

# LIVERY BRIEFING

July 2023



## Message from the Chair, Deputy Philip Woodhouse

Dear Clerks,

Last month I had the great pleasure of attending the Masters, Prime Wardens and Upper Bailiff weekend in Glasgow. The weekend was a hugely enjoyable experience, largely down to the incredibly efficient organisation led by Keith Brown OBE, Ex-Deacon Convener of the Trades of Glasgow and the exceptional hospitality shown to all at the various venues visited. These included the Trades House for a reception and supper, the Burrell collection, Tall Ship Glenlee, Mackintosh Church, Saturday's gala dinner at City Chambers and culminated in a very special service at Glasgow Cathedral. The venue for our Masters, Prime Wardens and Upper Bailiffs weekend for next year (8/9 June 2024), together with other details, are still in the process of being finalised but as soon as is practicable they will be posted on the Livery Committee website and advised to all Clerks/Livery Companies. Thank you for your patience.

Several Livery Committee members, including myself and our Deputy Chair, were also present at last month's Common Hall, where Alderwoman Dame Susan Langley and Alderman Bronek Masojada were elected by Liverymen as Sheriffs of the City of London for 2023-2024; their speeches are available on the Livery Committee website. They will both take office on 28 September at the Admission of Sheriffs at Guildhall (all are welcome to attend) and we all look forward to the beginning of a busy and productive Shrieval year.

Common Hall: Election of the Lord Mayor then takes place the following day on 29 September when Liverymen are, once again, asked to attend and cast their votes to elect our 695th Lord Mayor of the City of London. Please do make a note of the date in diaries and attend if possible.

The Livery Committee enjoyed hosting many Masters, Prime Wardens and Upper Bailiff at the Livery Reception last month at Grocers Hall, on 8 June. We plan to repeat this reception next year with the provisional date of 6 June 2024. Invitations will be sent out nearer the time.

The City of London Corporation have seen the benefit of the Livery Committee website following the further development of the site. We celebrated over 100,000 individual visits at the end of May. The City Corporation will now provide the funding for the site for the next three years. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Liveries who gave financial support to get the site to the position it now is, over the past three years.

As usual, a further list of dates, including the popular City Briefings and the Warden and Court Assistants' course, may be found below; and, as always, please check <https://www.liverycommittee.org> for the most up-to-date information.

Finally, as the summer recess is nearly upon us, all that remains is for me to wish you all a very happy and healthy summer!

With warm wishes,

Deputy Philip Woodhouse

**Chair  
Livery Committee.**

## Dates of Importance

### City Briefings (5.30pm)

12 September  
2 November

### Common Hall (Election of Lord Mayor)

29 September

### Wardens' and Court Assistants' Course (morning course)

11 September

### Clerks' Forum

17 January 2024.

### Masters, Prime Wardens and Upper Bailiff Weekend

2024 – TBC.

## Upcoming Events

### 2023 Root and Branch Award 2023

1 The Winner of the 2023 Root & Branch Award was Michael Hockney MBE for his personal contribution to the success of the Lord Mayor's Big

Curry Lunch. The Panel were extremely impressed by the results of the 2023 Big Curry Lunch, which raised £435,000, far exceeding previous years. It was clear that this was achieved, in no small part, by the determination of Michael as Co-Chairman to engage with a large number of Livery Companies, Ward Clubs, as well as City businesses, to sell a record number of places, and to secure a record number of donations and bids in its online auction. The idea of holding these curry lunches goes back to 2008, when Michael secured the support of the incoming Lord Mayor, Alderman Sir David Lewis, to draw the City's attention to the contribution made by the Armed Services and the ongoing needs of ex-service personnel and their families. The total raised since 2008 has been £3.3m.

The Panel also recognised that in achieving his success, Michael, who had been nominated by his Livery Company, the Musicians, had demonstrated an exceptional contribution across many of the areas determined by the Club when they instituted the Award in 2014. Apart from the legacy of support for the specific projects supporting ex-Service personnel, the lunch itself has started to initiate satellite fundraising curry lunches, both elsewhere in the UK, and overseas.

Michael was presented with the Award at the City Livery Club's Civic Banquet at Goldsmith's Hall, in the presence of the Lord Mayor, on Tuesday 4 July.

Nominations for the 2024 Root & Branch Award will be invited from October 2023.

