

The Guild of Scholars of the City of London



Newsletter No 16 February 2004

An * after a heading indicates that, if you are reading this on the Internet, you can click on the heading to go to a fuller version of the article. Mailed (paper) copies of the Newsletter will not, for reasons of cost, have these fuller versions but you can see them now by logging on to the John Carpenter site (<http://www.jcc.org.uk/GoS/index.htm>).

[Kenneth H Mostyn - Father of the Guild*](#)

By Peter B Mayhew Court Assistant

It is with deep sadness that we advise members of the death of Kenneth Mostyn (CLS 1924-34), Father of the Guild, on 13th December 2003 at the age of 88. The Guild sends its condolences to his widow Ella, his son Peter and all the family.

Kenneth joined the HAC in 1938, became a Captain in the RASC and saw WW2 action in the European theatre. After 4 years in Beal's Ltd he bought and ran a successful hotel business in Blackpool until eventually retiring and moving back to London where he lived in Winchmore Hill until his death. By his first wife, Irma, he had a son Peter (CLS 1954-64). Kenneth married his second wife, Ella Brown, in August 2003. Ella had looked after him for many years.

Kenneth joined the Baker's Company as a Liveryman in 1937 and served as Master from November 1972. A distinguished Freemason (Baker's Company and John Carpenter Lodges) he was made an Officer of the United Grand Lodge. In 1973 he met with 3 other Old Citizens (all now deceased) Jack Diamond, a pre-war Master of the Blacksmith's Company, Bill Grain, a Past Master of the Scriveners Company, and one of the Baldrey brothers, to discuss collecting together a group of Liverymen to rekindle their interest in the CLS, the history, present, and future of the City and, at the same time help other OC's to become Freemen. Jack Diamond, was elected Chairman of the "O.C. Liverymen". Kenneth became Chairman in 1975, a position he held for the next 14 years during which time membership of the group had grown to over 250. His knowledge of Livery Companies and the City was second to none. Besides encouraging OC's to become Freemen, he also introduced a significant number of candidates for the Livery, some of whom today sit on the Court of their Companies. In 1999 O.C Liverymen became the Guild of Scholars and, in recognition of his commitment and dedication as Chairman of OCL he was unanimously elected as **Father of the Guild**, an honour he was both delighted and proud to accept.

Kenneth was a kindly, courteous and good-humoured man and a good friend who loved his City and the School, we had much to be grateful to him for, and he will be greatly missed by all of us who are left to carry on his work.

View from the Chair Alan Willis (alan@willis.uk.com)

Sadly, in the run up to Christmas, it was my duty to represent the Guild at the funerals of Kenneth Mostyn and Murray Simons. They will both be sorely missed.

On the social front our visit to the CLS Autumn Concert was a success, and the School has now invited the JCC to their Summer Concert on 13 May. It looks as though we've started something there! Another huge success was the Whitechapel Bell Factory visit on 19 Feb where we were hosted by the owner whose family have run the business for 6 generations - we learnt a lot! We organised it with some trepidation as we needed quite high numbers to make it viable. With the benefit of hindsight we needn't have worried as we had a full house of 40 people, and a waiting list of 5 more. If you went, I hope you enjoyed the evening. [Ed: Full report in the next Newsletter].

Our next big function is the Annual Assembly at CLSG on 19 March, followed by a buffet supper. That will be followed by a visit to Charterhouse on 28 July. Details are enclosed with this newsletter, and I look forward to seeing you at one or both of these functions.

In the last Newsletter I wrote about our Apprenticeship programme. On 10 February the Clerk and I attended the 'turning out' of one of our Apprentices. Christopher Pridmore had been apprenticed to Gordon Hutton for four years and, now being over 21, was eligible to become a Freeman of the City of London by Servitude. After the Freedom Ceremony both Christopher and Gordon said how much they had enjoyed those four years, and how rewarding it had been.

If you are a Freeman (but not as Liveryman) and would be interested in taking an Apprentice from one of the three Schools, please contact our Apprenticeship Warden John Hazel (email jnohazel@bopenworld.com). He's especially keen to hear from some of our newer Freemen.

Annual Assembly*

The big get-together this year takes place at the City of London School for Girls on Friday 19th March at 6pm, Reception (to musical accompaniment) at 6.30pm, Buffet Dinner at 7pm. Last year a convivial evening was had by all (see the report on the website - Newsletter 15). Come along and enjoy meeting old & new friends. Fill out the enclosed return slip (**now!**)

Charterhouse*

Cancel the family holiday or take the afternoon off work, Charterhouse *is not open to the general public* but on Wednesday 28 July at 2.15pm we have a guided tour around this unique mediaeval City jewel, you simply must come. Our guide will be one of the resident Brothers, Alan Scrivener, former English master at CLSG. We plan to take 'tea' afterwards. (See application form for further details or 'phone Paul Hind 01923-823678).

An opportunity not to be missed -Act Now !

