

# LIVERY BRIEFING

February 2020



## LIVERY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Dear Liverymen,

I present the latest edition of the Livery Briefing newsletter, which I hope is both interesting and useful to all members of the Livery.

As highlighted in the December newsletter, now that the dedicated committee manager supporting the Livery Committee, Simon Murrells, has retired, Peter Nelson, whom many of you will recall as a former Assistant Town Clerk, has come onboard to assist the Committee in a pro-bono capacity. The Committee is very grateful for Peter's support. The Committee also continues to be supported by the Town Clerk's Department with Greg Moore (Principal Committee and Member Services Manager) and Rhiannon Leary (Clerk to the Committee). Should you wish to make contact, you can do so by emailing me on [vrussell@fenwickelliott.com](mailto:vrussell@fenwickelliott.com) or Greg on [gregory.moore@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:gregory.moore@cityoflondon.gov.uk) or Rhiannon on [rhiannon.leary@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:rhiannon.leary@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

Finally, a reminder about the Livery Committee courses that are organised throughout the year. They include City Briefings, aimed at giving some insight into the work of the Committee and the City Corporation, which are held in Guildhall at 5.30pm. They are popular and well-received and the remaining dates for 2020 are as follows:

- Tuesday 26 May 2020;
- Tuesday 15 September 2020;
- Monday 9 November 2020.

More information is available online at <https://www.liverycommitteecourses.org/city-briefings.php>

The next Wardens and Court Assistants City Course is scheduled for the morning of 24 September 2020 and those taking up office in the next few years are strongly encouraged to sign up via the <http://www.liverycommitteecourses.org> website. If have any queries or issues with using the online booking facility, please email [livery.courses@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:livery.courses@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

A half-day 'Livery After Dinner Speaking' course intended for a similar audience is arranged for 10 February 2021, and an annual Clerks' Forum is also scheduled to take place on 19 January 2021.

Spouses and partners are always welcome and separate courses will be arranged if this is felt appropriate.

Thank you.

Vicky Russell  
Chairman  
Livery Committee.

## NEWS/DATES

### Lord Mayor's Children's Party

The Lord Mayor's Children's Party at the Mansion House took place on 11 January 2020, with over 350 children in attendance and a wonderful time was had by all.

### Service of the Order of the British Empire

A Service of Dedication is to be held for the Order of the British Empire at 11am on Wednesday 24 June at St Paul's Cathedral. Those belonging to the Order and holders of the British Empire Medal who wish to attend should apply for a ticket giving their full name, address, telephone number, appointment (GBE, KBE, DBE, CBE, OBE, MBE, BEM) and other decorations in BLOCK CAPITALS no later than Wednesday, 15 April 2020. Applications should be made to the Registrar of the Order of the British Empire, Central Chancery, St James's Palace, London SW1A 1BH or via [www.centralchancery.org.uk](http://www.centralchancery.org.uk) The Service will take place in the presence of the Officials and the Knights Grand Cross of The Order. Due to limited seating capacity, tickets are only available for Members and Medallists, at this time. Should tickets become available for guests, information will be posted on the [Central Chancery website](http://Central Chancery website). Should any Clerks have queries, please email [info@ccok.org.uk](mailto:info@ccok.org.uk)

### Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch

On 2 April 2020, the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch will be held at Guildhall. The Lunch brings together everyone in the City of London to show their support for members of her Majesty's Armed Forces and veterans. In particular those who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan and their families. The proceeds of the Lunch are donated each year to the three national Service Charities; ABF The Soldiers' Charity, the Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity and the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund. Please visit the [Soldiers Charity website](http://Soldiers Charity website) to buy your tickets for just £100, which include unlimited curry, wine and beer. Corporate Packages (for groups of 10 or more) are also available. For further details please contact Georgia Cantwell on [gcantwell@soldierscharity.org](mailto:gcantwell@soldierscharity.org) or call 020 7811 3202.

### City of London Freeman's School

As is customary, we draw the attention of the Livery to the City of London Freeman's School, at which the City of London Corporation, through the Foundation Scholars scheme, provides for the maintenance and education of orphans of Freeman of the City of London.

