



**GUILD
OF CLEANERS
& LAUNDERERS**

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Qualification
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of Cleaners and
Launderers

Guild of Cleaners and Launderers



February 2014 E-Bulletin
(This and previous issues now archived on the Guild's Website)

**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, or alternatively, Telephone 01698 322669

Pictured below is our daily contact with the Guild Secretariat Debbie Paterson she is waiting for your booking for the Nottingham Conference, Sunday 23rd of February 2014



**Guild of Cleaners
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The Health and Safety Executive have completed their study of the causes of the death at the dry cleaners in London last Autumn.

Carbon Monoxide poison from fumes emitted from the gas boiler on site was stated to be the cause. It is a reminder to all who have steam boilers, or gas heated water boilers, that regular maintenance by a competent engineer is essential to avoid these sort of problems. Fitting a carbon monoxide detector is also good practice because these are relatively cheap and can give early warnings of fume leakage.

Water Wastage — Having recently received a rather large water bill prompted a member to do some investigation. He found that if a 1 millimetre hole (roughly the diameter of a 37mm/1½” long safety pin) was drilled in an end cap then attached to the mains water supply It was found that 1 Litre of water would pass through this aperture in 1 minute. Equating to 525,600 litres per annum or 525 cubic metres per annum (1,000 litres = 1 cubic metre) This was from Litres/minute x 60 minutes/hour x 24 hours/day x 365 days/annum. As most water supply authorities charge about £1 per cubic meter for water supplied plus a sewage charge of about £1 per cubic meter for water out this equals £2 for each cubic meter registered on your water meter. It will be noted that even a hole of this small size could cost over £1,000 per annum. The water wastage maybe smaller but from a number of sources that could still add up to the same cost. A method to check that could prove useful would be to take a very accurate water meter reading (the last few numbers being the most important) at the close of business for the weekend and then taking a further reading at the start of business the following week The longer the weekend the better (Bank holidays) DO NOT use any water between these times not even to fill the kettle for a cup of tea. On one occasion a member found that the water meter was registering water used by another premises, and they later discovered this was also paying domestic rates for their water supply, therefore in fact it was being charged twice. If there is a difference between the two readings water is being wasted but please:- Please be careful as to the cost of a cure compared to the amount being saved. For example – A wastage of 10Litres/day would cost approximately £7.30/annum—First a few DO NOT's; Adjust automatic water flow control valves, especially those for refrigeration units, unless you are qualified to do so; Attempt the changing or repair of any valve unless you are qualified to do so as high pressures might be present from steam or refrigerant gas; Work on any equipment before making sure it is safe to do so Remember water & electricity don't mix and can easily kill. Seek professional advice before attempting the work yourself.

ASBCI—Association of Suppliers to the British Clothing Industry have published an A5 size book on “Caring For Your Clothes” priced at £15 plus £1.50 postage and packing, and is available from ASBCI at Unit 25, 25 Square Road, Halifax, West Yorkshire, HX1 1QG. It reviews care label systems, as well as washing, laundering, dry cleaning, wet cleaning, and fabrics and fibres used in the construction of garments. Of interest to our industry is the requirements they require for testing, and the assessments made for the completed item. The book also goes on in detail to cover useful tips for the aftercare of garments. It is stated to be intended to be a guide for designers, manufacturers, retailers, fabric and garment technologists, laundrers, cleaners, and students, plus anyone involved in the textile supply chain.

Presence of residual Alkali in the completed washed work —The use of acid sours on the last rinse to neutralise excessive alkalinity is not considered an adequate substitute for effective, efficient, rinsing. The effective way of establishing excess alkalinity values is by a method of titration, because the presence of fairly small amounts of high pH alkalis may result in skin irritation, and such a test can also save water, time, and more importantly money. The level of alkalinity in the last rinse is advocated to be 3 grains per gallon, 0.042g/litre. Concentration exceeding this can lead to quality problems such as customer/user skin irritations, or fabric harshness. Residual chemicals can also create a wicking effect for the item wearer which could have hygiene implications for some modern synthetic fabrics, and could cause discolouration when dried. Detergent suppliers will sometimes carryout this titration test of the final rinse water without a charge.

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 for details. Sessions in the Southern and North West regions are now being put together and a few places are still available on each. Contact the Secretariat at enquiries@gcl.org.uk .



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