



Omnia Subjecisti sub Pedibus Oves et Boves

CARNIFEX

The Newsletter of the York Butchers' Guild

in tempo Domini
S. R. Wilkinson

editio XXVI
vernus MMXV



left: Rainwater Head at 89, Micklegate, York
www.yorkbutchersgild.co.uk

right: Butcher from Tacuinum Sanitas, a mediæval handbook on health and sanitation
Carnifex – Latin term for butcher in the York Freemen's Rolls, last used in 1403.

Carnifex 10 year Anniversary Edition

This seems extraordinary – it was surely but yesterday that the then Chaplain suggested that we needed a newsletter of some form. The editorial team can but hope that this subsequent over-verbose epistle, now into its twenty sixth edition, has gone some way to help hold the Guild together and keep its members informed of all Guild activities, decisions and personnel. The Diary Dates has certainly helped keep regular attendance at Courts.

The ten years have seen some remarkable events and changes, recorded, we trust, properly within the pages of this glossy periodical. (Is yours left on your coffee table for your guests to flick through?)

To list but a few, with the help of the overflowing file that is the **Carnifex** archive:

- ◆ Records of the process that goes into the creation of the Waggon Plays, in 2006, 2010 and 2014 and of the final production of our play, the Crucifixion, around the streets of York; and the taking of our waggon for a production in Orsogna, Italy
- ◆ The introduction of our own Bow Tie for wearing at Feasts (how many do we still have in stock?)
- ◆ Obituaries of old Guild colleagues, notably that of Canon Jack Armstrong, Chaplain to our and all other York Guilds. He was jointly responsible for the refounding of the Company of Cordwainers of which he was Master in 1999.
- ◆ The recording of the first (and second) instance of a member being Master of both the York and London Companies (not at the same time!)
- ◆ The introduction of the Guild web site
- ◆ The merger of our Charitable Trust with the William Wright Trust that increased our funds by some 60% and allowed a wider scope of expenditure (without recourse to permission from the Master and Courts)
- ◆ Assorted Masters' 'Days Out' to (for example) York Cemetery, (possibly our most lively visit), stonemason work on the Minster, Ampleforth Abbey and the Yorkshire Museum of Farming
- ◆ The acquisition (or possible re-acquisition) of a Silver Cup, engraved 'Pocinton Butcher Plate 1731
- ◆ Our Royal Visit by the Master of the Worshipful Company of Butchers of London, The Princess Royal, in 2009
- ◆ The formation of the Guild Library
- ◆ The Master's attendance at the Royal Maundy Service in York Minster in 2012
- ◆ Our inclusion of our Master at the Annual York Apprentices Graduation ceremony

For this special edition, the **Carnifex** Photographer has asked for a bit of extra dosh for his account, so the rear page is in FULL COLOUR to look back at some of these events. In fact, colour seems to have crept in everywhere . .

Re-Interment of York Guildsman in Leicester

I write this article the day after the most moving ceremony of the re-internment of King Richard III, of the House of York, sometime Duke of Gloucester. He was a member of the Guild of Corpus Christi, could well have stayed at its premises just within the city walls by Micklegate Bar and had a love for the North Country and for York in particular. He may well have witnessed the Mystery Plays. It is perhaps unfortunate that a symbol of Corpus Christi has not been engraved on his tomb as to record both his membership and of his deep concern for his passage through purgatory to eternity. The White Rose was prominent as a buttonhole for most guests at the service.

Arguments as to his new place of burial will no doubt continue. For myself, I am naturally disappointed that he hasn't returned to York, but the unseemly argument was not of our City's doing and I can but hope that the good citizens of Leicester will allow us, toll free, to pay our respects to Good King Richard and enjoy the hospitality of the Red Fox County. A Master's Day Out perhaps? There are other Guild interests in the vicinity. The South Aisle Chapel of the Cathedral was used as the Chapel of the Guild of Corpus Christi. Leicester also has its own 600 year old timber framed Hall of the Guild of Corpus Christi that still holds regular events.

There is an outside chance of the York waggon plays being taken to Leicester to honour this favoured Son of York.

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BOTCHERS ALL*

Master

Stephen Wilkinson

The Master takes up his year in office having recently retired after fifty years in the family business.

