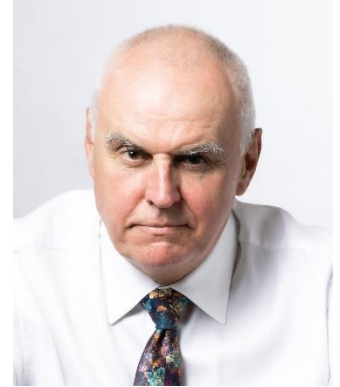


# STEVE CANT - ELECTION ADDRESS FOR 1st WARDEN

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**Sponsor: 1W John Pulford. Seconders: PM John Corneille and PM David Peregrine-Jones.**

I wish to support the Company's aim to become a vibrant and great modern Livery Company by working as a member of its leadership team alongside the Master, other Wardens, Committee Chairs and Court. These are challenging times for the Company, and the short-term challenges are to navigate through the Covid-19 crisis and to work towards restoration of our normal range of activities. Beyond that I plan to continue working with the Master and Wardens to implement our 3-year strategy. The Company's pro bono work undertaken for charities gives it a distinct position amongst livery companies, and I am particularly keen on leveraging our pro bono efforts across the third sector to optimise social impact, by supporting organisations (such as YBI and the Fore) that themselves support organisations involved in front line delivery.



As First Warden, I will draw upon over 30 years consulting experience gained in working in senior management consultancy roles with Price Waterhouse, PwC, Cornwell and Capita Management Consultants, and latterly as an independent. I have run my own business - ChangeAgility Ltd - since 2000.

If the Court wishes, I should like to progress to Master.

## Professional background

I am an Economics Graduate of the City University and started my career in London Transport as a management trainee in 1974. A decade later a career in Finance looked a better bet than in transport, although I always think that the time I spent as a train driver on the Central line was very well spent and, to this day, I take an active interest in public transport. After qualifying in Accountancy in 1984, I worked as a management accountant in the private sector before joining Price Waterhouse in 1990.

As for consulting experience, my journey has taken me from advising UK Government Departments on commercial accounting to leading international transformation programmes for large private sector organisations, by way of detours into Central and Local government. Over the past 8 years I have gained some good experience in the not for profit sector via our Pro Bono work and even returned to my roots as an accountant. So, I am lucky enough to have worked across all the main sectors and to have some broad international experience too. My specialism, if I have one, is "IT-Enabled Change".

## Contribution

As an enthusiastic and committed Member of the Worshipful Company of Management Consultants, I have represented, and contributed to, the Company in a variety of ways over the past few years including:

- Court Assistant since 2016 and 2<sup>nd</sup> Warden currently
- Actively supported the Company's response to the Covid-19 crisis, working closely with the Wardens and helping to organise several virtual events

- I was invited by the Master to contribute to the further development of our three-year strategic plan and organised a Court Workshop in March 2020 whereupon the Covid-19 lockdown interrupted things!
- I was also invited to carry out a review of the Charitable fund (with Geoff Berridge), which, despite being done entirely virtually, is nearing completion
- I have been editor of the Company Newsletter, which was issued monthly during the crisis, for the past 12 months
- Member of the Pro Bono Committee since 2013 and Chaired it from January 2017 to October 2018
- Carried out two accreditation reviews for Youth Business International, one in the UK and one in South Africa
- Acted as Consultant Grant Assessor for The Fore on three separate funding rounds since 2017, securing funding totaling more than £130k for a range of charities. (I was paid about £1500 for this work, which I donated to the Company for use in support of the Pro Bono Committee's activities)
- I have worked on a range of pro bono assignments over the years, often focused on managing change or workshop facilitation. One such assignment led to me working for "Volunteering Matters" during the summer of 2018 as Interim Finance Director - a successful financial turnaround resulted. More recently I have been asked to become a Trustee of one Pro Bono Client (Art History LinkUp)
- Supported the efforts of the Membership Committee by creating a new "New Members Information Pack" during lockdown
- Provided support and guidance to the CMCE team
- Attended many Company events and have joined in with virtual events regularly during lockdown
- I have enjoyed the Company's spirit of camaraderie.

## Goals

As 1st Warden, my Goals with the Company would be to continue my involvement in the Governance of the Company while continuing with pro bono work. If elected as First Warden I shall be well placed to support the new Master and the Company's management team in the delivery of the agreed priorities in the areas of Philanthropy, Education and Fellowship. I plan to continue production and editorial duties for the Company Newsletter later in 2020 with the aim of engaging existing members and promoting the work we all do. As 1st Warden I would be well placed to connect with all aspects of the Company's activities and with members both through the Court of Assistants and attendance at Company events.

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