



## **THE CITY WATER DEBATE**

**Sponsored by The Wet 10**

**Monday 5 March 2012**

### **Farmers & Fletchers' Hall**

3 Cloth Street, London EC1A 7LD (near Barbican Underground Station)

6.00 for 6.30pm: finish by 9.00pm



**with Sir John Beddington and Lord Redesdale**

#### **WATER – THE FUTURE**

*The Wet 10 invite members of your Company to attend the above debate.*

*The event, which will be conducted under Chatham House Rules, will comprise speeches by each of our guests followed by questions and debate with a reception afterwards. Each Livery is invited to submit a question in advance so that all aspects of the water cycle are covered.*

*Dress: business attire; badges will be worn.*

**Please reply using the attached form by Friday 3 February 2012**

The Water Related Livery Companies, commonly known as The Wet 10 are an informal group of both users and suppliers of water. We all depend on water in one way or another and all share a common concern for the long term health of the water environment. Our aim is to promote awareness, to contribute to debate and to be an influence for the good in this key area. Our current members are the Worshipful Companies of: Plumbers, Basketmakers, Gardeners, Farmers, the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators, Tobacco Pipemakers and Tobacco Blenders, Scientific Instrument Makers, Launderers, Environmental Cleaners, Constructors, Water Conservators, Firefighters and Watermen & Lightermen.

For further information on the Wet 10 see: [www.wet10.co.uk](http://www.wet10.co.uk)

This event is supported by Pennon Group PLC



## ***Key Water Issues***

*Nulla vita sine aqua; sine cloacis vita brevis\*.*

The Water Related Liveries draw attention to three particular issues.

First there is the decline in water resources in many parts of the world due to over-abstraction. Internationally we are seeing the virtual disappearance of major rivers such as Colorado and Jordan and of seas such as the Aral Sea. At the same time we are seeing mining of ancient ground water (which will not be replenished) in North Africa and Middle East and severe lowering of the water table in such areas as south west USA. The UK is not immune to this issue with increasing water stress in south east of England likely only to be aggravated by climate change.

Secondly, there is inadequate sanitation in many parts of the world. 1 billion people worldwide do not have access to clean drinking water and 2.6 billion, 40% of the world's population, do not have access to proper sanitation. Every six seconds a child dies of water related illness.

Thirdly, water supply in developed economies is a major energy user and contributor to greenhouse gas emissions and climate change. The water industry on its own accounts for 2% of the UK's energy use whilst more than twice that amount of energy is used on heating water by domestic users. Bottled water in particular can have significant adverse environmental effects because of the energy used in producing bottles and in transporting them – the average bottle in the UK is transported 900 miles. For these reasons the Wet 10 are committed to the use of tap water wherever possible at our events.

London has a particular perspective on the above issues. It led the world by cleaning up the River Thames in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century (after the so called 'Big Stink'), and is widely admired internationally for so doing. Clean drinking water and proper sanitation sustains the City's health whilst a clean 'Father Thames' is a key part of the City's beautiful environment.

Water is precious and we must use it wisely.

\*Without water there is no life; without sanitation life is short. (Worshipful Company of Water Conservators; Philip Fletcher CBE: Chairman of the Water Services Regulation Authority).



## *The Speakers*

### **Professor John Beddington MCG FRS**

Sir John Beddington was appointed as Government Chief Scientific Adviser (GCSA) on 1 January 2008. Since being in post, the GCSA has led on providing scientific advice to Government during the 2009 swine flu outbreak and the 2010 volcanic ash incident. The GCSA has also been responsible for increasing the scientific capacity across Whitehall by encouraging all major departments of state to recruit a Chief Scientific Adviser.

Throughout 2008 and 2009 Sir John raised the concept of the “*Perfect Storm*” of food, energy and water security in the context of climate change, gaining considerable media attention and raising this as a priority in the UK and internationally.

Prior to his appointment as GCSA, he was Professor of Applied Population Biology and headed the main departments of environmental science and technology at Imperial College. His main research interests are the application of biological and economic analysis to problems of Natural Resource Management.

Sir John has previously been advisor to a number of UK Government departments including the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Ministry of Defence and the Cabinet Office. He has also advised several Governments and international bodies including the Australian, New Zealand and US Governments, the European Commission, the United Nations Environment Programme and Food and Agriculture Organisation.

He was, for six years, a member of the Natural Environment Research Council. In June 1997 he was awarded the Heidelberg Award for Environmental Excellence, in 2001 he became a Fellow of the Royal Society. In 2004 he was awarded the Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George by Her Majesty the Queen and in June 2010 was awarded a knighthood in the Queen’s Birthday Honours.

### **Baron Redesdale OBE**

Rupert Redesdale has just completed twenty years in the House of Lords, eighteen on the frontbench of the Liberal Democrats where he held spokesperson position on International Development, Defence, Energy and Agriculture. He set up the Anaerobic Digestion and Biogas Association in 2009 which now has over 250 member companies. A strong advocate on the issue of climate change, he is Vice Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Climate Change Group. He has recently set up the Water Efficiency Certificate which will aim to replace inefficient water using products in homes and industry.



***The Clerk, Water Conservators Company,  
The Lark, 2 Bell Lane, Worlington, Suffolk IP28 8SE  
(WATERLCO@aol.com)***

I (name in blocks) .....

of ..... (Livery Company)

would like to attend the City Water Debate and bring  (number of guests)

I enclose a cheque for  £35.00 per head made payable to:

**“The Environmental Services Association”**

Special dietary requirements.....

Please note that spaces for this event are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis subject to ensuring a reasonable representation from each Company.

Tickets will not be issued for this event. Confirmation will be sent by email. Please note your email address below. If you do not have email then please advise either fax or telephone number:

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel No: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax No: \_\_\_\_\_

**Name(s) of guest(s)**

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

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