

LIVERY BRIEFING

October 2020



LIVERY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Message from the Chair, Vicky Russell

Dear Liverymen,

Many of you will now be aware that the new Livery Committee website was launched on 1 September. This is the result of much hard work on the part of several individuals and it is very rewarding to have already had so much positive feedback and constructive comments.

The website provides a one-stop shop for information about the Livery Committee, Livery Companies and Guilds and their related events and much more, including the various courses which the Livery Committee organises each year. The frequent updating of the information on the website means it will be far easier to keep everyone informed of changes to dates and events, which this year has been something of a particular challenge.

If you have not yet visited the website, please take a moment to do so at <http://www.liverycommittee.org>. All feedback is very welcome to help ensure the website remains informative, accurate and relevant for all its users.

At the Livery Committee meeting on 9 September, I was re-elected Chair for the following year, and Deputy Philip Woodhouse was re-elected Deputy Chair. We are both delighted to have the continued support of the Committee members and honoured to have the privilege of serving a further year in office.

As always, please stay well and stay safe.

Best wishes,

Vicky Russell
Chair
Livery Committee

LORD MAYOR

Common Hall, Election of Lord Mayor

Alderman William Russell, the 692nd Lord Mayor of the City of London, was formally elected in a COVID-secure election procedure for another year at Guildhall on 29 September.

The Lord Mayor was initially due to step down in November this year after completing a one-year term, following the scheduled election of his successor this September. He will now remain in office until November 2021 to ensure continuity of leadership during the current COVID-19 pandemic. The last time a Lord Mayor served a second year in office was in 1861 with the re-election of William Cubitt. The Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Livery Committee, and 61 members of Livery Companies, witnessed the proceedings. It will be the first time a Lord Mayor has served two full terms in office since 1861. Lord Mayor William Russell said:

"I am deeply honoured to serve another year as Lord Mayor. These are testing times for the City, London and the UK but we will get through this pandemic by working together to drive the recovery forward.

"We will work with the government to enable a safe, secure and flexible return to the workplace as soon as possible so that we can return to a vibrant and thriving Square Mile.

"The fundamental strengths of London will help us to recover and rebuild, as we have done before."

Virtual Visits

Since the last Livery bulletin, the Lord Mayor's virtual engagement has continued in earnest. In July, he visited Australia virtually, waking up early UK time for an online programme of events with Australian stakeholders. Top of the agenda was closer collaboration in Green Finance and Fintech, as well as discussing negotiations on a UK-Australia free trade deal and the potential benefits to the financial services sector.

Closer to home, in October he also visited Glasgow virtually - a city with a growing financial services and Fintech sector. The visit focused on how the Lord Mayor could promote Glasgow's financial services and how they could work more closely with their City of London partners. The Lord Mayor also met with representatives from the Glasgow Livery, discussing their experiences during COVID-19 and charitable activities.

A virtual visit to the USA is planned for mid-October.

Open Spaces and Mayoral visits

The Lord Mayor is based in Mansion House during the week and still conducting physical visits where possible and within government guidelines. Since the last bulletin, he has visited many of the open spaces managed by the City of London Corporation - such as Epping Forest, Hampstead

Heath and Kenley Common. These open spaces have seen far greater use in the summer months since the pandemic, as more households meet outside and seek green space. The Lord Mayor met with staff and discussed how they are managing this increased demand and ensuring the open spaces remain safe, tidy and accessible for all visitors.

Judges' Dinner

On 28 July, the Mansion House hosted a hybrid virtual event for HM judges. In normal times, the judges visit Mansion House annually for a dinner. As this was not possible this year, the Lord Mayor, the Lord Chancellor and the Lord Chief Justice delivered speeches from distanced podiums in the Egyptian Hall in Mansion House, which was then broadcast to judges and invited participants. The event showed the exciting potential for future hybrid events from Mansion House.

