Message from the Chairman, Deputy Richard Regan OBE

Dear Liverymen,

I have pleasure in sending you the latest edition of the bi-monthly Livery Briefing, which I hope you will find interesting and will be useful to all members of the Livery.

One matter I would like to draw your attention to is the good practice that has been developed over the years regarding the timing of publishing or starting a campaign by a member of the Livery who may be thinking of offering themselves for election as Sheriff. Common Hall to elect the Sheriffs for the ensuing year is held on Midsummer’s Day and the new Sheriffs-Elect are admitted the day before Michaelmas (as you will see in the “News” section below). As a matter of good order and courtesy to the incumbent Sheriffs-Elect, potential candidates are asked not to start their campaign or indicate their intentions publicly until after the new Sheriffs have been admitted. In recent years this courtesy has lapsed occasionally and your assistance in maintaining this good practice would be greatly appreciated.

The Livery Committee website (www.liverycompanies.info) also provides a huge source of information and I hope you will not hesitate to let either myself or the Deputy Chairman, Victoria Russell, know if there are any areas of interest that you feel are not covered either in the periodical newsletter or on this website. Should you wish to contact us or contribute to future editions of the Briefing, please contact the Clerk to the Livery Committee, Gregory Moore (Senior Committee and Member Services Officer, Town Clerk’s Department) at gregory.moore@cityoflondon.gov.uk, who will pass on any correspondence.

May I also take the opportunity to wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable summer break.

Thank you.
Richard Regan OBE, Deputy
Livery Committee

NEWS

Election and Admission of Sheriffs
Monday 26 June saw Tim Hailes, Alderman and International Banker, and Neil Redcliffe, Citizen and Basketmaker, elected as Sheriffs of the City for 2017/18.

Both will be admitted to office at a ceremony at Guildhall on Thursday 28 September.

Election of Lord Mayor and Silent Ceremony
A reminder that Common Hall will next meet on Friday 29 September for the Election of Lord Mayor.

The Admission of Lord Mayor, or Silent Ceremony, as it is also known, will take place on Friday 10 November in Guildhall. Ticket application forms for the Silent Ceremony are now available via the City of London website. For further information, please email the Remembrancer’s department.

Lord Mayor’s Overseas Visits: Mexico and Colombia
Between 28 May and 3 June the Lord Mayor visited Mexico and Colombia, accompanied by Alderman Sir Alan Yarrow. Both Sir Alan and the Lord Mayor visited these countries in 2015, when Sir Alan was Lord Mayor. The Lord Mayor’s most recent visit carried forward the strong relationship that has been established with the City in recent years, particularly following the State Visits to the UK by President Pena Nieto in 2015 and President Santos in 2016.

In Mexico both business and Government, following the change of administration in the United States, are looking to deepen their commercial relationships with other parts of the world. There was keen interest in negotiating a Free Trade Agreement with the UK after exiting the European Union. The Lord Mayor met Finance Minister Meade, a potential Presidential contender, to discuss regulatory reform. He also met Agustin Carstens, Governor of the Central Bank, who is about to become head of the Bank of International Settlement in Basel. In the Lord Mayor’s business meetings there was strong interest in the City’s offering in FinTech and Green Finance. There is also potential for collaboration between the City of London Police and the Mexican Federal Police on the issue of Cyber Crime.

In Cartagena in Colombia the Lord Mayor and Sir Alan attended the annual National Banking Convention. They met with President Santos, affirming the cordial relationship with the City following last year’s State Visit, and hearing his views on the status of the peace process in Colombia. In his keynote address to the Convention, which followed the Lord Mayor’s own speech, the President called the City of London “a great friend of Colombia.” In his meetings with the Colombian banking sector the Lord Mayor was able to showcase UK capabilities in the financial and professional services sector, and particularly what London can offer as a source of capital, expertise and experience in infrastructure finance, Green Finance, FinTech and education, training and qualifications.
Aldermanic Elections: Tower and Langbourn
Following the recent passing of Sir Paul Judge, an Aldermanic Election will take place for the Ward of Tower. A Wardmate will be held on Monday 11 September 2017 at 12noon and, if contested, a Poll will be held the following day.

