



Pewter Live, a new website, the EPU and What's the difference?

This issue of the Newsletter has four aims: the first is to bring to your attention, for the final time, the Worshipful Company of Pewterers' 2016 **Pewter Live** Competition. The Competition takes place, at the Company's Hall in Oat Lane, between the 24th and the 26th May inclusive; the public open day is on Wednesday, 25th, from 1000 - 1200 and 1500 - 1700. The entry specification for the Colleges' entries was: "To produce a pewter item or range of pewter items that could be used by the Worshipful Company of Pewterers in its day-to-day activities".

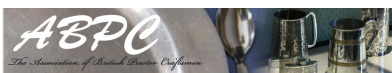


Please follow this [Link](#) for further details.

Don't forget to look for *Molten*, last year's winner of the ABPC's Commercial Prize (and see if you can second-guess the judges' choice for the Commercial Prize, 2016!). The prize-giving ceremony is on the Thursday and attendance is by invitation only.

We have included a short guide (see page 2) to where you might be able, near to the Hall, to park, stay and eat. Your comments on the choices in this guide would be very welcome!

The second aim of this issue is to remind you that this is the last chance to register for this year's **European Pewter Union Annual General Meeting**. Last year's AGM was held in Italy; this year's is in Sheffield, on 10 and 11th June. For an application form, and more information about the Conference (which starts on the Friday with a visit to the Assay Office, followed by Dinner at Cutlers' Hall), please apply to [Cathy Steele](#).



The third is to tell you more about ABPC's proposed **new website**. The new website, see Vol 10.2 (March 2016) of this Newsletter, is being designed to be more flexible and, very

important in today's world, more secure against hacking. You can visit the current site now: <http://www.britishpewter.co.uk/> . We have added to the specification for the new site that it should be more pro-actively trade-oriented. One example: we are building in the capability to insert Members' ads, effectively portals with a direct link into the Member's own site.

But we would like to know what else members would like to see. Some of the informal feedback we have had so far has been very helpful. Any comments, ideas, suggestions, to [Cathy Steele](#), please.

Fourthly, what are the differences in the rôles of the Worshipful Company, the ABPC and the EPU? See page 3 for a brief guide to these different rôles.



Pewter Live

Local Check-a-Guide

The Worshipful Company of Pewterers' annual design competition, Pewter Live, takes place at the Company's Hall in Oat Lane between 24th and 26th May. The public open day is on the 25th. Please follow this [Link](#) for more information.

If you are planning on coming to see the entries, you may find the following helpful:

Places to stay near the Hall (Pewterers' Hall)

You could try the Internet. Here are four sites worth looking at.

booking.com

[One Fine Stay](http://OneFineStay.com)

hotels.com

trivago.co.uk

Alternatively, you could consider *The Pewterer's* own recommendations (right).

The Pewterer's recommendations follow (not necessarily based on personal experience); we would like your feedback on your experience of any of the following recommendations:

[Batty Langleys](#) - Spitalfields/Shoreditch

[Tune Hotels](#)

Kings Cross

324 Gray's Inn Road

London WC1X 8BU

Email: fd.kingscross.uk@tunehotels.com

Liverpool Street

13-15 Folgate Street

London E1 6BX

FREEPHONE 24/7: 0800 014 8310

Parking in the City

[General information](#) (about parking)

[Car Parks](#)

There is also on-street meter parking around the Hall in Staining Lane and Gresham Street. These are expensive and for short-term parking only.

Places to eat

[Balls Bros](#) - Carey Lane

[Haz](#) - St Paul's (Foster Lane)

[Pizza Express](#) - Alban Gate, London Wall



Tin in the News

This latest (newsletter) issue catches up on several weeks of industry news, including some reports from the ITRI International Tin Conference held in Peru last week. The conference was attended by over 200 delegates from all over the world.

Also included within this newsletter are hyperlinks to two new ITRI reports, one providing a comprehensive assessment of world tin resources and the other covering ITRI's activities and achievements in 2015.

Readers are invited download and read these, and we would welcome any comments and questions.

Here is a [Link](#) to the ITRI newsletter.

Peter Kettle - Manager, Markets
5 May, 2016

What are the differing rôles of the Worshipful Company of Pewterers, the Association of British Pewter Craftsmen, and the European Pewter Union?

