



ISSUE 15 SPRING 1999

WE ARE MARKING THE MILLENNIUM



Ian O'Connor, Visitor of the Maltmen, anticipates the delights of the craft's Millennium Malt on a visit to Allied Distillers' Glendronach Distillery at Huntly

The Millennium Committee under the Chairmanship of Late Collector Ian MacConnacher, has been considering several recommendations to mark the coming year 2000 which will be placed before the Platform Committee of the House for approval.

Among these is an award in recognition of the work of Senior, Special Needs or Primary schools in Glasgow, which contribute the most to its local community or encourages that community in a similar effort. Meetings have taken place between the Director of Education and several Heads and other members of his department together with Late Collector Ian MacConnacher and Gordon Wyllie, Clerk to the Trades House.

The project has been enthusiastically received by the Education Department who are now actively engaged in preparing information packs for distribution to the Schools. A contribution of some kind to help the Children's Hospice Association in Scotland, under the guidance of Collector of the House Roy Scott, is still to be formulated.

It is also intended to make a special effort in the year 2000 for the benefit of all Trades House beneficiaries by enhancing existing events.

Several Crafts are producing individual efforts for the celebration of the Millennium, namely the Gardeners with the Millennium Garden at Strathclyde University, the Tailors with a specially created banner, the Maltmen producing a special malt whisky and the Coopers, who are considering a children's playground.



Deacon of the Tailors, Tom Jessop, and designer Claire Higney discuss concepts for the Tailors' millennium banner, the embroidery on which will reflect the past, present and future activities of the Tailors and the Trades House

Those Crafts who have not indicated their intention to the Millennium Committee might please advise the House.

The year 2000 can be used for enhancing all House efforts, and the Millennium Committee will be pleased to assist in any way possible.



The Trades House Incorporations "brighten up" Edinburgh



The Lord and Lady Provost of Glasgow represent the city with Deacon Convener Allan Denholm, Collector Roy Scott, Late Collector Ian MacConnacher and House Officer, David McGaffin. Late Convener Ian Scott was also present

ANCIENT BUT ACTIVE

All 14 Incorporations were well to the fore at the service in St Giles Cathedral which preceded the opening of the Museum of Scotland in

Edinburgh in November. The crafts' impressive display of period dress and craft banners was a highlight of the opening procession.

"HIGH" INTEREST IN LECTURE

Interest is sure to be high in the 1999 Trades House Lecture to be held at the University of Strathclyde on 26 May as the speaker will be Professor John Vickers, a member of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee, which sets the Bank Rate. Appointed in 1997 as an Executive Director of the Bank of England and Chief Economist, he was Drummond Professor of Political Economy at Oxford University and Fellow of All Saints College. A member of Ofel's economic advisory group, Professor Vickers has written extensively on industrial organisation, privatisation, regulation and competition. He has held visiting positions at Harvard, Princeton and the London Business School. More details of the lecture are available from the House office (0141 228 8000).



CraftEx 99, the annual Trades House College Craft Competition and Exhibition, is shaping up to be the biggest and best yet. Details of the event and how you can help either through sponsorship or by "donating" your time are on page 2 of this issue. In the meantime note the dates: Thursday 10 June to Sunday 13 June in the Trades Hall as a MUST FOR A VISIT.



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ALL SET FOR CraftEx 99 - "A BUSINESS MOTIVATOR"

One of the greatest advantages of CraftEx, the annual Trades House College Craft Competition and Exhibition is that it can motivate students into starting their own businesses. This claim was made at the official launch of CraftEx 99 by Elaine Connell, winner of the Gold Medal for the best overall exhibit in the 1997 Competition.

"It is a real motivation to anyone considering setting up their own business to be able to design, plan and manufacture a piece of work knowing that it will be on public display at CraftEx which is something you cannot achieve anywhere else in Glasgow," said Elaine, a former student at North Glasgow College who now runs her own jewellery workshop.

Also speaking at the CraftEx 99 launch Deacon Convener Allan Denholm said: "Support of CraftEx is evidence of the commitment of the colleges in Glasgow to excellence and of our 14 trade Incorporations' encouragement of craft work which takes the House back to its very roots."

