

The Company's Arms depict griffins, guardians of treasure, and three towers chequered in the City's silver and red livery. The three portcullises represent the stages of accounts preparation, a blue background symbolising the River Thames in London. The crest's scale balance echoes the balance in the Institute's arms and reflects our motto "True and Fair", while an arm in armour between the City's dragons' wings represents the protection of assets. The lion of England and the dragon of Wales support the shield, the lion bearing the City's sword while the dragon's key emphasises sound methods of professional practice.

## Company Treasures

Even though a modern Company, we have accumulated a fine collection of silver by gift, which is in regular use at our dinners.

## To Find Out More

For more information, visit our website at [www.wccaew.org.uk](http://www.wccaew.org.uk) or email the Clerk at [clerk@wccaew.org.uk](mailto:clerk@wccaew.org.uk).

# The Worshipful Company of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales





## The Worshipful Company of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

The Chartered Accountants' Livery Company (WCCAEW)

exists to support the profession of accountancy in its leadership and service to society, industry, commerce and the financial sector. Membership of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales (ICAEW) is a requirement for joining the Company. As a Livery Company, the WCCAEW supports the Lord Mayor of the City of London and the Corporation in maintaining and promoting London as the world's leading international financial centre. The Company also supports the community and (through our charitable trust) appropriate charitable causes. The Company seeks to uphold the high ethical and moral standards of the City of London, our profession and of the Livery movement generally.

The Company's motto is **True and Fair**. Our members are leading accountants and business people, from industry, commerce, the financial sector and professional firms of chartered accountants. The Company provides a forum for leaders in our profession and in industry generally to contribute to and listen to views and opinions on matters of current interest and importance, in a small, confidential grouping. Joining the Company is a privilege which allows ICAEW members to complement their own views and experience by meeting other senior accountants from beyond their own businesses and normal contacts, enabling them to be better informed about the key issues of the moment.

Successful chartered accountants are extremely busy people. Their time is precious. When not working, they want to spend their time with their families and on their favourite pursuits. Yet, leading accountants find that time contributed to the Company is time well spent with other interesting and effective senior people: enjoyable, informative and fun.

## History

Great Britain's Livery Companies date back a long way, but their work is as relevant today as it ever was. Many have their roots in medieval trades and crafts, but individual Companies have grown and adapted to meet the needs of today, supporting their trades and professions.

Some Livery Companies have their origins in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries whilst others, like ours, are modern. Our Company was formed in 1977, being 86th in the historic order of precedence of Livery Companies. Our Royal Charter was granted in 2012. We, like all Livery Companies, seek to promote in each generation the standards, skills and talents which our profession represents. Livery Companies reach out the hand of fellowship within the City of London and beyond, through service and through a commitment to shared values. Livery

Companies are known for the generosity of their charitable work, which provides opportunities for others to share the many blessings that we enjoy. The City Livery



Companies, including our own, contribute greatly to the UK's wider business community.

## Membership

There are two stages to membership - the initial step is to become a Freeman of the Company which then provides the opportunity to become a Freeman of the City of London. Once this has been obtained, a member can progress to membership of the Livery, which is limited to 350. There are over 130,000 members of the ICAEW eligible to apply, so admission to our Company is a privilege not easily gained.



Members bring their guests to dinners and lunches held half a dozen times a year, where they also hear outstanding business speakers. These and other social and cultural occasions mainly take place in the City's Livery Company halls, though we also use our Institute Hall and other City venues. Our annual carol service is usually held at the Guild Church of St. Martin within Ludgate, followed by a convivial meal. We also enter teams in many inter-Livery sporting events and competitions.

## Community and Charitable Activities

We are the sole Livery Company for the elite Special Boat Service, as well as having a special connection with both the Honourable Artillery Company and the Harrow and Wembley Sea Cadet Unit. Our charitable trust

