



**GUILD  
OF CLEANERS  
& LAUNDERERS**

For A Better  
Qualification  
Choose the Guild  
of Cleaners and  
Launderers

# Guild of Cleaners and Launderers



**December 2013 E-Bulletin**

( This and previous issues now archived on the Guild's Website )



## Seasons Greetings to All Members

We wish all members and friends of the Guild a very  
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



**Guild National  
Conference  
Sunday 23rd  
February 2014**

**At the Belfrey  
Hotel,  
Mellors Way,  
Nottingham.  
At 9.00 am for**

**Exhibition Viewing.  
Contact Secretariat  
For bookings.**

Guild Membership Renewal? If you have not already paid your Membership Subscription for the year 2013/2014 or you want to join. You can pay on line by visiting the Guild Website at [www.gcl.org.uk](http://www.gcl.org.uk), or alternatively, Telephone 01698 322669



Picture above is Tony Lee FGCL who was awarded the specially commissioned antique iron on an oak plinth

**Guild of Cleaners  
and Launderers**

56 Maple Drive,  
Larkhall, South Lanarkshire,  
ML9 2AR

Phone: 01698 322669  
E-mail: [enquiries@gcl.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@gcl.org.uk)

When you open your new diary for 2014 don't forget to put in a reminder for the Guild Conference to be held at the Belfrey Hotel Nottingham on Sunday 23rd of February and it will be accompanied by a mini exhibition which will be open to viewing from 9.00am and the Conference will commence at 10.00am.

The conference committee have a few surprises for you for this special event as it will feature a stain removal demonstration which will be relayed and displayed on two cinema size screens. It is hoped also to record the session and have it available on DVD afterwards. Your Guild breaking new boundaries!!

Another event for your diary is the LCT Cleanex Exhibition to be held at Ascot on the 27/28th of April. Yes, this year two days of exhibition being held on two floors in the buildings at the famous race course. Guild Officials will be in attendance to answer any queries, or just to discuss matters of interest.

**Any Views?** Your Guild is interested in your views on the new features, this E-Bulletin, the Amber Alerts, and the latest the Technical Bulletin. When these new ventures were first discussed by the Guild Council it was not imagined that the Amber Alerts would have so many problem garments to pass on to members to warn of and make all aware of what was likely to pass over the shop counter. We are now interested in your views on the format and how much interest they are to members. We look forward to some feedback from as many Guild members as possible.

**Breaking News**—Her Majesty's Prison Service (HMP) have joined the Guild as Corporate members and this is after the many years we have provided facilities for prison officers, and inmates, to gain Guild exam and assessment qualifications within prison laundries. Many prison laundry officers were members in their own right and in future will come under this corporate membership and already some new prison laundry locations have shown an interest in becoming involved and we welcome them all. It is hoped that the Guild will be able to organise a special training course for laundry officers next Spring time and the event is now being planned.

**Interested in cleaning suede's and leathers?** Following a meeting at the Guild's Northern Centre on this subject two very capable Guild members, Steve Tolley and Brian Pearce, agreed to cooperate and write a book on this fascinating subject, and more importantly to putting it in a language that most beginners can understand to enable those who wish to start to clean their own Suede and Leather items giving advice on which solvent, even when water is the most suitable, and how to finish, and also what problems to be aware of. Good luck to them and we look forward to reading this and having it available for all members in due course.

**Fire in laundry premises** We featured this subject as the headline in the last issue of the E-Bulletin and it is the feature of the Guild's Technical Bulletin for this December but it is important that we all take adequate precautions to prevent fires because they have the effect of closing businesses down. A fire is always a devastating event and most people who have had a fire underestimate the time and effort in overcoming the problems afterwards. Simple precautions can make a difference and it is important for the well being of all businesses that employees are aware of the risks and take action to avoid any chance of a fire taking hold. Prevention is the key!

**Observing Trends** Followers of the Guild Alerts will notice a pattern arising of labels not suitable for the garments they are fitted to but also that manufacturer's faults are in two main categories of, a) loose colour bleeding on to lighter shade panels, which may of course also be picked up by other customer's items, b) accessories fitted to the item that will not withstand the solvent, and may damage other items in the same load, and a third c) greying where the cleaner has not shown sufficient care and control. The problem is the cleaner has to take responsibility for the consequences when they cause the damage as in (c), but also for any secondary damage from (a) and (b)!

**Pictured left** is Tony Lee FGCL holding his award, which was for his dedication to the Guild and industry, at a Northern Centre meeting in November. He is recovering from treatment for cancer and in the past Tony was very active on the Guild Council as well as Northern Centre business and he is also well known for his help to new entrants to the business many of whom became very concerned that such a generous man had become ill. We all wish he continues to recover and gain strength. A well deserved award – he should have no excuse about doing the ironing now!..

**Stain Removal Training** We are putting together Sunday training sessions in all areas but places are limited. Good value at only £75 including lunch tea/coffee and biscuits. Bookings on a strict first come first served basis. Professional Guild approved trainer in attendance, and monitored by a Guild official. Contact [enquiries@gcl.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@gcl.org.uk) for details. A session in the North West is now being put together and will be held at Fylde Coast Services, Lytham St Annes. A southern area session is planned subject to securing suitable premises.



**Plans For Next Year? Your Guild will have a stand on the upper floor of the LCT Cleanex Exhibition on the 27/28th of April 2014. Guild Officers will be in attendance on both days to meet members and visitors**