Encourage One Another to Follow Lady Brunner . . .

Keep Britain Tidy turned the clock back half a century as it launched the biggest litter pick in history on 1st September 2008.

Thousands of organised clean-ups were launched as Keep Britain Tidy calls for a return to 1950s values – when people cared about their environment.

With levels of rubbish on our streets constantly unsatisfactory, the nationwide “Big Tidy Up” will see an unprecedented month-long blitz on litter.

Starting on 1st September, thousands of litter picks took place the length and breadth of the country. It’s hoped half a million bin bags of litter will be collected. So far 6,000 groups have signed up.

The National Federation of Women’s Institutes has pledged support. And thousands of its members are set to take part.

More than half a century ago Women’s Institute chair Lady Elizabeth Brunner kick-started Britain’s anti-litter movement. And the first anti-litter act was passed 50-years ago this month.

Two of Lady Brunner’s great-grand-daughters repeated that very first rallying call and echo the sentiments from five decades ago, in the photo shoot.

Madeline Brunner, 10 and Marnie Breadin, nine, kicked off the Big Tidy Up by re-creating their great grandmother’s 1954 photo-call at London’s St James’s Park, wearing clothes from that era and holding placards bearing the very first slogan: “Please Take Litter Home”.

Marnie said: “We have heard all about our great grandmother and how she started Keep Britain Tidy. We think she was cool to start it all off because she didn’t like litter and we don’t like litter either.”

Phil Barton, Keep Britain Tidy chief executive said: “The Big Tidy Up will be the biggest organised litter pick this country has ever seen. Thousands of schools, businesses and community groups have already signed up and want to make a difference.

“We are turning the clock back to the era of our founding mother Lady Brunner because we want to see a return to 1950s attitudes.

“At that time litter was seen as being unacceptable. Unfortunately for a minority of people today, dropping litter seems to have become the norm – accepted even.

“If people are fed up with litter in their neighbourhood and want to make their area better, please go to www.thebigtidyup.org which is helping communities get together to tidy up their patch.”

The month-long campaign is being run by Keep Britain Tidy and partners: National Federation of Women’s Institutes, British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV), Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE), CleanUpUK, Waste Watch and Thames21.

The Big Tidy Up follows on from the success of the Capital Clean Up campaign that took place in London earlier this year. The campaign, which focuses on making London the cleanest city on earth by the time the Olympics arrive in 2012, will run each spring between now and 2012. More information is available at www.capitalstandards.com/cleanup.

Environment Minister Jonathan Shaw said: “Fifty years on from the first Keep Britain Tidy campaign litter is still a big issue. People need to realise that their careless behaviour is ruining our streets and public spaces, when it only takes a moment to drop their litter in a bin instead.

“By discarding litter you are breaking the law and could be fined up to £80. It’s also a costly business for local authorities, who spend more than half a billion pound a year picking it up - money that could be best spent elsewhere in the community.

“I wholeheartedly support the Big Tidy Up campaign and urge everyone to get involved with the clean up activities in their areas.”

Future Clean: The Sustainable Cleaning Conference

It is with considerable regret that the British Cleaning Council is announcing the postponement of Future Clean – The Sustainable Cleaning Conference due to a double booking by the venue. Owing to the scale of the event, it has not been possible to secure a replacement venue offering the same facilities for the same date – 16th October 2008. The British Cleaning Council (along with event organisers Quartz Publishing & Exhibitions Ltd) will announce full details of the venue and new dates once these have been finalised.

To ensure that existing delegates and new participants are given suitable notice of the new dates, the British Cleaning Council intends to postpone the event until 2009. Steve Wright, Chairman of the British Cleaning Council, said: “The response to the Future Clean event – from speakers, delegates and sponsors – has been extremely positive, making this postponement particularly regrettable. BCC will, however, use this time to ensure the rescheduled event even better reflects the needs of today’s cleaning professional. We look forward to communicating details of date and venue to you in the near future, and to seeing you at Future Clean – The Sustainable Cleaning Conference in 2009.”

