

THE HISTORY OF THE
INCORPORATION OF WRIGHTS
IN GLASGOW



BY
CRAIG R. BRYCE
MMXXV

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Acknowledgements

As the editor/author of the History of the Incorporation of Wrights 9th edition (2025), I believe that it is important to record and acknowledge the work done by previous authors of the Incorporation's history.

First, I would thank the Deacon Judy S. Tayler-Smith for encouraging her Master Court to update the history which was last written in 1990. Secondly, I would mention J. F. Lindsay, Clerk to the Incorporation in 1990, where much of the information in this book is derived and I am sure that he would mention the authors of the 8 previous editions and the continuity brought to this book by references to these authors. I felt like a privileged small man standing on the shoulders of giants when writing my sections of the history.

Mention must also be made of the following for checking the spelling and grammar of various sections of the book. These included Deacon Judy herself, Master Court member, Morag Loader, Auld Deacon John Smail and most of all, Past Deacon Don Mckillop, who not only checked the spelling and grammar, but added two important sections to the book: namely the introduction at the start of the history, concerning the Cathedral and the Wrights, and transcribing of the Seal of Cause. The transcribing of the Seal of Cause was a major feat and one that I was unable to complete. Tom Monteith, Clerk to the Incorporation also was a great assistance by supplying Incorporation Minutes which enabled an update to be made. He also supplied other information which was of great importance.

George Mahoney, photographer gave his time and skills in updating the photographs which appear in this book which has made it even more interesting.

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Last, I would thank the rest of the small sub-committee which had been set up to oversee the development of the book. Their advice and guidance were of great value and encouragement to the author.

I am responsible for any errors and omissions found in the history which was a privilege to write for the Incorporation of Wrights. If anyone finds error/s, please inform the Clerk of the Incorporation to enable them to be corrected for future editions

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Foreword

I am delighted that we now have a new documented history of the Incorporation of Wrights in Glasgow. This provides a hugely important and valuable chronology of the Craft's purpose, activities and milestones. It also offers a consistent narrative on all that has been achieved, connecting the commitments of members both past and present and giving contemporary readers an insightful perspective on the Incorporation's earlier years.



This history helps to illustrate and convey the Craft's origins, its shared vision and values and how the charity has evolved over time. As such, it provides a prime source of information and reference for members and non-members alike, including those outside the Craft with a curiosity to learn and understand more.

Our last published history was dated 1990 and copies of this have now been out of print for some time. With sincere thanks to Craig R. Bryce, who has been interested in genealogy for well over thirty years and involved with the Trades House of Glasgow since 1998, we now have this updated Wrights' history. Not only is this a great achievement for the Incorporation but it is also fitting that the publication was written in the 850th Anniversary year of the founding of the City of Glasgow.

Craig has been Deacon of the Incorporation of Masons of Glasgow and Preses of the North Parish Washing Green Society. He is also the Honorary Trades House Archivist¹, Webmaster of the Trades House Virtual Museum² and is in charge of its Digital Library. In recognition of his work for the Trades House he was given the honour of becoming a member of the Grand Antiquity Society of Glasgow. Craig is therefore the perfect choice to chronicle the Wrights' history and is an established author, who has also produced a splendid book on the Trades Hall that is available to purchase from the Trades House Office.

It is my deepest hope that this new history of the Incorporation of Wrights will foster greater awareness of the Craft's purpose and the reasons it remains so relevant today to the great City of Glasgow, which it continues to serve with pride and humility. I wholeheartedly commend this history to you and trust that all readers will find it as stimulating and informative as I have done.

*Judy S. Tayler-Smith, Deacon 2024-25
The Incorporation of Wrights in Glasgow*

¹ www.tradeshousemuseum.org

² www.tradeshouselibrary.org

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HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Introduction

The Jewel worn by the Deacon and Collector, and the Coat of Arms, are indications of insoluble links between the craft, church and Glasgow.

They are St Mungo in the act of benediction (St Kentigern), the miracles attributed to him relating to the bird, the salmon and the tree, and the working tools of a worker in wood; the axe, hammer and chisel.

Related and recorded history has it that in 543, Kentigern of noble birth and a former pupil of Servanus of Culenros, took the body of the godly man Fergus from Kernack, to be buried in consecrated ground at a place that was called Cathures or Glasgu. It later became known as Glasgow.

He ministered over the local population and soon a small church was built there. No doubt as the congregation increased a larger church was required. His work was recognised, and he was ordained as a bishop. However, Kentigern was still having to counter paganism which forced him to leave Glasgu and flee to Wales. There he founded a Christian community at Llanelwy, now known as St Asaph from the name of one of his disciples. He returned to Glasgu in 581, died there in 603 and was buried under his small church.

The period of darkness which then followed was ended when Prince David ordered his Bishop to undertake an enquiry into the possessions of the church in and around Glasgu. It was recorded in 1120, that the original church of Kentigern had fallen into ruin and much of the local population had reverted to paganism.

As King David, he promoted the rebuilding of Kentigern's church, and under the guidance of his Bishop Achaius, a cathedral-church was rebuilt and consecrated in 1136. However, in 1176 it was destroyed by fire and under the guidance of Abbot-Bishop Jocelin a new cathedral-church was built in stone, the lower church being consecrated in 1197.

Construction

The first small church was probably built of wattle and daub and then replaced by one in wood. Long logs or timber planks were placed vertically on prepared ground, either driven into it or placed in a shallow trench with clay then being used to fill the gaps between them. The roof was made of logs or planks laid horizontally and covered. The restored 1136 cathedral-church is reasoned to have been a wooden structure on stone footings. These have been found but do not relate to the later stone building.

As recorded the original small churches although simple in construction would have required simple wood working skills. The later buildings of wood and stone, then only stone, would have taken time to complete. Craftsmen with woodworking skills would have been required to build covered workshops, storage buildings, and to provide required safe climbing scaffolding to design and construct falsework to support the masonry. For the early cathedral-church they would have cut, shaped and installed the upper cross beams and for both cathedral-churches prepared and fixed the roof framing over the masonry arches. Then to make the buildings secure they would have filled the spaces left in the walls with door and windows.

The completed cathedral-churches were visual testimonials to the skill of the workers in wood and glass, or 'Wrights' as they later became known.

Operative Wrights

It is important to clarify what an Operative Wright is, in fact there was not one trade but a number such as arkwrights, who made chests etc.; boatwrights, who made small boats; cartwrights, who made carts etc.; shipwrights, who built ships; wheelwrights, who made wheels for carts; glasswrights; painterwrights, carpenters, joiners and sawers were all part of the Incorporation of Wrights.

It would seem obvious now, but it was necessary to include the glasswrights as the Wrights put in the window frames and without the glass to complete the job, the building would have been mightily cold in the winter. Likewise, if the woodwork was not varnished or painted, then it would soon have rotted and therefore the painterwrights were part of the Craft.

Millwrights used to be part of the Incorporation. As the name suggests, the original function of a millwright was the construction of flour mills, sawmills, paper mills and fulling mills, etc., powered by water or wind, made mostly of wood with a limited number of metal parts. Millwrights are now viewed as mechanical engineers as the work moved away from wood to metal.

Wrights in their own right

The ancient Craft of the Wrights was originally part of the combined Incorporations of Masons and Coopers who were disjoined in 1569. The Wrights split away on 3rd May 1600 when they received a Charter or Seal from the Magistrates of the City of Glasgow and became a distinct Incorporation in their own right.

Prior to this at a meeting on the 24th February 1600 the Provost, Bailies, Council and Deacons were advised of the separation desired by the Wrights from the Masons. The separation was agreed by the votes of the whole Council, providing that they remained on friendly terms and obedient to their Deacon.

There was good reason to break away from the Incorporation of Masons and the Petition for the Charter cited that they, "*could not judge upon our work, nor we upon theirs perfectly, and without the partiality that they might have to their, and we to our craftsmen, and contentions among us if we remain together*". In fact, the Masons and Wrights had been in disagreement for some time, and this continued after they went their separate ways.

Disagreements

We know in an Act dated 21st May 1607 that the Masons objected to the Incorporation of Wrights "*slating and pointing houses*". The Deacon Convener's Counsel heard the case that Robert Petegrue, Archibald Reid who was Deacon in 1607-08, and William Reid, should finish the work begun by them as soon as possible, but should not undertake any new work of that kind until the general question was decided.

In June 1610 the Masons again complained to the Deacon Convener's Court that the Wrights had, "*filled a void [possibly an old doorway] and carried out slating on a roof. Ruling: Wrights told to desist.*" It should not be assumed that the Incorporation of

Wrights only fell out with the Masons, on the contrary, there are numerous examples of disputes with others such as:

- a) The Wrights even had fall outs amongst themselves and in December 1613 some members of the Master Court disputed the election results, claiming that some dodgy voting had taken place. The Deacon Convener's Court reversed the decision, and a new Deacon was elected.
- b) In May 1616 the Wrights were complaining that the Deacon of the Fleshers was refusing to pay certain fees and insulted the Deacon of the Wrights. The ruling went against the Fleshers who were fined £1.
- c) On 2nd July 1623 the Deacon Convener complained about James Baird, a Wright, for his disobedience and misbehaviour towards him. After a short trial they pronounced that James Baird had to pay George Bogil, Collector of the House, £10 for use by the poor. He was also to suffer some form of punishment to the satisfaction of the Deacon Convener who would decide the punishment such as homage or warding of his person. [Homage would be an apology and warding could be imprisonment].
- d) November 1655, James Elphinstone, Glass Wright, and John John Dainzell, Wright, had done some wrong to the late Deacon Convenor, Manasses Lyle. The ruling went against them, and they were banned from carrying out their trade until they gave satisfaction for their wrong to Manasses Lyle.
- e) In May 1658 the Wrights appeared to overstep their authority and sent Harie Ore to the Tolbooth in Stirling. As no substantial evidence was presented against Harie Ore, the Deacon of the Wrights and the whole Craft were instructed to return him to Glasgow as a freeman and to pay all expenses. The Wrights also had to reply positively within ten hours and carry out the above instructions or they would be disowned.

As can be seen from above, disagreements were not uncommon and there do not appear to be lasting grudges against those who ruled against the Incorporation. In fact, the Incorporation of Wrights and Masons have worked closely over the years, building Glasgow.

Deacon's Title

'*Deikons*' or '*Maister-men*' are first mentioned in the statute of James I, circa 1425, which empowered the craftsmen of every burgh in Scotland to elect a "*Deikon or Maister man over the laife for the time*". However, in 1457 the meetings of Deacons were proclaimed as: "*being gatherings of conspirators, and the license for election to the office revoked, as being prejudicial to the state and dangerous to the commonweal*".

The same year nevertheless the office was restored by James II, only to be changed again in 1498 by James IV "*because it is clearly vnderstandin to King's Hieness an his thrie estates that the vsing of deakins of men of craft in bvrrows is richt dangerovs, it is thairfor ordainit that all deakins sall ceas for a year at least (especially masonis an wrichtis) except to examine workis.*" Unhappy masons and wrights to be thus singled out! Surely their Deacons must have been a particularly fractious lot, possessing more than the normal allowance of original sin.

For more than a century the Scots Parliament, actuated by official jealousy against the growing power of Deacons, and prompted in great degree by the merchant rank in Edinburgh, continued to direct legislation against the crafts. This made the election of Deacons illegal, but with the noteworthy exception of the 'Bishop's men', although Scots craftsmen paid scant attention to the parliamentary thunder. They continued to elect their Deacons in defiance of all statutory prohibitions, even of the abolitionary statute of Queen Mary, circa 1555, C. 52, which inter alia enacts that "*there be na deakons chvsin in times cvmming within bvrgh*" and that instead thereof the provost, bailies and council of burghs "*are to chvse the maist honest men of craft, of gvde conscience, ane of every craft, to uisie their craft that they labovr svfficiently, and thir persones to be callit Visitovrs of thair craft, and to be elected and chvsen yearly at Michaelmas, and thir visitovrs, chvsen sworn and svbmitted, to have chvsing of officers and vther things as the deakons vted before. Na craftsman to brvik office in bvrgh covncil except twa of the most honest and famovs persones to be chvsen yearly.*"

This embargo, which on abolishing the title of Deacon gave to the head of every craft the official designation 'Visitor,' did not remain long in operation. By the advice of the Queen Regent (Mary of Guise), Mary repealed the prohibitory statute and on 16th April 1556 granted a general charter restoring to all craftsmen of burghs within her realm the right to elect, and to have, Deacons together with all the privileges and freedoms of which they had been bereft by the statute of June 1555. While the crafts existed as voluntary societies prior to obtaining their Seals of Cause, and while the legislative embargo against Deaconry existed, most of the Glasgow Crafts were contented with leaders known as 'heidismen' and 'maisteris.' Indeed, many of the Seals of Cause do not convey to the craft affected the right to elect a Deacon, though the existing Burgh Records indicate that the first election of a Deacon of Craft in Glasgow, that by the Skinners, took place in the year 1516.

Even when the Seal of Cause granted to a craft did convey the right to elect annually a Deacon and Masters of their Craft, the Magistrates and Council of Glasgow strictly reserved to themselves the right of approval or rejection of the persons elected. The Deacon and his Court having been approved of, the Magistrates agreed to assist and defend them "*in all their leasvm (lawful) actis and statvtis for the commovne weill of this bvrgh and weill of the said craft.*"

Formerly the office of Deacon was usually tenable for two years and the incumbent was then as now, dependent upon the votes of members for his elevation. It was highly necessary that persons elected to the high office should be men of parts, properly qualified to conduct the business of the Craft and able to command the respect of the craftsmen. On 22nd February 1650, the Wrights decreed "*all in ane uoyce*" that all their meetings should be opened and closed by prayer, and that their Deacon should be "*ane able man most qvalified and worthie, of known affectiovne vnto, and approved fidelitie in the cavse of God, and of ane blameless, and crystiane conversatiovne, who is neither gviltie of scandovlovs sines, nor processit and sencvrit for any svch.*" Rather a tall order, one might say, to be readily executed in these present days of keen commercialism.

An outstanding feature in the conduct of the early Deacons, and this applied to all the crafts, was their determined and persistent efforts to secure autocratic power. Again and again did the Scots legislature ordain that Deacons were not to rule their crafts but were only to ensure that the workmen were skilled, and the products of their skill sufficient in quality. To the magistrates and counsels of burghs was assigned the duty

of fixing the price of material and the cost of the craftsman's labour, as well as to prescribe the manner in which the latter's products were to be sold.

Yet notwithstanding the constant reiteration by the Scots parliaments that Deacons must not rule their respective crafts, but only examine work, the magistrates and council held them responsible for the good behaviour of their craftsmen, and insisted on guarantees being given to that effect, as the Burgh Records of Glasgow show. Thus on 10th June 1595: Christopher Alexander, merchant, is *becvyme cavtiovnne for Johnne Hamiltovne, deikin of the hammirmen (and ithers are becvyme cavtiovnne for each of the followin craftis :-viz., cordineris, tailyeovris, baxteris, cowperis, fleshovris, wobsteris, wrichtis, masovnis, bonnetmakkeris, and skinneris) that the saids deikines sail compeir againe befor the prouest, baillies, and covnsale to answer for accvsatiovnnes laid to thair charge for contrauenciovnne of thair craftis, and vtherwayes, vpon xxiiij hovris warning, and als to gif vpe iuiry ane of their craftis respectiue that sal happin to be insolent, and trvbleris of the qviyetnes of the towne, ilk persovne onder the paine of fyue hvnderth L.; and ilk ane of thame are decernit to releue thair cavtiovnneris.* One is prone to wonder what would be the attitude of present day Deacons were similar responsibilities thrust upon their shoulders.

The Deacons of bygone centuries were without doubt autocrats of the first order, who placing no small value upon their dignity ruled their subjects with an iron sceptre, and made with the cognisance of their Master Courts, laws and ordinances for the governance of their craftsmen in defiance of the prohibitory edicts of King and parliament. The times were rough, the craftsmen coarse of speech and coarse of act but punishment was sharp and drastic. Generally, the 'Deakon' brought the erring ones to heel in quick time, even though fines were not legally recoverable, nor imprisonment enforceable, without the intervention of the bailies and by way of inducing the latter to assert their authority quickly, a small sum for the bailies' benefit was usually added to the delinquent's fine.

It was no simple matter to chivy or flout a Deacon in those days; to 'scandalise' (slander) him was the deadly sin, and apart from disputes between masters, apprentices, and journeymen, perhaps the offence of uttering slanderous statements or contemptuous words anent the Deacon or his 'maisteris,' was the cause that most frequently brought the Master Court to sit in judgement. The Deacon-Convener and the Trades Bailie frequently sat with the Deacon at such Courts, sentence in which was usually followed quickly by execution of the decree, which was enforced, if need arose, by the Trades-Officer assisted by a red-coat council officer. But very frequently the culprit paid on the nail, and cases occurred where the defaulter walked to the tolbooth and voluntarily gave himself up for imprisonment. Punishments were varied in nature and in degree. Some were distinctly Gilbertian, and castigation of the body by way of atonement for the heinous crime of "*scandelising and reproching the deacones name*" was not unknown.

During the early part of the 17th century, the punishment of having to drink to the health of the Deacon "*and ask him forgiveiness thairfor in all hvmlitie*", thus making of punishment a pleasurable pain, was rather customary among the Crafts. But there were other ways of purging the offence of contemptuous blasphemy, as applied to the Deacon, and Williame Allansovne discovered this to his sorrow. On 28th June 1621, he was convicted of having spoken to his Deacon, John Clark, "*contemptibilly without reverence, thrawin his faice and girnin dispytfullie vpon his deikin and als persistin thairin*" during the time of his trial. He was doomed to pay a new upsett to the Craft box, along with thirty-two shillings to the bailies, and was prevented from

exercising his craft until he had paid the sums in which he was mulcted. William obtained a cautioner, and in due course liquidated his amercement.

Boycotting, though it was then termed outlawry from the craft, and being "*baneisit ye tovn and neiuer to be sein agane*" was frequently given for doom. Indeed, this punishment of practical excommunication was a very favourite one of the Master Courts when dealing with contumacious and refractory craftsmen. So also, was that of making the culprit "*sit dovn on his knees*" before the Deacons' booth door and there ask forgiveness of the Deacon and his Masters, afterwards paying five pounds to the Craft box. Another severe disciplinary punishment imposed in convictions of reviling the Deacon was that of classing, which meant never to hold office in the Craft, and to be excluded from voting, or being voted for, at craft elections over a period of seven years.

It was distinctly unhealthy to apply the opprobrious term 'pendicle' to a, as Deacon one Robert Dickie, a Wright, learned to his cost, when he characterised his Deacon, Alexander Dainzell, as "*bot a pendicle*". A Deacon Convener's Court, held on 16th March 1673, fined the said Robert "*in the sowme of twentie merks Scotis*" and decreed that "*he sall nefer haue any office in the said tred or uoyce thairin heireftir.*" Moreover, the Court at the same time issued a prohibition against any member calling others of their Craft 'pendicles,' under "*the paine of a fine of fyfe pvnds Scotis and of being disqualified to hold office.*"

It cannot be gainsaid; these old-time Glasgow craftsmen were expert exponents of the gentle art of vituperative invective. Scoundrel, thief, knave, villain, adorned with many striking adjectives, were among the milder epithets which, when applied to a Deacon by a freeman, usually resulted in the latter being hauled before the Master Court and the punishment made to fit the crime. The Court, however, had no jurisdiction over an unfreeman, neither over an '*ovttentovnsman*' unless when the search-masters happened on defective work. Reviewing without bias this aspect of old craft life, one cannot avoid concluding that a great deal of the trouble that brought forth slander and reviling of the Deacons, arose from the existence of factions in composite crafts. They conducted a species of petty warfare, the one with the other, that did not tend to unify the fraternity, but instead engendered a jealousy, discord, and internecine strife that for centuries delayed, and in some cases totally prevented, thorough coalescence of the component units.

As the Deaconal Chair in early days conferred on its occupant almost autocratic executive powers, with considerable local distinction and influence, the office was much sought after. All kinds of subterfuge, chicanery, cajolery, and even shanghaiing were used to secure installation in the coveted seat. Once elected, the Deacon of the past clung to his office with the tenacity of a limpet to his rock and consequently friction and tumult were at frequent periods ultra-epidemic. Repeated efforts were made by means of edicts and agreements to prevent soliciting, or the illicit procurement of votes. But all without avail as the evil continued, notwithstanding many stern ordinances aimed at its suppression. In the interests of peace and concord, repeated efforts had likewise been made by the Crafts to have the two years' tenure of the Deaconal Chair halved, but not until about 1757 was the salutary rule of one year's occupancy made effective.

The election of the Deacon was in former times a matter of much pomp, ceremony, and display. It was the day of days in the Craft year, the activities and ceremonies on which lasted from daylight unto dark, '*an a wheen 'oors langer*'. Drums rattled,

trumpets blared, and pipes skirled, while much strong ale, aye and French wine, disappeared down the 'craigis' of the craftsmen whose suffrages were invoked. The more solid refreshment for a long while consisted of a breakfast given by the Deacon, but in time, as money values rose, the cost became irksome and in most crafts a money payment was substituted.

The duties of the Deacon of old, public and domestic were varied and manifold, despite the many repressing Acts of Parliament. He was required to convene the various meetings of the Craft under a penalty of ten shillings Scots for each failure to do so. He was responsible for the general conduct of his craftsmen, even to their attendance at 'Kirk' in the days of the zealous presbyterian regime, and sat in judgement upon them accordingly. He regulated the turn of his craftsmen for the duties of watch and ward, and it was his responsibility that they were properly armed. It was also he who chose the Craft's quota for national military service and led the craftsmen in battle with his Collector as second in command, and likewise he was responsible for his craftsmen's attendance, properly armed, at the statutory 'Wappenschaw'.

Saving the Cathedral



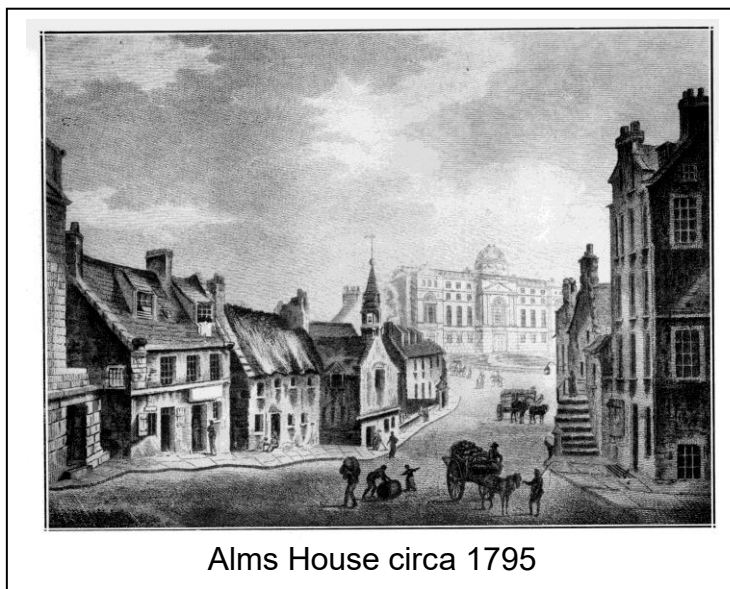
As part of the Reformation in 1579, long before the Incorporation of Wrights split from the Incorporation of Masons, they were standing side by side, repelling Mr. Melville, the Principal of the College, (now the University of Glasgow), who had assembled a crowd by tuck of drum, to pull down the Cathedral. The Crafts ran immediately to arms and informed Mr. Melville "that if any person presumed to pull down a single stone of the church, he should, at that

moment, be buried under it". They were so incensed at this attempt to destroy the ancient building, that if the Magistrates had not come to appease them, they would have put to death Mr. Melville and all his adherents.

The Wrights have a long tradition in connection with supporting the Church. An example is that a former functionary of the Incorporated Trades in Glasgow, regarding whose activities we possess but scant knowledge, was the chaplain. We do however, know from a few isolated references scattered here and there, that at one time it was customary for the Trades and their House to employ and pay one. Occasionally an individual craft retained the services of a clergyman as their exclusive chaplain, perhaps in a spirit of vain glory. As in the cases of Crafts that, like the Wrights, decreed their Master Court Meetings should be opened by prayer, the Wrights at any rate being-well could not perform that sacred office satisfactorily themselves with safety. We also know that, from the foundation of the Crafts' Hospital, a minister or chaplain was appointed to administer the sacraments and consolation of the Kirk to the 'Craftis puir men'. Sir Bartholomew Simpson held the charge in the last decades of the 16th century, as he also did at St. Nicholas Hospital.

The office of chaplain probably originated in the obligation laid upon every confederated Craft in the halcyon days of the Romish Church, to contribute towards the support of the priest who served at the altar of the particular saint whom a Craft had chosen as their special patron, and to maintain the altar and its furnishings in repair. On the Reformation becoming an established fact, it was but a short step from paying altarage dues for the support of an attendant priest to contributing towards the retaining salary of a chaplain of the new faith. In addition to a scrupulous supervision over his craftsmen's observation of their religious duties, he usually undertook the spiritual charge of the '*puir men*' resident in the Crafts' Hospital and his modest stipend did not entail a heavy burden upon the Crafts.

Alms House



Alms House circa 1795

Most of the meetings of the Wrights took place in the Trades' Hospital [or Alms House] near the top of the High Street.

The Incorporation of Wrights also held their meetings in various locations over the centuries, from Public Houses, the Alms House, Laigh Kirk, and the Session House of the Cathedral.

The Alms House is the building on the left with the steeple. The old Royal Infirmary,

designed by Robert Adam stands on the old Bishops' Castle site.

The minutes of the Trades' House for 6th March 1746 asks that the Deacon of the Wrights paint the walls of the large room in the Alms House light blue and to whitewash the roof of the other room. This is one of the few descriptions of the interior of the Alms House where the poor men of the House resided.

In 1791, the Trades' House decided to alter the method of supporting the poor and planned to opt for a more "*Care in the Community*" approach. It took a further eight years before this was put into practice and in November 1798, the House nominated Messrs. Robert Austin, Gardener, Robert Robertson, Wright, Archibald Newbigging, Weaver, William Scott, Andrew Eadie, John Gardner junior, Wright and William Jaffrie senior and Baxter, as a committee to look after the Boarded in the Alms House and put them in order, and report where they should be placed in future.

Constitution and Rules

But whatever the relationships of the two Incorporations may have been, the Wrights, in obtaining a Charter or Seal of Cause, secured a strong and independent position of their own, as it conferred very extensive and exclusive privileges upon them. One of its first enactments was, "*That no person of the said craft set up booth to work within this city, until he be first made burgess and freeman of the same and be examined by three or four masters of the said crafts if he be a sufficient workman, and able to work good and sufficient work to serve our sovereign lord's lieges.*" Another is to the effect that, "*It shall not be lawful to any persons to sell, make, or*

work any kind of work of the said work and crafts within this city, except they be first free with the town, and next with the said craft” and there are others of an equally stringent character regarding the employment of “strangers” and apprentices.

The monopoly thus created was rigidly upheld and defended. On 12th September 1774, it was reported to the Court of Session by the Master Court that *“it had been the constant practice of the Incorporation of Wrights in Glasgow, ever since their erection or Seal of Cause from the Magistrates and Town Council of Glasgow, past memory of man, as well as of every corporation in Glasgow, to stop or hinder all such as were not Burgesses of the Burgh of Glasgow, nor incorporate with them, from working or setting up work belonging to any of the several corporations, either in building or repairing houses or other ways within the Territories of the said burgh, by seizing the unfree men’s tools and sometimes confiscating the piece of work, and sometimes obtaining the unfree man intruder fined and incarcerated by the concurrence of some of the Magistrates of the City, until paying of the fine incurred and granting bond to desist in time coming.”* The report was made in an action at the instance of the Wrights, Masons, and Artisans of the Incorporation of Mary’s Chapel of Edinburgh, in defence as it is said *“of their privileges against an unfree Wright who was found not only repairing, but making new work within Burgh”*. It is valuable for the reference which it makes to a contract between the Wrights of Glasgow and the Wrights of Gorbals, under which the latter were admitted to do work within the city. This contract was dated 14th December 1683 and ratified by the Magistrates and Town Council of Glasgow on 26th June 1684, but the principal bears to have been sent to Edinburgh and not even a copy of it can now be found. Something, however, of its nature may be gathered from the Report. This sets forth that the party against whom Mary’s Chapel were proceeding had condescended that *“one Daniel Miller, Wright in Caltoun, near Glasgow, was frequently employed in putting up sash windows in Glasgow, and that one Colonel McDowall’s house was built by an unfree man”* and it states in reply that *“neither the said Daniel Miller nor any other person whatsoever, not freeman of the Wrights of Glasgow, unless when employed or Tolerate by a freeman, was ever allowed to put up sash windows, or Build or repair any house whatever in Glasgow, Tho’ the said Daniel Miller, as a freeman of the depending Society of Wrights in Gorbals, one of the Suburbs of Glasgow, has at Liberty of Bringing in and setting up some other pieces of Wright work in the said City of Glasgow, upon two days each week only, In virtue of a Contract betwixt the Wrights of Glasgow and Wrights of Gorbals, Ratified by the Magistrates and Town Council of Glasgow.”* The privilege accorded to the Wrights of Gorbals was thus apparently one of jobbing only; and for this it appears elsewhere in the Records of the Incorporation that they paid 15/- Scots each per annum. The Contract continued in force until about 29th September 1780, on which date it is minuted that the Members of the Incorporation in Glasgow met and protested that *“no failyair or breach of the Contract happened upon their part, but solely on the part of the Incorporation of Wrights in Gorbals.”* A copy of the Minute is given in Deacon Watt’s print of the Register of the Acts of the Incorporation. It is not to be inferred, however, that the Wrights of Gorbals by resiling from the Contract became entitled to work within the city. Prosecutions of *“unfree men”* as the records of the Incorporation show, were as frequent after their withdrawal as before. Not even an itinerant showman was allowed to erect his booth without a payment of duty. Down to 1831, an annual entry in the Collector’s book, under the heading of *“cappie cogie”** was the receipt of duty in respect of *“stands at the Glasgow Fair”*. The number of stands varied, latterly from 10 to 12, and the duty was one shilling for each stand. In the Collector’s Accounts for 1832, it was noted that there was *“no cappie cogie this year”* and thereafter the entry disappeared from the Accounts.