### Butchers' Hall Roast Beef Carvery Lunch Dates 2020

Butchers' Hall reopened in September 2019 following a closure period of almost five years and an £11m refurbishment. The ever-popular Roast Beef Carvery Lunches have therefore returned, and dates and booking instructions can be found on the [Butchers' Hall website](#). The Worshipful Company of Butchers and their Venue Management partners, Life's Kitchen Ltd, very much look forward to welcoming you to a Roast Beef Carvery Lunch in 2020.

### The Volunteering Platform

The Volunteering Platform has completed a successful pilot mobilising members of Livery Companies into schools to provide inspiring career talks, supporting employability days and becoming school governors. The platform has also demonstrated the ability to raise the profile and awareness of Livery Companies within the schools with which the volunteers have been engaged. They now need to focus on scaling up The Volunteering Platform and will require further funding for the creation of a dedicated organisation combined with resourcing the people and skills needed. To date, 17 Livery Companies have funded the pilots and the vision for the platform is to try and retain Livery funding for the scale-up as they expand their reach and social impact into other cities, including in the North. You can download a [full presentation](#) on the Volunteering Platform. Please get in touch with David Barker, [david.barker@techcentre.com](mailto:david.barker@techcentre.com) if you are interested in discussing further or finding out more.

### City Food Lecture 2020

On 20 February the global food industry thought leader, Professor Louise Fresco, was the key speaker at the City Food Lecture 2020 which was attended by 700 leaders from the food and farming industry, both in the UK and the international supply chain. Professor Fresco, a Dutch scientist, academic and broadcaster told attendees that giving up on animals would be the 'wrong choice', and that meat is the key to a truly sustainable world. One of the foremost global thought leaders in the food industry, Professor Fresco is a highly influential thinker and commentator on global food issues. Professor Fresco is the President of the Executive Board of Wageningen University & Research, Europe's leading academic agri-food organisation and research and development centre. A video of Professor Fresco's talk and the panel session that followed which was chaired by Chris White (managing director of Fruitnet Media) and featured Baroness Rosie Boycott, Ian Wright (chief executive of the Food & Drink Federation) and Andrew Thompson (regional director at Genus plc) can be viewed on [Youtube](#).

### Sheep Drive and Livery Fair 2020 - Southwark Bridge, Sunday 27 September

The 2020 Sheep Drive and Livery Fair are to be co-located on Southwark Bridge creating a unique and historic event. The bridge will be traffic-free for the entire day, providing the ideal environment to recreate some of the essence of the bustling trading community on a bridge over the Thames in times gone by. The event, in support of the Woolmen's Charitable Trust and Lord Mayor's Appeal will be enjoyed by the general public who can visit the Livery Fair and watch Freemen re-enacting their historic right to bring the tools of their trade into the City of London without levy; by herding sheep over the bridge. The Sheep Drive and Livery Fair will be attended by the Lord Mayor, Alderman William Russell who will start the day by leading the first Sheep Drive accompanied by Honorary Freeman Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, one of the world's leading sopranos. Our thanks go to the City Corporation for closing Southwark Bridge in support of the charitable event; which allows for planned road re-surfacing work to take place on London Bridge, the historic home of the Sheep Drive. We are delighted that the Sheep Drive and Livery Fair will be publicised as part of the City Corporation's "Believe!" programme of cultural events. All Freemen are eligible to take part in the Sheep Drive and can register on the Sheep Drive website <https://sheepdrive.london/>



**Late Lord Mayor Peter Estlin and Rt Hon Michael Portillo taking part in the Sheep Drive 2019.**

### Livery Fair 2019

The 2019 Fair located at Monument, saw eight Livery Companies demonstrating their current and historic trades and professions; informing visitors about their history and purpose, including interactive demonstrations and displays; all of whom plan to join us again this year. To select your stall and location to join fellow Livery Companies on what will be a very special day visit the Sheep Drive website. For further information contact Kirsten Tilley on [info@squareevents.co.uk](mailto:info@squareevents.co.uk) or on 07837 231865.

