

RENTER WARDEN DAVID R. H. ADAMS BIOGRAPHY October 2021



Born on the Isle of Wight (where David's father headed the IOW River Board) David studied Economic History at Exeter University graduating in 1980. He completed an MBA at Cranfield University in 1994 and is a Chartered Member of the Institute of Personnel & Development (CMCIPD).

David has worked in Human Resources throughout a career in American, Swiss, and British companies, taking a special focus on organisational development and leadership and seeking to build an engaged and productive workforce for sustained and positive impact on performance and culture.

David joined Tube Investments PLC in 1980, working for 6 years in factory HR. From 1986 to 1996 he worked at Parker Hannifin Corporation (manufacture of motion control products) becoming Head of Learning & Development Europe. He then worked for Guinness Brewing Worldwide for 2 years working on organisation effectiveness. From 1998 to 2004 David worked for SGS SA (worldwide inspection, verification and testing services) as global Vice President Organisation & Management Development, living in Geneva with his young family. Returning to the UK in 2004, David worked for Harsco Corporation (industrial services) until 2012 as HR Director Europe, leading a multi-country team of sixty. David's international roles have provided the gift of forming rich relationships with colleagues of many nationalities and creeds, and the opportunity to visit over fifty countries.

Since 2013 David has worked as an independent consultant, with a small team of associates at Crucial Connexions. They assist top teams in SMEs achieve profitable growth by enhancing organisational effectiveness, strategy, customer engagement. In all his work David strives to create thriving cultures where people are encouraged to achieve their full potential.

David has been married to Kathryn for 34 years. She is a former professional translator (Spanish and French) but today is an artist who exhibits annually and teaches classes. They live in Reigate, Surrey and have 3 young-adult children, two boys and a girl who live and work in London. David and Kathy became grandparents for the first time in May 2020!

David was for nine years a governor of award-winning Reigate Grammar School. His interests and hobbies include design & technology, vocational education, social history, art & architecture, and 'what makes people tick'. He loves cricket and has been a member of the MCC for over 25 years, as well as a lifelong supporter of Somerset CCC. David sings bass in a local choir, and still (just about) competes regularly in a local squash league, having played since the age of nine.

David joined the Plumbers Company in 2011 and currently chairs the Membership Committee. He has been involved in projects to address the challenges of recruitment, to improve our skills in welcoming and engaging new liverymen, and to determine long term Company strategy.