* Many entries are to be found in the Collectors' accounts of 'capie cogie' and 'catibole' receipts and the following explanation of the expressions by the late Mr. David Donaldson, F.E.I.S., one of the editors of a late edition of Jamieson's 'Etymological Dictionary of the Scottish Language' and the author of the "Supplement" thereto, may be interesting: 'The words', he says, 'represent the names of two *quaichs* or drinking vessels made of wood, the first for ale and the second for *aqua vitae*. They were neat and often very beautiful bits of work, constructed of different coloured woods, which were neatly and skilfully put together, and sometimes mounted and hooped with silver. Indeed only a skilled cooper could make them correctly; and one of them was generally set as the *sey* or *sampler steek* for the journeyman cooper seeking entry to the craft as a test of his ability to make the *sma' work* or *tine work* of the fraternity. The 'capie cogie' was a cogie or little cog (i.e. a wooden dish with a handle) for 'caple' (a kind of ale stronger than small ale, but weaker than good ale), which was the common ale for drinking. It had two *lugs* or handles and held what would form a good supply for one sederunt to a decent man or woman. For strong ale a smaller dish was used, called a *cog. cogie. cap* or *caup*, and sometimes *cappie cogie*. Sometimes horns were used, but the general name was *cap* or *caup*. Then the *Catibole* - properly *cutty bowl*, i.e. the small bowl, because of its shape and size, was used only for whisky, and generally was called a *quaich* or *cuttie*. The article may still (1889) be seen at stands for so-called native work in some of our Highland 'summer resorts'. In other words, *Capie cogie* or *Catibole* money was drink money, and would no doubt refer to a custom among the Wrights not unlike that which prevailed among the Masons - viz., 'the foundin' pint.

Ceasing to inspect Wrights' Workshops

It was the practice of the Incorporation regularly to inspect all Wrights' workshops within the Royalty "for the purpose" as it is put in the Minutes, "of detecting bad work". At the Lammas Court Meeting of 1830 it was resolved to discontinue the practice, on the grounds that "the greatly increased number of workshops within the Royalty has made the visitation a matter of great labour to the committee, while the practice is unproductive to the Incorporation, and is in no way beneficial to the public."^{*}

End of the Wrights' Monopolies

The Burgh Trading Act of 14th May 1846 put an end to all trade monopolies. It enacted "that all such exclusive privileges and rights shall cease, and it shall be lawful for any person to carry on or deal in merchandise, and to carry on and exercise any trade or handicraft in any burgh, and elsewhere in Scotland, without being a Burgess in such burgh, or a Guild-brother, or a member of any Guild, Craft, or Incorporation." But otherwise, the rights of the Incorporation remained intact and power was given by the statute to all Incorporations affected by it, to make such By-laws and Regulations as were required under their altered circumstances.

In 1846 all the exclusive rights and privileges of trading that had been granted to the Craft were swept away by the Recissory Act, but the Craft members decided not to wind-up the Craft and distribute the funds to the members. Instead, the members decided to channel the energy and enterprise of the Craft into the work of benevolence. Over the years since 1846, the Craft has continued to attract men and women who are associated in some way with the trade of which its members once had a monopoly, but the old spirit of exclusion has long since gone. Today the Craft's benevolence continues, and considerable funds are still distributed each year to the Craft's grantees.

The Incorporation took advantage of this power shortly afterwards. Its first By-laws were adopted at a General Meeting of the Trade on 18th June 1849 and finally approved and enacted by the Trades' House on 28th September 1849. The existing By-laws were adopted at a General Meeting of the Trade on 2nd November 1891, finally approved and enacted by the Trades' House on 29th February 1892, and subsequently altered at General Meetings of the Craft held on 1st November 1901, 1st November 1905, 13th December 1920, 22nd March 1926, 26th November 1929, 27th October 1930, 1st November 1943, 19th December 1949, 21st January 1960 and 31st October 1966.

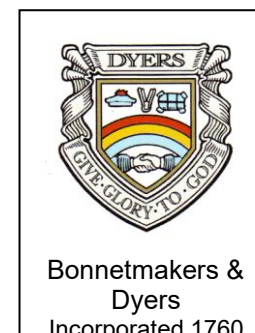
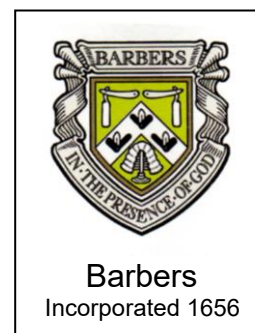
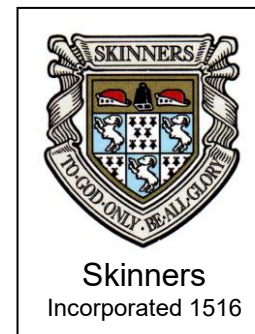
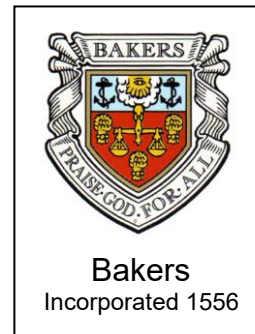
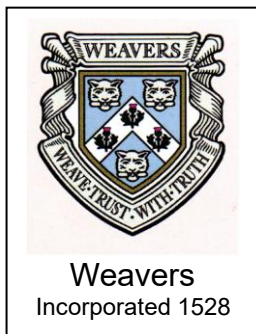
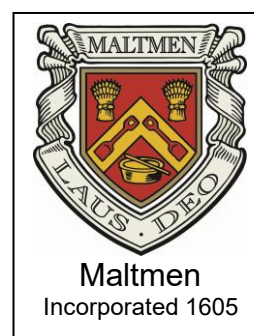
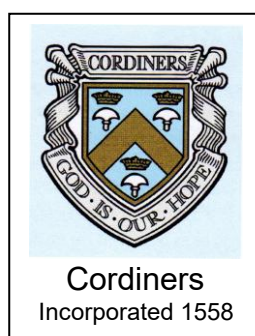
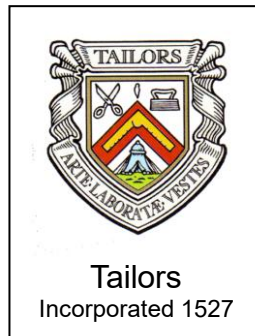
The By-Laws have continued to be updated as circumstances and changes in society have dictated. The Craft, like many others, has continued its charitable, educational aims and mission within a social framework.

* It was resolved on the same day that the sum of XI lls. fid., which had been applied from the Incorporation funds in providing refreshments to the Workshop Committee, should thereafter be applied in providing refreshments for the Visiting Committee of the Pensioners, whose labours had greatly increased, thus making the allowance to it Three Guineas in all. There is no such burden now upon the funds.

Decree of Declaration

The Incorporation of Wrights is one of the fourteen Incorporations which make up the Trades' House, and it was one of the ten Incorporations which in 1771 brought the "Letter of Guildry", or Charter of the House, under the review of the Court and claimed the right to an equal representation in the House with the other four.

The result of the legal proceedings was a Decree of Declaration by the Court of Session, dated 28th February 1777, known as the "Grand Decerniture" by which it was found and declared "that the rank and precedency of the several trades and incorporations in the Trades' House is and ought to be as follows, and in the order here set down."



The reason for the precedence has been lost in time and there does not appear to be a logical reason for the sequence. Possibly it was based on the number of members in each Craft at some point in the distant past.

The number of members which each Incorporation is entitled to send to the Trades' House are as follows, being in all sixty-four trustees:

- The Hammermen, Tailors and Cordiners: each their Deacon with four assistants.
- The Maltmen: their Visitor with four assistants.
- The Weavers, Bakers, Skinners, Wrights, Coopers, Fleshers, Masons, Gardeners, Barbers, Bonnetmakers and Dyers: their Deacon, Late Deacon and two ordinary members.

The Office-bearers of the Trades' House are a Deacon Convener and Collector, the Late Deacon Convener, the Late Collector, the Collector Nominate, the Collector Elect and Ex Deacon Conveners. They are all members of the Platform and must be Trustees, as well as being part of the ordinary membership of their Crafts within the House.

On 14th May 1969, a motion of the House was passed, which allowed any Member of an Incorporation who is a Member of the Platform of the House to nominate any Member of the Master Court of such Incorporation as a supernumerary representative of their Craft. This arrangement was designed to provide a greater opportunity for certain members to participate in the affairs of the House, but the supernumerary representative has no vote.

Dean of Guild Liners

The House traditionally sends four Liners to the Dean of Guild Court and of these, two are always chosen from representatives of the Incorporation of Wrights and two from the Incorporation of Masons. The Dean of Guild Court ceased to function as such in 1973, and the funds are now held in the Dean of Guild Trust and may be used as special funds for the City, for example towards the upgrading of Glasgow Green.

Records

There is a complete record of the transactions of the Incorporation of Wrights from February 1650. There are many records which have been deposited in the Mitchell Library and can be viewed by arrangement with the library staff. A copy of the list can be found in the Appendix.

Charter Chests

Deacon's and Collector's Boxes



Collector's Box circa 1678 and 18th Century

Originally the funds and the documents of the Incorporation were kept in what was called the "*Deacon's Box*" but later there were in use two boxes or wooden chests, one of which was kept by the Deacon and the other by the Collector. Of the two the Collector's Box is the more ancient, and the probability is that it was the original Deacon's Box. It was believed to be almost 350 years old, as it has the year 1678 painted upon the top, with 1736 on one of the sides.

When the box was being repaired in 2011 at the City of Glasgow College, it was discovered that it was made in the 18th century with some parts of

an earlier box.

The Deacon's Box, on the other hand, is more modern in its appearance and construction, and there is the authority of the late Deacon William Caldwell that he had spoken to members of the Incorporation who recollected when it was made.



The Deacon's Box has two locks, one of the keys for which is smaller than the other. The larger key is kept by the Trade's Key, or "*Big Key*" and the smaller by the Deacon's Key, or "*Small Key*". These designations first appear in the minutes of a meeting held on 25th September 1801. Before that date the Key-keepers were styled "*Box Masters for Large Box*" and "*Box Masters for Small Box*". No explanation is made of the change.

The Deacon's Key, or "*Wee Key*" as it is now more commonly called, is also known as "*Gowdie*" but, according to Deacon William Caldwell, the appellation was applied in his day to all the Key-keepers as the Keepers of the Gold.

The Deacon's Box is too small to hold all the papers of the Incorporation. Now its contents consist of the original "*Seal of Cause*" a flag or sash said to have been carried at the Battle of Langside, the Gold Box and articles which are placed each year in the Box by the reigning Deacon in remembrance of their year of office. These articles are deposited in the Box when it is opened at the Deacon's Box Opening Dinner.

A third box is now in use and was designed and made by Charles McBrian, a third-year craft student who was on a Metropolitan College Furniture Design Course. Charles produced a modern yet traditional box made of oak with dovetailed corners. On the lid, the Wrights Arms have been beautifully inlaid using many different types of wood. This was commissioned and presented by Deacon Jonathan Parkins and his Queen Marilyn at the Box Opening on the 9th May 2006.

Once a year the Deacon holds a Box Opening evening where they place items in the



Deacon's Box as a memento of their year in office. The extensive selection is hugely diverse, and includes such items as the list of contributors to the Deacon's Chain from 1851; a note of the Wright's contributions to building the Trades' Hall in 1791; a piece of 500 year old oak from the roof of Glasgow Cathedral; a replica of the anointing spoon used at the Coronation of HM Queen Elizabeth II; a ribbon used at the opening of the Riverside Museum along with other

items of memorabilia from the day; and a collage of photos commemorating the 850th Anniversary of the City of Glasgow.

Gold Box



This is kept in the “Deacon’s Box” and it falls on the “Deacon’s Key” to open the box. The art of opening it is supposed to be a secret to all who have not been at an opening, and as may be imagined the ingenuity of many a “Deacon’s Key” has been sorely exercised as a consequence.

Deacon Convener’s Box



Prior to the construction of the Trades’ Hall in June 1761, the Deacon of the Wrights John Cunningham was employed to make a mahogany box or chest with two locks for holding the House writs. Deacon Cunningham was paid £10 19s 9d to repair the old box and to make a new one.

This box, or Charter Chest as it is properly called, is stored in the Deacon Convener’s room and is brought out at the end of the Deacon Convener’s year for them to place an item which represents

their tenure in office.

Master Court

The affairs of the Incorporation have always been managed by the Master Court. Since 1849 when the first By-laws were adopted, this has consisted of the Deacon, the Collector, the Late Deacon, the Late Collector, ten Trade’s Masters, the Deacon’s Key and the Trade’s Key, with nine forming a quorum. The Deacon, the Collector and the Trade’s Key are elected annually and hold office for one year. The Deacon’s Key, or “Wee Key”, is nominated by the Deacon and holds office for one year. Five of the Trade’s Masters retire annually and those elected in their place hold office for two years.

By the existing By-laws, “*the Court may also have the assistance of honorary members, who shall be proposed and seconded at one meeting of the Craft duly called and voted upon at the Annual Meeting of the Craft next ensuing.*” Such honorary members, it is provided, “*shall not have a deliberate vote in the Court*”. In the previous By-laws no provision was made for the appointment of honorary members, but the practice notwithstanding was to have such persons drawn from former Deacons.

The first honorary member to be appointed was former Deacon John Cleland, on 27th September 1811. The Minute bears that he had been a member of the Court for about twenty-four years and that he was elected “*an honorary member of the Master*”

Court for life". The honour thus conferred upon Deacon Cleland must have been considered no ordinary one, as it was not until 1834 that any other member of the Court was thought worthy of it.

By a Minute of the Trade, dated 22nd February 1650, it was ordained that all meetings of the Craft should be opened and closed with prayer and that the Deacon should be "*ane able man most qualified and worthie, off knowen affectioun wnto and approved fedelitie in the caus of God, and of ane blameless and crystiane conversatioun, who is nether guiltie of scandoulous sines nor processet and sencurit for any such.*" By the same Minute it was also ordained that the Deacon shall be acknowledged, respected and revered by all the members of the Craft "*according to his place, and that they sall obey all lafull ordouris from him.*"

Although the Deacon may appear to have been made an autocrat here, there is evidence that he was not always considered to be so. On the 23rd of September 1790 it is minuted that the Deacon Charles Pirrie was fined one guinea for granting precepts "*inconsistent with the acts or customs of the Trade*". Precepts, it may be explained, were warrants which the Deacon was authorised to grant on his own authority for the payment of sums towards the temporary relief of members and others. From time to time, he was restricted to certain definite amounts.

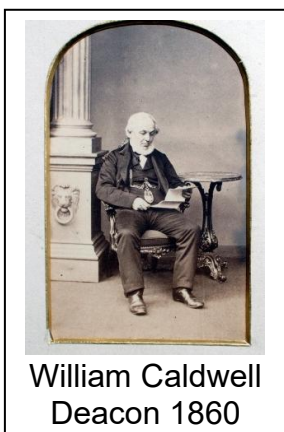
Date of Election of Deacon and Collector

For many years the Deacon was elected a week before the Collector and other members of the Court but at the Annual Meeting held on 25th September 1835, it was resolved to have the elections on the same day.

In olden times, the election of the Deacon was accompanied by considerable pomp and display if we may judge from the following entry in the Collector's accounts: "*19th September 1701, Item to the drummers when the Deacon was chosen, 'by order, £00014s 06.'*"

Official Insignia

Like most illustrious institutions of note and antiquity, the Incorporation of Wrights has over many years accumulated a number of chains and badges of office worn by those entitled during their year of office on the Master Court. The Wrights have a particularly fine array, which adds distinction to formal gatherings with most having well documented histories.



On the 27th October 1783, the Master Court records minute notes that the Deacon be "*furnished with a silver chain and medal, to be worn and used by him on certain occasions by way of distinction from the other members of the Incorporation.*" Of the original chain and medal, we have no record suffice it to say that these relics have become lost to posterity. In 1851 a gold chain to be worn by the Deacon was commissioned to mark the laying of the foundation stone of the new Victoria Bridge at the site of the original timber bridge, which was the first crossing of the Clyde and around which the city centre developed. It was worn by Deacon James Wilson at

a meeting held on the 26th June 1851 having been purchased from Mr. W.C. Shaw, Goldsmith of Buchanan Street, at a cost of £102 and paid for by subscription. In the Association of Deacons Album of the photographs of the Deacons, the first Deacon shown wearing this Chain of Office is William Caldwell who was Deacon in 1860. The next time that the chain was photographed on a Wright's Deacon was George Laird in 1874 and then on Alexander Craig in 1878.

In the same year a gold badge was also commissioned for the Deacon. The badge wording on the obverse records '*Incorporation of Wrights in Glasgow May 1600*'. The engraved date of 3rd May was the date the Incorporation obtained the Charter or Seal of Cause creating the Wrights as a distinct Incorporation from the Provost and Magistrate of the City. The centre of the badge shows the tree, bird, fish and bell (symbols of Glasgow) and six tools used by craftsmen: a hammer, chisel, saw, plane and interlinked square and compasses. The reverse of the medal contains a fascinating engraved record of the composition of the Master Court in 1851. The legend on the outer rim commemorates

the laying of the foundation stone of Victoria Bridge on 9th April 1851. Engraved in the centre are the names of the members of the Master Court in the year 1850/51.



Deacon's Badge 1851- 1936
(obverse on left; reverse on right)



Chain purchased for the Deacon in 1851 together with the 1936 Badge presented by Deacon Black

In 1936 Deacon J.C. Black presented the Incorporation with a gold and enamelled badge which was composed of the following articles: a gold watch presented to him by the government of the U.S.A. for saving life at sea; a \$20 piece presented by one of the saved men; a gold badge of the Chinese Imperial Order of the Flying Fox; a \$10 Argentine piece; and his gold signet ring. This badge can be seen to the left.

The obverse details the name of the Incorporation in the outer band, with the symbols of the City of Glasgow embossed in gold, along with a scroll on which is written the motto of the Craft 'Join All in

One'. The shield in the centre shows St. Mungo, with the craftsman's working tools of a chisel, hammer and pick above. The Incorporation had the Deacon's Chain and Medal revalued and it was noted that it was now £130,000 for insurance purposes.



Deacon's Chain 2025

In 2025, Deacon Judy Tayler-Smith arranged to have the Deacon's chain extended. Twelve extra links were added by jewellers Robert Horn of 40 St. Enoch Square, Glasgow. The links at the back of the chain are now in a row of three, with two triangular end corners. The names of seventeen Deacons were added to the chain, with room for nine more, completing an unbroken record of Deacon's names since 1851. The alteration to the Deacon's Chain amounted to £9,996.

A replica medal is now presented to the outgoing Deacon at the Annual General Meeting. This takes the form of a small badge appended to a ribbon with a bar above, on which is engraved the name of the recipient and their year in office.



Late Deacon's replica Badges
(Pre-1915 issue on left; Current issue on right)

In 1954, Deacon W. Cochrane Montgomery presented a replica of a former gold badge worn by the reigning Deacon when it was not practical to wear the Chain and Badge, in effect 'undress' mode. This Badge is appended to a black velvet collarette and is in every respect similar to that of the full-size badge. It is called the Dancing Medal as the chain is removed as it is heavy and could cause damage to a partner when dancing at a Ball or Dinner.



1954 'undress'
Deacon's Badge



In 1990, the gold Deacon's badge from 1851 was resurrected to be worn by the Late Collector. This was attached to a narrow scarlet and gold ribbon.

In 1963, the very first Deacon's Badge of the 1936 design presented to Deacon J.C. Black was returned to the Incorporation by Deacon J.C. Graham, to be worn by the Queen of the Wrights during her year as Consort to the Deacon. This is appended to a simple gold link chain. In 2011 the Queen's/Consort's Medal was valued at £13,700 for insurance purposes.



Chain and Badge of the Queen/Consort of the Wrights



Collector's Chain and Badge

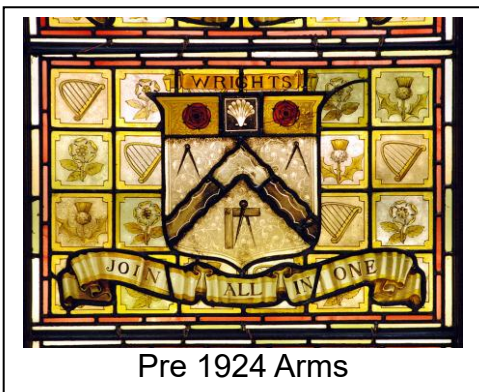
In 1952 a gold chain and enamel badge of the same design as that for the Deacon was purchased for the use of the Collector at a cost of £270.



Jenny McIntyre 2015
1st Female Deacon of The
Wrights

These splendid badges date back to the 19th century and are worn with the same sense of pride today as they have been by dedicated Wrights for hundreds of years. Each successive office bearer therefore continues a great tradition and wears them in accordance with the craft motto '*Join All in One*'.

Coat of Arms



Pre 1924 Arms

The Incorporation for many years used a Coat of Arms described in the "*Coats Armorial of Scottish Trade Incorporations*" by J. Anderson M.A. LL.B. Aberdeen, as follows:

ARGENT: A chevron engrailed sable, between two Wrights' compasses expanded in chief, and a square and compasses conjoined in base, proper; on a chief or, on a pale of the second between two roses gules an escallop of the first.

Although these Arms were used for a long period by the Incorporation they had never been matriculated, and it was known that they were in some respects heraldically incorrect. The Master Court therefore resolved to apply for a new grant. On a petition presented on behalf of the Incorporation on 25th February 1924, a Patent of Arms was obtained from the Lord Lyon King of Arms, which is dated 17th March of that year. The new blazon, for the composition of which the Craft is indebted to Captain John Cameron Black FSA Scot, is thus described:

Parted per fess dovetailed Gules and Or, in chief an axe and ancient Scots nail hammer in saltire, surmounted of a Wrights' chisel edge downwards paleways, and in base the half-length figure of St. Kentigern affrontee, vested and mitred, his right hand raised in the act of benediction, and having in his left hand a crozier all proper, and in an Escrol below the shield this motto: "*Join all in one*".



O **A** **L** **L** **A** **D** **S** **U** **N** **D** **R** **Y**

whom these Presents Do or May Concern, We Sir James Balgownie
 Paul, Commander of the Royal Victorian Order, Doctor of Laws,
 Lord High King of Arms, Send Greeting Whereas Daniel
 Stevenson, Esquire, Deacon, John Campbell, Master, Glasgow
 Collector, and James MacGregor Reid, Esquire, Writer, Glasgow
 Clerk, all of *the Incorporation of Wrights in Glasgow*, and
 the said Incorporation have by Petition of date the twenty fifth day of
 February last, Prayed that We would Grant Our Licence and Authority
 unto the said Incorporation to bear and use such Ensigns Armorial
 as might be found suitable and according to the laws of Arms, Know-
 we therefore that We have Devised and Do by these Presents Assign,
 Ratify and Confirm to the Incorporation of Wrights in Glasgow the
 following Ensigns Armorial as depicted upon the margin hereof and
 matriculated of even date with these Presents in Our Public Register of
 All Arms and Bearings in Scotland, viz: *Parted per fess dovetailed Gules*
and Or; in chief an axe and ancient Scots nail hammer in saltire; on base
surmounted of a wrights chisel edge downwards paleways, and in base
the half length figure of Saine Kenigum, affrontie, vested and mitred,
his right hand raised in the act of benediction and having in his left
hand a crozier all proper; and in an Escrol below the shield this
Motto; Join all in one. In Testimony whereof these Presents are
 subscribed by Us and the Seal of Our Office is affixed hereunto at
 Edinburgh the seventeenth day of March in the fourteenth year of
 the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord, George the Fifth by the Grace of God
 of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the
 British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith,
 Emperor of India, &c. and in the year of Our Lord One thousand nine-
 hundred and twenty four.



James Paul
Secretary

Incorporation of Wrights' Coat or Arms 1924

Seal of Cause
By the Provost and Magistrates
Of the City of Glasgow

In favour of

The Incorporation of Wrights

In Glasgow
3rd May 1600

Printed from the Original

This Seal of Cause is recorded as a Probative Writ in the
Books of Council and Session, 20th October 1840.

TO ALL AND SINDRY quhorñ It efferis To quhais knowlege Thir pñt Lřes fall to cum WE Schir Mathew Steward of Mynto kny^t Prouefl of þe burght and citie of Glafgw Robert Rowat James tempill Thomas Gleñ Baillies thairof And fenatores and counfale of þe famyñ. Greting In God euirlefting.

Wittis þour vniuerfiteis That þair Comperit befor ws fittand In oure confalhou findry dayis The dekyn hedifmeñ and maifteris of þe wricht craft for Þame felfis and Þe Remanent craftifmen of Þe faid wricht craft and als glafynwrichtis boit wrichtis payntores bowaris and fawarç And prefentit to ws and oure counfale gadderit togidder Þair bill and fupplicatione. Of Þe quhilk Þe tenno^r followis in Þir wordis My Lord Proueft Baillies and worthie confale of Þis gude towne of Glasgow Onto þor^r L/ and wifdomes humelie meanis and fchawis We þor^r feruitores the Craftifmeñ of Þe wricht craft and wtheris abonevrittin Induellaris of this burght and citie Burgeffis and fremen Þairof. Thay ar to faye James Mayne wricht dekyne Williame Reid elder Robert Pettigrw Williame Miller Robert Corfs Johne Locht Martene Pettigrw George elphinftone Robert graye Henry Colquhone John pyncartoñ dauid aikin James Elphinftone Valter þoung bowar James Kyng Williame felkrig George Layng Williame reid þoungar James reid archibald reid Mungo bronfide George fcot paynto^r Adame Elphinftoñ James Allanfoñ Eduard Locht Williã þoung george graye Archibald hog James Haldañ James craufurd James cowpar boit wrytç Johne m^ccaw fawar James mure Laurens thomfon Andro Kirkuod Charles pollok williarne graye fawar James mayne þoungar archibald fotherland Williame elphinftoune And Remanēt fremen of þe faidis occupatiounes. That quhair of auld oure craftis was Joynt togidder In ane Letter of dekynheid with Þe mafones and wtheris Þair adherentis At Þe quhilk tyme thair was nocht fik nūber of caftifmeñ Induellaris In Þis towne as Þai ar pñtlie And for evading of confufione of Þe multitude Þairof And considerand wther Incōuenientis croppin In amang ws In a Þat Þe faid mafones culd no^t Juge vpone oure work nor we vpone Þairis perfytlie, and fecluding of ptialite Þat Þai micht have to Þairis as we to oure

To all and sundry to whom it concerns, to whose knowledge these present letters shall come, We, Sir Mathew Stewart of Minto, Provost of the burgh and City of Glasgow, Robert Rowat, James Temple, Thomas Glen, bailies thereof, and senators and council of the same. Greeting in God ever-lasting.

