



ISSUE 28 SPRING 2004

ALL SYSTEMS GO FOR "NOLLY" PROJECT

The Deacon Convener's 2004 charity project to raise funds to send disadvantaged children on beneficial working trips on board the Nolly Barge as it sails on the Forth and Clyde Canal will receive a major boost to its funds when the Glasgow Ball is held in the city's Hilton Hotel on Saturday 15th May. Some 500 guests are expected to attend this major event in the city and House's calendar. Prior to the Ball the Chain Gang had the opportunity to experience a flavour of life on board the barge when they paid a visit to the

craft at Applecross Basin in Glasgow. All were highly impressed by the facilities on the "Nolly", which is the Glasgow slang word for canal - "canally" eventually being shortened to "nolly".

• The Nolly Barge project is being run in conjunction with the Strathclyde Youth Clubs Association, a voluntary charitable organisation providing large-scale support services to youth clubs. Their aim is to promote the spiritual, mental and physical well being of young people by providing educational services and helping member clubs operate effectively so that young people have a fun and safe place to socialise.

The SYAC is proud of its long association with the House with many House members serving on its committees throughout the years. Currently three House members are on their Management Team - Chairman is Deacon Hugh O'Neill (Cordiners), Treasurer ex-Deacon Stewart Ferguson (Wrights) and ex-Deacon John Mackenzie (Fleshers).



Cabin Crew - Deacon Convener Ian Elliott (right) and Late Convener Stewart Wright inspect the Nolly living accommodation



Deck Crew - steady as she goes with (l to r) Alastair Denholm, President, Deacons Association; Tom Gilchrist, Late Collector; Hugh O'Neill, Deacon of the Cordiners and James Clark, Deacon of the Fleshers

THE PRESENT MEETS THE PAST

The formal opening of the refurbished Trades Hall as a major tourist attraction in the city was performed by the Rt. Hon. Lord Provost of Glasgow, Liz Cameron who was surprised to find herself accosted by a butcher (Flesher), baker and candle-stick maker (Hammerman) as she inspected one of the many historic Craft boxes which can be seen by visitors.

See page 2 for full details of the new facilities at the Hall.

WEBSITE DEVELOPMENTS

A new webmaster has been appointed to develop the House website to a higher performance level to attract and hold the interest of visitors. The 'Events' section lists the activities. A 'click' on an event will bring up details of the exhibition, concert, dinner, meeting etc. There will be a contact point for more information. The site will be interactive accepting enquiries and data for updates.

The Trades House office staff are now trained and can make the alterations directly in accordance with preset rules.

Within the next few weeks the site will achieve its purpose as a useful communication medium. The scope of information available on the web-



The Sir Walter Scott on Loch Katrine



ON THE MOVE?

The Trades House office staff, subject to final approval at the May meeting of the House, will be leaving their St Vincent Street base which has been their home for the past 12 years, to set up "house" in more suitable accommodation in Glassford Street.

Full details of telephone, fax and e-mail, etc. will be issued to Clerks and Deacons as soon as they are available. Up-to-date information will also appear in the next issue of the Craftsman.

House staff (l to r) Annette Wright, Trades House Manager and Assistant Clerk (who is celebrating 14 years' service to the House); Myra Martin, Administrative Assistant (who has joined the House after nine years as PA to the Education Officer of Channel 4 and who recently was awarded a BA in Social Sciences from Glasgow Caledonian University) and Kirstine Mains, Administrative Assistant (who has been associated with the House for ten years).



HOUSE HELPS HALL TO OPEN DOORS

The House and the 14 Incorporated Crafts have played a major role in enabling the Trades Hall to complete its refurbishment programme. As the largest non-state-agency sponsors of these works they have donated £680,000 over the past 10 years.

The success of the annual "Doors Open Days" has resulted in the Hall being recognised as the fourth most visited historic building in Glasgow.

Completion of the final phase should increase visitor numbers significantly. A new automatic door system leads to a visitor reception area complete with gift shop and refreshment facilities. In this area visitors can obtain easy to use audio-tour hand-sets before watching an impressive audio visual presentation narrated by Jimmy Reid.

On the top floor the old school room has been

converted into an impressive interpretation centre, with numerous interactive facilities, which link the House and Crafts to a "Making the City" exhibition, and subject to letting use, the visitors can wander around the Grand Hall and the Saloon.

