



Newsletter to Clerks November 2020

It continues to be a strange time for all of us but a very challenging time for anyone connected with schools. We hope that things are progressing reasonably well for you and your Company. This newsletter gives an update on the various projects that LSL is concerned with.

1. 'Livery in Education' Booklet 2021

We are collecting updated entries and thank you to those who have already sent in their revisions. If you have not already sent in any updates please would you do so by December 4. Maureen Marden is collecting the entries on maureenmarden@btconnect.com. We plan to publish the Booklet in time for the Livery Education Conference described below.

2. Livery Education Conference - Save the Date

The next Livery Education Conference is planned for 9 March 2021. We have again booked the hall at the Merchant Taylors' Company where we were last year but it is looking increasingly likely that we may have to go for a virtual event via Zoom. The conference will take place in the morning and we will be sending out more details of this event in the format we feel is most appropriate to offer, early next year. This gives a good opportunity for the Master or Head of Education to talk to school leaders and to discuss possible collaborations.

3. Livery Showcase 2021 – Change of Plan and Save the Date

The Livery Showcase is planned again to be part of the London Careers Festival, however, a decision has been taken to run this primarily as a virtual event. The dates are now 28 to 30 June 2021. This news was announced to your LSL representatives today (17 November 2020), therefore we will be hoping that your Company will participate either by preparing pre-recorded demonstrations and presentations or holding inter-active webinars. In order to ascertain which Companies would be interested in contributing to the event we will be writing to you again, shortly, with further information.

The 2020 LCF was held virtually in the last week of June. 72 different schools made bookings for Webinars, 91% of which were in the Greater London area. 2500 secondary school students were booked and 300 primary school students. The resources on the LCF website were accessed by 296 schools. The Website remains active and can be accessed at <https://www.londoncareersfestival.org.uk/>

4. Volunteering Platform

The partnership with the two independent charities, 'Speakers for Schools' and 'Inspiring the Future' appears to be working well. The two charities work with publicly funded schools and colleges in areas across the country with young people who mainly come from socially disadvantaged backgrounds. This means that members of Livery Companies who live in different parts of the country can volunteer for local presentations. At the end of each year reports will be sent to Livery Companies on the level of activity of their members which we believe will be useful feedback to Companies. To date representation by 19 Livery Companies by 31 members has been achieved. Details of the scheme can be found on the LSL Website and volunteers can sign up here <https://liveryschoolslink.org.uk/the-volunteering-platform-sign-up/>. The Speakers for Schools website is <https://www.speakersforschools.org/> and the website for Inspiring the Future is <https://www.inspiringthefuture.org/>

5. Digital Divide Campaign

The LSL Digital Divide Campaign was launched in July among Livery Companies and their members to help buy devices and connections for disadvantaged students in schools who have limited or no possibility of working online. The digital divide has been around for a long time and the Covid-19 crisis has highlighted the problem with many students from disadvantaged backgrounds being unable to access online schooling. The campaign has already attracted over £51000 in donations from 20 Livery Companies and 18 individuals and this has enabled us to support 15 schools to help 267 of their students who cannot get online at present. <https://liveryschoolslink.org.uk/the-digital-divide/>.



Pupils from La Retraite and George Greens' Schools receiving their devices.

This newsletter has contained some details of our forthcoming events and we hope very much we may see someone from your Company at the Conference or at the Showcase. Please be in touch if we can give you further details on things.

Best wishes from the Livery Schools Link team.

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