MASTER UPHOLDER 2017-18



Judy S. Tayler-Smith, BA, DipEgy, FSA Scot

Judy was born and grew up in the City of London and now lives close to the Barbican with her husband, Simon. Her education was at the University of London and the Institute of Archaeology UCL. She is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. She also studied at the WSET School, where she obtained advanced qualifications in Wines, Spirits and Other Beverages.

Being a City-born child, Judy established involvement with the Civic City 31 years ago when she began employment with the City of London Corporation. She has worked in a variety of capacities in the Libraries and Archives Department, both at the City Business Library and the Guildhall. She has written many articles for City newsletters and magazines both on food and wine, but mainly on the City and its history.

Judy is a well-known face throughout the City. Recent and current roles include: Master of the Worshipful Company of Upholders (2017- Present), President of the City Livery Club (2012-13; and a Company Director of the Club from 2005-Present), Master of Cripplegate Ward Club (2013-14), President of Farringdon Ward Club (2015-16), Master of the Tanners Company of Bermondsey (2016-17; and the first lady Master since its Royal Charter in 1703), Court Assistant of the Worshipful Company of Basketmakers, Afeeror for the Guildable Manor of Southwark, Grand Commandeur, Chancelier & Maître des Armes, for the Confrérie du Sabre d'Or, and Dame Officier of the Ordres des Coteaux de Champagne.

She is also a member of the 'Great 13', Past Masters' Association, a Committee Member of the 'Prime Masters', Past Masters' Association; a member of the Lady Masters' Association; a life member of the Guild of Freemen, a member of the Royal Society of St. George (City of London and Westminster Branches) and a member of the United Wards' Club. Other past roles include, Chairman and Hon. Secretary, City Livery Wine Circle (Founder member), Chairman of the International Wine and Food Society, London Branch; Hon. Archivist of the Worshipful Company of Upholders; Hon Archivist of the City Livery Club, Member of the Governing Body of the United Wards' Club, Junior Vice Chairman of the City Livery Music Section, Constable for the City of London for the Confrérie du Sabre d'Or.

Judy's main interests include the City, collecting antiquities, jewellery, science fiction/fantasy films, classical music/opera, fine dining, wine and champagne.