



ROY HARRIS FBHI
MASTER OF THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF CLOCKMAKERS – 2017



Roy left school when he was 15 years old and went straight into a five year mechanical engineering apprenticeship with the National Coal Board (NCB) at central workshops. To this day he believes it was one of the finest ever offered, covering all aspects of machinery and engineering skills that were involved in mining.

Leaving the NCB shortly after the completion of his apprenticeship he was employed as an Inspection Quality Control Engineer by the Lindustries Group. He worked on the construction of the Hinckley Point B reactor and mainly the development and manufacture of rigid weld pipes for the Rolls Royce RB211 engine which evolved into the Trent engine series as we know it today.

After a short spell as a Works Manager of a small engineering company Roy entered the world of Further Education (FE) as a Lecturer. His 23 year career there culminated as a Section Head and Senior Lecturer. One of the most bizarre occasions was when he found himself teaching a Quality Assurance course in the newly setup Toyota factory Derby, a company whose philosophy is the foundation of modern day thinking on quality control.

It was during this period in FE that he decided to enrol on the British Horological Institute's Distance Learning Course. After completing the final year, in which he achieved a mark of 96% in the practical, Roy set up a part time business which, in 1996, became his full time occupation. Buying and restoring antique clocks of all descriptions, he exhibited at major fine art and antique fairs throughout the UK. His wife Sandra, played an important role on the financial side as bookkeeper, freeing up time for him to spend long hours undisturbed in the workshop. Over the past ten years he has specialised in marine chronometers and lantern clocks which has resulted in him building up a loyal clientele.

Roy and his wife Sandra, who is also a Liveryman of the Clockmakers' Company, live in a North Cotswolds Area of Outstanding National Beauty conservation village, a world away from the City of London. His other interests are fly fishing, gardening, music and dance which often take place at the same time especially when by a river or lake!