Contact details:
Paul R. Michael, Managing Director, Quartz Publishing & Exhibitions Ltd, Tel: 01895 454600
The Cleaning & Support Services Association (CSSA) strongly criticised the Trade Union movement for demanding that the Government bring all hospital cleaning back in-house.

Andrew Large, Chief Executive of the CSSA said:

“This is a blatant attempt by the Unions to exploit the Government’s current difficulties. It is quite literally playing politics with people’s lives. There is considerable evidence that bringing hospital cleaning back in-house will reverse the progress that is being made in combating Healthcare Associated Infections”.

Figures recently released by the Health Protection Agency show that the NHS is making progress against both MRSA and C. diff. MRSA bloodstream infections fell by 11% from January to March 2008 while C. diff infections between January and March 2008 are down 32% compared with the same quarter in 2007.

Bringing hospital cleaning back in-house would also run counter to the conclusions of Dr Anne Julius’ report on public services, which stated unequivocally that:

“The evidence shows that there are clear benefits to both users and taxpayers, in subjecting incumbent service providers to competition. The academic literature typically found the cost savings from competitive tendering to be between 10 per cent and 30 per cent (including when the in-house team won the bid) with no adverse effect, and sometimes an improvement, in service quality.”

The CSSA has commissioned its own research into hospital cleaning, which compares contracted out cleaning services with in-house services. From that research it is clear that all hospitals are better cleaned by contractors.

Specifically:

- 21.2% of contracted out Acute Trusts received “excellent” PEAT scores in 2008 while only 12.9% of in-house cleaned Acute Trusts achieved this level.

- Nearly two thirds of the non compliances with HCC Standard C21 in Acute Trusts occur in in-house cleaned hospitals – even though only 53.8% of them are in-house cleaned. In-house cleaned hospitals have a disproportionately number of non-compliances with the Government’s own standards for cleanliness.

In conclusion, Andrew Large said:

“I urge the Trade Union movement to pull back from this futile and counterproductive argument about outsourcing and instead join with the private sector to develop ways in which hospital cleaning can be improved - regardless of contract status.”

For further information please contact Andrew Large on 020 7920 9632 or email alarge@cleaningassoc.org
website: www.cleaningindustry.org
Clean Britain Awards

Deadlines Extended

The entry deadline for the 2008/2009 Clean Britain Awards was extended until mid August, to allow for the many local authority entries currently being prepared and approved for submission.

The Clean Britain Awards scheme, promoted by the British Cleaning Council, has two key objectives, namely: to recognise the increasing efforts being applied by many different authorities, organisations and voluntary bodies in maintaining high standards of public space cleanliness and to encourage a sense of civic pride in communities and areas throughout the UK – hence the Awards strapline – “Helping Put Civic Pride Back Into Britain”.

The Clean Britain Awards inspection criteria cover litter, including cigarette butts, chewing gum and fly-tipping, unauthorised graffiti, dog fouling, public place waste bin management, overgrown and obstructing pavement hedgerows and signage cleanliness – all issues which impact on visitor impressions, wherever the location.

Following detailed, unannounced inspection visits to every entry, between August and October, winners will be announced and the Awards presented at the 2009 NEC Cleaning Show, on Tuesday 10th March.

Additional sponsors are being sought to help cover the promotion and running of the scheme. Details can be found on the website.

Further information on the Clean Britain Awards can be found at www.cleanbritainawards.co.uk

2008/2009 Clean Britain Awards

Entries were still being received mid August for the 2008/2009 Clean Britain Awards being promoted by the British Cleaning Council on behalf of the UK cleaning industry.

There are three entry categories:

CITIES, TOWNS and DISTRICTS.

