

The Worshipful Company of Tobacco Pipe Makers & Tobacco Blenders



Roger Brookes Master 2018-19

Roger Brookes was installed as Master of the Worshipful Company of Tobacco Pipe Makers & Tobacco Blenders on 7th June 2018.

He gained the Freedom of the Company in 1991 and was gowned with the Livery that same year. Roger joined the Court of Assistants in 2000 and chaired the Company's Membership Committee between 2009 and 2016.



Roger has worked in financial services in the City of London throughout his career, initially for banks including Barclays and Santander culminating in roles focused on investing proprietary capital in high yielding European loans and bonds. In 2003, he changed direction to become a securities broker handling a range of structured products, equities and specialist funds at Edmond de Rothschild Group and Bear Stearns. He was working at Bear Stearns when it collapsed in 2008...

Roger went on to become Head of Investor Relations for Conversus Capital, a listed fund of private equity funds. With assets of \$2.5 billion, Conversus was one of the largest funds of its type in the market at that time. Following the sale of the business in 2013, Roger partnered with the former Chief Executive of Conversus to co-found Carolon Capital in 2014 which they continue to run today.

Carolon Capital is a marketing and distribution business that raises capital for equity funds managed by third-party investment managers. The capital raised is sourced from institutional investors and wealth management groups in the UK and Europe.

Roger is married to Sally, also a Liveryman of the Company. It is Sally that is directly associated with the tobacco industry, her father being the third generation to run a family business that began as a manufacturer of briar wood pipes, most notably the Falcon brand. Sally's father and grandfather have been Masters of the Company. Sally is the third lady in her family to be Mistress.

Roger and Sally recently celebrated thirty years of marriage and have two children both of whom are studying modern languages at University; their son studies Russian and Portuguese at the University of Bristol, their daughter studies Spanish and Italian at the University of Oxford.

When time permits, Roger enjoys rock climbing and mountaineering, mainly in the UK and Europe. The highest peak that he has scaled is Aconcagua in Argentina, one of the Seven Summits. At almost 7,000 metres, it is the highest mountain in the world outside the Himalaya.