



Omnia Subjecisti sub

Pedibus Oves et Boves

\*CARNIF

SUMMER

EXTRA!

The Newsletter of

the York Butchers' Guild

Left: Butchers' Guild sign,  
Český Krumlov,  
Czech Republic

in tempo Domini  
J. D. Selman

editio XX  
arstas MMXIII

**The Master's Missive**



*I believe that all of us as Members, as well as other parties interested in the Butchers Guild and its history, will benefit from our Guild becoming more communicative and interactive.*

Since Shrove Tuesday I have had the honour of representing our Guild at about a dozen feasts and church services across North Yorkshire, including those of the York Guilds of Freemen, Merchant Taylors and Cordwainers; and in Richmond at the

Fellmongers' St George's Day Annual Service, and at the Mercers Grocers and Haberdashers Corpus Christi Service and reception. These Guilds have shown great hospitality and friendship towards us, and I have met many interesting visitors including David Parkinson who is the Deacon Convenor of the Seven Incorporated Trades of Aberdeen. These Seven Trades include the Fleshers who were first incorporated as a trade in 1534. I am planning to visit their Trinity Hall in Aberdeen later this month.

On 14<sup>th</sup> May there was a well-attended and lively meeting of the Court of Assistants, and it was agreed to put forward several points to the Full Court for approval, including that below. The full minutes of the meeting will be circulated shortly, but a key theme that emerged was that:

**In Future** – The Butchers Guild should become more communicative and interactive.

**Why?** • to benefit all existing members and other interested parties (e.g. other Guilds, or tourists) • to encourage the involvement of younger members • to raise the profile of the Guild activities and its history with both local residents and visiting tourists, and • to help promote fund-raising and the Guild charitable activities.

**How?** • to rejuvenate the use of the website by getting it up to date and active as an information resource and disseminator • to increase active interaction with other Guilds in promoting York Guild life and sharing in each other's social events • to seek to develop a permanent exhibition about the Guild history in or close to the Shambles, possibly in collaboration with the York Museums and the Council.

**You Today** • the membership of the Guild comprises a mass of talent which, together with sustained enthusiasm to join in, I am sure members will be ready to apply towards turning these ideas into reality.

**A Gentle Reminder** . . . to book for the **Master's Day Out to Ampleforth Abbey** on 17<sup>th</sup> August – thank you to those who have already booked. The details for further bookings are included in this issue of Carnifex, overpage.

*Jeremy*

**Dates for Your Diary ?**

It was reported at the Court of Assistants that members did not know about the United Guilds' Church Service on 5<sup>th</sup> May. This is of concern as it means that the main purpose of *Carnifex* (i.e. to keep you informed of future events) is failing. Please supply suggestions as to how **Dates for Your Diary** could be made clearer.

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\**Carnifex* – Latin term used for butcher in the York Freemen's Rolls, last used in 1403

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## **Gild Officers**

### **Each Member's Role**

Members will have noticed that the Gild had been unable to appoint a Junior Warden at this year's Shrove Tuesday Court and, currently, the position is still vacant. This is a role taken up three years prior to Mastership in order to allow the prospective Master some small prior insight into the Master's role.

It is hoped that proposers of new members have explained how the Gild works and that each member, in turn, should take up this rewarding task and gain enormously from its experience. The continued life of the Gild depends on a continuous feed of willing volunteers. Ideally, the Gild would like to maintain its tradition of 'One Year as Master – No Repeats'.

Past Masters are able to confirm that they enjoyed their year, made new friends, gained a deeper understanding of Civic and Guild Life and felt able to contribute more to Gild activities. Each has found that they received the backing of many other members to help them fulfil the role, especially from the Previous Master. One only has to ask, and help is forthcoming. In the words of Bill Withers's famous soul song, "Lean on Me":

***So just call on me brother, when you need a hand, We all need somebody to lean on.***

It is hoped that those asked this year will be able to take up Mastership in the future. If so, they should simply let the Registrar know that they are now able to step up to the crease.

## **Master's Day Out – a Message from the Master**

**AMPLEFORTH ABBEY** Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> August 11.30 – 16.00

I would be delighted if as many of you as possible would join me to enjoy a visit to Ampleforth Abbey.

The Abbey is located 3 miles from the A170 Thirsk to Scarborough Road .

Please see: [www.visitors.ampleforth.org.uk](http://www.visitors.ampleforth.org.uk) for information, or to download a leaflet.

I have arranged the following programme for your interest and pleasure. The visit will comprise:

- an introduction to the Benedictine life, with a guided tour of the Abbey and its Robert 'Mouseman' Thompson panelling and furniture
- a special visit to the library
- an explanation of the apple orchards and tour of the cider mill
- a tasting of some of the products made at the Abbey including their beer, cider, gin and brandy.

Lunch will be held in Windmill House with its views of the valley and there will be opportunity to walk around the grounds during lunchtime. There is also a shop for those who may wish to purchase anything they have tasted!

Approximate visit schedule:

**11.25** Arrival at the Abbey    **11.30** Half group guided tour of the cider mill    Half group guided tour of the Abbey

**12.45** Lunch and Raffle prize draw in aid of the Gild Charity    **14.00** Half groups take other tour

**15.30** Meet for tasting session    **16.00** Depart for home, or to other fellowship opportunities

**APPLICATIONS** The cost for the day, including lunch and tasting session, is £20 per head. Numbers of guests and cheques (***made payable to Jeremy Selman, please***) should be sent to: Holmere Lodge, Dykes Lane, Yealand Conyers, Carnforth, Lancashire, LA5 9SN, to arrive no later than **Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August** to enable the catering arrangements to be finalised. Any queries? Please email me at: [jeremyselman@sky.com](mailto:jeremyselman@sky.com)

(The choice of this date is inevitably a compromise due to various circumstances, and I wish to acknowledge that some members may not be able to attend due to their work or holiday commitments – JDS)

## **Gild Library**

The Master's Team has been hard at work cataloguing the current extent of donations to the library. With a bit of luck and a fair wind, it should be open for lending at the next Full Court in August. Methodology may be a bit rusty and space is limited, so please don't all rush in to the library room at once!

## **Dates for Your Diary**

**2013** 17<sup>th</sup> August (Saturday)    **Master's Day Out – see above**

*The Master requests the presence of all officers and members (or apologies) on*

13<sup>th</sup> August    **Full Court** 7.00 pm – Jacob's Well, Trinity Lane, Micklegate    New Gild members in 2013 should ask their membership proposers to introduce them to the Court

26<sup>th</sup> October    **Ladies Feast** 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm – Merchant Taylors' Hall, Aldwark

27<sup>th</sup> October    **Butchers' Gild Annual Church Service**    All Saints' Church, Pavement

3<sup>rd</sup> December    **Court of Assistants** 7.00 pm – Jacob's Well, Trinity Lane, Micklegate

19<sup>th</sup> December    **Guild of Freemen Carol Service** 7.30pm – All Saints' Church, Pavement

**2014** 7<sup>th</sup> January    **Full Court**    4<sup>th</sup> March    **Shrove Tuesday Court and Feast**

### **JUST A YEAR TO GO TO NEXT YEAR'S YORK GUILDS' WAGGON PLAYS**

Please keep plenty of time free in your diaries, throughout Spring and Summer of 2014, to help put together the Plays. They will be played on the streets of York on **Sundays 13<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> July**