



James Gerald Leahy (55)

Having enjoyed the peripatetic upbringing as the son of a diplomat, James seemed destined to travel for a living. He attended Tonbridge School and the University of Cape Town, returning to England in the early 1980's to start *Reading & Leahy*, a bespoke furniture design and small scale manufacturing company. Trading in rare timber led to commodity trading and, by the mid 1980's, a job on the London Metals Exchange.

James spent 30 years in the City, principally in the mining industry as a specialist corporate broker, including mining finance, origination and equity sales. He has worked on a wide range of projects, worldwide, ranging from industrial minerals, precious metals, copper, diamonds, coal, uranium and iron ore. Having worked at James Capel, Credit Lyonnais, Nedbank, Canaccord and Mirabaud, he has substantial experience with international institutional fund managers, hedge funds and sector specialists. He is currently a director of Bacanora Minerals which is developing a lithium resource in Mexico and the listed fund, Geiger Counter Ltd, investing in uranium companies. As a diversion away from commodities, James is also a director of Fine and Dandy Ltd, co-producer of an award winning touring musical, *20th Century Boy*, which he hopes will make it to the West End stage soon!

James is the Chairman of Governors at The Judd School in Kent and treasurer to the Old Tonbridgian Sailing Association, which races yachts in the Arrow Trophy and has competed in the Round The Island Race for the last six years. He is a keen amateur gardener, which includes tending to his small woodland in Kent. He lives in London with his wife Alison. They have two sons, Edward (28) and Kit (24), both Old Tonbridgians.