## LORD MAYOR'S VISITS

### Overseas visit to the US and Mexico

From 9-18 December 2019, the Lord Mayor made the first overseas visit of his Mayoralty, to the West Coast of the United States and to Mexico, building on the momentum of a similar visit in the previous Mayoralty. In San Francisco the Lord Mayor was accompanied by a business delegation representing the fintech sector in the UK, particularly those at an early stage of development. The Lord Mayor's activity focussed on promoting the City Corporation's US Venture Capital campaign, which seeks to drive greater levels of US investment in UK fintechs. The visit enabled both the City Corporation and the business delegates to build relationships with key investors on the West Coast, as well as promoting the strength of the UK tech sector more broadly. In Mexico City, the Lord Mayor's meetings also focussed on fintech, with a particular emphasis on how innovation can drive financial inclusion, as well as on sustainable finance. Meetings with the new Minister of Finance and the Governor of the Central Bank looked ahead to the UK-Mexico High-Level Economic Talks and Mexico Day, taking place in London in March.

### **Regional visit to Birmingham**

On 8 January, the Lord Mayor undertook the first mayoral visit to Birmingham to boost business ties between the West Midlands and the City of London. The programme fostered closer relationships with Birmingham's burgeoning financial and professional services sector; the largest regional cluster outside London, with over 4,300 companies employing over 50,000 people. Birmingham is a key city in the City Corporation's UK strategy, which is helping to increase inward investment and build awareness of how London can act as a global gateway for local firms to export their products and services. During the visit, the Lord Mayor met the Mayor of the West Midlands, Andy Street, the West Midlands Growth Company, HSBC as well as budding entrepreneurs and businesses that are at the heart of the city's success. The Lord Mayor also met Ian Reid, CEO of the 2022 Commonwealth Games Organising Committee.

### **Lord Mayor's Annual Gresham Lecture**

The 2020 Lord Mayor's Gresham Lecture took place on 9 January and focused on the value of culture for the City of London. The Lord Mayor outlined the current skills gap between employers seeking fusion skills and the limited numbers in the workforce that are equipped with these skills. The Lord Mayor also used the lecture to highlight the significant social and economic impact of culture on the City, London and the UK, emphasising the connectivity between trade, innovation and culture: the theme of his Mayoralty.

### **Overseas visit to Abu Dhabi**

The Lord Mayor's first overseas visit of 2020 was to Abu Dhabi, from 13-15 January. This was an opportunity, ahead of the Lord Mayor's annual visit to the Gulf in February and his participation in the World Economic Forum in Davos, to take forward discussions with the financial professional services sector and sovereign wealth funds, on two-way investment between the UK and the UAE, identify areas for collaboration and investment opportunities within the City, and promote the UK's strengths in sustainable (green) finance. Throughout the programme, the Lord Mayor was accompanied by Patrick Moody, the British Ambassador to the UAE and Simon Penney, HM Trade Commissioner for the Middle East. Coinciding with Abu Dhabi's Sustainability Week, a key focus of the visit was sustainable (green) finance. The Lord Mayor met Emirati leaders in this space, where he learned of current projects and initiatives, such as Smart Cities, green and transition bonds, and developments in the renewable energy sector. Discussions focussed not only on the investment opportunities in the sustainability sector, but also the necessity of transferring to a zero-carbon economy. One of the key features of the Lord Mayor's programme was his keynote address at the Abu Dhabi Sustainability Forum, where he promoted the City's strengths in the area of green finance with initiatives such as the Green Finance Institute. The Lord Mayor also touched on the November UN Climate Change Conference (COP 26) in Glasgow, noting that further action is needed in the years ahead.

### **London Government Dinner**

On 16 January 300 guests attended the London Government Dinner. The Lord Mayor hosted the Mayor of London Sadiq Khan alongside the Chair of London Councils - Councillor Peter John and London Borough Mayors, with representative bodies concerned with the government and administration of London. The dinner highlighted the cooperation and collaboration between London's institutions. During his speech the Lord Mayor reflected on the significance of the new decade beginning with an exit from the European Union, and stressed the need to ensure the sustainability agenda in London was fully supported. This would be particularly impactful in the context of COP26 taking place in the UK in November. These sentiments were also echoed in the Mayor of London's speech. The London Government Dinner, described by the Mayor of London's office as 'the biggest set-piece speech of the year', also saw Mr Khan emphasise London as a global leader in finance, and also equality and diversity.