In addition, following the completion of Alderman Sir David Wootton’s current six-year term, an Aldermanic Election will take place for the Ward of Langbourn. A Wardmate will be held on Monday 11 September 2017 with a Poll the following day (if required).

For more information, please visit the City Corporation’s website.

City Livery Club: Root and Branch Award
The City Livery Club is delighted to announce the winners of the 2017 ‘Root and Branch’ Award. Now in its 4th year, this prestigious Award continues to discover exceptional Liverymen who have given of their time and talents to help others and celebrates the achievements of those who have delivered exceptional service within and across the Livery Companies. The field of nominations was so strong this year that the Panel decided to award additional ‘Highly Commended’ and ‘Lifetime Achievement’ Awards, and all of the Awards were presented at the City Livery Club’s annual Civic Lunch in the Mansion House on 18 July by the Lord Mayor Dr Andrew Parmley.

This year’s ‘Root and Branch’ winner is Keith Lawrey, nominated by the Worshipful Company of Hackney Carriage Drivers, for his invaluable advice to over 25 Livery Companies on petitioning for their respective Royal Charters. Keith has worked unpaid and unaided to assist new Livery Companies in many different ways, also playing a leading role in the creation of the Worshipful Company of Educators.

A ‘Lifetime Achievement’ Award was also presented to Penrose Halson, nominated by the Worshipful Company of Turners of London, for a long history of commitment to the Livery including the creation of the “Wizardry in Wood” exhibitions.

And John Taylor, nominated by the Worshipful Company of Carpenters, was presented with a ‘Highly Commended’ Award for his 10 years’ service as Chairman of the Livery Companies Skills Council and, in particular, the impetus he gave to the development of the Livery Companies’ Apprenticeship Scheme.

The full Press Notice with further detail is available here.

City Consorts Society (C Squared)
A group of Master’s Consorts (present and past) have decided to form a Society especially for Consorts, intended as a social and support group for the Consorts of Wardens approaching their Master’s year, as well as current and Past Master’s Consorts. The main objective of C2 is to give the partner of any future Master the confidence and knowledge to embrace and enjoy their year as Mistress or Consort, through:

• sharing knowledge and experiences from the Past & Present Consorts to the Future Consorts (Past Consorts particularly will have vital contributions to share with the Future Consorts);
• advice and support on all matters that may impact on the year as the Masters’ Consort;
• meeting other future Consorts and getting to know each other in a purely social setting before you and they take office;
• a website with links to courses, literature, the city social calendar and other sources of information;
• as well as guidance (most frequently asked questions, etc.)

Meetings will take place with past Consorts available to share advice on matters from as far ranging as protocol at dinners, to how to balance work commitments or juggle multiple diaries. In addition, for those who are interested, there will be a social element with afternoon teas, lunches, tours, trips and visits.

For more information or for an application form, please contact the Chairman Mrs Veronica Spofforth.

Inter-Livery Tennis Tournament
The annual Inter-Livery Tennis Tournament, organised by the Worshipful Company of Feltmakers, is once again being held at The Queen’s Club. This year’s event will take place on Wednesday 6 September 2017 and the competition is open to all Livery Companies. For more information and to book your place, please contact the Clerk.

Inter-Livery Real Tennis Tournament
Real tennis has long been conspicuous by its absence on the schedule of inter-livery sporting events – but no longer! For the first time, an inter-livery real tennis competition will take place on 17 October 2017 at The Queen’s Club. The day will conclude with a champagne reception and dinner.

For details and to obtain an entry form, please contact the Clerk to the Worshipful Company of Brewers.

Race for Doggett’s Coat and Badge
Tuesday 25 July saw the 302nd annual race for Doggett’s Coat and Badge. This year’s winner, with a time of 25 minutes and 10 seconds, was Jack Keech. For more details about this event – organised by the Fishmongers’ Company – please visit the website.

Livery Schools Link (LSL): Annual Conference for head teachers
The LSL’s annual conference for head teachers, this year on the theme of apprenticeships and vocational education, was held on 7 July. The event attracted about 100 people with the Lord Mayor giving the opening address. The new edition of the ‘Livery in Education’ booklet was published that day and electronic copies will be sent to all Clerks in the near future.

