



The Craftsman

THE TRADES HOUSE OF GLASGOW NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 30 SPRING 2005

LET CELEBRATIONS COMMENCE

A day filled with remembrance, music, pageant and celebration, honoured the 400th anniversary of the Trades House of Glasgow on Sunday 6 February 2005. Sharing both the significant founding day and the celebrations were Glasgow City Council and the Merchants House.



Glasgow Cathedral proved the magnificent setting for the Civic Service of Thanksgiving and Dedication conducted by the Very Reverend Dr William J Morris, Minister of the Cathedral, along with the Most Reverend Mario Conti, Archbishop of Glasgow, and the Right Reverend Dr Idris Jones, Bishop of Glasgow and Galloway.

The Service marked four centuries in the lives of the two Houses, which have been so intertwined in the history and development of the City of Glasgow. Professor John Wallace, Principal of the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, created a Fanfare for Glasgow, which was performed as the procession made its way into the Cathedral.

During lunch in the Lower Church following the Service, Merchants House Lord Dean of Guild Andrew Primrose and Trades House Deacon Convener Tom Gilchrist presented Dr Morris with a framed copy of the Order of Service.

The Glasgow Royal Concert Hall resonated to the sounds of the Royal Scottish National Orchestra as the Trades House of Glasgow presented this unique 400th anniversary gala concert to the City.

Proceeds will go towards the fund for the Teenage Cancer Trust and The

Prostate Cancer Charity for Glasgow.

Pianist Martin Jones, mezzo-soprano Jane Irwin and the Scottish Power Pipe Band joined the RSNO and conductor James Lowe for an unforgettable evening. Compere for the evening was Blythe Duff, well known for her role in Taggart.

The Deacon Convener, accompanied by his Platform, led a procession of the Incorporated Trades complete with flags and chains of office onto the stage (pictured above) as the RSNO was joined by the Scottish Power Pipe

Band for a rousing finale.

Commenting on the event, Tom Gilchrist said: "This unique concert, with Lord Provost Liz Cameron and Lord Dean of Guild Andrew Primrose among our distinguished guests, was outstanding. Everyone there seemed to share my pride in our City as we celebrated such an historic date in Glasgow's calendar."

The gala concert was sponsored by Lloyds TSB Scotland as part of its package of support for the quatercentenary year.



Deacon Convener Tom Gilchrist is joined by Blythe Duff, Julian De Ste Croix, Acting Chief Executive of RSNO, Conductor James Lowe and Lyn Underwood, Education Advisor, RSNO

VIEW FROM THE PLATFORM

The celebrations of our Quatercentenary certainly touched a lot of people, firstly at the Commemorative Service in Glasgow Cathedral and later at the Concert Hall. It also involved all those holding the highest offices in the Trades House and the Crafts.

As Deacon Convener this year I was overwhelmed with emotion on many occasions as I felt the goodwill, that seemed to surround us. The Lord Provost and Glasgow City Council paid us the highest compliment by inviting us to a magnificent banquet to seal the excellent relationship we have with the City. The celebrations, which included the Merchants House, will be remembered by all those who were there.

You may remember my aims for this year recorded in the last issue of the Craftsman. I believe that already we are raising the profile and standing of the Trades House. We have attracted sponsorship for our events. Our membership is strengthened, our Master Courts are filling and this support will ensure that the Trades House and the 14 Incorporations can continue their work effectively into our fifth century.

The second half of my period in office includes our awards to schools and colleges, CraftEx, the Lord Provost's procession, summer sporting events, outings and the tea party. I hope to meet as many members as possible as we continue our work for this historic institution.

Deacon Convener **TOM GILCHRIST**



Deacon Convener Tom Gilchrist (left) with Collector T Malcolm T Wishart

To quote the late Rikki Fulton "Is it that time already?". Time as always is rushing past and this year's Chain Gang is energetically pursuing its projects to ensure the success of the Quatercentenary programme.

