The Highlight of the Industry’s Calendar

The Cleaning Show 2009
10-12 March 2009 • NEC • BIRMINGHAM

One of our industry’s most important events will soon be upon us. The Cleaning Show 2009 will run from 10th – 12th March 2009 at the National Exhibition Centre (NEC) in Birmingham. At a time when all companies need to be more savvy than ever to retain and grow business, this is an opportunity that cannot be missed.

The bi-annual Cleaning Show is organised by BCCE Ltd (a company jointly owned by the British Cleaning Council and Quartz Publishing & Exhibitions Ltd). Over the last 20 years The Cleaning Show has built an enviable reputation for providing a unique platform for companies in the cleaning and related industries, to market, promote and sell their products and services to a broad international audience. The 2009 show will be no exception.

The Cleaning Show is one of the UK’s largest B2B events, attracting over 12,000 visitors from the public, private and commercial sectors - including an increasing number of international visitors. It provides an unrivalled opportunity for buyers and sellers to meet. Exhibitors can showcase and launch products to a targeted audience, build awareness, generate quality sales leads and do business.

The highlight of the industry’s calendar, The Cleaning Show offers a vital networking opportunity for colleagues to meet and address the important issues of the day.

With “credit crunch” and “recession” making regular headlines, perhaps this year, more than ever, we need to work with our clients in the challenge to make organisations more efficient. Public and stakeholder expectations by necessity are much higher. We need to look beyond mere efficiency and cost savings - we must deliver products and standards which exude innovation and enterprise. The Cleaning Show 2009 is the perfect vehicle to experientially communicate this message.

The 2009 event is set to be the biggest ever, building on the success of the last show (in 2007) when visitor numbers increased by 41% from 2005, to exceed 12,039. Growth is expected again this year as the event organisers announce plans to attract key decision makers and companies across a wide range of sectors involved in the UK’s £1.5 billion cleaning industry. Despite being a firm favourite on the industry calendar, The Cleaning Show still manages to deliver a high percentage of new visitors at every event. The 2007 show attracted nearly 50% of first time visitors.

As well as delivering a professional environment to sell products and services the Cleaning Show 2009 will also play host to some exciting awards and competitions. The 3rd Cleaning Show Innovation Awards, The Clean Britain Awards, a show favourite, the National Window Cleaning Competition, and new for the 2009 show, The Cleaning Competition, which will put machinery manoeuvrability skills to the test.

To register for your FREE ticket visit: www.cleaningshow.co.uk

Clean Britain Awards Climax at the Cleaning Show

The 2008/2009 Clean Britain Awards, promoted by The British Cleaning Council, will be presented on the opening day of the Cleaning Show – Tuesday 10th March.

A total of sixty three entries have been received from Local Authorities across the UK - eighteen Cities, twelve Towns and thirty three whole Districts.

Every entry has received a half day unannounced visit from one of the authorised Assessors, posing as a visitor.

Assessment criteria included first impressions, litter and fly tipping, cigarette butt, chewing gum and dog fouling deposits, waste bin management, signage and street furniture cleanliness, unauthorised graffiti and overhanging/obstructing hedgerows on busy pedestrian routes.

Every entry will receive a star grading and five star Awards and a total of thirteen National Awards will be presented to winners. There will be a Bronze, Silver and Gold Award winner for each of the three entry categories – Cities, Towns and Districts, and three Special Awards, where the judging team feel a particular entry deserves national recognition.

Over two hundred guests from participating Authorities, sponsors and the media are being invited to the Awards presentation on 10th March and the ceremony will take place between 12 noon and 1.00pm in a special presentation area, in the main Exhibition Hall, as part of the 2009 Cleaning Show.

The Awards currently have two Associate Sponsors, Gum Busters – part of the Osprey Deepclean Group and Cleaning & Maintenance magazine and the organisers are now seeking two or three additional Presentation Sponsors to help cover the costs of the Awards ceremony and luncheon.

Any company or organisation interested in supporting and becoming more closely associated with the Clean Britain Awards should email: information@cleanbritainawards.co.uk as soon as possible.