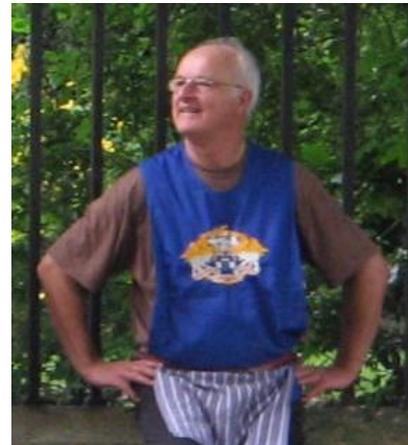
He left school in 1962 and joined his father in the village butcher's shop, seven miles north of Leeds. After a slow start, he realised that he had a great appetite for learning the business and it soon became an all-encompassing passion which took over his life, or perhaps, more accurately, became his life. His father recognised this talent and, when Stephen was twenty three, bought him a busy town street shop in Horsforth.

(Or, in Stephen's own words, had he had just enough of ground breaking ideas and hair-brained schemes and just wanted to return to a quiet life?).

Over the next few years, the business grew, opening shops in the market towns of Otley, Wetherby, Knaresborough and Ilkley. The business is now run by his son Joseph, supported by daughter Kate.

Stephen joined the Gild in 1998 and has been our treasurer since 2005, unusually without previous experience of the Court of Assistants. He is a strong supporter of the York Guilds' Waggon Plays and can be relied upon to provide waggon pulling and pushing muscle, as pictured here from the 2010 production.

He met his new partner, Christine, four years ago and they have a very happy life together. Christine runs her own farm accounting business. Their mutual hobbies are travel, theatre, rambling and the great outdoors.



Honorary Life Member

Anthony J. C. Morrow, CVO (Tony)

Tony Morrow served a full career in the Royal Navy from 1962, with a number of major appointments which included command of HMS Lindisfarne, an offshore Fishery Protection ship, in 1979, HMS Active in 1983 and then a specialist appointment in the Pentagon and the MOD. He was the Captain of the Naval Training School, HMS Mercury, near Petersfield and returned to sea as the Captain Fourth Frigate Squadron in HMS Active again. He then took a senior NATO appointment at Northwood. His final appointment, in 1995, was as Commodore Royal Yachts as the last Commander of HM Yacht Britannia at the end of her forty four year Navy career.

He became Clerk to the Worshipful Company of Butchers in 2003 and retired from this post in December 2014. He lives near Chichester in West Sussex where he maintains an active life with key interests in sailing and his new home with his partner Lindy and family.

Tony follows the previous London Clerk, Alan Emus, as an Honorary Life Member of the York Company.

Honorary Member for a Year and a Day – London Master

Alderman Nick Anstee

Nick was brought up in the UK, Cyprus and the United States of America. He was educated at Stamford School and qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 1982 and has furthered his education with more senior qualifications. Through a series of mergers, he joined the global professional services firm Arthur Andersen in 1994, He transferred to Deloitte when Andersen was acquired in 2002 and is now a Senior Director at the global law firm King & Wood Mallesons.

He has spent the majority of his career advising domestic and global companies on company creation, mergers, acquisitions and private equity transactions. In 1995, he was seconded to the Department of Transport advising on its privatisation programme.

An Alderman since 1996, he was Lord Mayor of the City of London in 2009-2010. He continues to play an active part in the governance of the City of London.

He is married to Claire and they have three daughters. His interests are athletic, mainly in cricket and running. He has done in excess of eighteen London Marathons, although, we are assured, not at the same time.

In his Shrove Tuesday Feast speech, he claimed that this was his first time north of Doncaster – we look forward to repeat visits during his, year in office, maybe with Claire at our Ladies Feast in October?

New Members 2015

Dr. Jason K. Aldiss

Jason was born in Sydney, Australia, but spent his early years in Hong Kong. He later moved to New Zealand where he took his Bachelor Degree in Veterinary Science from Massey University at Palmerston North. He is a member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and many other professional bodies.

His career started as an assistant in a seven-man dairy and pig veterinary practice but in 1997 moved to Leeds with Eville and Jones, a company with interests in food safety, animal health and animal welfare law enforcement.. He has since worked with the Meat Hygiene Service and with a variety of other businesses. He is the Deputy Chairman and a Trustee of the HLS Scottish Society, a registered educational charity.

