



MESSAGE FROM THE RT HON THE LORD MAYOR

20 May 2024

Welcoming Royalty to the City

On 15th May, it was my pleasure to welcome His Majesty The King to the City for a service of dedication for the Order of the British Empire at St Paul's Cathedral. As tradition dictates, I carried the Pearl Sword of Queen Elizabeth I ahead of His Majesty as we processed into the Cathedral, where around 2,000 holders of honours, such as MBEs and OBEs, from the UK and Commonwealth, formed part of the congregation. It was a beautiful and moving service, and a fitting tribute to those who have served our nation.

The Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch (BCL) 2024 on 18th April also welcomed royalty into the City with HRH The Princess Royal in attendance. The Lunch was another enormous success, hosting 1,650 guests supported by 300 uniformed and civilian volunteers. I am extremely grateful to the many livery companies and individual liverymen who supported the BCL, which does so much to support members and veterans of our Armed Forces. £402,000 has already been raised from this year's BCL. In the meantime, if you'd like another opportunity to support BCL, you can [buy a jar of the Lord Mayor's Big Curry Masala here](#).

Support for BCL underlines the strong commitment between the Livery and our Armed Forces. I know many liverymen would like to get further involved, so here's a couple of thoughts on how you can:

- Consider being an adult volunteer in a London uniformed youth organisation. A document is attached, detailing expectations and how to get more involved. It's a wonderful way to donate your time, effort and enthusiasm to a great cause.
- Many livery companies have signed the Armed Forces Covenant. This is a voluntary pledge to demonstrate support for the Armed Forces community. [Full information on how to sign is here.](#)

Lord Mayor's Appeal

The Lady Mayoress and I are looking forward to hosting the Bavarian Ball at Mansion House on Thursday 13 June 2024, in aid of The Lord Mayor's Appeal. The Ball reflects the Lady Mayoress's Bavarian heritage and will include a beer and champagne reception, a Bavarian feast, a foot-stomping five piece band, fundraising activities and plenty of dancing and singing. An event not to be missed and I look forward to seeing many of you there. [All tickets can be booked here.](#)

[The Lord Mayor's Abseil Challenge](#) returns on Friday 7th June. This year we will be scaling the Leadenhall Building – popularly known as the Cheesegrater. There are still spaces available and anyone over the age of 18 can take part. It's a unique opportunity and I look forward to seeing the most daring among you in EC3 on Friday 7th!

Livery Connections

The Lady Mayoress and I anticipate with excitement seeing Livery Masters, Prime Wardens, the Upper Baillif, consorts and partners from London and around the United Kingdom at the annual Livery Weekend from Friday 21st June to Sunday 23rd June. In the last couple of years, the weekend has been hosted in Sheffield and Glasgow and now it is our turn in London to play host. The City of London Corporation team has worked hard on a fantastic

programme of activity, utilising the many treasures of our great City, including the Guildhall, the Tower of London, our Livery Halls and the River Thames for some mud-larking! The Civic Party are excited to host in London and showcase the City at its very best.

I always like to update on the success of our [City of London Livery Community LinkedIn group](#), connecting Liverymen all around the world online. I set a target of 2000 members by the end of my Mayoralty. The group now has 1,642 members so I am confident we can exceed that target by November. Very many thanks must go to Paul Finch from WC Information Technologists for setting up the group. A QR code to share more information is below.

I have been using the Livery Group to publicise my overseas visits and offer opportunities for Liverymen, living or working abroad, to meet me on those visits. It was great to meet Liverymen recently both in Italy and Dubai, and I look forward to meeting more in Tokyo and Singapore next week. Please continue to use the group and share among your networks. We are a powerful and diverse group of nearly 50,000 people and the more we share information and connect, the more we will prosper.

A Tribute to Daniel Anjorin and Preventing Violence Against Women and Girls

On a sombre note, I would like to acknowledge the tragic death of Daniel Anjorin, 14, who was murdered near his home in Hainault on 30th April. Daniel was a pupil at Bancroft's School in Woodford Green, which has had long connections with the Drapers Company. Daniel's funeral took place last Friday in east London and I send my condolences to his family and friends.

As many of you will know, the Lady Mayoress also has her own programme of work and has been supporting Prevent Violence Against Women and Girls (P-VAWG) of which she is patron. She is attending and hosting a series of events over the year to highlight the problem, suggest solutions to support victims and tackle perpetrators. She recently accompanied the City of London Police on an overnight patrol as part of Operation Reframe - a strategy aimed at fighting violence and sexual harassment against women and girls during the

night-time economy. If you would like to support or be involved in this work, please contact [Maggie Kozyniak](#) in the Mansion House team.

Our Sheriffs

By the time I write my next Livery newsletter to you, Common Hall for the Election of Sheriffs will already have taken place on Midsummer's Day (24th June). I would like to pay tribute to Sheriffs Dame Sue Langley and Bronek Masojada for all their hard work and support so far. They are incredibly hard working, and by my count had already attended 68 and 67 livery and guild dinners respectively by the end of April – sometimes as a pair and sometimes separately, joining me or representing me at many events. They are a pleasure to work with and I look forward to joining them at many more events throughout the next four months.

Speaking of which, this Wednesday (22 May), the Lady Mayoress, the Sheriffs and I are taking part in the Lord Mayor's Ride. We will ride through the City of London on horseback, making various stops along the way, raising funds for the Lord Mayor's Appeal and the Sheriffs' and Recorder's Fund. The ride starts at 9am from Guildhall Yard and ends back at Guildhall Yard at 11.15am. If you see us around the City on horseback on Wednesday, please don't be surprised – [it's all for a good cause!](#)

This message marks the halfway point of my Mayoralty. It has been my honour and privilege to serve as Lord Mayor of our great City and I am so excited by what the next six months will bring.

Wish my very best wishes and thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Mainelli". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli
The Rt Hon the Lord Mayor



Press click on the above image to find out more about the Bavarian Ball



The Lord Mayor escorts Their Majesties The King and Queen at the conclusion of the service at St Paul's Cathedral on 15th May



The QR code for the City of London Livery Community LinkedIn Page. Please share with your networks at home and abroad



The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress visit Barts Hospital, the oldest hospital in Britain, which celebrated its 900th Anniversary in 2023