In Glasgow's year as City of Architecture and Design the CraftEx Co-ordinating Committee is headed by Late Deacon Cyril Gore of the Tailors who predicted that with over 700 entries received already from the colleges the

June event would be the biggest yet.

With Stow College joining in this year, a total of nine colleges will participate.

To cope with the heavy workload in organising the event four sub-committees have been formed - Sponsorship (under Ford Macfarlane); Finance (under Jack Copeland); Publicity (under Allan Lapsley) and Display (under Cyril Gore). In addition co-ordinators have been appointed to work with the nine colleges - Cyril Gore (John Wheatley and North Glasgow); Alex Paterson (Anniesland and Cardonald); Ian MacGregor (Langside); Tom Jessop (Stow); Norman Wilson (College of Building and Printing); Peter Kelso (College of Food Technology) and Ford Macfarlane (Central College of Commerce).

This year Melville Beck Exhibition Services provided display panels for the CraftEx launch and will provide, free of charge, all the main display units for the CraftEx 99 Exhibition in the Trades Hall from Thursday 10 June to Sunday 13 June.

If you would like to help CraftEx 99 either financially, in kind or assisting with the June exhibition contact the House office (0141 228 8000); Cyril Gore (01236 723334);

Alex Paterson (0141 639 6137) or Ford Macfarlane (0141 427 0172).

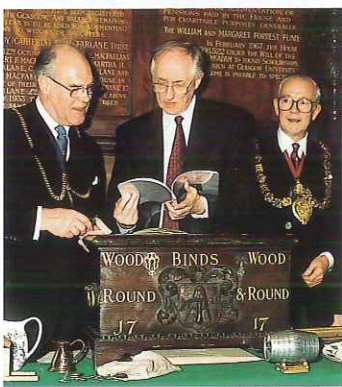
CraftEx 99, a UK SKILLS nationally accredited event, supported by Made in Scotland, is only possible with the valuable assistance of our sponsors who, as of end-March are, Glasgow City Council; Clydesdale Bank, Sunday Post, Bank of Scotland, Miller's Art Store, Scottish Institute of Partitioners in Advertising, Melville Beck Exhibition Services, the Merchants House, Tilney Investment Management, Little's Chauffeur Drive, Thomas Tunnock Ltd and J Chandler & Co (Buckfast) Ltd ... and the 14 Incorporated Trades of the City of Glasgow.

KEEP IN TOUCH

Please note the following craft change:- The BONNETMAKERS & DYERS' new clerk, David Robertson, 29 St Vincent Place, Glasgow G1 2DT, Tel: 0141 248 4134; Fax: 0141 226 3118.

The House Office now has an additional fax number, 0141 248 5566. Correspondence should be sent to the Trades House of Glasgow, 310 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5QR, Tel: 228 8000. Information for the Craftsman should be sent to the House office or to Robert Colquhoun, 33 Greenlaw Avenue, Paisley PA1 3RE, Tel: 0141 889 6708.

THE "ACT" OF BOX OPENING



Deacon Graham Goodridge-Cox and the Secretary of State for Scotland, Donald Dewar inspect the signed copy of the Scotland Act, and other treasures of the Coopers' Box as Deacon Convener Allan Denholm looks on

As part of an annual ceremony the Incorporation of Coopers of Glasgow opened their historic "box" to receive for safe keeping a copy of the Scotland Act presented by the Secretary of State for Scotland, Donald Dewar.

The ceremony took place in the Trades Hall on the 26th November 1998 and was attended by the Deacon Convener and Collector of the Trades House of Glasgow, past Deacon Conveners and Visitor and Deacons of other Incorporated Trades of Glasgow together with wives.

Traditionally the Coopers' Box is opened once a year for the purposes of both inspecting the items it contains and receiving any new item which the current Deacon of the Coopers feels is of particular relevance to his year in office.

