

Nothing is offside at The Merchant Company breakfast today



Those attending The Merchant Company breakfast later this week will be entertained by a talk from businesswoman and board director at Partick Thistle Football Club, Jacqui Low.

Low will share her experience of a career that has cracked many glass ceilings as she has spent most of her working life in male-dominated environments, from media and politics through to football.

She will address members of The Merchant Company of Edinburgh at The Merchants' Hall on Wednesday 15th February.

The event is one of a series of business breakfasts organised by The Merchant Company, whose 500 plus members represent nearly 50 different professions in the capital.

Having started out in radio in the 1980s, followed by a period in the financial services industry, Jacqui went on to become the first female Special Adviser in Scotland. She stood for the Scottish Parliament and in recent years has held a number of board appointments, including vice-chairman of NHS 24, two terms on the Council of CBI in Scotland and as a Trustee with Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland.

Jacqui is Executive Chairman of Edinburgh-based communications company Indigo and in 2015 was appointed to the Board of Directors at Partick Thistle, becoming one of three women directors in the Scottish Premiership and the first female to hold a boardroom position in the club's 140-year history.

Looking ahead to the event, Pat Denzler, Master of The Merchant Company, (and the first woman to hold the role after HRH The Princess Royal), said: "Jacqui's career is full of 'firsts' and fascinating twists and turns, and I am sure we can all learn from the challenges she has had to face. She's a dynamic business woman, who has constantly broadened her horizons and used her skills to great effect in both the commercial and charitable world."

A Livery Company, with deep roots in Edinburgh's business community, The Merchant Company was founded in 1681, and its modern purpose is to provide a supportive business network as well as administer a range of philanthropic and charitable trusts. The Merchant Company's charitable giving of over £1m per year embraces both care for the frail and elderly and the support of young people.