One of my early duties was to set my budget for the year. As many of you will be aware the House has and will continue to focus on maximising its givings and minimising its administration costs. With the support of our new Clerk Iain Paterson, I have developed a strategy to reduce costs and increase our givings. In terms of cost reduction the removal of the administration function to the North Gallery in the Trades Hall has allowed a full review of our systems. I would like to thank Iain, Annette

Wright, Myra Martin and Kirstine Mains for all their hard work in both relocating and implementing the changes.

To increase our income you can help during this very special year. The main ways in which you can help us ensure that the Quatercentenary is an outstanding year are by supporting events such as the Glasgow Ball on the 14 May and, very importantly, by purchasing some of the Commemorative items. I think that I am safe in saying that none of us will have this opportunity again!

I have thoroughly enjoyed my first five months on the Platform and look forward to your support in making the rest of this year a memorable one.

Collector **T MALCOLM T WISHART**

In a temporary break from tradition, Deacon Convener Tom Gilchrist asks his wife, Anne, to shed some light on the many activities the couple attend on behalf of the Trades House and in his position as Glasgow's Third Citizen.

Where have the last five months gone? Tom and I have never worked so hard but we also have never had such enjoyment and satisfaction. The 400th anniversary plans are all going ahead.

The Anniversary Ball arrangements are going ahead fairly smoothly with lots of tables selling. The "Fair in the Square" in June is beginning to take shape. I am told that the Craftsmen have to dress up in 1600s costume and work with the old tools of their trade. The Merchants will come and strut and I will be allowed to wear an appropriate dress. (Can't think what that means!) Tom will also be suitably clad.

The link between the Trades House and the City grows stronger every year and we are delighted to help when we can. The number of people from home and abroad who receive a welcome at the City Chambers is enormous. I enjoy all the receptions but meeting Terry Waite was a highlight.

We have spent time with Glasgow Citizens who have given over 100 units of blood, women in business, charity workers and visitors from foreign countries including representatives from Glasgow's twin cities.

One of the most memorable occasions was sailing down the Clyde on HMS Glasgow's very last voyage as she returned to Portsmouth to be decommissioned.

What an opportunity we have been given. It is an enormous privilege to serve the City and the Trades House of Glasgow.

Anne Gilchrist

LLOYDS TSB SCOTLAND BOOSTS CELEBRATIONS

Lloyds TSB Scotland is sponsoring the Trades House of Glasgow during its quatercentenary year, with financial backing provided for the 400th anniversary RSNO concert and forthcoming Glasgow Ball in May.

"Such generous support for our main quatercentenary events is simply terrific," said Deacon Convener Tom Gilchrist. "It will not only help raise their profile but also go a long way to boosting our fundraising efforts on behalf of the Teenage Cancer Trust and Prostate Cancer Charity, our beneficiaries for 2005."

Susan Rice CBE, chief executive of Lloyds TSB Scotland said: "Four



Tom Gilchrist extends his thanks to Manus Fullerton, Director Wholesale Banking in Scotland



centuries on, this federation of the City's ancient crafts continues to play a fundamental role in the life of Glasgow and beyond. It has become a true centre of excellence in charitable administration, and encourages the revival of traditional craft skills alongside the emergence of new technology.

"In its support of charitable organisations and its encouragement of youth and support for education, the Trades House of Glasgow reflects many of our own objectives in Lloyds TSB Scotland. This link makes us all the more delighted to be associated with the Trades House as it celebrates such a significant milestone in its history."

CITY BENCHMARK

A commemorative sculpture has been commissioned for the Merchant City area of Glasgow to mark the 400th anniversary of the founding of the Merchants House and the Trades House, working together with the City Council to help make Glasgow flourish.

The three organisations, who are jointly funding the sculpture, established the brief, inviting five artists to submit proposals for a piece of public art within this area of regeneration. Following great deliberation by the assessors, Doug Cocker has been commissioned to complete the sculpture before the end of June this year.

The panel of assessors included Bailie Gordon Matheson representing the City, the Lord Dean of Guild Andrew Primrose and Deacon Convener Tom Gilchrist. They were guided by expert technical assessors Sandra Gunn, Assistant Principal at Glasgow Metropolitan College, Professor Alison Yarrington, Professor of History of Art at the University of Glasgow and Dr Bruno del'Priope, an international expert in artworks for the public realm, under the chairmanship of David Harding OBE.