Entries received at time of press are as follows:

CITIES - ENGLAND
Birmingham
Bristol
Cambridge
Coventry
Lincoln
City of London
Newcastle upon Tyne
Nottingham
Plymouth
Truro
Wells
Westminster
Wolverhampton
Worcester

WALES
Swansea

England

TOWNS -
Beaumaris - Isle of Anglesey
Bournemouth - Dorset
Bridlington – East Yorkshire
Church Stretton – Shropshire
Dawlish - Teignbridge
Islington – London Borough
Merton – London Borough
Morpeth – Northumberland
Romsey – Hampshire
Southend-on-Sea - Essex
Southwark – London Borough
Windsor and Eton – Berkshire

DISTRICTS -
Babergh District Council - Suffolk
Berkshire Council - Reading
Bromley Borough Council - London
Brighouse Borough Council - Kirklees
Charnwood Borough Council - Leicestershire
Cherwell District Council - Oxfordshire
Chesham Borough Council - Buckinghamshire
East Lindsey District Council - Lincolnshire
East Lothian Council - Scotland
Elmbridge Borough Council - Surrey
Hyndburn Borough Council - Lancashire
Kenilworth District Council - Warwickshire
London Borough of Hounslow
Mendip District Council – Somerset
Mid Suffolk District Council
Mole Valley District Council - Surrey
North Norfolk District Council
North Tyneside Council
Renfrewshire Council - Scotland
Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead - Berkshire
South Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Council
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
Watford Borough Council
Waveney Norse District Council - Suffolk
West Oxfordshire District Council

Scotland

Edinburgh

DISTRICTS -
Babergh District Council - Suffolk
Berkshire Council - Reading
Bromley Borough Council - London
Brighouse Borough Council - Kirklees
Charnwood Borough Council - Leicestershire
Cherwell District Council - Oxfordshire
Chesham Borough Council - Buckinghamshire
East Lindsey District Council - Lincolnshire
East Lothian Council - Scotland
Elmbridge Borough Council - Surrey
Hyndburn Borough Council - Lancashire
Kenilworth District Council - Warwickshire
London Borough of Hounslow
Mendip District Council – Somerset
Mid Suffolk District Council
Mole Valley District Council - Surrey
North Norfolk District Council
North Tyneside Council
Renfrewshire Council - Scotland
Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead - Berkshire
South Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Council
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
Watford Borough Council
Waveney Norse District Council - Suffolk
West Oxfordshire District Council

East Anglia

CITY OF LONDON

DISTRICTS -
Babergh District Council - Suffolk
Berkshire Council - Reading
Bromley Borough Council - London
Brighouse Borough Council - Kirklees
Charnwood Borough Council - Leicestershire
Cherwell District Council - Oxfordshire
Chesham Borough Council - Buckinghamshire
East Lindsey District Council - Lincolnshire
East Lothian Council - Scotland
Elmbridge Borough Council - Surrey
Hyndburn Borough Council - Lancashire
Kenilworth District Council - Warwickshire
London Borough of Hounslow
Mendip District Council – Somerset
Mid Suffolk District Council
Mole Valley District Council - Surrey
North Norfolk District Council
North Tyneside Council
Renfrewshire Council - Scotland
Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead - Berkshire
South Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Council
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
Watford Borough Council
Waveney Norse District Council - Suffolk
West Oxfordshire District Council

Scotland

Edinburgh

DISTRICTS -
Babergh District Council - Suffolk
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Cherwell District Council - Oxfordshire
Chesham Borough Council - Buckinghamshire
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East Lothian Council - Scotland
Elmbridge Borough Council - Surrey
Hyndburn Borough Council - Lancashire
Kenilworth District Council - Warwickshire
London Borough of Hounslow
Mendip District Council – Somerset
Mid Suffolk District Council
Mole Valley District Council - Surrey
North Norfolk District Council
North Tyneside Council
Renfrewshire Council - Scotland
Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead - Berkshire
South Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Council
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
Watford Borough Council
Waveney Norse District Council - Suffolk
West Oxfordshire District Council

West Wiltshire District Council
Wychavon District Council - Worcestershire

All entries will be receiving an unannounced visit by authorised Clean Britain Awards Inspectors before the end of October.

Areas, inspected at random, will be assessed from a visitor’s perspective for:

- first impressions
- litter, rubbish and fly-tipping
- litter and other waste bin management
- chewing gum and dog fouling deposits
- signage and street furniture cleanliness
- unauthorised graffiti
- overgrown and obstructing hedgerows on pavements

All entries will receive a Star Grading based on the results of each inspection and National Winners will be announced at the Awards Presentation Ceremony being held on the first day of the 2009 NEC Cleaning Show, Birmingham on Tuesday 10th March.