Know all and sundry That there compared before us, sitting in our council-house sundry days, the Deacon, headmen, and masters of the Wright Craft, for themselves and the remaining craftsmen of the said Wright Craft, and also Glazing-wrights, Boat-wrights, Painters, Bowyers, and Sawyers, and presented to us and our Council gathered together, their bill and supplication, of which the tenor follows in these words: My Lord Provost, Bailies, and worthy Council of this good town of Glasgow, unto your Lordship and wisdoms, humbly means and shews, We, your servants, the craftsmen of the Wright Craft, and others above written, indwellers of this burgh and city, burgesses and freemen thereof, they are to say, James Main, wright, Deacon, William Reid, elder, Robert Pettigrew, William Miller, Robert Cross, John Locht, Martin Pettigrew, George Elphinstone, Robert Gray, Henry Colquhoun, John Pinkerton, David Aikin, James Elphinstone, Walter Young, bowyer, James King, William Selkrig, George Laing, William Reid, younger, James Reid, Archibald Reid, Mungo Brownside, George Scott, painter, Adam Elphinstone, James Allanson, Edward Locht, William Young, George Gray, Archibald Hog, James Haldane, James Crawford, James Cowper, boat-wrights, John M'Caw, sawyer, James Muir, Lawrence Thomson, Andrew Kirkwood, Charles Pollok, William Gray, sawyer, James Main, younger, Archibald Sutherland, William Elphinstone, and remaining freemen of the said occupations. That where of old our crafts were joined together in one Letter of deaconry with the masons and others, their adherents, at which time there was not such a number of craftsmen indwellers in this town as there are at present. And for avoiding of confusion of the multitude thereof, and considering other inconveniences crept in among us, in that the said masons could not judge upon our work, nor we upon theirs perfectly, and without the partiality that they might have to their, and we to our craftsmen, and contentions among us if we

craftlmen and contentiones amāg ws gif we remaine togidder And þat þe cowparis quha wes in þe famyn Letter w^t ws hes be ane gude fpace biga^{ne} feparatit þame fra ws and þe faid mafones, and obtenit ane feuerall Lettir of dekinheid contenand þair flatutis and rewlis to þame felfis onlie. And we likewife feking feparatione fra þe faid^ç mafones eftir diuerfs fupplicationes gevin in be ws to ʒo^r L/ to þat effec^t and reffonyng hinc inde þanent It was fund meitast and maift rationable þa we fuld be feparatit fra þame Lyk as ʒo^r L/ Interloquuto^r paft Pairupone Ordanyng feparatione to be maid And ane pticular Letter of dekenheid contenand ra^onable ftatutis articulis & rewlis to be avyfit w^t reffonit and concludit be ʒo^r L/ þairanent In þe felf beris Thairfoir we following fur^t ʒo^r L/ Interloguuto^r ffor þe cauffs ab^o w²ttin and for þe lovyng of God almy^{ty} father fone and halie gaift the common weill to þes gude toun to þe proffett of all and sindry oure fouerane Lordis lieges repairing þairto And for þe fupport and help of oure pure deokayit brethir of craft failzeit In guddis bay^t prefent and to cum And for relief and fufftenyng of ane parte of our cōmone charges laid and to be laid vpon oure faid craft We defyre þat we may have thir articles flatutes and rewlis folloving gevin and grantit to ws be ʒo^r L/ authorities Quhairthrow gude rewlie and gyding may be amang ws and oure fucceffores of þe faid craftis bay^t maifteris and feruandis In time to cū for þe cōmone wele of þe tovne and fetting fur^twurt of ws and oure faid^ç brethre^{ne} and avoyding of confufione and Incōuenientis quhilkis In times bipaft hes bene to oure difproffet Namelie be fumptuous bancattis quhilk^ç Ilk fremā of oure craft wes wont to mak at þir entre and vpfett of þair buythis Quhilkis we ar willing to remitt and difcharge as vnprofitable In tyme cūing and alter þe famy In money quhilk wilbe lefs nor þai fpendit of befoir To be beftowit vpon oure cōmone chargeis and for fupport of oure pure dekeyit brethir of craft and to efchew pluralite and multitude quhilk generis confufioⁿ Thir articules and flatutis following ar oure reffonabill defyris Quhilkis we afk to be grantit approvin and ratifeit be ʒo^r L/ and wifdomes as follows, viž.,

Item In ye firft þat It falbe lefum to þe haill brethir of þe faid^ç craftis To cheifs þame

remain together. And that the Coopers, who were in the same Letter with us, have, by a good time bygone, separated themselves from us and the said masons, and obtained a separate Letter of deaconry, containing their statutes and rules to themselves only. And we likewise seeking separation from the said masons, after several supplications given in by us to your Lordships to that effect, and reasoning *hinc inde* thereanent, it was found meetest and most reasonable that we should be separated from them, likeas your Lordships' interlocutor passed thereupon, ordaining separation to be made, and a particular Letter of deaconry, containing reasonable statutes, articles, and rules, to be advised, written, reasoned, and concluded by your Lordships thereanent, in themselves bears. Therefore, we, following forth your Lordships' interlocutor for the causes above written, and for the loving of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, the common weal of this good town, and the profit of all and sundry our Sovereign Lord's lieges repairing thereto, and for the support and help of our poor decayed brethren of craft, failed in goods, both present and to come, and for relief and sustaining of a part of our common charges, laid and to be laid, upon our said craft, We desire that we may have these articles, statutes and rules following given and granted to us by your Lordships' authority, whereby good rule and guiding may be among us and our successors of the said craft, both masters and servants, in time to come, for the common weal of the town, and setting forward of us and our said brethren, and avoiding of confusion and inconveniences which in times bypast have been to our disprofit, namely, by sumptuous banquets, which each freeman of our craft was wont to make at their entry and upset of their booths, which we are willing to remit and discharge as unprofitable in time coming, and alter the same into money, which will be less than they spended before, to be bestowed upon our common charges, and for support of our poor decayed brethren of craft, and to avoid plurality and multitude, which create confusion. These articles and statutes following are our reasonable desires which we ask to be granted, approven and ratified by your Lordships and wisdoms as follows, viz.:

Item In the first, it shall be lawful to the whole brethren of the said craft to choose a

ane dekyn maift qualifiet and wordy ȝeirlie anys In þe ȝeir And þat þe dekyn new chofin fall have power to cheis the equall half of þe quarter maifteris And þe haill brethir of þe faid craftis to cheis the wther equal half þairof And þe faid dekyn fall cheis and noīat ane of þe twa box maifteris and þe hail brethir to cheis & noīat þe vther box maifteris ȝeirlie Quha falbe defendit be þe proueft and baillies In all þair lefum acīs and flatutis for þe cōmone weill of þis gude towne.

Item That na perfounes of þe faid ȝ craftis contenit In þis pñt Letter fett wp buy^t to work wⁱn þis citie quhill he be firft maid burges and freman of þe famyn And be examinat be thre or foure maifteris of þe faid craftis gif he be ane fufficient workman and hable to work gude and fufficient work to ferve oure fouerane Lordis lieges And paireftir befor he be admittet to fett up buitht fall pay for his wpfett as follows viȝ Gif he be ane burges and fremanis fone of þe faid citie and prenteis within þe famyn fall paye of vpfett þe fowme of five merkis money
And gif he be ane burges fone of þe towne and wes prenteis no^t wⁱn bot owtw^t þe famyn
Or gif he be ane ftrangeris fone and prenteis wⁱn þe towne Ilk ane of þame fall paye of vpsett þe fowme of ten merks money
And gif he be ane ftranger and vnfremā not beyng prenteis nor fremānis fone wⁱn þe town fall paye ye fowme of Twenty pundis money of vpsett All to be payit Incōtinent to þe box of þe faid craft to beftowit vpone þe cōmone charges of þ^r craft and to þe pure dekeyit brethir ȝ þairoff fupport Quhill fowmes beyng comparit w^t þe bancatt of auld and now In tyme cūing difchargit ar of les valo^r nor þai war befor bot redoundis to þe mair proffett of þe faid craft ȝ.

Item þat everie prenteis at his entre to þe said craft gif he be ane fremānis fone of þe faid citie fall paye the fowme ot twenty fhilling ȝ money and gif he be ane unfremānis fone he fall paye the fowme of fourty fchilling ȝ money to þe faid box to be beftowit as faid is.

Item that euery fremā of þe faid craft fall paye owklie ane fcottis pēny to þe box of

Deacon, most qualified and worthy, yearly once in the year. And that the Deacon, new chosen shall have the power to choose the equal half of the Quarter-Masters, and the whole brethren of the said crafts to choose the other equal half thereof. And the said Deacon shall choose and nominate one of the two Box-Masters, and the whole brethren to choose and nominate the other Box-Master, yearly, who shall be defended by the Provost and Bailies in all their lawful acts and statutes for the common weal of this good town.

Item That no person of the said craft, contained in this present Letter, set up booth to work within this city, until he be first made burges and freeman of the same, and be examined by three or four masters of the said crafts if he be a sufficient workman, and able to work good and sufficient work to serve our Sovereign Lord's lieges. And thereafter, before he be admitted to set up booth, shall pay for his upset as follows: viz.
If he be a burges and freeman's son of the said city and apprentice within the same, shall pay of upset the sum of five merks money. And if he be a burges' son of the town, and was apprentice within but without the same, or if he be a stranger's son, and apprentice within the town, each one of them shall pay of upset the sum of ten merks money. And if he be a stranger and unfreeman, not being apprentice nor freeman's son within the town shall pay the sum of twenty pounds money of upset. All to be paid incontinent to the box of the said craft, to be bestowed upon the common charges of their craft, and to the support of the poor decayed brethren thereof. Which sums being compared with the banquet of old, and now in time coming discharged, are of less value than they were before, but redounds more to the profit of the said crafts.

Item That every apprentice, at his entry to the said craft, if he be a freeman's son of the said city, shall pay the sum of twenty shillings money and if he be an unfreeman's son, he shall pay the sum of forty shillings money to the said box, to be bestowed as said is.

Item That every freeman of the said craft shall pay weekly one Scots penny to the

Be faid craft for fupport of Be pure and chargis foirfaidç.

Item Pat Ilk vnfremā Pat prentis maid work of Be craft to be fauld ī Be rncate valiable tuēty fs money fall paye Ilk tyme ane fcottis pēny to Be faid box & craft to be beftowit as faid is.

Item Pat ilk owtintovnes man no^t being prenteis wⁱⁿ Be towne befor he be admittet to ferve ony maifter within Be famyn falbe firft examinat gif he be able Pairto and falt bryng with him ane teftimioniall fra his maifter quhō to he was prenteis of befor and his prentefchip rwn fur^t and Pan fall paye to Be faid box at his entre and Inbuiking Be fowme of fourty fchillingç money And als fall no^t be admittitt fremā of Be faid craft quhill he have fervit fum fremā of Be towne be Be fpace of thre ȝirç þeftir.

Item, It is ftatute and ordanit Pat Ilke ane of Be faidç craftismen Pat falbe abfent (but Be dekyntis Licience) fra Be four quarter cōventionis ȝeirlie being dewlie warnit and requirit be Be officiar of Be craft fall paye ane unlaw of aucht fchillingis money and for ilk vther fmall cōuētioun for his abfens fall pay foure fchillingç to Be faid box to Be vfis foirfaidç.

Item It is ftatute and ordanit Pat na fremā of Be faid craftç fall tak ane prenteis for na fchorter fpace nor fevin ȝeir and fall have na power to tak bot ane prenteis duryng Be faidç fevin ȝeirç alanerlie And gif ony beis fundin doand in Be contrar fall paye ane new vpfett to Be box to Be vfis abonw^{ttin}.

Item It falbe lefum to Be dekynt of Be faid craft for Be cōmone wele of oure fouerane Lordis liegç to ferche and exame maid work beyng þntit to Be rncat or ony wther place And wklie Ilk fettirday eftirnone twa or three of Be wordeaft & of knowlege of Be maifterç chofin be Be dekin and maifterç to pafs and vifite all menis work gif Be famy be sufficiēt work and ftuff to ferve o^r fouerane Lordis liegis And quhair It beis fund infufficiēt to forbid Be famy vnder the pane of efcheting Pairof als oft as it beis falteis and Insufficient Þaireftir And gif Be

box of the said craft, for support of the poor and charges foresaid.

Item That every unfreeman that presents made work of the craft to be sold in the market, of value twenty shillings money, shall pay each time one Scots penny to the said box and craft, to be bestowed as said is.

Item That every out-townsman, not being apprentice within the town, before he be admitted to serve any master within the same, shall first be examined if he be able thereto and shall bring with him a testimonial from his master to whom he was apprentice before, and his apprenticeship run forth, and then shall pay to the said box at his entry and inbooking the sum of forty shillings money. And also shall not be admitted freeman of the said craft until he has served some freeman of the town by a space of three years thereafter.

Item It is statute and ordained that each one of the said craftsmen that shall be absent (except by the Deacon's licence) from the four quarter conventions yearly, being duly warned and required by the officer of the craft, shall pay a fine of eight shillings money and for every other small convention for his absence shall pay four shillings to the said box, to the uses foresaid.

Item It is statute and ordained, that no freeman of the said crafts shall take an apprentice for a shorter time than seven years and shall have no power to take but one apprentice during the said seven years only. And if any be found doing in the contrary shall pay a new upset to the box, to the uses above written.

Item It shall be lawful to the Deacon of the said craft, for the common weal of our Sovereign Lord's lieges, to search and examine made work, being presented to the market or any other place. And weekly, every Saturday afternoon, two or three of the worthiest and most experienced of the masters, chosen by the Deacon and Masters, to pass and visit all men's work, if the same be sufficient work and stuff to serve our Sovereign Lord's lieges. And where it is found insufficient, to forbid the same, under the pain of forfeiting thereof as often as it is faulty and insufficient

dekyn be negligent in doying þof he to be puneift be ane vnlaw of faxtene fchillingꝝ money to the baillies.

Item It is flatute and ordanit þat na maifter of þe faid craft tak ane wther mānis feruand or his prenteis without he have licence of his maifter quhome he fervit befor and onto þe tyme he have maid full reknyng and paymēt of his Intromiffione w' his maifters gudꝝ quhairw^t he Intromittit And gif ony dois In þe contrar fall paye to þe box the fowme of twēty fchillingꝝ money and aucht fchillingꝝ to þe baillies.

Item It is flatute and ordanit þat it fall no^t be lefum to na ftranger nor owtintownes mā to fell ony maid work w^tin þe faid citie bot. onlie oñ monondayis (rīcat fair dayis being except) and gif ony dois in þe contrar and being forbiddin of befor the ferd pt of þe faid maid work to be efchetit þe half þof to þe baillies and þe vther half to þe faid dekin and brethir of craft.

Item gif ony man of ye faid craftꝝ duelland w^tin þe towne and burgh difobeys þe faid dekyn or his officiar In ony of þe pointis foirfaidꝝ or ony wther fstatutis and ac̄tis to be maid þe faid craft concernyng þe weill of þe towne and craft or In executione of þair office fall paye ane new vpsett to þe box to þe faid craft and fourty fchillingꝝ money to þe baillies of þe towne als oft as þair beis ony tryit culpabill and fund giltie þairof be þe brethir of þe faid craft be þair decrete and proueft and baillies autorite Interponit þairto.

Item It is flatute and ordanit þat þe officiare of þe faid craft accūpaneit w^t ane officiar of þe towne hawand cōmand of ane of þe baillies þairof fall have powar to poynd and difrenzey for þe dewiteis and vnlawis abone vrittin conforme to þis erec̄tione and In default of payment w^t power to þame to cloifs þe dettourꝝ or difobeyaris buy^t vyndois onto þe tyme þai mak payment and fatiffac̄tione as becūis As alfua þat þe faid dekyn and maifleris of craft with þe avife of þe beft and worthiaft of the famyn craft fall have power to mak ac̄tis and fstatutis to þair awin craftꝝ for þe cōmone

thereafter. And if the Deacon be negligent of his duty therein, he to be punished by a fine of sixteen shillings money to the baillies.

Item It is statute and ordained that no master of the said craft take another man's servant, or his apprentice, without he have license of his master whom he served before, and unto the time he has made full reckoning and payment of his intromissions with his master's goods with which he intromitted. And if any do in the contrary shall pay to the box the sum of twenty shillings money, and eight shillings to the baillies.

Item It is statute and ordained, that it shall not be lawful to any stranger nor out-townsman to sell any made work within the said city but only on Mondays (market fair-days being excepted) and if any do the contrary, and being forbidden of before, the fifth part of the said made work to be forfeited, the half thereof to the baillies, and the other half to the said Deacon and brethren of craft.

Item If any man of the said craft, dwelling within the town and burgh, disobeys the said Deacon or his officer in any of the points foresaid, or any other statutes or acts to be made by the said craft concerning the weal of the town and craft, or in execution of their office, shall pay a new upset to the box of the said craft, and forty shillings money to the baillies of the town, as often as there are any tried culpable and found guilty thereof by the brethren of the said craft by their decreet, and by the Provost's and Bailies' authority interponed thereto.

Item It is statute and ordained that the officer of the said craft, accompanied with an officer of the town, having command of one of the baillies thereof, shall have power to poind and distrain for the duties and fines above written, conform to this erection and in default of payment, with power to them to close the debtors' or offenders' booth windows unto the time they make payment and satisfaction as becomes. As also, that the said Deacon and Masters of craft, with the advice of the best and worthiest of the same craft, shall have power to make acts

welle and proffett of þe faid bur^t and citie and fupport of þair pure dekeyit brethrene In all tymes cūing as efferis and becūis þame to do.

Item It is flatute and ordainit þat nane of þe faid craftifmen fall hald ony ma feit fervendis nor ane fra ȝeir to ȝeir continualie in his houfhold by his prenteis

Item It fall nocht be lefum to na perfounes to fell mak nor work ony kind of work of þe faid work and craftis wⁱn þis citie Except þai be firft fre w^t þe towne and nixt w^t þe faid craft And gif þai do In þe contrar to cum to þe baillies to obtene ane officiar direc^t to difcharge þame and caufs þame fynd cautione to abftene þairfra.

Item It is flatute and ordanit þat It fall no^t be lefum to na ftranger prenteis within þe towne eftir the owtrȳnyng of his prentefchip to be admittit to be fremā w^t þe faid craft quhill he firft ferve with ane fremā of þe towne be þe fpace of twa ȝeiris þaireftir.

Item for avoiding of confufione amangis þe brethir of þe faid craftis In tyme cūing It is flatute and ordanit þat nane of þe faid^z craftis fall work ony laubo^r or work Bot þat quhill he was foundit prenteis with at his beginyng Providing allways gif ony of þe towne hes occafione of ony labo^r or work of þe faid craftis and can no^t have fremen of þat craft to vfe and ferve þair laubo^r for þe tyme In þat cafe It falbe lefum to ony townifmā to tak ony craftifman fre or vnfre þat þai please to do and mak þair work and laubo^r for þe tyme.

Item ferder It is ftatute and ordanit þat þe dekyng of þe faid craft fall caufs oppinlie reid this erec^tione ȝeirlye four tymes in þe ȝeir in þair quarter cōuētionēs To þe haill breþir of craft fua þ^t þai maye have knowlege þair-of In tymes cūing.

QUHILKIS ftatutes, articulis and Rewlis abonev^ttin being oftymes hard red vnderftandit and maturlye avifit w^t and confididerit þai fand firft to the glorie of god

and ftatutes for their own craft, for the common weal and profit of the said burgh and city, and support of their poor decayed brethren in all time coming, as behoves and becomes them to do.

Item It is statute and ordained, that none of the said craftsmen shall have any more hired servants from one year to year continually in his household besides his apprentice.

Item It shall not be lawful to any persons to sell, make, or work any kind of work of the said work and crafts within this city, except they be first free with the town, and next with the said craft. And if they do in the contrary, to come to the Bailies to obtain an officer directed to discharge them and cause them find caution to abstain therefrom.

Item It is statute and ordained, that it shall not be lawful to a stranger apprentice within the town, after the expiration of his apprenticeship, to be admitted to be freeman with the said craft until he first serve with a freeman of the town by the space of two years thereafter.

Item For avoiding confusion among the brethren of the said crafts in time coming, it is statute and ordained, that none of the said crafts shall work any labour or work but that which he was bound apprentice with at his beginning. Providing always, if any of the town has occasion of any labour or work of the said crafts, and cannot have freemen of that craft to use and serve their labour for the time, in that case it shall be lawful for any townsman to take any craftsman, free or unfree, that they please, to do and make their work and labour for the time.

Item Farther, it is statute and ordained, that the Deacon of the said craft shall cause openly read this erection yearly, four times in the year, in their quarter conventions to the whole brethren of craft, so that they may have knowledge thereof in time coming.

WHICH statutes, articles, and rules above written being frequently heard, read, understood, and maturely advised with and considered, they found first, to the glory of

<p>Pe cōmone wele of oure foverane lordis liegis and als of Pe faid burght and citie and for gude rewle In tyme cūing to be had amangis Pe faid craftifmen and to be proffet of Pame and Pair pure dekeyit brethir of craft and relief of ane parte of Pair cōmone chargis We the faidis Proueft Baillies and confale hes Ratifeit apprevit grantit and confermit as be Pe tenore heiroy Ratifeis apprevit grantis and confermis for ws and oure fuceffores Pe fadis articles and rewlis In all and findry poyntis and heidis abonvritten to Pe faidis craftifmeñ and Pair fuceffores craftifmen of Pe faid craftis In perpetuall memorie In time cūing Promifand fa^lfullie to fortife and to defend Pame panent be ws oure fuceffories and officiar^l for Pe tyme And their premiffis to all and findry quhome It efferis we mak manifest and knawin Be thir oure l^res To Pe quihilkis In witnes and for verificatione of Pe famyn our cōmone feale to Pe faid citie w^t our fubfcriptiones and oure fcribe of courte as eftir followis Is to hungin In oure faid confalhous and tolbuy^t of Gla^gow the Thrid day of Maij The 3^eir of God Ane thoufand and sax hundred 3^eiris. And atto^r It is ftatute Pat gif Pe faid Dekin and maifter^l of craft beis negligent and omittis to try Pe faltis abonv^ttin at cōuenient tymes as is fet down Pai fall paye ane vnlaw of ten lib money to Pe pueft & baillies of Pe towne als oft as Pai be fund negligent Pairinto. Mathew ftewart of myto k^t proweft Robert rowat baillie James Tempil baillie Thomas Glen baillie James ftewart John Anderfon Dauid Hall Will3^e f^ym^ur William Wallace W Flemyng Thomas pettegrew James braiduid Johne Scott baxt^o Johne Mwir James lyeoñ Thomas mu^r J Forret Mathew trumble Alex^r baillie Archibald faullis Robert Adem Johne Woddrop John Rechie.</p>	<p>God, the common weal of our Sovereign Lord's lieges, and also of the said burgh and city, and for good order in time coming to be had among the said craftsmen, and to the profit of them and their poor decayed brethren of craft and relief of a part of their common charges. We, the said Provost, Bailies, and Council, have ratified, approved, granted, and confirmed, as by the tenor hereof ratifies approves, grants, and confirms for us and our successors, the said articles and rules in all and sundry points and heads above written, to the said craftsmen and their successors, craftsmen of the said crafts in perpetual memory in time coming. Promising faithfully to warrant and defend them thereanent by us, our successors and officers for the time. And these premises to all and sundry whom it concerns, we make manifest and known by these our letters, to which, in witness and for verification of the same, our common seal of the said city, with our subscriptions, and our scribe of court as after follows, is appended in our said council house and tolbooth of Glasgow, the third day of May, the year of God one thousand and six hundred years. And farther, it is statute, that if the said Deacon and Masters of craft are negligent and omit to try the faults above written at convenient times, as is set down, they shall pay a fine of ten pounds money to the Provost and Bailies of the town as often as they are found negligent therein. Matthew Stewart of Minto, knight, provost, Robert Rowat, bailie, James Temple, bailie, Thomas Glen, bailie, James Stewart, John Anderson, David Hall, William Seymour, William Wallace, W Fleming, Thomas Pettigrew, James Braidwood, John Scott Baxter, John Muir, James Lyon, Thomas Muir, J. Forret, Matthew Turnbull, Alexander Baillie, Archibald Faullis, Robert Adam, John Woddrop, John Ritchie.</p>
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Ita est Henricus Gibfon notarius ac communis fcriba burgi et civitatis Gla^guenfis pro me ipfo necnon de mandato Jacobi Craufurde Willielmi fpreull et Willielmi fymfone ac Willielmi Muir confulum nefcientium fcribere manibus fuis ad hoc ca- lamum tangentium manu propria fub fcribitur.



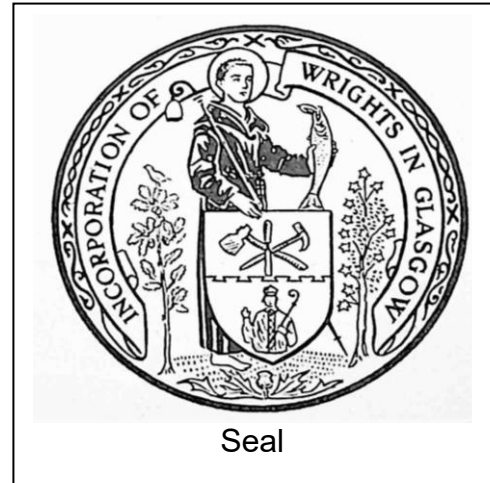
The Seal of Cause bears that it was granted on the petition of "*The Deacon, Headmen, and Masters of the Wright Craft, for themselves, and the remaining craftsmen of the said Wright Craft, and also Glazing-wrights, Boat-wrights, Painters, Bowyers and Sawyers.*" These other crafts do not appear, however, to have submitted themselves at once to the authority of the Wrights. At least, in the case of the Painters, it was not until 1696 after the lapse of nearly a hundred years, that they did so. On the 17th of September of that year it is recorded on the narrative, "*that by the Ancient Charters and rights of the said Incorporation that the Painters depend thereupon, and are subject to the laws, rules and constitutions thereof; that William Waddell, Archibald Crawford and John Dempster*", the only painters now in Glasgow, appeared before the Master Court and members of the Incorporation and submitted: "*and hereby submit themselves to the whole laws, rules and constitutions of the said Incorporation, made and to be made.*"

A few days afterwards, on the 24th of September, Thos. Craw and Robert Crawford, plasterers in Glasgow, also appeared and 'submitted' themselves as the painters did. In 1804 William Cairney was admitted a freeman of the Incorporation as a glazier but was debarred from exercising any other branch of the trade than that of a glazier, until he should have made and reported a sufficient essay as a Wright. In 1840 his three sons were admitted under the same restrictions. In 1839 James McClure was admitted as a carver and gilder.

The earliest roll of members extant is for the year 1687 and on this the names of 58 members are recorded. Another roll from 1700 shows a membership of 61, one for 1730 increases the number to 86 but in 1786 the extraordinary addition of 296 was made. This took place shortly before the election of a Clerk and it is too apparent that the object was to create votes. Most of those enrolled must have been journeymen, i.e. not in business on their own account, and many were admitted at the near-hand and only as pendicle members.

Seal (Modern)

The Seal is also the device and composition of Captain John Cameron Black and has as the most important elements in the forefront, on a mount, the figure of St. Mungo habited as a monk with corded girdle and sandalled feet, supporting a shield bearing the arms of the Incorporation. The head of the Saint is surrounded by a nimbus, or halo, while the face is the portrait of Deacon Samuel Stevenson (1916 and 1923), who was occupying the deaconal chair for a second term at the time the Seal was designed. St. Mungo bears on his shoulder his pastoral staff or crozier, from the crook of which is



suspended an ancient Celtic bell representing the bell of St. Mungo, used in Glasgow over many centuries to announce publicly the decease of prominent craftsmen and other citizens. In his left hand he grasps a salmon which in its mouth holds the legendary ring of Queen Languedoth, the story of whose frailty is interwoven in the city arms. Further, the salmon is the badge of the See of Glasgow, and the early symbol of baptism. It is also an example of what is termed canting heraldry, having joking reference to Deacon Stevenson's exploits as an angler.

Springing from the mount there is depicted on the dexter side of the Saint an oak sapling, leaved and bearing acorns, and having the legendary robin perched on top. On his sinister side is a young hawthorn, leaved and flowered, and at his feet is growing a thistle slipped. The saplings bear reference to the miracle ascribed to St. Mungo, who taking from the ground a broken, withered and frozen branch, caused it, by his love and words to bud and bloom afresh. Some monkish chroniclers say that the branch was of oak, others that it was of hawthorn, therefore both have been used to apply the symbol. Just as St. Mungo by his words and love revived the broken branch, withered and perishing from frost and neglect, so does the Incorporation by its help and care revivify and cherish those who may be broken by misfortune and chilled by decay. The robin is emblematic of that confident friendliness for which the Craft is notably conspicuous.

On a ribbon, scroll-wise, is borne the legend "INCORPORATION OF WRIGHTS IN GLASGOW," while outside the ribbon is introduced a scheme of Celtic tracery having the cross of St. Andrew at three points - the tracery to indicate the Celtic origin of the city, the St. Andrew's cross and thistle to betoken its nationality.

Entrants

A distinction has always been made between far-hand and near-hand entrants. Near-hand entrants are sons/daughters or sons/daughters-in-law of members already on the roll, and their freedom fines or entry-monies are much less than those enacted for far-hand entrants or strangers.

Grandchildren are not now admitted as near-hand entrants, but at one time they were, on payment of double freedom fines.

An entrant is not entitled to vote until he or she has been a year and a day in the

Incorporation. This rule was first passed in 1790, and it was evidently the result of what took place at the time of an election of a Clerk in 1786. On the 20th of October of that year Mr George Crawford, senior, was appointed Clerk, and judging from the fact that on the 16th, 18th and 19th of the same month 296 members were admitted, the competition for the appointment had been keen. The minutes of the meeting on 26th November 1790 at which the “*year and day*” rule was adopted, bear that the Deacon represented “*the great evil which arises to Corporations by admitting members in the view only of having their vote on a canvass in the trade.*”

An entrant, on taking the oath and subscribing the roll, is asked to shake hands with each member of the Court, who addresses him/her thus: - “*I wish you a penny “won,”*” or, “*A penny win ye,*” - a valedictory expression, wishing him/her success in the Craft.

