Trading Post

Newsletter of the Trades of Glasgow

ISSUE 3 - February 2021

DC - Welcome

Working towards a Spring of Surprises out of a Winter of Lockdown Discontent, we are anticipating that the Crafts in Trades House will rise to the challenges to ensure that charitable giving and positive programmes of activity will spring up throughout the next few weeks and months. From the material I have already seen, this seems to be a certainty and all of the Trades are to be commended for their intentionality and creativity in meeting this new world head on.

For me the opportunities in adversity are always the gifts I seek and in education and outreach, I can see the heritage of the Trades being used to generate fantastic projects which will have a lasting impact on Glasgow and its environs.

Harnessing new technology and thinking in new and fresh ways, Crafts are facing the coming months with fortitude and bravery and not a week goes by without notice of great ideas and the germ of startling possibility. I thank you for it.

HOUSE MATTERS

John Gilchrist, Chief Executive and Clerk to the House wanted to ensure that this important message was relayed to House Trustees.
The House is scheduled to have a meeting of the House Trustees on Wednesday 3rd March 2021 with one of the items of business being the approval of the Trustees Report and Financial Accounts of Trades House for the Year ended 30th September 2020.
Due to the current lockdown the work upon the annual accounts and annual audit is taking longer than normal as we are challenged with a virtual audit and accessibility to historical records held within Trades Hall.

It has therefore been decided to re-schedule the House meeting to Wednesday 24th March at 6:00 pm by which time all of the necessary documents should be finalised.

GARDEN PARTIES CANCELLED

In a decision taken with regret, the Palace has been forced to cancel the Garden Parties for this year, after royal officials faced difficulties planning the events amid new coronavirus rules and lockdowns being announced.
With deadlines approaching for committing to their go-ahead, it wasn't possible to plan how they would be feasible taking into account Covid-19 precautions.

The Queen has therefore cancelled all royal garden parties in London and Edinburgh for the whole of 2021, Buckingham Palace has announced.
The garden parties are normally staged at Buckingham Palace and the Palace of Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh. The Queen normally welcomes more than 30,000 guests each year to spend a summer afternoon in the gardens of Buckingham Palace or Holyroodhouse. Around 27,000 cups of tea, 20,000 sandwiches and 20,000 slices of cake are consumed at each garden party.
The Palace gates are open from 3pm, and the party official begins at 4pm when the Queen and other members of the Royal Family enter the garden.
Three parties are held at Buckingham Palace and one at the Palace of Holyroodhouse. A network of sponsors is used to invite guests.

Congratulations Due

Warmest congratulations were extended to the Late Deacon, of the Incorporation of Cordiners, Dr Beverly Bergman, on the well-deserved award of an OBE in the New Year Honours List for Services to Veterans in Scotland.

Equally deserving was the award to Richard Paterson of an OBE. Richard is a member of the Maltmen and the award was for services to the Whisky industry.

Barclays Re-invigorates Tradeston

In the early 1800s Tradeston was developed as a manufacturing district by Trades House, however in 2018 Barclays announced that it would house its technology, functions and operations teams in the Buchanan Wharf development on the banks of the River Clyde.

The Bank has now unveiled the names of the streets and buildings at its new Glasgow Campus, which is set to bring more than 2,000 new jobs to the city. Barclays worked closely with Professor Murray Pittock and his team at the University of Glasgow, to uncover and pay tribute to the industrial heritage of the Tradeston area, after Barclays Scotland staff voted to name the campus buildings in recognition of the city's history.

The project team researched as far back as the 1500s to find inspiration and local historical references for the names of the five buildings which form the campus:

- Clyde Place House – the B listed Kingston House, which dates back to 1878, is being restored to its original name.
- Tradescroft – developed in the 1790s after Trades House purchased the plot of land which was previously part of the larger area of the Barony of the Gorbals.
- Windmillcroft – the area of Windmill Croft dates back to the 1700s, named for its windmill sitting on the banks of the Clyde just to the west of the site.
- Wellcroft - likely named after wells or springs in the location which later became the start of the Paisley and Johnstone canal built to support the local coal industry.
- Grays Hill – just to the south of the campus site, the area was commonly called 'clay holes' thought to be due to the leftover materials used by the local brickworks.