For further information visit www.cleanbritainawards.co.uk

www.cleanbritainawards.co.uk
2007/2008 CLEANABILITY AWARDS

Buildings across the UK have been recognised for helping to make life better for their occupants as well as their cleaning staff.

Shackleton House, London Bridge City, won the Overall Gold Award in the 2008 Building Cleanability Awards, promoted by the cleaning industry livery company - the Worshipful Company of Environmental Cleaners.

Runner-up was City Point in London, which gained the Silver Award, ahead of 80, the Strand, London, which won the Bronze Award.

Other major winners were: St. James’s Institute of Oncology - Bexley Wing in Leeds for the New Building Award, Regent Quarter in London for the Refurbishment Project Award and GlaxoSmithKline House, Brentford for the Brian Cole Working Environment Award, which, in the opinion of the Assessors, possesses the most pleasant working environment for its staff and visitors.

The Awards were presented by the Master of The Livery Company, Kenneth Marriott at a Luncheon Presentation Ceremony at Guildhall, London on 30th June attended by over 400 guests.

A total of 75 buildings were nominated for this biennial Awards scheme from all parts of the UK. Each building was assessed against a wide range of relevant criteria and awarded a 5, 4 or 3 star grading certificate.

The Building Cleanability Awards are run in association with Awards Patron, the British Cleaning Council, with further sponsorship provided by: the British Institute of Cleaning Science; ISS UK; Karcher UK; LCC Support Services and Mayflower Washroom Solutions.

WASTE: A work in progress

The Chartered Institution of Wastes Management (CIWM) is running four workshops to cover all business interests in the Defra consultation on the Duty of Care and Waste Carriers legislation, which is due to close in mid September. Attendance lists are being drawn up by Defra but anyone wishing to attend can contact Tina Benfield at the CIWM to register their interest: Tina.benfield@ciwm.co.uk

The CIWM also run a comprehensive range of courses to help companies and individuals understand and comply with current waste legislation including Duty of Care, Hazardous Waste and Packaging Regulations. All courses can be also be delivered in-house and tailored to customers specific needs, for further information or to request a training brochure please email training@ciwm.co.uk

The CIWM has also launched a new version of its highly successful Waste Awareness Certificate, this time aimed at those working in the healthcare industry. The Waste Awareness Certificate (WAC) was originally launched in 2003 and has now had over 5,000 successful candidates from a wide range of business and industry sectors. The one day foundation course informs employees of their legal responsibilities regarding the waste that they produce on a daily basis and provides practical advice on waste minimisation and management. Since its launch, the CIWM has tailored the WAC course for the construction industry and pilot courses of the healthcare version are now being run at selected centres around the country. Please see www.waste-awareness.org.uk or e-mail wac@ciwm.co.uk for further information

Although the application deadline for the 2008 CIWM Awards for Environmental Excellence has now passed it is still possible to attend the event which offers excellent networking opportunities. The awards ceremony will again take place at the Dorchester Hotel in London on 5th November, and is hosted by television presenter and conservationist Philippa Forrester. For further details visit www.ciwmawards.com

Finally, stand space at Futuresource 2009, the new event for the waste and resources management sector at London ExCels, is in such demand that the exhibition floorplan has been expanded by over 20%, with 3,000 m2 of additional space.

Futuresource, organised by the CIWM in partnership with the Environmental Services Association (ESA), located at London ExCel, will be a major European showcase for the sustainable waste and resource management sector and its major client base. Further information can be found at www.ciwm.co.uk
Associate Member Honoured by UKHA

On Saturday 5th July, Ian Hughes, National Chairman of the UKHA, marked the retirement of David Taylor, Director of Sunlight Service Group by presenting him with an Honorary National Membership to the UK Housekeepers Association. David has been instrumental for many years in the support of the UKHA and has provided financial support, coaches for regions to attend national events and also attending these events each year amongst many other things.

