

Report of the Livery Committee

To be presented on 24th June 2015

To the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Liverymen of the several Companies of the City of London in Common Hall assembled.

A copy of this report is to be issued to all Liverymen who attend Common Hall and only a summary will, therefore, be presented at the meeting so as not to delay the proceedings.

APPOINTMENTS TO THE COMMITTEE

Your Committee has suggested to the nominating bodies that those they nominate should have a broad knowledge of Livery affairs and a good understanding of the workings of the City Corporation and, particularly, how the City Corporation interfaces with Livery Companies.

Towards the end of 2014, Neil Redcliffe stepped down from the Court of Aldermen and, consequently, from the Livery Committee. At the same time, Commodore Anthony Morrow, CVO retired as Clerk to the Butchers' Company and also stood down from the Committee; Colonel Peter Durrant's term on the Committee has also come to an end. We thank all three for their contribution during their time on the Committee and look forward to welcoming their successors.

We **recommend**, in accordance with the terms of the report agreed by Common Hall on 24 June 2002 and 24 June 2005, that the following persons be appointed as members of the Livery Committee, each for a three year term:-

Nominated by the several Livery Companies, through the Clerks' Association

In place of Commodore Anthony Morrow, CVO:-

Christopher Twyman – Clerk to the Painter-Stainers' Company

In place of Colonel Peter Durrant, whose term of office has expired:-

Russell Vaizey – Clerk to the Dyers' Company

Nominated by the Court of Aldermen

In place of Neil Redcliffe:-

William Anthony Bowater Russell – Alderman and Haberdasher

Nominated by the Court of Common Council

For re-appointment for a final three year term:-

Deputy Richard Regan, OBE – Citizen and Cutler

THE LIVERY COMMITTEE 2014/15

Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman

At the meeting on 9 September 2014, Nigel Pullman, Citizen and Leatherseller was re-elected Chairman; and Ian Seaton, Citizen and Girdler, Deputy Chairman.

Committee Activities

Your Livery Committee has, over the past 12 months, looked at a range of issues and some of the Committee's work is discussed in more detail below:

Livery Committee website

The Livery Committee website, launched in 2014 - <http://www.liverycompanies.info/> - continues to be developed and provides the latest news and diary dates for members of the Livery. It has been designed to be a "one-stop shop" with information or links to all Livery related matters and websites. Information regarding the Livery is also accessible on the City of London Corporation's webpages at <http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/about-the-city/working-with-and-for-others/Pages/city-livery-companies.aspx> .

Livery Companies Database

The database previously known as the Fishmongers' website has been using an obsolescent server, and has recently been moved to a new host now accessed via The Livery Committee website. The Committee, which has assumed responsibility for this valuable Livery resource, is extremely grateful to the Fishmongers' Company who have hosted the database for very many years (at no cost to the Livery), and to *Mvine*, a web consultancy owned by a Court Assistant Information Technologist, who are now doing this work pro bono.

Bi-monthly Livery Committee Briefing

The bi-monthly Livery Briefing, published by Guildhall on behalf of the Livery Committee, is intended for all Liverymen and is circulated via the Clerk to each Livery Company. We encourage all Clerks to circulate the Briefing which can also be accessed in the "Library" at <http://www.liverycompanies.info/> .

Freedom of the City of London

Freedom proposals, including an increase in the Freedom fine to £100, were approved by the Common of Council on 5 March 2015 following consultation with the Livery Committee. This increase represents the first increase since 1994 and your Committee was satisfied that this represented a reasonable reflection of the value of the Freedom. Accounting arrangements have been put in place to ensure that the same quantum from the fines continues to go to the City of London Freeman's School bursary scheme. The effective date for the increased fee was 1 April 2015.

Working Groups

Both the Communications Working Group and the Livery Companies' Working Group have met on a number of occasions over the last year.

Communications Working Group

The Communications Working Group aims to encourage and develop communication between the City of London Corporation, the Livery Companies and the general public. In pursuing these aims, it is responsible for arranging the Wardens' & Court Assistants' Course; the City Briefings; and Briefings for Clerks.

Briefings & Courses

The four City Briefings arranged each year in February, May, October and November continue to be held in Guildhall. The Wardens and Court Assistants City Course (primarily intended for those who expect to become Master/Prime Warden within the next year or so), is an all-day course held in September. Spouses and partners are welcome at each of these events. A half day After Dinner Speaking course intended

for a similar audience is arranged each February, and an annual Briefing for Clerks is held in January. All are administered by the Guildhall's Public Relations Office.

We would ask that Liverymen continue to promote attendance at these events as widely as possible. A link to the web-based booking system can be found at: www.liverycompanies.info

Livery Companies' Working Group

The Livery Companies' Working Group is concerned with the development and dissemination of information about good practice in Livery Companies, particularly to new or aspiring Companies, as well as responding to any matters of common interest or concern raised by the Livery Companies or the City of London Corporation. A new initiative in the past year has been the information posted at the Clerks' Almanac also at www.liverycompanies.info

Your Committee continues to promote the Livery Liaison scheme which sees each Livery assigned a Member of the Committee to act as an intermediary. It serves to simplify the channels of communication between the Livery Committee (and hence Guildhall, Mansion House, and the Shrievalty), and the Companies (and their Masters, Courts, Liverymen and Clerks); Liverymen are encouraged to use these links wherever helpful.

Livery Companies Skills Council

Members of the Livery will recall that in July of 2013 the Livery Companies Apprenticeship Scheme Ltd received Government funding of £1million to support the establishment of 52 apprenticeships. This Scheme has been a success and participating Companies continue to work to build on this. The Livery Committee have invited the Chairman of the Skills Council to attend all Committee meetings to strengthen liaison and offer assistance where helpful.

Livery Schools Link (LSL)

The work of Livery Companies is highly significant to the City's contribution to education. A consultation is currently under way among Livery Companies about whether to maintain a central resource for any companies who might welcome information or support in educational activities. Livery Schools Link currently performs the role of supporting volunteering by members of the Livery in schools, but has limited resources. With support from the City of London Corporation, initial soundings were taken this year, to gauge interest in proceeding to a more detailed consultation. The Worshipful Company of Educators will now lead a consultation steering group and the Chairman of LSL has been invited to attend all Committee meetings to provide regular updates on progress.

LSL also hosted its highly successful Showcase careers fair at Barber-Surgeons' Hall in March, which was an opportunity for over 450 students to meet Livery Companies to learn about their trades and professions. In June, in collaboration with the Actuaries and Educators, LSL also ran its second major conference for Head Teachers and Livery Companies.

New Livery Companies

On 3 July 2014 the Worshipful Company of Arts Scholars was presented with its Letters Patent confirming its status as the 110th Livery Company of the City. The Court of Aldermen has since granted Guild status to two prospective Companies, the Entrepreneurs and the Human Resources Professionals.

All of which we submit to the judgement of Common Hall.

DATED this 10th day of June 2015.

SIGNED on behalf of the Committee.

**NIGEL PULLMAN
CHAIRMAN**