City Giving Day

City Giving day (22 September) was a hybrid event this year of virtual and physical events around the City, all still with the same goal of raising money for charity and promoting the charities of the Lord Mayor's Appeal. The Lord Mayor virtually checked into businesses such as Lloyds Banking Group, the London Stock Exchange and Bank of China to see their charitable work. He also sang '[Give a Little Bit](#)' in a joint virtual choir with the saxophonist from *Supertramp*, John Helliwell. As part of the day, a [video tour of Mansion house](#) was also created.

The Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch 2021: an update from the Co-Chairman, Michael Hockney

SUPPORTING THE THREE NATIONAL SERVICE CHARITIES



In the article I wrote for the May edition of the Livery Newsletter, I gave you the good news that, in spite of the 2020 Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch not taking place, we were still able to contribute sufficient funds to support 18 veterans through the Pain Management Programme (PMP) at the King Edward VII Hospital's Centre for Veterans' Health. That was down to the generosity of our sponsors and supporters, including over 40 Livery Companies. With only one exception, a recent business start-up, the uniform response was 'keep our donation for such a worthy cause'.

At that time, I also mentioned that money was still coming in, principally from paying guests at the 2020 Lunch, who had generously decided to turn the cost of their tickets into a donation and then Gift Aid it.

All the money is now in and the result is quite wonderful. We have, net of very modest expenses, raised £167,000. Thank you all. As a result, in addition to the 18 veterans whose lives - and those of their families - will be transformed by the PMP, we will be funding other veterans to help them prepare for and find employment.

Since May, I have been liaising with the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress and with the Remembrancer, looking at the options that might be open to us for the 2021 LMBCL. Working closely with the team at ABF The Soldiers' Charity, we have developed three options, which, we hope will leave us prepared for whatever the situation is in the first four months of 2021.

Option 1: 'Business as usual' - lunch for 1,500 guests and 300 volunteers in Guildhall on Thursday 29 April 2021.

Option 2: Three scaled-down, separate lunches in Guildhall Great Hall and as many other activities as possible in Guildhall Yard under canvas on 29 April 2021.

Option 3: No indoor gathering on the day in Guildhall. Instead three months of activities, virtual and in real-time, beginning on 1 February 2021, including an On-Line Auction, celebrity chef Indian cookery lessons on Zoom, a Cocktails Master Class on Zoom, smaller Curry Lunches all over the City and City businesses putting on their own fundraising activities. On the day, subject to the rules and restrictions in operation at the time, we would hope to put up marquees in Guildhall Yard, selling take-away curries and Livery merchandise, with authors signing their books and live music.

As time has gone on since we first started considering these options and COVID-19 has remained with us, the third option seems to be the most likely outcome. So, at the first meeting of the 2020-2021 Committee in September, we spent much of the time expanding on Option 3. Lots of great ideas came up. They are being pursued at the moment, with a view to having them firmed up by the end of November 2020.

What is without a shadow of doubt is that there will be a LMBCL 2021.

It will be very different to any previous LMBCL in that it will last from 1 February until 29 April 2021 and not just take place over three hours. It will have a different content in part, tailored to the restrictions forced upon us by COVID-19, but we hope it will also retain as many as possible of the popular activities of the first twelve LMBCLs at Guildhall.

What is also not in doubt is the need to support our veterans.

Many parts of British society are suffering in the arena of employment. Jobs are being lost and are harder to come by and that impacts on veterans, who are having a tougher time than they were before the pandemic hit us. The 2021 Lunch will be playing its part in helping veterans into the world of civilian work, aligning the LMBCL with the Mayoral and Civic strategy of the City of London, 'A Better City For All', as a place of leading-edge employment practice. In particular, for the third successive year, the LMBCL will be focusing on funding up to eighteen veterans through the King Edward VII Hospital's Pain Management Programme (PMP). These veterans suffer from chronic debilitating pain, whether physical or psychological or both, which inhibits their ability to lead what we would all call a normal life. That pain has a massive impact on their ability to get and hold down a job. The PMP has been shown to achieve life-changing results, transforming the well-being of veterans and their families. The cost of the six-month programme for a veteran is £6,500. It is a quite a sum for a veteran to find. With your help, we can transform the lives of 18 veterans and their families at a total cost of £117,000. If we raise more than this, we can also support other veterans in a host of other employment-related initiatives delivered by the three national service charities.