A demonstration was also provided of a new volunteer engagement platform, aimed at linking schools and volunteers from Livery companies. This has been piloted during the early summer months but the LSL now encourage all Companies to consider joining it. Details may be found on the website or by contacting LSL Director David Barker.

The LSL is always keen to hear from Livery Company members who would like to get more closely involved in their activities; for example, giving up an evening to mentor needy pupils in the Corporation’s academies, etc. Please contact Lis Goodwin, LSL Chairman, for further details.
Queen’s Award for Innovation 2017: LCAS and OneFile
Members of the Livery may wish to know that OneFile, the key management and monitoring tool that the Livery Companies’ Apprenticeship Scheme (LCAS) has used for all of its apprentices, has recently been awarded The Queen’s Award for Innovation 2017. To read more about the award, please see the press release and to read about LCAS’ case study, please click here.

DIARY DATES

London Bridge Sheep Drive
Sunday 24 September will see the annual London Bridge Sheep Drive, which for the second year will be accompanied by a Wool Fair, pulling together a range of wool-based traders to showcase the breadth of uses of wool. Intended to raise money for charitable causes associated with the Lord Mayor’s Appeal and the Woolmen’s Charitable Trust, this year’s Drive will be opened by Mary Berry, CBE.

For more information, please visit the website.

Lord Mayor’s Appeal: Forthcoming Events
The Lord Mayor has signed up to abseil down from the top of The Leadenhall Building on the morning of Friday 8 September, followed by another 99 (presumably equally nervous!) participants. Standing at a whopping 736 feet, it is the tallest building in the City of London so this is not a challenge for the faint-hearted! All abseil places have now been filled but you can show your support by sponsoring the Lord Mayor with just £10 at www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Andrew-Parmley. Thank you!

Another forthcoming challenge, perhaps more suitable for those not so keen on heights, is the brand new Tour de City static bike ride taking place on City Giving Day, Tuesday 26 September. Sign up your team of up to five people now to race against rival teams in a thrilling competition which will take place in a soon to be confirmed central location in the City. A perfect challenge for the competitive types! Register your team here.

Finally, please don’t forget about the final fundraiser of the year, the Grand Finale Dinner, taking place at Guildhall on Tuesday 7 November - just a few days before it is time for the Lord Mayor to wave goodbye to his unforgettable Mayoral year. It is promising to be a spectacular evening with a grand performance by musicians from the London Symphony Orchestra as well as a live and silent auction with some truly ‘money-can’t-buy’ prizes. Both individual tickets and whole tables are now available for purchase.

For more information about these events please visit the Appeal website or, to book tickets, please email the Appeal team or call 0207 332 1582.

Painters Decorative & Fine Art Society (PDFAS)
The PDFAS Annual Exhibition ART IN THE CITY will run this year from Monday, 2 October to Wednesday, 4 October at Painters’ Hall, 9 Little Trinity Lane, EC4V 2AD. Over 200 works in a variety of media by over 20 of the Painters’ Company’s artists will be exhibited and all works will be for sale. The opening times are 10am to 5.30pm Monday – Tuesday and 10am – 8m on Wednesday. Admission is free.

The ever popular Master’s Reception for all Livery Company Masters, Clerks and their partners will be held on Tuesday, 3 October commencing at 6pm.

City Briefings
These early evening events (5.30pm-7.30pm) are aimed at introducing Liverymen and Freemen to the City of London Corporation and its links and inter-relationships with the Livery. Taking place at Guildhall, forthcoming dates are as follows:

- Tuesday 10 October 2017
- Monday 6 November 2017
- Wednesday 7 February 2018
- Monday 8 October 2018
- Tuesday 20 November 2018

Comments from past attendees have highlighted how useful and informative they have found these sessions, as they provide an opportunity for you to ask questions of the City Corporation and the role of the Livery. We hope that as many of you as possible will take full advantage of the service offered. To book on to these (or any of the Briefing Courses organised for the benefit of the Livery), please go to the website or contact your clerk.

Wardens and Court Assistants Course
There is also a briefing session for Wardens and Court Assistants, both prospective and in post, scheduled for Wednesday 20 September. Spouses and consorts are also welcome to attend the day at Guildhall. The programme and online booking can be found here. The Course is particularly aimed at those expecting to take office in 2018.

Consideration is also being given to the introduction of a course specifically for Consorts.