

The Installation Dinner

The Installation Dinner was held at Apothecaries' Hall on Tuesday 20th May 2003 following the Mid Summer Court at which Angus Macpherson was installed as Guild Master, Michael St John Parker as Renter Warden and Richard Lawman as Junior Warden. Sadly, for such a magnificent Hall, the numbers attending were below those of the last two years with a total of 78, but an excellent dinner was much enjoyed.

We were delighted to welcome as guests of the Guild the Chief Commoner of the City of London, Mrs Joyce Nash, OBE, the Master Mercer Wing Commander Michael Dudgeon, OBE with Charles Parker, the Clerk, Murray Craig, the Clerk to the Chamberlain's Court and the Presidents of the Old Mercers' Club, Old Collyerians Association, Old Abingdonian Club and the Chairman of the Old Dauntseian Club.

Past Master Derek Williamson stood in for the Junior Warden and proposed the toast to the guests. The Chief Commoner replied and told us some of the highlights from her recent trip to Australia and the Far East with the Lord Mayor.

The Master Mercer proposed the toast to the Guild and the Master and had done some research in to the early finances of the Guild. The Guild Master responded with an outline of his social programme and wished everyone a safe journey home.

As is traditional the Alms Dish was passed and £448 was donated to the Master's chosen charity, Pink's Disease Support Group.

Charitable Trust

The Trustees report that at 30th June 2003 the balance in the Trust Fund is £6360.00.

Sixteen Guildmen make donations by Gift Aid and a declaration form is enclosed with this newsletter for those who do not. The Trustees welcome any donation, however modest, and are able to claim tax back on all donations made by gift aid. If you do not contribute please consider doing so.

Income in the last year came from the following:

Interest £180

Donations £950

Tax recovered £303.

Despite all Apprentices being circularised (this is done with the Annual Meeting notice) the Trustees were disappointed that only one request was received this year as against six last year. The Trustees are Neville Watson, Richard Davey (to whom all applications for funding should be sent) and Howard Worth.

Guild Ties & Badges

The Honorary Clerk has a supply of new Guild ties in stock. Also available now are lapel

badges, ladies' brooches and a very limited stock of cufflinks.

The prices are as follows:

Ties : £10.00

Lapel badges: £6.00

Ladies' brooches: £6.00

Cuff links: £12.00

The Court has agreed that new male Guildmen and Apprentices will continue to receive a tie on joining and Lady Guildmen and Apprentices will receive a brooch.

The Court extends its thanks to Guild Master Michael Houghton for organising the above.

Annual Meeting

The fifty fourth Annual Meeting was held at Guildhall on Thursday 20th March 2003. At

the Court meeting preceding the following were elected for the year 2003/2004:

Guild Master: A S Macpherson
Renter Warden: M St John Parker

Junior Warden: R A Lawman

Apprentice Warden: A C

McMillan

Senior Court Assistants: R T

Smith and D J Harvey

Honorary Clerk: N J Watson

Hon. Asst. Clerk: R J C Davey

The following Guildmen were

elected at the Annual Meeting:

Court Assistants: H J Ball and

G A Goodeve

Abingdon Asst: S M Hills

Collyerian Asst: R T Smith

Dauntsey Asst: R J Slade

Pauline Asst: A I F Mackenzie

Social Court Asst: H J Ball

Hon External Examiner: K Hubbard Brown.

After the meeting those present enjoyed the usual supper at Baracca Restaurant.

Accounts

The Honorary Assistant Clerk reported to the Annual Meeting that the account balances

were as follows:

General Fund:

At Barclays Bank: £1323.84

Chelsea Building Society:

£9000.00

C G O M Charitable Trust

CAF: £5824.68

Please see the separate report on the Fund's activities.

In Memoriam

The Court was saddened to learn of the deaths of Past Master Richard Worthy in December 2002, Past Master Hugh F Cochrane on 18th June 2003 and Guildman F W (Jimmy) Lyons in May 2002.