The street traversing the campus development will be named Clyde Place Lane leading to Clyde Place Square, an outdoor community event space. The Deacon Convener is in contact with the PR team at Barclays and hopes to forge a strong working relationship on potential projects.

Commonweal Fund

Erskine were awarded £3,000.00 from the Commonweal Fund in September 2019 and have written to advise how the funds were spent.

Vicky McEwan, Trust and Foundations Manager for Erskine was in touch and explained *"I hope you and the members of the Commonweal Fund are well. I wanted to drop you a quick email as I understand the Commonweal Fund generously donated £3,000 to Erskine last year, for equipment and materials for our veterans' woodwork group."*

She went on to state, *"The funding has been spent and has helped to fund our 'Heart of Erskine' project, which has thankfully continued throughout this challenging period of social restrictions. The funds have bought materials for the beautifully crafted wooden hearts, designed by our veterans and produced in our workshop. Debs, our Centre Manager, was keen that we gave you an update on how we've put your generous donation to use so far, with its contribution to sustaining meaningful activities for our veterans."*

Vicky told us that she is relatively new to the Erskine team, and hopes to meet the Commonweal Fund team in person once restrictions permit, to introduce herself properly.

Please see below the link to purchase a Heart of Erskine, should you wish is: https://www.erskine.org.uk/product/heart-of-erskine/

Wedding Market Continues to Develop

Elaine Gilchrist has been in touch to give an update on the letting of Trades Hall. She says, *"The feeling amongst wedding couples is still a bit mixed in that most are preparing themselves to go ahead with whatever restrictions allow them to do, unless it's only for five people. There aren't too many who are happy to go ahead with that. Smaller weddings have been lovely, joyful affairs and it certainly lifts the spirits of all concerned. I'm pleased to say that wedding enquiries are coming in thick and furious and some are even happy to confirm a booking without having seen inside in person. There is a mood of optimism amongst brides and grooms in that people are prepared to be booking for many years ahead now."*

To some extent that's always been the case, but Elaine goes on to say, *"I've had a few bookings for 2026 now, which is a bit further out than we'd normally be expecting. I'm conducting zoom chats with prospective clients as we are currently unable to do any showrounds."*

With a view to the smaller wedding market, Elaine has created a more tailored wedding brochure and copies will be made available soon.

Always helpful and cheerful, Elaine states that if potential clients want to have a chat about any of their requirements, she is more than happy to arrange a zoom call.

In respect of corporate enquiries Elaine says that there appears to be a little movement in activity which is a great relief as these have been mainly silent for some time.

Getting Crafty

Warm this Winter

Hugh Gilmour, Deacon of Inc of Skinners delivering supply of gloves to Lodging House Mission before Christmas.

Following on from the first delivery of 120 pairs of gloves and some Jaeger sweaters, kindly donated by one of Hugh's neighbours, he has had donated a further 47 pairs of gloves, 15 woolly hats, 10 scarves and 9 pairs of woolly socks (and a pair of new leather shoes).

Financial donations amount to just over £1,500 which is truly fantastic and Hugh would like to give a huge thank you to everyone who donated for their tremendous support.

Just a wee update on their Finger Buffet initiative on December 17th. Euan Mackie of LHM announced the final total at the beginning of their festive quiz night, which was a huge boost to them in helping to provide hot food over the festive period in association with Social Bite. They should feel very proud of their achievement.

NEW AWARD LAUNCHED

For many years the Incorporation of Gardeners has celebrated those businesses and organisations whose floral displays brighten up our city by organising the annual 'Let Glasgow Flourish' awards.

Over that time dozens of companies have been rewarded for their efforts and recipients of the top award, the Silver Spade, have included pubs, offices and a Sikh Gurdwara.

All that came to a halt in 2020 when Covid put a stop to plans for last year's awards and with this year's judging and ceremony also on hold the Gardeners decided to change their focus and instead recognise individuals who have used Lockdown to develop a love of gardening.

For many people, sowing and growing has proved to be a lifeline during this time when they have been confined to home. For some it has been their first chance to experience the physical and mental wellbeing that comes with nurturing a patch of earth while for others it has given them time to indulge an existing passion.

To celebrate their efforts the Gardeners have launched a new competition open to anyone who lives in Glasgow and the surrounding area. The idea is that entrants submit photographs and a description of their gardening efforts.