Situated in Hutcheson Street on the axis of Garth Street opposite the Trades Hall, the sculpture will be outside the door of the former Merchants House office at the Sheriff Court and close to the City Chambers.

NEW PRESIDENT FOR LADIES

Eleanor Sandford has taken up the post of President of the Association of Trades House Ladies, following the retiral of Anne MacConnacher, who was the very first to serve in the position from 2000 to 2004 and will provide continuity through her role as Past President.

Eleanor, a Gardener, looks forward to leading the Association into the 5th century at a time when ladies are now taking office in the Crafts of the House.

Eleanor is also joined by new committee members Mhairi Maclellan and Anne Macfarlane.



Lord Provost Elizabeth Cameron and Glasgow City Council were outstanding hosts at a Civic Banquet held in the City Chambers to celebrate the joint 400th anniversaries and seal the strong bond that the Trades House and Merchants House enjoy with the City. Deacon Convener Tom Gilchrist is pictured with the Lord Provost, the Lord Dean of Guild Andrew Primrose, the Platform, Deacons, Visitor, Clerk and dignitaries before the celebration dinner.

MEET THE CHAIN GANG CHARITIES 2005



The Prostate Cancer Charity funds vital research and provides practical support through its information services.

The Trades House has set a fundraising target of £15,000 to pay for further publication of The Prostate Cancer Charity's award winning ToolKit.

This information pack, which gives clear and independent information on a wide range of prostate cancer related issues, will be distributed free by GPs and health centres in the Glasgow area to men over 50 at risk.

Confidential Helpline
0845 300 8383

Staffed by specialist nurses 10am to 4pm - Mon - Fri
7pm to 9pm - Wed
www.prostate-cancer.org.uk



The Teenage Cancer Trust focuses on the particular needs of UK teenagers and young adults with cancer, leukaemia, Hodgkin's and related diseases.

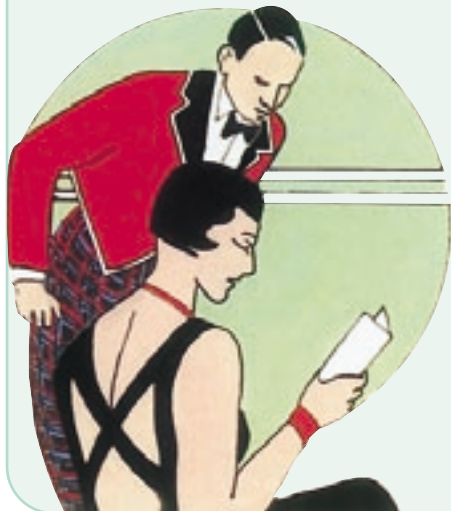
The Charity designs and builds dedicated adolescent cancer units in hospitals. It also funds and organises support and information services for patients, their families, schools and health professionals.

With the Trades House target of £15,000, the charity aims to buy vital equipment for a major project at the Beatson Oncology Centre in Glasgow.

Telephone
0207 387 1000
www.teencancer.org

FORTHCOMING EVENTS – W

WE RELY ON YOUR BACKING BY JOINING IN THE FUN, BECOMING INVOLVED IN EVENTS, BY LENDING YOUR SUPPORT OR PROVIDING DONATIONS



COME HAVE A BALL

The venue? Glasgow Hilton Hotel.
The date? Saturday 14 May 2005.
The occasion? One of the highest profile events in the city this year - the Trades House 400th Anniversary Glasgow Ball.

The splendour of Glasgow Hilton's Grand Ballroom will once again set the scene for celebrations on an impressive scale. Guests will meet up at a cocktail reception before going on to enjoy dinner and dancing to Sandals and the John Carmichael Ceilidh Band.