Members

Prior to the Burgh Trading Act of 1846, by which all trade monopolies were abolished, the members were divided into two classes - Pendicles, and Freeman or Operative members. A Freeman was one who, having paid his freedom fine, and qualified by taking the *oath de fideli*, had also “*made and reported a “sufficient essay.”*” He was then entitled to exercise the trade within the bounds of the city. A Pendicle member, on the other hand, was one who had not made an essay, and his only disqualification apparently was that he was debarred from exercising the trade until he had made an essay. Pendicle members are not now admitted. Every applicant is called upon to make an essay or pay a fine of five pounds in lieu thereof, and having otherwise qualified in terms of the By-laws, he/she becomes a full member. But the practice of admitting Pendicle members continued until 1876. In the last recorded instance, the minute bears that the applicant “*wished to be qualified as a Pendicle member, and having taken and subscribed the usual declaration, was duly qualified as such, but is debarred from voting for a year and day,*” In this case the applicant did not make an essay or pay a fine.

In bygone days it was not safe to call a member a “*Pendicle,*” as Robert Dickie found to his cost. On 16th March 1673, Dickie was brought before the Deacon Convener’s Court, accused of calling the Deacon, Alexander Dainzell, “*and other honest men of the trade bot pendicles, with severall other railling, vilifieing, and threatening expressions.*”

The Court found “*that these expressions were licklie to rander the most creditable members contemptible,*” and it fined Dickie “*in the sowme of twentie merkis scotis, and declaires heirby that the said Robert sall never have any office in the said tred or any place of trust or voyce therin heirefter; and sicklyk proheibitis and discharges any of the members of the said calling, directlie or indirectlie, to call any of the members of ther calling pendicles, or use any vilifying expressions against them, under the paine of a fine of five pounds Scots, and of being disqualified to hold office.*”

At all events no distinction was made between a Freeman and a Pendicle in the matter of voting. Both, on being admitted were debarred in the same terms from voting for a year and day.

The Essay

According to the By-laws no one can hold office in the Trade “*unless he has made an Essay, or paid five pounds in place of making one.*”

The Essay of the present day is that described in By-law 15. Formerly, in terms of a minute dated 24th February 1792, it was: - “*Of a window, not less than two and one-half feet square the broad, six lozens and beeded. A bound shutter four feet high, and fourteen inches broad, beeded. A knife box, fifteen inches long at the top, and bevelled both ways, by ten inches, and not below four and one-half inches deep. A footstool sixteen inches square; and if a bound door, six feet high and two feet and one-half foot broad, not less than three panels. All to be made from rough wood in the Essay Room.*”

The Essay House

On the 26th of November, 1781, it is minuted that the Master Court, “*having taken into consideration the present insufficient state of the Trade’s Essay House, and in order to prevent fraudulent Essays in time coming, agreed, by a vote that the door of said Essay House shall be sufficiently secured with a new lock of four throws, with a key to each throw; and that each of the four Essay Masters be possessed of one of the said keys; as also that the windows and ventheads be grated in a sufficient manner, to prevent access thereto.*”

This resolution was duly carried out, as on 6th August 1782, the sum of £1 2s. was paid for “*two new locks, with four keys, to the Essay House;*” and, on the 17th of the same month, a mason was paid five shillings for building up the Chimney.

An Essay House is not now kept by the Incorporation, but an applicant who wishes to make an Essay is accommodated in the workshop of some member of the Incorporation.

Quarter Accounts

Members must purchase exemption from “*Quarter Accounts*” by an immediate payment of £1. It may be interesting, therefore, to inquire what Quarter Accounts originally were.

By the Seal of Cause it is enacted, “*that every freeman of the said Craft shall pay weekly one Scots penny to the box of the said Craft for support of the poor and charges foresaid.*” This was afterwards made an annual charge of 1/-.

This poor money was in addition to an “*upset*” or a freedom fine, payable on admission, and was collected at the “*four quarter conventions yearly,*” which every craftsman was ordained to attend. In this way, it is thought, the contributions of the freemen for the poor became known as Quarter Accounts. Such, at least, is very much the explanation given by Dr. W. H. Hill in his Annals of the Skinners’ craft, regarding the use of the same term in that corporation.

Noteworthy Members

James Colquhoun

Who was Deacon in 1634, was a person of some importance in the City. He made the first fire-engine used in Glasgow; and was consulted by the Town Council on such various subjects as the roofing of the Cathedral, mending the letters of the "*hail horologis*" for the better knowing of the "*houris*," the "*painting and fixing of the townes armes*," and the conveying of water "*from the Bogils Well to the Hie Street*."

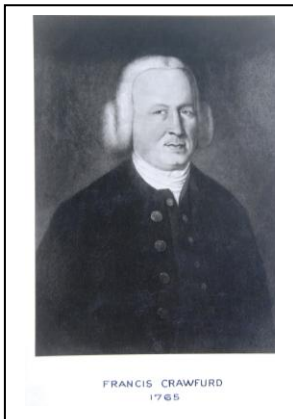
Robert Dreghorn



Who was Deacon in 1735, and again in 1740, was a prominent man in his day. He died in 1742 and was succeeded in his business by his eldest son, Allan, who must have carried it on to some purpose, for, as early as 1749, he bought the estate of Ruchill; and, in 1752, drove in his own carriage, the first private carriage known in Glasgow. His house, known in Glasgow history as the "*Dreghorn Mansion*", was on the Clyde-side, at the foot of the Stockwell.

Mr Robert Dreghorn's other son, Robert, became a successful merchant and shipowner, and the proprietor of Blochairn. His son acquired an unenviable notoriety and was well known in the City as "*Bob Dragon*."

Mr Francis Crawford



Who was Deacon Convener in 1765, was a Wright, and, in many respects, a noteworthy man. He carried the colours of the Glasgow Volunteers at the battle of Falkirk, on 17th January 1746. He had twenty children, the youngest of whom was Mr George Crawford, Writer, who was Clerk to the Incorporation from 1786 to 1822; and whose son, Mr George Crawford, latterly Clerk to the Peace and Clerk to the Trades' House, was also Clerk to the Incorporation from 1822 to 1831. A son of the latter, Mr James Crawford, a retired member of the Bengal Civil Service, qualified as a member on 1st November 1893. Mr Francis Crawford died while in office as Deacon Convener. In the *Glasgow Journal* of 5th December 1765, it is stated that he was buried in the High Churchyard, and that his funeral was attended by all the corporations, who "*walked in procession, each trade by itself, attended by their officers*." He had as a partner another well-known citizen, Bailie Wm. Craig of the Water Port, who was held in high esteem by the Craft, judging from the fact that, on 17th of October 1769, the Court resolved to invite him to an "*Entertainment*."

Ninian Glen

Deacon Convener in 1785 and 1786, and a Bailie of the City, was noted as a keen politician and partisan. He was known as "*Ringan*" Glen. Apparently in his earlier years he gave the Court considerable cause for offence. On the 4th of October 1764, it is minuted that the Clerk was consulted "*as to raising a process against Ninian Glen, one of the members, for scandalising the trade*." His workshop and timber yard were off the Candleriggs.

Dr James Cleland



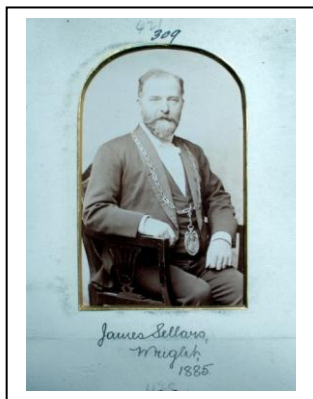
The author of "*The Annals of Glasgow*," and an eminent Statist in his day, was admitted a Pendicle member at the near hand on the 16th of October, 1786, in the 17th year of his age. His father was John Cleland, Wright, who was Deacon in 1791, and the first honorary member to be elected to the Master Court. Having made an essay, he was admitted a full or Operative member on 28th August 1788. The next two years he spent in London. On his return he entered into business with his father, and very soon forced his way into public notice. In 1794 he was elected Collector of the Incorporation; in 1796 he was Deacon; in 1800 he was in the Town Council; in 1804 he was Chief Magistrate of Gorbals; in 1806 he was a Bailie of Glasgow; in 1809 he was a Deacon Convener; in 1812 he was Treasurer of the City; and in 1814 he became Superintendent of Public Works, - an office which he held until 1834. In 1826, in recognition of his fame as a Statist, the University of Glasgow conferred upon him the degree of LL.D.; and on his retiral from office in 1834, his fellow-citizens presented him with the property at the corner of Buchanan Street and Sauchiehall Street, known as "*The Cleland Testimonial*." The amount subscribed towards this was £4,600.

His eldest son, John Cleland jun., was admitted a Pendicle member on 30th August 1811; and afterwards a full or Operative member on 14th October 1813.

Henry Bell

The pioneer of Steam Navigation, joined the Incorporation on 20th October 1797, and made the usual Trade Essay.

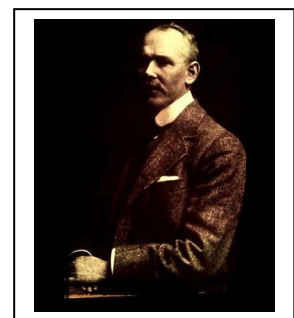
James Sellars, F.R.I.B.A., F.R.I.A.S.



Known as "The Wee Troot", Architect of many famous buildings in Glasgow including St. Andrew's Halls, Bank of Scotland Chambers, George Square, Kelvinside Academy, Glasgow Herald Building, Buchanan Street, Victoria Infirmary, Couper Institute, Cathcart, Hillhead Parish Church and many others. He won the 1888 Exhibition Competition. Joined the Incorporation in 1878 and was Deacon in 1885.

Sir William Burrell

Shipbroker, 1861-1958. In 1900 he became a member of the Royal Glasgow Institute of Fine Arts, was Trustee of the National Gallery of British Art and from 1933 to 1946 was one of the Trustees of National Gallery of Scotland. He received a Knighthood in 1927. In 1944 he presented the City of Glasgow with £1m. in Art Treasures. In June 1948 he gifted another £200,000 towards the cost of a building to house the Burrell Collection which is now



located at Pollok Park, Pollokshaws Road, Glasgow.

He joined the Incorporation in 1881.

Sir William Arrol

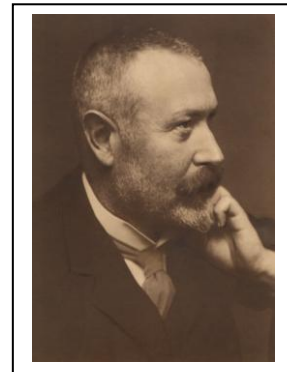


Born Houston, Renfrewshire on 11th February 1839 - died 20th February 1913. He was a builder. He became senior partner in Dalmarnock Iron Works. One of his first important tasks was the Caledonian Railway Company's Bridge over the Clyde at Bothwell. He built the Forth Bridge and Tower Bridge over the Thames.

Joined the Incorporation in 1882.

John Keppie F.R.I.B.A.

John Keppie was chief draughtsman to Cambell, Douglas and Sellars and on Sellar's death left to become Honeyman's partner and subsequently Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh (Charles Rennie Mackintosh). The firm continued as Keppie, Henderson and Partners. He completed the Anderson College of Medicine after Sellar's death. John Keppie was the Architect of Fairfield Shipbuilding Offices and also the Glasgow Herald Building, Mitchell Street and others with C. R. Mackintosh.



Joined the Incorporation in 1889 and was Deacon in 1906.

Harry T Benzies



President of the Scottish Master Wrights and Builders Association 1927 and President of the Scottish Building Employers Federation from 1942 to 1944, was one of the principal authors of the Scottish Mode of Measurement of 1924.

Joined the Incorporation in 1908 and was Deacon in 1927. Father of James D. Benzies, O.B.E., F.C.I.O.B., who followed him as President of the Association from 1947 to 1949 Deacon of the Incorporation in 1960 and as President of the Federation from 1962 to 1964. Awarded the O.B.E. in 1982 for services to the Building Industry over many years.

Sir Andrew H. Pettigrew

Chairman of Pettigrew & Stephens the former well known Department Store, in Sauchiehall Street which was taken over by the House of Fraser.

Joined the Incorporation in 1925.

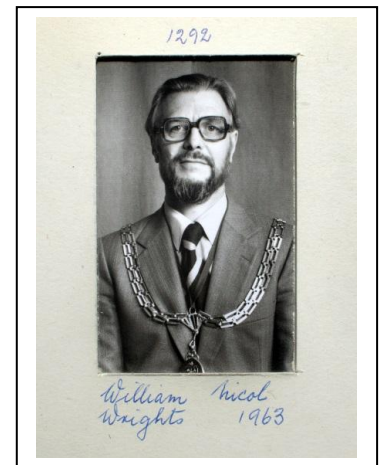
Sir Francis James Grant, K.C.V.O., LL.D.



Lord Lyon King of Arms and Secretary to the Thistle 1929 to 1945. On duty at Coronations of King Edward VII, George V and George VI and at Funeral of George V, 1936. Author, co-author and editor of 62 volumes on Heraldry, Genealogy and Records. Died 17th February 1953. Joined the Incorporation in 1930.

William Nicol, C.B.E., B.Sc., F.C.I.O.B.

President of the Scottish Master Wrights and Builders Association from 1953 to 1954. President of the Scottish Building Employers Federation in 1969 and again in 1972. He was awarded the C.B.E. for services to the Building Industry and in particular for his services to apprenticeship, training and education in the industry over a period of many years. Chairman of the College Council of Glasgow College of Building and Printing for fourteen years. Governor of Jordanhill College of Education from 1959 to 1967. Joined the Incorporation in 1939 and was Deacon in 1963. He was appointed an Honorary Member of the Master Court in 1988.



John Lawrence

Started in building in 1911 as a Joiner. By 1923 he had put together enough capital to launch his own business and became probably the largest builder in Scotland. He was also a Director and Chairman of Rangers Football Club. He died on 26th January 1977, aged 82. Joined the Incorporation in 1950.

H. Stewart Mackintosh (Dr.)

Director of Education in Glasgow from 1944 to 1968. As a Scottish Rugby International he won 16 Caps. Taught at Allan Glen's School before being appointed Director of Education at Aberdeen. Joined the Incorporation in 1957.

Sir John McDonald

Builder in Kilmardinny, husband of Lady Christina McDonald. He joined the Incorporation on 2nd March 1972.

Dr. Robert Gray, C.B.E., O.St.J., J.P., LL.D.

Lord Provost of Glasgow, from 1984 to 1988. Joined the Incorporation in 1984.

His Excellency Francesco Cossiga

Deacon Mervyn S. Hamilton had the privilege of swearing in His Excellency Francesco Cossiga, President of the Italian Republic at a Special Ceremony in the City Chambers on Sunday, 28th October 1990. The President signed the Long Roll

and was presented with a Casket containing his Burgess Ticket as a Freeman of the City of Glasgow.

The author has tried to include as many note worthy members as possible, but inevitably there will be several members who have been omitted.

Meetings

In the early history of the Incorporation the Master Court appears to have met frequently, and in many places. To take the volume of minutes which embraces the period between 1755 and 1773, we find from it that they met in "*Deacon Wotheron's*" on 9th December, 1757; that they met there again on the 20th December, 1757; that on 1st February, 1758, they met "*in the house of William Campbell;*" that on 7th March, 1758, they met in "*Deacon Paton's;*" and that on the 11th of the same month they met "*in the house of James Woodrow.*" Later, the meetings were held, as a rule, in the house of a "*Vintner,*" - an ordinary tavern or public house, - and it was seldom that two meetings were held consecutively in the same house. The Court, it is clear, distributed their favours freely and impartially.

Prior to the erection of the Trades' Hall the general meetings of the Trade were usually held in the Trades' Hospital or Alms House, which was near the High Church or Cathedral, and sometimes in the Laigh Kirk Session-house, or Tron Session-house. The Trades' Hall was completed in 1794, and the first meeting of the Incorporation in it was held on the 19th of September of that year.

The meetings, both Court and the general body of members, are now fixed by the By-laws, and they generally take place in the Trades' Hall.

Mortcloths

Mortcloths were cloths that could be used to cover a coffin or a dead body if it was only wrapped in a sheet whilst the corpse was being taken to the church or graveyard.

Families could not normally afford to purchase a mortcloth as they were not used often enough to be economically viable. The coffin or shrouded body could be driven in a hearse, if the family were wealthy, or taken in a cart or even carried by the family to the church or graveside.

In a previously published "*Historical Memoranda*" of the Incorporation it is stated, that "*Mortcloths (along with a bell) were hired out to funerals, and were made of such expensive materials that only bodies like the Incorporations and Kirk-Sessions could provide them.*" From the Collector's Book for the period from 1683 to 1727, the earliest record extant, it appears that the Wrights derived a considerable revenue from this source. There were three sizes of cloths, - the bairns' cloth, the youths' cloth, and the meikle cloth; and these were of various qualities, - the best, the second, third and fourth. The following entries, taken at random from the Collector's account for the year 1717, may be interesting: -

1717 May 1 -111 Mortcloth to John Craig, the bairns' best cloath, for one in Govan £000 12 00

May 1 - Itt ditto to Robt. Dickie, the youths' best cloath, for the use of John Fergusson, officer £000 12 00

May 4 - Itt ditto to John Symers, the 4th meikle cloath, be Deacon Hoods £000 18 00

May 10 - ltt ditto to James Muir, the bairns' best cloath, to a fflesher's bairn £000 08 00
May 11 - ltt ditto to James Hall, the meikle 3rd cloath, for a man's use in Kirkcart £001 00 00
May 11 - ltt ditto to Robert Reid, the meikle best cloath, for the use of John Glen, officer £00104 00

Until 1774 the Incorporation conducted the business on its own account. In that year it entered into partnership with the Incorporation of Tailors and Weavers and formed what was called a Mortcloth Company. In this it had nine shares for which it paid £107 15s. 0d.; the Weavers having also nine shares; and the Tailors five. The income from these shares until about 1830, amounted, on an average, to from £40 to £50 per annum, but after that year it steadily decreased, and on 12th October 1838, at a meeting of the Committee on the Mortcloths put a value of £80 on the mortcloths and Mr Chisholm (Deacon 1821) of the Incorporation of Wrights offered to pay the £80 on behalf of the Incorporation of Wrights, which was accepted by Mr Patrick (Deacon 1835) of the Incorporation of Weavers and Mr Clark (Deacon 1833) of the Incorporation of Tailors. The Mortcloth Company was therefore dissolved on 12th October 1838. The Incorporation of Wrights bought up the whole stock, paying the Weavers £31 6s. 1d. for their shares, and the Tailors £17 7s 10. for theirs. The residue of the £80 valuation was the share owned by the Incorporation of Wrights. There seems to have been some delay in the payment which took place on 10th September 1839.

In 1843 the sum of £20 was realised from the sale of part of the stock, and £1 more was realised in 1884, when the stock stood in the Collector's books at £135 8s. lid.

But in 1845 this item disappears without any explanation in the accounts or the minutes. The Incorporation has in its possession two bells, - one given by Wm. Rodger in 1809, and another marked 1824.

These could have been the "Dead Bells" used in connection with the Mortcloth business. They were known as "*Deid Bells*," "*Deid Haund Bells*," and "*Haund Deid Bells*," and were used to attract the attention of the public when the crier (probably the Trade's Officer) announced the death or funeral of a member.

The obligation to pay their mortcloth dues was rigidly enforced upon the craftsmen, and anyone failing to pay up, forfeited his right to vote or to bear office in the trade. Similarly, the use of the mortcloth was obligatory at the funeral of every deceased craftsman, and the funeral of every craftsman's deceased wife or child, else the craft would not be warned to attend the last sad office to the defunct. So likewise, was the attendance, on foot, of the craftsmen at the funeral rigidly enforced; not only as a duty to the deceased, but to the craft as well, and no excuse for unlawful absence, after having been duly warned by the craft's officer, was accepted. The penalty of four shillings, for the benefit of the craft poor, was imposed without privilege of appeal, and that ended the matter. The craft's officer warned all members of the craft to attend the funeral, and the brethren had to meet at the house where the body of the deceased lay and after sundry refreshments, liquid as to nature, and unstinted as to measure, "*convoy*" the '*corp*', to "*ye kirkyeird*." No half-way *convoy* was countenanced, for, "*qvha cvmis mid-gait, or, half-gait, or be ye gait, sail be as cvlpable as gif he war absente*" decreed the Weavers' Master Court so early as 1595.

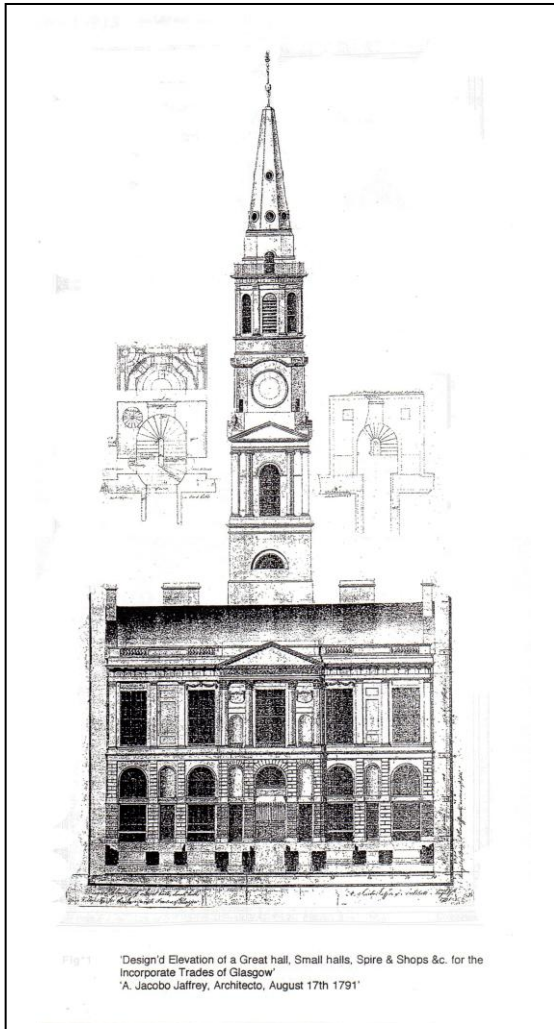
This obligation rested upon every freeman of craft and extended to the funeral of a craftsman's wife or child. Yet notwithstanding the issue of edict after edict, threatening dire penalties on those freemen who absented themselves from funerals without legitimate cause, and the rigid imposition of the statutory penalties whenever possible, the problem of absenteeism existed to a considerable degree.

After dissolution, the body of the deceased would, until the coffin arrived, be '*streikit*,' that is, placed upon a board - often a door-termed a '*streetchin brod*,' placed on the bed, whereon the deceased died, or upon two trestles. The coffin having arrived, it would be set upon a coffin table, and then would follow the grand ceremony of '*kistin*,' or coffining, to witness which, and to partake of the '*deid-meit*' or refreshment, mostly of a spiritual '*nature*' appropriate to the occasion, it was customary for many years prior to the opening decade of the 19th century, to invite all the male and female friends of the departed, for which friends gifts of fine kid gloves would be laid out on a table for their selection and acceptance. The '*kistin*' over, and the lid screwed down, the elaborate mortcloth was then, with much ceremony, spread over the coffin as a mantle, and thus in state the body rested for a day or two.

The day of burial having arrived, the company assembled for the '*liftin*,' and to partake of further liquid refreshment before moving off, no small affair, for by the end of the 18th century it had become no uncommon thing for as many as fifteen hundred invitations to a funeral to be sent out in Glasgow, while to those of the better class it was customary to invite the Provost and Magistrates, indeed, the whole town council. The ladies usually took places in the funeral procession, walking behind the corpse, dressed in coloured clothes cut in high-necked fashion. If the last journey was to the '*Hie Kirkyeird*,' the procession would almost certainly be headed by two or more sable-clad *saulies* wearing hats of a hunting fashion, and carrying black batons in their hands, while the bell of the Crafts' Hospital clattered out a requiem for the deceased.

Whether the place of interment was the '*Hie Krikyeird*' of Glasgow, or some lonely country God's acre many miles distant, the mode of transport was the same. The body in its elaborate mortcloth-covered coffin was, if that of a person of the highest rank, borne to the grave shoulder high; all others, except the very poor, were carried on a bier, or on two poles termed '*handspokes*,' usually of ash, about two and a half inches square, for a distance of some three feet in the middle, and thence rounded to the ends to afford an easy grip for the bearers' hands. These handspokes were sufficiently long to permit two bearers to use both hands, at either end. The bearers were changed in relays as the journey to the burial place progressed, many halts intervening to partake of the cup that cheers, if the way was long and hilly; the funeral undertaker, usually a Wright, being chief master of ceremonies. Dr. Strang is typical of the work of Mr. Lohead, coffin-maker in the Saltmarket, He was an elder of the College Church, as an example of the busy old Glasgow undertaker of his time. This worthy rarely discarded his habiliments of woe. He made the coffin, supervised the funeral, asked the blessing, and served the company with the '*deid-meit*'".

Trades' Halls



The Incorporation of Wrights initially had a large say in the design of the Trades' Halls when after much analysis it was agreed that the vacant ground in Glassford Street was the most suitable and cost effective for their purposes. The Wrights can rightly claim to have had a major role in the creation of the new Trades' Hall as the ground was purchased from William Horn, Deacon in 1769 and a member of the Incorporation of Wrights

On 18th May 1791, it was agreed to approach architect Mr. James Jaffray (Deacon of the Wrights in 1780) and to ask him to prepare plans to enable estimates to be made for the building of the Trades' Halls. Mr Jaffray prepared plans and the one with a spire was preferred.

Incorporations were asked to review them and report back their views.

The Incorporation of Masons proposed that two other architects should be approached, and Robert Adam's design was viewed as the best.

Note:

"James Jaffray or Jeffray or Jeffrey, was the son of Alexander Jaffray. He was a Wright and was admitted a burghess of Glasgow in 1777 and Deacon of the Wrights in 1780. In the Glasgow directory of 1787, he appears as an "*architect, cabinet-maker and house wright*" and in the directory for 1790-91 simply as "*architect*".

These Halls were completed in 1794, at a cost of £7,207; but they have since been largely added to or altered, making the total cost about £25,000. The original contribution of the Wrights towards the cost of the land was £75 16s 8p and a total after the build of £356 11s.

The Incorporation of Wrights were in at the designing of the new Trades' Hall and during its construction as in May 1792 estimates for the building of the new Trades' Hall were received as follows:

- *William Purdie, Wright in Glasgow, who offered to build the hall, and deliver the keys, except the two wings or shops for £4,747 15s.*
- *John Brown, Wright, offered to do the same work and the wings including all ornaments for £5006.*
- *Mr Adam, Architect, who offered to contract the same exclusive of wings for £5106 18s.*

So, two of the three people who applied to build the Trades' Hall were Wrights and John Brown was not the cheapest, but in the middle.

In September 1795, the Convener produced a letter from Mr John Brown regarding the Retiring Rooms which were now finished and requesting the House to name some tradesmen to inspect and measure the same. The meeting named Messrs William Horne, and Maurice Murray, Wrights to inspect and measure and report to the House. Here again the Incorporation of Wrights were being trusted with the quality of the Trades' Hall on its completion.

Gorbals Lands

These lands were acquired in 1650 by the Town Council: Hutchesons' Hospital, and the Trades' House along with several of the Incorporations and were held by them jointly until 1789; Hutchesons' Hospital having two-fourths, and the City and the Trades' House one-fourth each. The lawyers George and Thomas Hutcheson bequeathed land and funds for the construction and endowment of a hospital. In 1789 a division took place, and the portion consisting of 78 acres 3 roods and 14 falls, Scotch measure, lying to the south of the River Clyde, and between Bridge Street and Eglinton Street on the east, and Shields Burn on the west, was allotted to the Trades' House as its fourth part. This was conveyed to the Deacon Convener and Collector for the time, and their successors in office in trust, for behoof of the House and eleven of the Incorporations (all except the Gardeners, Barbers and Dyers), in Thirty-one shares, of which one was given to the Wrights. The whole of the ground has been sold or *feued*.

At a meeting in the College Church on 25th February 1790, Deacon Charles Pinnie laid before the meeting an Act of the Trades' House concerning the construction of a quay, the Trade were asked to appoint members of the committee to negotiate with the Town Council with regards to the Quay. The Deacon was appointed as their delegate. They recommend to the Deacon the following instructions: "*To take care that the magistrates get no more ground on the pretence of building a Quay and the loading and unloading carts thereon. 2nd. That the trades have liberty to erect whatever buildings that they think proper on their own grounds fronting the Quay, the Magistrates should not be allowed to erect any other building on any pretence whatsoever.*" The Deacon also presented to the meeting a minute concerning the selling or fueing of the Gorbals Lands. The Trade appointed the Deacon to attend the meeting of the delegates and to report back. It is clear that there was a lack of trust towards the Magistrates, and every effort was being put into place to protect their property.

