

LIVERY BRIEFING

April 2015



From the Chairman of the Livery Committee.

Dear Clerk,

Herewith the latest edition of the bi-monthly Livery Briefing, for onward distribution to your livery, please.

The content draws heavily on the News pages at the Livery Committee website, where you can find details and links to a host of livery related information. If you wish to post any item on the site (please aim for between 50-150 words), please email me at nrpullman@btinternet.com

Please may I also draw your attention to the Diary menu tab. Similarly if you wish to list any date of general interest beyond your own livery, please tell me, with web links as appropriate.

To comment or contribute to future editions of the Briefing, please contact either myself at nrpullman@btinternet.com or Gregory Moore (Senior Committee and Member Services Officer, Town Clerk's Department) at gregory.moore@cityoflondon.gov.uk Back numbers of earlier Briefings are in the Library at the website, as is this one.

Thank you.

Nigel Pullman
Livery Committee

NEWS

Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Greater London

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Mr Kenneth Olisa OBE FBCS FRSA as Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London to succeed Sir David Brewer CVO CMG when he retires on 28 May 2015.

Ken is a past master of the Information Technologists' Company, and a member of the First XI Past Masters' association. More and biographical notes at Gov.UK

Common Serjeant

The Queen has appointed His Honour Judge Richard Marks QC to be the Common Serjeant of London on the advice of the Lord Chancellor. He will be based at the Central Criminal Court (The Old Bailey) and took up post with effect from 9 March. Judge Marks succeeds His Honour Judge Nicholas Hilliard QC, recently appointed the Recorder of London. In addition to duties as the second senior judge at the Old Bailey, the Common Serjeant oversees the elections at Common Hall. Judge Marks is a member of the Cooks' Company.

Freedom of the City of London

Freedom proposals, including an increase in the Freedom fine to £100, were approved by Common Council on 5 March. This is the first increase since 1994. Accounting arrangements will be put in place to ensure that the same quantum from the fines goes to the City of London Freeman's School bursary scheme as previously. The effective date for the increased fee was 1 April. For more on this contact Murray Craig (the Clerk to the Chamberlain's Court) at Murray.Craig@cityoflondon.gov.uk.

United Guilds Service

The 73rd Service of the United Guilds of the City of London was held at St Paul's on 20 March, when representatives of the Livery Companies packed the Cathedral to capacity. The UGS was first held on Lady Day in 1943 to help lift the spirits of the City following the Blitz during the Second World War.

Opening the service, The Very Reverend David Ison, Dean of St Paul's, said: "We give thanks to God for the fellowship and service of the Livery Companies: for the customs which carry the memory of times past into the future with confidence and hope; for the skills and talents which they represent and promote in each generation; and for the generosity of their charitable work which provides opportunities for others to share the many blessings that we enjoy.

The service is no longer held on Lady Day, but usually two weeks before Good Friday - hence next year 11 March 2016; and always preceded the night before by the Lord Mayor's Dinner for Masters.

33rd annual Inter Livery Bridge Competition

60 Team Pairs attended this year's event on 2 March at Drapers' Hall, representing 41 different Companies.

The highest overall placed Champion Pair were Mark Nichols and Roy Griggs of the City Solicitors' Company, who were presented with their trophy by the Lady Mayoress.

Other awards were announced by the Master Cardmaker Captain Michael Davis-Marks OBE RN, and presented to pairs from the Actuaries' (best Company), Spectacle Makers' (best married couple), Dyers', Chartered Accountants' (improvers) and the Makers of Playing Cards, the latter of course, being the organisers!

Next year's 34th annual event will be on Monday 7 March 2016. See also the Diary.

Marine Cadets at the Stationers' Company - The Times report

On 7 March The Times newspaper carried a full report on the news that outstanding Royal Marines cadets had been honoured during a ceremony at the Stationers' Hall the previous week. Ian Locks, the Master, presented the Stationers' Cup. Full report at Times online.

Scientific Instrument Makers celebrate Hooke

The Scientific Instrument Makers (SIM) held three events in March to celebrate the 350th anniversary of the publication of Robert Hooke's, *Micrographia*, the first book to record observations using magnifying lenses.