Further information about the awards can be found at www.cleanbritainawards.co.uk
Chairman’s Comment

Happy New Year and welcome to the winter issue of the BCC’s quarterly newsletter ‘The Voice’. I trust you have enjoyed a good break and are feeling re-energised and ready to tackle whatever the tough new year may have in store.

In this bumber issue we have news from all aspects of the cleaning world including hot topics such as hospital cleaning, public loo and environmental cleansing. In addition we have coverage of a whole host of awards, member news plus details of the highlight of the industry calendar, The Cleaning Show.

The CSSA brings details of the Healthcare Commission’s Report into the Hygiene Code plus key findings of its “Snapshot Poll” of cleaners. I commend the sterling work of the CSSA and see with interest that they have recruited a policy intern to further reinforce their lobbying to government.

Another member who is no newcomer to lobbying is the BTA. In this issue they give us an update on their on-going campaign for better ‘Away from home’ toilets and details of the Government report The Provision of Public Toilets that offers some hope for the availability of adequate public facilities.

CSSA Welcomes Healthcare Commission Report into Hygiene Code

On 24th November 2008, The Cleaning and Support Services Association (CSSA) welcomed the publication of the Healthcare Commission’s findings from 51 inspections related to healthcare associated infection.

Speaking following publication, the CSSA Chief Executive Andrew Large said:

“The CSSA welcomes the publication of this report. While the results of the inspections are in parts disappointing, especially in regard to cleaning standards and frequencies, we are pleased that the Healthcare Commission’s inspection regime is placing pressure on Trusts in this area and we hope that the Care Quality Commission will continue this role in future.”

The findings of the inspection show that of the 5 Trusts fully compliant with Duties 2, 4 and 8 of the Hygiene Code, 4 are cleaned by outsourced cleaning contractors and only one is in-house cleaned.

The CSSA is concerned that a large number of Trusts continue to breach the Hygiene Code requirements for a clean and suitable environment and for arrangements for cleaning and publicly displaying their schedules for cleaning.

Commenting on the detail, Andrew Large added: “I am pleased that 4 out of the 5 Trusts in full compliance with Duties 2, 4 and 8 of the Hygiene Code are cleaned by Outsourced Contractors. This demonstrates that outsourcing can deliver the quality of cleaning that NHS patients deserve. For those Trusts that continue to struggle with these requirements, I urge you to contact the CSSA and to share in the best practice that CSSA members have developed over a number of years in this field.”

Established in 1967, the Cleaning and Support Services Association is the UK trade association for private sector employers in the contract cleaning sector. CSSA members are among the leading providers of outsourced cleaning services to the NHS.

The Healthcare Commission inspected some 51 Trusts over the first half of 2008. The Trusts that were in full compliance with sections 2, 4 and 8 of the Hygiene Code are:

Barking, Havering and Redbridge Hospitals NHS Trust
Kingston Hospital NHS Trust
Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
St George’s Healthcare NHS Trust
St Helen’s and Knowsley Hospitals NHS Trust

Of these, Leeds is cleaned by an in-house team. The others are cleaned by an outsourced service provider.

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

Those of you keen to invest in staff training and development will welcome the news of a £68m three year Government agreement which gives access to support for training through Train to Gain. The agreement is applicable to five industries only including cleaning and facilities management.

The last few months have seen awards galore for our industry. Euroskills, the CIWM Awards for Environmental Excellence, Military Awards from the Worshipful Company of Environmental Cleaners, Tidy Wales Awards and most recently the Loo of the Year Awards. We have details of them all!

Last and certainly not least we look to The Cleaning Show which will take place on 10th-12th March in Birmingham. Incorporating the finals of the Clean Britain Awards, The Cleaning Show provides a key platform to nurture relationships and do business. In uncertain times like these The Cleaning Show will I’m sure prove to be the catalyst of valuable opportunities for many of our businesses. Enjoy your reading!

Steve Wright
Chairman
British Cleaning Council

NHS “Deep Cleans”... A Waste of Money?

Last September, four months after the end of the Government’s £57 million “Deep Clean” programme, a “snapshot poll” of cleaners undertaken by the CSSA evidenced that the deep cleans are in danger of being a waste of money.

