

11th REFLECTIONS — OF THE — LORD MAYOR

Gala Evening
Tuesday, 14 July 2026
Butchers' Hall, London EC1A 7EB

The timings below are indicative and may be adjusted for the day.

5:00pm	Welcome Reception The Court Suites Guests are welcomed with a sparkling reception – an opportunity to arrive, reconnect, and begin the evening in conversation.
6:00pm	Founder's Welcome Christopher Seow offers a personal welcome, reflecting on Reflections' journey and inviting guests into the spirit of the evening.
6:08pm	Stained Glass Roundel Presentation Ceremony Recognising this year's competition winners, celebrating creativity, and honouring storytelling through stained glass in capturing civic life.
6:38pm	Musical Interlude – Didgeridoo Performance A reflective interlude, inviting all present to pause and recognise creativity, culture, and connection through sound and light.
6:50pm	Ceremonial Call to Dinner Guests are invited to proceed to The Great Hall and take their places, ceremonially guided by a Pikeman and Musketeer of the City of London.
7:05pm	Chinese Lion Performance A short celebratory performance bringing colour, movement and good fortune into The Great Hall, marking the transition from reception and ceremony into the formal dinner.
7:13pm	Opening Address Sir David Wootton, inaugural voice of Reflections, formally opens the evening.
7:16pm	Grace The Revd Dr Andrew Schuman OStJ FRGS RNR, Staff Chaplain, Sea Cadet Corps and Priory Sub-Dean, St John Ambulance, offers grace – a moment of reflection, thanksgiving, and quiet acknowledgement of service.
7:20pm	Gala Dinner A three-course dinner is served, bringing together conversation, hospitality, and shared experience.
8:35pm	Reflections Alderman Alastair King DL, 696th Lord Mayor of London (2024–2025), offers reflections on a year of stewardship at the intersection of enterprise, diplomacy, and public life, guided by the theme Growth Unleashed.
9:10pm	Dessert Served A moment to pause, reflect, and gather thoughts ahead of the evening's conversation.
9:25pm	Business Card Draw – Bollinger Special Cuvée Champagne A light moment of anticipation and celebration before the evening's dialogue resumes.
9:30pm	Q&A and Civic Conversation An opportunity for thoughtful questions and open dialogue.
9:55pm	Closing Remarks, Thanks & Presentation Including the continuation of our tradition of presenting a £1,118 donation – a figure that resonates in Cantonese as “everyday good fortune” – to the British Liver Trust, the charity nominated by Alderman Alastair King DL. Pamela Healy OBE, Chief Executive of British Liver Trust, will accept the donation on behalf of the charity and offer brief words of thanks.
10:05pm	Closing Gathering & Toast The Reception Room Guests are invited to continue the conversation in a more informal setting, where a small glass of port will be available alongside wine. An opportunity to deepen connections and bring the evening to a relaxed close.
10:30pm	Carriages Depart with new connections, shared reflections, and enduring memories.