



the Company of Servers

Membership Report to the Annual General Meeting

Saturday 24 April 2010

As National Membership Officer the first thing I must say is that the Company of Servers has got a lot of people, all over the country, talking. Enquiries about membership have been received from servers in at least 13 dioceses and from a different continent!

This year so far Chapters have been formed, in accordance with the CoS Constitution, in Norwich, St Albans, Ripon and Leeds and in Exeter. The chapter of Ripon and Leeds deserve special mention for having a magnificent 43 Companions in its membership. In the absence of Foundation Returns from these Chapters who are in the process of finalising bank and constitution details it is not possible to give an exact number of Companions but I estimate that it is approaching 100 servers. There are also a number of Associate Companions in the Company representing the clergy from our various home churches and, in addition, a number of SCP priests have been appointed as Chaplains to individual Chapters.

Within the next few months it is planned that a further 5 Chapters (York, Coventry, Two Cities, Bath and Wells and Canterbury) will be established and I am confident that more shall follow. Although this is an exciting number, especially considering the short time since the Company itself was founded, it is absolutely essential for Companions, and especially Chapter committees, to remember that merely founding the Chapter is not enough to maintain and develop the aims and ambitions of CoS as a whole. We all share the responsibility in promoting the Company and in encouraging others to become Companions and to support one another in the ministry we share at the altar. There has already been so much good work done, especially via the website and the CoS email, in publicising the Company and its aims but I wholeheartedly encourage Companions to continue this work and to add to our growing numbers wherever possible.

The latest addition to the Company website is a form for those interested in either joining or finding out more about local events, to complete and return either electronically or in the post. This will enable us to guide servers towards their nearest Chapter or encourage those making enquiries from the same area to meet and begin the process of the foundation of a new one. In addition to this literature remains available in the form of customised leaflets and posters for Chapters wishing to use them. Although the Company Handbook, which will be available to all members, is not yet available we look forward to working with Companions and Associate Companions in producing a resource which meets the needs of our membership and which will encompass the several traditions from which we come.

The outward symbol of our commitment to the ministry of serving is the very act itself but to enhance this we are delighted with the Company Medal which is designed to be worn whilst serving and these are available at a cost of £5 today, and every day.

www.companyofservers.org