

# LIVERY BRIEFING



December 2020

## LIVERY COMMITTEE UPDATE

### Message from the Chair, Vicky Russell

Dear Liverymen,

As this unprecedented year draws to a close, I wanted to express my appreciation for how – in very different and sometimes challenging ways of working and under very unusual circumstances – the Livery has supported not only each other but also those communities who have suffered particular hardship. Some tremendously positive stories have arisen from this crisis, demonstrating that the spirit of fellowship continues to be one of the great strengths of the Livery.

Whilst challenging circumstances do still lie ahead, so do opportunities, and we may take some comfort in the start of the vaccine rollout which I hope is the beginning of the end of this crisis. I look forward to the time when we can return to some normality, when Livery Companies may throw open the doors to their halls once more.

In the meantime, please enjoy the holidays as safely as possible.

With very warm wishes for a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Vicky Russell

Chair

**Livery Committee**



**Tuesday 26th January 2021, 6.00 - 7.30 pm via Zoom**

Livery Companies have already started to think about how climate change might impact upon them. Some have a Hall or investment properties that will need significant changes to minimise greenhouse gas emissions or enhance carbon capture; others have carried out ethical reviews of their financial

investments. The way that Liveries treat issues such as travel, plastics, water, energy or sustainable food is being widely championed and many trades and professions that Liveries represent are at the forefront of innovation and change driven by the avoidance or mitigation of the risks of climate change.

The City Corporation has recently committed to a [Climate Action Strategy](#) that sets a target to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2040 in respect of all activities at the same time as building a more resilient City, able to weather flood and climate risk. The City of London Corporation seeks to ensure that all occupiers, residents, businesses and organisations within the Square Mile are taking relevant steps, whether by regulation or volunteered.

Many Livery Companies are already working on their own strategies and an expert group of Livery members will be presenting a live seminar on Tuesday 26th January 2021 at 6pm. This seminar will explore ideas from the panel and hear about your own ideas and projects. This will hopefully result in a small Livery task force leading further actions and helpful initiatives. At the seminar there will be time for discussion and questions so that the most creative ideas and responses can be captured for the work of the task force.

This seminar is open to all Livery Companies and it is hoped to have at least one member from every Livery Company. Please circulate this invitation widely.

Looking forward to hearing from you and sharing all your ideas and initiatives.

Best wishes,  
Alderman Alison Gowman and Gordon Masterton, Master Engineer

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Please note that event joining instructions will only be sent to those who have registered to attend the event using the above link.  
This seminar is hosted by the City of London Corporation

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### **Pan-Livery Philanthropic Survey 2020**

There has been an excellent response to the latest pan livery philanthropic survey, which was conducted this autumn. 99 livery companies and 8 guilds and companies without livery have replied so far and further survey returns are expected.

The total aggregate giving of the livery during the last 12 months was £72m, an increase of more than 10% from the last survey in 2018. We believe that this puts the livery movement in the top 5 charitable grant makers in the UK.

Although some 75% of charitable funding is derived from historical endowments, individual liverymen and freemen personally donated £5m last year. The support of education is again the largest sector at £28m but there has been a marked shift in support since 2018 towards trade-related education and disadvantaged schools and students.

There are many other examples of grants and support given to disadvantaged groups of all kinds, and to charitable organisations heavily impacted by Covid-19.

In addition, Liverymen and Freemen also donated their time to charitable causes – 130,000 volunteering hours.

After more analysis is done on the figures, further information will be made available in the New Year.

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## **The Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch 2021**

An update from the Co-Chairman, Michael Hockney

Let me begin with some really positive news. As you are aware, we raised £167,000 in the first half of 2020, due to the generosity of our sponsors and supporters, even though the 2020 Lunch had to be cancelled because of the Covid-19 pandemic. Raising that splendid sum meant we could meet our target of funding eighteen veterans through the Pain Management Programme at the King Edward VII Hospital's Centre for Veterans' Health. I can now report that the first eight of these veterans are about to join the six-month Programme.

Since my last article in the October issue of the Livery Newsletter, the LMBCL Committee and our staff team at ABF The Soldiers' Charity have been hard at work, continuing to take forward the planning of the three options I outlined in October.