As well as an evening of entertainment, it is hoped that the

event will raise funds to help reach the £30,000 target for the Chain Gang charities 2005. The money will be divided equally between the Teenage Cancer Trust and the Prostate Cancer Charity, with all monies raised used within Glasgow.

Tickets are priced at £60 each with tables of ten or 12 available. Contact the Trades House administration centre for ticket application forms (details back page) or to make donations for the tombola and auction.

Lloyds TSB Scotland is the main sponsor of this year's Ball.

MUSICAL NOTES

The award-winning Glasgow Islay Junior Gaelic Choir and Glasgow Schools Pipe Band will present a traditional Scottish Concert at the next Trades House Musical Association event in March. These talented youngsters, combining singers, pipers and instrumentalists, will perform at the Henry Wood Hall, Claremont Street in Glasgow, on Saturday 19 March, 7.30pm.

"These young award winners must be seen and heard," said David McMillan, Past Deacon of the Incorporation of Wrights and Co-ordinator of the Musical Association. "So please show your support by coming along and enjoying a concert with a real difference! Proceeds will be divided between Trades House charities and the Choir, who are raising funds for a singing trip to Nova Scotia this October."

Concert tickets, priced £10 and £7 (concessions), include a programme and glass of wine at the interval. Tickets can be purchased from the Trades House Administration Centre (details back page), who will also collect prizes for a fundraising tombola to be held on the night.

The Musical Association was formed to encourage members of the 14 Incorporated Trades, their families and friends, to support a wide spectrum of musical concerts and events. In so doing, it supports financially the ongoing and essential charitable work of the Trades House. If you would like to find out more about the Association, please contact David on 0141 352 8058.

TENTH TOP TALENT SHOWCASE

Showcasing the very best crafts and skills taught at Glasgow's ten colleges of further education, Craftex 2005 will be the Trades House's tenth annual craft awards and exhibition held at the Trades Hall from Thursday 16 to Sunday 19 June. Admission will be free.

Alistair Doig, Craftex co-ordinator and ex-Deacon of the Wrights said: "Our many thanks go to sponsors Tilney Investment Management, Melville Exhibitions and the 14 Incorporated Trades of Glasgow, without whom this event would not be possible. Other organisations are expressing interest in becoming involved, reflecting the growing reputation that Craftex now enjoys."

"The College of Building and Printing is kindly supporting us again and helping to publicise the event through the production of posters. By coupling PR with an advertising campaign, we aim to build on last year's visitor numbers, which topped 1600 people."

A top entry will be selected in each subject with winners receiving a cheque for £200 and the chance to take the overall Gold Medal Award that recognises 'best in show'. Judging will take place this year on Wednesday 15 June and the prize giving on Friday 17.

For more information on how to become a Craftex sponsor or for more details, please contact Alistair Doig at his office on tel: 0141 248 9635 or email: alistairdoig@doighart.co.uk.

QUATERCENTENARY



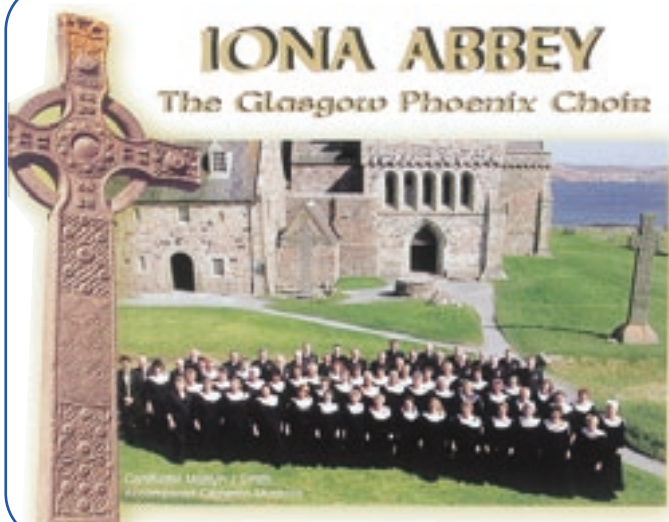
Six limited edition souvenirs have been produced for the Trades House. These souvenirs, a great reminder of the House, are only available until 31 December 2005. All proceeds go to House funds.