Ian Hughes said “David has been a true friend of the UKHA and I have known him for the 17 years that I have been a member, he has a warm personality encouraging people to join the association and providing support wherever he could. I even remember David travelling to Hull when Forte Hotels moved the entire linen services to Sunlight and a new plant at Wednesbury. David came with a team to assist in the smooth change over even making beds!”

“The Honorary Membership is a rare honour reserved for those who give so much to the association as a whole. We all wish David many happy years of retirement with Marlene his wife who again has attended events and is one of the UKHA family and look forward to seeing them both at all the events in future.”

Further information from Ian Hughes, UKHA, 07966 181484, email ian.hughes@ukha.co.uk

No Link between Clean Homes and Childhood Asthma

News from the UKCPI

Some parents may have been concerned by some media reports based on a study published in the European Respiratory Journal (ERJ) which suggests an apparent link between cleaning chemicals and child asthma. The UKCPI points out that household cleaning products, far from causing health problems, do much to make home life clean, safe and wholesome. Indeed by law, any product sold for use by consumers, is tightly regulated and that the safety, quality and efficacy of cleaning products are the primary concerns of our Industry.

Of course, the media citing the article would not have been aware that the data on which the ERJ article has been based, originates from the Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children (ALSPAC) which started in the early 1990s. In a paper due to be published, entitled ‘Applicability of epidemiological methods to the assessment of the risk to human health of indoor air pollution: A critical review’, it has been recognised that ‘epidemiological methods for quantifying health impacts involve many assumptions and have inherent uncertainties’.

The ALSPAC study is no exception, not the least because of its use of questionnaires and their inherent susceptibility to recall bias. Studies such as ALSPAC, although useful for the collection of baseline data, are not capable of researching the hypothesis that cleaning chemicals contribute to asthma in children, and in fact epidemiological studies such as this one do not determine causal linkages.

Dr Andy Williams, Director General of UKCPI, a trade association representing UK manufacturers of cleaning, hygiene and surface care products, said: “People can be confident of the safety, quality and efficacy of cleaning products on sale in the UK. Indeed, our homes and our health would be the poorer without modern cleaning methods”.


Further information can be found at www.ukcpi.org

Barometer Survey For employers

Cleaning employers are being urged to take part in a survey that seeks to establish solid data on levels of investment in skills and company performance.

Asset Skills, the Sector Skills Council for the cleaning industry, is charged with being the voice of the employer and articulating key messages to government. As part of this, there is a continual need to gather intelligence about the sector to inform its activities. This is currently undertaken through the analysis of official data sources and research projects.

But by launching its “Barometer” survey, Asset Skills hopes to have on-going analysis that will provide richer intelligence and greater understanding of the industry. And this will help determine subsequent actions and initiatives to drive up skills and productivity.

The starting point is to try and engage companies in this exercise. All we ask of employers is a little of their time.

Data and intelligence will be initially collected during an interview with Asset Skills. Information from the questionnaire will then be collected on a six monthly basis.

The survey will cover:
- Business growth objectives
- Current challenges
- Investment in skills and training
- Access to skills and knowledge

All companies taking part in this research will be guaranteed confidentiality. Analysis of the data will be carried out within Asset Skills. All resulting information will be presented in an aggregated format and no individual company will be cited or named.

The information gained within this exercise will inform the ‘State of the Sector’ reports which Asset Skills will produce on a six monthly basis.

If you are interested in taking part in this survey, please contact vwilkes@assetskills.org

Further information can be found at www.assetskills.org
The annual British Toilet Association conference was held again at the renowned National Motorcycle Museum, Solihull at the end of July.

The conference was held for delegates from BTA members, leading Local Authorities and companies involved in supplying toilets. The agenda was designed to provide an overview of innovation and offer solutions to toilet providers. In particular solutions for Local Authorities who may otherwise close toilets faced with costs of abuse, decline in standard of provision and anti-social behaviour.

Opening the Conference, Mike Bone, BTA Director, provided an overview of the BTA’s political campaign and explained that the findings of the Department for Communities and Local Government Select Committee inquiry was expected in October.