At a later meeting on 7th July 1790 in the College Church, Deacon Charles Pinnie laid before the meeting a minute of the Master Court held on 6th July 1790 and in the house of Robert Hunter concerning the Gorbals Lands for *fueing* at the rate of £10 per acre. The meeting was unanimously of the opinion that the coal and other minerals were not to be sold or *fued*. The meeting was surprised that the General Committee had proposed to *fue* the coal and minerals when the Incorporations had made it clear that this was not acceptable. The meeting unanimously approved of the Master Court minute.

The Master Court was watching all proceedings with great care and on the 19th December 1790, at a meeting in the Laigh Kirk Session House, Deacon James Paterson who laid before the meeting an extract of the General Committee of

Gorbals Lands, a proposal for running a road south from the new bridge in a direct line to the property of the Incorporations until it joins the Shaws Road. The Trades unanimously approved of the above proposal and authorised a treaty with the patrons of Hutchesons Hospital and Mr. Dunlop. The Deacon to report back to the meeting before finalising any agreement.

On 17th October 1809 the Incorporation approved of the offer by Mr McDowall of Garthland of a small part of Tradeston lands for making a railroad communicating with the proposed basin of the Ardrossan Canal and also that of the Proprietors of the Ardrossan Canal.

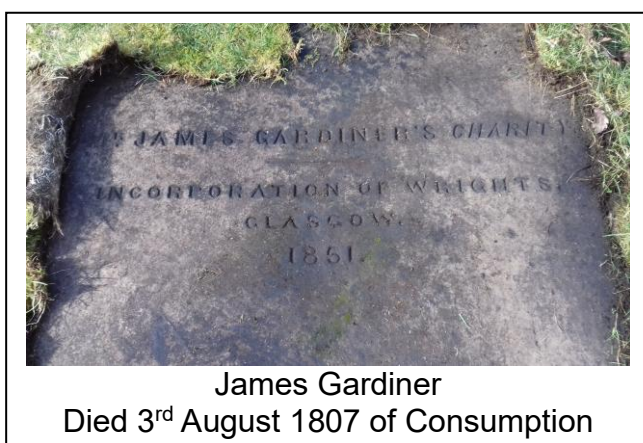
According to Mr Crawford, the historian of the House, the prices obtained for the portions sold amounted to £12,425 2s. 6d. Various sales have taken place since, including some compulsory purchases by the Local Authority.

In 2011 the Incorporation received the two instalments of the sale proceeds relative to the land at Tradeston amounting to £9,645.97, of which £12,411.48 had been immediately donated to Trades' Hall as a donation towards the running costs of Trades' Hall. This is in line with what had been agreed previously in connection with the sale proceeds.

Bequests to the Incorporation

1. James Gardiner's Trust.

James Gardiner, Wright in Glasgow, by his Will (dated 27th December, 1806, and recorded in the Burgh Books of Glasgow on the 6th day of August, 1807) left his whole Estate to the Incorporation, subject to the liferent of his wife and a friend, to be administered for certain educational purposes by the Master Court, under the title of the "*Directors of Gardiner's Charity.*"



The object and history of the Charity can be summarised as to and in favour of Isobel Reid, his wife, in liferent; whom failing, to and in favour of William Stevenson, Writer in Glasgow, also in liferent, and to and in favour of the then Masters of the Incorporation of Wrights in Glasgow in fee, and to the successors in office of the said Masters 'for behoof of those children, whether boys or girls, of the name of Gardiner, whose parents, from poverty or incapability,

may experience difficulty in their support and education in the manner after-mentioned.'

The Charity came into operation in 1850 and was duly administered in terms of the Will until the introduction of free education on 1st October 1889. The objects of the Charity becoming then practically inoperative, the Master Court of the day presented a Petition to the Lords of Council and Session to sanction a scheme which would utilise the funds at their disposal and yet carry out the spirit of the Truster's intention.

The main points of the petition were that the James Gardiner Trust would be extended to children, both sons and daughters with the surname of Gardiner and any residue of revenue should be used to support children with the name of Thomson and failing in number, then any children of reputable parents, or under the care of reputable people, be they Burgesses or not. The minimum age of children was 5 years and not above 12 years and for no longer than 5 years. The children had to be of good behaviour, or they could be expelled from the charity.

The children are to be taught reading, writing, the common rules of arithmetic, and every suitable method is to be used in order to inspire them with a due sense of the principles of religion, to form in their minds an habitual attachment to piety and moral rectitude; and the children to be furnished with all the books and other materials necessary for their education at the expense of the Charity.'

With the introduction of Free Education on 1st October 1889, the trust became inoperable, and the Directors used some of the funds to purchase books and within their powers the Directors paid the fees for the higher standards which free education did not cover.

After a 4 year delay the Petition was settled in 1893 which allowed the Directors to pay school fees for boys and girls at full time schools, colleges or evening education. Applicants shall be not less than eleven nor more than eighteen years of age, and the longest period of their enjoying the above benefits shall be five years. If a surplus exists, the Directors may purchase books or secondly grants towards maintenance of boys and girls of five years old and upwards who attend any school, No child shall receive support and maintenance to an amount exceeding five pounds in any one year, or for a period exceeding five years; but the receipt of support and maintenance for the period of five years, or any less period, shall not disqualify any child from thereafter receiving benefit under the first purpose of the Charity.

In 2015, an approval was received from the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator to amend the terms of the trust to widen its distribution powers.

2. James Thomson's Bequest



Deacon James Thomson died on 28th July. 1872. His will, dated 22nd March preceding, and which was recorded at Edinburgh, 3rd August 1872, bears: "*Whereas, I have been for a long period a member of the Incorporation of Wrights in Glasgow, and have always felt a deep interest in the prosperity of the Incorporation, and in the comfort of such of its members as have seen better days; and whereas, on two separate occasions, I was elected Deacon of the Incorporation, and am desirous, not only of making some acknowledgment of the honour so conferred upon me, but also of bestowing some benefit on the poor of the Incorporation:*

Therefore, I direct my trustees, on the death of the longest liver of my said son and daughter, to pay and convey the said residue to, and in favour of, the said Incorporation, for the benefit of the poor thereof; the free income to be paid and applied to and among such poor, at such times, in such proportions, and otherwise in such way and manner as the

Deacon and Master Court for the time shall think fit, preference being given, in the

first instance, to persons of the name of Thomson, if any; and in the second instance, to persons of the name of Neilson, if any; and I direct that once a year this portion of my settlement shall be read at a meeting of the Incorporation; and also at each annual meeting there shall be submitted to the Incorporation an account of charge and discharge of the funds for the year preceding."

The sum received from this Trust, after payment of duties and other charges, amounted to £2,085 10s. 1d., the income of which is applied in pensions, as directed.

3. Deacon Alexander Clark's Bequest.

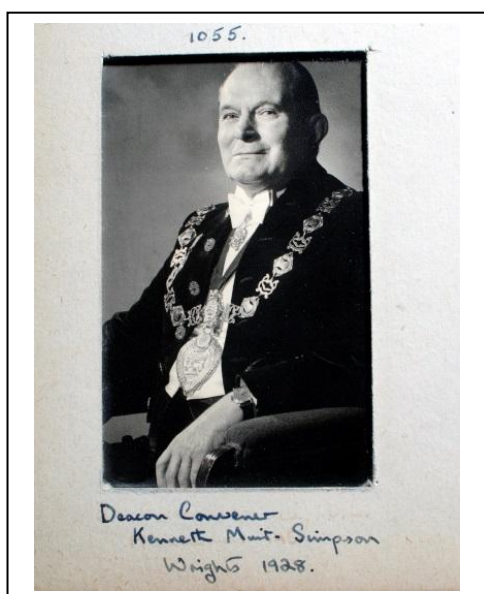


Deacon Alexander Clark of Meadow Bank, accountant in Glasgow, who died on the 13th January 1878 by his deed of settlement, dated 20th March 1875 and along with two codicils thereto, dated respectively 30th January and 12th June 1877, recorded in the Books of Council and Session, 21st January 1878, made the following bequest: - *"To the Incorporation of Wrights, Glasgow, Five Hundred Pounds, the interest of which to be paid to five deserving decayed members of the Incorporation, appointed by the Master Court of said Incorporation."*

4. John Thomson's Legacy

In 1907 the Incorporation received a Legacy of £1,000 from the estate of Mr John Thomson, Tunbridge Wells, son of Deacon James Thomson.

5. Muir Simpson and Lorimer Tombstones.



In 1953 Deacon Kenneth Muir Simpson gave £1,000 6% Bond of Lomond Trust Ltd., to the Incorporation, the income of which is to be used primarily for the upkeep of the Muir Simpson and Lorimer Tombstones in Cathcart Cemetery, any balance being paid to Trades' House for the upkeep of the fabric of the Trades' Hall. If there is surplus revenue in any year, it is to be applied for behoof of the pensioners of the Craft.

6. Lady McDonald's Bequest

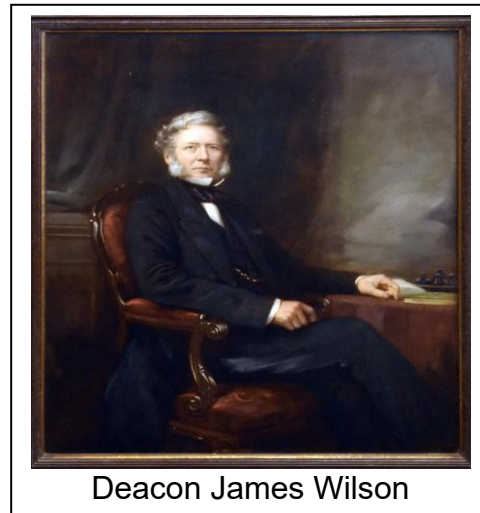
In 1986 Lady Christina McDonald, Widow of the late Sir John McDonald left one-third of the residue of her Estate amounting to £118,000 to the Incorporation of Wrights in

Glasgow to secure its objectives in providing Memorial Prizes for Joinery studies.

7. Incorporation Bursary

Deacon James Wilson

In 1852, a sum of £100 was raised by subscription at the instigation of Deacon James Wilson, for the purpose of constituting a "*Bursary of Five Pounds.*" The Deed of Constitution, which is dated 9th, 12th and 13th September, and 29th November 1854 gives power to the Master Court to "*nominate and present to the said Bursary any student who may seem properly qualified, and that for such period, and from time to time as the said Master Court may think best, - and such student so nominated and presented shall be entitled to the said Bursary of Five Pounds sterling yearly during the pleasure of the said Deacon and Master Court.*"

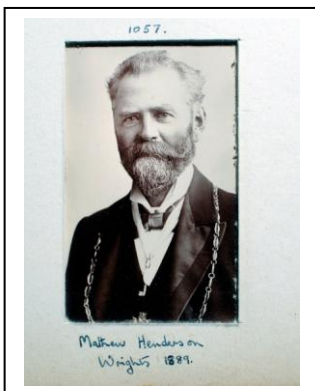


The Bursary, it will be observed, is not attached to a particular university or school. It is to be given to "*any student.*"

8. Scottish Master Wrights and Builders Association (SMWBA)

The SMWBA was founded as Glasgow Master Wrights in 1885, SCOTTISH was added from 1974 and was basically the employer's forum for discussing rates of pay and other trade matters.

They held annual dinners to which the Deacon of the Incorporation was invited, and this was reciprocated to the President of SMWBA at the Incorporation Choosing dinner. Indeed, several SMWBA presidents were later Deacons of the Incorporation. Mathew Henderson who was Deacon of the Incorporation of Wrights in 1889 was the first Deacon of the Wrights to be President of the Association. Deacon Jack D. Copeland was twice President of the Association in 1991 and 1993.



All members of the SMWBA had to also be members of the Scottish Building Employers Federation whose high membership fees eventually led to members leaving to join 'cheaper' trade associations whose members were not affiliated to the Federation. The SMWBA held annual bowling and golf competitions. The SMWBA also ran joinery competitions. It gradually ran short of Members and decided to wind itself up about 2014. The members at that time decided that the Association's funds should be rolled into a charitable Trust rather than being distributed to the Members. The investment portfolio, worth approximately £59,000, was added to the existing portfolio managed by Angus Kerr, and a cash balance of approximately £5,000 followed later. It was agreed that these funds should be kept as a separate Fund, in the same way as the other distinct Funds that are held, and that it should bear the initials SMWBA



Late Deacon's Chain

In 2019, as the Trustees of that charity were getting older, and finding it hard to get applicants to the Trust, they decided to transfer the Trust's assets to the Incorporation of Wrights in Glasgow. The Association transferred their chains of office and monies to the Incorporation. The President's chain and jewel is now worn by the Late Deacon.

Gifts and work of the Incorporation

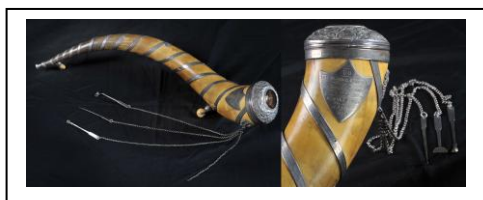
The following articles are in the custody of the Incorporation: -

A Snuff Box

The Snuff Box which was presented by Robert Ferrie (who was Deacon in 1805) to the Master Court of 1810, and their successors in office.



A William Anderson's Snuff Mull



There is a small plaque near the top of the Snuff Mull which indicates:

To the Deacons & Masters, of The Incorporation of Wrights, In glens Gow From George Dunn, of Air 16th September 1836.

The snuff horn is used for sniffing ground tobacco. You open the lid of the horn and use the tiny spoon provided to gather a small amount of snuff from the horn. The snuff is placed on the back of your hand and then inhaled/sniffed up your nose.

The bottom of the horn is purely decoration; there are a few tools attached to the snuff:

- Small Spoon
- Pointing Tool
- Scraping tool

The snuff horn also has an emerald inserted on the lid and names engraved in a spiral form all-round the horn. The Snuff Mull has a silver spiral with the names of the Deacons from 1811 to 1905 inscribed thereon.

Robert The Bruce's Tea Caddy 1345



Robert The Bruce's tea caddy is a small wooden box with two compartments inside. The compartments have removable lids, and the tea caddy has a lock on the front of the box and two circular wooden handles for holding the box at either side. Inside the lid of the tea caddy is lined with gold foil paper with a plaque that says:

Made of the OAK which formed part of the original foundations of
Old *Stockwell Bridge* Glasgow
A structure built by *Bishop Rae*,
About the year 1345 in the Reign of King David
Son of Robert the Bruce
Taken Down 1850.

Two Mallets

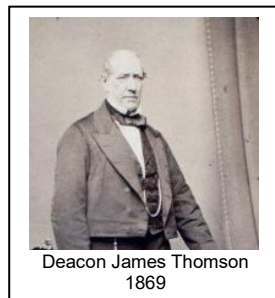
Two Mallets made from the wood of Wallace's Tree Elderslie, which were presented in 1869 by Deacon James Thomson.

An Album

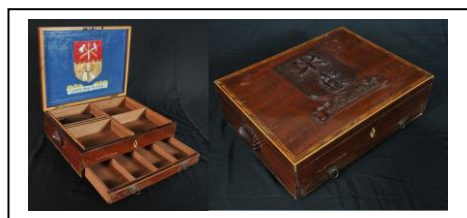
An Album which was presented by Deacon Findlay in 1877.

An Album

An Album which was presented by Deacon Watt in 1887.



A Cigar Box



A Cigar Box which was presented by Deacon F. R. Wylie in 1958.

Wrights' Goblet



Lord Forte presented silver goblets to all Incorporations of the House in 1986/87. Each was fashioned at the School of Arts from a large mass of silver which Lord Forte had donated to the school. There are 15 goblets, one for the Deacon Convener and one for each of the Deacons and Visitor. The instructions of Lord Forte were that they should be used by the leaders of the Incorporations at every Choosing Dinner or formal occasion of the House. Each goblet depicts a theme pertaining to the individual Incorporation and adds greatly to the dignity of the Chain Gang and the Deacon Convener. As can be seen the Wrights' goblet has carved wooden staves as the shaft. A goblet for the Collector of the House was added in 2006

due to the generosity of the incoming Deacon Convener, Mr Malcolm Wishart. The goblets are used by the Deacons at all dinners.

Collector's Goblet



'The Collector's Cup' was donated by Deacon Judy Tayler-Smith at her Box Opening Ceremony and Dinner on 6th May 2025. The cup is engraved on one side with the Wrights' shield and the words "The Collector's Cup"; on the other side it states, "*Presented by Judy S. Tayler-Smith, Deacon 2024-25, The Incorporation of Wrights in Glasgow.*"

Deacon Judy donated the goblet to encourage both prospective and current Master Court Members and future Collectors to progress into the role. She also wished the goblet to be used by the Collector to promote the Wrights at all dinners they attended in the Trades' Hall. Of the fourteen Incorporated Crafts the Wrights are

currently the only Craft to have a Collector's Cup, in addition to the Collector of the House who received a Cup in 2006.

Master Court Bell



Of more recent vintage is the "ringing of the bell" to call the Master Court to order before the start of each meeting.

The antique brass bell is from Forfarshire, and was presented to the Wrights in 2017 by Deacon Dorothy Newlands of Lauriston, "for the use of the Deacon in office, and to remain in the ownership of the Wrights for all time coming."

Commemoration Medal



The gold medal to the left was purchased to commemorate the laying of the foundation stone of the Victoria Bridge, Glasgow on the 9th April 1851. The names of the Master Court are inscribed on the medal and the Office Bearers were:

James Wilson	Deacon
John Dykes	Collector
James McLure	Late Deacon
Andrew Miller	Late Collector

Quaich



The Incorporation has an engraved pewter quaich which was presented by Deacon Peter S. Kelso 1993-94. This was placed in the Wrights' Charter Chest by Deacon Kelso during his year in office.

It was originally intended for it to be used, for the Piper's Dram, at the Choosing Dinners.

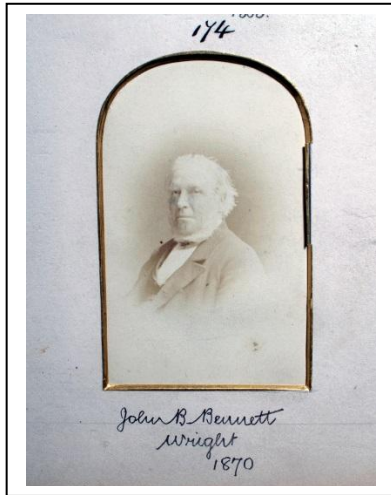
Late Deacon Convener and Collector's Chairs

In the Saloon are two smaller chairs, designed by John Keppie, Wright: in the form of old Scotch Deacons' Chairs. The Two Chairs - one for the Late Deacon Convener, and the other for the Collector. They are lumpy in character, and the workmanship, with its oak pins, is in the traditional manner. The front of the back of the Chairs bears the coat of arms of the Trades' House with mantling, while the back is enriched with the coat of arms of the craft of the donor, in one case the Bakers and in the other case the Wrights, and a long panel of lettering containing the dedication.



These Chairs have been made by James Grant, joiner, and carved by John Crawford. The wood is from Glasgow Cathedral roof.

Wrights' and the Trades' House Frieze



The frieze in the Trades' Hall runs round the Grand Hall and depicts images of workers in a romanticized style. The section depicting the Incorporation of Wrights shows Wrights working on various projects with a Master overseeing the work being carried out. The contract for the frieze was awarded to John B Bennet who was Deacon of the Wrights in 1870, but the frieze had to be painted abroad and afterwards affixed to the walls. Belgian artists were used, and the frieze is painted silk which was applied after it had been painted. We can only assume that the artists sent someone over to measure the size and shape of each section.

There are 161 people in the frieze, 2 sheep, 2 pigs, 1 cow and 1 donkey. There have only been found 5 females in the frieze, none of which are in the Wright's section.



Wrights' Section of the Frieze

Wrights' Lectern

In 2011, the Deacon confirmed that he had written to the Principal of Glasgow Metropolitan College to thank him for the college staff's work in producing the Craft's new Lectern. The Deacon thanked Past Deacon Alex Graham for repairing the Craft's lectern, as well as improving it by adding a light behind the glasswork.



Rapping the Shed

This tradition goes back to the days when the Master Wright on the site would rap the shed to signal to the journeymen that the working day was over. Today it is used to close all meetings and functions. The Deacon informs the meeting or function, as there is no further business we will close in the traditional manner. This is done by tapping the table with a boxwood folding rule, with three slow taps, seven quick taps and then three slow taps. Usually after the rap somebody will state "*Ne'er done sae weel!*"



Capital Revenue

The Capital of the Incorporation in 1776, was £2 782 2d. On 30th June 2024, it was £1,648,647.

The following abstract gives the amount of Capital Revenue, and Expenditure upon Pensions, &c at the end of each decade since the beginning of last century

Year.	Revenue.	Pensions and Grants.	Capital.
1801	£ 259	£ 389 0 2	£ 4,087 15 0
1811	£ 276	£ 407 9 6	£ 3,988 6 10
1821	£ 244	£ 340 2 0	£ 3,100 18 11
1831	£ 375	£ 320 16 5	£ 4,373 0 8
1841	£ 362	£ 358 18 0	£ 5,220 5 1
1851	£ 368	£ 330 6 0	£ 8,706 14 5
1861	£ 416	£ 335 12 8	£ 9,373 7 8
1871	£ 450	£ 307 8 0	£ 10,755 13 10
1881	£ 648	£ 574 6 6	£ 16,607 8 8
1891	£1,002	£ 881 16 0	£ 26,880 7 9
1901	£1,328	£1,095 18 0	£ 37,613 12 6
1911	£1,809	£1,615 0 0	£ 47,305 8 6
1921	£2,629	£2,158 10 0	£ 60,956 13 0
1927	£4,128	£2,676 10 0	£ 73,962 9 10
1937	£4,254	£3,083 15 0	£ 88,807 11 6
1947	£6,391	£3,154 0 0	£107,874 16 7
1957	£5,408	£2,945 14 0	£136,819 13 11
1967	£6,430	£4,781 0 0	£162,012 5 3
1970	£8,139	£5,918 5 0	£155,226 15 8
1980	£16,061	£8,259.00	£163,231.21
1990	£27,260	£12,274.00	£407,813.00
2004	£33,381	£6,620	£814,658
2014	£43,696	£8,316	£1,084,308
2024	£53,286	£13,485	£1,648,647

It will be observed that from 1831 to 1851 the Revenue remained almost stationary, although the Capital was nearly doubled. This is explained by the fact that the value of the Incorporation's share of the Gorbals Lands continued, until after 1841, to be stated in the accounts at the original cost of £55 11s. 1d., when it was stated at its market value. The Capital was thus suddenly very materially increased, while the Revenue remained unaffected.

In 1986 the funds were placed in the hands of professional financial advisers. However, the Finance Committee and Master Court retain control of the funds.

Public Questions

Down till shortly after the passing of the Reform Bill, the Incorporation interested itself in most of the public questions of the day.

Police Bill

In 1790 it opposed the Police Bill and contributed £200 towards the cost of opposition. In the same year it petitioned against "*the Bill presently depending in Parliament respecting the Corn Laws.*" In 1792 it petitioned Parliament for the Abolition of the Slave Trade; and in December of that year, while protesting Loyalty to the House of Brunswick, it passed several resolutions in favour of Reform of the representation of the people. On 2nd August 1803, it approved of the proposal "*that the Trades' House and Incorporations should raise a battalion of craftsmen, consisting of six hundred men, to be termed 'The Trades' Battalion of Glasgow Volunteers.'*" In 1807 it expressed approval of the principle of Trial by Jury in Civil Causes, and instructed a committee to frame a petition in favour of the Bill then introduced into the House of Lords by Lord Grenville; and in 1815 resolved, "*after mature deliberation,*" to petition the House of Commons in favour of the establishment of Jury Trial in all Civil Causes, except in questions relating to Heritable Property.

Corn Laws

On 12th April and 30th May 1814, it resolved to petition Parliament against any alteration of the then existing Corn Laws.

On 3rd February 1815 on the ground "*that a Tax upon Income gives rise to such an oppressive, inquisitorial, and as may happen, dangerous scrutiny into the most private pecuniary concerns of the people, as is inconsistent with, and derogatory to the principles of Free Government,*" it was resolved to petition for the abrogation of the tax in question, and also that it might not again be renewed.

New Exchange Buildings

On 25th June 1827 in connection with the new Exchange Buildings then proposed to be erected in Argyle Street, it was resolved, "*That, while new Exchange Buildings were necessary, they ought to be in the line of the principal street, and in the neighbourhood of the places of present business resort;*" and also, "*That the compartments in Argyle Street, between Miller and Virginia Streets, is the best of all the sites hitherto suggested, not only for probable return to the subscribers, but for the ornament of the City and the public advantage,*" An amendment in favour of the Queen Street site was proposed and seconded, but rejected by a large majority.

Bill for Parliamentary Reform

In 1831 it was resolved to petition Parliament in favour of the Bill for Parliamentary Reform.

Other Charity in Support of Good Causes

The primary and essential object of the Incorporation is, of course, to assist its indigent members, and their widows and orphans, but not infrequently it has given funds for purposes beyond its own immediate sphere. The following are some of its contributions, viz.:-

1778	For Raising Glasgow Regiment	£100 0 0
1787	- For the Infirmary	£100 0 0

5th June, 1791	- Towards the erection of Trades' Hall	£350	0	0
1799	- During a scarcity, to buy Meal, corn &c., to benefit the poor of the City	£400	0	0
1st July, 1810	- For Lunatic Asylum	£50	0	0
October, 1818	- For Relief Hospital	£21	0	0
November, 1854	- To Patriotic Fund	£100	0	0
April, 1859	- To Buchanan's Institution	£100	0	0
April, 1876	- To Building Fund of Western Infirmary	£100	0	0
December, 1899	- To Lord Provost's South African War Fund	£50	0	0
February, 1901	- To Building Fund of Glasgow and West of Scotland Technical College	£100	0	0
December, 1904	- To Buchanan's Institution	£50	0	0
September, 1912	- To Building Fund of Glasgow and West of Scotland College of Domestic Science	£30	0	0
March, 1914	- To Buchanan's Institution	£50	0	0
September, 1914	To Great European War Charity Funds	£250	0	0
September, 1915	To Great European War Charity Funds	£250	0	0
September, 1916 -	To Great European War Charity Funds	£150	0	0
September, 1917	To Great European War Charity Funds	£150	0	0
June, 1918	To Great European War Charity War Fund	£100	0	0
October, 1926	St. Andrew's Ambulance Association	£20	0	0
December, 1939	To Trades' House and Incorporations War Relief Fund	£250	0	0

In connection with the grant to Buchanan's Institution in 1859 the question whether the Incorporation had the power to give it, was raised and fought out in the Courts.

Ultimately, the House of Lords, confirming the judgement of the Court of Session, decided in favour of the validity of the grant, and gave decree of £226 of expenses against the appellant.

Saw Mill

At a meeting held in the "*Laighe Kirk of Glasgow*," on 27th July 1707 it was unanimously agreed to build a Sawmill, "*the charges of building sd milne being imposed upon the publicke stock of the Incorporatione,*" and "*the profit to be applied to the publick good of the trade.*" It was also resolved, that "*none of the Wrights of Glasgow go by the sd milne with their deals, and that any who shall be found to do so, be obliged to pay the saim dues they would be lyable to if they had com to the milne, beside what other fine the Deacon and Master's shall think fit to impose upon them.*"

There is only one other minute relating to this Sawmill, and it is dated 28th April 1715. It refers to two large oak trees which, with others, had been provided to build the Sawmill, but which had been "*washed or carried off the shore years ago, and is stranded about the Barr of Irvine.*" The meeting directed the Collector to recover and dispose of them for the use and behoof of the poor.

Wrights' Outing

The following is an extract from an article in the Bailie indicating that on Tuesday the 26th May 1885 weather permitting, the Master Court and its guests would have a good time of it. They must, indeed, have a good time weather or no. With Deacon Alexander Eadie at the prow and Collector John Watt at the helm — to paraphrase a familiar quotation from the British classics — it could hardly be otherwise, for both are wright men in the right place. As a skilled coadjutor they have friend “John” of Gordon Street, and John, as everybody knows, is another right man, I might say a right-hand man. He happens to be a wright man too, though not a writer, which adds lustre to the Incorporation of Wrights, as well as to himself. While these lines are being read the Master Court of the Wrights, on hospitable thoughts intent, is careering around through the lovely glades of Bute. The route is from Bridge Street to Wemyss Bay, thence by special steamer to Craigmore, and by special carriages from Craigmore to Mount Stuart, where a special luncheon is served about noon. Everything is special, and there is even a “*special blend*” of marvellous excellence. Mount Stuart, as everybody knows, is in course of reconstruction for the Marquis of Bute, and the visitors have the unusual privilege of witnessing the transformation scene carried out by Collector John Watt, who is entrusted with the responsible duty of rejuvenating the historic residence of the Bute family. Driving to Kilchattan Bay, where the special steamer is waiting, the party once more embarks and again braves the perils of the vasty deep. While coasting round Bute, on this perilous enterprise, the Master Court dines, and here Mr Forrester comes to the front with a menu possessing manifold attractions. Then there are special toasts, drunk in wines of rare and special vintages. When these have been discussed, and a return made to the City, the delighted guests close the day's enjoyment by enthusiastically carolling that the Master Court, and the Incorporation of Wrights, are wright good fellows which nobody can deny.

