

## Colourful city centre procession

*By Adam Nichols*

THE York Waits, a group of musicians and troubadours whose origins can be traced back to the 16th century led a colourful procession of freemen through York at the weekend. They were joined by a Dutch ensemble, the Stadspijpers, who also trace their beginnings back to the 16th century. They were escorting freemen from all over



ON THE MARCH: The York Waits lead the procession of freemen across St Helen's Square and into Stonegate, York

England and Wales to the 36th national meeting of the Association of Freemen and Lady Freemen, which was held on Saturday. The freemen travelled from cities, towns and boroughs including Berwick-on-Tweed, Exeter and Grimsby for their annual general meeting at York St John College. Members of the association of Freemen and Lady Freemen have their freedoms enshrined and preserved by royal statutes and charters. Events included a banquet at York Racecourse and an opening ceremony attended by the Lord Mayor of York, Councillor David Horton.

*Bron: <http://www.thisisyork.co.uk/york/news>*