Mike Burton, Managing Director of Albany Washroom Services, introduced a session on ‘Toilet Design – business and education working together’. Dr Alison Prendiville of University of East London then presented details of a variety of team projects that UEL product design students have researched on behalf of Albany, looking at key areas within the washroom and service provision to provide proposals for innovation and improvement within the market place. This very interesting and informative session provoked much interest among delegates and the students themselves have been asked to present their designs at the Loo of the Year Awards event in December.

‘How the use of Social Networking can be used to improve toiletting standards’ was the next session, presented by Nigel Tyrell, Head of Environment for Lewisham Council. Nigel explained how the Love Lewisham, Love Clean Streets, Socially Responsible Networking works and how it can deliver improvements in toilet management. The system has enabled Lewisham to dramatically reduce graffiti and fly tipping within existing resources and Nigel explained how it could improve toilets using the same social networking tools. It can support and involve partners and promote positive images of involved towns and cities. The delegates from Local Authorities were particularly interested in this session.

Next it was ‘Question Time’ with Mike Bone asking a panel of experts, Roger Berry, Alistair Humphries and Les Cairns, all BTA members and experts in providing toilets, cleaning and maintenance services to Local Authorities and other toilet providers, questions that BTA regularly receives from it’s members. The experts from Heathmatic, Interpublic Urban Systems and Premier Hygienic were confident in answering all questions put to them and demonstrated that clean, hygienic and safe toilets can be provided in all situations, ensuring improved facilities, and often for less cost than existing toilets.

Nick and Geoff Knowles, directors of Enigma Encoding Company demonstrated ‘how the use of CCTV can deter anti social behaviour in toilets’. Specialists in covert surveillance, Enigma explained the extent of covert and overt surveillance equipment and systems available, the legislation covering such activity, and the various applications with details of its success. The deterrent effect, and conviction support, against toilet abusers were of particular relevance to the delegates who had many questions.

The final session, presented by BTA Chairman Richard Chisnell, gave the pros and cons of Partnership Toilet Schemes. This included the history extending back many years, how PTS works, BTA’s policy for PTS, limitations of PTS, stages and resources required for a PTS, the costs of a PTS and how BTA could help Local Authorities in all matters of this sort. The Local Authority delegates had limited experience of PTS (otherwise referred to as Community Toilet Schemes or Comfort Schemes). One council’s delegate explained that there was a reluctance of commercial toilet providers to be involved. Others had the view that it was the LAS responsibility to provide public toilets.

For further information on BTA, contact Mike Bone, Director on tel. 01403 258779, email mike@brittbs.co.uk

Globally Harmonised System of Classification & Labelling of Chemicals

The European Council and European Parliament have reached an informal agreement on the text of a Regulation to implement the United Nations Globally Harmonised System for the Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) in the EU. It is anticipated that the Regulation will be formally adopted by the European Parliament in September 2008, and will enter into force around the end of 2008. The GHS aims to provide world-wide harmonised criteria for classifying substances and mixtures according to their health, environmental and physical hazards; and world-wide harmonised hazard communication elements, including requirements for labelling and data safety sheets. This will be a direct acting EU regulation which, once adopted, will apply in member states.

Further information can be found at www.hse.gov.uk/ghs/index.htm


**NEWS ROUND-UP**

**ABCD NETSHOP DAY**

‘Safeguarding the Future’
Haigh Hall, Wigan, WN2 1PE
Wednesday, 15th October, 2008

**Programme**
Registration from 09.30am

**MORNING SESSION**
10.15 Sustainable Delivery
Keynote Speakers - Ken Baxter, Wigan
Metrofresh, and colleagues from the supplier network

11.15 WORKSHOPS: Choose from below
- Migrant workers Website - Jeremy Bevan HSE
- After the Heavens Opened - ‘Operation Clean up’ in Hull - Lesley Free
- Specialist cleaning - Brian Boll, Wetrok
- Devising Child Protection Guidelines - Bill Gwilt, Walsall Council

12.00 ‘GONG SESSION’ A chance for suppliers to make a case for their new products in a five minute slot.