This year Deacon Graham Goodridge-Cox felt that the Scotland Act was most appropriate for although the present Coopers' Box dates from 1717 it contains historical records going back as far as 1569 when the Coopers were granted their own Charter, some 138 years before the Act of Union.

After he had presented the annotated copy of the Scotland Act to the Coopers the Secretary of State was enrolled as a Burgess of the City of Glasgow and as an honorary member of the Incorporation of Coopers of Glasgow.

CALEDONIAN DOUBLE



Deacon Convener Ian Scott presents a commemorative Trade House plate to Ms Carolus

The 1998 Trades House Lecture was a double first. It was the first House lecture to be held at Glasgow Caledonian University and the first function to be held in the University's impressive new Health Faculty Lecture Hall.

As the University's Vice Chancellor Professor John Phillips said, it was fitting that this first lecture should mark the strong links between the Caledonian University, and indeed Glasgow itself, with South Africa through the lecture on "South Africa in the New Millennium" being given by Cheryl Anne Carolus, the South African High Commissioner.

A former secondary school teacher, Ms Carolus was elected a full-time member of the ANC National Executive Committee in 1991 rising to the post of Acting General Secretary until her appointment as South African High Commissioner in London in March last year.

ON THE WRIGHT LINES?

The Wrights are claiming a record by having three generations of the same family on their Master Court at the same time. The honour falls to Deacon Bryan McKirgan and his family who have now five members of the family together on the craft roll following the addition of the latest member of the family, his grandson Alexander.

Pictured at Alexander's christening are (l to r) Craig McKirgan (Wee Key - Deacon's Key), Robert McKirgan (Trades Key), Alexander McKirgan, Frank McKirgan and Deacon Bryan McKirgan with Ex-Deacon Peter Kelso looking on. Can any other craft beat this?



TRANSPORT OF HOPE?



The Prince and Princess of Wales Hospice in Glasgow has received £25,000 from the Commonwealth Fund for the purchase of a new patient ambulance. The Hospice has also received support from the Anderston Weavers.

Pictured here at the opening of the patient entrance at the Hospice are (l to r) Gordon Wyllie, Clerk to the Trades House, Iain Laidlaw, Chief Executive of the Hospice and ex-Visitor Murray Blair, Preses of the Anderston Weavers.

BIRTHS, MILLENNIUM AND DEAF

At their last meeting the Commonwealth Fund Committee agreed to give a further 30 grants totalling £25,850. These ranged from £6,000 towards a Resucitaire Radiant Warmer for Glasgow Royal Maternity Hospital; £3,000 for a Millennium Scholarship at the Glasgow School of Art to £500 for an excursion for 70 young members of the Glasgow & West of Scotland Society for the Deaf. Youth and community projects throughout the city, including Dalmarnock, Govan, Milton, Parkhead, Linthouse and Drumchapel, also received assistance.

CHAIN GANGS LINK AGAIN

Last year was an important one for two ex-Chain Gangs who held reunions.

The "Gang" of 1973/74 held their 25th in Glasgow with the event co-hosted by Ex-Visitor Ronnie Anderson, his wife and Elaine Mavor (widow of Ex-Deacon Harry Mavor). Crafts represented were Hammermen, Tailors, Maltmen, Bakers, Skinners, Coopers, Gardeners and Bonnetmakers with Bunny Campbell, widow of late Convener Kenneth Campbell, also present.



The "Gang" pictured here are still supporting House activities and have raised £150 for the Trades Hall Renovation Appeal



The "Gang" of 1978/79 chose Auchranne Hotel on Arran for their bash. They are pictured enjoying themselves with Ex-Convener Harry Abram and his wife Marie

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DEACON CONVENER'S HALF TERM REPORT *Renewed vigour needs YOUR support*

Having visited virtually all the Crafts at various functions, I am heartened to sense strong evidence of renewed vigour in what the Crafts and the House represent.

One of the immediate ways of making the public more aware of this is by their attendance at House functions. While attendances have ranged from a full house to better than last year, more could be done to market these events at the earliest opportunity.