Youngsters, especially, can enjoy discovering what life was like for children in the 19th Century Trades Free School and its links with history and that of the Trades. Educational school tours are arranged by appointment with the Trust's Education Officer Judith Bowers.

The Hall will be open seven days a week until October and from November to March only on Sundays. Entry is £3.50 with reduced rates for senior citizens, children and party bookings.



Carole Nelson, the Hall Operations Manager



Front of House Assistant Alison Dick, welcomes a visitor

A REWARDING EXPERIENCE

Due to the length of time which the Hall will be open on a daily basis, a team of volunteer guides is required to ensure that visitors obtain the maximum information on the Hall, House and Crafts, particularly on the many activities which we carry out today to benefit charity and modern craft development, and also to provide increased visual security for the many historical artefacts on display in the building as well as helping those who require assisted access.

Assistance in this direction is required mornings and afternoons. Full training will be given and apart from

"job satisfaction" your reward will be free refreshments. As Late Collector Tom Gilchrist puts it: "It will be a rewarding experience as a Craftsman or one closely associated with the work of the House to welcome visitors showing off our Hall and telling the story of our traditions. By joining the team of guides you would be providing an enormous service not only as ambassadors for the city but also strengthening the support for the Trades House."

If you have time for this worthwhile project please contact Carole Nelson at the Hall - 0141-552 2418.



Education Officer Judith Bowers explains the history of the Trades to pupils from Kelvin Hall Primary School as volunteer guide ex-Deacon of the Masons, Jim Hamilton Smith, looks on



Volunteer guides ex-Deacon of the Wrights, Peter Kelso, Jean Kelso and the next Collector of the Hammermen Norman Hamilton, prepare to tell visitors the history of the Deacons and Free Presesers' Society box which dates from the 1780's.

COLLEGES TAKE CENTRE STAGE

Emphasis will be on the success and the contribution which Glasgow's ten colleges of further education make to both the crafts and the future skills of the city when the 2004 CraftEx Competition is held in the Trades Hall from Thursday 17th June to Sunday 20th June.

Although sponsored by the House, CraftEx has to be seen as primarily a college event at which the very best work of the next generation of craftsmen and women are exhibited in a wide variety of skill classifications - both traditional and modern. Participation in CraftEx can often lead to students obtaining employment or starting their own businesses. Colleges have, therefore, been asked to send out invitations to prospective employers and career officers.

Once again the CraftEx Committee is indebted to Ron Pumfrey of Melville Exhibitions who will provide the latest high quality exhibition stands and posters for CraftEx. The stands

will be delivered to the Trades Hall on Wednesday 16th June and any craftsmen and their friends who can help with the set up are asked to contact the House Office (0141 228 8077).

It is also hoped that the event's other long-standing sponsors will once again give their support along with new sponsors who will be made very welcome.

SCHOOLS EVENTS

Prior to CraftEx, on 7th June the House sponsored Schools' Citizenship Awards will be presented in the Trades Hall. Also on 14th June the Secondary Schools' Craft Awards will be presented in the Hall. The winning exhibits from this event will be shown at CraftEx. Both these awards are supported by the Education Department of Glasgow City Council.

COMMONWEAL AID

During 2003 the Commonweal Fund Committee disbursed £73,375 to a total of 89 charitable organisations and community groups.

Grants went to the Trades Hall of Glasgow Trust to assist them with providing interpretation and audio visual tours and the exhibition "Making a City".

Musical and theatrical assistance included £5000 towards Children's Classic Concerts and grants to the Dance House (Namibia Choir visit), Council for Music in Hospitals, National Youth Orchestra of Scotland, Citizens Theatre, Glasgow Repertory Company, National Youth Choir of Scotland, Scottish Baroque Ensemble and the Cumbernauld Choir. Amongst other large grants were £2500 each to Friends of Community Hall, Maryhill and West of Scotland Deaf Children's Society.

Support for the activities of community groups throughout the city included organisations in Dalmarnock, Pollok, Craigielea, Maryhill, Ruchazie, Gorbals, Blairdardie, Shettleston, Gallowgate and Calton, Ibrox, Langside and Battlefield, Parkhead, Reidvale, Dennistoun, Ruchill, Townhead and Sighthill.

