

LIVERY BRIEFING

December 2021



Message from the Chair, Deputy Philip Woodhouse

Dear Liverymen,

It was a pleasure to see so many of you at Guildhall to attend the Election of the Lord Mayor in September and, more recently, the Silent Ceremony when our 693rd Lord Mayor, Alderman Vincent Thomas Keaveny, was admitted into office.

As another complicated year comes to an end, I wanted to pass along my sincere thanks to the Livery for all the sustained efforts to respond to ongoing challenges in what continues to be unprecedented times. We can say with confidence that the Livery's demonstrable ability to adapt to new ways of working has helped it to thrive, leading to the introduction of unique online events such as the Virtual Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch, which is set to run, in person, next April for the Platinum Jubilee edition in honour of Her Majesty The Queen. Looking ahead to 2022, I hope to see the return of many more of our cherished physical occasions in addition to continuing with hybrid and virtual occasions.

I am looking forward to a new year filled with Livery events, philanthropic endeavours and fellowship but first, I do hope you are all able to enjoy some well-deserved time with your friends and family over the holiday period.

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

Philip Woodhouse
Chair
Livery Committee.

The 2022 Lord Mayor's Platinum Jubilee Big Curry, 7 April 2022, 12-3pm, Guildhall

The Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch Committee owes Alderman William Russell and Hilary Russell a big 'thank you' for their involvement during the two years when we didn't have a Guildhall Curry Lunch. It might seem strange to thank them in these circumstances. However, they were heavily involved in putting together and delivering the unique 2021 Virtual Lunch, our response to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Thank you both.

In late September, I welcomed Alderman Vincent Keaveny as my co-chairman and his wife, Amanda, to the Committee. The Lord Mayor has been involved in the Curry Lunch for some years and has, over recent months, played a key role in planning the 2022 Lunch. The Committee hopes that the Lord Mayor, the Lady Mayoress and the Sheriffs and their Consorts will have a memorable time in office.

On 7 April 2022, a very special event will take place in Guildhall. Yes, it is the fifteenth time we will have gathered to raise funds to support veterans. But it is much more than that. The Lord Mayor and I are delighted that we have been given permission to call the 2022 Lunch 'The Lord Mayor's Platinum Jubilee Big Curry' to mark The Queen's Accession to The Throne 70 years ago and her extraordinary service to the United Kingdom and to the Commonwealth.

Her Majesty is, of course, Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces. She receives regular updates on the Lunch and how it has developed over the years. In every way we can, the 2022 Lunch is going to mark this happy anniversary and extraordinary milestone in the life of our Queen and our Nation.

Since 2008, the Committee has worked hard to develop the Lunch not only to build its effectiveness as an income generator in support of veterans but also to increase understanding of the role of the military and awareness of the needs of veterans and their families. From 2008 to 2017 the Lunch supported only veterans from the Army. In 2018, we widened the scope of the Lunch to include all veterans of all the Armed Forces of The Crown through their National Service Charities: ABF The Soldiers' Charity, the Royal Navy & Royal Marines Charity and the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund.

In 2018 and 2019, three things came together quite rapidly to create a new focus for the Lunch. The first: the development of the Civic and Mayoral long-term strategy of 'A Better City For All' and the strand within that to do with employment and employability. The second: the three national service charities' increasing focus on helping veterans into employment. The third: hearing about an impressive new initiative which helps prepare veterans for life in the civilian world.

As a result, the Lord Mayor and I and our Committee agreed that the Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch was, from 2019, going to provide financial support for individual veterans to take part in a six-month programme - the Pain Management Programme (PMP) - at the King Edward VII's Hospital's Centre for Veterans' Health. This programme is designed for veterans suffering from physical or psychological pain or both, to learn to manage their pain and, as a result, be able to obtain and hold down employment.

In 2020 and 2021 we faced the challenges forced on us by the COVID-19 virus. The 2020 Lunch was cancelled but still raised £167,000 through the generosity of sponsors and ticket buyers who simply said 'put our contributions to good use'. For 2021 in response to the continuing pandemic, we developed a totally virtual fundraising programme over three months from February to April. There were 13 different parts to the Virtual Programme, enabled by the latest technology. The use of social media for the first time took our programme and our messages about veterans to millions of people in the United Kingdom. At a reception hosted by the Lord Mayor in September of this year, it was announced that we had beaten his target and had raised £205,000. A wonderful result, thanks to the efforts of so many, including over 50 Livery Companies and

some very generous sponsors from the business community. Thank you all. That means that, over the last three years, we have been able to fund 54 veterans through the PMP. In total, the Committee has handed over £2.55m to the three national service charities since 2008.

