

**THE TWELFTH IN OUR “TALKING HEADS” SERIES TOOK PLACE ON 22<sup>ND</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021**

**LAURA DAVIES AND STEPHEN RICHARDS IN CONVERSATION**



Liverymen were treated to an excellent conversation between two impressive and articulate Liverymen - Laura Davies (clothed 2021) and Stephen Richards (clothed 2018) - over Zoom on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2021.

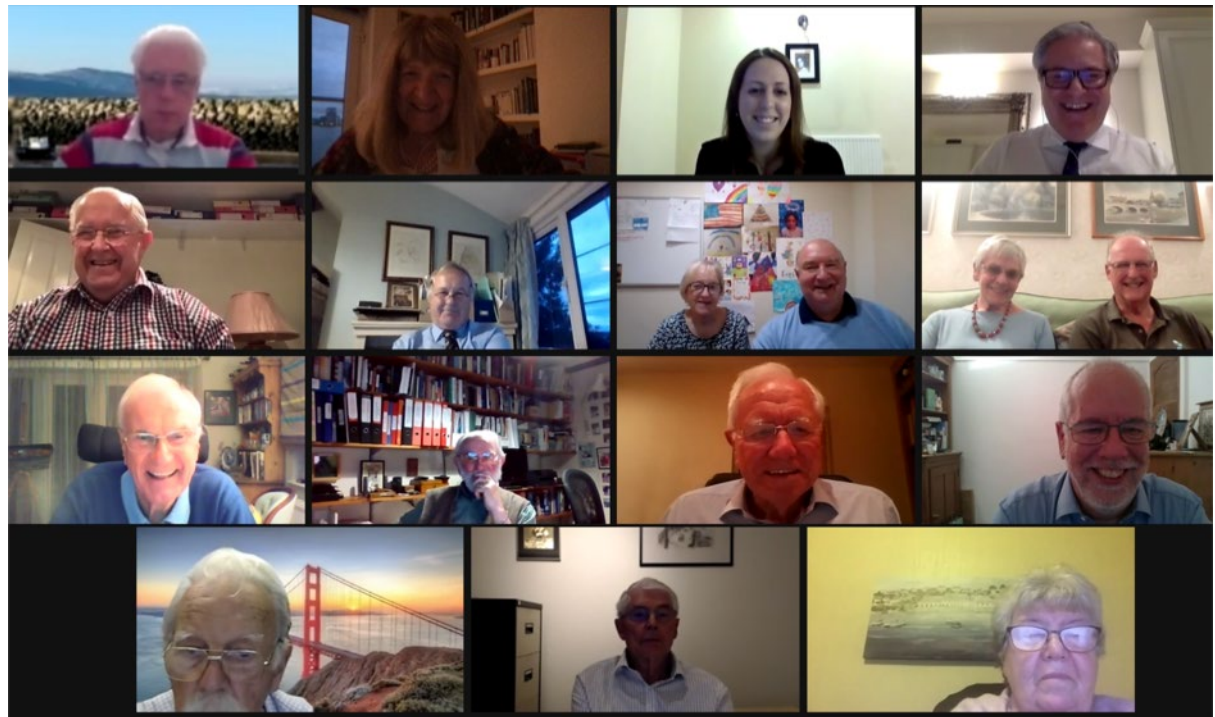
The two who, have never met face to face, treated us to a well planned discussion.

Laura won a Company Innovation Travel Scholarship in 2016 when she was studying at the University of Glamorgan. She was working for the Welsh Whisky Company at the Penderyn distillery. She used the money to visit Madeira to understand the process of wine production there and, in particular, learn about the Oak barrels which Penderyn use to mature their whisky. Since the award Laura has had two children, but still works with the Welsh Whisky Company where most recently she has been the Distillery Manager but on the day of the talking heads conversation was made responsible for all of the distilleries in the WWC – two - Hirwaun and Llandudno – currently operational and third - Swansea due to open shortly. Laura is currently on the Awards Committee of the WLCoW

Stephen is immensely proud of his Welsh heritage, having been born in Betws in Carmarthenshire. After studying Politics at Aberystwyth University he joined the Nat West graduate training scheme but in 1984, after 4 years in the profession of banker, decided that it wasn't the career he wanted and decided to change track and train to become a nurse at the School of Nursing attached to the Radcliffe Infirmary in Oxford. This qualification formed the foundation for his eventual career which initially included front line nursing roles followed by a move into management where he led a team of hospital Macmillan care nurses. He joined Macmillan Nurses as a director in 1997 and worked there until 2016 when he became the CEO of the Solving Kids Cancer charity, from which position he retired in 2020. He now works as a management consultant to third sector organisation and is involved with an innovative start up in Cardiff which is using virtual technology to help children cope with potentially traumatic procedures. Stephen has been living in London with his wife and has a 28 year old daughter. Stephen is on the WLCoW Charitable Events Committee

Both Laura and Stephen express a desire to give back and help young people on their career ladder as their key reason for joining WLCoW. Stephen has joined the London sub committee and hopes to become involved in activities in London particularly.

Both have recently been nominated to become Court Assistants and we look forward to their wise counsel and experience in helping to steer the Company in its journey post lockdown.



Talking Heads with Laura Davies and Stephen Richards in conversation. Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2021