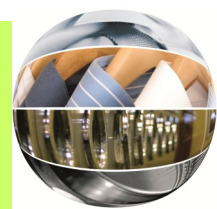




**GUILD
OF CLEANERS
& LAUNDERERS**

For A Better
Qualification
Choose the Guild
of Cleaners and
Launderers

Guild of Cleaners and Launderers



January 2019 E-Bulletin



Conference/Exhibition to
be held on Sunday 10th
March 2019 At the Manor
Hotel, Meriden.



**Intermediate
Laundry
Technology**
a weeks
intensive
training
course to be
held April
2019. Very
popular in
the past and

we are currently planning
our next. Please register
your interest as we require
10 delegates to make the
training viable. Contact
enquiries@gcl.org.uk or
telephone 01698322669 to
book places.

Guild Membership Renewal? Your
Membership Subscription for the year
2018/19 was due from the beginning
of April and if not already paid remem-
ber that you can now pay on line by
visiting the Guild Website at
www.gcl.org.uk, or alternatively, Tele-
phone 01698 322669 . Paying on time
saves money and time in having to
check and chase late payers. Contact
enquiries@gcl.org.uk

Guild Web Site has been upgraded
visit <http://gcl.org.uk> to see what
a difference we have made.

See this month a Technical
Bulletin dealing with the Finish-
ing Quality advantage and an
Amber Alert dealing with a
DNKY Puffer Coat that was
damaged even though the
cleaner followed the advice on
the garment care label.

Guild of Cleaners
and Launderers

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

Phone: 01698 322669
E-mail: enquiries@gcl.org.uk

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL READERS

Book Your Place Now for the 2019 Guild Conference and Exhibition

To be held on Sunday 10th March 2019 At the Manor Hotel, Meriden, just 3 miles from M42 (M6/M5/M40) and Birmingham International Airport and Railway Station. This Will Be A Day of Events Covering, Best Practices, Plus Profitable and Sustainable Business. Featuring, A Master class in Stain Removal, Marketing Your Business, Alternatives to Plastics for Packaging, Common Failures in Cleaning, Additional Income Generation, Starting a New Revolution in Our Business, and winning an award. (Featuring two international guest speakers). An opportunity to network with other cleaners and to meet the best of the industry suppliers.

Good News For Seventeen Students

After a training programme and a two and half hour written examination 17 students passed and will soon receive their certificates. They enrolled on a Guild Supervisory Training Course that, when completed, they had to take the examination of Intermediate Laundry Technology. During the course they had practical assessments in four laundry disciplines.

Research Project With the help of a number of cleaners in the North East, your Guild, in cooperation with the Worshipful Company of Launderers', and the Northumbria University, are to co fund a research project to investigate the cross-bio contamination of textiles in both wet and dry cleaning processes. This follows two separate television documentaries on the likelihood of a future pandemic/epidemic such as the so called Spanish Flue Pandemic after the second world war. The trend in our industry is to process at ever lower temperatures to save energy, and to prolong fabric life, and traditionally higher temperatures have been used to ensure the hygiene of textiles. The research will (A) check out the longevity of live bacteria under ambient conditions, (B) in simulated washing conditions investigate the effectiveness of wet cleaning on the removal of pathogenic bacteria from natural and synthetic fibre. (C) as in B but with dry cleaning solvents, (D) all above with and without bactericide. Being forewarned and prepared is better than having to react later.

Alternatives to single use plastics

In the last two issues we have mentioned alternatives to polythene for packaging following the greater customer awareness of the damage to our environment that can occur by misuse of plastics. We have previously mentioned that your Guild have a number of members sitting on a committee looking at some of the issues involved but can you help by advising us on what alternatives you have come across, or already use. Send any information via email to enquiries@gcl.org.uk

Do You Know Members Can Advertise Their Business on the Guild's Website

An advantage to your business and demonstrates to the general public your proficiency by belonging to the Guild. Check out the Guild's Web Site and if it is not there for your outlet pass on your details to the secretariat. The general public can check out the Guild's website for a registered member in their area. We are promoting competent cleaners who keep abreast of developments by monthly bulletins and alerts.

Minimum Wage 2019/2020

Further to the UK budget announcements at the end of October, rate changes to the Minimum Wage have been confirmed for April 2019. These are in line with the recommendations that were made by the low pay commission. They are as follows

| | Current rate | Future rate (from April 2019) | In-crease |
|--|--------------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| 25 years and over (National Living Wage) | £7.83 | £8.21 | 4.9% |
| 21-24 years | £7.38 | £7.70 | 4.3% |
| 18-20 years | £5.90 | £6.15 | 4.2% |
| 16-17 years | £4.20 | £4.35 | 3.6% |
| Apprentice rate | £3.70 | £3.90 | 5.4% |
| Accommodation offset | £7.00 | £7.55 | 7.9% |

Employee earnings in the UK: 2018 In April 2018, median gross weekly earnings for full-time employees were £569, up 3.5% from £550 in 2017. The 3.5% growth seen this year is the highest growth in earnings since 2008. (The median is the value separating the higher half from the lower half of a data sample.)