

INTERNATIONAL BANKERS

The Worshipful Company of International Bankers is one of the most recent additions to the Livery, and number 106 in the order of precedence. It was founded as a Guild in 2001 and constituted a full Livery Company in 2004.

"No one could understand why there wasn't a bankers' guild beforehand," says Mark Garvin, the Company's Master for 2012-13. "The [Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths were historically the closest to the bankers, but there was clearly a wish among the international banking community in London to have our own Company."

Before the Guild was founded, it hadn't been possible to form an international Company because of the regulations that precluded the granting of Freedom of the City (a requirement to be a Liveryman) to anyone other than British, British Commonwealth or European citizens. The City's Court of Common Council voted to extend the freedom to all, and the International

Bankers was founded. It now has more than 700 members drawn from around 250 companies and 50 countries.

Mark, chairman for Treasury & Securities Services, International at J.P. Morgan, was born in Rome and is a naturalised American.

He says: "The Company provides Fellowship, which is the traditional term for what we would today call networking. We also support a variety of charities focused on education and financial literacy, and schools around the City of London."

As well as scholarships to the City of London School for Boys and School for Girls, International Bankers funds the annual Lombard Prize for a promising business student. The Company also supports the Mansion House Scholarship Scheme to help oversees students get work experience in the City and The Brokerage Citylink, a charity that helps inner-city young people get jobs in the City.

In 2005, the International Bankers published a code of conduct with

the support of past Master - and erstwhile Governor of the Bank of England - Lord (Eddie) George, Mark explains that the principles of good conduct form a membership code for the International Bankers and include acting honestly, fairly and with integrity, while observing applicable laws and regulations.

The Company's float at this year's Show (which it is sharing with the Chartered Institute for Securities & Investment, Association of Foreign Banks and British Bankers Association) takes the theme 'Ethics in the City', in recognition of the emphasis on best practice in the Square Mile and beyond.

Mark is thrilled to have Roger Gifford as Lord Mayor of London: "I've worked in the City for 26 years and can't remember the last time we had a banker as Lord Mayor. Roger is very active in the Company and it is great to have one of our Liveryman as Lord Mayor. It will help us raise our profile and we'll obviously support him as much as we can."