

Trading Post

Newsletter of the Trades of Glasgow

ISSUE 2 - DECEMBER 2020

DC - Welcome Comments



A warm winter welcome to the second edition of Trading Post. I hope everyone remains healthy and focussed on a better 2021, which perhaps is more likely given the confidence coming from the vaccine availability.

As we approach Christmas I am delighted to confirm that GSOC charity donations from all sources – the early Trades House appeal, Crafts, private donations and the more recent DC Charity Appeal – are just short of £10,000. This is a tremendous achievement and the bulk of this generous donation has already gone to Glasgow Spirit of Christmas. The original campaign effort to complete the distribution of presents to young people living in Easterhouse is complete and attention is now on the 13-16 age group, the focus of the recent DC Christmas Appeal.

Sincere thanks to everyone who has donated to this excellent charity. GSOC manage to target areas of real need effectively and this was never more critical than the present climate where Covid has accentuated the health and social care challenges for many people already below the poverty line. Katrina Tilston has been in regular contact with GSOC and my thanks go to her for securing solutions on my behalf for how our appeal will be targeted.

Have a very happy and safe Christmas with your family and friends and thank you for your support.



Dear Friend,

Trades House are pleased to be supporting the Glasgow Spirit of Christmas Appeal, donating funds for young people (13-16 age range).

Covid-19 has put enormous pressure on services and the numbers of young people requiring support has dramatically increased.

You may already have donated, but you can still help by making a financial contribution which will be converted into gift bags.

To Donate : BACs transfer to 'The Trades House of Glasgow'; Bank of Scotland; Sort Code 80-11-80; Account 10293962 Ref : GSOC-20

Gift Aid : to add value to your donation, please email Elisabeth Jones - elisabeth.jones@tradeshouse.org.uk with your name, house number, and post code.

Have an excellent Christmas

K. Dalgleish

Ken Dalgleish
Deacon Convener



Christmas in Trades Hall

Located in Glasgow's Merchant City, Trades Hall is a stunningly beautiful, historic venue, which creates the perfect backdrop for every event. There are seven unique function rooms that can be hired individually or in any combination, with exclusive use of the building. Chief Executive, John Gilchrist said, *"The Grand Hall is the jewel in the crown of Trades Hall, featuring baroque chandeliers and late Victorian décor. Over the past eight years substantial investment has been made refurbishing the building with new lighting, air conditioning throughout and the opening of the Robert Adam room as a modern reception area for all guests."*

This year has definitely been a strange one for Trades Hall. Whilst we've been really honoured to be able to help Brides and Grooms whose plans have all changed so many times, we do miss being able to host the larger events which are part of the fabric of the Trades House year. At this seasonal time, we'd have the Christmas decorations up inside and out, in the background we would be listening to and singing along to Christmas tunes and we'd be gearing up for a very busy December.

Notwithstanding this the Hall's commercial income has doubled over the last five years as it has become a major wedding venue where bridal parties have exclusive use of the building, and corporate events are staged due to the improved facilities available. Trades Hall also holds a wide range of events which are open to the public, such as the Gin Festival, Holistic Ways Festival and the Vegan Festival. Due to its historic setting, it was completed in 1794, and grandeur the Hall is regularly used for TV and filming settings. In 2014

Trades Hall was the base for the South African Commonwealth Team and in 2019 it was host to an episode of The Apprentice.



Normally at this time of the year we would be anticipating the welcoming of corporate Christmas parties, private dinners and ceilidhs. With Trades Hall being able to accommodate up to 350 for a Christmas party, it's a popular choice. There are also the heartwarming events like 'Wooden Spoon' which is the

children's charity of rugby, who fund life changing projects that support children and young people with disabilities or living in disadvantage and this one fits in nicely with our own charitable objectives.

With bookings already in the diary for December 2021, we can look ahead to normal service resuming. After the pandemic closure we look forward to a return to normal trading and opportunities to promote this great building in the heart of Glasgow. **Elaine Gilchrist**

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland - Annual General Meeting

On 9th December the Deacon Convener, Ken Dalgleish attended this upbeat and encouraging meeting. Despite the challenges of lockdown and the requirement to move towards blended learning they are meeting this head on. Chair, Nick Kuenssberg

praised the work of staff, students and committee conveners, who have continued to work in partnership to steer this large centre of excellence forward.

It is clear that with the UK exit from the EU it will lead to a sharp fall in EU students attending courses, with a resulting income reduction. This will need to be matched by proactive recruitment across international markets and they are up for the challenge.



The Conservatoire continues to rank in the top ten institutions globally, when comparing similar institutions and this fact in an increasingly attractive incentive for non-EU students.

The message came loud and clear and stated 'It is vital that everyone should forget a return to normal in the post pandemic world. The new norm is what organisations are prepared to do to flourish and to meet the future with open eyes and minds.

