



## THE COMPANY OF MERCHANT TAYLORS

### **Master 2020-21 Mr Jonathan David Leach**

Jonathan was educated at Prince Henrys Grammar School Otley and Liverpool University graduating in law. After taking professional examinations and pre-qualification work in Leeds, Jonathan qualified as a solicitor in 1981. Soon afterwards he moved to York to work for a long-established local firm of solicitors quickly becoming a Partner specialising in Litigation. He later took on the role of Managing Partner which he held for many years during which time the firm grew to become one of the largest in the area. Jonathan retired from private practice in 2014 after 33 years.

He became a part time civil judge in 1992 and a part time Coroner in 1995 taking up a permanent position in 2014 as Senior Coroner for York and then Area Coroner for Leeds and Wakefield. He retired from the latter full-time position earlier this year but continues as both a deputy District Judge and Coroner on a part-time basis.

Jonathan became a member of the Company in 1998 despite having no links with tailoring.

He has always been active in the Charity sector having been Chair of various organisations including York Citizens Advice Bureau and York Family Mediation Service. He has also been a governor of two schools including a period as Chair of a large secondary now ranked Outstanding by OFSTED. He remains the chair of an educational charity.

Always a keen sportsman Jonathan played rugby union before turning to refereeing the sport attaining a high level. He now plays golf and 5 a side football.

Jonathan has been married to Trish for 35 years. They live in York and have 2 children. Trish has had a varied career but her main interest is horticulture and she has a degree in garden design. Her recent retirement is allowing her to spend more time pursuing that interest.