



BRIDGE WARD CLUB

founded 1930

President: Alderman Alan Yarrow

Chairman: Mr Paul Taylor

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The Role of the Queen's Remembrancer

Talk by Master Steven Whitaker

Church of St Magnus: Thursday 25 February 2010 – 6.30 pm

The Office of the Queen's Remembrancer is the oldest judicial post to remain in continual existence since the Middle Ages now that the Lord Chancellor has decided to renounce his judicial duties. The office is held by the Senior Master of the Queen's Bench Division who since 2007 has been Master Steven Whitaker, also a member of Bridge Ward Club. Steven Whitaker has kindly agreed to speak to a meeting of the Club on Thursday 25 February about the role of the Queen's Remembrancer.

The original role back in the 12th century was to help the sovereign "remember" the things owing to him. When the revenue functions of the Court of Exchequer ceased in the 19th century the Remembrancer assumed all the ceremonial duties of the Court and still takes care of the seal of Office of the Chancellor of Exchequer. He continues to preside over two of the oldest legal ceremonies - the Rendering of the Quit Rents to the Crown and the Trial of the Pyx, both dating from the 13th century.

At the Quit Rents Ceremony the Queen's Remembrancer receives the newly elected Sheriffs of the City of London and gives each of them their Warrant of Approbation. The Trial of the Pyx, now held in Goldsmiths Hall, involves the swearing in of a jury of goldsmiths who measure a sample of gold coins produced by the Royal Mint. Pyx refers to the name of the box in which the coins are kept.

Master Steven Whitaker was called to the Bar in 1973 and practiced as a barrister specialising in property and professional negligence. He became a Deputy District Judge in 1995 and Master of the Supreme Court, Queen's Bench Division in 2007. He is a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Glaziers & Painters of Glass.

The talk will be followed by drinks and a buffet.

Applications with a cheque for £12.00 per person should be submitted as soon as possible and no later than Wednesday 17 February.

Bridge Ward Club: The Role of the Queen's Remembrancer – Thursday 25 February 2010

Please reserve ____ places for the talk by Master Steven Whitaker at St Magnus
(cheque for £12.00 per person payable to Bridge Ward Club).

Name: _____
Guests: _____