Jason is married to Claire. They live midway between Leeds and Bradford. He has an interest in Conservative politics and collecting wine and he also plays the bag pipes,

John Gatenby

John is Yorkshire born and attended Bedale County Modern School for three years from the day it first opened.

He started in accountancy at the FMC / Harris factory at Leeming Bar where he rose through the ranks to become factory manager. In 1981, the company was bought by Hillside Holdings, but a subsequent sale of the meat interests left John and colleague Doug Graham as the new owners. The firm now produces between one and one and half million pies every week.

John spends spare time playing golf or following horse racing. He enjoys cooking and sampling the wines that go with it. He has two grown up children and four grand children.

Brian Rasmussen

Brian hails from Jutland in Denmark. He spent two years (1991 – 93) of national service in the Royal Danish Army and served a tour of duty with the United Nations forces in the period of the break up of Yugoslavia.

He subsequently trained with Danish Crown and then moved to the Malton Bacon Factory where he became a trainer. He met his wife, Helen, a Liverpoolian, here in the UK.

They have together bought the butchery business* of our Past Master Steven Barker in Nether Poppleton. The new business leaves him with little time for outside interests, except feasting with us!

* *The purchase forms an interesting case study of aided funding from Business Support York and North Yorkshire (BSYNY), The Business Enterprise Fund (BEF) and the White Knight Fund (WKF), on the web at www.bsyny.co.uk*

Marriages

Jonathan Natrass and Amanda (Mandy) Smith

The wedding of Jonathan and Mandy took place at St. Olave's Church, York on Friday, 27th February, 2015. Jonathan is the son of our Chaplain, Jane, who officiated at the service.

Jane has sent her thanks to the Master and Gild for the loan of the ceremonial sword that was given to us by her father, the late Joe Natrass (Master 1994 - 95). (see *Carnifex* ed. XII). Jane's mum, Nancy was also present. The presence of Joe's sword made for an emotional occasion. Jane also thanks George Stonehouse (Beadle) for his delivery of the sword for the occasion. The sword is apparently ideal for cutting chocolate cake as the weight makes it sink into the cake perfectly!

The Gild sends its congratulations to the happy couple and our greetings to Nancy and all the Natrass family.



Tom Wright and Elizabeth (Liz) Boyer

Gild international member Tom, and Liz, would like to express their gratitude to the Master and the Gild for the kind card of congratulations sent on the occasion of their wedding on Saturday 31st January. The ceremony took place on a lawn by a lake at Turtles Crossing, near Forster, New South Wales, in finest Australian sunshine. Best Man was our web master, Edward Wright, and flower girl was his and Hannah's daughter, Stella.

Tom and Liz will host a reception shortly at Bedern Hall, with the bride's parents visiting from Australia, to celebrate with the UK senior generation who were unable to travel 'down under'.

Notes from the January Full Court

Waggon Plays

The storage between productions of our waggon, with its cross and lifting mechanism, continues to cause concern – it is currently stored outside. George Stonehouse and his son have laid a hard standing and covered the waggon with a tarpaulin. If anyone can find an indoor space that is reasonably accessible for use, please let our Master or the Waggon Master know.

There is a possibility of the waggon being used in a production in Durham in the near future.

Ladies Feast 2014

The Ladies Feast in October, 2014, held at the Fairfield Manor Hotel, Skelton, was attended by seventy people and raised just over £1,000 for the charity, York Against Cancer.

Ladies Feast, 2015

This year's feast will be held at the Merchant Taylors' Hall in York.

Book Launch

The Master, David Clapham, and members of the Gild attended the book launch of 'Butchers, Bakers and Candlestick Makers', written by Van Wilson, with a forward by the Master.

The book is about many aspects of life in the Shambles and Colliergate. All who went to the launch at Barley Hall received a signed copy and one was also given to the Gild which has been added to the Gild Library. The book is available at most good book shops

More information can be found on the Gild website:
www.yorkbutchersgild.co.uk

Young Butcher Competition

The Master's (*now Immediate Past Master*) vision for a Young Butcher Competition is taking shape. He informed the Court that the structure and criteria should be finalised in February. The competition will possibly take place in May at Leeds City College Meat Technology Unit. It will be for bonafide, registered Butcher's apprentices. It will not be just a craft competition but include skills such as costing and profit forecast.

