

# LIVERY BRIEFING

September 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. This edition includes a summary of those topics discussed at the meeting of the Livery Committee on 9 September 2015, together with an update on more general subjects of interest to liverymen.

The content draws heavily on the News pages on the [Livery Committee website](http://www.liverycompanies.info/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](mailto:nrpullman@btinternet.com)

Thank you.

**Nigel Pullman**  
Livery Committee

## NEWS

### Election of Sheriffs

At Common Hall on 24 June, Dr Christine Rigden (Constructor) and Alderman Charles Bowman (Grocer) were elected as Sheriffs of the City for 2015/2016. The new Sheriffs will take office following their admission at a ceremony at Guildhall on 28 September.

### Livery Committee: Elections and New Members

At the recent meeting, Nigel Pullman (Leatherseller) was re-elected as the Chairman for a further year, and Ian Seaton CC (Girdler) as his deputy. Following their appointment at Common Hall on Midsummer Day, three new members of the Livery Committee were welcomed to their first meeting. They are Alderman William Russell (Haberdasher, representing the Court of Aldermen), Mr Chris Twyman (Clerk to the Painter-Stainers') and Mr Russell Vaizey (Clerk to the Dyers'), each representing the Clerks' Association. They will serve for three years. A full list of all 20 members of the Committee may be found at: <http://www.liverycompanies.info/livery-committee/membership.html>

At each of the three Livery Committee meetings held each year, the chairman submits a written report. These reports are now published at <http://www.liverycompanies.info/livery-committee/reports/>

### Cornhill Aldermanic Election

On 8 September, Alderman Sir David Howard resigned from the Court of Aldermen on approaching his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday later this year. Sir David, who served as Lord Mayor in 2000/2001 represented the Ward of Cornhill on the Court of Common Council for a total of 43 years, spending the last 29 years as its Alderman. His term of office will end on 11 October, when he retires from public service. A Wardmote will be held on 12 October, with a poll to determine his successor on 13 October in the event of a contested election.

### Apprentices

The Prime Minister has outlined plans to increase the number of quality apprenticeships and give businesses a say on how they are run. More information can be found at [this link](#). The Department for Business Innovation & Skills (BIS) invited responses to these proposals, and the Livery Companies Skills Council (LCSC) has submitted feedback, which reflects some concerns that Livery Companies may have about their long and historic apprenticeship schemes (as well as their contemporary ones). You may read the [LCSC response to BIS here](#).

### Livery Companies Apprenticeship Scheme (LCAS): Progress Report (abridged)

The LCAS was set up to provide apprenticeships in skill areas related to the Livery, with government funding of £1.1m. In total, 58 apprentices were successfully placed across 18 different skills, of both one and three year durations. Those on a one year apprenticeship are now completing their training and will receive certificates from their Livery Companies and LCAS.

The LCAS project has been a success story but also a learning curve for those involved. It has attempted to provide a set of standards for those engaged with the training of young people. Whilst the bureaucracy triggered by the pilot has not been welcome it has forced the creation

of systems and processes that could in the future support a consistent and high quality apprenticeship offer across the Livery.

The LCAS together with the LCSC are now reviewing the way forward to see how to continue to encourage and assist with apprenticeships within the Livery, particularly in the light of the Government's changing strategy for the funding of apprenticeships (see above).

For more details or to receive the full report (with list of participating livers), please email the [LCAS](#).

### Livery Schools Link: Consultation

The Livery Education Steering Group, under the Chairmanship of Peter Williams (past master Educator), is now ready to consult Livery Companies on a detailed proposal for a successor to Livery Schools Link to be established and known as The Livery Education Partnership. If approval is granted, then it is anticipated that the changes would take effect on 1 July 2016. There will be an open meeting for Livery Companies to discuss the proposal from 3.30pm to 4.30pm on 19 October, at St James Garlickhythe. All Masters and Clerks are invited to attend.

### Court of Aldermen support for future Sheriffs

On 9 July, the Town Clerk updated all Masters, Prime Wardens, and the Upper Bailiff, setting out the Court of Aldermen's position regarding its support for future Sheriff candidates (see also News item of 11 June). In summary, the Court has requested the Livery to support two Aldermanic nominations for election in June 2016, and they are [Alderman William Russell](#) (Haberdasher) and [Alderman Peter Estlin](#) (International Banker). The Livery Committee considered this request at their June meeting, and in the interests of an orderly succession to the Mayoralty, gave it their support. This means that liverymen considering standing for election as a (non-aldermanic) Sheriff would be wise to consider delaying putting themselves forward until the following year or thereafter. The full letter may be [downloaded here](#).

## HMRC and VAT

Past Master Chartered Surveyor Roger Southam sits on the Administrative Burdens Advisory Board for HMRC. He and others are aware of issues for a few of the Livery Companies with VAT cases with HMRC. In order to try and gain clarity for Livery Companies he has engaged with HMRC for them to produce a guidance note specifically for Livery Companies. There has been a small committee involved and the document should be completed in October 2015. The guidance note will help to explain to Livery Companies their VAT obligations, and depending on how they structure and operate will suggest liability on fines and quarterage.