The Commonweal Committee also administers a number of Trusts, Funds and Bequests and a total of some £8000 was distributed in accordance with the wishes of the benefactors.



Students of the National Youth Orchestra of Scotland are happy to have "drummed up" support from the Commonweal Fund

MUSICAL ASSOCIATION

Following a very successful and enjoyable concert by the Phoenix Choir in the magnificently refurbished St Andrews in the Square, the Musical Association's next venture will be The World of Modern Musical Theatre, a concert and illustrated lecture. This will be given by the enthusiastic head of department at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama assisted by students from the Academy. The event will be held on Tuesday 4th May in the Trades Hall.

These concerts are becoming very popular and it is hoped that, once again, there will be the support of the House and friends of our organisations. It is hoped, as usual, to make a donation to the Deacon Convener's Charity. Tickets, priced £7.50, are available from Annette Wright at the House Office (0141 228 8077).

Membership of the Association is not confined to members of an Incorporation.

HALF TERM REPORTS

FULL STEAM AHEAD

The combination of presiding over the affairs of the House and representing the House at civic receptions and other functions is demanding both in time and stamina, but greatly rewarding when you experience the friendship generated throughout the Crafts and the genuine cordial relationship between the House and the city.

I am fortunate to be supported by a splendid Chain Gang with the co-ordinators of the various committees and excellent office staff. It is by their sterling effort that the charitable, educational aims and objectives of the House are achieved. I am sure that the relocation of the House Office to the Hall should be of benefit to all.

The Choosing Dinners and social events of the Crafts have been well attended and the Crafts seem to be well prepared to celebrate the 400th anniversary next year.

I am pleased to report that this year's Glasgow Ball will be well attended and predict that the funds will be raised to give Glasgow children a holiday break when they embark on the Nolly Barge on the Forth and Clyde Canal, under the control of the Strathclyde Youth Club Association.

Ian Elliott, Deacon Convener

400 TAKES SHAPE

It is with excitement and a sense of pride that I can report that with the members of the quatercentenary Chain Gang we are preparing for our respective offices in the autumn. With the example set by Deacon Convener Ian Elliott I look forward to encouraging members we have not seen for a while to come back and join in our events and help us with our charitable work.

Next year will be busy as we celebrate the 400th anniversary of the award which bound the Crafts into one council, the Trades House of Glasgow. There will be a number of events to mark this occasion.

The Trades House have arranged a concert on the evening of our anniversary, Sunday 6th February 2005 at the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall. This 'Concert for Glasgow' will be one of the highlights of the year when we can share our celebration in a public way. Diaries should be marked for this day now! My wife Anne reminds me of the great number of dates in the diary already and we hope as many members as possible will come along and join in our celebrations during the year.

I am aware of the continuing contribution we make to the common good of the city, its institutions and most importantly our traditional role helping people in need. It will be a tremendous privilege to serve the House and the city next year.

Tom Gilchrist, Late Collector

UNENVIABLE MOMENTUM

We are now halfway through the current year, into the 21st Century and nearly 400 years on from our inception in 1605. The House has an unenviable momentum involving not only the Master Courts and their Craft members but people and organisations with whom we have become associated over the years.

The formal dinners have provided a social calendar that everyone has enjoyed. They have also moulded the Chain Gang into a strong cohesive team, anxious to make its mark. Behind these 'public' events are the more informal social evenings. These are Master Court dinners, musical evenings, and other occasions, which provide an excellent opportunity to meet old friends and make new acquaintances.

There is however another side to this social calendar, that is, working for Greater Glasgow through the social projects of the House. Traditionally we have administered trust funds for the elderly, the young and the good of the general community in Glasgow. More importantly, we continue to seek community involvement through CraftEx, the Schools Citizenship Award, the Schools Crafts Competition, the Glasgow Ball project and now the quatercentenary celebrations. If, after all this time, the general public is still not au fait with our organisation then the opening of the Hall to the public and next year's celebrations should correct that.

The House is well served by our staff and I thank them along with Members of the Platform for introducing me to its complexities; it is a privilege to be your Collector. The path through the Master Court of a Craft is rewarding. If you have not already taken that step then I would recommend you give it your full consideration.

Graham Goodridge-Cox, Collector

FUNDS FROM FASHION

The Association of Trades House Ladies has staged a very successful fashion show, again provided by "etoile" of Largs, which raised £2,500 in aid of the Children's Hospice Association Scotland and the Deacon Convener's charity.