My wife Avril and I have been very warmly welcomed at many civic functions by the Lord and Lady Provost Pat and Peggy Lally and the Bailies. Without exception the recipients of civic hospitality are very interested to learn that the Craft and the House have a pedigree of over 400 years. The Lord Provost and the City Council have put a great deal of effort into attracting high profile conferences to Glasgow. A conference of 2500 medical practitioners from all over the world is only one indicator of this success. I am encouraged to note the continued relationship with other Guilds and Livery Companies. There is

SKINNERS "INTO AFRICA . . .

Last year Deacon John Glen of the Incorporation of Skinners held a "non party" which members of the craft paid £5 each not to attend. In all a total of £1200 was raised for the fund and it was decided that this should be put towards providing emergency support for St James' Mission Hospital in Lesotho, a "homeland" out-with the Republic of South Africa.

In December last year Late Deacon Glen and his wife Jill travelled to Lesotho completing the last 50 miles of the journey along twisting dirt roads. They were met at the hospital by Theo Takens, the young Dutch doctor who runs the establishment, and accommodated in traditional rondavel round houses. They were given a tour of the hospital which serves a huge area of a country where the average wage is £3 a month. Late Deacon Glen and his wife quickly agreed that the first £32 of the Skinners' money should go to pay for the five weeks hospital costs of a young woman and her premature child. The rest of the funds are now being held in a South African bank to be drawn upon, and accounted for, by Dr Takens for the treatment of emergency cases.

Late Deacon Glen commented on his return: "We found it all a very humbling experience and hope that the Skinners will continue with the 'non party' fund and that perhaps other Incorporations will do likewise."

. . . AND TAILORS HELP INDIA

The Tailors have received a request for assistance from Dr Graham's Homes in Kalimpong, India in the form of sewing machines, which will be used to train young people in tailoring and dressmaking, in order to make them self-reliant. Transport is being organised and if you have an old (not necessarily working) machine which is surplus to requirements we would be delighted to arrange collection and onward shipment to India. Preferred models are table top or drophead.

Contact Jim Morrison 01355 302438 or Tom Jessop 01505 690709.

to be in May a substantial visitation by the Worshipful Company of Distillers from London.

The service in St. Giles Cathedral in advance of the opening of the National Museum was attended by representatives of 61 Craft Guilds in Scotland. This included over eighty members from the Glasgow Incorporations who are to be congratulated on their attending the service and taking part in the parade from the Chamber's Street headquarters of the National Museum to St. Giles.

The dedication of our social workers Mrs Wilma Campbell and Mrs Christine McKaig coupled with the Master Courts' visitations and concern for our pensioner grantees continues, as does the generosity of the House for charitable support of numerous organisations in the Greater Glasgow area. Reference is made elsewhere in this Newsletter to events that are planned or have taken place. With over 10,000 members of the Incorporations, more can be achieved. As Earl Kitchener might have said over 80 years ago - 'Your Incorporation needs YOU'

ROBERT C BRECHIN

Ex-Convener Robert C Brechin, one of the most respected members of the Trades House, died on 9 October.

A law graduate from the University of Glasgow he saw war time service as a major in the Highland Light Infantry before joining the family firm of Brechin Brothers, butchers, where he remained as a director and chairman until his retirement in 1983.

Deacon of the Incorporation of Fleshers in 1962 and the Incorporation of Cordiners in 1977, it was no surprise when in 1980 he was asked to be Collector of the House and subsequently Deacon Convener in 1982/83. He generously served a second term in 1984/85.

Ex-Convener Brechin also presented to the House a day medal (a replica of the original Deacon Convener's medal) for use by the Collector at functions not requiring him to wear his chain.

An officer of the Order of St John, he gave his time freely to many trade, charitable, health and educational activities. He is survived by his wife, Laurie, four sons, grandson and grand-daughter.

TABLET OF STONE

A section of the craft silk frieze which surrounds the Grand Hall in the Trades Hall has now been captured in stone in Royal Bank Place on the north facade of the former bank building which is home to the new Borders Bookshop in Buchanan Street. Commissioned by the Incorporation of Masons it depicts the Mason's craft and was sculpted by Colin McCougan from Girvan, the winner of the Masons' prize for the best student in stonemasonry in 1996 at the Glasgow College of Building and Printing.