The Master requested a sum of money, up to £500, towards the setting up of his competition. Other sponsorship will also be sought, but the competition will be run by the Gild. He went on to explain that this will also link in to the Apprentice Awards which were held in York Minster in November and attended by the Master. (During the last Minster event, he was approached by Julie Massy from York Council who enquired why no Butcher apprenticeship awards were given. They are to meet soon to discuss this further).

The Court agreed to the £500 donation. The Court also felt that the term 'York Butchers' Gild' should be within the name of the competition if the Gild is to control it.

Charitable Trust

The Chairman of the Charitable Trust, Roger Pearce, informed the Court that three donations had been made during the year, these being £250 each to St Leonard's Hospice and Martin House Hospice and £500 to the Theodora Children's Trust.

Low interest rates continue to be a concern and the Trust Treasurer, Richard Hampshire, is looking at alternative investments in property which may be deemed riskier and other costs may be involved. The Trust will keep the Gild informed and seek its opinion.

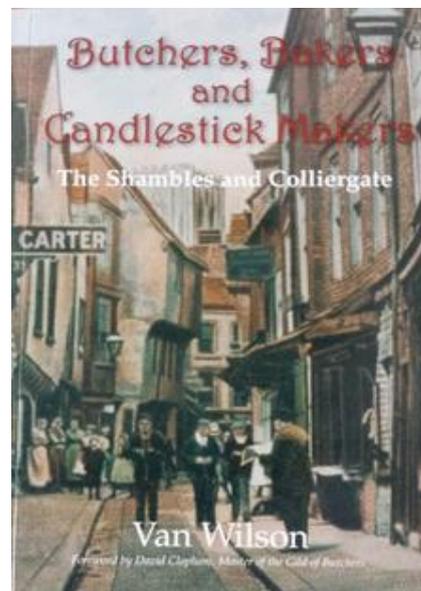
Ken Stobart has retired as a Trustee and therefore we require the appointment of a new Trustee. One nomination (Richard Hampshire) had been received and this was agreed unanimously by the Court. Richard will continue as Treasurer to the Trustees.

York Gild Trail

Immediate Past Master, Jeremy Selman, informed the Court that phase one of the initial submission to the Heritage Lottery Fund will be completed within the next few weeks. The Walk will include ten sites in the city, including Jacob's Well, and there will be a walking trail leaflet and street furniture at each site. It is hoped that there will be an interest link to our web site.

Guilds Exhibition

Jeremy went on to inform the meeting that Barley Hall is to hold an exhibition next year featuring all the Guilds and has requested support from them. The Court approved a donation of £500.



The dignity of those who live and work in the meat and associated trades seems to have inspired sculptors. Here are three works from around the world that have captured the physicality of these craftsmen



Jacques the Butcher (1983) by Eric Kaposta (1951 -)

French Market, New Orleans

This 5ft. 10in. tall bronze sculpture depicts a free-standing, life-sized male figure of a butcher wearing a knee-length apron over a vest, shirt, cuffed pants, and bow-tie. The sleeves of the shirt are pushed up above his elbows and he wears a bowler hat on his head. He has a long moustache and a pencil behind his right ear. In his left hand he holds a t-bone steak and in his right, a cleaver down by his side.

The French Market, America's oldest public market, has existed on the same site, originally a Native American trading post, since 1791. The Butchers' Market, or Halle des Boucheries, was designed in 1813 by city surveyor Jacques Tanesse to replace earlier buildings destroyed by hurricane and fire.

Meat Porters (1960) by Ralph Brown (1951 -)

'Meat Porters' was Brown's response to a commission offered by Harlow Art Trust. It was installed in the town's Market Square in 1960, after three years work. The sculpture, with flayed ox carcass and two naked men, caused a stir in Harlow, but it was reported that the commissioning body greeted the unveiling of the concrete maquette with a universal gasp of delight. The Harlow sculpture was subsequently



made from a new mould taken from the original model and a further resin cast. The ox brings to mind Rembrandt's 'Flayed Ox' painting. The sculpture has been listed as a protected monument by National Heritage.



Flesher (2012) by Etienne Millner (1950 -)

In July 2012, the Worshipful Company of Leathersellers commissioned Etienne Millner to make a life-size and a quarter bronze statue of a 'flesher' (one who removes flesh and fat from a hide) to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

The sculpture was placed in St. Helen's Place, off Bishopsgate, in the City of London.

Millner's sculptures, expressive in their subjects with their own inner dynamic, have established him as a leading portrait sculptor.

