

HISTORY OF THE COMPANY OF EDUCATORS

The medieval craft guilds in London developed into the great livery companies, forerunners of the present professional institutions and trade associations. Within its own industry, each set and regulated the standards of professional competence that customers might expect to receive when trading with their members. Competence and common standards were achieved by the development of systems of training through master-apprentice relationships. Successful apprentices could themselves become journeymen and, later, masters of their craft and therefore members of their guild of which the badge of office was a 'livery' – identifiable robes for each trade or 'mysterie' (which means 'handicraft', 'trade' or art' and is derived from the Latin 'ministerium', a 'service', 'occupation', 'office' or 'ministry'). In addition to this professional self-regulation, the guilds also operated a system of financial support (or insurance) for those of their members falling upon hard times.

There are now more than one hundred livery companies within the City of London, of which forty or more have been founded since the Second World War. The professional self-regulating function of most companies has been ceded to the appropriate professional institutions and trade associations but involvement with beneficial giving to their trades and other charities and with the annual election of the Lord Mayor of the City of London and the Sheriffs are still valued roles for all companies.

In the early 1990s two separate initiatives to establish a Livery Company for Educators were undertaken. Both recognised that, while all livery companies were concerned with education and training within their trades or professions, none was concerned with the profession of education and training itself. One of these initiatives – that of Keith Lawrey JP, LIB who was supported by the College of Preceptors (as it then was) – was pursued and, with Professor Raoul N Franklin CBE (then Vice Chancellor of the City University) as the Master-designate, Mrs Judith G Osborne (of the other initiative) as Upper Warden- designate, Keith Lawrey as the Honorary Foundation Clerk-designate, and with a 'shadow' Court of Assistants, registration was sought from the Corporation of London in 1997. That registration was granted in 2000 and the Guild of Educators was founded on 24 May 2001 with Professor Franklin as its Foundation Master and a Court of Assistants comprising a number of leaders in the various sectors of the education and training profession and with guidance from the late Alderman Anthony Bull. The Guild was kindly accommodated by London Guildhall University (as it then was) and its first Sponsoring Alderman was Sir Christopher Walford, a former Lord Mayor of the City of London.

The first meeting of the Guild was its Inaugural Annual Lecture (now entitled the Franklin Lecture in honour of the Foundation Master) which was given by Sir William Stubbs (Chairman, Qualifications and Curriculum Authority) on 15 November 2001 at London Guildhall University under the title of '*GCE Advanced Levels and the Gold Standard*'. On this occasion, the Master wore, for the first time, the Master's robe which he had presented to the Guild. The first Election Dinner was held on 13 February 2002 at the Women's Library at the University (now London Metropolitan University) when the Guest of Honour was Professor Adrian Seville (sometime Academic Registrar, City

University). Prior to the Dinner, the first ceremony of Declaration by those admitted to the Freedom took place when Sir Christopher's successor, Alderman John Stuttard JP, admitted Professor Franklin to the Freedom, and the Master then admitted Mr Alderman Stuttard to the Guild. In addition twenty-five other candidates were admitted including John Holland CBE, DL (sometime Chief Commoner) as the first Honorary Freeman in gratitude for the advice and support he gave during the formation period. Mr N Barry Jaynes was the first Honorary Beadle. The Guild Newsletter was established early in that first year as an important channel of communication with the Freedom. Initially it was edited by the Honorary Foundation Clerk who produced four issues each year. In 2005, Past Master Max Weaver assumed the Editorship enlivening the contents with photographs but reducing publication to three times a year.

In 2002 in the Mastership of Mrs Judith G Osborne, the Windsor Herald of the College of Arms designed the Guild badge – a quill and a sigma intertwined to represent the arts and the sciences (as the basis of knowledge) and the past and the future (as the foundation of understanding). This badge provided the repeated motif on the Guild ties which were then introduced. In September, the first Annual Service was held at St Olave's Church (where Samuel Pepys and his wife are buried) by kind permission of the Rector, and the Select Preacher was, most appropriately, the first Honorary Chaplain to the Guild, the Rt. Revd. Peter Hullah BD, AKC. Thereafter, the Service has been held with a different Select Preacher each year and the Guild has developed its own order of service, with an aim of representing different denominations and faiths, as a thanksgiving for, and a re-dedication of, its resources and a memory of any Freemen who have died in the previous year. There is now a specific Guild Prayer and Hymn. The second Franklin Lecture was given by Dame Judith Mayhew DBE (a former Chairman of Policy and Resources of the Corporation of London) entitled '*Globalisation, the Knowledge Economy, the Role of Business and Higher Education*'. It was also in 2002 that the Master Baker (Mr Francis Bergin) approached the Guild to offer an arrangement whereby the Guild would use the Hall of the Bakers' Company as its *domus*, holding its four statutory meetings there with the Company giving guidance and support. Thus, early in 2003, the second Election Court and the following Election Dinner became the first events to be held in the beautiful candle-lit Hall. The Guest of Honour was Mr Christopher Everett CBE (the Master of the Skinners' Company and sometime Headmaster of Tonbridge School). This was also the occasion when the Guild's first treasure, a Loving Cup, presented by Freeman Dr Patsy Marshall, was displayed.