DOUBLE WELCOME?

Deacon Convener Allan Denholm welcomes his twin brother, Alastair, to the Dinner as other guests of the Deacon Convener and Collector gather at one of the most important events of the year in Glasgow.



Deacon Convener Allan Denholm and Collector Roy Scott

TOASTS TO REMEMBER

The Deacon Convener's Dinner took place in October with a very strong support from the leaders of industry, commerce, academia, the services, the church, and the professions. The Reverend Alastair Symington gave a most amusing and revelant toast to the City of Glasgow which was replied to by the Lord Dean of Guild Mr David McVicar (in loco the Lord Provost who was abroad drumming up business for Glasgow).

The toast to the House was proposed by Sir David Tweedie the Chairman of the Accounting Standards Board who brought a new dimension to accountancy humour. Deacon John Steele of the Masons jointly with the Deacon Convener made a suitable reply.



AND THE BETTER HALVES

Not to be outdone, Deacon Convener's wife Avril Denholm and Collector's wife Janette Scott and their guests marked the occasion with their own enjoyable event in the Western Club.



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CRAFT NEWS

A BEGINNING . . .



The Incorporation of Masons' award for the best student in stonemasonry at the Glasgow College of Building and Printing has been won by Gordon Sykes, who is pictured here with his awards after the Faculty of Construction presentation ceremony in the City Chambers. Deacon

John Steele of the Masons was invited to present the prizes and give a short address on the history of the Craft and the Trades House. Gordon has been made a Freeman and Guild Brother of the City of Glasgow qua Mason and admitted as a member of the Incorporation.

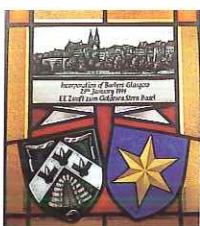
. . . AND AN END

James Crawford, latterly employed by Underwood Cooperage, Paisley, has retired after 50 years as a cooper to trade. His service and dedication to the craft was recognised by the Incorporation of Coopers when Deacon Graham Goodridge-Cox presented a set of whisky tumblers, engraved with the armorial insignia of the Coopers, to James at his retirement party. James was also enrolled as a Burgess of the City of Glasgow and as an honorary member of the Incorporation of Coopers.

BARBERS PASS THE 400 MARK

The 400th anniversary of foundation of the Incorporation of Barbers was commemorated in January with a Civic Dinner hosted by the City Council in the Council Chambers.

Amongst the 250 guests present were representatives of the Worshipful Company of Barbers in London, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, the Royal College of Ophthalmologists and the Barbers of Basle, whose fife and drum band provided entertainment after dinner. A Civic Welcome was hosted and a toast proposed by Deputy Lord Provost, Baillie Alex Mosson, with a reply by Deacon Peter Kyle. Baillie Mosson presented a commemorative silver salver and in return received a donation to the Lord Provost's Children's Charity Fund. The Craft presented the Barbers of Basle with engraved crystal and in return received a stained glass window and an illuminated address.



IN BRIEF

The Tailors have recognised the work of six students at Anniesland and Glasgow North Colleges with prizes of £150 each for design or related work. The Coopers have made awards totalling £2,880 in apprentice prizes. The Skinners have made an award of £450 to Glasgow College of Building and Printing for student prizes. The Maltmen have made donations totalling £7,750 towards the work of 20 good causes. The Gardeners have provided £7,400 in support to pensioners and £2,515 towards scholarships, prizes and charitable donations. The Tailors provided £1,575 to provide Christmas gifts for 13 pensioners. The Coopers have given £1,500 to support the Bridgeton Music Festival and a further donation of £2,500 for the Worshipful Company of Coopers of London's Quincentenary Fund. The Gardeners held an American Party Night on 12 March.