On this basis the Royal Conservatoire will build on the changes made over the past nine months and will embrace change, proving it is a place like no other.

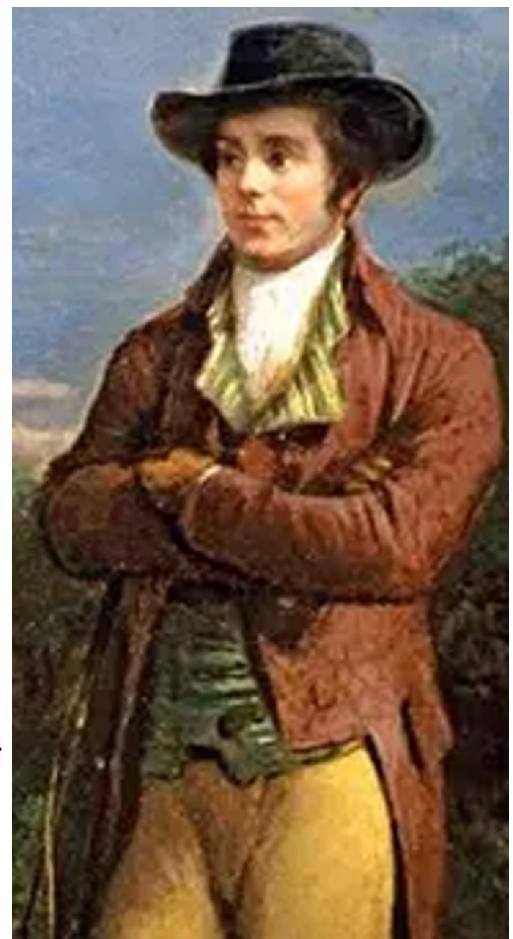
Trades House Robert Burns Festival

Normally by this time the TH Robert Burns Festival Committee would be frenetically working behind the scenes to prepare for the annual schools event. But of course 2020 has been no normal year and the committee have had to think outside the box, so that something might be organised for the 250 plus children who love to participate.

Changes had to be made to the Trades House brochure and Entry Forms for the 2021 Festival which had been planned for 14th January 2021 and usually sent out to schools in August. So new publicity had to be prepared to enable a different kind of event to take place; the Big Idea has been to organise a non-competitive Festival, in which the schools who normally participate might submit video performances of pupils' in the categories of Solo Verse Speaking, Solo Singing and Solo Instrument Playing. Already over seventy children from 7 schools have indicated their interest.

Instead of an adjudication these videos would be viewed by a panel and a Trades House certificate of performance sent to each and every participant.

The Trades House of Glasgow Robert Burns Festival Committee has been complimented by Lesley McDonald, the Robert Burns World Federation, Education Convenor, for organising this event for Glasgow schoolchildren during this unprecedented health crisis.



Charity News



Incorporation of Coopers of Glasgow

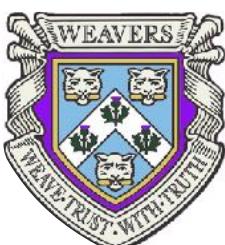
Glasgow South West Food Bank; Glasgow South East Food Bank; Glasgow North West Food Bank; Glasgow North East Food Bank.

In September they donated a further £10,000 by giving £2,500 to each of the following charities The Halliday Foundation, PEEK, Soul Food Sisters and the Mungo Foundation.



The Flesher's Master Court keen to spread charitable giving as widely as possible, they generously donated the following gifts to charity:-

Glasgow Spirit of Christmas £500; Poppy Scotland £1000; Cerebral Palsy Scotland £1000; Riding for Disabled Glasgow £1000



The Incorporation of Weavers have also been conscious of the need for targeted giving during lockdown and have given to : MS Society North Lanarkshire; Glasgow Association for Mental Health; Scottish Association for Mental Health; Aberlour Children's Charity; Lodging house Mission; East Park Home; Drumchapel Foodbank; Beatson; Erskine Home; Glasgow City Mission; PEEK; Prince & Princess of Wales Hospice; Simon Community Scotland; Social Bite; The Haven. They have also made a substantial contribution to the Deacon Convener's Appeal.

The Incorporation of Skinners and Glovers have also targeted their support by collecting not only money but 120 gloves and sweatshirts on behalf of the Lodging House Mission. Deacon, Hugh Gilmour also took a tour of the premises and had a quick chat about their work. Here in the photo Hugh proudly displays the history book of the Lodging House , which is sure to be interesting.



The Hammermen and the Grand Antiquity Society have been fortunate to be the recipients of a generous legacy from the estate of Douglas Munro Lauder. The legacy of £200,000 each to the Hammermen and Grand Antiquity Society will be noted with an inscription in the Saloon. The history behind this legacy is fascinating and the current focus of research by members of the Hammermen Master Court.

Craig Bryce is made “Honorary House Master”

One of Late DC Bruce Reidford’s final events before stepping down as DC was the award to Craig Bryce of the title of “Honorary House Master”.

