



The Guild of Scholars

of the City of London

www.gofs.co.uk

Newsletter Number 27 (February 2009)

The Master's View

This will be my **last** Master's view.

It has been a privilege to be **Master of the Guild of Scholars** of the City of London for the **past 3 years** but I consider that now is the time to hand the Guild over to a new Master.

I do feel that we have made **progress** over the last 3 years in a number of ways – First of all we have had a succession of **apprentices "turned out" as Freeman of the City** of London in the Chamberlain's Court at Guildhall which is a central facet of the purposes of our Guild.

We have attracted a number of **younger people** to become **Members** of the Guild and others to become members of the Court. We are absolutely delighted about this. Having said that, we are also delighted that we have older people, both as members and as members of the Court. **We want a balance.**

Edward Andrews, our Apprenticeship Warden and Editor of our Newsletter has, and continues to make a huge contribution to the Guild, not only with the Apprentices but in numerous other ways. I thank him very warmly indeed.

I have mentioned **sail training** on a number of occasions and I make no apology for this. We feel that this is something that really **changes lives** and this has been proved at the sail training evenings that we have held at the City of London School for Girls each year when the participants in the sail training have produced excellent video presentations of their experiences. Each year we give **bursaries** to assist a number of young people from the Schools to participate in these sail training activities.

Ivor Bennett, our Clerk, has been instrumental in setting up and maintaining the sail training scheme and I thank him very much indeed for all the hard work that he has done and still does on this.

We have had a number of excellent visits on the **social side** plus informal pub get togethers which have proved most enjoyable. Incidentally, we have a visit to the **Old Bailey** coming up and we have other visits planned.

We keep in close touch with the **3 Schools** and I am delighted to report, for example, that Chaslav Frim has been invited to address **senior boys** at the **City of London School**.

Many of our functions have been held at the **City of London School for Girls** and we thank the **Head** and her **deputy** very much indeed for their hospitality.

The **City of London Freeman's School** is a great **supporter** of the Guild and we are very grateful to them for their support.

So all in all I feel that I am handing over the Guild to my successor in good shape although there is still **much to be done** to **raise the profile of the 3 Schools in the City** and the **City in the 3 Schools**.

I would like to thank all Court members for their time and devotion to the Guild and for their friendship.

Finally, I would like to thank all the members for their support.

Christopher Gooderidge – Master master@gofs.co.uk

Future Events

19th March 2009 Visit to the Old Bailey.

24th March 2009 Annual Assembly & Dinner

30th April 2009 Social Pub Gathering

News of our Youth

Congratulations to Roland Brandman who, having successfully completed his apprenticeship with the Guild of Scholars, was "turned out" at Guildhall on the 19th December 2008 and has since been accepted as a member of the Guild.



Roland receives the Freedom at Guildhall. Picture above from left to right -Edward Andrews (Apprenticeship Warden), Roland Brandman, John Hazel (Roland's Master) and Ivor Bennett (Clerk).

Pub Socials

The first event of 2009 was a pub social at a different venue – The Bishops Finger, Smithfield. It was a delight to see newer members of the Guild joining some of the old hands. Indeed, having discovered that some of the attendees had belonged to the CLS railway club in its various guises over the years prompted a request for an article on the club. Needless to say the age range varied from the Steam Railway Club to the model railway club.

It was great to chat informally and get to know each other a little better.

It was such good fun we're planning to do it again! Please ring **Thursday 30th April** in your diary. We shall meet from 6pm in the **THE BISHOPS FINGER, SMITHFIELD**. Come for half an hour, or stay until closing time! It will just be good to see you.

Events

Visit to the Old Bailey – 19th March 2009

(Dress code – smart casual/lounge suits)

Officially called the Central Criminal Court, this is an **evening** visit to one of the most **famous courts in the world**. The fascinating **lecture-tour** is likely to start in No 1 Criminal Court and finish in the cells below the courtrooms. The tour will be given by Charles Henty the **Secondary of London** and will last approximately **1 ½ hours**. From there we will retire to a **nearby hostelry** for a light buffet (The Butcher's Hook & Cleaver, 61-63 West Smithfield, London, EC1A 9DY.) Given the somewhat **early start**, it is possible that members and guests may wish to attend the visit, but not the buffet or visa versa. The booking form allows for this option. The cost of the visit to the Old Bailey will be **£10** per person which will be donated to the **Sheriffs' and Recorders Fund** which helps with the resettlement of offenders. The cost of the buffet at the Butcher's Hook and Cleaver will be **£11.00** per person. Applications will be treated on a **first come first served basis** and at latest be received by **Wednesday 11th March**. Meeting information for the visit – **5.45pm** at the **Lord Mayors Entrance** which is found in Warwick Square. This will be a **prompt start** and failure to arrive on time may result in not being able to join the tour. Meeting information for the buffet – approx **7.30 for 8pm** at the **Butcher's Hook and Cleaver**

Annual Assembly and Dinner – 24th March 2009.

(Dress code –lounge suits)

The **Annual Assembly** will be held at the **City of London School for Girls**, St. Giles' Terrace, Barbican, EC2Y 8BB at 6.30 pm. All **members** and their **guests** are **welcome**.

This is to be followed by buffet style dinner. The cost of this event is **£30.00 per person** with a concession price of **£25.00** for **students** under 25 years of age.

Applications for the Dinner must be received by Wednesday 11th March

Social Pub Gathering – 30th April 2009

The next social pub get together after work drinks (6 pm onwards) will be held at **The Bishops Finger**, 9-10 West Smithfield, London, EC1A 9JR. There will be an **area reserved** for us and this is ideal opportunity to **meet other members** of the Guild in a social and relaxed environment.

