

## Master Lightmonger 2018/2019



## **Mr Stephen Thomas**

Stephen was born in Kings Lynn, Norfolk and attended Warren Wood School Rochester and Medway College of Technology. He studied for his MBA with the Open University and commenced his working life as a Trainee with South Eastern Electricity Board. He spent time in their whole area of activity from accountancy, drawing office, electrical contracting, to retail shops, stores and public lighting.

He progressed through the Company and held managerial posts as a Customer Service Manager at East Kent, Maidstone, Guildford, Teddington and Croydon. These latter appointments made one responsible for all services to 2.5 million customers and nearly 1000 staff.

During the privatisation of the Energy Industry he was seconded to the Electricity Privatisation Team working with Government on the floatation of the Electricity Supply Industry.

In the newly privatised organisation he was appointed as Project Manager on the largest change undertaken by the Utility. A multi-million-pound programme re-engineering the whole of Seeboard's Information Systems and implementing the latest digital technologies to reduce costs and improve service.

Stephen is founder and CEO to the Literacy Charity *Let's Read Ltd* as well as a volunteer tutor teaching struggling children to learn to read. He thoroughly enjoys his work supporting and encouraging the young to read. Let's Read tutors teach 100+ children each year to read. His charity also provides free books each school term to 1000 children, most of whom have no books at home.

Stephen has been a member of the Worshipful Company of Lightmongers since 1996, clothed as a Liveryman in 2009 and elected on to the Court in 2013. He also served as Clerk of the Company for a three-year period.

Stephen has three sons, Marc, Stuart and Andrew. He enjoys Motor Sport, Cricket, Rugby, Theatre, Music, World Travel, Reading, Food and Wine.