

Franco-British Lawyers' Association/Association des Juristes Franco-Britanniques

Annual Reception, River Room, House of Lords – Monday 27 January 2014

Presentation to The Rt. Hon. The Lord Hope of Craighead KT in his 25th year of support to the Society by Simon Horsington, *Vice- Président d'Honneur, fondateur*.

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[Photo - Sir Michael Tugendhat, *Président*, Lord Hope, Simon Horsington, *Vice- Président d'Honneur, fondateur*.]

"We have this evening a person present who is in their 25th year of support for the Society, Lord Hope.

Thank you for your support which began with the Inaugural Colloquium which launched the Society on to greater things. It was in the Chamber of the *Premier Président*, M. Pierre Drai of the Supreme Court in the *Palais de Justice* in Paris. It continued through the first Annual Colloquium in Scotland, Edinburgh with Lord Rodger and your hosting the first ever visit to the United Kingdom of the *Premier Président*, the most senior judge of the French Republic. You have been a member of the Academic Awards Committee since its inception and still, along with M Guy Canivet, *Conseil Constitutionnel*, Paris and Aristide Levy, chaired by Mike Butcher. You have participated in many events from that on "Corpus Juris" to the "first" in Scotland of a French Criminal Trial (filmed) which took place in your court, the Lord President's Court, with Mme Myriam Ezratty, *Président de la Cour d'Appel, Paris*, and so much more. In particular, of course, your hosting this most important and prestigious Annual Reception in the House of Lords.

Thank you for your pleasing and peerless prose. As was said of the jurist and inventor of the "essai", *Michel de Montaigne*: "*Le style c'est l'homme*".

Thank you for the quiet reflective power of your oratory and after and in the manner of Seamus Heaney, the Northern Irish born poet:

"A whisperine, a tiny word, a pulsing wing, that changes the world, ...".

On behalf of the Society, all its members, past and present, and all our and your friends, Good Wishes, and we hope you enjoy this "French Red-headed Lady in biblic and bibulous form:

"Larousse Wine – The definitive reference for wine lovers"

Thank you for your continued support and in the proximity of Burn's Night, as the French translate "*Auld Lang Syne*" and sing in the New Year and the Society's New Year:

"*Ce n'est qu'un "au revoir"!*"

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