These are still tough times for veterans, as they are for many in this country seeking re-skilling and employment. So, for 2022 we are continuing to focus our support on veterans into employment. Alongside funding up to 15 veterans through the PMP at a cost of £100,000, we are also supporting a new - to us - employment-related charity. It's called LifeWorks. LifeWorks' sole focus is to find employment, education and training for veterans from all the Services and their families. It offers practical advice, guidance and support regardless of length of military service. It is available nationwide, wherever veterans live. The LifeWorks team is made up of highly-experienced career coaches and vocational assessors, helping veterans decide on career and training opportunities and develop job search and cv writing skills. Each course costs £1,500 but is always free of charge to the veterans taking part. Through the 2022 Lunch we hope to fund 65 veterans through a LifeWorks course at a total cost of £100,000. Anything else we raise will go to the three national service charities to further their work in helping veterans into employment. At the first Committee meeting for the 2022 Lunch, the Lord Mayor announced his financial target for 2022: £270,000 (note the '70'; it had to be in there!). It's a tough target, but everyone reading this can help reach it. To find out the ways in which you can help, including buying tickets, visit the brand-new Platinum Jubilee Big Curry website: soldierscharity.org/lordmayors.

If we can raise £200,000 - no, I'm not going to write that - I am going to say that the first £200,000 we raise will fund 80 veterans to go on either the PMP or a LifeWorks programme in 2022. If we can do that, we will have played our part in helping to transform 80 veterans' lives and those of their families. What a privilege to be able to support those who are prepared to put themselves in harm's way in the service of our Nation.

Thank you all for your support for the 2022 Lord Mayor's Platinum Jubilee Big Curry. I look forward to seeing you on 7 April.

Michael Hockney MBE

Junior Warden, The Musicians Company
Co-Chairman and Founder, The Lord Mayor's Big Curry

Annual Inter-Livery Car Games Event for Junior/Renter Wardens

Dear Brother and Sister Clerks,

Hot on the heels of our "Covid Catch up event" last month, I am pleased to send you a "Save the Date" for your next Junior/Renter Wardens (second from the Chair) to join the Makers of Playing Cards at the Annual Inter-Livery Card Games Event for Junior/Renter Wardens back in its (near) usual slot on Monday 31 January 2022 at Drapers' Hall.

To clarify, this is for those who will form the "Ironbridge group" in the summer of 2024.

Please will you forward this email to your Junior/Renter Warden who will, subject to election, be Master in the summer of 2024, so that they can add it to next year's diary.

Over the years we have been pleased to welcome over 80 different Companies to this event.

Any queries from them, or you, please do get in touch!

Flyer, booking links etc will be sent out early in the new year.

Yours in Fellowship,

Annie Prouse BEd (Hons),

Clerk, Worshipful Company of Makers of Playing Cards

Annual Sheep Drive and Livery Fair

Thank you for your support in 2021! The 10th Anniversary Sheep Drive and Livery Fair is now confirmed for Sunday 25 September 2022 on Southwark Bridge, which will be closed to traffic for the day. Please put this date in your diaries and alert your colleagues and friends

Some memories of 2021



Expressions of interest for the Livery Fair now invited!

Dear fellow Freemen and Liverymen.

We are delighted that so many of you joined us for this year's Sheep Drive and Livery Fair, taking place for the first time on Southwark Bridge.

With the bridge closed to traffic, thanks to the City of London Corporation, we were able to co-locate the Sheep Drive alongside the Livery Fair. The Fair included stalls and displays showcasing the amazing traditions and crafts of the livery and demonstrating how relevant the Livery remains today in its support of future generations.

Thank you to everyone who joined us and hosted the many Freemen, guests and visitors to the City for the day, and we are grateful for the wonderful feedback received of fun and fellowship from members of the Livery, families and visitors. Thank you also to all of you who have sent photos and videos taken on the day; many of which we have shared on social media and can also be found online at www.sheepdrive.london. It was great that the Woolmen working with other Liveries could support the Lord Mayor's City Re-opening initiative. The Woolmen's Charity supports students who are engaged in promoting wool and wool textiles in innovative and creative ways; never more relevant than in today's world. And once again we were delighted to support the Lord Mayor's Appeal.