12.45 Lunch with exhibition and trade demonstrations

1.45 AFTERNOON SESSION
Workshops

3.30 SUMMARY AND DEPART
Exhibition spaces are available at a cost of £270 for ABCD members and £460 for non-members. All inclusive of VAT

120 places are available at £70 for members and £95 for non-members.

Please contact Pat Wherton, ABCD
email: abcd@wherton.freeserve.co.uk

**TRAINING SUCCESS FOR THE FEDERATION OF WINDOW CLEANERS**

The FWCC held its first one-day IOSH accredited “Cleaning Windows Safely” training course on 23rd June at its headquarters in Stockport and were delighted to receive positive feedback. The Federation introduced the courses in response to demand for up to date training for its members.

Comments included: “I found the course very informative and helpful. There was a good balance between practical hands-on work and classroom work. The two instructors knew their subject very well and gave an excellent delivery and presentation in an easy to understand format...The class size was just right, and the atmosphere was good, friendly and non-competitive. We also learnt from each other.” Phil Messam, All Bright Cleaning, Warwickshire.

“I have been cleaning windows for 22 years and it was nice to attend a course that will make a practical difference immediately!” Mathew Johnson, CAM Cleaning, London.

“Excellent course, well presented. It covered all aspects and answered all questions”. David Chennells, Crystal Clean Southern, Oxfordshire.

Further information can be found at www.f-w-c.co.uk

**NCCA TRAINING COURSE**

Leather Care Technician (LCT) Course
3rd - 4th October 2008
NSPCC Training Centre, Leicester

The emphasis of this course will be placed on theory, practical application, proper identification of leather types, soiling conditions and proper professional solutions to the cleaning challenges faced by the individuals performing the work in the field.

The programme covers subjects including the history of leather and what it is, the anatomy of leather, tanning, top grain and split grain leather, resistance standards, pricing factors, leather identification, cleaning codes and equipment, philosophy of cleaning and getting the dirt out.

As well as the full IILC syllabus, the course will also include the five step LTT Leather Identification Process and practical demonstrations and discussion of the leather pre-clean survey and cleaning processes.

Price: £195 + VAT. Price includes Tea/Coffee and Buffet Lunch. For more information call 0116 234 7200.

**2008 AWARDS ENTRIES BREAK RECORDS**

Entry levels for the 21st Loo of the Year Awards have reached new heights with over 1700 toilets being entered so far. Late entries are still being accepted as our team of dedicated inspectors are completing unannounced inspections covering all parts of the UK and the Channel Islands.

The prestigious Awards Presentation will be held on 5th December and companies associated with the hygiene or washroom industry and organisations supporting the raising of hygiene standards in all ‘away from home’ toilets also have the opportunity to support Loo of the Year Awards by becoming an official Awards Supporter. Please contact 01403 258779 or email information@loo.co.uk

The BCC welcomes articles for publication. Please forward any suggestions to press@britishcleaningcouncil.org

**BCC Website:**
www.britishcleaningcouncil.org

**Member websites:**
www.assetskills.org
www.abcdsp.org
www.chsa.co.uk
www.bics.org.uk
www.bacsnet.org
www.bacche.org.uk
www.abc.org.uk
www.encams.org
www.icmca.org.uk
www.icm.org.uk
www.ukha.co.uk
www.environmental-cleaners.com
CILF - *Safety and Health Awareness Day*

Cleaning Industry Liaison Forum

*Places are limited so book yours now!*

The Cleaning Industry Liaison Forum are running a free *Safety and Health Awareness Day.*

The event is aimed at people who make day to day operational decisions within the cleaning industry such as supervisors and area/regional managers.

It is being held on **Tuesday 28 October 2008** in **Northampton** and will provide practical health and safety information on:

- Risk assessment
- Low falls
- Slips and trips
- Musculoskeletal injuries (like back pain)
- Machinery safety

For more information and to secure your place at the event please e-mail **info@bics.org.uk** marked for the attention of **Lorraine Larman** or telephone 01604 678710

Further information on health and safety in the cleaning industry can be found at: [http://www.hse.gov.uk/cleaning/index.htm](http://www.hse.gov.uk/cleaning/index.htm)