In 2003, Mr Max Weaver, a member of the shadow Court from the beginning, became the third Master. For the first time the Franklin Lecture in November 2002 was presented in Bakers' Hall: the lecturer was Professor Alan Smithers (University of Liverpool) and his subject was '*Equity, Effectiveness and Efficiency in Education*'. The speaker at the Election Dinner was Dr Peter Southern, Headmaster of Christ's Hospital. 2003 saw the presentation of the first of the recently-inaugurated Guild Awards: the Guild/Judith G Osborne Award (to an outstanding student in the Education Faculty at the University of Leeds); the Guild/Swan Award (to an outstanding education student at the University of East London); and the Guild/Floud/Weaver Award for internal teacher training at London Guildhall University. The Guild's recognition by other Livery companies began to

accelerate in that year which also saw: a survey of the growing Freedom; the formulation of the Guild's first set of strategic objectives; the first public speaking competition; and the launch of a competition amongst the Freedom to find a motto for the Guild.

Dr Nicholas Carey Hon FCGI, also a member of the shadow Court, became Master in 2004, which was another notable year of progress and consolidation. A crucial development flowed from the Guild's acceptance of an invitation from the City and Guilds of London Institute to undertake the administration of the schools-section of LOGVEC, named 'Livery Schools Link' – an organisation for effecting co-operation between the livery companies and schools within the City of London and its adjacent boroughs. Dr P T Warren CBE became the first Administrator and established a service to livery companies that is much appreciated and has continued to reflect well on the Guild within the City. It was also in Dr Carey's Mastership that the Guild of Educators' Trust Fund was created and registered with the Charity Commission: Mrs Susan Fey OBE, JP succeeded Dr Warren as its Chairman of trustees and the Clerk became its Honorary Secretary. Mr Christopher Humphries (Director-General of the City and Guilds of London Institute) gave the Franklin Lecture entitled '*What about the other 50%*' and Sir Michael Tomlinson CBE was the Guest Speaker at the Election Dinner. The Guild was also invited to participate in the annual Carol Service of the Worshipful Companies of Poulterers, of Clockmakers, of Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers, and of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators – a happy arrangement which has continued since then. The evening professional meetings were introduced, hosted by Freeman Professor Geoffrey Bennett at the London College of Notre Dame University. Early in 2005 the Guild was invited for the first time to attend the United Guilds Service which is a splendid occasion for representatives of all the Livery to give thanks for its work. In the following year, the tradition began of the Guild joining the Bakers for luncheon at the Hall after this Service – always a convivial occasion. This year also saw the adoption of the Guild's motto: *Per doctrinam ad lucem* (Through learning to light), which was Freeman Kevin Tuhey's winning entry in the competition.

Dr Carey's successor in 2005 was Professor Roderick Floud FBA, President of London Metropolitan University (formerly London Guildhall University) who was knighted for his services to Education early in his year of office, an event duly marked with a reception for him at the City and Guilds of London office by the Guild before its annual carol service. Professor Sir Roderick introduced another strand of Guild activity – a series of breakfast seminars on an educational topic – that year with the kind support of the Worshipful Company of Mercers. Professor Glynis M Breakwell gave the Franklin Lecture under the title of '*Leadership in Education: the Case of Vice Chancellors*' and The Lord Kinnock of Bedwelty was the Guest Speaker at the Election Dinner. During this year the post of Honorary Treasurer was introduced with Dr Martin Gaskell serving as the first incumbent and Mr Andrew Lawrey succeeded Mr Jaynes as Honorary Beadle.

In 2006, Dr David S Moore OBE, TD was elected Master. During this year Freeman Antony Farnath kindly presented the Guild with a staff for the Beadle's use and, with ingenuity, the Clerk had the staff divided into two so that it could be carried easily and safely through the streets of London and, equally importantly, the upper half could be

used as a mace when the Court is in session. Professor Adrian Smith (Queen Mary, London) presented the Franklin Lecture '*Making Mathematics Count*' and the Election Dinner Guest Speaker was Mr M Goldring (Voluntary Service Overseas).