Accompanied by his wife Una, Craig attended the ceremony where he was made aware that the Platform and the House unanimously approved of the award, in recognition of his dedicated work not only for his Craft but also for the benefit of the House and beyond. Working quietly and discretely, often in the background, Craig was instrumental in overhauling and updating the historical records, whilst also providing information for Crafts and individuals who sought accurate data from the archives, either on the Fourteen Crafts or on personal family enquiries.

Craig was also responsible for the excellent compilation of a history of the Trades House titled “Glasgow’s Best-Kept Secret”. Bruce in his address observed *“It was a labour of love for you and the book has travelled all over the world.”*

Bruce presented Craig with a certificate and silver salver, duly inscribed recording the award and the Craig’s new position within the House. He went on to promise that a medal is being struck for Craig to wear with pride to functions within Trades Hall and outwith.

Una was presented with a bouquet of flowers and Bruce invited both Una and Craig to a ‘socially distanced, celebratory lunch.

The Tall Ship Lecture 2020



The Tall Ship Anniversary Lecture was delivered by author, journalist and broadcaster Remi Kapo.

Kapo highlighted the role of the Merchant Navy in the slave trade. The navy of the day was far from the regulated and disciplined force we know today and this profitable business, led to an increase in the manufacture of specially designed ships which held as many people as

possible. It was an immense trade sanctioned by the church and state. The practice however was abhorrent to many and other sea captains avoided the crews of slave transport vessels. The lecture was delivered in a pragmatic way and was often uncomfortable when covering the plight of those on board. Kapo has written several novels which centre on the slave trade and in all he offers the view that education allows us to avoid the mistakes of the past.

Angling for Support

David Ogg, Secretary of the Trades House Angling Section is retiring and there is a need to reel in a replacement.

Roy Scott, Ex Convener writes “Fellow Anglers could I please remind you that we will be losing our much respected and efficient secretary this year. The Angling section is a long standing and most enjoyable gathering of fellow craftsmen and women. Even if the fish do not bite! It would be great with the potential of life returning to normal, if we could get someone to take over from David. The individual does not need to be an angler, just a good organiser. I am willing to guide if necessary.”



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 Dalgleish 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.”

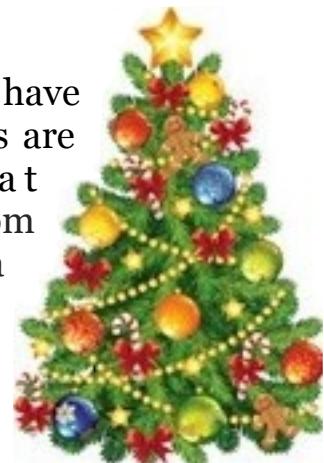
There will be deals for bulk purchase of six items.

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.

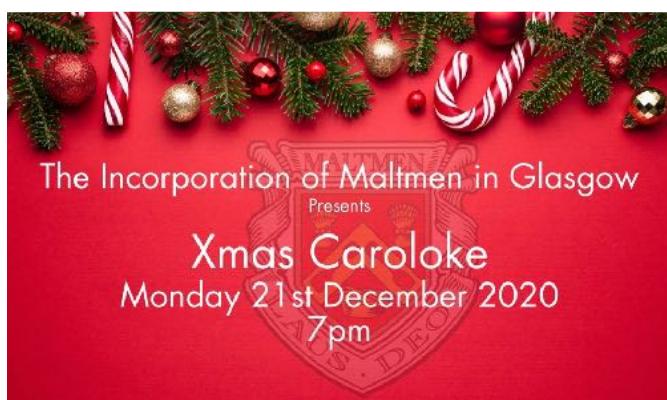
Coming Soon Festive Hour on Zoom with the Skinners

On Thursday 17th December, 7.30pm the Skinners have planned a Festive Hour to be held by Zoom. Participants are encouraged to contact Katrina Tilston at katrina.tilston@tradeshouse.org.uk to receive the zoom invitation. All participants are advised to have to hand a mince pie and favourite tipple, as well as being advised to swot up on your seasonal knowledge to take part in a short Christmas Quiz. We have been told that festive attire is a must, so Santa hats and elf jumpers are de rigour.

Special Guest, Ewan Mackie, Chair of The Lodging House Mission will provide a brief update on the total raised through the Skinner's Finger Buffet and Glove Donation efforts.



Caroloke Monday 21st December at 7pm



Join the Maltmen for a night of Festive fun and frolics. As their Visitor, Roddy says, “Having enjoyed many Xmas Carol singing concerts last year, I do not want to miss out this year so have organised my own!”

It would be lovely to have as many Crafts represented as possible, and even

lovelier if we had some musical entries from them too!

More details will follow, but if you would like to be involved just let Roddy know and if you would like to lead us in song just sing! Feliz Navidad!