



Election of Sheriffs for Candidature

Peter J Cook BSc MRSC

2 Hawthorne Close
Bickley
Kent BR1 2HJ

May 2009

Chairman
Nigel Pullman

Agent and Secretary
Paul Herbage

The Master and Court of the
Worshipful Company of Plaisterers

Roger Adcock
Richard Agutter
John Allen
Robert Alston CMG QSO DL
Miles Baird
Commodore Antony Barrett CBE
RD DL RNR
Andrew Benke
Sir Henry Beverley KCB OBE
James Blott
Mark Boleat CC
Nigel Branson
Dr John Briscoe LVO
Clifford Bygrave
Colonel Bill Chesshyre
Jim Clarke OBE BEM
Peter Clark
Charlotte Clifford
David Cole-Adams
Sir Frederick Crawford DL
Richard Cunis
Roger de Pilkington
Deputy Robin Eve
Lieutenant General Sir
Robert Fry KCB CBE
The Baroness Garden
Andrew Gillett
Lady Graham
Brian Harrison CBE
Sir Michael Harrison Bt
Michael Hart
Ian Head
Sue Hughes
Robert Hughes-Penney CC
John Hutchins
Christopher Jeal
Roy Jennings
Chris Latham
Michael Lepper
Robin Leuchars
Brian Lowings
Richard C Martin
Sir Francis McWilliams GBE
The Very Reverend Dr
John Moses KCVO
Freda Newcombe
Barbara Newman CBE CC
Patricia Norland
Major General David
Pennefather CB OBE
Dr Andreas Prindl CBE
Sheila Robinson TD
Vivian Robinson QC
Lieutenant General Sir
Robin Ross KCB OBE
Lieutenant Colonel John
Salmon OBE
Brian Smith OBE DL
Lady Stewart MBE
John Tompkins
David Vermont
Tim Waller
Vice Admiral Sir James
Weatherall KCVO KBE DL
Deputy Michael Welbank CC
John White
Brigadier Roy Wilde CBE

To the Liverymen of the City of London

My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Encouraged by many friends in the Livery, the City, the Court of Common Council and supported by the Master, Wardens and Court of the Worshipful Company of Plaisterers, I offer myself as a candidate for the High Office of Sheriff of the City of London at the Election to be held in Common Hall at Guildhall on **Wednesday 24th June 2009 at 12 noon**. I invite you to use one of your two votes in support of me, and the other in support of Alderman David Wootton.

Born in 1941, I was educated at King Edward VI Grammar School, Aston, Birmingham. In 1960 I was awarded a Kingsley Fairbridge Scholarship to study at the, then, new University of Rhodesia & Nyasaland, where I obtained a London University degree in Chemistry. I joined the Blue Circle Cement Group in Salisbury Rhodesia (now Harare, Zimbabwe) in 1964, and was transferred to the UK in 1970. In 1977 I took over the running of the Group's decorative products activities and established Blue Circle Sandtex Limited of which I was Chief Executive. In 1986 I led a Management Buy Out for that part of the operation that manufactured plasters, renders and related building products. We formed our own company Snowcem PMC Limited, which was run by myself and my wife, Julie. For ten years we developed this enterprise, both in the UK and overseas, establishing a manufacturing plant in the Middle East and undertaking major consultancy work in India. In 1996 we sold our business and retired to take up new challenges.

I was admitted as a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Plaisterers in 1982, joined the Court in 1996, and became Master in 2000 – 2001, the year of the Company's 500th Anniversary. I joined the board of the property company that runs Plaisterers' Hall in 1998 and became Chairman in 2003, with responsibility for directing the total business operations to ensure the Hall became a viable commercial enterprise.

My involvement with the wider Livery has been as a member of the Livery Committee since 2002, and as Chairman of its Communication Working Group since 2007. During this time my Working Group has introduced a number of significant changes that have ensured more Liverymen have had the opportunity of receiving guidance and training on the workings of the City Corporation. I wish to build on this experience and assist in the furtherance of communications between the Livery, Mansion House, and Guildhall. I was the founder chairman of my Past Masters' Association, and am a member of the Aldersgate Ward Club.

My wife, Julie, was born in Hungary and her family left their home after the revolution in 1956. She gained her degree, in French, at the University of Rhodesia & Nyasaland. She has always been involved with charity work and spent some seven years working for the Citizens Advice Bureau and now works with the charity Smile International. She has had a lifelong interest in art, music and the theatre, and a great love of languages and travel. She is giving me her whole-hearted support in this venture, as are our two grown-up children.

Having worked with many cultures in different continents, and having come to the City as a client in order to facilitate my Management Buy Out, I wish to help the City retain its role as a global leader. My increased involvement with the City, the Mayoralty and the Livery, has resulted in a passionate interest and support for them all. I wish to take a more active role and, in so doing, I wish to further enhance the communications process between all parties.

I will support the Lord Mayor in his worldwide role to the very best of my ability.

I have the honour to be, my Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

Peter Cook
Citizen and Plaisterer