

**Harley Maxwell Patrick MA (Cantab).  
(1929-2018)**

**A Tribute to a Founder Member of the Worshipful Company of Insurers**

Harley Patrick was one of our few surviving founder members and a member of the Court upon the creation of the Company. He was born in London on the 20<sup>th</sup> January 1929 and died on the 4<sup>th</sup> February 2018, aged 89.

He joined the Livery at the same time as his boss at the Mercantile and General Reinsurance Company, Julius Neave, with whom he worked very closely for many years and who became our fifth Master. This may explain why he never became master himself, since an early unwritten convention frowned on selecting a master from a company that had already had a representative pass through the chair. Indeed Harley's own career progression was always somewhat in Julius's shadow, to the point that when he was not appointed, as widely anticipated, to succeed Julius as General Manager on his retirement from the M & G in 1982, he opted to resign and became General Manager & Chief Executive. of Tokio Reinsurance Company Ltd, the European subsidiary of the Tokio Marine & Fire Insurance Company Ltd of Tokyo, until his own retirement in 1991.

Harley was educated at Lockers Park and Glenalmond. After leaving school in 1946 he spent some months in Switzerland, at the Ecole Lemarsia in Lausanne, before being conscripted into the army. He was commissioned into the King's Own Scottish Borderers, served in Palestine during the 1948 Arab-Israeli War, and was subsequently posted to Cyprus, where he was promoted to the rank of Captain and became ADC to the Governor of Cyprus.

On completion of his National Service in 1949 Harley went up to Corpus Christi College Cambridge to read Law and Economics. Following his graduation in 1952 he joined the M&G and was very quickly seconded for a year to a French insurance group in Paris. He rose steadily through the ranks at the M&G and travelled extensively throughout his career, particularly to French-speaking territories. In 1975 he assumed responsibility for the whole of the Company's non-life business and subsequently became Deputy General Manager of the Group. For some eight years he was a member of the Executive Committee of the Reinsurance Offices Association (The ROA), serving as Chairman from 1978-1980.

Harley was a highly respected figure in the world of international reinsurance, excellent company, a genial and generous host, with a love for good food and wine, born of his early contact with French culture, but equally at home in the Wiltshire countryside where he settled in his later years. He is survived by his first wife Caroline and their three daughters, Sophie, Elisa and Millie

Dieter Losse  
April 2018

**Memorial Service : at 11.30am on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2018**  
**St Peter's Church**  
**Milton Lilbourne**  
**Pewsey**  
**Wiltshire SN9 5LQ**