



**For 2021
not our usual Lunch in Guildhall
instead
three months of virtual events and activities
to meet the current and urgent need
to fund military veterans through the Pain Management Programme
and into employment**

**A letter from the Lord Mayor Alderman William Russell and Michael Hockney
Co-Chairmen of the Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch**

The last few months have been a pretty tempestuous time as the Committee has sought to put in place plans for the 2021 LMBCL against a backdrop of the spread of the Covid-19 virus. At our last Committee meeting on 13th January a proposed plan of events and activities was outlined, including the possibility of a tented LMBCL finale in Guildhall Yard in September. Now, even that has had to change.

As the City, the Corporation and the Mayoralty gears up for renewed commercial and philanthropic activity, September has become the focus to get this underway. There is already a busy programme of conferences, symposiums, visits, dinners, lunches and fundraising events throughout that month. As a result, we feel that trying to shoe-horn an additional event of the scale of what we had in mind for the 2021 LMBCL in Guildhall Yard is simply too much. We are disappointed that a LMBCL live fundraising event during September won't be possible.

Nor will it be possible to hold the curry lunches in April generously offered by Livery Companies with Halls and by some of the City churches. As we are all only too aware it looks as if gatherings simply can't take place.

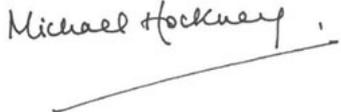
However, the imaginative and entirely virtual programme of fundraising events and activities that the Committee has put together, ably supported by the staff team from ABF The Soldiers 'Charity, should add up to something very special. It gives us the opportunity to meet - and exceed - our 2021 funding target to support veterans into employment, particularly through the Pain Management Programme. In this regard, the need has never been greater.

We very much hope that at the Lord Mayor's Big Curry Reception at the Mansion House in late September we will be sharing with you the good news of a really positive outcome, in spite of all the uncertainties en route.

The marketing programme for the Virtual Lord Mayor's Big Curry launches in w/c 22nd February and the activities and events begin in w/c 15th March. The full programme can be found on the new Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch website.

Thank you for your support.

With best regards and keep well.

	
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The Rt Hon The Lord Mayor

Co-Chairmen, The LMBCL

Court Assistant TheMusicians Company

THE VIRTUAL LORD MAYOR'S BIG CURRY 2021

MEETING THE NEED

The 2021 'Lunch' has had to evolve - because of the Covid-19 pandemic - into a series of fundraising events and activities, all of them on-line, which will start in late March 2021 and conclude by the end of May 2021.

Whilst what is now planned for 2021 may be very different to previous years, the cause for which we are raising funds has not changed. In fact the need has increased. Employment is an issue which has ballooned across the nation as a result of the

pandemic. It has created difficulties for many people including military veterans seeking a job in the civilian world.

More than ever, support is needed to help veterans and in particular those suffering from the debilitating impact of pain - physical, psychological or both - manage the pain and, as a result, be able to seek and hold down a job.

Our support for the Veterans 'Pain Management Programme at the King Edward VII Hospital helps transform the lives of individual veterans and their families; our ambition for 2021 is to fund 18 veterans waiting to go on the Programme.

A TASTER OF THE 2021 PROGRAMME FROM FEBRUARY TO MAY

The Gardeners 'Livery Company Veterans Garden

We very much hope that, as soon as Guildhall Yard becomes available, the Gardeners' Company will be installing their 2021 garden to pay tribute to our Nation's veterans.

On Line Raffle

Twelve prizes

Five Zoom Evenings With Well-Known Authors

**Professor Saul David, Tim Gosling, Lieutenant General Sir Simon Mayall,
Sir Michael Palin, Alan Titchmarsh**

Talking about and reading from their latest books with interactive Q&A

Two Zoom Masterclasses With Leading Wine Experts

James Simpson MW on champagne, its history, its making and the wines of Pol
Roger

Edouard Moueix on the history, making and the character of the wines of Moueix

The facility to pre-order the wines to be tasted

Four Zoom Curry Cook-Alongs With Celebrity Master Chefs and Wine Experts

Chefs include **Prue Leith, Matt Tebbutt and Cyrus Todiwala**
talking about and making curries

Leading wine experts include **Nicola Arcedeckne-Butler MW, Jane MacQuitty**
and

Ollie Smith talking about what wine to drink with curry

The facility to pre-order a food and/or wine box

On Line Auction

Over 60 amazing prizes - yellow gold and diamond pendant, bespoke British-made watch, sporting events, UK & overseas holidays, ceremonial occasions, 'money-can't-buy', 'behind the scenes', pet and portrait painting and photography and much more.

<https://events.soldierscharity.org/event/the-lord-mayors-big-curry-lunch-2021>