In 2020, the response from the Livery was remarkable, including several Livery Companies, as well as City businesses, funding one or more veterans through the PMP. The LMBCL Committee hopes that more Livery Companies than ever before will take part in the 2021 'Lunch' and that this specific and measurable way of supporting the Lunch and the veterans of Her Majesty's Armed Forces will increase in 2021.

You can find out more about the plans for the 2021 'Lunch' as they emerge on the new LMBCCL website. The new website also provides a comprehensive history of the Lunch, including a library of photographic images for each of the annual Lunches. Please go to <https://events.soldierscharity.org/event/the-lord-mayors-big-curry-lunch-2021> to find out more. The website will be updated regularly as the plans for February to April 2021 firm up.

To finish this update: a challenge for the Livery!

The Lord Mayor has set a target for the 2021 Lunch of contributing £180,000 to support veterans of Her Majesty's Armed Forces

With six months to go, I'd really like to hear your ideas as to what your Company can do to make sure we reach and exceed this target. Support us in a variety of ways as you have done in the past. But also come up with new ideas. I'd love to hear them, particularly those that won't be put in jeopardy by the possible restrictions in our lives between February and April next year.

Thank you for helping us contribute over £2.3m since 2008 to the care of our nation's veterans and their families. Let's work together to make the 2021 'Lunch' a hugely-successful extravaganza of events, activities, good fellowship and good fun to be remembered for many years to come as a fine example of the City of London at its responsive and philanthropic best. In the next issue of the Livery Newsletter, I hope to summarise the detailed plans for the 2021 'Lord Mayor's Big Curry 'Lunch'.

With best regards and keep well.

Yours ever,

Michael Hockney
Court Assistant, The Musicians Livery Company, Co-Chairman, The Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch
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NEWS/DATES

Inter-Livery Bridge Tournaments (ILB)

Many thanks to all those who took part in our first ever Online ILB last month, and for all of the positive feedback. Based on all of your comments, we plan to host an Inter-Livery event at least once per quarter, and wanted to let you know the dates well in advance:

Monday 7 December

All on-line events will be Duplicate Pairs, starting at 2.15pm, but we may introduce some variations such as Swiss Pairs, and so please feedback to us your preferences. An online booking form will be sent round for each event nearer the time - please look out for the invitation for October 12th. This will also be visible on the home page of the [Worshipful Company of Makers of Playing Cards website](#).

39th Annual Inter-Livery Bridge, Drapers' Hall, Monday 1 March 2021

Our annual event is currently booked for the normal bridge evening and dinner, and we are considering how this may be organised. If the event has to be cancelled or postponed, we will definitely replace it with an Online Inter-Livery Pairs competition on that evening. We look forward to your participation in these events. As with the first Online Inter-Livery Pairs competition last month, all online events are open to any member of any Livery Company and, in order to make the event more inclusive during the pandemic, we are continuing to relax the normal ILB rule that your Partner must also be a Livery Company member. Accordingly, you are most welcome to join us and play with any partner of your choosing.

Best wishes

Jeremy Willans
Chair, Inter-Livery Bridge Committee,
Worshipful Company of Makers of Playing Cards.

Green Horizon Summit 2020

The Green Horizon Summit is being hosted in collaboration with the City of London Corporation, the World Economic Forum, and the Green Finance Institute. Mark Carney is also supporting in his role as UN Special Envoy for Climate Action and Finance.

The Summit will be from 9–11 November and is timed for when the UK would have been hosting COP26. We see this summit as an opportunity to make the most of the enforced delay and to build momentum and ambition in advance of COP 26 in November next year. We are also keen that it clearly articulates that the climate narrative is consistent with the imperative of the recovery.

