

# Pewter Live, 2018

- a report from the front line.

A number of previous Pewter Live winners were back manning the stalls! It is wonderful to see previous winners come back.

We had: Rebecca Marsters, contemporary jewellery; Trish Woods, Design Metals; Gill Clements; and Ella Macintosh

The Master, Mrs Ann Buxton, welcomed Alderman, The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Charles Bowman, "and his wingman, Sheriff Tim Hailes" reminding all present that Tim was a Liveryman and Court Assistant of the Pewterers!

She made particular reference to the magnificent rhinoceros (see the full story in a separate article in *The Pewterer, volume 9.3*); and in the Company's Annual *Pewter Review*, issue 2017/2018) and to the established craftspeople who were selling their wares downstairs.

"It is always nice to see the young and the creative talents of students."

She said that there were 23 entries for the open competition and 37 student entries. She thought it appropriate to thank the sponsors (for a full list see the Pewter Live website (<http://www.pewterers.org.uk/pewter-live-2018>); and also the Chairman of the Pewter Live subcommittee, Laila Zollinger. With pewter in mind, she reminded those present that there were only 95 shopping days to Christmas (excluding weekends)!

She then turned to the subject of pewter itself, reminding the assembled company that several Lords Mayor had chosen pewter for their official gifts. She said to the present company that they should, in the humour of Shakespeare in the *Merchant of Venice*, eschew gold and silver and rely on humble pewter.

With that she welcomed the Lord Mayor, and invited him to open Pewter Live, 2018.

The Lord Mayor, in responding, said what a real pleasure it was for him, the 690th Lord Mayor, and his two sheriffs and their ladies, to be present on this occasion. He said that he had so far visited 16 countries as the ambassador for the City of London and the financial industry and was imminently going to the USA and Canada. It was customary to take gifts to those he was visiting and he was pleased to say that like a number of Lord Mayors before him, he was taking pewter, in his case, pewter spoons.

Turning to Pewter Live, and in declaring it open, he acknowledged that it was the 30th anniversary and offered congratulations to all those involved.

**Alan Williams, May 2018**