The three key findings of the “snapshot poll” were as follows:

The “deep cleans” made a significant difference to the perception of cleaners about the cleanliness of their wards. 46% of cleaners thought that their hospital was very clean before the “deep cleans” – rising to 89% after the “deep cleans”.

However, in the four months since the end of the “deep cleans”, the percentage of cleaners viewing their ward as being very clean had dropped back to 75%.

Only 44% of cleaners polled are aware of any changes to daily cleaning routines since the “deep cleans” finished.

A number of cleaners also made narrative comments about the “deep clean” process. The consensus of those comments was that the “deep cleans” should be a regular activity, and be backed up by changes to daily cleaning routines. They also noted that the ability to decant wards of patients and equipment was a regular activity, and be backed up by changes to daily cleaning routines since the “deep cleans”.

The CSSA “snapshot poll” presents a mixed picture of the results of the “deep cleans” 4 months on. It is welcome news that they made such an initial difference to the cleaner’s perception of the cleanliness of their own hospitals. However it is also worrying that less than half the cleaners polled are aware of changes to their cleaning regimes following the “deep cleans”. There is a clear potential linkage between this lack of change and the more recent fall in the percentage of cleaners who regard their hospital as being very clean.

Speaking after the findings of this poll were published, Andrew Large, Chief Executive of the CSSA, commented:

“I am pleased that the “deep cleans” have made such a noticeable difference to how cleaners perceive their hospitals. However, I am also worried that the cleaning industry’s concerns about the longevity of the benefits of the “deep cleans” may be coming true.”

“I urge all NHS clients to back up the real improvements made by the “deep cleans” and invest in the enhancement of cleaning regimes. Without this investment, the improvements made by the “deep cleans” may only last for a few more months.”
ASDA Takes Top Trophy for Toilets

ASDA has won the much coveted UK Winners Trophy in the 21st Anniversary Loo of the Year Awards competition to find the very best ‘away from home’ toilets in the UK.

Awards managing director, Mike Bone said: “The UK’s retailers are placing significantly increasing importance on provision of first class toilets that contain the facilities their customers need and expect when visiting their stores. ASDA have continued to improve the quality of their customer toilets since winning the Loo of the Year Awards Individual Categories Trophy in 2007. This year ASDA have also won the new Age Friendly Facilities Trophy and were Scotland National Awards Winners for Babychange Facilities and Age Friendly Toilets entries.”

Over 1700 separate entries were received across 60 different categories which is over 18% more entries than the previous year. Standards in Awards entrant’s toilets are also improving – 42% of the total entries achieved the top 5 Star grading (33% in 2007), 42% achieved a creditable 4 Star grading (41% in 2007) and 14% achieved a 3 Star grading.

Other major UK Trophy Winners were: Eastgate Shopping Centre Basildon for individual category entries, Highland Council for public toilet entries, J D Wetherspoon for corporate provider entries, West Wiltshire District Council for accessible facilities, East Lindsey District Council for adult/child changing facilities, McKillens (Ballymena) for babychange facilities, and South Lanarkshire Council for family friendly facilities.

Trophy winners in the associated Attendant of the Year Awards, for people who put the sparkle and pride into toilet visits, were: Pencelli Castle Caravanning and Camping Park (individual attendant team), Northumberland County Council (in-house cleaning team) and TC Contractors (external contactor team).

Representatives from the top twenty Local Authorities public toilet providers – the Laureates Team, were honoured at the prestigious Awards Presentation held on 5th December at the National Motorcycle Museum, near Birmingham, along with thirty three members of the Awards ‘Champions League’, the Standards of Excellence for participants achieving five or more five star Award grades.

The 2008 Awards were run in association with Headline Sponsor Albany Washroom Services – with additional sponsorship provided by Armitage Shanks, The British Cleaning Council, Help the Aged, Hydro Nova Europe, Enjoy England, Visit Scotland, Visit Wales and The Northern Ireland Tourist Board.

Full results of the 2008 Awards are available on the Awards website:
www.loo.co.uk

Beware The Hidden Dangers...

The three minute video uses brightly coloured paints to demonstrate how cross contamination occurs in a washroom. It shows how poorly trained cleaners can exacerbate the problem by using the wrong cleaning materials.