What will happen on the day selected for the 2021 Lunch - Thursday 29th April - remains uncertain. However, the 2021 'Lunch' has blossomed into three months of events and activities, some virtual and some, we hope, live. It all begins on 1 February 2021 with the launch of the Online Auction. We have over sixty amazing prizes to bid for. The Auction will remain open until 7.00 pm on 29th April.

Then, during the months of February, March and April, we will be re-creating aspects of the Lunch in different ways to provide interactive experiences for our supporters. There will be a series of virtual events on Zoom, including Indian cookery classes by celebrity masterchefs, leading wine experts talking about what wines go with curry, a champagne masterclass, a lesson in cocktail-making and a number of well-known authors talking about their latest books. These will be compered by well-known personalities from the world of stage

and broadcast and each Zoom will provide an opportunity to interact with the speakers. We hope that by making these open to everyone and marketing them widely through social media, we will be able to involve many more people in our fundraising efforts to support military veterans.

You can find more details about the Curry Lunch programme from the middle of January 2021 onwards on the new LMBCL website. Just go online and type in The Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch to find out more. The website will be updated regularly as the plans for February to April 2021 are launched.

Well, what about the day itself? As I've intimated, nothing is certain at the moment. We may be in Guildhall with a lunch on our usual scale or we may hold a series of smaller lunches. If neither of these are possible on the 29th April, we hope to put up large, open-sided marquees in the Yard, selling take-away curries, and champagne, cocktails, wine and beer. There will be an even bigger group of Livery stalls, our usual Raffle, authors signing their latest books and live music ranging from jazz to classical. There will, as usual, be the opportunity to win a stunning diamond and gold pendant and a superb bespoke British-crafted watch.

What else? Well; a large number of the Livery Companies with Halls are holding their own Curry Lunches and several of the churches in the City are planning lunches or other fundraising activities.

It is so gratifying to see the response from the Livery and the Ward Clubs and from all parts of the City's business and professional communities. Thank you all. If your Company has not yet signed up as a sponsor, or not yet made the decision to run a stall or put on your own fundraising event, please do so as soon as possible. The LMBCL staff team at ABF The Soldiers' Charity is there to help in any way it can.

The Lord Mayor has set a target for the 2021 Lunch of contributing £180,000 to support veterans of Her Majesty's Armed Forces. Let's see if we can beat the Lord Mayor's target and, in so doing, help as many veterans as we can into the world of civilian employment, through funding them on the Pain Management Programme, transforming their lives and those of their families..

In the February 2021 issue of the Livery Newsletter, I will be able to give you the full programme for the 2021 'Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch'.

With best regards and keep well.

Yours ever,

Michael Hockney  
Court Assistant, The Musicians Livery Company  
Co-Chairman, The Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch  
[michael@hockney.me.uk](mailto:michael@hockney.me.uk)

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## **New Zealand Livery Dinner**

The 2021 New Zealand Livery dinner will be on 25 February at the Northern Club, Princes Street, Auckland. All members of the Livery Companies are very welcome to attend if resident or visiting New Zealand.

For any information or more details please contact Paul Kennerley:  
<mailto:paulandgillie@leelands.co.uk> – or 0064 9 522 4515

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## **Clerks' Forum**

Due to the ongoing situation with COVID 19, it is with regret that the Livery Committee have decided to cancel the Clerks' Forum scheduled for 19 January 2021

We feel that delivering this course in a virtual setting would not provide the best forum for discussion and debate – and so we will look to plan for this course to take place in a physical setting for late 2021/early 2022.

We will be in touch with further details for the rescheduled Forum - but please accept our apologies for the cancellation of January's Forum

If you have any questions, please email [livery.courses@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:livery.courses@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

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## **Lord Mayor Zooms with regional leaders**

Outside London there are a large number of regional institutions that mirror the heritage, principles and ethos of the London Livery Companies. Indeed many London Companies enjoy fraternal relationships with those who share common craft skills.

During the Mayoralty of Alderman Sir Andrew Parmley we started a forum for discussion between some of the regional leaders and representatives of London Companies. This was repeated a year later by Alderman Sir Charles Bowman. In the year Alderman Sir Peter Estlin was Lord Mayor several regional institutions were invited to Ironbridge.

