

# LIVERY BRIEFING

April 2024



## Message from the Chair, Philip Woodhouse

Dear Clerk's

Welcome to the April Livery Briefing newsletter.

You have, by now, I hope received my email thanking all the Clerks, Masters, Prime Wardens and Upper Bailiff for their support over the Livery Weekend scheduled for 21-23 June. Plans are well advanced, with significant activities including an informal dinner at Haberdashers on the Friday evening, a gala dinner at Guildhall on Saturday and a church service lead by the Bishop of London on the Sunday morning at St Lawrence Jewry. Saturday will provide a City experience, I promise! More details will be sent to Companies nearer the time.

On 11 April, the Livery Committee website recorded its 500,000<sup>th</sup> page view. This is since its launch in September 2021. The site is a resource for all Livery-related matters. It includes a comprehensive database of Companies and Guilds, booking facilities for courses, and a well-maintained calendar of City events. The period Jan – Apr for this year is showing a 25% increase over the same four months last year. This puts the site on target to record 200,000 page views in this calendar year. This compares with 164,000 for 2023.

One of the reasons for this increase in pageviews is the growing popularity of the Livery Committee's LinkedIn presence which helps to attract visitors to the site. We now have nearly 600 followers who use LinkedIn to remain up to date with our news outputs. You can join at <https://www.linkedin.com/company/livery-committee>

Nominations for those wishing to stand for election as Sheriff of the City of London will close on 1 May. We anticipate that Common Hall in June will see the Livery invited to support Alderman Gregory Jones, who has the support of the Court of Aldermen in his bid for Aldermanic Sheriff in 2024-25. We hope you will support both new Sheriffs, once elected, in their work for the year ahead.

We will also see, at Common Hall, the retirement from the Livery Committee of David Barrett, Renter Warden of the Worshipful Company of Coachmakers and Coach Harness Makers, past Clerk of the Worshipful Company of Playing Card Makers, past Secretary to the Fellowship of Clerks and absolute stalwart of the Livery. David has been the most incredible source of information for over 20 years to past and current Clerks and Liverymen of multiple Companies and he has been co-opted to the Livery Committee since 2019. David will continue to be involved with the Sheriffs' & Recorder's Fund and the Livery Committee's Garden of Remembrance Service held annually in November. He will be replaced on the Livery Committee by Bob Harris (Worshipful Company of Management Consultants) who has been the mastermind behind the Philanthropic surveys and the Pro Bono Group. Words fail me in the heaps of praise we all owe David for his astonishing support of the Livery. David, I thank you.

With very warm wishes,

Philip Woodhouse.

**Chair  
Livery Committee.**

## Dates of Importance

### City Briefings (5.30pm)

16 May, 12 September, 6 November.

### Masters, Prime Wardens and Upper Bailiff Weekend

21-23 June.

### Wardens and Court Assistants Course

17 September

### Garden of Remembrance

4 November

## Upcoming Events

### Panel Discussion and Networking Breakfast Reception to mark Mental Health Awareness Week, 14 May, 8.30-11am, Guildhall

Mental Health Awareness Week is an ideal time for us all to think about mental health, tackle stigma, and find out how we can create a society that prevents mental health problems from developing and protects our mental well-being. This year's theme is **'movement: moving more for our mental health'**. It has often been recognised that being active is important in supporting strong mental health and wellbeing. Guests will hear from speakers about their experiences of how movement, of all levels, can intersect with mental wellbeing. There will be an opportunity to ask questions during the session. The discussion will be moderated by Anastasia Vinnikova, UK Head of Workplace Wellbeing, Mind Forward Alliance. Further speaker details will follow in due course. Clerks interested in attending should register their interest by emailing [rem.events@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:rem.events@cityoflondon.gov.uk) by no later than Friday 3 May. Should space permit, an invitation will then be issued.

### **Service of the Order of the British Empire**

The King has commanded that a Service of Dedication is to be held for the Order of the British Empire at 11.00 a.m. on 15 May at St Paul's Cathedral. Those belonging to the Order and holders of the British Empire Medal who wish to attend were requested to apply for a ticket online at [www.centralchancery.org.uk](http://www.centralchancery.org.uk) and complete the registration form by 28 March. For any questions please email the Central Chancery at [events@centralchancery.gov.uk](mailto:events@centralchancery.gov.uk).

### **Inter Livery Rifle Shooting Day, 7 June, Bisley Ranges, 'The 10th' - A Special Year**

We are organising a day rifle shooting at the unique Bisley ranges as before. This is a 'must do' event whether serious 'shooter', or complete newcomer wanting a new experience. We are sharing the surplus funds between the Royal Air Force (RAF) Benevolent Fund and an alternative education course organised by the RAF Small Arms Association for Air Training Corps cadets who have issues with life skills. Supporting young cadets with these life skill issues is a worthy cause. The day will consist of teams of three entrants from each participating Company having a magnificent day. Due to space limitations the number of teams is strictly limited to 16 teams.