Mike Burton, MD of Albany, said: “Good washrooms are good for business. Last year it cost the UK economy £4 billion in lost productivity through avoidable illness, according to a CBI report. On top of that billions of gallons of water are wasted in poorly designed and maintained washrooms.

"Washrooms are a breeding ground for germs such as protozoa and parasitic worms, which can be transferred by hand to hand contact. Coliforms found in faeces, contain germs that thrive in unclean environments. Crucially, washrooms also need to be effectively cleaned and maintained. Properly designed and specified washrooms can reduce days lost through illness by up to 50 per cent."
Aman Valley Conservation Association from Rhondda Cynon Taff has won the specially commissioned Tidy Wales Award Trophy in the 18th annual Tidy Wales Awards which recognise groups and organisations who make a real difference to the environmental quality of communities across Wales.

The 42 volunteer members of Aman Valley Conservation Association had adopted a badly littered stretch of the Aman River and set about removing 282 bags of litter and 2.85 tonnes of general waste from its banks and overhanging trees. Since they joined forces they have managed to clean up almost a 4km stretch of the river.

Tegryn Jones, chief executive of Keep Wales Tidy commented: “These awards have now been running for 18 years and it’s pleasing to see that every year entry records are broken. We know that none of the entrants volunteer their time hoping to receive national recognition but just want to demonstrate a love for their community. Many of those who litter argue that they pay council tax and therefore responsibility for clearing it lies with their local council. However, the Tidy Wales Award winners are also taxpayers but they have taken it upon themselves to go that extra mile to make Wales a better place to live and work in.”

36 entrants were shortlisted across 12 award categories. Award winners by category were as follows: The Big Dee Day – Flintshire Countryside Service for the Large Partnership Award, Hafan Hedfor Beach Improvement, Aman Valley Conservation Association for River Improvement, Dell Project Management Team for Schools, Kelda Water Services for Business, Old Colwyn Environment Federation for Tourism Industry, Cwmceylon Tenants and Residents Association for Long-term effort, Cleaner, Greener, Safer Streets for Public Sector, Tre-Telyno Environmental Group for Community Group, Cwmaman Woodlands Company for Woodland Improvement, John Adkins for Individual category and Tudno/Emrys Estate for Biggest ‘Tidy Wales Week’ event.

The awards ceremony was held on 17th November in the Grand Hall of the National Museum of Wales in Cardiff and was sponsored by Environment Agency Wales and Visit Wales.

Keep Wales Tidy is a registered Environmental Charity working for the improvement of Wales’ local environments. For more information about Keep Wales Tidy visit www.keepwales tidy.org

CSSA Launches New Member Benefits

The CSSA has launched a series of new member benefits aimed directly at meeting the needs of cleaning businesses across the UK in these troubled economic times.

The new package of benefits is extensive, some of the key benefits include: Beneficial rates for the Levels of Excellence programme of business improvement, the chance to participate in the BS8555/Acorn programme which leads to ISO14001, free telephone business support helpline, free employment and health and safety systems diagnostics, business seminars, competitively priced liability insurance, discounted financial/business advisory and access to Health & Safety expertise.

The CSSA has also reinforced its team by recruiting a new policy intern. The intern will be a valuable addition to the team and will bolster the association’s ability to present the messages of the contract cleaning sector to Government and the wider world.

For further information please contact Andrew Large on 020 7920 9632 or email alarge@cleaningassoc.org.uk or www.cleaningindustry.org

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CIWM Awards for Environmental Excellence

The 2008 CIWM Awards for Environmental Excellence took place at the Dorchester Hotel, London on the 5th November and were hosted by TV presenter Philippa Forrester. The event, now in its second year was a huge success attracting a record number of entries from a wide range of industries.

Amongst the winners on the night were MITIE Group plc who scooped the award for Sustainable Facilities Management Performance of the year for their joint venture with Hewlett Packard.

MITIE Group plc receives CIWM award for sustainable facilities management performance

£68 MILLION THREE YEAR PLAN SET TO BOOST TRAINING

A £68 million three-year agreement between Government and the facilities management (FM), housing, property, cleaning and parking industries has been announced by Skills Minister Lord Young.