There are three categories - Best Garden, Best Community Garden and Best Young Gardener (16 or under), which will recognise a young person who has shown outstanding skills and prizes of £250 gardening gift vouchers will be awarded in each category.

Anyone can enter or they can nominate someone else that they think deserves to be recognised for their green-fingered efforts.

To enter the competition people need to submit a maximum of five photographs and a brief description, in no more than 350 words, giving details about the project and the

people involved. Entries should be sent to: entry@lgfgardeningcompetition.com to arrive no later than Friday, 16 April 2021.

Deacon Nick Parry said: *"The 'Let Glasgow Flourish' awards are our shop window, they raise awareness of the work of the 'Gardeners' and of our long history, so we weren't prepared to let Covid stop us in our tracks, not at a time when an interest in gardening has never been higher.*

"We hope that this new award will prove popular with gardeners of all ages and stages of ability and that it will turn out to be a fascinating record of how the people of Glasgow flourished during Lockdown."

Tartan for the Robert Burns World Federation

When Marc Sherland, Clerk of the Incorporation of the Weavers, became the President of the Robert Burns World Federation, Ken MacDonald, Deacon of the Weavers was quick to offer to design a new tartan for the Federation. The Board of the Federation were equally quick to grab the offer with both hands and on 23rd January the new tartan was unveiled in time to show it off at their Burns Supper at which a message of support was delivered by video from His Royal Highness the Duke of Rothesay.

Every new tartan should tell a story behind its creation and Marc explained, *"The tartan has a predominance of red and that is to symbolise the blood of all humanity which unites us and is exemplified in the closing verse of 'A Man's A Man', 'that man to man the world o'er, shall brothers be' There is a pale blue to signify the blue skies of a pleasant Scottish summer's day under which Burns might woo a lass and a rich green to remind of the lush green of the Scottish countryside, so close to Burns' love of his surroundings. A thin band of white and black represent the paper and ink Burns used to write his poetry, songs and letters and there is a band of gold to remind the wearer that it is the man who is the 'gowd' and not the chains of office he might wear."* Ken MacDonald is to be commended for the foresight and the design of this fabulous new tartan.

Keeping Body & Sole Together

Iain Lennox, Ex Deacon and Chair of the Body and Sole Subcommittee, of the **Incorporation of Cordiners in Glasgow** has been in touch to advise on their charitable efforts during lockdown. They established Body and Sole as their main charitable focus in 2017, and by 2019, had donated sports and outdoor footwear to disadvantaged children and young people in the Glasgow area to the value of £40,000.

2020 turned out to be a very different year, with all schools closed for several months, with the result that there was virtually no organised outdoor sport for young people, and so they were not able to donate sports footwear. However, through contacts at Glasgow City Council , and particularly the Physical Education, Physical Activity and School Sports team, they learned of a need to support the school hubs which operated throughout lockdown, to support the most disadvantaged pupils across the city.

The Incorporation were pleased to provide a large variety of outdoor activity equipment to a value of £6000 which was used in 40 establishments. This enabled the purchase of hula

hoops, space hoppers, footballs, basketballs, scooters, racquets, hockey sticks etc.

Very recently, the Cordiners learned of the Keeping Warm in Glasgow campaign, organised by the Director of Education, in partnership with various media outlets including the Herald.

In an attempt to make classrooms safer, windows are being kept open to increase ventilation, and hopefully reduce the risk of virus transmission in schools. This has highlighted the need for more and better warm clothing for many of the pupils in Glasgow, hence the appeal.

By a happy coincidence, a member of the Cordiners' Master Court has a clothing business, and has made available a large quantity of warm jumpers etc at a very substantial discount. This has allowed the Craft to purchase a sizeable quantity of suitable garments with a £5000 donation.

The Cordiners are very pleased to have been able to contribute to the Trades House effort to reduce hardship in Glasgow in this very difficult year.

Shirin Parsno, Deacon of the Incorporation Of Wrights gave an update about their charitable giving in the last little while.

During 2020, in common with other Crafts, the Wrights decided to make a series of one-off charitable donations, in order to ameliorate the mental and physical damage of the covid pandemic blight in Glasgow.

Service charities were in mind when they donated £2,500 each to Allen Clarke's art and woodwork classes and Erskine. Erskine cares for almost 1,000 veterans, through its network of care homes and the Veterans' Village Activity Centre. Allen Clarke is a veteran and resident of Scottish Veterans' Residences in Glasgow, who founded an art and woodwork club nearly two years ago, which now has nearly 70 members.