Deputy Christopher M Hayward MStJ FRSA  
President, City Livery Club

#### **The Feltmakers' Inter-Livery Tennis Competition, 13 September**

The Inter-Livery Tennis Competition is open to teams of mixed pairs, with each Livery Company allowed to enter a maximum of two pairs. The competition is designed for Liverymen and their spouses, partners or friends. One person in each pair should ideally be a Liveryman. The competition will be run as an American tournament, with quarter-finals, semi-finals and a final. The Feltmakers' Trophy will be awarded to the winners. There will be a knock-out Plate Competition for first round group losers. The start time will be 11am. The competition will be followed by dinner when the Master Feltmaker will present prizes to the winners and the runners-up. The evening normally ends shortly after 9.30pm. Please note the new email address for all Inter-Livery Tennis matters is: [tennis@feltmakers.co.uk](mailto:tennis@feltmakers.co.uk)

Aidan Smyth  
Clerk to the Worshipful Company of Feltmakers of London

#### **Sheep Drive & Livery Fair, 24 September**

The Sheep Drive will be taking place this year on Southwark Bridge and the Livery Fair will be located on Queens Street Place at the primary entrance to the Sheep Drive. This year's celebrity guest is to be announced and we already have a great selection of stalls signed up so far for the fair. Please email [sheepdriveteam enquiries@woolmen.com](mailto:sheepdriveteam enquiries@woolmen.com) to book your place at the Sheep Drive. If you would like to book a stall at the Livery Fair, please complete and return the attached booking form or alternatively contact me via the details below to discuss further. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Jovita Williams  
Livery Fair Coordinator, [liveryfairenquiries@gmail.com](mailto:liveryfairenquiries@gmail.com), 07805040148

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## **Lord Mayor's Programme**

#### **Coronation of Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla**

On 6 May the City and the nation celebrated the Coronation of Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla. It was a wonderfully impressive occasion and I was deeply honoured to represent the City of London Corporation at the Coronation service at Westminster Abbey, as Lord Mayors have done since at least the 14th century. I was particularly pleased to be able to participate in The King's Procession, carrying the Crystal Sceptre, the City's oldest and greatest treasure, and which was given to us by King Henry V in 1420 as an expression of thanks for support for his campaigns in France. It is a symbol of the close and enduring connection between the City and the Crown and is only carried at Coronations. I was also able to wear the distinctive Coronation Robe worn by the Lord Mayor at the 1953 Coronation, which was kindly lent by the Worshipful Company of Skinners. Over the weekend the Lady Mayoress and I were delighted to join City communities celebrating the Coronation, at St Paul's Cathedral and at street parties in the Square Mile. My thanks go to all those in the City Corporation, the City of London Police and elsewhere who made all of the events so successful and enjoyable.

Lord Mayor Nicholas Lyons

#### **Appearing before the Treasury Select Committee on Stock Listings and the Venture Capital Market**

On 26 April, the Lord Mayor gave evidence to the Treasury Committee on stock listings, alongside Chief Executive of the London Stock Exchange Julia Hoggett, Chair of GSK Sir Jonathan Symonds and Lord Hill of Oareford. The session provided a helpful opportunity to promote the Corporation's initiatives regarding pension funds (including the Future Growth Fund) and demonstrate its thought leadership in this area. The Committee, which is made up of a cross-party group of MPs, heard from the witnesses about the implementation of Lord Hill's review into listings (including the State of the Sector report), considerations made by firms in choosing to list in the UK, the gap in funding for companies hoping to "scale up" and the culture and attitudes towards investment in the UK.

#### **Meeting with Rt Hon Greg Clark MP (UK Trade Envoy to Japan) and Kevin Ringham (Head of Trade Envoy Programme)**

As part of preparation for his visit to Japan, the Lord Mayor met Rt. Hon. Greg Clark MP on 2 May, the Prime Minister's Trade Envoy to Japan. They discussed the objectives for the visit which are framed around promoting sustainable finance, the Global Investment Futures campaign and also building the relationship between the City Corporation and the Tokyo Metropolitan Government. The Trade Envoy expressed the importance of the Lord Mayor's visit and undertook to provide support as necessary.

#### **900th Anniversary of the Royal Hospital of St Bartholomew Service and Reception**

On 10 May the Lord Mayor, Lady Mayoress and Sheriff Alderman King attended a service at St. Paul's Cathedral as part of the celebrations of 900 years since the foundation of the Royal Hospital of St Bartholomew. The service and reception were for around 1,800 people including past and present members of staff, benefactors and other distinguished guests. At the reception the Lord Mayor spoke alongside Professor Charles Knight (Chief Executive St Bartholomew's Hospital) and Rt. Hon Jacqui Smith Chair of Bart's Health NHS Trust.

#### **Meeting with First Minister of Scotland Rt Hon Humza Yousaf MSP**

On 17 May the Lord Mayor had an introductory meeting with the new First Minister of Scotland, Humza Yousaf, on the day he was sworn into the Privy Council in London. The Lord Mayor and First Minister discussed key areas of partnership like promoting the strength of the financial and

professional services sector in London and Edinburgh, and how the City Corporation can work with the Scottish Government to attract further capital investment into Scotland.