The deal to help beat skills shortages and drive innovation in the FM sector to help it attract, train and retain the skilled people it needs to perform its role in the service sector is a £68 million agreement between Government, the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) and Asset Skills, the Sector Skills Council for the five industries listed above.

The agreement sets out challenging targets including:

- At least 5,000 employer engagements and referrals to Train to Gain skills brokers in England
- An increase of 22,685 learners taking Level 2 National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs) of which 70% will be first achievements and 30% repeat achievements
- An increase of 3,404 Level 3 NVQs, of which 80% will be first achievements and 20% repeat achievements
- 2,500 Skills Pledge commitments
- 2,500 Management and Leadership outcomes
- 2,500 Apprenticeships starts
- 1,234 basic skills achievements

Through the compact agreement, Train to Gain will support more employers to make the Skills Pledge, a nationally recognised commitment to help employees gain new skills at work. Through Asset Skills, more than 250 firms with over 69,000 employees have already made the pledge.

The new agreement also commits DIUS, the LSC and Asset Skills to work in partnership with Train to Gain skills brokers and the National Apprenticeship Service to develop innovative ideas for working with small and large employers to help meet their specific skills needs, using funding available through Train to Gain.

Skills Minister Lord Young said: “The Government values the important contribution the facility management, housing, property, cleaning and parking industries make to our national life, and is committed to working closely with the sector to help it attract, train and retain quality staff. This compact will ensure employers will have access to flexible, world-class training tailored to the specific needs of their business, delivered when and where they need it.”

Chief Executive of Asset Skills, Richard Beamish, said: “Train to Gain is integral to the way in which all Asset Skills’ teams work with employers throughout England. We have a duty to ensure that they know what opportunities are to be offered as a result of the compact; one of the other keys to success will be our commitment to working closely with skills brokers in every region.”

Further information about how to access this training please can be accessed by emailing Richard Foxwell at Asset Skills rfoxwell@assetskills.org

CIWM 2009 Conference & Exhibition to become “Futuresource”

As of 2009, the CIWM conference and exhibition will become Futuresource, a partnership event from CIWM and the Environmental Services Association. The event will also relocate to the ExCeL Centre on London’s Docklands.

Futuresource will build on the success of the CIWM event and will broaden its focus to reflect the wider issues of the waste and resource management sector, which is rapidly expanding beyond its traditional boundaries. An all new conference programme is also currently being finalised, which will include more debate and Q&A sessions.

For further information visit www.futuresourceuk.com or email futuresource@ciwm.co.uk to be added to the priority mailing list for the conference programme.

The British Cleaning Council would like to thank VAX for their hospitality in hosting the December meeting of Council
UK TEAM TAKES GOLD AT EUROSKILLS

A team of 16 young people achieved eight gold medals at the first ever EuroSkills, a three day competition in skills ranging from cleaning to farriery. The team was assessed in cleaning tasks ranging from office to hospital ward environments and came home with the Cleaning Services Team Gold.

EuroSkills is a new, pan-European skills contest. Watched by around 40,000 spectators, the 400 competitors from 29 countries competed in 25 different competitions covering 49 different vocational skills. The cleaning team first showcased their skills in the UK Team Clean Challenge, a competition run by Asset Skills, the Sector Skills Council for the cleaning industry.

Chief Executive of Asset Skills, Richard Beamish, said: "The cleaning team’s triumph illustrates the high standards we maintain in the UK. It also shows how career opportunities within cleaning are improving with more chance to progress into supervisory or management roles."

To find out more about the Euroskills event or to learn more about how you can take part in the next competition visit www.uekskills.org.uk

Seminar Success at ABCD

The Association of Building Cleaning Direct Service Providers (ABCD) held a packed programme of presentations, workshops and networking on October 15th in Wigan.

Based around the theme of ‘Safeguarding the Future’, the sessions were designed to assist with the difficult decisions that have to be made in local authority settings and to challenge norms of behaviour.