Chris Gooderidge - Upper Warden (CLS 1954-62)

A brief pen-portrait of our Upper Warden:

Kingsley Amis famously said that everything that he experienced after CLS was a let down. That's the same with me in many ways, because CLS was a great place to be - It's even better now of course. I'm a Solicitor specialising in catastrophic injuries, all types of accidents and injuries, with paraplegics and brain damage, but majoring on medical negligence cases. A particular speciality is cerebral palsy children following birth trauma. Funnily enough mine is a medical family, my wife and elder daughter are nurses and my son-in-law is a Consultant Neurosurgeon at Kings College Hospital London. I rowed at School but I ride horses now with the Honourable Artillery Company. Being a liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Bakers is an important part of my life plus being a Freeman of the City. I'm also very proud of being Upper Warden of the Guild of Scholars - It's good to put something back into the City which has given me so much. I do feel the Guild has the potential to become a great organisation. Opera, reading (particularly history), a bit of writing, swimming. Gosh interests go on and on. What would I really like to have done on the sporting front? Honestly? Be a ski instructor actually - Now that wouldn't have been a let down would it ?

[Ed: A typically self deprecatory self portrait from a modest man - don't believe everything you read !]

Congratulations

Congratulations to David Baldwin, Serjeant of Vestry at HM Chapel Royal, St James' Palace, on being awarded the Royal Victorian Medal in the New Year's Honours List.

Ann Reed is now a liveryman with the Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers.

Candidates & Apprentices

As you will know, the Guild runs an Apprenticeship scheme to encourage pupils at the 3 schools to get to know the City better and progress to becoming Freeman; younger pupils can join in as 'Candidates' before becoming Apprentices. Please let any pupils you may be in contact with know about the scheme. If you are a Freeman who is not a Liveryman we need your help as a Master to an Apprentice. (The duty is not onerous and is a great way of keeping in touch with the boys & girls).

If you are a young man or woman not living in London this is a great way of maintaining your links with the City for a very modest sum (about £30 total compared to £100s - £1000s to become - and remain - a Liveryman). Should you eventually return to London it provides an immediate gateway to the social & 'networking' possibilities of the

Guilds and Livery Companies. (...And don't be put off by the arcane language). Worth investigating, it could represent an excellent investment for the future.

Please contact the Apprenticeship Warden, John Hazel, whose report follows:

The Apprentices and Candidates have recently been asked to report on the year 2003 and the reports are coming in: the Candidates report to me, and the Apprentices to their masters. We had an enjoyable event on 8th January when a group of candidates, one or two apprentices, and a number of their elders and guests were shown the Guildhall Art Gallery and the Amphitheatre by a most knowledgeable member of the staff. There is a steady trickle of people showing interest in joining us, and I shall be visiting CLS and CLSG in the near future to explain our purpose and our procedures. It is always good to hear from our younger members, whether they are still indentured or in candidacy or have been already turned out.

Murray Simons

Sadly we also record the death, on 15th December at the age of 76, of Murray Simons CGM. Father of (ex-apprentice) Jonathan. Murray was a Past President of the John Carpenter Club, a regular attender at Guild functions and a distinguished diplomat (British Ambassador to the force-reduction talks in Vienna in 1982). A full obituary appeared in the Times on 26th December 2003 - <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/newspaper/0,,174-943402,00.html>

Being Charitable with Gordon Brown

It is now possible to nominate The Guild of Scholars Charitable Trust to receive part (or all!) of any tax repayment (e.g. of over-paid tax) you may be entitled to in future from the taxman. The trust then gets the nominated amount PLUS 28% from Gordon. ALL you have to do on your next (& subsequent) tax returns is nominate the amount & quote the Trust's unique code number (PAM43WG) - which you will also find on the Inland Revenue's website from April 2004; the taxman does the rest. It will possible to donate anonymously if desired.

This scheme is quite separate from the existing Gift Aid scheme, it does not replace it (and you can still make donations to the Trust by standing order or cheque).

Membership Records

Has your e-mail address changed? In order to maintain the Membership List in a good state, will you please notify changes of address, E-mail address, telephone numbers, membership of a Livery Company, and other personal details to Fiona Porter (preferably by e-mail). She should also be informed if you wish to have your name included on the list of members to be notified of social events. She will also be happy to supply an up to date membership list to you. Apply to: fionaporter@lineone.net or 17 Selwyn Road, New Malden, Surrey KT3 5AU. Telephone: 0208 942 1742.

Other Correspondence: The Clerk of The Guild of Scholars:
[On going to press]

Ivor Bennett, 39 Brancaster Lane, Purley, Surrey, CR8 1HJ
(Phone: 020 8660 3546) e-mail to: ivor@ijandpb.f9.co.uk

[Ed: Any members who do not have access to the Internet but would like to see the expanded versions of the articles placed on the JCC site are welcome to write to me for paper versions: Paul Hind, 48 Grove Farm Park, Northwood, Middlesex, HA6 2BQ - a stamped, addressed envelope would be appreciated].

