



Carnifex



Master
Sarah Jane Trueman
Spring Edition 2016

The Newsletter of the York Butchers' Guild

The Company of Butchers of
the City of York
www.yorkbutchersguild.co.uk

Carnifex is the Latin term for Butcher in the York Freemen's Rolls 1403

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Dates for your Diary

- 10th May 2016
Court of Assistants Meeting
- 12th June 2016
**Joint Guilds Annual Church
Service.**
- 7th August 2016
Master's Day Out
- 9th August 2016
Full Court Meeting
- Saturday 8th October 2016
Ladies Feast
- Sunday 9th October 2016
Annual Church Service
- Tuesday 6th December 2016
Court of Assistants Meeting
- Wed. 14th December 2016
Joint Guilds Carol Service

Shrove Tuesday 2016

Shrove Tuesday is always an important date in the life of the Company, it is taken as the first day of the year when we see a new Master, new Officers and new members. This year was particularly so as it witnessed the first lady Master taking office, a new robe for the Master to wear and the first recipient of what will now be an annual award of Apprentice of the Year.

The Master



Sarah Jane Trueman, wife of Past Master Andrew Trueman and daughter of Past Master Ray Ballard, proudly became the first lady Master of the Company at the Shrove Tuesday Court held in the Parish and Guild Church of All Saints Pavement on 9th February 2016.

In her speech given later at the Feast, the Master told the assembled audience "how honoured and privileged I feel to be standing here tonight in this spectacular medieval hall as Master of your Guild. Tonight I became your 74th Master of the new era and the first lady Master in the history of our Guild's 744 Years"..... "Some of you may not know how I got here, I am a butcher, and I have my own Retail shop, Wholesale Bakery and Catering Company. After I left school I studied for three years full time at Thomas Danby College, Leeds, guided by amongst others our very own David Clapham. I was one of only two girls on the course that year, which did in fact have quite a few advantages! Then I worked for 11 years at Dalepak foods, Leeming Bar where our new Junior Warden Eddie Honeywell was my boss. 20 years ago I took over our family butchers shop in Thirsk from my father, Past Master Ray Ballard, on his retirement and now work alongside my husband, also a Past Master, Andrew Trueman."

To conclude her speech our new Master left us all with this interesting and appropriate factoid:-
"Women have been involved in the meat industry for a very long time, and I have a great love for shoes, you may wonder how these two facts are connected. How many of you know where the first high heeled shoe came from?
3500 years ago in Ancient Egypt, the butchers, men and women, put them on to work, to walk over the animal's offal.

Proof I think just how long women have been involved in the meat industry."



The Master with her father, Past Master Ray Ballard, her husband Past Master Andrew Trueman, her mother and son, Guild member Sam Ballard Robinson.

The New Master's Robe

The Alderman's robe that has for many years been worn by the Master of the Gild originally belonged to Alderman Wm. Wright who was the Lord Mayor of York in 1925 and Master of the Gild in 1944. The robe is a little over ninety years old and in recent times had been showing its age. The present family of Alderman Wm. Wright came forward and very kindly offered to pay for a replacement. The Clerk was then charged with sourcing the new garment, which has been made to the design of the original Alderman's robe by Walters and Co. of Oxford. The new robe was completed for the Shrove Tuesday Court meeting and presented to the Gild by Dr Jeremy Selman on behalf of the Wright family, who unfortunately were not able to be present. The Chaplain, Revd. Jane Natrass dedicated the robe prior to it been worn by the new Master.



*Alderman Wright
Lord Mayor 1925*

The Company is indeed very grateful to the Wright family (grandson, 2 granddaughters, 2 great grandsons, one great granddaughter and a great, great grandson of William Wright) for this very generous gift.



Dedication of the new robe



*The Master wearing
the new robe*

Officers for the Year 2016 -2017

Master	Sarah Jane Trueman
Immediate Past Master	Stephen Wilkinson
Deputy Master	David Lishman
Senior Warden	Michael Ward
Junior Warden	Edwin Honeywell
Honorary Searchers	Richard Hudson David Brown
Clerk	Jean Sawdon
Treasurer	Richard Hudson
Providitor	Andrew Trueman
Registrar	Philip Stobart
Beadle	George Stonehouse
Chaplain	Revd. Jane Natrass



David Lishman being sworn in as Deputy Master by the Clerk.

The Gild's First Apprentice of the Year Award

The Shrove Tuesday Feast was the venue for the new Master to present the Gild's first Apprentice of the year award. This award reflects what is hoped will be an Annual Award recognising a young person's performance and achievement on a nationally approved Apprenticeship / Training programme in the Meat Industry.

The process of selection commenced over nine months ago when all the providers of Meat related qualifications in the Yorkshire Region were contacted by the Gild with details of the Award and its selection criteria along with an invitation to nominate and submit potential candidates for consideration. At the time of nomination there were four centres offering qualifications of this nature but only two had registered Apprenticeship trainees who had completed the awarding body's qualification criteria. The Gild subsequently received 3 nominations along with the required Evidence, Personal Testimony's and Provider Statements, for the selection process to commence.



*George Clapham the first recipient of the
Apprentice of the Year Award*

A small selection panel comprising the Clerk, Master, Treasurer and Past Master David Clapham came together to consider and judge the entries

against a clear concise set of criteria, which included level and standard of achievement in both assessed Knowledge and Skills Ability, Attitude, Desire and Commitment.