Clearly the Incorporation had many exciting outings down the water.

Concerning some items in the Collectors' Accounts

In early days the Incorporation took care that it was duly represented on most occasions of ceremony or importance. The following entries in the accounts speak for themselves: -

1683	- Item for four horss hyr to meet the Lords of privie the principal bears	£003 12s. 00d
Item	to John Miller a horss hyr to convoy the Lordis away	£000 18s 00d
Item	for thrie horss hyr at my L Glasgowe's* coming heir by warand	£002 14s 00d
1686	- 27 febrj. - It. to Rob. duncane a horse hyr to convey the Bischop	26s 00d
1700	- March 28. - Item for two horse hyres to meet and convey my Lord Montrose in and out of the towne	£002 00s 00d
1716	- August 10. - ffor a horse hyre to attend the Dutchesse of Montrose	£001 04s 00d
	Sepr. 1st. - for horses at meeting the Earle of Dundonald	£001 10s 00d

On 23rd September 1779, there is an entry in the Collector's account to the following effect: - "*Collector's 'tailshaking' and Convener's officer, £0 4/6;*" and in one of the minute books, under date 17th September 1756, there is the entry: - "*To severall poor at the tail-shaking, £6 14/6.*" It was the custom of farmers in former times to give the "*tail*" of the grain - i.e., the last of the grain to be winnowed - to their servants; and so, if a sum of money had been collected for a definite purpose, and a balance

remained over, which was spent in buying drink for the company, this was called the “*tail-shaking*.” If this be the correct definition of tailshaking, then it is clear, from the first of the above entries, that on the occasion referred to in it something more than the balance remaining over had been drunk, and that the Incorporation funds had to make up the difference. But the “*Collector’s ‘tail-shaking’ was evidently his understood ‘treat’ or, entertainment after a meeting of the Court.*”

A not uncommon entry of the last century was one connected with “*cardowers*” and “*cardowing*.” To cardow was to botch or work in a clumsy manner; and “*cardower*,” - i.e., an inferior worker - was the name given to an unfreeman. Two specimen entries are given:- 1794 - July 12 - Received fines for £ s. d.

“*cardowing*” John Mills 0s 18d

1800 - July 9 - Expense at sundry times looking after “*cardowers*” £0 3s 6d

On the 16th of September 1786, there are the following entries: -

Joseph Crombie (the Clerk), his Phial	£ 5	5	0
The Town’s Hospital	£10	0	0
Chaplain, his Phial	1	5	0
Wm. Lochhead (the Officer), his Phial	1	19	0

Phial, or *fial* as it is subsequently spelt, was in effect wages. *Fial*, it may be stated, was also applied, in other parts of the country, to a retainer or hired servant.

The Town’s Hospital has already been referred to as the occasional meeting place of the Craft. The Trades’ House lodged and boarded in it “*the poor men of the House*” (vide Mr Crawford’s Sketch), and for its maintenance the various Incorporations had to contribute certain fixed sums. These were set forth in an agreement “*amongst the Incorporated Trades of Glasgow*,” dated 3rd August 1605; and by it the Wrights had to pay £8 annually (vide Dr Hill’s “*Annals of the Skinners*”). Eventually their contribution was increased to £10; and they paid, in addition, a share of the Chaplain’s salary.

The Town’s Hospital or Alms House was closed shortly after the erection of the Trades’ Hall, and the site and buildings were ultimately sold to the Cordiners.

Relating to the Incorporation of Wrights

27 February, 1650

Gorballis bargane endit *Report was made be the proveist that he and these wha went eist with him to Edinburgh did setle and aggree with Sir Robert Douglas for the Gorballis wpon the termis fallowing, viz., that the towne sould giwe him thairfor sax scoire thowsand merkis, twa pairt at Witsounday and the rest at Mertimes nixt, with twa thowsand merkis to his Ladie, and that the bargane sould be the halfe thairof for Hutchisounes Hospitall and the vther halfe equallie devydit betwixt the town and the Craftis Hospital!, and accordinglie that the half of the pryce foirsaid be payit out of the moneys first and reddiest belonging to Hutchisouns Hospitall, and that the craftis sould pay the half of the vther halfe and the towne to pay the rest; and because the money was not to be presentlie payit the towne hes vndertakin to give band to Sir Robert for the haill sowm quhich is to be wnderstood that the said Hutchisouns Hospitall is to releive them of the half thairof, and the craftis to give in band for releiving of them of the halfe of the vther halfe eftir this maner, viz., the deikin conveaner and haill deikines for thair hospitall 8000*

merkis, the talyouris 6000 merkis, the maltmen 6000 merkis, the smiethes 2000 merkis, the weivars 1000 merkis, the wreichtis 1000 merkis, the masounes 500 merkis, the couperis 1000 merkis, the skinners 2000 merkis, the fleschouris 1000 merkis, the baxters 500 merkis, and the cordoners 2000 merkis; and according to eache ane of their proportiounes of money to be advanced the towne is to give securitie to the craft in ane proportionall part of the bargane. Quhilk was approvyn, and according to this agreement it was schawne that the said Sir Robert had subsceivit the dispositiounes and chartours eist in Edinburgh to the towne and had trusted thame to Bardowie to be delyverit to him to the towne wpon thair subscriptiounes of ane band to him for the pryce thair of, viz., for four scoire thowsand poundis and twa thowsand merkis to his ladie; and conforme to this the laird of Bardowie producet the dispositiounes and chartouris this day with the inventar of the wrytis, quhilkis wer seene, red, and approvyn; lyk as the townes band to Sir Robert for the money being red was approvyn, subscrivit, and delyverit to the laird of Bardowie, and he in name of the said Sir Robert delyverit the wryts to the proveist.

4 January, 1653

Wrightis *It is statute and ordanit that no wreicht, being ane stranger within this burgh, sall tak any mae taskis of wark to work within the same nor they have takin alreadie whill first they acquent the town thair of and obtain thair licence thairto, as also they sall wirk no day warkis without licence also, except with the towne wrightis, and to continow during the counsellis will.*

5 February, 1653

It being manifest and knowne that sundrie of the wreights jurneymen and prenteissis, to the number of twentie four or thairby, committed, this day in this citie in the morning, ane heich and manifest contempt and insurrectiounes, joyneing in ane bodie, goeing throw the haill streitis of the town with cleukis and balstones in thair hands, and paseing frae house to house belonging to honest men wha had thair landis brunt, and whair stranger wreichtis wer working, and entering thairin, strecking the people thairin and abuseing and brecking all thair worklomes, in ane heich and contemptioun way, without any kind of warrand, quhilk aucht to be most ceveirliche punischt; and thar for the forsaidis magistrals and counsell does heirby joyne thir persones following to the present magistratis, viz., James Bell, Mr. Johne Dunlope, the deine of gild, deikine conveyner, William Neilson, George Broom, to vse all meanes for apprehending of these men and to bring them to ane condigne punischment according to thair deserveinge, and for doeing heirof the counsell interponis thair auctoritie.

**Wrightis
insurrectiounes.**

19 February, 1653

Appoynts ane bank to be sent throw the towne, this day efternoone, to **Wrightis.** *invite all wreights and vthers that makis for policie that, in respect of the great decay of the towne be fyre, that they may repair to this place for exerciseing of thair callings therintill conform to the act of parliament.*

23 April, 1653

Ordaines all these wrightis wha maid the insurrectiounes in the towne to be **Wrightis.** *warnit to compeir this day aucht dayes.*

27 August, 1653

In ansuer to the desyre of the wrichtis, friemen of this burgh, craveing the **Wrightis.**

limiting of the wrichts, being strangers, efter consideratioun thair of the saids magistrats and counsell inhibitis all wrichtis, strangers foirsaid, to vndertak any farder taskis within this burgh nor they have done already quhill first they acquent the counsell thairwith, and this to (be) intimat throw the towne be touk of drume.

19 November, 1653

For the better settleing of the contraversie betwix the toune wrichts and **Wrichtis**, strangers imployit of that calling within the towne, it is appointtit that ilk maisterman of the wreichtis, being straingers, sall pay in to the wrichtis box four schilling weiklie, and ilk strainger servand twa schilling weiklie.

22 December, 1655

In answere to the supplicatioune given in and presentit be the maissones **Maissounes** of this burght, be pluralitie of vottis, it is concludit, inactit, statut and ordanit, that the maissouns, friemen of this burgh, sall have the lyke benefeit of strangers of that calling quho workis within the toune as the wrichtis hes of strangers of that calling; and it is concludeit that both the friemen wrichts and friemen maissouns sall have of ilk stranger of thes respectie callings, quho work within the toun and vplifts wages, threttie schillings Scottis, quarterlie, to be applyit for the vse of their respectie poor.

13 June, 1657

**Maissounes
and
Wrichtis.**

In answere to the supplicatioune given in be the meassounis and wrichtis, Baillie Allane, Johne Andersoune, Johne Walkingschaw and Walter Neilsoune, to tack ane vew of the brunt landis yit wnbuiled and how the friemen meassounis and wrichts ar imployed, and to report this day aught dayis.

1 July, 1657

**Masounes and
Wrichtis.**

The forsaides provest, bailleis and counsell of this brughe, having now and oft befor taken in thair serious consideration the supplication given in befor them to be the decones off maissounes and wryghtes within this brughe, for themselves and in name of thair severall bretherine of thair trades and corporationes, schewing that now thes divers yeares bygaine they have beine hinderit and impeidit fra injoying thes ancient liberteis and priviledges grantit and conferit wpon them and thair predicessors be thair severall letters of deaconheidis grantit to them be the provest, bailleis and counsell of this brugh for the tyme, and that be the greatt imployment given to strangers of thes callinges within the samyne brughe, be the inhabitentes thair of quha hes thair housses and landes in bulding, and yet notwithstanding of all that the saides bretherine of the saides severall trades hes born burding of quarterings and uthers the lyk within the brugh, quhair of the saides strangers ar frie and nowayes burdined thairwith, it is thairfor this day concludit and agried be the saides provest, bailleis and counsell, that no wnfrie person, aither maisson or wryght, shall be sufferit or toilerat to tak or work any farder taskes or work within this brughe after this day nor they have taken alredie, and that these strangers, maissounes, and wryghtes, shall not have libertie to work but wnder friemene of the saids severall trades, burgesses of this brughe, provyding that the saids friemen tak not seek no farder wages in the day nor fytyne shillings Scotis for ilk dayes work fra thes who shall happine to imploy them; and ordines thir presentes to be intimat be touk of drume.

29 August, 1657

Anderson In answere to the supplicatioune given in be the relict of vmquhill James **Wrichts**. Rodger, grantis hir licence to keipe and deteine the twa strangers wryghtes that shoe hes, for ten dayes or thairby, for compleiting of hir house.

Wrightes. Appoyntes Baillie Allane, John Walkinshawe, the deacon conveinar, Manasses Lyell and James Colquhoun, to send for the deacone of wrightes and sum of his maisters, to let them wunderstand the great greavous reportes given in against them be thos who hes ther land in building, and to lay doune sum good solid course how thais evilles may be remeidit heirefter.

Corssis Anent the supplicatioune given in be James and John Corssis, wrightes, **wrightes** burgessis of this burghe, mackand mentioun that quhair they, heiring **glaswrights.** ane great outcry maid be sundrie of the inhabitantes of this brughe against the great and exorbitant pryce tackin for the foot of glas, and being also informed that shortlie efter the lait suddent fyre in anno jm vjc fyftie twa, the magistrates and counsall of this burghe for the tyme wer seiking for glaswrightes from Edinburgh, Linlithgow, Aberdeine, and wther places, for exerceising of that trad within the samyne, for the weill of thos who had thair land brunt, on quhom they were willing to confere the libertie and fredome of the toun, in regaird the haill glaswrightes within this brughe (eccpt James Elphanstoune) wer departed this lyfe; and now the said supplicantis, finding themselves capable to goe about and exerce the macking of glaswindowes and wthers belonging to that wark, and being both of them burgessis of this burghe and friemen of the corporatioune of wright trad within the samyne, quhair of ane glaswright is ane pendicle, they did begine to mack sume glas windows, and sold the samyn to diverse persones to thair full contentment, and took onlie for the foot thair of four shilling Scotis, quhairas wthers tack fyve shilling for the lyk and no les, and the said supplicantis ar most willing to mack glaswindowes and to serve the inhabitantis thairwith and to tack onlie thrie shillinges aucht pennies Scotis for the foot of the samyne, and ar content to have thair wark tryed to the full anent the sufficiencie and insufficiencie thair of; and now John Otterburne, present deacone of the wrightes, hes discharged the said supplicantes for macking of ony glaswindowes and exerceising of that trad ony farder; the said magistrates and counsall ar the fathers of the commoune wealth of this burghe, the said supplicantis did humblie requeist and desyre them to consider aright quhither this thair offer be profitable to the said brughe or not, and if it be, that it would please the said magistrates and counsell to grant the said supplicantis warrand to conteinow in macking of glaswindowes for the guid and profeit of all thos who pleaseth to imploy theme. Quhilk supplicantioune being red and considerit be the said provest, balleis and counsall, and knowing all this to be trew as is thairin conteined, and finding the offer abovewryttine to be profitable and conducable to the inhabitentes who hes to doe thairwith, and that the said supplicantis ar not only burgessis of the said brughe but also frie with the wright trad, and that the tred of a glaswright is nothing but ane pendicle of that calling, and seing the said supplicantis ar capable of making of glas windowes and able to serve the inhabitentis thairin, and that thair offer anent the pryce of the foot of glase is verie fair, thairfoir the said magistrates and counsall hes given and grantit, and be thir presents gives and grants full warrand, pouer, and commissioun, to the said James and John Corssis, supplicantis, for macking of glaswindowes and to exerce that trad for the serving of all who pleaseth to imploy them thairintill, seeing the said offer tendis so much to the guid of the inhabitentis who pleaseth to imploy them in thair trad.

5 September, 1657

Appoyntis John Walkinshaw and Walter Neilson to ryd to Edinburgh to tack **Excys.** ordour anent the additional exeyse; and quhen they comthair, to raise ane **Wrights.** suspensioune anent the charge of horning given be the wrights of this brughe to wnfrie men and wrightes.

*The provest, bailleis and counsall of the said brughe being conveyned, and **Wrightes**. tacking to thair serious consideratioune that notwithstanding of all the aill houssis and tenements alredie bulded within the samyn since the lait suddant fyre, quhilk happined thairin in anno 1652, yit the far most pairt and mickle mair is not yet rebuldit that was then brunt and consumit, and seeing many of the inhabitantis are in resolutioun and intendis to rebuld the said decayed and brunt places of the toune as yit not rebulded, and the said magistrates and counsall also wnderstanding that there is ane great desert in hindring of that commendable pollicie, and speciallie the samyn to be much impeidit be the strick and wnwarrantable acts sett down be the deacones of wrightis of this brughe and bretherine of that calling, altho, for the tender respects the said magistrals and counsall had to the flourishing estait of the said wright trad within the samyn, they laitle be thair act discharged any wnfrie man wright to work within this brughe but wnder frie men wrightis burgessis thairof, yit for all that they do quhat in them lies to hinder all good pollicie thairintill relaiting to that calling, be thair said strict and wnwarrantable actis as said is; it is thair for heirby enactit, statut and ordainit, be the said provest, bailleis, and counsall (having the good of all the inhabitentis befor thair eyes, and in particular the wtilitie and proffeit of that trad and calling) that it shall be leassume to evrie frieman wright within this brughe, burges thairof, to keip and hold ane preteis with twa sufficient jorney men or servandis, and quhair it shall happin the said frie men to have no preteis it shall be leassum to him to keip and hold thrie jorney men or servants, quhilks jorney men or servandis shall be haldin and astrictit to pay yeirlie in to the craftis box of the said calling, for the helpe and supplie of the poore thairof, threttie Shilling Scottis money, and that in satisfacioune of all can be craved of them for thair booking as servandis be the craft; and appoyntis this to be intimat be touk of drume.*

Extracts from Account of Wright-work done for the Town, 1703-1712, by Francis Stevenson (who was Deacon in 1718), Rendered 19th June 1712

	lib.	s.	d.
Item, Taking down the Marc* and the Picket,*... ..	0	6	0
Item, Making a new door, and several things that were brokan in Wm. Wilson, Maltman, his house, be the Collegions ...	4	0	0
Item, For a pick (pike?) to the Provost collours, and a pair drumsticks, my own timber	4	0	0
Item, Putting up a spout above the Weigh-house door, making a new door, a pair of new weight-brods, making trone feet and brods	8	13	4
Item, Heading the lances, 2 men 12 days	16	0	0
Item, Making a mortification brod for the Laigh Kirk Session, holding three mortifications, furnishing timber, glew, naills, &c.	3	0	0
Item, Mending the drystool heads in the Tolbooth	0	6	8
Item, Making up the souldiers Mare and a new centry box, a man 4days	2	13	4
Item, Rounding, blocking, and turning 11 pair of drumsticks ...	3	16	4
Item, Putting up two large pictures in the Counsal hous	2	13	4
Item, Cutting Glenlies mortification brodd, and Mr. Crawford's, making it larger for his wifes name, and planting it new ...	1	0	0
Item, Roofing and sarking the herds house, and making a new door to it	20	0	0
Item, Making triangles and brods for weighing the dragoons for-age, 2 men 1½ days	2	0	0
Item, At the canale, cutting of cabers, sharpening them at the end, dryving the same, making up breasts, &c.	10	13	0

Item, Eiking the soldiers hole door that was burnt throw, and mending the meall girnells

1 6 8

• Implements of military punishment.

(This formidable account fills six pages of the Council folio Minute Book.)

The Modern Wrights

Supporting our benevolence

The Wrights charitable and educational activities use our traditional skills and all our modern-day talents to leave a legacy for the people of Glasgow.

We offer financial assistance to families in need. We support organisations which use woodworking as a way to help people rebuild their lives, we award annual prizes to talented students in the city's schools and colleges and are promoting new projects to enhance Glasgow's iconic heritage.

There are many ways to lend your support ~ whether you are planning to run a marathon or a coffee morning, it would be wonderful if you decided to do it in aid of the Wrights.

Supporting an Expedition to South East Asia

In 1987 the Incorporation contributed the sum of £1,000 towards a fund organised by the Trades' House when it joined the City of Glasgow District Council and the University of Glasgow in supporting an expedition to South East Asia for the purpose of collecting orchids and begonias which were exhibited at the Glasgow Garden Festival in 1988 and are now housed in the Botanic Gardens, Glasgow.

Presentation of Lectern

In 1987 the Incorporation presented a Lectern, designed by the Director of Education, Deacon Robert W. K. C. Rogerson, C.B.E., B. Arch., F.R.I.B.A., F.R.I.A.S., F.S.A.Scot. and constructed by the 1985 Craft Prize Winner Kenneth Gibson, to the House at the Deacon's Choosing Dinner.

Seating for McLellan Galleries

In 1990 the Incorporation with the assistance of the Glasgow School of Art organised a special competition to mark Glasgow's year as the Cultural Capital of Europe in which £6,000 was contributed from Lady McDonald's Bequest for the provision of a Prize consisting of specially designed and constructed seating for the refurbished McLellan Galleries.

Presentation of a Lectern to Glasgow College of Building and Printing



In October 1990 Deacon Mervyn S. Hamilton in association with the President of the Scottish Master Wrights and Builders Association presented a Lectern to Mr Tom Wilson, Principal of Glasgow College of Building and Printing for use at the College of Building.

The Lectern which bears the crests of the College of Building, the Incorporation and the Association, earned Mr Richard Bennett of Duncan Shopfitters Limited, First Prize in the McDonald Prize Competition 1990.

Refurbishment of former school room



The Incorporation of Wrights had received general approval to refurbish the former school room above the Saloon in April 1989, and they presented their plans to the Trustees of the Trades' Hall for detailed consideration. The proposal was that the Craft and their connections were going to be involved personally in the work to minimise costs to the Trustees. The Incorporation of Masons intimated at this meeting that they would be glad

to be associated with the Wrights in the project.

The long gallery houses eleven of the original paintings from the Crafts Alms House which used to be located near Glasgow Cathedral and roughly where the Barony Kirk stood. The artists and date of painting is unknown, but they were moved from the Alms House when it closed in 1808

Grantees

The Wrights have several grantees who receive financial support from the Incorporation. Grantees are one of the main charities of the Incorporation and the tradition of supporting them goes back before the Incorporation became an independent Craft. In the past we supported decayed pensioners in the Trades' House Alms House and when this closed, we supported them financially in their homes. With the introduction of Social Services, who tried to take into account their pension from the Wrights, we renamed them Grantees to protect their support from the Incorporation.

Our Grantees, receive a quarterly cheque, and now get an extra discretionary winter payment. Some receive visits by the Trades' House Social Worker, but if thought appropriate, they do receive pastoral telephone calls from an individual member of the Master Court.

Charities

The Incorporation has supported The Trades' House and other charitable schemes within the wider area of Glasgow. The following are a few examples of the areas where financial support has been offered:

GalGael



Deacon Dr John Smail, together with members of the Master Court presenting a cheque for £1,500.00 to GalGael

Is a Govan based Charity that supports people with drug, alcohol, homelessness or crime issues.

For over a decade GalGael has built a growing reputation for making a real difference to many who struggle with the challenges of today's modern culture, which leaves some people marginalised, isolated and disenfranchised.

One of the ways in which the group help people find skills, purpose and inspiration, is by involving the community in traditional boat building, restoration and woodworking.

It is an ethos that fits well with the Wrights' own motto, '*Join All in One*'. An example being that of a Box which was commissioned and made by a prisoner on day release and put into a Prize Draw at a Box Opening Dinner to raise money for GalGael.

Erskine Reid Macewen Activity Centre



Don McKillop donating a cheque to Erskine

The Centre aims to enhance the quality of life and wellbeing of Veterans in the community, providing the opportunity to engage with people who have shared experiences and history, learn new skills, explore a number of interests and access support services.

Tall Ship Glenlee

The Tall Ships is a three masted barque, and now the only Clyde built sailing ship still afloat. Moored at the Riverside Museum she welcomes visitor and offers overnights stays. But she is also under a programme of continuous renovation with opportunities for all to develop and obtain the craft skills related to ship and boat building. There is an ongoing apprenticeship programme which is supported by the Incorporation.

Trades' House Grand Staircase and reception room

The Incorporation supported the refurbishment, which was intended to make safe the steps of the grand staircase and update the reception room into a more useable space for outside exhibitors.

Drapers' Fund

The Drapers Fund supports the needy of Glasgow. It is a Trades' House administered fund which supports children, aged up to and including 17 years of age and their carers' in the wider Glasgow area.

Mearns Kirk Helping Hands

They organise and set-up social groups, to befriend. They incorporate wellbeing activities and have bereavement groups. They offer respite care and support people living with dementia. Their aim is to improve wellbeing and reduce loneliness and isolation for older people.

Glasgow City Mission

The Glasgow City Mission helps people affected by homelessness and poverty. It offers emergency overnight accommodation for people who would otherwise sleep rough. They also support children and parents in Govan to fulfil their potential.

Glasgow Street Aid

Is a pre-hospital medical and welfare charity helping tackle the pressures on both the ambulance service and A&E departments, by providing on-scene care in Glasgow City Centre. Their volunteers come from all walks of life and take on different roles within the charity. The Wrights made a substantial donation towards the refitting of the 'new' (second-hand) ambulance which the Charity acquired from a hospital in Manchester.

Craftex

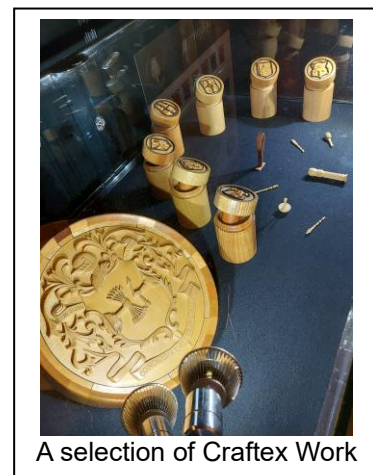
The Wrights, as noted primarily promote excellence in the craft skills associated with wood and glass. This is evidenced by the work displayed by college students at the annual Trades' House Craftex Competition. Some of the work exhibited by the students earn prizes and certificates from Trades' House.

Students who exhibit furniture, musical instruments and works in stained glass, can be further recognised by the Wrights and will receive a certificate and cheque, which are presented at the Choosing Dinner.

School's Craft Competition

The Glasgow Schools Craft Competition. is run annually in conjunction with Glasgow City Council Education Services. It seeks to recognise and reward traditional craft work undertaken by pupils as part of the SQA National and Higher-Grade craft & design syllabuses.

Entries come from S1 to Advanced Higher levels. and are judged in areas associated with Woodwork, Metalwork, Design and Manufacturing, Engineering Science and Graphic Communications.



A selection of Craftex Work

The Incorporation supports this competition by supplying judges and financial support.

Supporting Education

The Incorporation has a long history of working closely with Colleges and other organisations involved in education to the benefit of the organisations, examples in the recent past include:

John Wheatley College

In 2011 the College started cataloguing the Craft's possessions. The College offered a mix of photographic, digitisation of documents, audio recording and video, with all the above being available on-line. George Mahoney, the Trades' House photographer started by getting classes of students to photograph the contents of the Wright's Box. Concern was expressed concerning the work being carried out by the students of John Wheatley College. The first was in connection with the music on disc that had been prepared. This could not be played at public events because of copyright restrictions. The second issue was where the material would be stored and the cost of storage.

City of Glasgow College

In 2011 it was reported that repair works to the Craft's Charter Chests were being carried out by City of Glasgow College. The older box is not quite as old as was first thought, but instead it is an 18th Century Box that incorporates part of an earlier box.

An application from City of Glasgow College, asking for assistance towards the costs of sending one of their lecturers to a residential Stonemasonry Course in Romania was considered. The Incorporation ultimately donated £250 towards the lecturer's stonemasonry trip to Romania.

Anniesland College

Anniesland College was visited, and our representatives had been very impressed by the work being carried out there. The College have indicated that they are delighted that the Craft will consider their students' work each year, in connection with the manufacture of musical instruments, to see whether they are worthy of a Craft prize, and they have indicated that they would be happy to donate one of the musical instruments each year for the Craft to sell or auction as is thought best. This proposal was welcomed.

Woodworking Competition

"Winning with Wood" was run for the Coming Home Centre, GalGael, The Shed and Glasgow Wood Recycling. The money that was raised at the Deacon's Choosing Dinner was made available for prizes for this competition, with all four organisations having been asked to submit a piece of work for exhibition at Craftex. The size of the item is to be such that it could fit onto a one-quarter share of a presentation table.

Wrights' Website

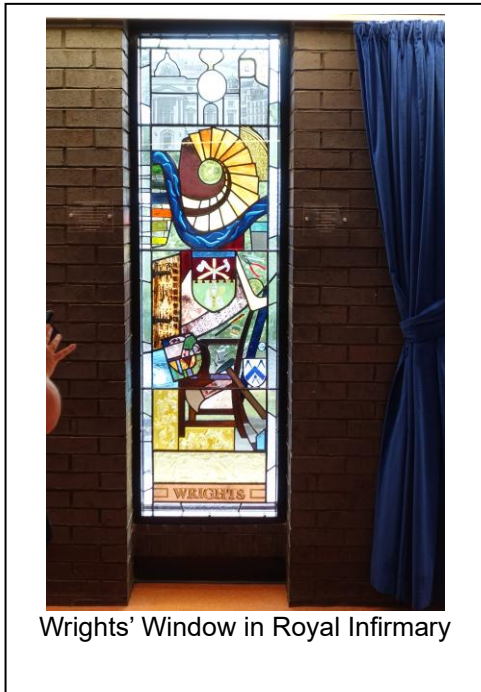
In the late 2010s there was much discussion about a Wrights' Website. Early investigative work was carried out by Auld Deacon Dorothy Newlands of Lauriston. Auld Deacon Dorothy developed the objectives, messages, site structure, and wrote all the original copy.

The style for the Website followed that adopted by The Incorporation of Maltmen, and it went live in 2022.

Recording the contents of the Charter Chest

In October 2013 there was an effort to resurrect the Photography project with John Wheatley College. The House Photographer, George Mahoney would teach a group of photography students from the College how to photograph the Wrights' Charter Chests and contents. This project was successfully completed, and other Crafts had their boxes and contents photographed also.