The Guild of Scholars of the City of London



Annual Assembly & Dinner

City of London School for Girls, (Off Fore St.), Barbican, London, EC2Y 8BB

FRIDAY 19TH MARCH 2004

The 6th Annual Assembly of the Guild of Scholars will be held in the Committee Room of the City of London School for Girls at 6 p.m. followed by a Reception, to musical accompaniment, at 6.30 p.m. At 7 p.m. we will sit down in the New Hall for a full buffet supper, including wine & coffee. All Members are asked to make a special effort to attend. Guests, including any Old Citizen, Old Girl, or Old Freeman's who is interested in taking up the Freedom, or becoming a Liveryman, are welcome to join us for the Assembly and for the Dinner. The Master, Alan Willis, looks forward to meeting Members, Masters, Apprentices, Candidates and their guests.

The cost of the evening will be £25 per head (£22 for students). Please return the slip overleaf, with a cheque payable to Guild of Scholars by Friday 12th March at the very latest, although an early response would be appreciated.

Meeting 6 p.m. Reception 6.30 p.m. Dinner 7 p.m. Dress Lounge Suits Cars 9.30 p.m.

*If you have any questions about the event please call Gill on 01473 273653
or e-mail GCardy@professionalpartnerships.co.uk*



Charterhouse

Wednesday 28th July
2.15 pm

Another fascinating corner of London which you would have missed without the Guild of Scholars:

The Charterhouse started as a Carthusian Monastery in 1370. In 1611 it became a 'hospital' (for decaying gentlemen) and a school whose illustrious pupils included John Wesley, Sir Robert Baden-Powell, and William Thackeray, who paints a thinly veiled portrait of it in *The Newcomes*. John Carpenter was once a lay brother. A current resident (but not yet very 'decayed') is Alan Scrivener, a former English master at CLSG, who will be our guide. The school has moved to the country but the residences, surrounding mediaeval courtyards reminiscent of an Oxford College, remain housing Charterhouse Pensioners.

We invite you to visit Charterhouse (which is not generally open to the public) for a guided tour. We plan to take tea afterwards at a nearby hostelry. The cost per person for the tour will be £6. The Charterhouse is on Charterhouse Square off Charterhouse Street. Nearest tube - Barbican.

It would be appreciated if you could complete and return the slip overleaf.

ONLY CHEQUES RECEIVED BY *20th June* WILL GUARANTEE PLACES

*If you have any questions about the event please call Paul on 01923-823678
or e-mail at paulhind@supanet.com*

A fuller version, than that in the printed Newsletter, of the obituary for Kenneth Mostyn follows:

Kenneth H Mostyn - Father of the Guild

By Peter B Mayhew (CLS 1944-52) Court Assistant

It is with deep sadness that we advise members of the death of Kenneth Mostyn, Father of the Guild, on 13th December 2003 at the age of 88.

He was educated at the City of London School (1924-34), where his father, Frederick Mostyn CC, became a Governor.

He joined the Honourable Artillery Company in 1938 and was commissioned into the Royal Army Service Corps which he left as a Captain. In WW2 he saw action in the European theatre and was a member of one of the earliest formations to enter Germany after D-Day.

After the War he joined Beal's Ltd where he became a director with special responsibility for the bakery division. After four years he left and bought a hotel business in Blackpool which he ran successfully for many years.

Retiring from the hotel business he moved back to London to a house in Winchmore Hill, and lived there for many years until his death. By his first wife, Irma, he had a son Peter (CLS 1954-64) who, like his father, became a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Bakers. Kenneth married his second wife, Ella Brown, in August 2003. Ella had looked after him for many years.

Kenneth joined the Baker's Company as a Liveryman in 1937, became an Assistant in 1959, and served as Master from November 1972. He was also a Freemason, initiated into the Lodge of the Worshipful Company of Bakers, Laus Deo in 1946, and subsequently that of his old school, the John Carpenter Lodge. His lifetime of service in Freemasonry was recognised when he was made an Officer of the United Grand Lodge of England, an appointment he was proud to accept.

In 1973, during his time as Master of the Baker's Company, Kenneth, together with three other Old Citizens (all now deceased) Jack Diamond, a pre-war Master of the Blacksmith's Company, Bill Grain, a Past Master of the Scriveners Company, and one of the Baldrey brothers, met to discuss the idea that it might be useful to collect together a group of Liverymen who might possibly rekindle their interest in the CLS, the history, present and future of the City of London and, at the same time help other OC's to become Freemen of the City and perhaps Liverymen. A small committee was formed and the most senior Past Master present, Jack Diamond, was elected Chairman. The group would be known as O.C. Liverymen.

Kenneth became chairman of O.C. Liverymen in 1975, a position he held for the next 14 years during which time membership of the group had grown to over 250. His knowledge of Livery Companies and the City was second to none and we all learnt a great deal from him. Besides encouraging OC's to become Freemen, he also introduced a significant number of candidates for the Livery, some of whom today sit on the Court of their Companies.

In 1999 O.C Liverymen became the Guild of Scholars and, in recognition of his commitment and dedication as Chairman of OCL he was unanimously elected by the Court as Father of the Guild, an honour he was both delighted and proud to accept.

Kenneth was a kindly, courteous and good-humoured man and a good friend who loved his City and the School, we had much to be grateful to him for, and he will be greatly missed by all of us who are left to carry on his work.

The Guild sends its condolences to his widow Ella, his son Peter and all the family.