If you can only pop in for a **quick drink** at any time throughout the evening, we would still love to see you.

This event is being organised by Angela Banwell. If you are planning on attending this event, please email Angela – angela@gofs.co.uk – so that we have an idea of numbers. If you do not have access to email, please call 020 8668 8575 (Edward Andrews) who will pass the information to Angela.

Running for Charity

Court Assistant Stephanie Roe is running the London Marathon this year to raise money for the Anthony Nolan Trust who find living bone marrow donors for those suffering from Leukemia. If you would like to sponsor Stephanie, please go to <http://www.justgiving.com/stephanieroe>.

Editor's note - Many thanks to those members who have agreed to **receive** their **newsletter** via **email**.

If you have received a **physical** copy of this newsletter and would be happy to **receive** an **electronic** version instead, please email editor@gofs.co.uk with news in the subject line.

Not only will this reduce running costs, but also do our bit to help save some trees.

Is our Guild unique?

In our continuing quest we look at The Worshipful Company of **Drapers** who rank **third** in the Livery Companies of the City of London.

The full **title** of the Drapers' Company is "**The Master and Wardens and Brethren and Sisters of the Guild or Fraternity of the Blessed Mary the Virgin of the Mystery of Drapers of the City of London**". The word Mystery comes from the Latin "misterium" meaning professional skill.

The first **royal charter** granted to the Drapers is dated **1364** and the **first ordinances** cite a date of **1361** for the fraternity's foundation, although an **informal association** of drapers undoubtedly existed as early as **1180**.

A **Brotherhood of Drapers**, a religious fraternity attached to the church of St. Mary Bethlehem in Bishopsgate, is also known to have existed in the **1360s**. It was founded in honour of St. Mary by 'good people Drapers of Cornhill and other good men and women' for the amendment of their lives. The location of St. Mary can hardly have been convenient for the majority of Drapers who lived in and around Cornhill, Candlewick Street (now Cannon Street) and Chepe (Cheapside).

Possibly it was for this reason that allegiance was transferred to St. Mary le Bow in Cheapside and later to St. Michael's Cornhill, where the Company continues to worship today. Despite these changes, the Drapers have retained the Blessed Virgin Mary as patron saint.

In **1438** the guild received its **Charter of Incorporation** recognizing the Drapers as a legal corporate fraternity, a Company which has perpetual succession and a Common seal. Over the centuries the original privileges granted by Royal Charter have been confirmed and amended by successive monarchs. The acting Charter of today is that granted by **James I** in **1607**, amended by four Supplemental Charters, most recently in 2008.

From its origins as a medieval guild, the Drapers' Company today has wide ranging interests and responsibilities: it administers **charitable trusts** relating to **relief of need, education** and **almshouses**; it provides banqueting and catering services; and it fosters its heritage and traditions of **good fellowship**.

Every Freeman is eligible to be considered for **Call to the Livery** by the **Election Committee** when they have attained the age of **30 years** and have been **Free of the Company** for at least **two years**. Whereas the size of the Freedom is not restricted, that of the **Livery** is **limited to 300**. Thus there are always likely to be more candidates than there are vacant places on the Livery.

Information courtesy of www.thedrapers.co.uk



Event(s) Booking Form (Please note closing date for applications is Wednesday 11th March)

Name (Please Print): _____

Old Bailey 19th March 2009.

Please reserve me _____ place(s) @ £10.00 for the Visit

Please reserve me _____ place(s) @ £11.00 for the Buffet

Total Cost: £ _____

My guest(s) names are (please print):

Special Dietary requirements: _____

Annual Assembly 24th March 2009.

(City of London School for Girls)

Please reserve me _____ place(s) @ £30.00

and _____ place(s) @ £25.00 students under 25 years of age

Total Cost: £ _____

My guest(s) names are (please print):

Special Dietary requirements: _____

I enclose a cheque for either or both events made payable to the "**Guild of Scholars**" for £ _____

Please send event application form and/or gift donation to Edward Andrews, 8 Grovelands Road, Purley, Surrey, CR8 4LA



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Donations to the Charitable Trust.

It has been some years since we have asked for **donations** to the **Charitable Trust** and we are very **grateful** to those who **donate** on a **monthly** basis. At this time, should you feel the wish to donate we have enclosed a form below. Should you be able to confirm your eligibility to Gift Aid the donations, then we can claim the tax back from HM Revenue & Customs. If you would like details on how to give regular contributions, please contact us and we will send the relevant forms.



Name (Please Print): _____

I wish to make a **donation** of £_____ and enclose a cheque made payable to the "**Guild of Scholars Charitable Trust.**"

Name of charity: The Guild of Scholars Charitable Trust (The Trust)

I declare that all donations I make to the Trust now and in the future are to be Gift aid donations. I authorise the Trust to reclaim tax on these donations. I will inform the Trust if that situation changes.

Please tick the box if appropriate

You must pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax in each tax year at least equal to the tax that the charity will claim from HM Revenue & Customs on your Gift Aid donation(s).

Donor's details (Please Print)

Title _____ Initial(s) _____ Surname _____

Home address _____

Postcode _____

Date _____

Signature _____

If you pay income tax at the higher rate, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self Assessment tax return if you want to receive the additional tax relief due to you.

Please send event application form and/or gift donation to Edward Andrews, 8 Grovelands Road, Purley, Surrey, CR8 4LA