

Trading Post

Newsletter of the Trades of Glasgow



WELCOME!

Welcome to the DC Newsletter, the first in a series over the coming year, which we are calling **Trading Post**. With so many of our traditional events cancelled or transferred to a zoom platform, it is important that we continue to spread news and share ideas across the Trades House family of crafts and organisations. Craftsman is taking a breather this year given the shortage of events to be covered, but in Trading Post we still have the opportunity to showcase what we do. This is not just about the Deacon Convener; it's for all to use. So please let us know what events you are planning and we will make sure they are publicised and reported on. My thanks go to the editorial team and all members of the Trades House office for their support and encouragement.

Ken Dalglish, Deacon Convener
Deacon Convener's Post

An introduction to the Deacon Convener, Ken Dalglish

Ken stated that he and Lynn, his wife, are delighted despite the very unusual circumstances caused by COVID, to fill this important role and look forward to getting to know people and enjoy their company as the year progresses.

He acknowledged the clear leadership provided by his long standing friend, Late Convener Bruce Reidford, in what was a challenging year for all as the virus spread, leading to the extended lockdown.

Using the ubiquitous zoom meeting platform, it has been possible to continue



the great work of the House and Ken is confident that long term friendships are in the making. He went on to say : *“It is a great honour and privilege to have been elected as Deacon Convener in what will be a challenging but special year for all involved and it will be important to maintain the traditions and standards of the House at every opportunity.*

We are particularly looking forward to working with Collector Billy Birse Stewart and his wife Lorna and they too share our determination to ensure that Trades House continues to prosper whilst accepting that change may be required to achieve that aim.”

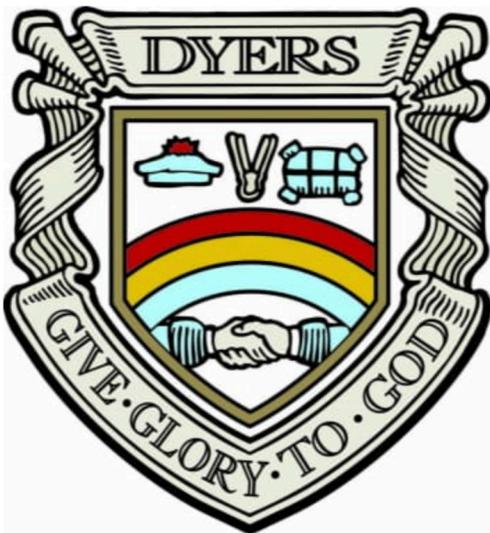
The ongoing situation with lockdown restrictions require patience and adaptation in everything the House wants to do and Ken hopes it will be possible to return to normal with many of the popular events in the not too distant future.

It is customary for the Deacon Convener to promote a charitable objective. The coming financial year will see a reduction in income for Trades House and consequently, less will be available for charitable distribution. COVID-19 has been financially crippling for the poorest families. Ken stated, *“We know that child poverty continues to be a major issue in Glasgow and surrounding areas and I would like our focus to be on children, making full use of the existing funds available to us and through additional Chain Gang fundraising initiatives. By working together in partnership we can achieve much for the most vulnerable children. The pandemic will lead to huge changes in the Charity sector with smaller organisations forced to close. We*

need to recognise this and adapt our giving criteria to allow targeted action."

This will be a challenging year for everyone connected to Trades House and that, Ken emphasised, is a significant number of people. He went on to say, *"By working together, with all individuals and organisations connected to this remarkable Glasgow asset we really can make a difference now and in the future. Yes, Trades Hall probably is Glasgow's best kept 'secret' but the work that goes on behind the doors is recognised by our partners who are similarly concerned about welfare for the most vulnerable."*

Ken finished by restating, *"This will be a year of change and development and the 'secret' of the Trades House deserves to be shared to the widest possible public."*



Bonnetmakers & Dyers Celebration Social 30th October 2020

Congratulations go to the Bonnetmakers and Dyers for a most enjoyable and innovative evening provided on Zoom. Steered by the inimitable, Deacon Robert Linton and aided by an inventive Master Court, the 'At Home'

gave us an opportunity to see the many activities and charities which the Craft supports.