2006 was the year when the Sponsoring Alderman, Alderman John Stuttard, was elected Lord Mayor and, for the first time, the Guild took part in the Lord Mayor's Show processing in full academic dress. In addition, the Guild's officers were privileged to participate in a number of the events associated with the Lord Mayor-making – a truly memorable time. During this year, in anticipation of his Mastership, Dr Warren retired as Administrator of Livery Schools Link having served very successfully and he was succeeded by Mr David W Taylor. There was also another very successful Public Speaking Competition organised by Freeman Mrs Pamela Taylor. During this year the Guild adopted John Baptist de la Salle (1651 – 1719), Patron Saint of Schoolteachers and a brief biography was published in the Educator.

Dr Peter T Warren CBE was installed as the seventh Master of the Guild in 2007 and immediately co- chaired a joint Banquet at the Mansion House in celebration of the Sponsoring Alderman serving as the Lord Mayor of the City of London. The Guild was not large enough to support its own event at the Mansion House and it shared the occasion with one of its fellow guilds, the Guild of Public Relations Practitioners. The two guilds enjoyed a memorable evening - the first occasion that two companies had shared a Mansion House Banquet. The new Master was keen to ensure that the Educators continued to participate in the fund-raising for the Lord Mayor's Appeal with Educators attending, *inter alia*, a Dinner at the Arts' Club and the Oriental Banquet at the Mansion House. The Master organised the first Away Day for Court and invited Freemen to review the way ahead to begin preparation of a new Strategic Plan for 2007-13, building upon that accepted during the Mastership of P.M.Weaver. The new Plan was adopted by Court in February 2008 and received a warm welcome from the Sponsoring Alderman.

The Franklin Lecture in 2007, sponsored by the Gatsby Foundation, was delivered by Dame Julia Higgins, FRS, Principal, Faculty of Engineering, Imperial College, London, on '*Education - the making of a researcher?*' and the Master's personal Seminar Series was on '*Educational Research - quality, quantity, use and abuse*'. Reflecting the Guild's growing activities and strategic thinking, the Court established committees for Development, Finance, and Fellowship and Social Affairs (replacing the Guild Liaison Group). The Master received a first cheque from the Lord Mayor's Appeal in September 2007 and was able to announce during his year that the financial targets had been met (and exceeded) that would enable the Guild to petition in 2009 for Company status. This success owed much to the Sponsoring Alderman, Sir John Stuttard, who had made the Guild a beneficiary of his Lord Mayor's Appeal, the generosity of the Foundation Master, contributions from many other Freemen, the generosity of the Worshipful Company of Bakers in allowing the Guild to use its Hall on very advantageous terms, and the continuing *pro bono* services of the Clerk and his wife.

In 2008, Mr David Taylor succeeded Dr Warren again - this time as Master - and Dr Gaskell retired as Treasurer, to be succeeded by Dr Carey. Mr Taylor's year was one which included some notable innovations, as well as a continuation of practices

introduced during his predecessors' years. The Preacher at the Annual Service was the Rev Mark Aitken, Headmaster of St Lawrence College, Ramsgate. The Franklin Lecture, kindly sponsored by Pearsons, was presented by Dr Anthony Seldon (Master of Wellington College, author and historian) under the title of *'How well-being enhances educational standards'*, and this was followed by a most enjoyable white tie Banquet at Fishmongers Hall. Christmas was celebrated by the now traditional shared carol service and by a Freedom Friendly party ('A Dickens of a Christmas'), comprising supper and a very entertaining medley of readings and songs arranged by the Appeal Group. Mr Taylor had chosen 'Standards' as his theme for the Master's seminars which were very well supported and thoroughly enjoyed, as indeed were a number of social meetings. Spring saw the introduction of *'The Master's Music'* in which a number of talented Freemen and friends and relations performed including a newly-convened Guild Choir. This was so popular that future Masters were alerted to the idea of providing something similar in their year of office. Yet another very successful Public Speaking Contest was organised by Mrs Pam Taylor (in her guise this year as Mistress Educator). There followed the first Master's Weekend when fifteen Freemen, partners and friends travelled with the Master and Mistress to the South of France to enjoy some of its cultural and gastronomic delights - another very successful occasion which it is hoped will set a precedent for future Master's Weekends. The speaker at the Election Dinner was Professor Alma Harris, the recently-elected President of the College of Teachers. Finally, the rather piecemeal Guild awards were replaced by a system funded and organised by the Trust Fund, with five awards being presented at a very successful Awards Luncheon. The year ended with the lodging of a Petition to the Court of Aldermen of the City of London Corporation for the transfer of the Guild to Company status.

Dr Yvonne Burne OBE, JP assumed the reins of Master in 2009 and, within weeks, was able to announce that the Petition of the Guild for Company status had been granted by the Court of Aldermen of the City of London. Her speaker at the Installation Dinner, a new event in the calendar, was Mr Henning von Spreckelsen of the Chess for Schools Project.