

# LIVERY BRIEFING

February 2023



## A message from the Chair

Dear Liverymen,

Welcome to the first Livery Briefing newsletter of 2023.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate everyone who has been involved in the Livery Food Initiative, which is a project aimed at addressing food insecurity in Greater London. The time and generosity of those involved is truly reflected in this outstanding project which has already raised over £130,000 and is now well on the way to funding a 'Livery Van' to support distribution of supplies. It is envisaged that this development may make a real difference to the lives of those suffering food poverty as a result of the cost of living crisis.

On a lighter note, the 19th Inter-Livery Pancake Race took place on Tuesday 21 February this year. As ever, this annual event was a joyous time filled with laughter, fancy-dress and, of course, pancakes. May I offer my congratulations to the Furniture Makers, for their win in the final! For further information, as ever, please visit the Livery Committee website: [www.liverycommittee.org](http://www.liverycommittee.org) where you will also find the dates of forthcoming courses, as listed below.

Finally, I know the Lord Mayor is very much looking forward to hosting the Masters, Prime Wardens and Upper Bailiff at the Mansion House on Tuesday 23 March. If you have not already done so, please RSVP to [MHEvents@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:MHEvents@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

I hope you have all had a good start to 2023 and I look forward to a productive year ahead.

With very warm wishes,

Philip Woodhouse  
**Chair**  
**Livery Committee.**

## Livery Committee Courses

### City Briefings 2023 (5.30pm)

6 March  
25 May  
12 September  
2 November

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

11 September

### Clerks' Forum 2024

17 January

Further information may be accessed at: <https://www.liverycommittee.org/courses/>

## 40<sup>th</sup> Inter-Livery Bridge Tournament organised by the Worshipful Company of Makers of Playing Cards

I am writing to give early notice of this well-established and popular event, in sufficient time for you to be able to bring it to the attention of your members in one of your mailings or newsletters. Details of the next event are:

Date: Monday 6 March  
Venue: Drapers' Hall, Throgmorton Street, London EC2N 2AN  
Timings: Reception (5pm), first session (5.30pm), dinner (7.20pm), second session (8.15pm), prize-giving (10pm), carriages (10.30pm latest)

Please do ask any Bridge playing members to 'save the date'. For more information please visit our website:

[www.makersofplayingcards.org](http://www.makersofplayingcards.org)

With best wishes,

Annie Prouse BEd (Hons),  
Clerk  
Worshipful Company of Makers of Playing Cards  
Email: [clerk@makersofplayingcards.co.uk](mailto:clerk@makersofplayingcards.co.uk)

## The Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch - 30 March

Join in at Guildhall and indulge in delicious curries with unlimited beer and wine, rub shoulders with senior officers of the Armed Forces of the Crown, bid on money-can't-buy prizes in our silent auction, or try your luck with our prize draw! Visit the stalls run by the Livery Companies of the City of London, buy a glass or bottle of Pol Roger Champagne to win a diamond and gold pendant or buy a cocktail with a chance to win a bespoke watch. There will also be the opportunity to check out the Authors' Room, where several well-known authors will be selling and signing their latest books. The Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch is one of the City of London's biggest fundraisers supporting the veterans of His Majesty's Armed Forces, with over £2.5m raised since its inception in 2008. Further details, including how to support this event, can be found by visiting the Soldiers Charity website: <https://events.soldierscharity.org/event/lmbcl-2023/home>

