



## *The Worshipful Company of Lightmongers*

**Michael Simpson FREng**  
**Master Lightmonger 2016-2017**

Michael was born in South London in 1954 and is married to Josephine with one son, two daughters and two grandchildren. He decided at an early age that lighting was his passion and inspired by the theatre but without any dedicated courses chose to study electrical engineering at South Bank Polytechnic, specialising in Illuminating Engineering. This interest has followed him through the various roles in his career.



In 1977 he joined Philips Lighting in the UK and with a 6 year break with UK manufacturer Marlin Lighting has worked with Philips continuously in technical and design roles. Included amongst the various projects he has worked on are the exterior lighting of St Pauls Cathedral, Tower Bridge (pre 2012) and lighting for the London 2012 Olympics. In 2015 he became the global lighting application lead and his most recent project is a 100 year old rail bridge over the Mississippi in Memphis. He has presented papers on lighting design and technology globally.

During his career he has been President of the Institution of Lighting Professionals (ILP), the Society of Light and Lighting (SLL) and the Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE). He has supported the development of education in lighting for the last 25 years and teaches on the MSc in Light and Architecture at UCL and on the undergraduate lighting programs at Rose Bruford College and Brunel University. In 2014 he was awarded an Honorary Fellowship from Rose Bruford and elected a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering.

Keeping with the lighting theme, Michael has been lighting shows for local amateur groups for the last 46 years, meeting his wife during one of them. His children have all subsequently forged careers in the Theatre and he is waiting to see if the grandchildren will follow suit. When not lighting he enjoys DIY and travel.

He joined the Worshipful Company of Lightmongers in 1994 and became a Freeman in 1996.