Wright's Window in the Royal Infirmary



Wright's Window in Royal Infirmary

For many years Alex Graham, Property Manager, at the Royal Infirmary, and Director of Education of The Incorporation of Wrights, had wondered if the walk along a long corridor in the hospital could be enhanced, made more relaxing for both patients and visitors. He suggested that the existing windows could be replaced by panels depicting aspects of the 14 Craft Incorporations. The Clyde emblematically flowing through and linking each window along the corridor. A blue eye line. They would add colour to the corridor and highlight the well-established link between The Trades' House and the Royal Infirmary. The idea was further extended to involve students on an appropriate course, at the City of Glasgow College, who would be invited to design and produce a window.

The first window to be commissioned was for the Incorporation of Wrights, followed by the Masons

then the Coopers and the Fleshers.

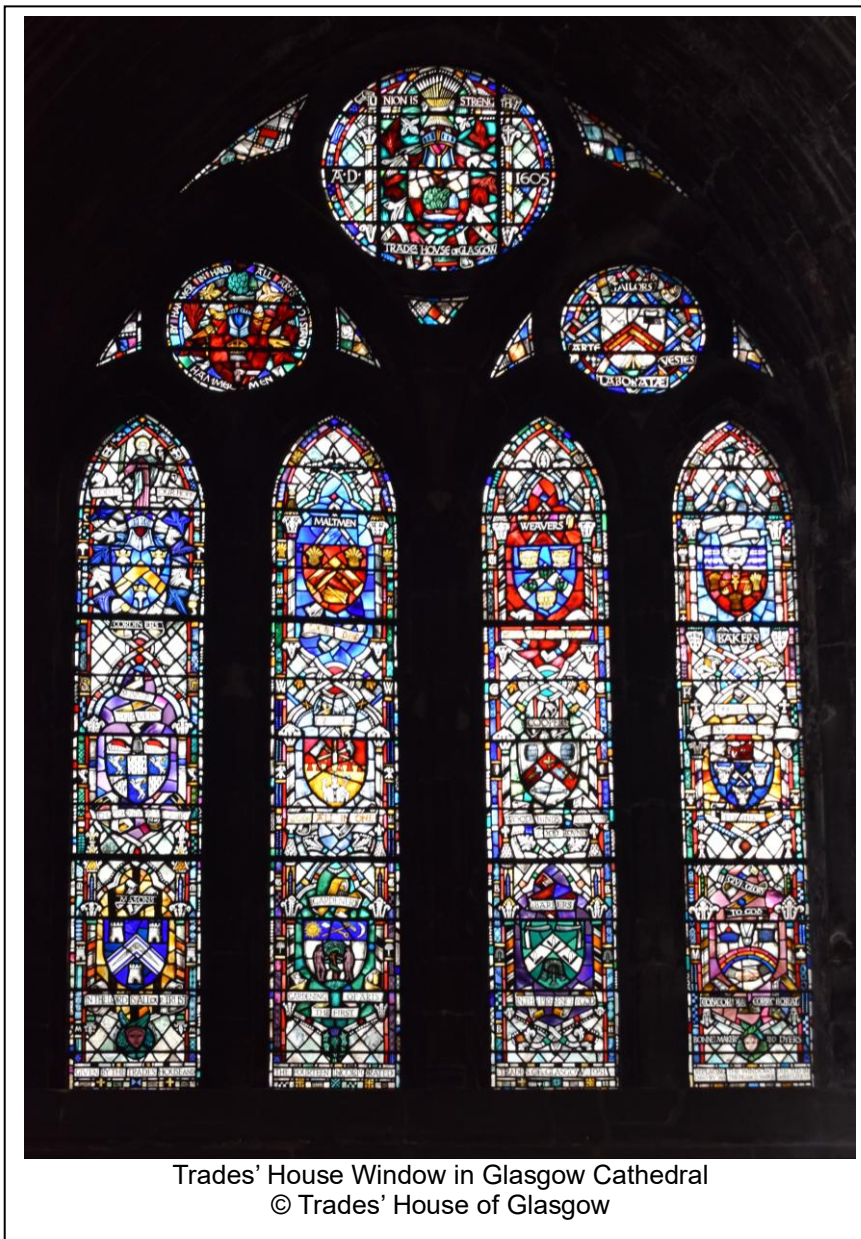
The students visited Trades' House to research and obtain background into each Craft and to also view the existing craft associated glazed panels.

The winning design for the Wrights' Window was approved, worked-on and completed by the students.

Alex Graham had sadly succumbed to his cancer, but as agreed, the completed Wrights' Window was installed by the staff of the Royal Infirmary and officially unveiled by his widow on the 27th August 2018.

Stained Glass Window in Glasgow Cathedral

In 1951 the Trades' House and fourteen Incorporation presented to the Cathedral a wonderful stained-glass window. The window is the second window to the right on passing through the screen. The Trades' House coat of arms is displayed at the top of the window with the 14 Incorporation windows below.



Trades' House Window in Glasgow Cathedral
© Trades' House of Glasgow

It was only fitting and right that the Incorporation of Wrights took part in this gift as they look after the Glazing Wrights. The Incorporation paid its full share in the commissioning which is a magnificent window containing all the coats of arms of the 14 Incorporations and the House.

If the Wrights, along with the other Incorporations had not had their coats of arms approved by the Lord Lyon, they would not have been able to have them displayed in the Cathedral as only registered arms can be displayed. The Wrights' arms were recorded on the 17th March 1924.

Incorporation's Arms on the Pews in Glasgow Cathedral

In February 1957, the Platform Committee discussed the pews that had been presented to Glasgow Cathedral by the Trades' House and several Incorporations. The pews had been installed, and arrangements were underway to have the Coats of Arms of the House, and the Incorporations concerned depicted on carved tintured plaques. It was proposed by the Architect of the Ministry of works to only depict the Crest of the Incorporations and to omit the armorial bearings on the escutcheon. The Platform agreed to meet with the Architect and inform him that the view of the meeting was to have full Coat of Arms depicted. In February 1957, the Finance Committee approved the payment of £260 to the Society of Friends of Glasgow Cathedral for the four new pews in the Cathedral for which the Finance Committee had agreed to be responsible for at a meeting on 4th November 1953.



Trades' House Arms
in the Cathedral

In May 1957, A letter was read at the Platform Committee which intimated that Lord Bisland and the Joint Committee had considered the question of depicting the helmet and arrows of the House Coat of Arms on the new pews gifted to Glasgow Cathedral and on the advice of the Lord Lyon compromised to the extent that the motto would be carved on the end of the pews immediately above the shield bearing the Coat of Arms, thus omitting all surrounding supporters and crests. The meeting agreed to this compromise. The thousands of people visiting the Cathedral often do not recognise the arms of the Incorporations or the Trades' House and it is a real pity that the name of the Trades' House and Incorporations are not more prominently

displayed on or adjacent to their arms.

Bakers	Barbers	Bonnetmakers	Coopers	Cordiners
Fleshers	Gardeners	Hammermen	Maltmen	Masons
Skinners	Tailors	Weavers	Wrights	Trades' House

BEING A MEMBER OF THE INCORPORATION OF WRIGHTS

The Trades' House and the Incorporations can be an intriguing mystery to potential members, to those who have recently joined and even long-established members. This section is designed to help enlighten all who are interested in these ancient and venerable institutions.

There are 14 Incorporated Trades in Glasgow, each meeting within the Trades' Hall in Glassford Street. Each individual Incorporation has a long and distinguished history going back over hundreds of years. They are the constituencies which elect the members of the Trades' House.

Initially the Incorporations regulated apprenticeships and accredited master craftsmen. The individual Incorporations continued to supervise the individual craftsmen acting as supervisory bodies while serving the public as points of reference when the customer was dissatisfied. Additionally, each Incorporation provided benevolence to its own individual members and/or their dependents.

The more 'functional' aspects of the Incorporations have been removed but the benevolent aspects of each Incorporation remain. It should be noted that apart from individual Incorporations the Trades' House supervises many Trusts as well as being represented on outside Trusts and public bodies. The Crafts also have a role in fostering the promotion, if not the retention, of the skills embodied in the original vocational callings as well as their modern development and heritage. Where they can do so, the Incorporation is keen to continue these educational and training roles which are in a real sense a continuation of the ancient traditions of the Crafts.

Who is eligible for membership of the Incorporation of Wrights?

Anyone is eligible if properly nominated and approved by the Master Court. In most of the 14 Crafts an infant may become a member from birth.

Freeman of the City

Because of the part the Trades' and Merchants' Houses used to play in the local government of Glasgow, to become a member of an Incorporation it is essential to acquire a Burgess Ticket certifying that the applicant is a freeman of the City of Glasgow. This is acquired for a small fee through the Clerk of the Incorporation.

Who is the Clerk of an Incorporation?

This person is usually legally qualified and serves as Secretary and Treasurer of the Incorporation. The Clerk issues all notices, and calls meetings of the Craft, including Choosing Day assemblies and advises the Master Court of the Craft and records their minutes.

What is the Master Court?

This is the ruling body of the Incorporation. The principal member is the Deacon of the Craft who usually chairs the meetings. In his/her absence the chairperson is normally the Collector, (the member of the Master Court responsible for overseeing the finances of the Incorporation) or the Late Deacon. Until recent years the correct method of address was "Deacon, Sir/Madam" or "Deacon *Surname*", this formal approach has been relaxed and now the Deacon is normally referred to as Deacon "*first name*". Similarly for the Collector. When these two people complete their respective terms of office they become "Late Deacon" or "Late Collector" respectively. After being a Late Deacon for a year, they become Past Deacon and after a period of five years they become Auld Deacon. The "Late Collector" is effectively the Collector in a fallow year - preparing to become Deacon of their Craft.

Members of the Master Court

The other members of the Court are usually elected for variable periods of between one and five years and can be re-elected. If proven to be interested and effective, any member may be elected Collector of their Incorporation. This clearly indicates a serious commitment to the duties and responsibilities of the Incorporation which, apart from attending the Master Court and thereby looking after 2 or 3 beneficiaries (often confusingly called pensioners because of their ages), can involve the members in other activities of the Incorporation, e.g. helping to organise social events: ferrying

old persons to social functions; helping with arrangements for specific functions e.g. Choosing Dinner.

Collector and New Members

Apart from his responsibility for finance, the Collector issues and receives applications for membership and these are processed by the Clerk. It is expected that all members of the Incorporation will propose suitable persons as potential members. Great care must be taken **NOT** to recommend anyone who has a criminal record or who may simply be joining hoping to receive benevolence (those with this latter aim must be refused). It is normal practice to ensure that new members are financially secure and that a new member is prepared to work for the Incorporation.

Lammas Meeting (AGM)

This meeting is so called because it usually takes place in August (when this term-date falls). It is the formal annual meeting of the Incorporation at which a review of the year's activities is presented to the Craft and nominations to the Master Court are tabled.

Choosing Day (Usually 3rd Friday of September)

On this day the Incorporation holds its elections and installs the new Deacon and Master Court for the ensuing year. It is at this meeting that the Representatives (like local councillors or members of parliament) to the Trades' House are elected, and all members are expected to attend. The Choosing Day meeting receives a formal visitation from the Deacon Convener accompanied by the Collector and Clerk of the House.

Choosing Dinner

The Incorporation of Wrights by tradition hold their Choosing Dinner in early October. Dinners traditionally have good speakers, and some have other special features or additional entertainment. They give each member the opportunity to invite non-members as guests, thereby introducing them to the fellowship of "The Auld Hoose".

The Trades' House

The 14 Incorporations joined together and, eventually under the motto "Union is Strength" built the Trades' Hall. The whole Craft body is led by the Deacon Convener who, with the Late Deacon Convener, Late Collector and the Collector of the House along with the Clerk of the House, form the policy and general purposes committee known as the "Platform of the House." This committee is responsible for the overall supervision of the Trades' House. The Platform mirrors the senior members of each Master Court. The House collectively has supervision of several million pounds in trusts, managed and supervised on a day-to-day basis by the Platform. It is important to know that the Platform has no powers in themselves, and all-important decisions must come to before the 64 Trustees for approval or rejection.

Deacon Convener

This ancient post is now generally held for one year. In Glasgow the office dates back to 1604 and is held in such high honour that the occupant of the Chair, becomes, during his term of office, the third citizen in Glasgow with a non-voting seat on the Glasgow City Council. The first citizen is the Lord Provost (who is the Lord Lieutenant) and the second is the Lord Dean of Guild, who is the chairman of the Merchants' House.

The Deacon Convener chairs all the meetings of the House at which, each Incorporation is represented by a set number of members.

The Deacon Convener has a civic function as well as a House function and during their year in office can be expected to attend over 300 functions either in the Trades' Hall, the City Chambers or at many different venues in Glasgow, in Scotland and in England. On occasion in the absence of, or along with, the Lord Provost and Lord Dean of Guild, the Deacon Convener may represent the City of Glasgow. Clearly on occasion he/she may require to nominate or request a member of the Platform to deputise on their behalf. Individual members of Incorporations will meet with the Deacon Convener at Choosing Dinners and on Choosing Day as well as other social functions.

The Deacon Convener presides over meetings of several of the larger trust funds where advice is obtained regarding individual beneficiaries of the House by one of our social workers.

The Collector of the House

This individual is chosen annually and becomes responsible for all the financial aspects of the House. He/she accompanies the Deacon Convener at the Choosing Dinners of each Incorporation as well as at many major House functions and certain social events outwith the House. The people holding these two offices clearly have a wide social commitment to the affairs of the House and through their membership of the Platform Committee have the advice and experience of the Late Convener, the Late Collector, and the Clerk.

Clerk of the House

The Clerk of the House is legally qualified. He/she is the Clerk of the Platform committee and responsible to the House. As chief executive, the Clerk is responsible for the total administration of the Trades' House office and receives the Craft Election Returns from which the Blue List of House members and officials is created. The present Clerk is also Secretary to the Trades' Hall Trust - **a separate body which controls the fabric of the Hall**, as well as being responsible for the Trades' Hall employees and administrative staff.

All of the major funds are supervised by the Clerk in terms of day-to-day administration and all communications concerning House matters are the responsibility of the Clerk of the House.

Matters concerning the Hall are the responsibility of the Secretary to the Hall Trust and his staff.

Matters of rules, protocol, and administration can be referred by individual House members or the Incorporations to the Clerk of the House who may seek the comments of the Platform of the House. He/she acts as the common link between the House and the Trustees of Trades' Hall, and with civic, academic and national bodies. He can often help to direct certain matters to those with specialist knowledge or advise in the appointment of an appropriate member to a particular organisation such as a non-House trust body, e.g. Glasgow Humane Society, Glasgow Caledonian University, etc.

Deacon Convener's Choosing Day (Trades' House AGM)

The annual meeting of the House is held on the second Wednesday in October, and this can be regarded as the Deacon Convener's Choosing Day. The Collector is also

elected on that day. The Trades' House Bell is rung at 12 noon on the day the Deacon is elected.

On the evening of his/her appointment the Deacon Convener along with Collector of the House hosts the Trades' House Annual Dinner, which is one of the major events in the social life of Glasgow. The guest list for the Dinner includes the Lord Provost, the Lord Dean of Guild, the Sheriff Principal, HM Forces, Government Ministers, representatives from business and commerce, the heads of other Craft Guildries outwith Glasgow as well as the current members of the House and Representatives on Public Bodies.

Kirking of the House

On the Sunday morning immediately following the Deacon Convener's Choosing Day a Divine Service is held in Glasgow Cathedral at which all members (with their families) of all Incorporations are invited to attend. It is hoped that members of the Incorporations will invite non-members to participate in this significant service, thereby helping to introduce non-members to the family of the House. Preceded by the Mace, the leading members of the Trades' House and the Clerks take part in a formal procession wearing morning dress (kilts are so regarded). The usual order on this occasion is as follows: Platform Committee (Deacon Convener and Collector first), former Conveners (most recent last), Representatives in Craft order, the Preses of the Grand Antiquity Society, the President of the Association of Deacons and the Right Worshipful Master of the Trades' House of Glasgow Lodge.

Chain Gang

One of the most pleasurable aspects of the House is that each Deacon visits all of the other Incorporations' Choosing Dinners. The Deacon Convener, the Collector of the Trades' House, Deacons and Visitor, the Preses of the Grand Antiquity Society, the President of the Association of Deacons and the Master of the Trades' House of Glasgow Lodge are known as "the Chain Gang". Many lifelong friendships are established during that particular year.

Preses of the Grand Antiquity Society of Glasgow

Those who hold near-hand burgess tickets as freemen/ freewomen of Glasgow and either personally or through their spouse have a parent one of whose own parents or parents-in-law (appropriate burgess tickets must be produced for all three generations of their family), are entitled to apply to become a member of this ancient society which participates fully in the House's social activities. The chairman of the Directors of the Society is known as the Preses, pronounced "pree-sees", and the Collector is known as the Treasurer. The Directors hold a private dinner every year at which the Chain Gang are invited guests, and there is an annual organ recital.

President of the Association of Deacons

When a member becomes a Deacon (Visitor) on Choosing Day he joins the Association of Deacons. This Association has a benevolent function and looks in particular to the needs of relatives of former Deacons who find themselves in financial difficulties or straitened circumstances. The Association of Deacons appoints its President on an annual basis and has its Treasurer as its other principal office bearer. The Association of Deacons has its annual cocktail party which is open to all Master Courts and their guests.

The Trades' House Lodge

Many years ago (1920) it was considered that the formation of a Masonic Lodge would greatly help to promote harmony within the whole Trades' House organisation. A Lodge was formed and ever since then the Master of the Trades' House Lodge has been regarded as a member of the Chain Gang. All members of the Lodge are members of an Incorporation.

Helping Others

All members of every Incorporation are expected to support the efforts of the Trades' House to add to the benefits and knowledge of the House within the community at large. Apart from the specific functions mentioned which concern solely members there are a number of functions where members can commit some time and effort on behalf of the City and those less fortunate than themselves, time being the only cost. Enjoyment and excellent social and pleasurable entertainment may be the reward.

Doors Open Days

The Trades' Hall is an integral part of the "Doors Open Days" in Glasgow - usually falling on the Saturday and Sunday following Choosing Day (3rd Friday in September). The doors of Trades' Hall are open to the public who with volunteer guides are given a tour of the Hall. Any Craftsman's family can participate. Suitable notes are provided for the guides.

Craftex

Each individual Incorporation has usually "adopted" at least one appropriate college which teaches and instructs young people in trade skills and craft. This support usually takes the form of monetary awards and certificates to reward excellence or unusual and exceptional skills. On a much bigger scale, in conjunction with all the colleges in the area, the Trades' House not only financially rewards merit but affords a 'centre of city location' at the Trades' Hall to allow a display of the best efforts by young men and women to the public in general. This also affords an excellent opportunity to bring the efforts and aspirations of the Incorporated Trades to the wider public. Volunteers from each Incorporation assist on the several days of this event by being present either to assist the organising committee in setting up the exhibition or acting as security/stewards during the open exhibition. This competition has been recognised by UK Skills as an outstanding national event.

Schools Craft Competition

All maintained schools in Glasgow may nominate the work of pupils. The work, part of the normal curriculum, is judged by a House Committee. Certificates are presented by the Deacon Convener with the Lord Provost in attendance at a ceremony held within the Trades' Hall.

Sports

The House through individual sports Conveners organises various sporting competitions which have been specifically geared to allow a mixing of the members of the various Incorporations and hence a pleasant way of encouraging social intercourse among the various Incorporations. Such events include golf, bowling, curling and fishing. The lady of the Deacon Convener also organises an annual ladies' golf competition.

Obtaining Help

If you learn that a member or connection of the Incorporation of Wrights is in pecuniary distress, you should mention this to one of the Master Court and/or the

Clerk in the first instance. They will normally arrange for the needy person to receive an application form in which questions are asked about their general financial situation, and thereafter the social workers will make a visit to go over this with them and report on their condition to your Master Court. If your Master Court can make a grant, that will in turn open up the possibility of further financial assistance being forthcoming from the Trades' House itself, (dependent upon a positive report from one of the social workers). This does not necessarily mean that two reports will be made, as the one may serve.

If you come across someone in need who has no connection with any of the Incorporated Trades, you should refer their case in the first instance to one of the social workers and/or the Trades' House office. This is because, generally speaking, the Incorporations do not have funds available to help such people; however, the Trades' House administers a number of trusts which may potentially be able to give a degree of support. Here again, the applicants will be visited by one of the social workers and reports made to the Platform Committee. The report and visitation made by one of the social workers are therefore an essential first step in securing assistance. If this is approved, that then sets in motion a regular series of visitations.

Deacon Conveners

Who were members of the
Incorporation of Wrights



Alexander Ross	Wright	1681
George Nish	Wright	1694-95
Robert Reid	Wright	1727-28
George Nisbet	Wright	1755-56
Francis Crawford	Wright	1765
William Craig	Wright	1771-72
Robert Mann	Wright	1783-84
Ninian Glen	Wright	1785-86
Robert Waddell	Wright	1797-98
John Morrison	Wright	1801-02
James Cleland	Wright	1809-10
Robert Ferrie	Wright	1815-16
William Rodger	Wright	1825-26
James Graham	Wright	1833
James Wilson	Wright	1855-56
James Graham	Wright	1863-64
Walter Bannerman	Wright	1867-68
Hugh Kennedy	Wright	1883-84
James Goldie D.L.	Wright	1903-04
Hugh Alexander	Wright	1915-16
W. Sloan Smith	Wright	1953
Kenneth Muir-Simpson	Wright	1960-61
Denzil L. Muir-Simpson T.D.	Wright	1972-73
Alexander A.H. Bone.	Wright	1993-94
George B. Horspool D. Univ.	Wright	2001-02



Deacons of the Incorporation



Name	Year	Name	Year
James King	1604	Archibald Reid	1605
James Elphinston	1606	Archibald Reid	1607
James Main	1608	William Young	1609
James Allison	1610	James Reid	1611
Archibald Reid	1612	James Reid	1613
James Allanson	1614	James Main	1615
Patrick Colquhoun	1616	Patrick Colquhoun	1617
James Anderson	1618	Patrick Colquhoun	1619
James Allanson	1620	Alexander Main	1621
Patrick Colquhoun	1622	James Colquhoun	1623
Patrick Colquhoun	1624	Robert Muir	1625
John Baird	1626	Patrick Colquhoun	1627
Robert Bell	1628	Robert Muir	1629
John Baird	1630	Robert Muir	1631
Robert Bell	1632	Patrick Colquhoun	1633
James Colquhoun	1634	Patrick Colquhoun	1635
Robert Muir	1636	William Baird	1637
William Baird	1638	John Baird	1639
Patrick Colquhoun	1640	Robert Reid	1641
Matthew Colquhoun	1642	Robert Reid	1643
Matthew Colquhoun	1644	William Reid	1645
Matthew Colquhoun	1646	Robert Bell	1647
John Dainzell	1648	Robert Reid	1649
Robert Reid	1650	James Elphinston	1651
Robert Reid, sen.	1652	Robert Reid, sen.	1653
William Reid	1654	Gabriel Cumming	1655
John Otterburn	1656	Alexander Dainzell	1657
Alexander Dainzell	1658	Gabriel Cumming	1659
Gabriel Cumming	1660	James Selkirk	1661
Thomas Miller	1662	John Dainzell	1663
Alexander Elphinston	1664	James Reid	1665
Thomas Miller	1666	John Otterburn	1667
Alexander Dainzell	1668	Alexander Dainzell	1669
Alexander Eglintoun	1670	John Otterburn	1671
Alexander Dainzell	1672	Alexander Dainzell	1673
William Liddell	1674	Thomas Miller	1675
Thomas Miller	1676	George Dainzell	1677
John Paterson	1686		
	Since the Revolution		
Alexander Mabben	1690	James Herbertson	1691

James Herbertson	1692	James Herbertson	1693
Robert Stevenson	1694	Robert Stevenson	1695
Robert Stevenson	1696	John Paterson	1697
John Paterson	1698	John Paterson	1699
James Murdoch	1700	Alexander Mabben	1701
James Murdoch	1702	James Murdoch	1703
Robert Dickie	1704	Francis Stevenson	1705
James Muir	1706		
From the Union			
		James Craig	1707
Robert Stevenson	1708	Robert Stevenson	1709
James Craig	1710	James Craig	1711
Robert Dickie	1712	Robert Dickie	1713
Robert Stevenson	1714	Robert Dickie	1715
Robert Dickie	1716	Alexander Ross	1717
Francis Stevenson	1718	John Craig, sen.	1719
John Craig, sen.	1720	Francis Stevenson	1721
Robert Reid	1722	James Lochhead	1723
Robert Dreghorn	1724	Robert Dreghorn	1725
James Nisbitt	1726	Robert Donaldson	1727
Robert Dreghorn	1728	William Liddell	1729
Francis Stevenson	1730	Robert Dreghorn	1731
Alexander Dunlop	1732	Robert Stevenson	1733
Robert Donaldson	1734	Robert Dreghorn	1735
John Wardrop	1736	Matthew Paton	1737
James Nisbett	1738	James Cross	1739
Robert Dreghorn	1740	Francis Crawford	1741
Robert Donaldson	1742	William Reid	1743
Thomas Thomson	1744	James Woodrow	1745
William Campbell	1746	James Reid	1747
Hugh Fulton	1748	Robert Falconer	1749
John Hamilton	1750	John Lohead	1751
David Lillie	1752	George Nisbett	1753
James Gilmour	1754	Robert Matthie	1755
James Robertson	1756	Thomas Smith	1757
William Anderson	1758	James Herbertson	1759
John Cunningham	1760	Angus Currie	1761
Robert Matthie	1762	George Falconer	1763
Archibald Buchanan	1764	Robert Smith	1765
Patrick Smith	1766	David Anderson	1767
William Caldwell	1768	William Horn	1769
James Reid	1770	George Ferrie	1771
William Duncan	1772	Ninian Glen	1773
Peter Falconer	1774	John Finlay	1775
David Gardner	1776	David Lindsay	1777
John Finlay	1778	John Morrison	1779

James Jaffray	1780	Henry Calder	1781
Robert Waddell	1782	David Scott	1783
William Meikle	1784	Thomas Crawford	1785
Maurice Murray	1786	John Morrison	1787
Alexander Paterson	1788	Charles Pirie	1789
James Paterson	1790	John Clelland	1791
James Gemmell	1792	James Young, sen.	1793
William Clydesdale	1794	John Buchanan	1795
James Clelland	1796	Thomas Smith	1797
James Buchanan	1798	Andrew McFarlane	1799
William Carswell	1800	William Rodger	1801
Robert Watt	1802	William Lindsay	1803
Andrew McFarlane	1804	Robert Ferrie	1805
James McRuer	1806	Robert Brownlie	1807
Robert Miller	1808	Duncan McCallum	1809
Malcolm Colquhoun	1810	John Binnie	1811
William Thomson	1812	Walter Bremner	1813
Robert Fleming	1814	Lachlan McLean	1815
James McRuer	1816	James Graham	1817
Thomas Russell	1818	James Watt	1819
Archibald Murray	1820	Daniel Chisholm	1821
William Cairney	1822	Archibald Edmiston	1823
James Graham	1824	James Lamb	1825
William Binnie	1826	Archibald Greive	1827
James McRuer	1828	John Walker	1828
John Small	1830	William McInnes	1831
Moses Hunter	1832	Daniel Chisholm	1833
Malcolm Muir	1834	William McGowan	1835
Charles Porteous	1836	John Scott	1837
William McInnes	1838	Andrew Brockat	1839
William Boyd	1840	Archibald Thomson	1841
William M Jamieson	1842	William Murray	1843
James Melvin	1844	Andrew Reid	1845
Robert Sclanders	1846	Robert Sclanders	1847
James Miller	1848	James McLure	1849
James Wilson	1850	Andrew Miller	1851
John Dykes	1852	Archibald Munn Boyd	1853
William McCall	1854	Alexander Clark	1855
William Anderson	1856	James Graham	1857
John Binnie	1858	James Wilson senior	1859
William Caldwell	1860	William Menzies	1861
Robert Neilson	1862	Walter Bannerman	1863
William Shaw	1864	James Thomson	1865 ('69)
Hugh Walls	1866	John Wilkinsons	1867
Archibald Nairn	1868	James Thomson	1869 ('65)
John B. Bennet	1870	Alexander Marshall	1871 ('80)

Hugh Kennedy	1872	David Robertson	1873
George Laird	1874	James Henderson	1875
John Findlay	1876	John Baxter	1877
Alexander Craig	1878	William McCall	1879
Alexander Marshall	1880 ('71)	Robert A. Bryden	1881
Henry Stewart	1882	William Lightbody	1883
Alexander Eadie	1884	James Sellars	1885
John Watt	1886	R. J. Bennett	1887
Andrew Gray	1888	Matthew Henderson +	1889
R. Barclay Shaw	1890	John Craig	1891
George Bell	1892	John Stewart	1893
James Ferguson	1894	John Ported	1895
James Maben +	1896	James Hunter	1897
Alexander Buchan	1898	James Goldie	1899
Duncan Buchanan	1900	Hugh McTaggart +	1901
William Lightbody junior	1902	George Rome	1903
John G. Sharp	1904	Thomas Young	1905
John Keppie	1906	Robert D. Gray	1907
Hugh Alexander	1908	David Dick +	1909
Alex. Edmiston	1910	Thomas Gray	1911
Mungo M. Graham	1912	William Roxburgh	1913
William Anderson	1914	Archibald B. Watson	1915
Samuel Stevenson M.B.E	1916 ('23)	John Laird	1917
James A. Ferguson	1918	Matthew C. Simpson	1919
Andrew Deas	1920	Bruce Rennie	1921
Archibald Campbell	1922	Samuel Stevenson	1923 ('16)
Thomas Duncanson	1924	John C. McKellar	1925
Alexander Orr	1926	Harry T. Benzies +	1927
Kenneth Muir-Simpson	1928	Harry Livingston	1929
Robert Hendry	1930	John Cameron Black	1931
John Taylor	1932	Edward Gibbon	1933
Allan G. Pollok	1934	Arthur M. Rogerson +	1935
James Maxwell McPhie	1936	William M. D. Anderson M.C.	1937
James M. McNeil +	1938	Sir Donald M. Skiffington C.B.E.	1939
Andrew Nicol	1940	William Sloan Smith	1941
Norman A. Millar	1942	William Dick	1943
Alexander M. Smeaton	1944	George M. McLaren	1945 ('46)
George Grant & George M McLaren	1946	Ivan S. Lightbody	1947
Alexander Mennie M.B.E., D.C.M. +	1948	Charles S. Gray	1949
Robert C. K. Livingston +	1950	Andrew M. Muir	1951
James S. Simpson & Andrew M. Muir	1952	W. Cochrane Montgomery	1953
George Laird	1954	William Hannah	1955
Thomas W. Lightbody	1956	Frederick R. Wylie	1957
John C. Graham	1958	J. Forrest McLelland	1959

James D. Benzies +	1960	Alexander T. Forbes +	1961
John B. T. Henderson FIOB +	1962	William Nicol CBE, BSc +	1963
A. Gilmour Pollock	1964	John M. Christie	1965
Denzil Muir Simpson	1966	Thomas G. Jamieson TD, +	1967
James P. McPhie	1968	Frank Campbell BArch	1969
Douglas B. Fraser	1970	Walter S. H. Mennie	1971
William Anderson	1972	Peter Shaw FRICS	1973
Andrew W Dick +	1974	William T Davie	1975
John Laird	1976	J Geoffrey Keanie	1977
Robert W. K. C. Rogerson OBE	1978	Thomas Hannah	1979
James H Campbell	1980	Robert M Muir-Simpson	1981
John W Haran	1982	Andrew D Garland	1983
David A C Montgomery	1984	Kenneth S G Fish	1985
Alexander A H Bone	1986	Paul B Dowds	1987
William J Fleming	1988	William Craig +	1989
Mervyn S Hamilton	1990	Peter F O Cross	1991
A Lindsay Gillespie	1992	Peter S Kelso	1993
Wallace Dick	1994	Robert Gray	1995
George G Horspool	1996	Jack D Copeland ++	1997
T. Brian McKirgan	1998	David R McMillan	1999
John C Maginnis	2000	Alistair L Doig	2001
Wallace Dick	2002	Andrew MacFarlane	2003
Calum MacCalman	2004	Jonathan Parkins	2005
Andrew B Wilson	2006	A Angus Kerr	2007
Paul McDevitt	2008	Alex C Graham	2009
G Keith Smelt	2010	Tony Barr	2011
Dr John A Smail	2012	Stewart J Hamilton	2013
John Walker	2014	Jenny McIntyre	2015
Dorothy Newlands of Lauriston	2016	Graeme McDonald	2017
Richard G S Miller	2018	Dr Shirin Parsno	2019
Dr Shirin Parsno	2020	Gillian Christiansen	2021
Donald J McKillop	2022	Stephen J Osborne	2023
Judy S Tayler-Smith	2024		

+ Denotes President of the Scottish Master Wrights and Builders Association.