Working with wood was the background to two donations of £2,000 each to GalGael and Glasgow Wood Recycling. GalGael provides opportunities for the Glasgow unemployed to learn basic woodwork skills, and also to work on long term community boat building and other projects. Through its offshoot Wood Unlimited (formerly Making Wood Work), Glasgow Wood Recycling runs a supported training programme which tackles social isolation in Glasgow through woodwork.

Their final series of donations were directed to some of the most vulnerable folk in Glasgow, when they donated £2,000 each to the Glasgow Humane Society, the Glasgow City Mission and Alzheimer's Scotland. These well-known organisations will not need any introduction. Last but not least, they also donated £500 to Glasgow Spirit of Christmas. Since Christmas 2014 the latter has provided 45,763 poor children in Glasgow and surrounding regions with over £1.2M worth of Christmas presents and was also supported by the Deacon Convener for his Christmas Appeal.

A Review of the Incorporation of Maltmen, Xmas Caroloke from the Deacon Convener,Ken Dalgleish. *"This was a good fun event which had been planned in advance by a clearly gifted production team. The performances in the first half of the evening*

were excellent and the second part of the event included renditions of classic Christmas songs by some weel kent faces who should have known better!"

Commenting on the technical side Ken went on to say, *"However it was great fun and the videos were superb so well done Visitor, Roddy for his hard work in putting this together and for investing in a production expert to make sure the first half was enjoyed by all."*

There was some pre-recorded classics from special guests (including a rendition of Little Donkey by Visitor Roddy Young!) and an opportunity for all to be involved in a live singsong via Zoom after the main very memorable event.

The Incorporation of Hammermen are now approaching the third speaker evening in a series they're calling Hammermen Talks.

Their Collector, and craft historian, Dr Nina Baker was first up from the Master Court, presenting a discussion about women in the Craft – a much earlier reality than one might assume. The audience enjoyed the story of Margaret Coates of the Saracen Foundry; a pioneer in every way.

Ex Deacon Colin Botfield's research skills were to the fore for his presentation on the history of the Hammermen, the second event of the series. Did you know that premier craft status dates back to 1777? This was granted to the Hammermen by a decree of the Court of Session.

Do feel free to drop in / drop out through the zoom meeting. The talks are at 6pm on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Trades House Tartan Face Masks

Stylish fashion accessary for everyone connected with the house with all proceeds from sales going 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 fashioned a fully washable, stylish face mask, fully lined and 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 only £7:50 they are well worth it.

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 Trades House website with details for payment, delivery and special bulk requests. There will be deals for bulk purchase of six items.

Coming Soon

Virtual Mixed Burns Supper

The House Lodge is running a Virtual Mixed Burns Supper on Monday 8th February which starts at 8pm and they would be delighted if people connected to the House Crafts could attend. Anyone interested in attending should please advise Hamilton Purdie (hpurdie@hotmail.co.uk)and he will forward the link. Hamilton states, *"It should be a delightful evening and shouldn't be too dry."*

Incorporation of Coopers of Glasgow

John F MacLeod, Deacon of the Incorporation of Coopers, has advised of two events for which there will be more information in due course and for which the dates might be kept free.

- The "Not Quite" Coopers Choosing Dinner – Friday 5th March 2021 @ 6:30 by Zoom
- The Coopers Business Lecture – Thursday 25th March 2021 @ 6:30 (1 hour) by Zoom.

Malt Whisky Tasting - an evening with "The Nose" - Thursday 25th March 2021

Following the success of the Wine Tasting event in November, and by request from participants at the event, we are hosting a very special Malt Whisky Tasting evening which will feature recent recipient of an OBE, for service to the whisky industry, Richard Paterson as our expert. He recently celebrated 50 years at Whyte & Mackay, latterly as Master Distiller, and was handed the Lifetime Achievement Award at the International Spirits Challenge 2020. Richard is nicknamed " The Nose " thanks to his peerless ability to assess the quality of whiskies, and he has served as the International Spirits Challenge whisky chairman for several years.

The event is in aid of the Deacon Convener's Appeal which will support the Commonweal Fund in 2021, and is not to be missed. It is likely to be oversubscribed so to register please email the Deacon Convener at dalgleishkt@gmail.com