A full day, commencing with breakfast at 8.30am and finishing with the usual free bar to detain those that do not wish to drive home in the rush hour. We are planning five disciplines as usual with all the usual great prizes, food, fun, and company. The winning team holding the Bakers Cup for the year and the highest individual score for the Target Rifle the Tim Bone Rose bowl, kindly donated by Tim's mother in his memory. This is the tenth year we have held the event, and every year has been truly wonderful. We are investigating and anticipate including in this year a couple of special surprises to celebrate raising a considerable sum for a worthy charity. More on these events will be circulated with the invitation.

Please do not hesitate to ask any questions.

Colin Sach  
Past Master Baker and Member of the National Rifle Association  
[colin.sach@sachco.com](mailto:colin.sach@sachco.com)

---

## **Lord Mayor's Programme**

### **Meeting with Irish Minister for Finance, Michael McGrath TD**

On 8 March the Lord Mayor met Minister McGrath and His Excellency Martin Fraser (Ambassador of Ireland) as a follow on from his visit to Ireland in January. Minister McGrath was unable to join the Lord Mayor's engagements in Ireland with officials from Ireland's Department of Finance and so was interested to hear his feedback following the visit. They also discussed the upcoming EU-UK Regulatory Dialogue, the City of London Corporation's research report on how AI is impacting the financial and professional services sector, and the Lord Mayor's Ethical AI (Artificial Intelligence) Initiative.

### **Meeting with Singapore's Minister for Communications and Information, Ms Josephine Tao TEO**

On 12 March, the Lord Mayor met Minister Tao as a follow up to them both taking part in a panel event in Davos. He also met the Minister at the Global Fraud Summit on 11 March. During their meetings they discussed AI, collaborative efforts in international regulatory coordination, talent development, skills, and fraud. The Minister invited the Lord Mayor to participate in the Asia Tech x Singapore Summit during his visit in May.

### **Meeting with His Excellency (HE) HRH Prince Khalid, Ambassador of Saudi Arabia, 27 March**

A meeting was held with the Saudi Ambassador ahead of the Lord Mayor's visit to Riyadh. The Lord Mayor is attending a special meeting of the World Economic Forum on Global Collaboration, Growth and Energy for Development on 28 April of which Saudi Arabia's Minister of State Ibrahim A Al-Assaf is a co-chair.

### **Meeting with HE Mr Mansoor Abulhoul, Ambassador of the UAE, 28 March**

A meeting with the UAE Ambassador was held ahead of the Lord Mayor's visit to Abu Dhabi and Dubai from 30 April to 2nd May. The Lord Mayor is meeting with representatives from both major financial centres – Abu Dhabi Global Market and Dubai International Financial Centre – and taking with him a business delegation specialising in asset management.

### **Meeting with HE Mr Ng Teck Hean, High Commissioner of Singapore, 5 April**

The Lord Mayor had a courtesy call with the new High Commissioner of Singapore who took up post in November. The meeting discussed the High Commissioner's priorities whilst in office, the Lord Mayor gave an overview of his theme and that the High Commissioner noted that he will also soon become Chair of the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Ambassadors' Group. The other theme prominent in the discussions was the Lord Mayor's forthcoming visit to Singapore which will focus on sustainable finance, asset management, AI and addressing space debris. The High Commissioner undertook to support the Mansion House and Guildhall teams as they plan the visit with colleagues in the British High Commission in Singapore.

### **Visit to Italy, 7-12 April**

The Lord Mayor undertook a visit to Italy, taking in Milan, Genoa and Rome. He had an extensive programme with highlights including meetings with key financial and professional services stakeholders. These included Intesa Sanpaolo, Generali and UniCredit, Bank of Italy, and Italia Fintech. A Future of Shipping: Challenges, Opportunities and Technologies event was held in Genoa co-chaired by Mayor Bucci and President Toti; and discussions took place on space debris and sustainability with D-Orbit and the Deputy Minister of Enterprises and Made in Italy. Key themes from the visit included the role of technology in driving innovation, the importance of sustainability and international cooperation, and the ongoing impact of Brexit. This was the first visit to Italy by a Lord Mayor in 10 years and was an opportunity to emphasise the resilience and strength of the City of London's financial and professional services sector, highlight the investment and growth opportunities in the UK, and strengthen the relationship between Italy and the UK.

### **Children's Party, 13 April**

The Lord Mayor hosted 250 children connected with the City of London from the Armed Forces, surrounding primary schools and academies, City Clergy, the Livery Companies, financial institutions and from London Boroughs to a Fancy Dress Party at Mansion House. The children were entertained by the band "The Mansion House Minions", The Spirit of the Wild Animal Show, Mad Science, Smartie Artie, and Sharky and George, who was Master of Ceremonies.