Lesley Free of Hull Council, which recently won an APSE award for work done during the post-flood clean up in Hull, shared her experience of inter-departmental emergency responses, and the spirit of partnership that shone through at a time of crisis. Meanwhile, Bill Gwilt shared his Council’s guidelines on Child Protection, a part of the induction programme designed for cleaners and caretakers new to a school setting.

For further details about ABCD email Pat Wherton at abcd@wherton.freeserve.co.uk www.abcdsp.org.uk

Local Government Calls to Stop Decline in Public Toilets

In The Provision of Public Toilets, a report published on 22nd October 2008, the Community and Local Government Select Committee called for all local authorities to reverse a decline in the number of public toilets, estimated at 40% in the past 8 years.

The Committee recommends that local authorities develop a public toilet strategy for their area in consultation with the local community to ensure that more toilets are available to the public. Although many of the British Toilet Association’s (BTA) local authority members provide clean, hygienic and safe toilets, many have failed to provide adequate facilities and have closed public toilets leaving the public with ‘no where to go’.

The BTA has been campaigning for better ‘away from home’ toilets throughout the UK since 1999 and contributed to the Government’s Strategic Guide – Improving Public Access to Better Quality Toilets published on 6th March 2008. It also gave evidence to the DCLG Select Committee which published the October report.

Although falling short of the BTA’s demands for the Government to place an obligation on local authorities to provide adequate public toilet facilities, the latest report offers hope to all who need to use public toilets in England.

The report also recommends that local authorities use their many existing powers to ensure that more public toilets are available, either by using planning, licensing and leasing powers, by running public toilets themselves, or by paying local businesses, such as shops, cafes and pubs to provide access to their toilets. It wants local authorities to aim to provide a ratio of 2:1 public toilet provision in favour of women to address the current lack of female facilities.

BTA supports this report and will continue to campaign until the British public and the increasing number of visitors to this country can enjoy the availability of public toilets when and where they are needed. For further information see www.brittoile.co.uk
NEWS ROUND-UP

Cleaning Industry Safety & Health Awareness Day

Delegates enjoyed a useful training day arranged by members of the Cleaning Industry Liaison Forum (CILF) on 28th October at Johnson Diversey’s Training Centre in Weston Favell, Northampton. The event was aimed at supervisors and area and regional managers who have to make day-to-day operational decisions in the cleaning industry. The session focused on practical advice on subjects such as Risk Assessment, low falls, slips and trips, musculoskeletal injuries and machinery safety. Delegates found it to be a very useful day with all reporting that they felt better equipped to tackle health and safety issues in their workplace.

For future events check the Health & Safety Executive website for details www.hse.gov.uk

Fund Raising & Awards

News from The Worshipful Company of Environmental Cleaners

Charity Ball is a Big Success

The Worshipful Company of Environmental Cleaners held their inaugurual Charity Ball at The Royal Lancaster Hotel, London on 6th September and raised over £22,000 for the Company’s Charity Trust Fund. Some 250 people attended the ball and participated in live and silent auctions, a raffle, and other money-raising games! The evening’s entertainment also included cabaret and dancing. Special guests included four Chelsea Pensioners, who thoroughly enjoyed themselves and a drink or two!

Military Personnel Receive Environmental Cleaners’ Company Awards

Awards for excellence in environmental health were presented by the Worshipful Company of Environmental Cleaners at the Annual Military Awards at the Vintner’s Hall. Further military awards were also presented at the Ladies’ Banquet. The awards consisted of a medal and money prize with medals being designed and made by Garrards the Crown Jewellers.

www.environmental-cleaners.com

Dirty Pig Re-launches in New Year

The New Year will see Keep Britain Tidy partner with ten councils to tackle fast food litter with the re-launch of its award-winning Dirty Pig campaign. Adverts featuring teenagers who develop pig-like features after dropping litter will appear on phone boxes and bus shelters in the partner areas.

Rebecca Joinson, from Keep Britain Tidy, said: “We were inundated with contributions from councils who wanted to partner with us in our latest campaign on fast food litter. As well as having the visuals appear in hot spot areas, partners will be asked to step up enforcement and work with fast food outlets to help tackle the problem.”

Fast food litter refers to food eaten on the go which ends up strewn on our streets: leftover pizza, burger boxes, chip wrappers. As well as making a town look disgusting, fast food litter encourages rats.

