

Pewter Live, 2014

The Competition was opened, as is usual, by the Lord Mayor, this year Alderman Fiona Woolf. By common consent it was, again, better than ever.

The quality of the entries in the Student Competition complemented the quality of the entries in the Open Competition. Seven Colleges entered students for the Competition who, between them, put forward 25 items to be judged. There were more prizes than ever before: two new ones being that awarded by the Association of British Pewter Craftsmen for the entry with the "most commercial potential"; and that awarded by Adrian and Lesley Doble (*Partners in Pewter*) for the student "exhibiting a flair for design and technical ability to work with metal, as well as a genuine desire to make a career using these skills".



Caroline Sax's *Buttons*

The *Partners in Pewter* prize takes the form of a day at Adrian and Lesley's studio in Berkshire when, amongst other things, the winner will get an introduction to the practical aspects of earning a living as a craftsman. The winner was: Caroline Sax of South Coast College.



Claire O'Sullivan's *Carnival Coffee*

The winner of the ABPC prize, worth £250, was: Claire O'Sullivan of Truro College.

The prizes were awarded by designer, John Makepeace.

The Chairman of *Pewter Live*, Richard Parsons, was particularly keen to highlight the success of the *shop@pewterlive* where pewtersmiths can sell their pewter articles. This, he said, was one of the most successful years for the sellers, resulting partly from the increased footfall at the event.

Previewing *Pewter Live 2015*, Richard said that they were opening the event even further, to university students of all ages. "The prizes will recognise that some are more experienced than others. The Open Competition brief of 'light' will also be offered to students with a maximum prize of £1,000 for both the Student and Open Competitors. We aim to increase the footfall of visitors yet again."

The identity of next year's presenter of the prizes is a tightly kept secret, but Richard did let slip that he or she would come from the art world.

Photos: Jean-Raphael Dedieu

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