Clerks of the Incorporation



Names	Year of Office
Joseph Crombie	1782 to 1786
George Crawford, sen.	1786 to 1822
George Crawford, jun.	1822 to 1831
Robert Miller	1831 to 1834
Peter Ferrie	1834 to 1838
David Wilkie	1838 to 1849
William Renison	1849 to 1885
James A. Reid	1885 to 1913
James Morton	1913 to 1914
James D. Black	1914 to 1918
James M. Reid	1918 to 1938
W. Ramsay Gemmill	1938 to 1961
D. M. McNiven	1961 to 1974
John H. Henderson	1974 to 1979
Alistair M. Hamilton (Interim)	1979 to 1980
Alistair M. Hamilton (Interim Clerks)	1980
William E. Gibson (Interim Clerks)	1980
William E. Gibson	1980 to 1985
John F. Lindsay	1985 to 2002
Thomas W. Monteith	2002 to date

Box Contents from 1651 to 2025

<u>Year</u>	<u>Deacon</u>	<u>Articles in Box</u>
1651	Robert Reid	2 old documents.
1800	Andrew McFarlane	Unknown.
1801	William Carswell	Unknown.
1802	William Rodger	Unknown.
1803	Robert Watt	Unknown.
1804	William Lindsay	Unknown.
1805	Andrew McFarlane	Unknown.
1806	Robert Ferrie	Unknown.
1807	James McRuer	Unknown.
1808	Robert Brownlie	Unknown.
1809	Robert Miller	Unknown.
1810	Duncan McCallum	Unknown.
1811	Malcolm Colquhoun	Unknown.
1812	John Binnie	Unknown.
1813	William Thomson	Unknown.
1814	Walter Bremner	Unknown.
1815	Robert Fleming	Unknown.
1816	Lachlan McLean	Unknown.
1817	James McRuer	Unknown.
1818	James Graham	Unknown.
1819	Tomas Russell	Unknown.
1820	James Watt	Unknown.
1821	Archibald Murray	Unknown.
1822	Daniel Chisholm	Unknown.
1823	William Cairney	Unknown.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Deacon</u>	<u>Articles in Box</u>
1824	Archibald Edmiston	Unknown.
1825	James Graham	Unknown.
1826	James Lamb	Unknown.
1827	William Binnie	Unknown.
1828	Archibald Grieve	Unknown.
1829	John McRuer	Unknown.
1830	John Walker	Unknown.
1831	John Small	Unknown.
1832	William McInnes	Unknown.
1833	Moses Hunter	Unknown.
1834	Daniel Chisholm	Unknown.
1835	Malcolm Muir	Unknown.
1836	William McGowan	Unknown.
1837	Charles Porteous	Glasgow Herald and some written papers.
1838	John Scott	Selection of papers.
1839	William McInnes	Selection of papers.
1840	Andrew Brockat	Unknown.
1841	William Boyd	Unknown.
1842	Archibald Thomson	Unknown.
1843	William M Jamieson	Unknown.
1844	William Murray	Selection of papers.
1845	James Melvin	Selection of papers.
1846	Andrew Reid	Selection of papers.
1847	Robert Sclanders	Selection of papers.
1848	Robert Sclanders	Selection of papers.
1849	James Miller	Unknown.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Deacon</u>	<u>Articles in Box</u>
1850	James McClure	Unknown.
1851	James Wilson	Unknown.
1852	Andrew Miller	Unknown.
1853	John Dykes	Unknown.
1854	Archibald Munn Boyd	Unknown.
1855	William McCall	Unknown.
1856	Alexander Clark	Unknown.
1857	William Anderson	Unknown.
1858	James Graham	Unknown.
1859	John Binnie	Unknown.
1860	James Wilson senior	Unknown.
1861	William Caldwell	Unknown.
1862	William Menzies	Unknown.
1863	Robert Neilson	Unknown.
1864	Walter Bannerman	Unknown.
1865	William Shaw	Unknown.
1866	James Thomson	Unknown.
1867	Hugh Walls	Unknown.
1868	John Wilkinson	Unknown.
1869	Archibald Nairn	Unknown.
1870	James Thomson	Unknown.
1871	John B Bennett	Unknown.
1872	Alexander Marshall	Unknown.
1873	Hugh Kennedy	Unknown.
1874	David Robertson	Unknown.
1875	George Laird	Unknown.
1876	James Henderson	Unknown.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Deacon</u>	<u>Articles in Box</u>
1877	John Findlay	Unknown.
1878	John Baxter	Unknown.
1879	Alexander Craig	Unknown.
1880	William McCall	Post Office Telegram and a series of cards.
1881	Alexander Marshall	Unknown.
1882	Robert A Bryden	Big Key, dated 1878-79.
1883	Henry Stewart	Unknown.
1884	William Lightbody	Unknown.
1885	Alexander Eadie	Unknown.
1886	James Sellar	Wooden Box with gold banding.
1887	John Watt	Unknown.
1888	R J Bennet	Unknown.
1889	Andrew Gray	Unknown.
1890	Matthew Henderson	Unknown.
1891	R Barclay Shaw	Unknown.
1892	John Craig	Unknown.
1893	George Bell	Unknown.
1894	John Stewart	Unknown.
1895	James Ferguson	Unknown.
1896	John Porter	Wooden Clogs made in 1896.
1897	James Maben	Box made from the oak of the old Tolbooth of Glasgow.
1898	James Hunter	Unknown.
1899	Alexander Buchanan	Unknown.
1900	James Goldie	Unknown.
1901	Duncan Buchanan	Purse with date of Queen Victoria's death on it.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Deacon</u>	<u>Articles in Box</u>
1902	Hugh McTaggart	Four Postage Stamps.
1903	William Lightbody	Unknown.
1904	George Rome	Unknown.
1905	John G Sharp	Tercentenary of the Trades' House booklets.
1906	Thomas Young	Unknown.
1907	John Keppie	Unknown.
1908	Robert D Gray	Unknown.
1909	Hugh Alexander	Unknown.
1910	David Dick	Unknown.
1911	Alexander Edmiston	Unknown.
1912	Thomas Gray	Unknown.
1913	Mungo M Graham	Unknown.
1914	William Roxburgh	Unknown.
1915	William Anderson	Unknown.
1916	Archibald B. Watson	Unknown.
1917	Samuel Stevenson	Unknown.
1918	John Laird	Unknown.
1919	James A Ferguson	Unknown.
1920	Matthew M Simpson	Unknown.
1921	Andrew Deas	Unknown.
1922	Bruce Rennie	Unknown.
1923	Archibald Campbell	Unknown.
1924	Samuel Stevenson	Unknown.
1925	Thomas Duncan	Unknown.
1926	John C McKellar	Unknown.
1927	Alexander Orr	Unknown.
1928	Harry T Benzies	Unknown.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Deacon</u>	<u>Articles in Box</u>
1929	Kenneth Muir Simpson	Photograph of himself as Deacon Convener and a Deacon of the Wrights 1909.
1930	John Livingston	A horn Snuff Mull.
1931	Robert Hendry	Piece of wood from the Stockwell Bridge 1881.
1932	John Cameron Black	Unknown.
1933	John Taylor	The Glasgow Herald old facsimile.
1934	Edward Gibbon	Unknown.
1935	Allan G. Pollok	Unknown.
1936	Arthur M. Rogerson	Various Documents.
1937	James Maxwell McPhee	Unknown.
1938	William M. D. Anderson	Unknown.
1939	James M. McNeil	Medal in Box.
1940	Sir Donald M. Skivington	Photo of the Red Society Box and other photographs.
1941	Andrew Nicol	Piece of metal in wooden box.
1942	William Sloan Smith	Relic of Aerial Bombing of Glasgow.
1943	Norman A Millar	Unknown.
1944	William Dick	Unknown.
1945	Alexander M. Smeaton	Various Letters.
1946	John Grant	Unknown.
1947	George M. McLaren	Book Second City.
1948	Ivan S. Lightbody	Unknown.
1949	Alexsander Mennie	Unknown.
1950	Charles Gray	Accounts of the Incorporation for the year 1880/1981.
1951	Robert C K Livingston	White ensign of which had been presented to him by the commanding officer of that ship after action near Iceland which took

place during the war when the Deacon was serving in the ship.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Deacon</u>	<u>Articles in Box</u>
1952	Andrew M Muir	Copy signed by the Platform of the Humble Address presented by the Trades' House to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on the occasion of the death of King George IV. The Deacon added to the collection a piece of oak 500 years old from the roof of Glasgow Cathedral and a crown piece struck on the occasion of the Festival of Britain 1951.
1953	James S Simpson	Replica of the anointing spoon to be used at the Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth.
1954	W Cochrane Montgomery	A set of Coronation Coins, some Laundry Money and a letter calling a meeting of Master Joiners and Timber Merchants of Glasgow for 28 th August 1837.
1955.	George Laird	A set of handmade nails taken from the house at Miller Street, Glasgow in which during his stay in Glasgow in 1745 & 1746.
1956.	William Hannah	A menu of the Leap Year Dinner 1956 given by the Deacon and Visitors of the 14 th Incorporation to the Deacon Convener in recognition of his bachelorhood.
1957	Thomas W Lightbody	A copy of the last issue of the Glasgow Evening News and a badge of the x-ray campaign in Glasgow.
1958	Frederick R Wylie	A hardwood cigar box bearing the craft's crest on the lid. A note recording the Deacon's gift was placed in the Box.
1959	John C Graham	A Silver Crown piece struck on the occasion of the Festival of Britain 1951.
1960	J Forrest McLelland	Three one-pound notes of the National Bank of d, one of the Commercial Bank of Scotland Ltd, one of the National the Commercial Bank, these commemorating Amalgamation of two of the Scottish Banks. Also deposited was a photograph of the Queen and her infant son, Prince Andrew.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Deacon</u>	<u>Articles in Box</u>
1961	James D Benzies	An indenture for an Apprentice Joiner dated 1814 together with the Discharge dated 1814 together with the Discharge dated 1817 and a copy of the new English Bible – The New Testament.
1962	Alex T Forbes	Two Wages sheets, one dated September 1911 and the other September 1961 showing the difference in men's wages in 50 years.
1963.	John B T Henderson	A copy of The Last Tram by C A Oakley was placed in the box.
1964	William Nicol	A copy of the Booklet of the Clyde Tunnel endorsed by Mr John Armour, the Master of Works and City Engineer was placed in the box.
1965	A Gilmour Pollock	A Sir Winston Churchill Commemorative Medal was placed in the Box.
1966.	John M Christie	A pair of Churchill Crowns and a copy of the Local Education Television Service issued by Glasgow Corporation Education Department.
1967.	Denzil L Muir-Simpson	A folder containing photographs and relative descriptions of two events of national interest (1) Sir Francis Chichester arriving at Plymouth after his voyage to and from Australia and (2) the Celtic Football Team arriving at Celtic Park after winning the European Cup.
1968.	Thomas G Jamieson	A Photograph of the launching of the Cunard Liner Queen Elizabeth 2.
1969	James McPhie	A grand portfolio depicting the Apollo Moon Flight.
1970	Frank Campbell	A Moon Flight Atlas, A Metric Rule, A Picture of Trades' House drawn by the Deacon.
1971	Douglas B Fraser	A set of decimal coins and a decimal currency chart.
1972	Walter S M Mennie	A set of 1971 mint pre-decimal coinage.
1973	William Anderson	A coin struck to commemorate Britain's entry to the common market and an old peg

formerly used to fix slates to roofs of buildings.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Deacon</u>	<u>Articles in Box</u>
1974	Peter Shaw	A copy of the new church of Scotland hymnary (3 rd edition) and conversion slide.
1975	Andrew W Dick	A copy of the last edition of the Scottish daily express printed in Scotland, A copy of the last published edition of the Glasgow Evening citizen and a wooden joiners brace of the 1830-1860 period.
1976	William T Davie	A copy of Glasgow – The first 800 years by Hugh Cochrane and a folder containing a set of pamphlets & postage stamps produced to mark the 800 th anniversary of the city, a copy of the speech made by the Lord Deacon of ? on the special dinner of the Lyners on 25 th March 1975 and A copy of the ? by ?
1977	John Laird	Jubilee crown and a picture of Deacon George Laird of the Deacon's great grandfather repairing the roof of Glasgow Cathedral.
1978	J Geoffrey Keanie	A poster of the (hopefully) soon to be victorious "Ally's army" and a print of the Strathclyde ? plan recently published and from illuminated grace.
1979	Robert WKC Rogerson	A book on the history of Robert Adam the architect of the house
1980	Thomas Hannah	A brochure in connection with the ? of the Salvation Army, A ? of the Salvation Army and a copy of the ? edition of the war ?
1981	James H Campbell	A book entitled 'The Older House in Glasgow' by William Gemmel signed by the author and also the magazine 'Now' reporting the recent engagement of HRH the Princess of Wales.
1982	Richard M Muir Simpson	The Authoritative work published in 1858. Sketch of Trades' House by George Crawford and the collection of Official Pictures of the Royal Wedding of Prince Charles and Lady Diana.
1983	John W Hargan	A copy of the 200 th edition of the Glasgow Herald a book reporting on

the Falklands War and a cutting diamond.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Deacon</u>	<u>Articles in Box</u>
1984	Andrew D Garland	A book to commemorate the centenary of the Boys Brigade and a book on the Burrell Collection and a register of acts of the Incorporation of Wrights of Glasgow 1650 - 1710 published in 1887.
1985	David A C Montgomery	An English £1 note, a [] brochure.
1986	Kenneth S G Fish	A book on Halley's Comet, a brochure on the Scottish Exhibition Centre and 2 Band Aid records.
1987	Alexander A H Bone	A first edition of a new newspaper, the Independent.
1988	Paul Dowds	A copy of the Glasgow Herald newspaper of 20 th October 1987, a copy of the Glasgow [] festival brochure of 1988.
1989	William J Fleming	A copy of the [] of Domestic Rate etc (Scotland).
1990	William Craig	Contents of the box – A copy of the Glasgow Herald reporting the opening of the Berlin Wall and a book on Glasgow on the year of the European City of Culture.
1991	Mervyn S Hamilton	A Medal presented to him by His Excellency Francesco Cossiga and a Programme of The Royal Gala Opening Concert at the Royal Glasgow Concert Hall on 5 th October 1990. A piece of the Berlin Wall, demolished during his year as Deacon
1992	Peter F O Cross	The first edition of the herald, copies of the Herald for the General Elections on 9 th April and a photograph of the Carrick [] Glasgow, for the Maritime Museum.
1993	A Lindsay Gillespie	A copy of the mailing brochure of the trades exhibition of 1993
1994	Peter S Kelso	Photographs of the two most expensive construction projects to date, namely the Channel Tunnel and the Trident Base, and also perhaps more importantly photographs of the renovation of Glasgow Cathedral.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Deacon</u>	<u>Articles in Box</u>
1995	Wallace Dick	A metal angled brace for going round corners and a wooden puzzle both appropriate to the Craft. The Deacon noted his father had placed a wooden brace in the Box.
1996	Robert Gray	A copy of the book on the Gallery autographed by the author Julian Spalding.
1997	George B Horspool	A model ship wheel and binnacle to mark his efforts to steer a sometimes craft in the right direction. A [] on the disappearance of the Tory party influence in Scotland at the General election on 1 st May 1997 and the [] of the Socialist Millennium.
1998	Jack D Copeland	A Programme, several papers for Princess Diana's Funeral and a special painted cover.
1999	T Bryan McGirgan	The First Issue of the Sunday Herald 7 th Feb 1999 City of Agriculture and Design, a programme for Glasgow 1999 city of architecture & Design and a copy of the Scotland ? 1998.
2000	David R McMillan	A copy of the Deacon's speech to be delivered at [] and photo of the chair to be presented to the Lord Provost and the City for the Lord Provost's dining room The Deacon's daughter Hazel, placed in the box a copy of the Herald of 31 st December 1999 containing the notice of her engagement. The Queen placed in the box a copy of the Herald of 1 st January. The Deacons daughter Carol placed in the box the original manuscript written by her. The Deacon's son placed in the box a set of Royal Mail Millennium stamps.
2001	John C Maginnis	A [] or rebate plane given to him by his foreman many years previously and a Glasgow Herald of 12 th October 2000 recording the death of Scotland's first minister Donald Dewar and the election of Roy Scott as Deacon Convener, also an up to date Inventory and photograph album of the contents of the box.
2002	Alastair L Doig	Replicas of various newspapers recording the appalling events of September 11 th , 2001, in New York. A copy of his letters to her Majesty the

Queen congratulating her on her Golden Jubilee. His daughter placed in the box a copy of the Architects papers for the second phase of the refurbishment of Trades' Hall.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Deacon</u>	<u>Articles in Box</u>
2003	Wallace Dick	A plough plane and the Deacons Jewel that had belonged to the Deacon Matthew Simpson, Deacon to the craft in 1919-20.
2004	Andrew McFarlane	A copy of the Herald from 26 th December 2003 and a copy of the new leaflet promoting the newly refurbished Trades Hall.
2005	Callum MacCalman	A bound folder with images from the most important architectural events of the year.
2006	Jonathan Parkins	A copy of the new booklet which details the Crafts traditions, and the story of how the box was created.
2007	Andrew B Wilson	8 th May - A copy of Ready, Steady, Baby and a copy of the Herald which documents the success of the SNP in last weeks elections.
2008	A Angus Kerr	DVD on the important stages of process of Glasgow hosting Commonwealth Games 2014.
2009	Paul C McDevitt	A copy of the latest edition of the Craftsman magazine. Copy of the Herald recording the simultaneous complete collapse of the Western world's financial system and a wooden box handcrafted by Deacon's son.
2010	Alex C Graham	A copy of the Deacons advance craft certificate in carpentry and joinery and a beautifully carved miniature chair, together with a description of the chair's manufacture and design.
2011	Keith Smelt	Ribbon used at opening of the new Riverside Museum with other items of memorabilia from that day.
2012	Tony Barr	Royal Mint £5.00 Coin celebrating HM The Queens Diamond Jubilee, Programme of HM The Queen Diamond Jubilee Celebration.
2013	John Smail	Royal Mint £5.00 Coin celebrating the

London 2012 Olympic Games.
Stamp Album marking the 60th Anniversary
of HM Queen Elizabeth II Coronation in
1953.

The Deacon had attended as a Guest in the
company of his father who was
representing Northumberland County
Council.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Deacon</u>	<u>Articles in Box</u>
2014	Stewart Hamilton	Two newspapers (one related to Andy Murray winning Wimbledon, the other marking Prince George's birthday) and a cherry wood round from Stewart's garden with the Commonwealth Games crest laser etched onto it.
2015	John Walker	Disunited Kingdom book by Iain McWhirter and material relative to the Independence Referendum.
2016	Jenny McIntyre -	Information about the 'Coming Home Centre', in Glasgow. Coin to commemorate The Queen's 90 th Birthday. Special edition of the Glasgow Herald to celebrate The Queen's 90 th Birthday.
2017	Dorothy Newlands of Lauriston	Maria Theresa thaler (Silver passport) coin, uncirculated proof of the 2017 Pound coin, inlaid Victorian bird show cage, antique brass bell for use by the Deacon going forward, programmes from the Chain Gang events of 2016-17, and to mark the visit of Bishopsgate Ward Club Two maps of the Bishopsgate Ward in the City of London (one from the 18 th Century and one current)
2018	Graeme McDonald	Plastic straws (which had just been banned).
2019	Richie Miller	Newly prepared Incorporation of Wrights in Glasgow handbook.
2020	Shirin Parsno	No Dinner took place due to covid.
2021	Shirin Parsno Deposited in 2022	No Dinner took place due to covid Two newspapers, and a cup and saucer celebrating the Queen's platinum jubilee. A Persian Isfahan vase, Rubaiyat Omar Khayyam. A Swedish Troll.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Deacon</u>	<u>Articles in Box</u>
2022	Gillian Christiansen	Glass Ukrainian flag and a set square that had belonged to her grandfather.
2023	Don Mckillop	2 newspapers, with headlines relating to The Late Queen's death and Nicola Sturgeon resigning as leader of the SNP, 3 booklets, Lost Villages of Liverpool, by Derek M Whale. Early, 1st edition of A History of Liverpool, by Ramsay Muir. Now in the Trades' House Library. A WW1, Reserved Occupation Badge, Scottish Central Railway, presented and donated by Peter Koder.
2024	Stephen Osborne	A history of Allan Glen's School, from 1853-1953, along with the programme from the Allen Glen's School Club Centenary Dinner, a wooden hand-crafted boomerang as a tribute to the Deacon's Australian family and an inscribed carpenter's measuring rule in memory of the Deacon's grandfather who had worked with wood for his living.
2025	Judy Tayler-Smith	Photograph of the Deacon chained as the President of the City Livery Club. With guest Deacon Convener Col John Kelly in July 2013 at a Civic Luncheon in Plaisterers' Hall. A wooden disc (pizza) in an Italian pizza box, with the Wrights shield, the name of the Deacon and the year of office engraved into the wood. To honour the Deacon's Italian heritage, the wood honouring the Wrights' craft. A collage of photographs denoting the 850 th Anniversary of the City of Glasgow (2025).

Incorporation Records located in Mitchell Library

A. MINUTE BOOKS

1. 22 Feb. 1650 -15 Sept. 1710.1 vol.
Small quarto volume in original leather binding, and marked 'No. 2' The bulk of the contents consist of general acts binding on members of the craft, confirmed on 21 May. 1650 (pp. 1-22); the remainder (pp. 23-29) consists of similar acts of various dates thereafter.
2. 22 Feb. 1650 - 22 Feb. 1792. Unbound.
Transcripts dated 1887, including the contents of the above; other material, in some cases concerning relations with the Wrights in Gorbals, including the oath to be administered to the Oversman of the Gorbals Wrights; excerpts from a Minute Book dated 17 May. 1755 - 2 July. 1773; excerpts from a Minute Book dated 8 Oct. 1781-5 Mar. 1792.
3. 20 Sept. 1782 - 10 Sept. 1888. 1 vol. Folio Volume, 824pp.
4. 2 Aug. 1848 - 29 Jan., 1857.1 vol. Scroll Minute Book.
5. 2 Nov. 1891 - 25 Aug. 1916.1 vol. Folio Volume.
6. Minute Book, 8 Sept. 1916 -16 Aug. 1935.
7. Minute Book, 16 Aug. 1935 - 2 Sept., 1957.
8. Minute Book, 20 Sept. 1957 - 30 Aug. 1976.

B. Printed copies of the Seal of Cause granted by the Provost and Magistrates to the Incorporation, 3 May 1600. (Edinburgh, 1840). (3 copies).

C. Account Book (charge and discharge), 1924-1936

D. MEMBERSHIP ROLLS

1. 1731-1758.
2. 1731-1811 (partially duplicating the above).
3. 1811-1832
4. 1833-1893 (indexed).

E. Pensioners' Rolls 1889-1944; 1944-1972.

F. GARDINER'S CHARITY

1. Printed *Extract of the Settlement of the Deceased James Gardiner, Tobacconist in Glasgow* (Glasgow 1808).
The settlement, by trust disposition dated 27 Dec. 1806, relates to property in Bell's Wynd, High Street, Little Castle Pens and elsewhere. In the disposition Gardiner is styled 'Wright in Glasgow'. The trust was primarily educational.
2. Minute Book of the Trustees 1850-1877.

G. MISCELLANEA

1. Copy of Judgement in *Anderson v Incorporation of Wrights and Ors.* (House of Lords), 10 February 1865. The action relates to the use of funds of the Incorporation for educational purposes.

2. Scrapbook, including news cuttings, invitations, menus, etc., with some items relating to other Glasgow Incorporations, and a pamphlet, 'Report of Proceedings at the Unveiling of the (James) Sellars Memorial, Lambhill Cemetery, 20th June 1890. 1886-1892.
3. Similar Scrapbook, 1892-1902.
4. Similar Scrapbook, 1903-1912.
5. Similar Scrapbook, 1912-1917.
6. Notebook containing historical notes in the records of the Incorporation, (late 19th cent.) (Indexed).
7. Photograph Album of Deacons of the Incorporation, 1850-1893. Also includes a photograph of William Renison, Clerk to the Incorporation from 1849 to 1885.
8. Photograph Album of Deacons and members of the Incorporation mostly identified. The album was presented to the Incorporation by Deacon John Findlay in 1877. A numbered list of subjects is enclosed but does not always correspond to the numbers in the album (No. 8a).
- 9-10. Reproductions of Charters of David II, 3 Dec. 1364, and Robert II, 25 July 1356, both in favour of the burgesses and community of Edinburgh, n.d. (late 19th cent.).

Introducing the Wrights.

The Incorporation of Wrights is the largest of the 14 Incorporations (or guilds) which form the Trades' House of Glasgow. Our Wrights' heritage is in skilled woodworking – from making ships to violins, longbows to furniture, as well as glassmaking and gilding.

For centuries our skills have shaped our great city. Today as a charity we continue to help the people of Glasgow through benevolence and education.

Our members are men and women from a wide range of backgrounds and professions. We come from near and far, and many of us join to celebrate our Glasgow connections.

Our dinners take place in the Trades' Hall, the fine Robert Adam building in the Merchant City. They blend fun with formality – and the warm welcome for which Glasgow is famous.

Well-known Wrights have included Sir William Burrell, founder of the Burrell Collection; Sir William Arrol, who built the Forth Railway Bridge and London's Tower Bridge, and John Keppie, mentor to Charles Rennie Mackintosh.