## Entrepreneurs' Award in Social Innovation

The Entrepreneurs' Award in Social Innovation (EASI) is an award through which the Company of Entrepreneurs and the Company of Entrepreneurs Trust supports early-stage, purpose-led enterprises developing innovative social or environmental products or services for the benefit of a community, or wider society. It's a substantial package for the winner – with £10,000 in funding, and a massive range of in-kind services and support through City of London Freemen, Entrepreneurs' Company and Trust, and supporters. The Entrepreneurs' Company and Trust will assist the award winner to develop the skills, resources and networks they need to scale the impact of their work, develop a new project, or pursue new possibilities. A package of expertise and support will enable the award winner to develop their business capacity, make connections, and overcome challenges. The runners-up get connections, signposts, mentors, and access to some of the Entrepreneurs' Company and Trust events, too. In delivering this award, the Entrepreneurs' Company and Trust are supported by organisations and individuals who are offering time, expertise, and money to bolster the existing provision (perhaps as part of their Environmental, Social and Governance obligations). In particular, the Entrepreneurs' Company is grateful to its 2023 Partner – the University of Leicester. If you know of (or are) an early-stage business that might qualify, please encourage them to read more (and apply using the straightforward form) online via the Entrepreneurs Company website: <https://www.entrepreneurscompany.org/easi>. The closing date for applications is 31 March.

## Inter-Livery Regatta - entries now open

The City Livery Yacht Club (CLYC) is delighted to announce that bookings are now open to enter to this year's 54<sup>th</sup> Inter-Livery Regatta taking place in Cowes from 19 to Saturday 20 May. It is time to select your crews and sign up to be in with a chance of being awarded the coveted Lord Mayor's Cup. The Inter-Livery Regatta challenges friends from Livery Companies across the City to enter a crew to compete in two races on the Solent. There are nine trophies up for grabs with the addition of the new Visitors Vase. The format is for members and crews to meet informally at one of the local club houses for a buffet supper in the evening on 19 May. Racing action takes place on the following day with two races, the first commencing following a dockside briefing in the morning and a second race commencing in the early afternoon. The Island Sailing Club's (ISC) Race Officer will run both races. The ISC also offer members and guests facilities to watch the races from their terrace. The Regatta weekend concludes in the evening on 20 May with presentations and dinner. Commodore, Colin Simpson, said: "The Inter-Livery Regatta is a true highlight in the annual calendar for the City Livery Yacht Club and our fellow Livery Companies. We take pleasure in offering these competitive sailing races and sharing in the camaraderie that comes with it. This is a popular event, so we urge those wishing to take part to submit their entries early and look forward to welcoming you to Cowes." Eligibility for the Visitor's Vase is that the boat must have no CLYC members on board.

## Livery Climate Action Group Update - Alderman Alison Gowman

The formal launch of the Livery Climate Action Group (LCAG) in October 2021 has further galvanised the LCAG. To date over 35 Livery Companies have committed as members. This update is to encourage you and your Livery Companies to follow this up and to remind you of the offer and the information available. The LCAG website <https://liverycag.org.uk/> sets out our purpose and provides guidance notes on topics around the climate agenda aimed at Livery Company needs as well as a template climate action plan. Many of you are already considering a response to this initiative. Some of you have your own plans that are well advanced, whilst some of you are starting out. We hope we can attract you all to work together, harnessing the expertise of and information from the Livery. Joining the LCAG is easy and is not intended to commit you to any financial contribution nor to any specific pledge. However the LCAG wants to encourage all Livery Companies to work towards the City Corporation's own aims to be net zero by 2040 and joining is one sign of this commitment. Clearly, those Companies with Halls will have a key part to play, but all Companies can help make a difference in the way they conduct their business. It would help us (and we hope you) if we had a single point of contact in each Livery Company. That might be you as the Clerk, but for some there may be a Livery member. We don't want to assume that a keen person is necessarily the right person to be in touch with until you confirm. The LCAG would like to send regular news and events information to help us all contribute to the City's net zero goal either via you or your nominated member.