The Association welcomed to the event Deputy Lord Provost, Christine Devine and the Deacon Convener's lady, Ann Elliott. Thanks are due to Glasgow City Council Land Services for their catwalk floral display.

The Ladies Association Committee

Some 60 members and friends of the Association have also enjoyed an illuminated talk on producing a drama play for television by Val Stephens, a producer for BBC and ITV.

DIARY DATE: The Association's Annual Dinner will be held in the Western Club on 22nd September. Details of Association membership are available from Anne MacConnacher (01505 872480) or Eleanor Sandford (01821 640300)

President Anne MacConnacher with Deputy Lord Provost Christine Devine

PANTO OUTING

There was an attendance of over 150 representing a number of Crafts at the annual Hammermen's Service Group Pantomime Outing in January. Following a meal at the Thistle Hotel, guests proceeded to the King's Theatre to see "Sleeping Beauty" starring Elaine C. Smith and Gerard Kelly. The 2004 Summer Outing will be on Saturday 21st August to St Andrews with lunch at the Old Course Hotel.



Deacon Convener Elliott meets guests at the Thistle Hotel



Deacon Convener Elliott and Mrs Ann Elliott enjoy the panto fun



A selection of the many interesting displays at the show



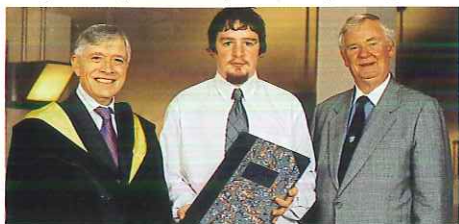
CRAFT NEWS

BURSARY and BOUND

Adam Middleton, an employee of Riley, Dunn & Wilson, Falkirk, was awarded a travel bursary by the Master Court of the Skinners. He chose to travel to Lisbon to study Portuguese bookbinding at the Bairro Da Arrota Library under the expert guidance of Senor Orlando Da Palma Pires, Portugal's leading master bookbinder.

In return Adam rebound for the Incorporation an 1831 census of Glasgow in blue niger goatskin, half bound style with marbled sides, gold leaf titling and encased in a blue buckram silk lined box. The census has been returned to the Trades House Library.

Adam is seen here handing over the census to Late Deacon Campbell Duff with Principal Tom Wilson of the Glasgow College of Building and Printing looking on.



WEAVERS AT WORK

The Master Court of the Weavers has visited the National Trust Weavers' Cottage at Kilbarchan where property manager Chris McLeod showed them around.

Charles Newlands, Ex-Deacon Hugh Kelly, Master Maria McKellar, Deacon John Hamilton and Ex-Deacon Hamish Brodie at the cottage.



HELP FOR HATS

Deacon Peter Rea of the Bonnetmakers and Dyers visited Cardonald College to see the work that the Millinery Department carried out in the academic year, providing him with an opportunity to see how the hats are made and how each designer brought her initial ideas to fulfilment.

Deacon Rea took the opportunity to raise the profile of the Craft by giving a brief history and outlining the aims of the Craft in the 21st Century including the funding which enabled the Department to widen aspects of hat making.

The Deacon thanked Ros Micklem, Principal; Dr McLuskey, Head of Division, Fashion and Design and Carol Strachan and her students for their kindness and warm welcome.



Deacon Rea admires the wide variety of hats made by the students

IN THE SPIRIT

A successful party night called the "Spirit of Scotland" has been held by the Gardeners. A large turnout, including the Chain Gang, were treated to a Scottish band with fine singing by Maria Wilson and a buffet dinner by Nouvelle Ecosse. Many guests joined in the spirit of the evening donning fancy dress with a Scottish flavour.

COOPERS' HISTORY

The Coopers are to publish a history of the Incorporation which it is intended will be available in the autumn. Anyone interested in purchasing a copy should contact the Clerk - Alastair Campbell at George House, 36 North Hanover Street, Glasgow G1 2AD (Tel: 0141 552 3422; fax: 0141 552 2935).