Some advice; and the testing process

The Worshipful Company is one of the ancient Guilds of the City of London, 16th in order of precedence in the City. In medieval times it regulated the pewter trade throughout the kingdom, and no one could trade as a pewterer within the City of London without being 'free' of the Company.

Advice to ABPC members

Ask your pewter supplier to provide a certificate that his pewter meets the new standards - no more than 0.25% lead.

Ensure that the solder you use meets the same limit.

If you are uncertain about any item or manufacturing process, get the item tested
[Lead Content Regulations](#)

Relevant, existing regulations

Lead content

Tin: EN 610:1995
Pewter: EN 611-1:1995
Solder: EN 29453:1994

Toys: Regulation (EC) No 1935/2004; Toys – Directive 2009/48/EC; and

Jewellery items – Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Entry 63 of Annex XVII to REACH.

European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines & Healthcare - Metals and alloys used in food contact materials and articles

Definitions for pewter and soldered joints
EN 611-2:1996

Nowadays, while its connections with the trade and its annual Pewter Live competition are still the jewels in the crown, the Company spends much of its remaining time on charitable works, on supporting the City Corporation and the Lord Mayor, and on good fellowship.

The Association of British Pewter Craftsmen was set up with the full support of the Company in the early 1970s with the objective of providing a platform for the trade to get together and resolve issues relating to, for example, standards of manufacture, quality of supply of the pewter alloy, testing criteria and management of British and the growing number of European regulations governing health and safety.

Most manufacturing pewterers, many craftsmen, and a few others are members, just under 30 in all.

The European Pewter Union was set up at around the same time, as a forum for the European pewter trade associations to meet and discuss relevant matters. It started with nine active

members, but this number has reduced as the trade has suffered; some national associations have fared worse than others. The 2016 EPU Annual General Meeting will be in Sheffield this year (see page 1).

Testing

Pewter being associated (usually quite wrongly nowadays) with lead, manufacturers may be required to test for SRL of lead for their products. The Lead section of the document (Metals and alloys used in food contact materials and articles, a practical guide for manufacturers and regulators (European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines & HealthCare EDQM) quotes a study of “*the release of lead from pewter cups*”; and the results of that study are quoted with the maximum release at 1.1mg/litre. The conclusion states: “the P-SC-EMB decided to set the SRL at 0.01mg/kg”

The ABPC’s current round of testing took place using the testing procedures outlined in the document. These tests took place over a 10 day period, at a temperature of 40° Celsius, using an acidic food simulant.

All three organisations work together in the interests of the Pewter industry but the ABPC takes the lead for trade matters in the UK.

In the side bars, we provide some advice for members (left), and a note on testing (right).

The Individual Pewter Craftsperson - and trade marks

As already reported in a previous Newsletter (Volume 10.2, April 2016) the Council is considering a paper tabled by individual craft member, Ella McIntosh, about what more the ABPC could do for individual pewter craftsmen and women, a number of whom are not members, and may not have considered membership of the ABPC.

Her consultations had shown, perhaps not surprisingly, that some were concerned about the level of annual subscriptions, others about relevance - the perception that the ABPC was more interested in representing the major manufacturers than individuals (nothing could be further from the truth).

There appeared to be uncertainty about the use of the trade marks and what their use might mean. We hope that the forthcoming new membership and trade mark user agreements will help to dispel this confusion. Trade marks, indeed any mark, are there to help identify a product and indicate to customers not just identity and origin, but also the quality of the goods or services they are buying.

In the case of the ABPC mark, it indicates, first, membership of the Association and secondly that the goods will be made to a minimum standard, with pewter of a certain minimum quality. In the case of the Worshipful Company's Seahorse mark, that is only to be affixed to goods of the topmost quality. More about this in the next Newsletter.

In the meantime, there is a two-part article on Branding in *The Pewterer*, [Issue 3.3, 2012](#) and [Issue 4.2, 2013](#). Happy reading!

[The Pewterer](#)

[Antique Metalware Society](#)

[The Association of British Pewter](#)

[The Worshipful Company of Pewterers](#)

[Pewter Bank](#)

The Pewterer

Have you read *The Pewterer*? This is an e-zine devoted to pewter, and published in support of pewter and the pewter trade.
www.thepewterer.org.uk

[Pewter Live, 2016](#)

[The Pewter Society](#)

[ITRI](#)