Once everyone was settled into their chairs and had a glass of refreshment to hand, we were treated to a film of Atlantic Guardsman, four strong Scots Guards. Led by Captain John Ford, they rowed from the Canaries to Antigua, as part of the Talisker Challenge to raise funds for the Scots Guards charity.

This was followed by a most enjoyable millinery display by students of Glasgow Kelvin & Glasgow Clyde Colleges and the headwear was amazing.

Ex Deacon James Inglis, spoke about the work of the National Youth Choir of Scotland (NYCOS) and we were then entertained by a wonderful singing performance by some of the members.

Late Deacon, Dianne Chapman, spoke about the donation made to some of the enterprising ladies who had made scrubs for the NHS during the first period of lockdown.

College Prize Winners were also on show during the Zoom, displaying photographs of their intriguing work. One of the students, Ruby Loveday became spokesperson and explained about the performance costume she had designed.

Rounding off a very successful evening, Deacon Robert proposed a toast to The House, which Deacon Convener, Ken Dalgleish responded to with a toast to The Craft. Fortunately the viewers had recharged their glasses brimming full of good cheer to match the occasion.

It was fantastic to share convivial chat with friends and guests, during the ten-minute interval, along with a welcome spot of supper and an occasional favourite tippie.

It was a great show and left all looking forward to hearing news of similar events to be staged during the autumn by other Crafts.

Sir Geoff Palmer's lecture on Thursday 5th November

It wasn't fireworks that attracted an audience to Thursday's Zoom Lecture put on by the Grand Antiquity Society of Glasgow, but the prospect of getting to see and hear the renowned Professor Sir Geoff Palmer OBE. Delivering the Annual Lecture, Sir Geoff had set as the intriguing title 'From Jamaica to Jamaica Street'. The focus of the talk was both the personal journey of Geoff from the sun and sand of Jamaica's shores, firstly to America and then onto to Britain to join his mother who had arrived in England as part of the Windrush generation. Then Geoff explored Glasgow's links to the slave trade in an honest and frank manner.



Discovering that he was too young to work, the fifteen year old Geoff was packed off to Shelbourne Road Secondary Modern School, where he was initially assessed as 'educationally subnormal' before gaining a place at Highbury Grammar School, where he achieved six O-levels and two A-levels. He went on to the University of Leicester where he earned a degree in Botany in 1964 and as part of his varied career he is noted as being the first to properly describe the process that

turns barley into malt. Appropriately he later joined the Incorporation of Maltmen.

Throughout the Lecture the great heart of this gentle man was fully on display as he spoke without rancour about his experience as a black man

encountering racism and prejudice, but through wit and humanity rising above such pettiness. In 2007, the bicentenary of the Abolition of the Slave Trade in the British Empire, Professor Palmer OBE was named among the 100 Great Black Britons.

Geoff went on to describe some of the ways in which Glasgow merchants and traders were involved in the slave trade and we each reflected on that most terrible past. But crucially, he observed that rather than tear down statues and rename streets, Geoff is of the firm opinion that appropriate relabelling and informed history education was a more effective way to counter and engage with the past.

Quoting from the work of Robert Burns and other notables, he reminded us of the good as well as the bad in our shared experience and he left us all incredibly pleased that his life's journey, took him from Jamaica to Jamaica Street.

Poppy Appeal 2020 - You Can Help!

The Poppy Appeal in 2020 faces real issues as it tries to gain traction against the background of the restrictions and COVID lockdown. With so many of its collectors being drawn from the 'at risk' category and so many places where poppies might be sold, unable to offer a safe space, the Royal British Legion and Poppyscotland is facing a massive reduction in its potential to raise much needed funds. So as an innovation in addition to the traditional poppy and badges, the appeal is also selling face-masks from the online outlets noted below. The annual campaign of course receives the majority of its funding during the November Remembrance Appeal by means of the traditional can collection across the country.

Mark Collins, Chief Executive of Poppyscotland added: *"We have launched a number of new digital innovations including our Virtual Field of Remembrance, QR codes and contactless chips on poppy boxes and our Donate, Download and Display campaign. Many supermarket collections also participated, with poppies still widely available from the usual outlets."*



To donate to the Scottish Poppy Appeal visit: www.poppyscotland.org.uk.

