



Chris Hudson, (new) Chairman of PPC

Chris Hudson has been elected as the new Chairman of the Worshipful Company of Pewterers' Pewter Promotion Committee. Chris is the owner/team principal of Chimo Holdings – 'Manufacturers of the Year' at the prestigious "Made in Sheffield" awards in 2016.

Chris is a long-standing member of the ABPC Council and also a Court Assistant of the Worshipful Company of Pewterers. He is also Chairman of the Freeman Committee of the Company of Cutlers in Hallamshire.

Chimo (a Canadian Inuit word meaning "friendship, brotherhood and trust") is a leading Sheffield manufacturer of the finest quality cutlery and giftware in sterling silver, silver plate, pewter and stainless steel (see www.chimoholdings.com).

Beside his passion for manufacturing, Chris is a big supporter of helping young people to learn the skills needed to bridge the gap between school and the world of work – so they become work-wise rather than street-wise (see www.work-wise.co.uk)

Five years ago he became Chairman of Governors of a failing "in special measures" school in a deprived area of Sheffield. Recently it was announced that it had now become the ninth best secondary school in the whole county.

Chris wants to bring this same passion of commitment to being chairman of the PPC through both Pewter Live but also by looking for ways to promote the qualities of pewter through the offices of the Worshipful Company of Pewterers and the ABPC. "These are very interesting times for British manufacturers, post Brexit – things will definitely change, and the flexibility of the smaller manufacturers puts them at a definite advantage in the future."

Outside of work, Chris devotes most of his time to his family with three daughters (two locally and one in New York City) and currently four grandchildren. He still has a great interest in ships, having started his career as a Navigating Officer in the Merchant Navy.



Dates for your Diary

ABPC Council Meeting, Pewterers' Hall, London, 20th March, 2017 at 11am followed by lunch. All members of the Association are, subject to number, welcome to attend, but notice must first be given to Richard Abdy by 10th March.

Pewter Live, Pewterers' Hall. Public open day: Wednesday 24th May from 1000 - 1200 and 1500 - 1700

ITRI wins sustainability award

The International Tin Research Institute was recognised by Edie for its dedicated work and success in bringing positive change in the tin supply chain when it was announced at a ceremony in London on 25th January that it had won the Sustainable Supply Chains award category.

Tin is a vital element for today's quality of life - as solder gluing together electronics, as tinfoil preserving food in cans and as chemicals an essential element in plastics and glass production. Representing, and supported by, leading tin producers, ITRI has been at the forefront in development and implementation of supply chain initiatives to meet society's expectations for more sustainable and responsibly-sourced raw materials.

ITRI's Manager of Sustainability Kay Nimmo commented: "We are delighted that ITRI's hard work and success in this area has been recognised in such a way, and that the tin production industry is ranked alongside major brand name sustainability leaders in tackling some of the very real practical and commercial challenges involved in bringing about improvements in highly complex supply chains."

ITRI designed and instigated the innovative ITRI Tin Supply Chain Initiative (iTSCI), enabling artisanal and small scale tin miners in Democratic Republic of Congo and other central African countries to break links between mineral production and funding armed groups. This support ensured local miners access to 'conflict-free' international markets and brought about significant social and economic benefits for hundreds of thousands of individuals, their communities and the region as a whole. See the article 'From Mine to Market' by Laila Zollinger in [The Pewterer](#), volume 7.3.

Edie is a UK-based sustainability information and resources platform, set up by media group Faversham House to support sustainability professionals and has run its Awards annually since 2007.
<http://www.edie.net/news/7/Sustainability-Leaders-Awards-2017-Winners-and-finalists-announced/>

New Trade Mark User Agreement roll-out

Formal approval is scheduled to be given at the forthcoming Council meeting for the 'roll-out' of the new trade mark user agreements, drafted after much discussion with the Worshipful Company of Pewterers. Council has agreed that copies should be sent out to members for signature in the meantime. The Company has taken back ownership of the Seahorse mark and the (currently little-used) Strake mark and will be licensing back to the ABPC the right to license ABPC members the use of the Seahorse mark.

The new terms include a more tightly-defined set of pewter standards and a focus on the use of the Seahorse mark only on goods of the highest quality.

The ABPC will own the ABPC mark. All this derives from the decision to wind up British Pewter Designs, the company that had held ownership of the marks.

It is intended that regulation of the use of the marks will, initially, be self-policed. A fuller explanation of the agreements will appear in the next Newsletter following formal approval of the new agreements. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please ask the ABPC Chairman, Richard Abdy.

Promoting the brand and quality

The Seahorse has long been associated with the Worshipful Company of Pewterers - seahorses appear as supporters on its crest, for instance. They were, in the Middle Ages,

associated with foreign trade. Trade marks are intended to identify one person's goods (and services) and distinguish them from others' goods. They are part of the 'brand', the goodwill and the identification of a business and its product.



Since the creation of the ABPC (and the European Pewter Union (EPU)) and the formal registration of a seahorse as a trade mark, that mark has been associated with quality. The history of the Worshipful Company has always been linked to quality - a major purpose of the Company in the middle ages, up to the eighteenth century, was to ensure that its members produced goods that met the Company's quality standards.