The Panel duly considered all 3 submissions all of which were for attaining the Advanced Apprenticeship Level 3 and included specific qualifications in Meat Production and Processing, Hygiene, and Health & Safety.

Ultimately the panel selected George Clapham (no relation to the Past Master) to be the first recipient to receive this award from the Gild.

George came into the meat industry after completing an Advanced Diploma in Land Based Studies at Askham Bryan College York, before entering employment with Far Barsey Farm Shop near Halifax as a registered Apprentice in the Meat Industry.

He attended the Meat Technology and Butchery School at Leeds City College on a Day release basis for a period of 2 years, completing his studies in June of 2015.

During this period of study and training he competed in the National Premier Young Butcher competition held during the National Meat Trades Fair at the Conference Centre, Stoneleigh, Warwickshire.

Finishing in a creditable 3rd place out of 7 nationally selected young Butcher contestants and gaining high commendation in 2 of the 6 skills categories

George's performance and skills were testament to his desire to succeed in the Meat Industry. He was also named as Leeds City College Butchery Student of the

Year with an excellent testimony from his tutor, not only for his skills but also his commitment, dedication and attitude to achieving his goals to date.

George now is hoping to explore the potential and opportunity to move into large scale processing and production as a route of progressing his career within the wider Meat Industry.



Past Master David Clapham, the Master, the Clerk and James Richardson, Meat Technology Tutor Leeds City College.

New Members

The Shrove Tuesday Court meeting saw two new members being admitted in to the Company and as is traditional, the Master of the Worshipful Company of Butchers being made an Honorary Member for a year and a day.

Bill Thurston

Bill is currently CEO of the National Bakery and Foodservice Company BFP which he joined from the Alshaya Group where he was Vice President of the Food division based in Kuwait.

Bill's family have a background in pig and poultry rearing in Norfolk and he has been in the food industry for the last 35 years.

Formally he was Managing Director of the Pork Business Unit for the VION Food group with overall responsibility for all pork sites in the UK. He was also a Director of the British Pork Executive. Other positions include Senior Vice President Europe and Middle East with Dawn Foods, Group Company Director CSM Bakery Supplies Europe and Managing Director of Bakemark UK & International.

Bill is married with four children and four grandchildren.

John Wood.

John has recently retired from running the family abattoir and wholesale meat business for fifty plus years. He now spends most of his free time, cultivating and maintaining his garden and supporting local charities by organising and hosting events. He enjoys travelling (especially cruising) with his wife Katrina and spending time with his three grandchildren.



John Wood and Bill Thurston are sworn in as new members of the Company.

Patricia Dart – Master of the Worshipful Company of Butchers

Patricia was clothed in the Livery of the Worshipful Company of Butchers in 1984

Her father, Bill Hedges, was Master of the Company in 1963 -1964.

She studied agriculture at the North of Scotland College of Agriculture in Aberdeen which included two years of practical sheep farming and dairying in both the north east of Scotland and Denmark.

Patricia lives in Oxfordshire with her husband Angus, where they have a farming enterprise concentrating on dairy and crop production.



Last Engagement of the Master's Year

4th February 2016 saw the final engagement for Stephen Wilkinson, in what has been a very busy and most enjoyable year, as Master of the Gild. He and the Clerk, Jean Sawdon, were very pleased to accept the annual invitation to the Worshipful Company of Butchers, London to attend a meeting of the Court followed by the monthly luncheon where the guest speaker was Dr. Loyd Grossman CBE.



The Master of London, Patricia Dart with Stephen Wilkinson and his partner Christine



Patricia Dart, Loyd Grossman, Stephen Wilkinson and other guests at the luncheon



The Master Stephen Wilkinson, the Clerk, Jean Sawdon and Christine enjoying a pre-lunch drink.

Honour and Recognition for Service during the War



Norman receives his honour from the French Consul

Following the 70th anniversary, of the D Day landings French President François Hollande pledged to honour all those British veterans who had served in his country during the war. The French Government wanted to recognise the selfless acts of heroism and determination displayed by all surviving veterans of the Normandy landings, and of the wider campaigns to liberate France in 1944, by awarding them with the Legion d'Honneur.

Carnifex is very proud to report that one such recipient of this honour is **Norman Wright**.

Norman joined the Gild in 1953 and became Master in 1961 and has always continued to support the Company. He was responsible for suggesting and coordinating his family in the purchase the new robe.

Norman joined the Royal Navy in 1942; training in Scotland and in 1943 was aboard a tank landing craft on its way to Sword Beach in Normandy. He was a member of a team whose job was to be the communications centre in the event of the battleship offshore doing that function becoming disabled. The team landed on the 7th June and found their way to Hermonville sur Mer where an orchard became their home until it was deemed safe for them to return home. A full account of Norman's story entitled 'A Naval Post Horn



Norman as a young Service man

Gallop' can be found on the BBC's web pages 'WW2 Peoples War'.

Congratulations Norman from the Master and all the members of the Gild.

In Memoriam

The funeral of Mary Megson, the wife of Past Master, Paul Megson, was held at St. Gregory's Church, Bedale, on 10th March. The Master, several Past Masters, Gild members and their partners were among the many people who attended. Our thoughts are with her daughter, Jayne Haigh and husband Duncan who is a member of the Company.

Past Master George Stonehouse