

# Quincentenary ESSENTIALS

**THERE** were musicians in official employment in the City of London in the early 14th century, but the antecedents of the present Worshipful Company of Musicians were the musicians and watchmen of 1500. And it was on 4 June in that

year that the Lord Mayor and Aldermen gave formal recognition to the Guild of Minstrels, approving its Articles of Incorporation ... and giving us a date to celebrate 500 years on. Our anniversary year will in fact start this November, when we take part in the Lord Mayor's Show for the first time since 1912. But it will run throughout Year 2000, and you are urged to diary every special event – and to resolve to attend, with family and friends



John Bradshaw/Haymarket

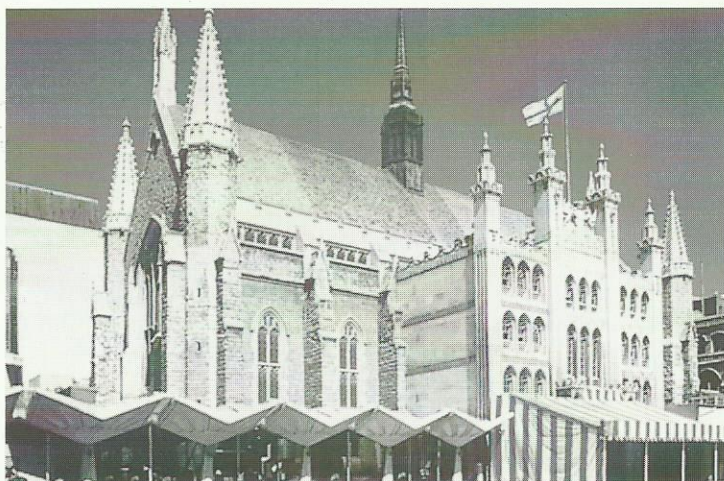
**LORD MAYOR'S SHOW** It is 87 years since the Musicians' Company last took part in the annual procession from Guildhall that marks the installation of the new Lord Mayor of the City of London.

Then, "the Master of the Company rode in a Carriage, drawn by Four Horses, with Postilions, attended by the Beadle, with the Company's Mace".

In modern times the Show is a good deal less formal and a great deal more fun – truly a City carnival – and on 13 November it will be the first public appearance for Lord Mayor Clive Martin, a Pastmaster of the Stationers' Company. By happy coincidence, Austin Reed is celebrating the 100th anniversary of the opening of its first City tailor's, and the Musicians have accepted an invitation to join its entry in the Show.

Our contribution will of course be musical and drawn from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, with an early-music ensemble to illustrate the medieval history of the Company and a brass/jazz group to bring things bang up to date. The Master of the Musicians' Company will accompany the chairman of Austin Reed in the procession.

The Lord Mayor's Show starts at 11am and follows the traditional route to St Paul's Cathedral, for the blessing of the new Lord Mayor, then on down Ludgate Hill and along Fleet Street to the Law Courts.



**CAROL CONCERT** At 5pm on Monday 20 December, in the recently refurbished Guildhall Yard (above), the Company will host a public carol concert with music by a Salvation Army band, conducted by Stephen Cobb, bandmaster of the Army's International Staff Band, and the boys' choir from Merchant Taylors' School. It will be a splendid opportunity for members of the livery and their family and friends, as well as those who work in the City, to get into the festive spirit.