## HRH The Princess Royal installed as the Saddlers' Company's Third Perpetual Master

On 20 July, HRH The Princess Royal was installed as the Saddlers' Company's Perpetual Master. The appointment of Perpetual Master, a historic title which is specifically mentioned in the Company's Royal Charter, was created in 1737 for Prince Frederick, Prince of Wales. The Saddlers' Company considers it to be the highest accolade that it can bestow. HRH Prince Arthur, The Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, filled the role between 1906 and 1942.

The Princess Royal was made an Honorary Freeman of the Saddlers' Company on 30 November 1971, when she became a Yeoman as a "distinguished user of the saddle". She had won the Individual Gold Medal in the European Eventing Championships earlier that year.

Whilst the role of Perpetual Master is not a day to day executive position, when HRH the Princess Royal is in the Hall on Saddlers' business or when she represents the Company elsewhere, she will be called "Master". The Court member who would otherwise have become Master will now be known as Prime Warden. The first Prime Warden Saddler is Mr Charles Barclay. He will fulfil all the duties that former Masters have previously held as the day to day effective head of the Company, except when The Princess Royal is present.

## Looking backwards, looking forwards....

The Musicians' Company has unveiled its [new Archival website](#), which reveals the history of the Company and many of its celebrated members. Included are scanned pages of the Court Minutes from 1772 (the earliest surviving) until 1918; celebrated composers such as Elgar, Sullivan and Howells are represented by original manuscript scores owned by the Company – seldom seen in public before; and links to audio extracts of these famous works, with much else of historic and City interest. These are

now online for musicians, researchers and enthusiasts to study and enjoy!

The Musicians' Archival website is at: [www.wcomarchive.org.uk](http://www.wcomarchive.org.uk)

## From The Times – 'Ideas above his stationery'

On 4 July, The Times published the following article concerning the appointment of the Stationers' Company's first female Master:

"The Stationers' Company has its first female "master" in 612 years. Helen Esmonde says she will use the role to champion women in City of London livery companies. To that end, she is throwing a dinner on September 23, urging members to bring their spouses. The speaker will be the lawyer Miriam González, though it's unclear if she has to follow the bring-a-spouse rule. After all, bringing Nick Clegg won't do much to boost the female count, but then September 23 is their wedding anniversary and Nick probably doesn't get invited to as many big bashes as he used to."

## Port of London Challenge

On 27 July, the Scientific Instrument Makers' men's cutter team won this year's Port of London Challenge after an incredibly close race with the Watermen, rowing neck and neck with them for 20 minutes, eventually just winning by a length and a half to secure the trophy. The Challenge is rowed over a 4.4 mile course from HQS Wellington by Temple to Chelsea Harbour. The Scientific Instrument Makers' team completed it in 32 minutes 18 seconds, and the Watermen's time was 32 minutes 25 seconds. The race was first held in July 1996 and started by Betty Boothroyd, then Speaker of the House of Commons.

## DIARY DATES and NOTICES

### Election of Lord Mayor - Minstrels' Gallery

Common Hall will meet on 29 September to elect the 688<sup>th</sup> Lord Mayor of the City of London. The Minstrels' Gallery, from where those Clerks who are not also Liverymen have customarily been able to watch proceedings, has now reached capacity. Any Clerk not already registered with the Town Clerk's department to watch proceedings from the Gallery will be directed to a reserved seating area in the Old Library; for a guaranteed place, Clerks are asked to email [natasha.dogra@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:natasha.dogra@cityoflondon.gov.uk) in advance of the day.

### The Lord Mayor's Show

Saturday 14 November will celebrate 800 years of the Lord Mayor's Show. To mark this anniversary, the first book dedicated to the history of the Show is being published describing different aspects of an event that is so old



and multi-layered that it defies easy description.

Details of how to order your copy of 800 years of the Lord Mayor's Show are in [the Library](#), together with direct Amazon links to order many other livery related titles.

Note - in November 2015, Remembrance Sunday (8 November 2015, the Sunday nearest 11 November) will fall the weekend before the Lord Mayor's Show.

### Lord Mayor's Address to Masters, Prime Wardens and Upper Bailiffs

The Lord Mayor's annual Address to all Clerks, Masters, Prime Wardens and the Upper Bailiff will take place on the afternoon of 23 November. Invitations will be sent from the Mansion House following the election of the new Lord Mayor.

Many other dates of livery interest are listed in the Diary at [www.liverycompanies.info](http://www.liverycompanies.info). If you wish to list any date of general interest beyond your own livery, please contact the [Webmaster](#).

To comment or contribute to future editions of the Briefing, please contact the [Editor](#) or [Gregory Moore](#) (Senior Committee and Member Services Officer, Town Clerk's Department). Back numbers of earlier Briefings are in the Library section of the [Livery Committee website](#) as is this one.