

Newsletter of the Freemen and Guilds of the City of Chester

10th May 2013

Issue No. 2

Introduction

Welcome to the 2nd Issue of the Newsletter: the first was well received with a good response and appreciation of the fact that Freemen have more available access to current events and information. Thank you for your helpful comments.

Progress is now being made with the development of the web site. Contact details and current information are now up to date and will be updated regularly. It is also, intended that the Newsletter as well as the Deva Pentice will be published regularly on the web site at <http://www.freemenofchester.co.uk>

Altrincham Court Leet Provost's Sunday Service 24th March 2013

The Service was held in St Margaret's Church, Altrincham, the Past President, Geoff Tilston and his wife Shirley attending this enjoyable event. The Service included the Dedication and commissioning of the Chaplain to the Court Leet, the Reverend Michael Hepwoth.

Pentice Court 19 April 2013

The Pentice Court was held in the Chester City Council Chamber on 19th April, the number of candidates this year having increased. The Lord Mayor presided over the Court accompanied by the Chief Executive, and the President of the Guilds Council. They were

supported by a number of Freemen together with the families of the newly elected Freemen. The procession from the Town Hall to the Guildhall, was followed by a photograph session and a buffet provided by the Ladies' Section. During the evening some Companies took advantage of the proximity of the Council Chamber and admitted new Freemen to their own Company.

Guilds Council AGM - 8 June 2013 - 2 pm

This important meeting will take place on 8 June in the Guildhall. All members are welcome and nominations for the posts of President and Vice President must be received 21 days prior to the Annual General Meeting.



**I don't make jokes. I just
watch the government and
report the facts. – Will Rogers.**

Quarterly Diary of Events 2013

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- 15 May 2013 Bricklayers AGM
- 16 May Lord Mayor Making
- 17 May Bakers Hoe Down
- 19 May Civic Service
- 22 May Guilds Council Meeting
- 2 June Carnival of Giants (meet 10.00 am at Chester Cross)
- 5 June Joiners AGM
- 8 June 2pm **AGM** of the Freemen and Guilds of the City of Chester
- 9 June Presidents Sunday
- 22/23 June Midsummer Watch
- 26 June Guilds Council Meeting
- 26 June Mystery Plays Begin
- 3 July Bakers Company Meeting
- 10 July Ladies Section Meeting
- 13 July Mystery Plays end
- 24 July Guilds Council Meeting
- August Nil
- 13 September Weavers Small Company Dinner.

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Current Events

Medieval Exhibition



The recently restored Weavers' Banner will be one of the main features of the Exhibition entitled "Discover a Medieval City" which will be held in the Grosvenor Museum from 4th May to 2nd September. The Freemen and Guilds contributed £1,000 towards the Banner's restoration. Leaflets for exhibition events – many including family events - are available from the Museum. Guild material from the Cordwainers and Company of Mercers, Ironmongers, Grocers and Apothecaries is also being loaned for the exhibition.



President's Sunday Service 9th June, 2013

This service will be held at St Peter's Church, the procession leaving from the Guildhall at 10.15 am. Following the Service we will proceed from the Church back to the Guildhall where coffee will be available. This event is a significant occasion in the calendar and the support of Freemen would be welcome.

Midsummer Watch

This is a very popular, family friendly, two-day event held on 22nd and 23rd June, Meet at Abbey Square at 1.30 pm on both days.

The Chester Mystery Plays - 26 Jun-13 July

The Chester Mystery Plays form a spectacular festival presented mainly by members of the local community under professional direction. This rare Chester production has become one of the largest community events in the UK, hundreds of enthusiasts of all ages from throughout the area make up the cast, crew and the support teams working in administration/marketing and front of house including the Freemen and Guilds. The Plays are performed in Chester every five years – in the Nave of Chester Cathedral. .

Poem

Our Praise will be Sung

At the end of the day
It's time to make way.
Our praise will be sung
By the keen and the young.

We have grown sage
So let's learn to engage
with the keen and the young
Then our praise will be sung.

By example let's teach,
Hold them, within reach.
Guild knowledge they need
To learn of our deeds.

Begin at the bottom
Engage, and we've got 'em.
Let's ensure our domain
So the Guilds will remain.

All else will be lost
and we'll learn to our cost
that the Guilds need the young.
Our praise will be sung.

Anon

Obituaries

It is with regret that we have to report that Andrew Nichols of the Joiners Company passed away early in March.

Also David Williams of the Cappers Company and a past Guilds Solicitor died on 20th March.

Reminders

Badges, both Freemen and the Company one - needed to be worn on Gowns, must be ordered from the Guild Office. They do take some time to come in.

Freemen are very welcome to attend and/or volunteer to take part in many of the events reported here. Summertime especially has many events that are family friendly.

If anyone wishes to take up advertising in any of the publications: the Deva Pentice or the Website, please contact – ideally by email - the Guild Office for details or look on the Website.

Queries? Please refer to contacts at the foot of the first page of this Newsletter.

***Just because you do not
take an interest in politics
doesn't mean politics
won't take an interest in
you!"***

... Pericles (430 B.C)