In December a Zoom round table was held with the Lord Mayor and regional leaders from Aberdeen, Dundee, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Newcastle, Chester, York, Sheffield, Bristol, Exeter and Wales. It was the largest gathering and an opportunity to exchange experiences during the pandemic. It was an occasion for the Lord Mayor to outline some of the initiatives by the London Livery Companies during the pandemic as well as his priorities for his second term. Equally, it was an opportunity for the Lord Mayor to hear about some of the initiatives in other Cities.

Poverty is a major issue in several of the Cities and it was good to hear of the extensive charitable support being given by the regional institutions at this

difficult time. In some Cities education has been the priority of the institutions where pupils in state schools have fallen behind and support has been directed to this particular group.

Several institutions have their own halls and income has suffered as a result of restrictions. While London and the South has been in Tier 2, many other cities particularly in the North have been in Tier 3 or the Scottish equivalent and this has brought real pressure on daily lives and many local businesses are seriously suffering.

Every institution on the call had specific challenges to meet in their respective Cities, but they have been responding in a positive and generous manner. Some are working in conjunction with the local authority demonstrating their importance and relevance to their City.

**Keith Brown OBE**

**Facilitator**

**Pastmaster Cooper and Ex-Deacon Convener of the Trades of Glasgow**

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## **Lord Mayor Programme**

### **Visits**

From 8-10 December, the Lord Mayor undertook his first physical overseas visit since February when he visited Qatar. He met senior Government figures and representatives from the Qatar Investment Authority and other major financial institutions. The visit was an opportunity to consider green finance and the road to COP26 in the region, with the Lord Mayor discussing how the Qatar National Bank has recently placed a \$600m green bond on the London Stock Exchange.

The Lord Mayor's virtual engagement overseas has also continued into the autumn. As well as virtually visiting Manchester, Leeds and Bristol to learn more about the Financial and Professional Services sectors in those cities, the Lord Mayor has undertaken virtual visits to the United States, India and China. Top of the agenda was deepening links between the financial services businesses in the City of London and those countries, as well as closer collaboration in areas such as green finance and fintech.

### **Events in Mansion House**

The Lord Mayor continues to conduct a number of hybrid events in Mansion House, with a small number of participants speaking in the Egyptian Hall to a wider audience logging-in from home. On 12 November, he welcomed the CEO of the Financial Conduct Authority, Nikhil Rathi, and the CEO of the Prudential Regulation Authority, Sam Woods, to Mansion House for the address to the regulators. All three provided remarks, before taking part in a socially-distanced Q&A.

In a similar fashion, on 25 November, the Lord Mayor hosted the Annual Address to the Livery – held for the first time in a hybrid/virtual format. Chair of the Pan-Livery Steering Group, Alderman Sir Charles Bowman, Chair of the

Livery Committee, Victoria Russell, and the Lord Mayor delivered remarks before undertaking a Q&A, with questions from Livery Masters and Clerks.

Depending on Covid restrictions, other set-piece events in Mansion House may have to follow a similar hybrid format, with some participants physically present and some dialling in virtually.

### **Green Horizon Summit**

Perhaps the largest hybrid event the Lord Mayor has undertaken was the Green Horizon Summit from 9-11 November. The Summit brought together leaders from finance, business and politics on the role of financial services in supporting a green recovery and an economy-wide transition to net zero. Speakers at the Conference included Bill Gates, Larry Fink, Christine Lagarde and the Prince of Wales. The Chancellor, Rishi Sunak, announced new policies on sustainability, including a new Sovereign Green Bond in 2021.

One of the Lord Mayor's priorities for the remainder of his time in office is promoting green finance and building back better after the Covid pandemic. His second term in office will conclude in November 2021 when COP26 – the UN Climate Summit – is taking place in Glasgow. The Green Horizon Summit was a significant milestone in the run-up to this, with 30,000 viewers from over 90 different countries tuning in to view proceedings.

### **The Lord Mayor's Second Term**

Two days after the Green Horizon Summit, on Friday 13 November, the Lord Mayor started his second term in office as Lord Mayor. In place of the Silent Ceremony in Guildhall, he signed the necessary paperwork in Mansion House. The next day, he travelled without ceremony to the Law Courts to make his Statutory Declaration before the Lord Chief Justice. With this, he began his second consecutive term in office – the first Lord Mayor to serve two full consecutive terms since William Cubbitt in 1860-61 and 1861-2.