- Trades House 10 year old malt whisky
- Pair of 9oz engraved cut crystal tumblers
- Blue or green velvet cushion 16" by 12"
- Trades House and 14 Crafts 12" celebratory mug
- 3" diameter trinket box with coat of arms
- Executive ballpoint pen with coat of arms

Order forms are available by contacting the Trades House (details back page) or online at www.tradeshouse.org

WE WELCOME YOUR SUPPORT

NS. IN THIS WAY, WE CAN STRENGTHEN OUR ORGANISATION AND CONTINUE TO PLAY A FUNDAMENTAL ROLE IN SUPPORTING THOSE IN NEED



FESTIVAL OF PRAISE

Four hundred voices will lift the roof at the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall on Wednesday 27 April, when the Glasgow Phoenix Choir is joined by special guests, the Inverclyde Schools Youth and Junior Choir with conductor Palma Allan, to present *Iona Abbey, a Festival of Praise*.

The Trades House is supporting the evening as part of its 400th anniversary celebrations.

A happy family evening of

great uplifting music is promised, as Phoenix Choir conductor Marilyn J Smith and accompanist Cameron Murdoch help recreate the peace and serenity of Iona Abbey where they recorded part of this concert last spring.

Tickets priced £5, £8, £10, £12 and £15 - 10% discount for parties of more than 10 - are available direct from the Concert Hall Box Office on tel: 0141-353 8000.

ARY SOUVENIRS



to commemorate the Quatercentenary of the of what is a historic milestone for the Trades . Money raised through their sale will go to Trades

, Macallan style - £30

plers in presentation box - £30

2" with embroidered coat of arms - £35

eration plate - £35

arms - £18

arms - £4

des House of Glasgow Administration Centre (full g.uk.

INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED PROFESSOR TO DELIVER LECTURE

Professor Thomas Devine OBE, the internationally acclaimed Professor of Irish and Scottish Studies at Aberdeen University, is to deliver this year's Trades House Lecture at Strathclyde University on Tuesday 31 May.

Professor Devine is one of the UK's most prominent and distinguished practitioners of Irish and Scottish economic and social history.

He was educated at Strathclyde University where he graduated with first class honours in History in 1968 followed by a PhD and D.Litt. He rose through the academic ranks from assistant lecturer to Reader, Professor, Head of Department, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and finally Vice-Principal of the University in 1992.

In 1998 he accepted the Directorship of the world's first centre of advanced research in Irish and Scottish Studies in Aberdeen.

Professor Devine is the author or editor of books on such varied topics as emigration, famine, Scottish transatlantic commercial links, urban history, the Scottish Highlands and rural social history.

His major book, *The Scottish Nation*, became an international best seller and for a time, even outsold the adventures of Harry Potter in Scotland. His widely acclaimed volume, *Scotland's Empire 1600-1815*, formed the basis for a major six-part BBC2 series.

The subject of Professor Devine's lecture will be announced in March, when details will be available from the Trades House Administration Centre.

FASHION FOR FUNDS

One of the main annual events for the Association of Trades House Ladies, is their Charity Fashion Show, to take place in the Moat House Hotel, Glasgow, on Wednesday 30 March 2005. Promotional stands and a raffle will add to the fundraising event in aid of the Chain Gang charities and the Children's Hospice Association of Scotland (CHAS).

Tickets priced £10 are available from Aileen Brodie, 3 Gilmourton Crescent, Newton Mearns, Glasgow G77 5AE, tel: 0141 639 3614, or from any member of the Association.

DEACON CONVENER'S DINNER



Deacon Convener Tom Gilchrist (right) and Collector T Malcolm T Wishart (left) pictured with Deacon of the Bakers, Robert Lawson

Deacon Convener Tom Gilchrist and Collector T Malcolm T Wishart welcomed top table and distinguished guests to the 399th Trades House of Glasgow Annual Dinner at the Trades Hall last October.