Gild Officers for 2015 *Contact details are confidential and are not included here. Please refer to your handbook.*

Robed Officers:

Master	Stephen Wilkinson
Immediate Past Master	David Clapham
Deputy Master	Sarah-Jane Trueman
Senior Warden	David Lishman
Junior Warden	Michael Ward*
Beadle	George Stonehouse
Searchers#	Richard Hudson
	David Brown

* As yet, not sworn into office

In 2010, it was agreed that the Searchers shall be robed. As yet, no robes have been obtained.

Appointed to the Gild:

Chaplain	Jane Natrass
Clerk	Jean Sawdon

- In most instances, the Clerk should be the first point of call for formal correspondence or for Gild business.
- Web Site information should be sent to the Site Controller (Gild Master) and NOT directly to the Web Master.

Non-Robed Officers:

Treasurer	Richard Hudson
Providitor	Andrew Trueman
Registrar	Philip Stobart

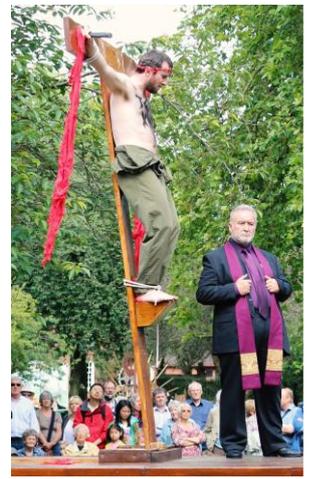
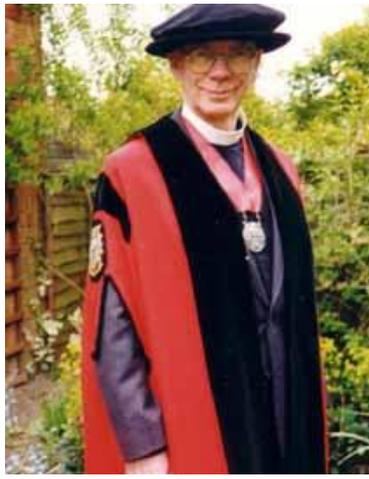
Committee Appointments:

Membership – Chair	The Master
Charitable Trust – Chair	Roger Pearce
– Treasurer	Richard Hampshire
Web Site Content – Chair	The Master

Other:

Waggon Master	David Clapham
Editor, Carnifex	Nigel Wright
Web Master	Edward Wright
Parade Control	Senior Warden
Librarian	Deputy Master

from The Archives – Carnifex 10th Anniversary Pictures



Clockwise from Top Left

- 2008 a member of the Confrerie des Chevaliers de Saint Antoine, Paris
- 2008 Canon Jack Armstrong (see Carnifex ed. VII)
- 2008 First Master of both London and York, Brian Wheatley, in London Robes
- 2014 Waggon Plays, the Butchers' Play, The Crucifixion
- 2009 Master's (Richard Hampshire) Day Out to York Minster and the Stonemasons' Yard
- 2014 York Apprentices Graduation Ceremony in York Minster, Master Jeremy Selman
- Pre-Carnifex Archive – 1993 Master Ken Stobart presents Company Arms accompanied by London Master, Hal Arnold
- 2010 Acquisition of Poctinton Silver Cup
- 2011 Master Ian Kelly swears in the London Master, The Princess Royal, as a York Honorary Member

Dates for Your Diary

2015

- 12th May **Court of Assistants, Jacob's Well, 7.00pm**
- 14th June **United Guilds Church Service and Parade**, meet 9.45am at Merchant Adventurers' Hall
The Master requests the presence of all officers and members (or apologies) on
- 13th August **Full Court, Jacob's Well, 7.00pm**
- 24th October **Ladies Feast, Merchant Taylors Hall**
- 25th October **Annual Church Service, All Saints' Church,**

2016

- 12th January **Full Court, Jacob's Well, 7.00pm**
- 9th February **Shrove Tuesday Court, All Saints' Church and Feast, Merchant Taylors Hall**
- 10th May **Court of Assistants, Jacob's Well, 7.00pm**
- 9th August **Full Court, Jacob's Well, 7.00pm**
- 22nd and 23rd October **Ladies Feast and Annual Church Service**
- 6th December **Court of Assistants, Jacob's Well, 7.00pm**

**Master's Day Out?
Watch This Space!**