# Her Majesty's Commission of Lieutenancy for the City of London



## Clerk: Lieutenant Colonel P L d'A Willis

# Her Majesty's Commission of Lieutenancy for the City of London

Her Majesty's Commission of Lieutenancy for the City of London is unique in that it is the only Lieutenancy in the country which includes some *ex officio* members, and all members are specifically appointed by the Crown as Lieutenants within the City of London with no Lord Lieutenant or Deputy Lieutenants as such, unlike the practice elsewhere in the United Kingdom.

1. The ex officio appointments are:

The Lord Mayor, who presides, *primus inter pares* Past Lord Mayors who are still Aldermen The senior Alderman below the Chair The Recorder of London The Common Serjeant The Governor of the Bank of England The head of another major financial institution The Commissioner of the City of London Police The Chairman of the City of London Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Association

As *ex officio* appointments, the status as a Lieutenant of the City of London ceases when the holder no longer occupies any of the offices above.

## 2. Responsibilities of the Lord Mayor:

a. To preside at the Special Court, usually held in March or April.

b. On the advice of the Standing Committee, to nominate one person to be appointed a Lieutenant for the City of London.

3. Appointments for life

Each year, one name is submitted to the Lord Chancellor with a request that he/she recommends to Her Majesty The Queen that that person be appointed one of Her Majesty's Lieutenants for the City of London. It is understood that the person nominated should be someone who is supportive of the Reserve Forces. They are likely to have served in one of the Services, Regular or Reserve, or have served with distinction in their community. This follows the pattern for appointment as a Deputy Lieutenant in one of the County Lieutenancies.

The Lieutenants are appointed annually by Letters Patent under the Great Seal to serve from Christmas Day to Christmas Day. Those appointed *ex officio* serve until the Christmas Day after they cease to be an Alderman or relinquish the job that caused them to be appointed. Those appointed by nomination are reappointed annually for life.

4. Roles of the Commission of Lieutenancy

This body as presently constituted owes its origins to the Second Militia Act of 1662. The Commission is issued annually under the Great Seal and is applied for by the Clerk.

It is the sole remaining Authority still empowered to levy a Trophy Tax. Under the 1662 Act Lord Lieutenants had been vested with full power and authority to array, arm and munition the Militia. To pay for the training and embodiment of the men, Trophy Money was levied locally.

The Clerk to Her Majesty's Commission of Lieutenancy for the City of London makes application on behalf of HM's Lieutenants, signed by nine of them, for the levying of the tax by submitting audited and notarised accounts to the Ministry of Defence, and requesting that a Royal Warrant be served on the Corporation of London for the payment of £4666 13s 4d. This sum was once levied monthly but was reduced to an annual payment and has remained in this amount since 1820.

The successors of the Militia, the City of London Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Association, applies to the Lieutenancy for grants from the money so levied. The list of grant applications from the volunteer units of the City is submitted to the Lieutenants for approval. Such grants are made for financing recruiting, the building of floats for the Lord Mayor's Show, and the purchase of equipment not provided by the Ministry of Defence but considered necessary by the units concerned.

This money continues to be levied in the City of London for the benefit of the descendants of the Militia which restored the monarchy to the throne in 1660.

#### 5. Responsibilities of the Lieutenants

To strengthen the links between the Lieutenants and the Reserve Forces, they subscribe to a society which, every two years, holds a dinner to which it invites a number of guests, usually the Commanding Officers or Officers Commanding the units which the Lieutenancy supports.

The Commission of Lieutenancy, through the Jubilee Shooting Prize Fund, has donated the winners' and runners' up prizes (engraved silver salvers) for the annual competition, run by the City's Reserve and Cadet units, in which City firms and organisations take part in a military skills competition. At the Special Court the Lord Mayor will require a Lieutenant to present the prizes at this competition.

#### 6. The Clerk to the Commission of Lieutenancy

The Clerk keeps the books and records and administers the Lieutenancy. The nature of the business of the Special Court of Lieutenancy and the Standing Committee is outlined in the Standing Orders.

## HER MAJESTY'S COMMISSION OF LIEUTENANCY FOR THE CITY OF LONDON

Although Greater London has a Lord Lieutenant and a number of Deputy Lieutenants, the Reserve Forces Act 1980, which consolidated most of the Lieutenancy legislation, also recognised the City as a separate county for the purposes of Lieutenancy and the Militia. Her Majesty's Commission of Lieutenancy for the City of London is unique in that it is the only Lieutenancy which includes some ex officio members, and all members are named by the Crown as Commissioners of Lieutenancy (HM's Lieutenant) with no Lord Lieutenant or Deputy Lieutenants as such. The Lord Mayor presides, primus inter pares.

This body as presently constituted owes its origins to the Second Militia Act of 1662. The Commission is issued annually under the Great Seal. It is the sole remaining Authority still empowered to levy a Trophy Tax. Under the 1662 Act Lord Lieutenants had been vested with full power and authority to array, arm and munition the Militia. To pay for the training and embodiment of the men, Trophy Money was levied locally. The Clerk to Her Majesty's Commission of Lieutenancy makes application on behalf of the Commissioners, signed by nine of them, for the levying of the tax by submitting audited and notarised accounts to the Ministry of Defence, and requesting that a Royal Warrant be served on the Corporation of London for the payment of £4666 13s 4d. This sum was once levied monthly but was reduced to an annual payment and has remained in this amount since 1820. This money continues to be levied in the City of London for the benefits of the descendants of the Militia which restored the monarchy to the throne in 1660.

The Rt Hon The Lord Mayor Alderman William Russell

Alderman Nicholas Anstee Sir John Bond Mark Carney Esq Major Barney Cockcroft LVO DL Rear Admiral Sir Jeremy de Halpert KCVO CB Colonel Simon Duckworth OBE DL CC Colonel Nigel Easton QVRM TD Alderman Sir Roger Gifford MA Captain Paul Hill RD RNR Colonel Brian Kay OBE TD DL Professor Roy Leighton DSc His Honour Judge Richard Marks QC Major General Ranald Munro CBE TD VR DL Paul Orchart Esq MA Air Commodore Delva Patman FRICS ACIArb FRSA Colonel Nigel Pullman **Colonel Dominic Reid OBE** Viscount Trenchard DL Sir Brian Williamson CBE MA Alderman Sir David Wootton MA

Colonel John Barkshire CBE TD JP DL Alderman Sir Charles Bowman Major General Keith Cima CB MA MBA Dame Elizabeth Corley CBE Paul Double Esq LVO Commissioner Ian Dyson QPM Dr Christopher Gardner-Thorpe MD FRCP FACP Colonel Mark Hatt-Cook OBE RD Major William Hunt TD FCA BA Alderman Vincent Keaveny Alderman Ian Luder CBE BSc(Econ) Colonel Sir Clive Martin OBE TD DL Major Tony O'Hagan TD DL Alderman Dr Sir Andrew Parmley Major John Phipson TD Sir William Purves CBE DSO Vice Admiral The Rt Hon the Lord Sterling of Plaistow GCVO CBE Colonel Michael Upson OBE TD MA MSc Dame Fiona Woolf DBE BA Hon LLD DL Alderman Sir Alan Yarrow Chartered FCSI (Hon)

Clerk to the Commission:

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