Quality is a subjective concept. The ABPC has decided that the monitoring of quality should be largely self-policed but that any dispute that cannot be resolved at Council level should be referred to the Master of the Company for determination - an echo in modern times of the old policing rôle that the Company once had!

The trade mark user licences now being offered to members emphasise this point: that the seahorse mark should be used only on the best quality products. The new agreements also license the ABPC mark and set out the terms on which the marks may be used.



The new licences also define pewter standards in terms of the 21st century requirements that European legislation has introduced. If, once you have received the new agreements, you have any queries, please contact Lou Mott.

Members of the EPU have a mark that indicates their membership and identifies them - each member has a unique number (placed within the circle) .

Swing tickets: some years ago, the ABPC provided for members' use some Union Flag swing tickets. A small number remain in stock and are available on a first-come-first-served basis.



See 'Brand' articles in *The Pewterer*

Branding pt 1 (*The Pewterer*, vol: 3.3) <https://docs.google.com/a/the pewterer.org.uk/viewer?>

[a=v&pid=sites&srcid=dGhlcGV3dGVyZXlub3JnLnVrfHRoZXBld3RlcmVyfGd4OmE5MzYwODIyNTY5NWw1ZA](https://docs.google.com/a/the pewterer.org.uk/viewer?)

Branding pt 2 (*The Pewterer*, vol: 4.2) <https://docs.google.com/a/the pewterer.org.uk/viewer?>
[a=v&pid=sites&srcid=dGhlcGV3dGVyZXlub3JnLnVrfHRoZXBld3RlcmVyfGd4OjJhODJlZTVyY2I1ZSBJNDk](https://docs.google.com/a/the pewterer.org.uk/viewer?)

Branding, pt 3 (*The Pewterer*, vol: 4.3): <https://docs.google.com/a/the pewterer.org.uk/viewer?>
[a=v&pid=sites&srcid=dGhlcGV3dGVyZXlub3JnLnVrfHRoZXBld3RlcmVyfGd4OjM0NzUyMWMYyZmZWFIQGM](https://docs.google.com/a/the pewterer.org.uk/viewer?)

Introducing Lou Mott

As many of you may know, Cathy Steele has handed over the administration of the ABPC, due to an increased work load in other rôles she has. Her experience will be very much missed. We hope in the future to run a retrospective on Cathy's substantial contribution to the ABPC over the past several years.



The Association's new Secretary is Louise (Lou) Mott, whose company is Wharncliffe Bookkeeping. She has already taken over, and we asked her to tell us something about herself.

My job background: The last 15 years are mostly accountancy and admin. I have worked for many different companies, as a management accountant. I am now running my own Bookkeeping and Admin Business so that I can work in my own time and still manage my many other commitments. Before the accountancy I have a long list of very varied employment roles. Everything from being a Post person, and an insurance claims handler to a croupier!

Other Interests/hobbies: Main hobbies are probably rock climbing and knitting/crochet. I am physically pretty active and like to get involved with all sorts of activities, mountain biking, running, and so on. I love to be creative when I get the chance. I also garden and grow my own fruit/veg. I have my own knitting/crochet blog website which I write articles for regularly and I love to travel (there's not much travel going on lately though). And, no, I have not cast pewter yet, though there must always be a first time!

Where was I brought up?: Sheffield. Or, more precisely Penistone (which I suppose is technically Barnsley these days). I have lived in several places around the country and abroad during my twenties, but I am now back in Sheffield and don't think I will be moving away again.

Family: Yes, I have 2 daughters, Aubrey aged 7 and Eleanor aged 5. They keep me pretty busy, too.

Interest in Pewter? It's a traditional, skilled craft. I love craft and creative stuff and would like to see more of it about. **My first recollection of pewter?** I have memories of a pewter tankard, when I was a little girl, that lived on the mantelpiece at my Gran's house. I am not sure, but I think it might have belonged to my Great Grandfather, and it was always full of interesting things. Technically I wasn't allowed to play with it though! I wonder what happened to it? My favourite piece of my own pewter is a small hip flask, decorated with leaves, which actually came from Wentworth Pewter.

ABPC Job: It fits into my lifestyle perfectly at the moment, so why would I not want to do it? It gives me a chance to get involved with something different and interesting.

Where will I be based?: I happily travel to meet people and my laptop does go everywhere with me pretty much, but on the whole I work from my desk at home.

Development of ABPC: My initial plans are to get on top of the administration side of things, get the accounting and finances into the shape I want and to see if I can help get the membership figures up a bit. I am interested in the artist/craftsman section as this is the kind of area I know more about, having worked with lots of individual craft people before. I will hold back my comments on this until after the meeting on the 15th to see where I feel I can be of most use.

Enforcement of standards/trade marks: I think this is important and do maybe have a couple of ideas of ways to improve how this is policed, but I will save them for the meeting where I can gauge their appropriateness better.

I'm afraid recent pictures of me are quite rare. I don't know why, I guess it's just that I am usually the one taking the pictures so I'm never in them. So, I have attached a picture of me, but I think it's about 8 years ago. The only recent ones I have are of me dressed up for Halloween (not pretty).

Finally, for this article anyway, I look forward to meeting the Council, and then the members, soon.