

**CHRISTOPHER GILBERT SNEATH MBE C ENG FCIBSE FCGI  
FCIPHE Hon SoPHE (K51-56)**

He was born on 25 June 1938 and after leaving the College has had a distinguished career in the building engineering, heating, ventilating and allied industries.

He has also been back to the College and spoken to the boys of his old house Kerrison and talked about his career. This gave the boys an insight into engineering rather than the normal route to the construction business. One of the company's that he ran looked after all the Royal Palaces in London including Buckingham Palace, Houses of Parliament and the Tower of London. This covered a period of some 15 years.

He was awarded an MBE in the 2013 Queen's Birthday Honour List. It read as follows "Chairman, Watersafe, for services to the plumbing and heating industry".

He was awarded the St Michael Medallion by the Worshipful Company of Plumbers'. It is their highest award in recognition of his outstanding service to the plumbing and heating industry.

The St Michael Medallion was inaugurated in 1951. It is awarded for exceptional service and has only been presented 27 times. His presentation was delayed because of COVID and the citation from 2019 reads as follows:

***The Award of the St Michael Medallion to Past Master Christopher Gilbert Sneath MBE, CEng, FCIBSE, FCGIE, FCIPHE, FIET, Hon. FSoPHE.***

*Past Master Sneath was clothed of the Livery of the Worshipful Company of Plumbers in 2004 and having served as a Court Assistant became Master in 2011.*

*He has had a distinguished career in the building engineering, plumbing, heating, ventilating air conditioning and allied industries. Having been a Director of several companies termination with CJ Bartley Ltd in 2000, he became the voluntary Chairman of the Deputy Prime Minister's Construction Safety Working Group for 2000-2001. There followed a series of further Chairmanships including the Government's Sponsored "Licence to Practice Group", Chairman of "Britain's Favourite Plumber Award" and Chairman of the "Plumbing and Heating Alliance". Chris continues to Chair "WaterSafe" on behalf of the Company, which includes the "Licence to Practice", liaising with "City and Guilds" as the Company representative and the same for the "All Party Parliamentary Water Group". Chris was awarded the MBE in the 2013 Queen's Birthday Honours List, with that citation heading reading "Chairman, WaterSafe for services to the plumbing and heating industry, for outstanding work".*

*He is now closely involved with Havering Technical College and their new Plumbing Centre of Excellence, a scheme which is being copied throughout the country's technical colleges. To this end, he has created a bursary in his own name to provide additional training to NVQ apprentices at Levels 1, 2 and 3 in conjunction with SoPHE. Such a significant development is an inspiration to many young people entering the profession. Throughout all his time as a Liveryman, Past Master Sneath has made an outstanding contribution.*

*In recognition of his achievements and acknowledging his work and dedication to both the plumbing industry and the Company Past Master Sneath is awarded the St Michael Medallion.*



A detailed description of his career is given below:-

## **COMPANY**

1959 - 1961 Crane Ltd – Technical Sales Engineer  
1961 - 1968 GN Haden & Sons Ltd – Building Engineering Services Engineer  
1968 - 1992 Barrett & Wright Group 1971 - 1992 Managing Director  
1983 - 1992 Group Managing Director  
1968 - 1992 The City Plumbing & Heating Co Ltd. Director and Managing Director  
Gratte Barrett & Wright Ltd. Joint Venture Director  
1992 - 2000 AG Manly Group Ltd. Director  
1994 - 2000 CJ Bartley Ltd. Director  
1999 - 2001 BSC Consulting

## **ALLIED INDUSTRY SECTOR**

1976 Deputy Chairman District Heating Association  
1978 - 1982 Member Small Firms Council CBI  
1993 - 1994 Assessor for Services Sector on Sir Michael Latham's Government Review of the Construction Industry  
1993 - 1994 Chairman Working Group 3. Construction Industry Board Implementation process. Code of Practice for the Selection of Sub-Contractors. Also Code of Practice for Selection of Main Contractors.  
1998 - 2001 Joint Head of BSRIA Research Programme "The Uptake of Productivity Improvements"  
1999 - 2001 Deputy Chairman Construction Board  
2000 - 2001 Chairman, Deputy Prime Ministers Construction Safety Working Group  
  
2003 - 2004 Strategic Forum Implementation Group  
1999 - 2001 Chairman QSP and Sector Advisory Group for Construction  
2003 - 2004 Chairman Government Sponsored "Licence to Practice" Steering Group"  
2003 - 2005 Chairman "Britain's Favourite Plumber Award" Also 2017 and 2018.  
1999 - 2008 Chairman Plumbing & Heating Industry Alliance  
2008 - Chairman, WaterSafe Board

## **HEATING AND VENTILATING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION**

1979 - 1982 Chairman, London Region

1979 - 1988 Chairman, South East Region  
1986 - 2001 Chairman Commercial & Contractual Committee  
1989 - 1992 Chairman Financial Advisory Committee  
1983 - 2001 HVCA Council  
1992 - 1994 Casec Council  
1990 - 1991 President  
1996 - 1997 President  
1995           H&V News Gold Award  
2000           HVCA Distinguished Service Award

#### **MISC**

2002 - 2003 Chairman, Potters Bar Abbeyfield Trust  
2003 - 2005 Governor Mount Grace School, Potters Bar  
1991 -           Director & Trustee PHAB UK Ltd. (Charity for the integration of the Handicapped and Able Bodied).  
2007 - 2009 Chairman, Technical Committee, Worshipful Company of Plumbers  
2009 - 2010 Upper Warden, Worshipful Company of Plumber