First class toasts and replies topped this Civic Dinner for the shakers and movers in Glasgow. Proposing the Toast to the City of Glasgow was well-known journalist, author, broadcaster and ambassador for all things Scottish, Jack Webster. Reply came courtesy of Glasgow City Council Chief Executive, George Black.

Toast to the Trades House was proposed by Lord Kerr of Kinlochard, who spent 37 years in the diplomatic service, more recently serving as Permanent Undersecretary at the Foreign Office and then Secretary General of the European Convention. Deacon Robert Steele of the Incorporation of Cordiners made the reply.

A successful annual Ladies Dinner was held on the same evening in the Western Club.

CHARITY LAW - ARE YOU KEEPING UP?

Significant changes in charity law are in progress. As many members of the Trades House are involved in charities in a voluntary capacity, often on the Board of Trustees, it is essential that we keep ourselves up to date. This article by Gillian Donald, partner in Scott-Moncrieff and a specialist in charity accounting and governance, tells us more.

The Charities and Trustee Investments (Scotland) Bill was presented for first stage debate in the Scottish Parliament in November 2004. We expect to have 13 sets of additional requirements issued in the form of Regulations, most notably those regarding accounting and auditing. These have been delayed and are now due out early in 2005.

The Bill sets up a statutory charity regulator. Its function will be to maintain a public record of charities, facilitate compliance with the Bill and investigate apparent misconduct. The current regulator, the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR), has been in existence for a year in its current form as a department of the Scottish Executive but its new form will be that of a non-ministerial department.

Under the new rules, charity trustees will be required to:

- *act in the interests of the charity*
 - *seek, in good faith, to ensure that the charity exercises its functions in a manner, which is consistent with its purposes*
 - *act with the care and diligence that it is reasonable to expect of a person who is managing the affairs of another person, and*
 - *where exercising functions as a charity trustee in the course of a business or profession, use any special knowledge and expertise that it is reasonable to expect of a person acting in the course of that business or profession*
- For those responsible for managing investments in accordance with the Trustees' Investment Act 1961, there is good news. The permitted investment categories have been extended. The downside is that duties have increased for charity trustees in respect of investments. They are now required to:
- *have regard to the suitability to the trust of the proposed investment and the need for diversification of investments.*
 - *obtain and consider "proper advice" about initial investment and*

subsequent changes in the investment unless having considered the circumstances they do not consider it necessary or appropriate to take such advice.

Many charities are not incorporated. Either they do not think it appropriate or perhaps they have not considered it! If you are a trustee of an unincorporated charity you may be concerned about personal liability for the charity debts.

Good news comes in the form of the new Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation. The implementation date for this is not yet known but it will offer a form of organisation, which gives limited liability and imposes charity rules rather than company rules. Conversion, we hope, will be simple and efficient.

The legislation timetable that aimed to have Royal Assent by June 2005 now looks unlikely due to delays in producing the Regulations. We could reasonably expect to have the detail of Regulations throughout the course of this year with implementation due next year. These will be highlighted in later editions of the Craftsman.

Gillian Donald can be contacted at gillian.donald@scott-moncrieff.com

HOUSE TAKES ON TRUSTS

Following administrative reorganisation, the Trades House now has the resources and expertise to administer benevolent societies and trusts.

Already it has taken over the administration of trusts on behalf of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Potato Trade Benevolent Association and Slate Trade Benevolent Association.

At a ceremony in the Trades Hall, President of the 117-year-old Slate Trades Benevolent Association, Harry Porter, handed over funds, records, regalia and the bowling trophy to Deacon Convener Tom Gilchrist. An invitation has been extended to its members to join one of the 14 Incorporations, such as the Masons.

The Potato Trade Benevolent Society is being wound up and, under constitution, has transferred funds to the House together with the ongoing care of its two remaining beneficiaries.

Anyone interested in using these services or learning more should contact Clerk to the House Iain Paterson on tel: 0141-553 1605, email: ian.paterson@btconnect.com.



