



City Livery Club

*Uniting the  
Livery, promoting  
fellowship*

# *Press Notice*

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26 June 2019

## **CLUB REWARDS THREE OUTSTANDING LIVERYMEN**

- This year's City Livery Club's annual "Root & Branch Award" goes to an outstanding Liveryman for his initiative and innovation in creating an award for those who have shown courage, bravery and initiative in protecting Londoners.
- The judging panel also awarded a "Highly Commended" prize to a Liveryman who encourages young people - especially young women - to engage in engineering.
- A "Lifetime Achievement" goes to a Liveryman whose professional life has championed his craft and revived an interest across the country.

- The three awards will be presented at the City Livery Club's annual Civic Banquet in Mansion House on 8th July by the Lord Mayor *Locum Tenens* **Alderman Sir David Wootton**.

### **The 2019 Root & Branch Award Winner - Peter French MBE**

The Winner this year is Liveryman **Peter French**, a Liveryman of the Security Professionals.

Peter is a founder member of one of the modern Livery Companies, the Security Professionals. His drive and initiative led to the setting up of the *Sheriffs' Award for Bravery* which recognises acts of bravery and was conceived following the London 7/7 bombings.

First presented in 2006 it has struck a chord with the public and many recipients have been humbled by the recognition. In 2018 it was awarded to David Burgess who, passing by, stopped to intervene and end a frenzied attack on a grocery shop owner. The Master said, "This is yet another example of selfless bravery that restores faith in the goodness of people." David's name has been inscribed on a board in the Old Bailey in honour of his actions.

Peter has also been indefatigable in building up his Livery Company. He was instrumental in their obtaining a Royal Charter which has allowed the Livery to create the role of Chartered Security Professional (CsyP) which is a direct benefit to the security industry at large, enhancing their professional status training and discipline.

Peter has also been driving the creation of a sizeable charitable fund in order to help others. Thanks to his sustained hard work and enthusiasm, the fund now stands at £500,000 from a standing start.

### **Highly Commended Award - John Blauth**

From a strong field, the Panel chose **John Blauth**, a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Coachmakers and Coach Harness Makers.

The natural link for those in this trade is with engineering and John co-ordinated the work of the Livery in bringing young people to the automotive, aerospace and coachbuilding

industries. Using the Company's strapline of "An Active Company Investing in Young People", John has taken their work to new heights.

In conjunction with the Livery Schools Link ([www.liveryschoolslink.org.uk](http://www.liveryschoolslink.org.uk)), which works with Livery Companies and schools to benefit young people in education, John endeavours to enable youngsters to understand career opportunities through liaison with major engineering businesses such as Jaguar Land Rover.

He was instrumental in the idea of bursary awards for young people that created the *Coachmaker/Jaguar Land Rover Women in Engineering Award* and a similar one with Doughty Propellers. He has encouraged apprenticeships and support for training on a wide basis.

Another of John's significant achievements was to create the Coachmakers' Engineering Guide that provides a one-stop shop for those seeking a career in engineering.

### **Lifetime Achievement Award - Hugh Adams**

Exceptionally, this year the Panel acknowledges an individual who has excelled over a lifetime of work. **Hugh Adams** is a working blacksmith and a Liveryman. For more than 30 years he has been promoting the craft and inspiring young people to get involved.

Hugh has revived and reconnected the Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths with County Shows where a blacksmith's stall is always a draw to the public. He has also established links with the Camelia Bonar Foundation ([www.cameliabotnar.com](http://www.cameliabotnar.com)) which helps young people with disadvantaged or problematic backgrounds develop their skills.

### **Notes for Editors**

- The City Livery Club was founded in 1914 and its cardinal objective was to "*bind together in one organisation Liverymen of the various Guilds by bonds of common interest in defence of all the citizens hold dear ... in service to the ancient Corporation and in maintenance of the priceless City churches*". Little has changed since then and membership of the Club is representative of practically all the Livery Companies who make up the bulk of the membership. It currently has more than 800 members.

- The “Root & Branch Award” was set up by the Club in 2014 to mark its centenary.
- [www.cityliveryclub.com](http://www.cityliveryclub.com)
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