

# LIVERY BRIEFING

March 2022



## Message from the Chair, Deputy Philip Woodhouse

Dear Liverymen,

Following the Government announcement, all COVID-19 restrictions came to an end in England on Thursday 24 February. I want to extend my sincere thanks to the Livery for all the support and kindness they have shown others during these challenging past years.

On the topic of thanks, I wish to congratulate everyone who has been involved in the Livery Kitchen Initiative (LKI). The time and generosity of the team is truly reflected in this outstanding project. The LKI has provided over 174,000 meals and raised £670,000. These meal provisions have been invaluable to supporting frontline staff during the pandemic.

I hope you have all had a good start to 2022 and wish you well for the spring.

With very warm wishes,

Philip Woodhouse.

**Chair  
Livery Committee.**

## Lord Mayor's Programme

### Installation of the Lord Mayor as Rector of City University

The Lord Mayor serves as the Rector of City University and has done so since the University was given its Royal Charter in 1966. On 1 February, he attended a City University graduation at the Barbican where he was officially installed as Rector of the University and awarded an honorary degree as Doctor of Science (honoris causa). He then addressed the graduands and congregation as Rector before greeting each of the degree recipients on the stage. The ceremony was followed by a lunch with senior members of university staff and Livery Masters who attended the ceremony.

### Livery Academy Awards

Established in 2013, the Livery Academy Awards are designed to foster entrepreneurialism and presentation skills among sixth-form students, as well as to build links between state schools associated with livery companies. Each school team is given a brief and £500,000 (imaginary) to launch a product or service. The Awards were held at Mansion House on 1 February this year focusing on environmental sustainability. The Lord Mayor welcomed finalist schools Haberdashers' Abraham Darby, Chelsea Academy, Thomas Adams School and Wallingford School. Thomas Adams School, supported by the Drapers Company, won.

### Meeting with the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea

On 2 February, the Lord Mayor met His Excellency (HE) Kim Gunn, the new Ambassador of the Republic of Korea who also introduced the Lord Mayor to senior representatives of Korean businesses in the City. They discussed how to best develop further co-operation in Financial Services and options for hosting a roundtable event to showcase the potential that the UK has for Korean businesses.

### Presentation of the Boar's Head by the Butchers' Company

The Butchers Company have annually presented a Boar's Head to the Lord Mayor of the City of London. The Ceremony can be traced back to the 14<sup>th</sup> Century, when the City Corporation granted a parcel of land to the Butchers for the cleaning of the entrails of animals and the disposal of offal. In return, the Butchers promised to deliver a Boar's head to the Lord Mayor each year. The Presentation of the Boar's Head still takes place each year, apart from 2021 when the ceremony was cancelled. On 8 February, the Butchers Company processed down Cheapside with the Boar's Head, accompanied by bagpipers. The Lord Mayor received the Boar's Head in Mansion House from the Master, Margaret Boanas.

### Meeting with the High Commissioner for New Zealand

On 10 February, in a meeting with HE Bede Corry, High Commissioner for New Zealand, the Lord Mayor spoke of City and wider UK aspirations for financial services to be included in the forthcoming Free Trade Agreement. They discussed how New Zealand is a "turnkey" nation which will help the UK in its ambitions to join the Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP). He also spoke of plans to keep up the momentum after the Green Horizons Summit at COP26 and plans for the Impact Investing Summit.

### Dinner to Archbishops and Bishops

Every two years, the Lord Mayor hosts a Dinner to the Bishops and Archbishops of the Church of England, which takes place after the General Synod of the Church of England. The Lord Mayor, Archbishop of Canterbury and Lord Hastings of Scarisbrick spoke at the dinner on 10 February.

### Visit to USA and Mexico

The Lord Mayor made an overseas visit to the USA and Mexico from 13 to 19 February. His visit to California was an opportunity to promote the City Corporation's newly launched Global Investment Futures campaign, showcasing the UK asset management strengths to US asset owners to help increase inward investment. He was also able to promote the UK's innovation ecosystem and meet west coast venture capital and fintech firms looking for further opportunities in London. In Mexico the Lord Mayor met the Finance Minister to discuss sustainable finance and regulatory reform both in fintech and in the energy sector. He also engaged with Mexican business leaders on London's strengths in open banking, asset management and green finance, particularly in relation to the Mexican Government's infrastructure and social inclusion aspirations.

### **Reopening activity and relaunch of Square Smile campaign**

The City Corporation relaunched the Square Smile campaign on 21 February to encourage more workers and visitors back into the City. The Lord Mayor visited small businesses in Fleet Street, Cheapside, Aldgate and Leadenhall Market with teams from Business Improvement Districts and Business Partnerships.

### **Dinner at the Irish Embassy in honour of the Lord Mayor**

HE Adrian O'Neill the Ambassador of Ireland hosted a dinner at the Irish Embassy in honour of the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress on 21 February. The dinner was attended by a mix of people with familial, cultural, political, and business links to Ireland. The Lord Mayor spoke about his Mayoral theme, his work with Irish organisations, and his pride at being the first Irish citizen to be Lord Mayor of the City of London.

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## **The Lord Mayor's Platinum Jubilee Big Curry - a message from The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor of the City of London**

I am aware that many of you have supported the Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch in past years. Thank you for your support. I'm writing to let you know that the 2022 Lunch will take place on Thursday 7 April and is going to be an extra-special occasion.

