



The Chartered Accountants' Company

Why join us?

The Chartered Accountants' Company provides a unique opportunity to be part of a small and distinguished peer group which contributes to the continued success of the City of London and of the profession, participates in charitable activity and enjoys attending stimulating and interesting events. It allows members to give back something to the City and the profession, engaging with their peer group across the profession and hearing quality speakers in unique venues.

Membership of the Company

All members of the Company must be members of ICAEW. ICAEW members of good standing can apply for membership, regardless of gender, race, religion, age, sexual orientation etc. The Company is limited to 350 Liverymen. There is no limit to the number of Freemen. At present we have around 280 Liverymen and 120 Freemen. Some two-thirds of our members are based in London and the South-East. We have some members based outside the UK.

The four pillars of our mission

- **Civic:** To contribute to the governance of the Corporation of London, influencing the agenda of the City of London and participating actively in the life of the City.
- **Business and professional:** To influence the broader business debate, promote the values and objectives of the profession and nurture leadership.
- **Charitable:** To give back to society, to direct our efforts and funds to relevant sustainable causes and communities and to leverage the skills and experience of our members.
- **Fellowship:** To engage effectively with our members, with the broader livery movement and with our profession, whilst enjoying ourselves.

Support for the City and the Lord Mayor

Liverymen are entitled to participate in civic elections. All members can take part in other civic events, supporting the Mayoralty and its themes each year, which can include the provision of expert input through the Financial Services Group of Livery Companies and engaging with other Liveries, Guilds, Wards, and connected and affiliated organisations.

Fostering the profession of accountancy

Members are ICAEW Members from industry, commerce, the third sector and professional accountancy firms. The Company provides a forum for leaders in our profession to contribute and listen to views and opinions on matters of current interest. It has a complementary role to ICAEW and is an ambassador for our members' interests within the City of London.

Supporting our Charitable Mission, both financially and in other ways

A crucial part of the Company's task is support of the Profession and wider community. The financial vehicle for such support is our Charity. The Charity's Expendable Endowment has grown over the

years due to the generosity of our members. At 30th September 2020 it stood at £1,965,087 and the Unrestricted funds stood at £134,609. The Charity typically distributes grants of £150-200,000 a year although they have distributed an additional £200,000 during the pandemic. Within their Charitable Objects, the Trustees tend to support (in no particular order):

- Causes introduced by members of the Company and causes in which members are involved.
- Causes related to education for all ages, with a focus on core enabling skills, such as financial literacy, numeracy, literacy and digital skills.
- Causes that will increase social mobility and alleviate poverty in children and youth in need.
- Causes where the grant will make a significant difference.
- Causes which are associated with the accountancy profession, the City or the Livery.

Members are expected to contribute annually to the Livery Charity and it is hoped that a legacy is included in their estate planning. These are private decisions but, as a guide, many Company members make an annual contribution to the Livery Charity which broadly matches the sum they pay in their annual quarterage. Other support of the Company's charitable mission, volunteering for example, is organised through the Livery Committee.

Fellowship

Having joined, members will enjoy taking part in our events and meeting other members. Usually, membership of the Livery is for life. We would encourage members to try to attend at least one of the Livery Dinners and some other functions each year, but there is no requirement to attend a certain number of events. Whilst often Liverymen and Freemen do work together, or for one another, this is a by-product of the fellowship and not a 'raison d'être' for Membership.

We are especially proud of our four main 'black tie' dinners which we hold each year, one of which is held at the very prestigious Mansion House, and definitely a dinner not to be missed. We also once a year hold a Master's Weekend where we visit interesting and historic places. In August 2021, we visited Portsmouth and had dinner on HMS Victory – a once in a lifetime event. But its not all 'black tie' dinners. The Livery also holds many events of a more informal nature such as quizzes, walks around London, cheese and wine tastings to name but a few. Being a member also enables one to get involved in 'inter Livery' activities and events such as golf, bridge, tennis, swimming, clay pigeon shooting, skiing and 'escorting' your sheep across London Bridge!

The costs of membership

For members over 40, the annual quarterage is £400. If a contribution of an equivalent amount is made to the Charity, the membership costs about £800 annually, to which must be added the costs of events and functions attended. For those under 40 the annual costs are around £200 a year (£150 quarterage and a suggested £50 to the Charity) plus the cost of events and functions attended.

What happens next?

If you would like to apply to join the Company, please do complete the application form which can be found on our website. Usually two members would sponsor your application, by signing the application form.

If you don't know any members or have any questions, please contact the Clerk to the Company, Jonathan Grosvenor, at clerk@accountantslivery.org or on 01865 – 582350 or 07799 - 427850.