#### **British Irish Chamber of Commerce (BICC) Conference on UK-Ireland Higher Education and Research**

On 22 May, the Lord Mayor hosted and opened this Conference for BICC focussing on education and research collaboration between the UK and Ireland. The City Corporation has a strong interest in this topic, with 15 schools in its educational family and as a founding member of City University. The Lord Mayor has a personal interest in this topic as the son of a former Provost of Trinity College Dublin, FSL Lyons, as well as the current Rector of City University and a Fellow (Governor) of St Columba's College in Dublin. The Conference had a British-Irish guest list, including George Freeman, Minister of State in the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology.

#### **Roundtable with Japanese Banks**

On 23 May the Lord Mayor hosted a roundtable at Mansion House in partnership with the Association of Foreign Banks aimed at Japanese Banks in London. This was an opportunity for the Lord Mayor to engage with a number of Japanese firms based in London ahead of his visit to Tokyo in mid-June and to hear any concerns they have about the UK as a location for international banks. The Lord Mayor also spoke at the Japan-UK Financial Networking Reception later in the day, hosted by the Japanese Embassy in London.

#### **Christ Hospital Speech Day**

On 27 May the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress attended the annual Speech Day at Christ's Hospital School reaffirming the strong links between the City and the School. There was a strong attendance from the Livery who also provide generous support in the form of bursaries and other financial support.

#### **Sovereign Wealth Fund Institute Global Wealth Conference**

On 31 May the Lord Mayor delivered opening remarks at the Sovereign Wealth Fund Institute's (SWFI) Global Wealth Conference at Guildhall. The Lord Mayor championed the City of London's expertise in asset management and the Global Investment Futures campaign. The Lord Mayor also took part in a Q&A with the Chairman of the SWFI, Lakshmi Narayanan, about his career in the financial sector and work in financial inclusion and for charity.

#### **Visit to Singapore, Beijing, Hong Kong and Tokyo**

Between 3-14 June, the Lord Mayor visited Singapore, Beijing, Hong Kong and Tokyo to promote UK financial and professional services in Asia. In Singapore, he discussed the UK's new position as a dialogue partner of Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and soon-to-be member of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership. As a leading Asian pioneer of the green economy, Singapore is keen to work with the UK on voluntary carbon markets and transition finance. Digital trade was highlighted as a particular area where the UK and Singapore can enhance our collaboration, utilising our Digital Economy Agreement. The visit to Japan followed the Hiroshima Accord signed between the UK and Japan after the recent G7 Summit. There is enhanced Japanese interest in collaboration with the City on Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) matters and sustainable growth. Co-operation around emissions trading, transition finance and supply chain finance were all highlighted as areas where the UK and Japan can work more closely together. Along with the Policy Chairman, the Lord Mayor visited China – their first in-person visit there for several years. In Beijing, the Lord Mayor met representatives from major banks and asset owners, while the Policy Chairman spoke at the Lujiazui Forum for International Business in Shanghai. The Policy Chairman and Lord Mayor then visited Hong Kong to meet British and Chinese businesses and included an informal meeting with the Financial Secretary there. Hong Kong remains China's key international finance centre and its bridge to the City of London. Major Chinese financial firms are committed to London as a gateway to European and Middle Eastern markets, with great enthusiasm for green finance and green investment in both directions. They have a high regard for the City of London as a world leading centre for international finance.

#### **Annual Livery Weekend - Glasgow**

Between 16 and 18 June, the Lord Mayor, Lady Mayoress, Sheriffs and Consorts attended the annual Livery weekend in Glasgow. For many years, the weekend took place annually in Ironbridge, Shropshire, but has recently moved to other locations in the UK. The civic party attended a reception with the Lord Provost at Glasgow City Council Chambers, as well as a supper at the Trades House of Glasgow, hosted by the Deacon Convener. The event concluded with a service at Glasgow Cathedral.

#### **Financing our Future event**

Hosted by JP Morgan, this special event was aimed at examining the current landscape of scientific innovation in Britain and how the City of London can support it. The Lord Mayor delivered opening remarks to an audience comprised of UK Universities, private and institutional investors, and spin-outs and start-up companies. His speech covered the cultural offering of the City and its health innovation sector, with particular reference to City, University of London. A panel discussion including Duncan Johnson (CEO, Northern Gritstone Limited), Niranjana Sirdeshpande (Global Head of Investments, M&G) and Dr Poonam Malik (Head of Investments, University of Strathclyde), then took place followed by a Q&A session with the audience.

#### **Roundtable with the Shadow Chancellor and Shadow Business Secretary**

On 20 June, the Lord Mayor attended a roundtable at TheCityUK, with the Shadow Chancellor, Shadow Business Secretary, and Shadow Work and Pensions Secretary. The focus of the roundtable was on how to increase the proportion of assets under management that pension funds allocate to growth, alternatives and how to generate larger pools of institutional capital. There was acknowledgement around the table of the work being done by the Lord Mayor and the City of London Corporation on pension reform, in particular, the Future Growth Fund. Both the Lord Mayor and the Shadow Chancellor made the point that this is a national priority and not a party political issue, and so will require cross-party support.