President of the Slate Trade Benevolent Association, Harry Porter, hands over the Chain of Office to Tom Gilchrist

FOND FAREWELLS

After 25 years of service to the Royal Navy, HMS Glasgow visited the city as her last port of call in October to say goodbye. Despite a hectic schedule, Commander Wainhouse and his crew joined members of the Trades House for a lunch reception at the Trades Hall.

It was a particular honour that they chose to join the annual Trades House Kirking service at Glasgow Cathedral to lay up the ship's colours for safe-keeping. The flag will remain in Glasgow until claimed by a future HMS Glasgow in years to come.

Deacon Convener Tom Gilchrist, who had the enormous privilege of joining the Lord Provost on the bridge as HMS Glasgow set sail for the last time, said: "As we pulled out of Yorkhill Quay, the silence on the bridge was tinged with sadness. Glasgow was losing one of its finest ambassadors. We had an overwhelming feeling of pride in her achievements in the name of the City."



Commander Mike Wainhouse receives Trades House whisky and glasses from Tom Gilchrist



Late Deacon Convener Ian Elliott and his wife, Ann, are presented with a painting from the 2003/2004 Chain Gang at the Passing Out dinner held at the Western Club.

Gordon Wyllie's resignation as Clerk last year brought to an end the Trades House link with Biggart Baillie

Solicitors going back to the appointment of Dr Thomas Weir in 1875.

Gordon's personal service as Clerk for 17 years was recognised by the gift of a portrait presented by the artist Bunny Campbell, (pictured right) widow of ex Convener Kenneth Campbell.



At a Trades House meeting, Campbell Smith, former managing partner of Biggart Baillie received a silver salver recording their 129 years of service. Those attending the meeting, expressed their thanks for the expert guidance of the Trades House by succeeding Clerks.

A CRAFTSMAN TRIBUTE

Bob Colquhoun, an enthusiastic member of the Incorporation of Fleshers and public relations consultant to the Trades House, has died at the age of 62 following a year of poor health. Amongst his many contributions to the Trades House was the production of *the Craftsman*, which he established and launched in the early 1990s.

A former head of marketing and PR with Glasgow City Council, Bob enjoyed a distinguished career of more than 40 years. Before embarking on the world of PR, he served as a reporter, feature writer and sub-editor on local and national newspapers including the Paisley Daily Express, Daily Mail and the then Glasgow Herald.

Following nine years as a journalist, Bob



became information manager for whisky company Wm Grant & Sons, where he handled UK and international media relations and set up Scotland's first major visitor centre at the Glenfiddich distillery. He spent 11 years as managing director of Rex Stewart PR, which he built into one of Scotland's top three agencies.

Latterly he moved to the Isle of Bute with his wife, Arline, who died three years ago. From his home in Rothesay, he continued his PR work as an independent consultant.

Bob will be sadly missed but fondly remembered by many as a meticulous and cheerful practitioner who was passionate about his work with the Trades House.

CRAFT NEWS

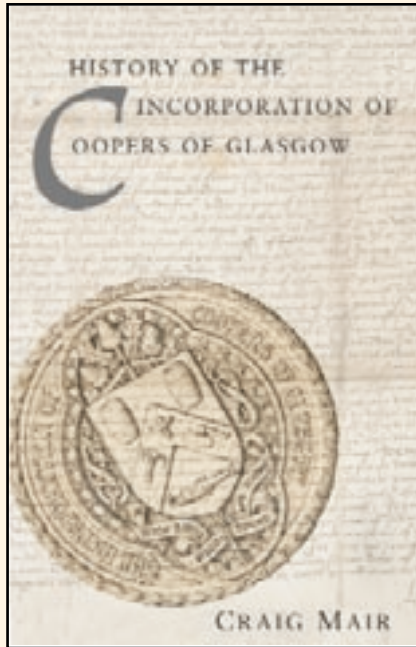
A new book written by Craig Mair charts the history of The Incorporation of Coopers, shedding light and colour on the origins, life and work of this very ancient Craft in Glasgow.

Craig explored the annals of the Mitchell Library, as well as the Cooper's own archives, in his meticulous research for the book. He also visited the Taylor family's Speyside cooperage at Craigellachie, which claims to have the only cooperage visitor centre in Britain.