The first event took place at Glaziers Hall where 250 children were given access to science equipment that is usually reserved for A-level or undergraduate students. With

expert guidance they used light and electron microscopes as part of a “crime scene investigation” that tested their analytical, artistic, and problem-solving skills. Prizes were awarded in the afternoon by Alan Yarrow, the Right Honourable Lord Mayor of London.

With support from SIM, the Museum of the History of Science in Oxford ran ‘Hooked on Invention’ - a packed day full of hands-on activities, talks and demonstrations for all ages. The final event in the Micrographia celebration also took place in the Museum of the History of Science in Oxford, with lectures from Professor Peter Nellist, President of the Royal Microscopical Society, the Master of the Scientific Instrument Makers who gave the Minerva Lecture and Dr Jim Bennett, former director of the museum, who spoke on Hooke.

DIARY DATES

Europhilex Stamp Exhibition

An exhibition has been put together by Deputy Anthony Eskenzi to mark the Europhilex Stamp Exhibition, now in its 125th year. Held at the Guildhall Library from 12 – 16 May, this postal history exhibition tells the story of the revolution in communication, supported by the City of London. In the nineteenth century New Post Office reform was very much needed, as the cost of sending a letter was prohibitive. The situation was to change dramatically in January 1840; this exhibition tells the story of how communication changed forever.

The exhibit will be open daily 9.30am to 5pm (except Wednesday until 4pm, Friday 4pm and Saturday 1pm).

Liberteas

Monday 15 June marks the 800th anniversary of the sealing of Magna Carta. As part of the national programme of activities to celebrate Magna Carta and the Montfort Parliament, Parliament and the National Trust are encouraging organisations to participate in a series of events called Liberteas.

The event will take place on the afternoon of Sunday, 14 June at 3pm. Individual Liberteas can range from an organisation led debate to an afternoon tea for a few friends at home – any activity which provides people with a moment to celebrate, debate and reflect on those rights which we very often take for granted but which people have campaigned

to make happen or fought to preserve.

The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers will be organising a national peal of bells to take place at 3pm. Event ideas and further information can be found at www.liberteas.co.uk

Banquet to Commemorate the 200th Anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo

The Guildhall is the venue for this event, to take place on Wednesday 17 June, being organised by a committee of Old Wellingtonians with connections to the City.

Liverymen and friends are warmly invited to join the evening and celebrate this milestone in our country's history. Tickets are available at www.eventsforce.net/waterloo200banquet

Inter Livery Tennis

This annual competition will be held at The Queen's Club on Wednesday 9 September. NB Date change. For more information, contact the Feltnakers' Company.

Annual Sheep Drive

The Worshipful Company of Woolmen will be organising the annual sheep drive across London Bridge again this year, on Sunday 27 September.

Application forms will be available at the end of April from the Woolmen's website at www.woolmen.com or can be requested by email from SheepDrive2015@gmail.com

NOTICES

Letter to The Times - Thursday 9 April

Liverymen may have noticed the below letter, published in The Times on 9 April:

Sir, Eugene Suggett (letter, Apr 4) refers to a “workman” re-lettering a worn gravestone at Westminster Abbey. Not so. This man was a stonemason, as skilled as the Cotswold stone carver who carved the stone eagle, recently discovered in London, nearly 2,000 years ago.

Next year will mark the 660th anniversary of the Worshipful Company of Masons. We help hundreds of young stonemasons to learn the skill. Please don't let us be cast as odd-job folk.

Patricia Langley
Liveryman, the Worshipful Company of Masons, London EC4



LiveryCompanies.info

This Livery Committee website has recently been re-organised to help your navigation. Amongst many other enhancements, complete historical lists of Lord Mayors, Sheriffs and Aldermen since 1189, with their wards, livery companies etc., may now be downloaded from the A-Z Lists menu item.

FishHall.co.uk

As reported in the last edition, work has begun on migrating the “Fishmongers” website to a new host. Research into the ‘requirement’ (largely unchanged from what is presently available) is complete, and the first stage is underway.