### Upcoming Event

4 July - Annual Conference at Merchant Taylors' Hall

To register or for more information please email [info@liverycag.org.uk](mailto:info@liverycag.org.uk)

## Lord Mayor's Programme

### Tokyo London Financial Seminar and Governor of Tokyo Visit

On 2 February the Lord Mayor hosted the Tokyo London Financial Seminar 2023, an event delivered jointly with the Tokyo Metropolitan Government. This was its seventh iteration and is a tangible outcome from the City of London Corporation and Tokyo Metropolitan Government Memorandum of Understanding. Drawing a substantial physical and virtual audience from Tokyo, participants were key stakeholders drawn from UK asset management firms, the fintech sector and Japanese financial and professional service firms. This event reinforced the City's continued interest in the opening up of Tokyo's financial services market to revitalise Tokyo as a global financial centre. It also enabled the Lord Mayor to speak of the Global Investment Futures campaign and to hear of practical steps being taken in Tokyo to ease the entry of UK firms wishing to locate there through the Japan Market Entry office. As a pre-cursor to the Summit, the Lord Mayor had a bilateral meeting and press conference with Ms Yuriko Koike, Governor of Tokyo where they discussed closer collaboration and how both cities were addressing the challenge of green finance, the digitalisation of finance, and how to further strengthen cooperation between the City Corporation and Tokyo Metropolitan Government.

### Leeds Fintech Ecosystem 2023 Report

The Lord Mayor provided a foreword for the Leeds Fintech Ecosystem 2023 report which was published on 14 February. The report revealed the strong and continued growth of the fintech sector in Leeds City Region over the past 3 years in Both size (263% increase in start ups and

scalears) and impact (106% increase in Gross Value Added from the sector). The Lord Mayor's foreword highlighted the robust financial and professional services sector of Leeds as a key reason for its success and identified how the Centre for Finance, Innovation and Technology will be integral to the continued growth and collaboration in the sector.

#### **Digital Skills Joint Roundtable**

On 8 February, trade bodies, TechUK, and the Rt Hon the Lord Mayor joined Minister for Employment, Guy Opperman MP, and Minister for Technology, Paul Scully MP for a digital skills roundtable. They discussed how government and businesses can close the digital skills gap and grow the UK economy.

#### **Livery Academy Awards**

On 31 January, the Lord Mayor hosted the Grand Final of the Livery Academy Awards at Mansion House. The LAA is an innovative programme designed for City Livery Companies to engage with state schools to help stimulate business and entrepreneurial skills among their sixth form pupils. This year, the four finalists were Foyle College – mentored by Merchant Taylors' Company, Haberdashers' Knights Academy – Haberdashers' Company, Mossbourne Community Academy – Grocers' Company, and Thomas Adams School – Drapers' Company. The overall winners were Mossbourne Community Academy, whose company 'Clozo' was founded on the premise of buying unwanted clothing stock from retailers, de-labelling it, and reselling at a discount, to reduce the proportion of unsold stock that is burnt each year. They were chosen by the judging panel - made up of Tim Campbell MBE, Baroness Diana Barran MBE, Rupal Kantaria, Charlotte Crosswell OBE – with input from the audience.

#### **Meeting with Irish Finance Minister**

On 26 January, the Lord Mayor met the new Finance Minister of Ireland, Mr Michael McGrath TD. The City Corporation had a strong relationship with the previous Minister, Paschal Donohoe, and this meeting continued the relationship. It was also well timed, three weeks before the Lord Mayor's visit to Dublin. Both principals discussed the Northern Ireland Protocol, and how a deal between the UK and EU would unlock more shared opportunities on financial services. They also discussed the strong financial services relationship between the UK and Ireland.

#### **Visit to Edinburgh**

From 24-25 January, the Lord Mayor and Policy Chairman conducted a joint visit to Edinburgh, the second largest financial centre in the UK after London. Both principals participated in the Financial Services Growth and Development Board, chaired by the First Minister, which is the primary advisory body for the Scottish Government on Financial Services. They also met with a range of Scottish FPS stakeholders, including ABRDN, Scottish Financial Executive and the Global Ethical Finance Initiative. The visit highlight was a Burns Night Business Supper at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, hosted by the First Minister. Sheriff Alistair King also joined the visit and chaired a roundtable on the Corporation's Global Investment Futures Campaign. He also joined the Lord Mayor for the second day's engagements at the Royal Merchants Company of Edinburgh, Edinburgh University Bayes Centre and with the Lord Provost.