The result is a book, which is a thoroughly enjoyable and enlightening read, also packed with photographs from throughout the past century up until recent years.

The hardback title, printed by Neil Wilson Publishers, is now available from Cooper's Clerk, Alastair Campbell, at Mitchells Robertson, George House, 36 North Hanover Street, Glasgow G1 2AD.

Cost including p&p is £17. As the price is subsidised by the Incorporation, an additional £5 donation would be most welcome by the Craft. Cheques should be made payable to Mitchells Robertson.



CALLUM SCOOPS WOODEN SPOON

Tradition has once again been upheld, as the Skinners' duo of Late Deacon Callum Leslie and his Collector Donald Macintyre scooped the wooden spoon and rolling pin "accolade" for the worst rendition of Will ye no' come back again?

It is the custom when a Late Deacon or Visitor and their Late Collector departs a Deacon's Choosing Dinner that guests rise to their feet and sing the traditional Scottish song, to which an often not too tuneful response is given by the pair. Late Collector of the House Graham Goodridge-Cox selects the Visitation who, in his opinion, performed the least melodic response. Get the gist?

Their singing at the Incorporation of Weavers dinner earned Callum and Donald their award.

Two framed certificates decorated with music and words were also awarded to Callum, pictured at the presentation with Late Collector Graham Goodridge-Cox (right) and Late Deacon Convener Ian Elliott.



QUEEN PERMITS CORDINERS TO ADMIT WOMEN

Her Majesty The Queen has permitted The Incorporation of Cordiners to change its Rules to admit women members. At a meeting of the Privy Council, the Queen granted a Supplementary Charter to the Cordiners to end the centuries-old restriction under which only men could join the Craft.

A Royal Charter granted by George V in 1919 currently constitutes the Cordiners, and provides that members be male. After consultation with the membership, a motion to allow women members, promoted by the Master Court, was passed unanimously.

In consultation with the Privy Council Office in London, the Master Court then prepared a formal Petition to the Queen requesting a Supplementary Charter. After a number of formalities this was granted at a Privy Council meeting held just before Christmas.

The Charter has now been transmitted to the Scottish Executive Protocol Department, which will deal with the next stage of the procedure with the production of the Supplementary Charter document, to which the Great Seal of Scotland will be adhibited.

POULTRY IN MOTION



Elaine C Smith was billed as "poultry in motion" and Gerard Kelly as the "belch beneath her wings" in this year's hilarious performance of *Mother Goose* at the King's Theatre.

The pantomime is one of the highlights of the year for the 150-strong pensioners who attend the annual outing organised by the

Hammermen Service Group. A buffet supper in the Thistle Hotel helped whet their appetite for a fabulous evening ahead. Deacon Convener Tom Gilchrist and his wife Anne are pictured with some of the group before curtain's up at the King's.

ANGLING

The Trades House annual Angling Competition was held at the Lake of Menteith.

Although conditions were not ideal, 12 fish were caught weighing in at 25lb 10z. Stuart Biggart, Coopers, picked up the Dallas Trophy for best individual basket. Close second was Dan Lean, Weavers.

The Jackson Millar Cup went to the Wrights team, thanks to Alec Graham and John Maginnis. Coopers man, Stuart Biggart, took the Train Trophy for heaviest fish. Steve Mannion, Masons, won the Michael Beale Trophy for heaviest basket in the over-60 category.

KEEP IN TOUCH

Please send your news and photographs to Elaine Stewart at Elaine Stewart Public Relations, Victoria House, 5 East Blackhall Street, Greenock PA15 1HD, tel: 01475-806801, fax: 01475-806834, email: elaine.stewart@espr.co.uk. The next *Craftsman* will be printed in the autumn.

For event and ticket details, contact the Trades House of Glasgow Administration Centre at North Gallery - Trades Hall, 85 Glassford Street, Glasgow G1 1UH, tel: 0141-553 1605, email: annette.wright@btconnect.com or visit www.tradeshouse.org.uk.