Remembering the Fallen of the World Wars

As part of the Armistice commemorations, on Tuesday 27th October, Ken Dalglish, Deacon Convener of Trades House and third citizen of Glasgow, attended a wreath laying ceremony at the Garden of Remembrance in George Square. There with due deference he lay a floral tribute to remember the



fallen of the two world wars. Accompanying him on this important occasion was the Lord Dean of Guild, Alasdair Ronald. With the lockdown curtailing much of the usual pomp, the pared down ceremony was no less sincere or reverent and both men observed a period of silence for reflection.

Following on from that event on Armistice Sunday 8th November, Ken Dalglish attended with Deacon of the Skinners,

Hugh Gilmour to lay a wreath at the Cenotaph in George Square.

The Lord Provost, Philip Bratt, with whom the Trades House representatives would normally attend observed a separate wreath laying.

C i t i z e n s T h e a t r e D e v e l o p m e n t

Deacon Convener, Ken Dalglish, attended the Annual General Meeting of Citizen Theatre Limited which was conducted by Zoom conference.

Their Chair, April Chamberlain, emphasised the significance of the major redevelopment currently underway at the iconic Gorbals theatre. The process of temporarily relocating from the Citizens Theatre to three separate locations, had been disruptive with the business expected to experience further upheaval for the next two years.

This bleak forecast was followed by a superb presentation on the progress made to date at the site. It was fascinating to hear about the artefacts



discovered during the excavation process, some of which will be displayed in the new theatre foyer.

April was particularly pleased that Citizens World Premiere of Stef Smith's new play, *Nora: A Doll's House*, would be seen in London in a co-production with the Young Vic. This underpins the unstinting commitment to artistic and creative quality, despite the current challenges of not only relocation and refurbishment but in the face of COVID and lockdown.

Trades House Tartan Face Marks

Stylish wardrobe must for everyone connected with the house and all proceeds from sales go directly to help children and young people in Glasgow through our charitable work.

Designed and created by Colin Brown, ex Deacon of the Weavers, he has created a fully washable and stylish face mask which is fully lined and is on sale through Trades House. There are two models. Attractively produced in Trades House tartan, the two styles



of face mask either fix around the ears or around the head. Priced at only £7:50 they are well worth the purchase. Billy Birse Stewart has volunteered to be the main point of sales contact and indeed has promised to model the masks in future publicity photos but on this occasion persuaded Lynn Dalglish and his good lady wife The Lady Collector, Lorna. It is of course the ideal stocking filler for Christmas or even just as winter wear.

Billy when asked said *"I will be asking all the Crafts to support this initiative and for the Clerks and the Deacons of every Craft to promote and point their membership towards these excellent items."*

There will be deals for bulk purchase of six items.

To purchase the items simply fill in the order form which will be provided by the Deacons, Visitor and Clerks. The Order form will also be placed on the House website with details for payment, delivery and special bulk requests.

You are invited to a Christmas Wine Tasting

Deacon Convener Ken Dalglish invites you to a virtual wine tasting in support of our Charity Appeal on Friday 4th December, at 6:30 pm.

Enjoy an incredible selection of luscious, gourmet wines for a very special Christmas, selected by our own wine expert Collector, Billy Birse-Stewart, from the fine wine selection of wine merchant Wood Winters.



The Christmas Day selection will include : Champagne Clos de la Chapelle Instinct 1er Cru Brut, Fernando De Castilla Classic Amontillado, Genetie Macon Charnay Les Macon 'Les Piliers', Rioja Palacio del Camino Real Reserva 2015, Domaine de Grange Neuve Monbazillac, Wiese and Krohn LBV Port 2013.

Billy, who is certificated, having passed the 'Master of Wine' tasting, will take you through each exceptional wine by way of a Zoom link in the comfort of your own home. All you have to do is accept his invitation on the email address below to order all six bottles of the selection (which will be delivered free). Invite a couple of friends to join you (depending on prevailing restrictions), have glasses on standby, open the bottles and pour away!

The cost of the fine wine tasting case is £79 with all profit going to charity.

You will then have the opportunity to order more of any individual bottle or reorder the full selection.

Billy will prepare a tasting sheet together with an order form for you to use. Full details will be sent as soon as you register in reply to : Kenneth Dalglish dalglishkt@gmail.com **Subject** : Christmas Wine Tasting