### **A new name in a very special year**

My Co-Chairman and I are delighted that we have been given permission to call the 2022 Lunch 'The Lord Mayor's Platinum Jubilee Big Curry' in honour of Her Majesty the Queen's extraordinary service to the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth for over 70 years. Her Majesty is, of course, Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces and takes a great interest in 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.

### **Responding to need**

Since 2008, we have worked hard each year to develop the Lunch. 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.

### **A new focus on employment**

In 2019, three things came together quite rapidly to create a new focus for the Lunch. The first; the development of the new 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 that helps prepare veterans for life in the civilian world. As a result, my Co-Chairman, successive Lord Mayors including myself and our Committee agreed that the Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch was 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.

### **Impact of COVID-19**

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 said 'put our contributions to good use'. For 2021 we developed a completely virtual fundraising programme over three months; that raised £205,000. In total, the Committee has handed over £2.55m to the three national service charities since 2008.

### **Where next?**

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 helping veterans into employment. Alongside funding up to 15 veterans through the PMP at a cost of £100,000, we are 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 the length of service and 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 veteran employment.

### **Our target for 2022**

We have set a target of £270,000 for the 2022 Lunch. If we achieve that figure, the 2022 Lunch will have raised more than any other Lunch. Surely a most fitting tribute in the Platinum Jubilee year? Do take the time to look at the [Lord Mayor's Platinum Jubilee Big Curry webpage](#). It contains more details about the 2022 Programme, including the 50-prize Online Auction and 10-item Draw, both of which were launched on 2 February, and how to buy tickets for the Platinum Jubilee Lunch itself. There are many ways in which Livery Companies and Livery members can support the Platinum Jubilee Big Curry. Please support us in as many ways as you can. The Co-Chairmen and the Committee are obviously aware of the current situation with COVID-19. It is of course our hope that the 2022 Lunch will be able to take place as planned. Should that not be possible we will issue full refunds.

With best regards,

Alderman Vincent Keaveny  
The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor of the City of London

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## **The Fellowship of Clerks of Livery Companies of the City of London**

### **Livery Kitchen Initiative**

Message from Richard Winstanley, Clerk to the Drapers' Company: As you will remember from the last Livery Kitchen Initiative (LKI) update in mid-December, welfare refreshment packs were delivered to Bart Health NHS Trust hospitals in East London over the Christmas and New Year period in order to provide staff with some respite from having to deal with the growing number of COVID-19 admissions. These tuckshops-on-a-trolley were very well received by the many staff who found themselves working on COVID-19 wards over the festive season.

Whilst it was clear by the New Year that mortality rates as a result of the Omicron variant were lower than its Delta predecessor, there were nonetheless a number of people being admitted to hospital with COVID-19. This was either because they were unvaccinated or had tested positive when admitted to hospital for other elective procedures or surgery. Because hospitals have tried to continue with routine activity, and because Omicron has proved to be particularly infectious, fragile staff morale has been further dented by increased staff absences. The LKI

project was therefore asked to provide ready-meals to three Barts Health NHS Trust hospitals in East London for a six week period from early January this year. The Grocers, Drapers, Fishmongers and Merchant Taylors kitchens have therefore between them been providing 2,600 LKI ready-meals a week to the Royal London Hospital (1,500 meals a week), Newham Hospital (600 meals a week) and Whipps Cross University Hospital (500 meals a week). The Fruiterers' Company have also kindly continued to provide fruit in support of this fourth phase of the LKI project. When LKI ready-meal provision ceased on 18 February, just over 174,000 meals will have been provided to four Barts Health NHS Trust hospitals and 16 Communities in East London since the project started in April 2020. £670,000 has been raised to run the project through support from 65 Livery companies, and other organisations and individuals. Of the £116,000 kept in reserve for just such a contingency, some £70,000 will remain in reserve for the future once meal production stops in a couple of weeks' time. Regards, Richard

#### **Corporate Sponsorship Guidance from the Court of Aldermen**

Now posted on the [Livery Committee website](#) for reference should companies require such guidance on this matter.

#### **Pan-Livery Philanthropic Survey 2021**

70 companies have responded so far, it is really important that the remaining 40 companies provide their philanthropic pro-bono and grant data. As with any survey, completeness is vital. The Pan-Livery Initiative would be very grateful for your early response to Bob Harris, Management Consultants. [bob@harris30.myzen.co.uk](mailto:bob@harris30.myzen.co.uk)

#### **Forthcoming Events**

**13-17 March:** Advocacy, Trial & Error Shows at the Old Bailey's iconic Court No.1. Sunday matinee open-dress, four evening performances. Email: [moretrialevents@outlook.com](mailto:moretrialevents@outlook.com)

**15 March:** Fellowship of Clerks AGM and Dinner, retired members welcome. Saddlers' Hall, 17:00-22:30

**31 March:** The Lord Mayor's 'Meet the Masters' dinner normally scheduled for this date, invitations may be emerging as we go to press.

**1 April:** United Guilds Service at St. Paul's. A final decision to go ahead will be made imminently.

Yours in fellowship,

David Barrett  
Secretary, Fellowship of Clerks of Livery Companies of the City of London  
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### **Livery Climate Action Group Update**

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. Our website <https://liverycag.org.uk/> sets out our purpose and provides guidance notes on topics around the climate agenda aimed at Livery Companies 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; 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'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. 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.

#### **Events**

Annual Conference, 4 July (afternoon), at Merchant Taylors' Hall . Please respond to [info@liverycag.org.uk](mailto:info@liverycag.org.uk)

Aldermen and Sheriff Alison Gowman