FLAGS ALOFT

It was a historic occasion when three Incorporations of Coopers flags flew at the Craft's annual dinner. These represented the Craft of Deacon Convener Ian Elliott, Collector Graham Goodridge-Cox and the hosts. Guests of Deacon Alan Watt included David Burke, the Worshipful Master of the Coopers of London, Late Master Keith Brown, Clerk Adrian Carroll and their wives.

The three Coopers' flags and the House flag proudly fly over the top table and guests



FLESHER'S FUNDING

At their annual Dinner Dance with a champagne draw the Fleshers raised £1006 in aid of the Beatson Oncology Palliative Unit. The cheque will be presented at a Musical Evening in the Trades Hall on 10th May when the Craft will also admit four new members including their first lady members.

Fleshers' Deacon James Clark and his wife, Agnes, have attended the Ladies Banquet of the Worshipful Company of Butchers at Butchers Hall in London, The Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor of London, Robert Finch, replying to the Company of Butchers. Deacon Clerk replied on behalf of the guests and also proposed the toast to the Worshipful Company of the Art or Mystery of the Butchers of the City of London. The Fleshers' 400 Club draw has been won by Bob Colquhoun who received £200 (no - it was not a bribe).

SPORTS NEWS

CURLING

The final of the Trades House curling competition was hotly contested by the Bakers, skipped by Graeme Davidson with Alan Winning at three, Robin Primrose at two and Morton Fyfe at lead and the Masons, skipped by Gordon Deakin with Bill Skeoch at three, Sandy Finlayson at two and Gavin Smith at lead. This is the first year in a long time that the Masons have featured in the final after dominating the competition in the sixties.

On the way to the final the Masons overcame opposition provided by the Fleshers, the Wrights and Gardeners 1 whilst the Bakers defeated the Weavers, Skinners and the Bonnetmakers and Dyers.

The early ends were nip and tuck until the Bakers took a two to give them a three shot lead. This lead prevailed until the seventh when Gordon cleared the Bakers' shots from the head to take a four and a 6 shots to 5 lead to go into the last end with their tails up. Without the crucial last stone Gordon failed to remove the Bakers' shot rock and with the head at his mercy Bill kept his nerve with the last draw of the night to take two shots and the Trades House cigar box trophy.

Helen Burton who, in the company of a large band of spectators and supporters had thoroughly enjoyed a fascinating final, presented the trophy and prizes (although one suspects she wished the Ladies Association had been a final contender). **Michael Burton, Curling Convener (0141 621 4233 - day, 0141 638 2819 - evening)**



Helen Burton presents the cigar box trophy to the Bakers

ANGLING

The 72nd Trades House Angling Competition will be held on Saturday 18th September. Full details will be with Craft Angling Conveners in August. **Murray Blair, Angling Convener (0141 638 0155)**

The 2003 Competition winners are pictured here:-

1. Dallas Trophy (best individual basket) - Alberto Laidlaw (Maltmen)
2. Train Trophy (heaviest fish) - Alistair Doig (Wrights)
3. Team Trophy (Jackson Miller Cup) - Wrights
4. Inaugural Michael Beale Trophy for Craftsmen over 60 - Alex Knight (Wrights) seen receiving his salver from Michael Beale



BOWLING

Annual Tournament - Sunday 13th June at Giffnock Bowling Club. **Stewart Cobb, Bowling Convener (0141 639 6472).**

GOLF

The annual competitions are - Trades House Shield, 20th May at Milngavie G.C. and Boreland Trophy, 14th September at Prestwick St Nicholas G.C. **Alan Ramsey, Golf Convener (0141 649 7921)**
The Ladies golf competition will be held on 20th May over Buchanan Castle G.C.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 15 May - The Glasgow Ball, Hilton Hotel
- 18 May - Pensioners' Tea Party, Trades Hall
- 7 June - Schools' Citizenship Awards - Trades Hall
- 14 June - Schools' Craft Awards, Trades Hall
- 17-20 June - CraftEx College Awards and Exhibition - Trades Hall
- 26 June - Lord Provost's Procession - City Centre
- 28 June - Touching Tiny Lives Golf Competition
- 15 August - Touching Tiny Lives sail on Sir Walter Scott, Loch Katrine

KEEP IN TOUCH

Material for The Craftsman should be sent to Robert Colquhoun, 47a Ardbeg Road, Rothesay, PA20 0NL, Tel/Fax: 01700 503267; or to the Trades House Office, 310 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5QR, Tel: 0141 228 8077