

Mrs Marsha Rae Ratcliff (Master Carman, Installed 19 October 2016)

I was born in Iowa and raised in Montana USA. I studied Art and Drama in College and at the age of 18 moved to Seattle Washington to start my career. Whilst still in my 20's and raising a family I founded "Motto & Motif" a Creative Graphic & Design Company with customers including Boeing, Continental Airlines and Northwest Airlines who were my introductions to the transport industry.

I moved to England in 1978, and joined the Worshipful Company of Carmen. My husband John was elected to the Court in 1986 and was Master in 1997/98 when I became a Liveryman in my own right.

While serving on the board of The Variety Club of Great Britain, I created the concept of "Gold Heart Day" which is Variety's largest International Annual Fundraiser and is still raising millions of pounds each year throughout the world. In 1992, I became the first Lady to become Chief Barker of the Variety Children's Charity, raising millions with special emphasis on transportation for the disabled through Sunshine Coaches and Electric Chair Committees. In 1993 we were honoured to be awarded the International Caring Award in Washington D.C. presented by the Caring Institute.

I work closely with the Miss World's Charity, "Beauty with a Purpose", which has ongoing charitable projects around the World in more than 120 Countries.

I have served as a Vice President of Variety International, as Chairman of the International Fund Raising Committee and as Chairman of the International Presidents' Council which was comprised of all Past International Presidents that oversee and advise on all aspects of Variety Globally.

I am currently a Vice President of London Youth and previously held the post as Chairman of their Ladies Committee working closely with them as Chairman of The Variety Youth Committee for the last 13 years.

I have been pleased to create and contribute several pieces of original artwork for our own Carmen events as well as the illustrations for Bishop Bill Down's book of Prayers.

I am a Director of The Ratcliff Group and assist my husband in his positions as Chairman of the IRTE and Patron of the SOE as well as Chairman of The Ratcliff Group.