Supporting role

Two Sheriffs will provide vital assistance to the Lord Mayor over the coming year

The office of the Sheriff in the City of London pre-dates that of Lord Mayor. Until the establishment of the mayoralty in 1189, Sheriffs, or 'Shire Reeves', governed the City as the King's representatives, collecting taxes and enforcing law.

Nowadays, two Sheriffs of the City of London are elected on Midsummer Day each year by the City Livery Companies. Their main role is to support the Lord Mayor during official duties, attend on Her Majesty's

Judges at the Old Bailey and, on rare occasions, present petitions from the City to Parliament at the Bar of the House of Commons.

The Aldermanic Sheriff has to be an Alderman of one of the City's 25 wards, and his or her Shrieval year is seen as a kind of testing ground for a person who aspires to be elected Lord Mayor of London. Since 1385, the Lord Mayor must have previously served as a Sheriff (Lord Mayor Gifford was Sheriff during 2008-9).



Jeffrey Evans, Aldermanic Sheriff

Alderman for the Ward of Cheap, Jeffrey Evans has been elected to the office of Aldermanic Sheriff this year. He is looking forward to accompanying the Lord Mayor in London, on UK trips and abroad. "It's very important to promote the City and its business and cultural offer, and we need to get the City's total contribution better understood," says Jeffrey.

As managing director responsible for the Gas division at international shipbroker Clarkson plc, Jeffrey has worked in the City for 40 years and is very familiar with its maritime business. He joined Clarksons after studying Economics at Pembroke College, Cambridge and was soon sent to Oslo as a trainee. Having been born in Gothenburg, Sweden - and being a quarter Norwegian - it strengthened Jeffrey's connection with Scandinavia.

He served as Prime Warden of the Worshipful Company of Shipwrights in 2006 and is also a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths and of the World Traders. He is a Governor of the City of London Academy Islington, and of Bridewell Hospital (King Edward's School, Witley). He is also an Almoner of Christ's Hospital School.

However, many of Jeffrey's charitable involvements are connected with the maritime world. He is President of the City of London Sea

CC It's a great honour to serve in this ancient office >> Jeffrey Evans, Aldermanic Sheriff

Sheriff Jeffrey Evans at Guildhall