

Close



Bob Giffords had some modest ambitions for today, “we shall scale the barricades of history waving the flag of long finance and glory in the glitter of eternal coins”. Sadly, I doubt we quite did that, but today is a magnificent success if you are inspired by the Long Now team to dream of longer-term commerce. Many people committed to making today a success. If you want to get committed to Long Finance, yes do join the online community, yes we are seeking funding for the core projects and the eight themes. Please feel free to see me or Richard O’Rourke who is handling fundraising or talk to the Kitchen Cabinet members.

To get so many busy people here for even this brief discussion has been a tremendous effort. Thanks are first due to the Kitchen Cabinet members who keep this show moving forward. Second, I’m grateful to all our sponsors whose selfless generosity made this event a delight to organise:

- ◆ Alpheus for publication funding – read them!
- ◆ Centre for the Study of Financial Innovation;
- ◆ City of London Corporation;
- ◆ Culliford Edmunds Associates for hospitality;
- ◆ Steve Cunliffe for music;
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- ◆ and of course Willis and Duncan Holmes for the venue.

The Chartered Institute of Securities & Investment led by Ged O'Mara, Gresham College led by Barbara Anderson and the Z/Yen team led by Linda Cook take immense credit for their extraordinarily conscientious organisation.

Finally, our presenters and panellists, many of whom came from afar. We must thank them for giving us so much to think about – Brian Eno, Alexander Rose, Stewart Brand, Malcolm Cooper, Ian Harris, Steve McDowell, Professor Sir Roderick Floud, Bernard Lietaer, Edward Bonham Carter, David Steven, as well as Faisal Islam for moderating so masterfully.

Like Sir Thomas Gresham in Tudor days with New Learning, or Gresham College's progeny The Royal Society and its Natural Philosophy, we believe in an inquiring approach. For scientist Jacob Bronowski - "That [was] is the essence of science: ask an impertinent question, and you are on the way to a pertinent answer." Meanwhile let's all keep asking uncomfortable, impertinent questions about Long Finance.

Thank you.