The green transition is the commercial opportunity of a generation. Capturing this opportunity will drive job creation and speed the return to growth. But for now, there is a persistent financing gap between net zero ambitions and reality. The Green Horizon Summit is our moment to close this gap. Our objective is to mobilise capital by converting momentum into action ahead of COP26. The Summit will cover five major themes:

- Reporting, Risk, and Returns;
- The Energy Transition;
- Infrastructure and Green Growth;
- Resilience and Adaptation;
- Nature and Net Zero.

The Summit will conclude with a focus on the concrete actions and commitments financial firms need to make ahead of COP26 in Glasgow. You can find details of the agenda, speakers and how to register at www.greenhorizonsummit.com. We really do encourage you and senior colleagues to register and participate in what looks to be an incredibly exciting event.

Alderman William Russell
Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor

Catherine McGuinness
Chair of Policy and Resources

A Decade of Criminal Justice



The Central Criminal Courts at the Old Bailey are a jewel in the crown of the City of London. The Old Bailey is the most famous court of justice in the world.

A Decade of Criminal Justice is a new book compiled by two former Sheriffs of the City containing a personal collection of the valedictory speeches given in Court Number One for judges and senior officials retiring from 2010 to 2020.

At the time, a senior member of the judiciary delivered a light-hearted tribute to these dispensers of justice. These valedictories capture the essence of their public service.

All proceeds from the sale of the book will go to the Sheriffs' and Recorder's Fund, a charity founded in 1808 to support ex-offenders. Please visit <http://www.srfund.org.uk> for more information about the charity.

The book can be purchased for a minimum of £20 plus £1.50 postage. Please post your order to Rebecca Collins, The Central Criminal Court, Old Bailey, London EC4M 7EH with a cheque made payable to The Sheriffs' and Recorder's Fund. Alternatively please email Rebecca.Collins@cityoflondon.gov.uk accompanied with an electronic transfer to the Sheriffs' and Recorder's Fund, account number 10842508, sort code 20-10-53, Barclays Bank PLC.

Remembrance - the Royal British Legion

I trust that you are keeping well. In these unprecedented times the Royal British Legion is working hard to support the most vulnerable in our society, be it older veterans that we care for, those who suffer from social isolation, or those who are simply overwhelmed by the challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. I wanted to write to you regarding our Garden of Remembrance event, which typically takes place in early November in the churchyard at St. Paul's Cathedral.

We are adapting how we work during this global pandemic, to ensure that we keep our beneficiaries, our staff and volunteers, and our supporters safe and well. We have been following Government guidelines, which resulted in us significantly changing how we commemorated VE Day 75. COVID-19 will also have an impact on our VJ Day 75 and 2020 Remembrance activity.

We have made some key decisions about public gatherings and I am writing to inform you that it is not possible to host the Garden of Remembrance event later this year. As you can imagine this is not a step we have taken lightly. We understand this will come as a disappointment but hope you appreciate why we have made this decision during these very uncertain times.

Looking ahead we are actively developing plans for 2020 Remembrance which will allow us to remember together virtually and safely. There is still much to work out, but I know how busy the Livery Companies and Guilds' calendars can be, so wanted to give you as much notice as possible.

The Legion is incredibly grateful to the Livery Companies and Guilds of London for their support and dedication to Remembrance over the years. I hope that you feel that there is a safe and appropriate way in which you can honour the service and sacrifice of all those who have lost their lives in service of the Crown.

Every year we take great care and attention in planting thousands of Tributes made by organisations and members of the public throughout the UK. Later this year, your organisation is very welcome to submit a Tribute for this year's Fields of Remembrance in Westminster, London, which we will plant on your behalf. Information regarding how you can do this will be sent nearer to Remembrancetide.

With thanks to our dedicated and generous supporters, we will ensure that those who have served, and their families, are being looked after no matter what challenges the country faces.

Once more, we thank you sincerely for your participation and support, and I look forward to the times when we can share more positive and proactive news with you.

With kindest regards,

Charles Byrne
Director General