



# The Guild of Scholars

## of the City of London

[www.gofs.co.uk](http://www.gofs.co.uk)

Newsletter Number 28 (February 2010)

### Peter Mayhew (1934 – 2009) – Father of the Guild



It is with deep sadness that we advise members of the death of Peter Mayhew. Peter was instrumental in setting up with The Chamberlain of London in 1999 The Guild of Scholars of the City of London. He was the founder Clerk of The Guild and served later as its Master. On completion of his Mastership, the Court unanimously voted Peter the title Father of the Guild. A title only bestowed on those who command the highest respect of their peers.

Peter was welcome at St Paul's Choir School and at Truro Cathedral where his appreciation and knowledge of choral music and the encouragement he gave to youngsters was highly valued.

At both The City of London Freeman's School, where one of the prizes awarded had his name on it, and at The City of London School for Girls he was an honoured guest on prize and other days to which he received a personal invitation. Our thoughts are with his sister and family. He will be sorely missed.

### Annual Assembly and Dinner – 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2010. (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 £20.00 for students under 25 years of age.

Applications for the Dinner must be received by Wednesday 10th March

### Social Pub Gatherings



We continue to meet at The Bishops Finger, 9-10 West Smithfield, London, EC1A 9JR from 6.00 pm where an area is reserved upstairs for us (dates shown at the top of this newsletter). Come for half an hour, or stay until closing time! It will just be good to see you. This is ideal opportunity to meet other members of the Guild in a social and relaxed environment.

### Future Events

9<sup>th</sup> March 2010 Social Pub Gathering

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2010 Annual Assembly & Dinner

20<sup>th</sup> April 2010 Social Pub Gathering

22<sup>nd</sup> June 2010 Social Pub Gathering

### News of our Youth

Congratulations to Apprentice Charlotte Rule who graduated in the summer with a First Class BSc. She is now working at Sherbourne Girls School, Dorset as a Resident Tutor in one of their boarding houses.

### News from one of our past sailors

Morgan Alexander Keery  
Sailing Scholarship Award Winner 2007

As the title suggests, I won one of three sailing scholarships presented to City of London Freeman's School by the Guild of Scholars in 2007. On my week's voyage with the Rona Sailing Project, I was the only one to achieve both the RYA's Competent crew certificate and the organisations coveted Amory Award.

Through the fruits of my success, I was asked late last year to compete with 250 other sailors (aged 18-25) for a place on Rona II in this decades Transatlantic Challenge. After many trials, tests and a gruelling physical examination, I was awarded a place on Leg One; which I most eagerly accepted.

After a month of testing and dangerous conditions through notorious waters, our yacht finished first in Class and beyond anyones expectations.

As both my initial benefactors and as the group who introduced me into the sport, I therefore thought it only polite to pass on not only news on my progression in the Project, but also my heartfelt thanks for believing that a 6ft5 rugby player/model could ever become a Transatlantic Sailor.

Many thanks,  
Morgan Alexander Keery

Thank you Morgan for the update

## Visit to the Old Bailey 19th March 2009



Officially called the Central Criminal Court, this was a fascinating visit to one of the most famous Courts in the world. Starting in No 1 Criminal Court the tour was given by Charles Henty the Secondary of London. Taking place in the evening we were fortunate to be allowed to visit areas of the Old Bailey not available in the day. Ending in the cells would not normally be the best end to a night, but on this occasion we were allowed out to adjourn to a nearby hostelry for some food and drink. Did you know that the central seat on the judges' bench is reserved for the Lord Mayor who has the right to sit on any trial, but usually will only sit on 1 trial a year.

## Visit to the Pewterers Hall – 8<sup>th</sup> September 2009

Did you know that pewter is mostly tin with bismuth and antimony added to allow it to be worked and formed? No, neither did I, until I went with the Guild to visit the Pewterers' Hall in Oat Lane.

We met on a delightfully warm Tuesday evening, September 8<sup>th</sup>. We went first into the Livery Room. We were greeted with wine and something to nibble – which was most welcome as many had come straight from work. In cabinets around the room there were outstandingly beautiful pieces of pewter, some obviously old and other pieces very modern.

We learnt that The Worshipful Company of Pewterers is one of the oldest Livery companies, ranking 16<sup>th</sup> in order of civic precedence. The earliest documented reference to it is in the records of the Corporation dated 1348 when the “goodfolk, makers of vessels of pewter” came before the Mayor and aldermen asking for approval of the Articles which they had drawn up for the regulation of the trade. It's pretty amazing to be sharing in something 661 years old... and still going strong!

The Hall we were visiting was opened in 1961. The first Hall was destroyed in the Great Fire and the second, on the same site in Lime Street, was demolished in 1932.

We learnt about the history of the Company, pewter yesterday and today and a very high profile event that is run every June called 'Pewter Live'. This is the place where very high quality ware is showcased, (An event we as a Guild are considering visiting in 2010). We moved to the anteroom on the first floor where again we could feast our eyes on some magnificent pieces – ranging from old to modern. From there we entered the Court Room. It was an impressive space with panelling and chandeliers recovered from the earlier hall in Lime Street.

After a thoroughly enjoyable visit we adjourned to the Bishop's Finger in Smithfield – where we all tucked into delicious sausages and mash.

If you haven't joined us on a Guild visit – I do urge you to next time you see one advertised. It's a chance to be together and learn something about the City that is so special to us all.

Angela Banwell

Editor's note - Due to the timing of this visit, it was only possible to advertise via the web site and email. If you are not on our email mailing list and wish to be informed should this occur in the future, please contact me with an email address or telephone number. Many thanks Edward Andrews [edward@gofs.co.uk](mailto:edward@gofs.co.uk) 020 8668 8575.

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](mailto: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.

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(Please note closing date for applications is Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March)

Annual Assembly 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2010.  
(City of London School for Girls)

Please reserve me \_\_\_\_\_ place(s) @ £30.00

and \_\_\_\_\_ place(s) @ £20.00 students under 25 years of age

Total Cost: £\_\_\_\_\_

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

Special Dietary requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose a cheque made payable to the "Guild of Scholars" for £ \_\_\_\_\_

Please send event application form to Ivor Bennett, 75 Colonel Stephens Way, Tenterden, Kent, TN30 6EW