GLENEAGLES "DOUBLE" FOR PENSIONERS

The Pensioners Summer outing for Craft beneficiaries, organised by the Hammermen Service Group, was attended by 115 guests who enjoyed lunch at Gleneagles Hotel followed by an afternoon in Crieff. The event was so successful that it has been decided to break with tradition and repeat the same outing on Saturday 21 August. Details from Robin and Christine Brown (0141 956 1737).

The annual panto outing was held in January with 130 guests attending a performance of "Sleeping Beauty" at the King's Theatre with a buffet meal at the RSAC.



Guests arrive at the Gleneagles Hotel



All set for the "spread" at the RSAC

SPORTS NEWS

ANGLING

The record for the heaviest fish ever caught on a Craft outing was broken at the 66th Trades House Angling Competition held at the Lake of Menteith in September. Stuart Biggart (Coopers) reeled in a 6lbs 2ozs fish to take the Train Trophy. The second heaviest was 2lbs 7ozs caught by Sandy Fyfe (Bakers). In all a total of 35 fish weighing 57lbs 10ozs were caught, with the Dallas Trophy for the best individual basket going for the fourth time in six years to Alberto Laidlaw (Maltmen) with eight fish, 10lbs 4ozs. Stuart Biggart was runner-up with five fish, 10lbs 2ozs and Adrian Coats (Hammermen) third with five fish, 8lbs 4ozs.

The Team Trophy, Jackson Miller Cup, was won by the Maltmen (A Laidlaw and J Wintersgill) with nine fish 11lbs 13ozs just beating the Hammermen (J Begg and A Coats) with seven fish 11lbs 2ozs.

The 1999 event will be held on Saturday, 11 September.

GOLF DATES AND CONVENERS

Golf conveners will be pleased to hear from players who wish to take part in Craft and Trades House competitions.

This year the Trades House Trophy event (2 ball better ball Stableford) will be played at Pollok on Wednesday afternoon, 26th May; the annual match against the Merchants Co of Edinburgh will take place at Pollok on Wednesday 25th August; the David Borland Trophy meeting (best four Stableford scores from teams of six) will be held at Cathcart Castle on Tuesday 21st September.

Craft conveners for 1999 are: Hammermen, David Manson; Tailors, John S Sinclair; Cordiners, Alistair J Dorward; Maltmen, William J Dunn; Weavers, Hamish Brodie; Bakers, James Black; Skinners, Gordon Ferguson; Wrights, Chris Mennie; Coopers, James A Paterson; Fishers, Allan T Lapsley; Masons, Hugh Sutherland; Gardeners, Sandy Martin; Barbers, Archibald G Hutchison; Dyers, J Stephen Braid.

• The Inter Craft Ladies Competition will be held at Buchanan Castle on 27 May.

MERRY MASONS IN SONG . . .



The main speaker at the Masons' Choosing Dinner on 18 September was The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Elgin and Kincardine KT, who is no stranger to after dinner speaking throughout Scotland. However the Merry Masons were further privileged to be entertained by Lord Elgin performing one of his favourite songs 'O Willie Brew'd A Peck O' Maut' along with the well known celebrity and merry mason Bill Dennistoun. This was the surprise package at the end of the first choosing dinner of the new Trades House season, and a surprise too for Neil Barnes, the Master of the Worshipful Company of Masons of London, who had to comment that their dinners are much more formal.



. . . AND IN A KILT IN LONDON

The Incorporations within the Trades House of Glasgow often enjoy reciprocal hospitality with their sister organisations in the City of London. The Deacon of the Incorporation of Masons, Jack Steele, attended the Annual Dinner of the Worshipful Company of Masons on 5th November 1998 in Mercers' Hall. Resplendent in full highland dress Deacon Jack Steele is photographed here with Master Neil Barnes, Upper Warden Basil Rushton and Renter Warden David Ruffie.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 20 May, Pensioners' Tea Party, Trades Hall.
- 26 May, Trades House Lecture, Strathclyde University.
- 26 May, Schools' Craft Competition, Prize Giving, Trades Hall.
- 10 - 13 June, CraftEx 99, Trades Hall.
- 17 September, Craft annual meetings, Trades Hall.
- 26 November, Grand Antiquity Society Royal Charter Centenary Ball.

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