Here's how to get involved to ensure your livery company is on board for plans for the 2022 Livery Fair:

Plans are already underway for next year and in response to a number of enquiries already received, we are delighted to confirm the date; Sunday 25 September and location; Southwark Bridge. As in 2021, we will apply to have the whole bridge closed to traffic for the duration of the Drive and the Fair. We welcome all expressions of interest for the Livery Fair, with the opportunity to discuss your desired stall location, layout and presentation ideas, subject of course to the Committee's final decision based on logistical and other requirements. All enquiries will be dealt with on a first come first served basis and we welcome ideas to showcase your livery to its very best potential. For further details regarding Livery Fair stalls, please contact: Kirsten@squareevents.co.uk Tel: 07837 231865

Sheep Drive bookings:

Bookings for Freemen and their guests to take part in the Sheep Drive will open as normal in early spring. We will be back in touch with further information in due course. We look forward to another great City and Livery day for family and friends over the beautiful river Thames and look forward to hearing from you. To ensure you are up to speed with all developments, do keep an eye out on our social media, details below:

Twitter: SheepDriveLDN **Instagram:** SheepDriveLondon **Facebook:** Worshipful Company of Woolmen With Best Regards,

Alderman Sir David Wootton

Master Worshipful Company of Woolmen

Peter Hullah

Upper Warden and Chair of the Sheep Drive & Livery Fair Committee

For more, including TV broadcast and video footage, please visit www.sheepdrive.london

Lord Mayor's Programme

Lord Mayors Banquet – 16 November

The Lord Mayor was delighted to begin his Mayoralty with a return of the Silent Ceremony, the Lord Mayor's Show, and the Lord Mayor's Banquet and is grateful for the support of Members, City Corporation staff and other partners in the planning and delivery of such a memorable start to his term in office. At the banquet at Guildhall – the first in three years - the Lord Mayor was able to welcome the Prime Minister, the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Lord Chancellor, each of whom made speeches, together with the late Lord Mayor, Alderman William Russell, who was able to reflect on his historic two-year term as Lord Mayor.

The CityUK Leadership Council – 17 November

The Lord Mayor joined a meeting of the Leadership Council of TheCityUK. The theme was Sustainability and Post-COP26 and included a update from the City Minister, John Glen MP. The Lord Mayor spoke on his Mayoral theme of "People and Purpose" and plans to make sustainability and green finance central to his year in office.

Ambassadorial Meetings

During November, the Lord Mayor met with HE The Ambassador of Slovenia, developing other engagements she has had with the City Corporation. The Ambassador presented the priorities of the Slovenian Presidency of the European Union, which commenced on 1 July 2021 and discussed the state of EU-UK relations and broader Slovenian outlook. The Lord Mayor outlined the priorities for his Mayoralty and debriefed the Ambassador on GHS@COP26. The Lord Mayor also met the United Kingdom's Ambassador to Japan, outlining his Mayoral theme and current engagements with the British Embassy in Tokyo, including plans for an impending roundtable with the Governor of Tokyo with key British and Japanese businesses. They also discussed the objectives for a physical Mayoral visit to Tokyo in 2022.

Address to the Livery – 24 November

The Lord Mayor gave his annual address to Livery Masters and Clerks at the Mansion House. He outlined his Mayoral theme in office, People and Purpose, supporting social mobility and the social good businesses can make in society. Questions were then asked by the Livery Masters and Clerks in attendance, covering topics such as diversity, Common Council elections in 2022, the Lord Mayor's visits programme and the Lisvane Review.

Opening 22 Bishopsgate – 24 November

The Lord Mayor officially opened the building at 22 Bishopsgate at a reception of more than 400 people on the 57th Floor. Standing at more than 900ft, 22 Bishopsgate is the tallest building in the City and will be multi-use, with restaurants and bars, leisure facilities and a viewing gallery open to the public.

Livery Engagement

Since he started his Mayoralty, the Lord Mayor has been hosted by Livery Companies such as the Mercers, the Carpenters, the Grocers and the Stationers and Newspaper Makers, both at their halls and at Mansion House.