Councils taking part in the anti-litter blitz are: Torbay, Colchester, Gateshead, Trafford, Lewisham, Charnwood, North Lincolnshire, Islington, Daventry District Council, Adur and Worthing. In addition to the ten full campaign partners, the following councils will support as “piggy-back” partners: Fenland, Maidstone, Cannock Chase, South Staffordshire, Wigan, London Borough of Sutton, Sheffield, Hinkley and Bosworth.

Dirty Pig recently won a prestigious marketing award at the Campaign Big Awards in London, fending off talent from Cancer Research UK and Friends of the Earth. For more information email press@encams.org

Community Groups Roll up Their Sleeves

Several new volunteer community groups have decided to roll up their sleeves and join the Tidy Towns Project to help make Wales a cleaner, safer and tidier place to live.

Louise Tambini projects director for Keep Wales Tidy said: “Tidy Towns is a great way to bring local people together to improve the environment they live in, get out in the fresh air and enjoy the diversity of our Welsh surroundings.”

“Since April last year, our newly-appointed team of Tidy Towns project officers have assisted 421 community groups to carry out wide range of environmental activities across Wales. This has included 1122 clean-ups which have resulted in the removal of staggering 284 tonnes and 13,124 bags of waste. Groups have also been busy improving access to green spaces with 153 sites completed to date. We are delighted that new groups continue to join the project and hope that in the next few months we will be able to announce that we have assisted our 500th group” she added.

The Welsh Assembly Government funded Tidy Towns project, delivered in partnership with Keep Wales Tidy and Local Authorities, supports the people of Wales to take responsibility for the quality of their local environment so that everyone can contribute towards a clean, safe and tidy Wales.

For more information on Tidy Towns please contact Rhian Mackenzie on 029 2072 6987 or email tidy.towns@keepwalestidy.org
NEWS ROUND-UP

BACHE 2009 Conference

The British Association of Cleaning in Higher Education will hold its 6th annual conference from 6th-8th July at The Institute of Education in London. The conference for professionals involved in the delivery of cleaning and support services in higher education, will include an exhibition and professional development sessions while hosting the BACHE awards for sustainability and training plus a gala dinner. If you are interested in attending or exhibiting contact BACHE direct on tel. 01509 889256 or email admin@bache.org.uk

ABCD Managers Day 2009

‘Safer Recruitment & Developing Business Opportunities’

A Study Day for managers and senior cleaning services staff
Haigh Hall, Wigan, WN2 1PE
Thursday February 19th 2009

Programme
Registration from 09.30 am for 10.15 am start.

MORNING SESSION
10.15 Immigration and Preventing Illegal Working – The new laws
Keynote Speaker – Katie Wallace, solicitor - Eversheds

11. 15 The Carbon Trust – Reducing your Carbon Footprint

12.00 WORKSHOPS for peer support and sharing good practice on recruitment and employment.
Meet colleagues from other ABCD branches.

12.45 Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION
1.45 Train to Gain and other funding opportunities for training - Accrington and Rossendale College Business Development Team and Cleaning Training Team.

Developing Business Opportunities for Local Authority Cleaning Services.
Billy Scott, Liverpool City Council

2.30 Workshops for peer support and sharing good practice in Business Development.
Meet colleagues from other ABCD branches.

3.30 SUMMARY AND DEPART

100 places are available at £150 for ABCD members and £200 for non-members.
Deadline for bookings is Friday January 30th 2009.
Please contact Pat Wherton, ABCD
e-mail abcd@wherton.freerange.co.uk

NCCA TRAINING COURSES

Carpet and Upholstery Cleaning Course
30th – 31st Jan 2009
24th – 25th April 2009
12th – 13th June 2009
All courses will take place in Leicester.

The course is aimed at both newcomers and more experienced professionals who may wish to extend or update technical skills and knowledge or perhaps complement the training courses provided by equipment manufacturers.

The NCCA Carpet and Upholstery Cleaning course provides impartial training on the complete spectrum of carpet and soft furnishing cleaning techniques and equipment currently available within the industry – with the added bonus of NCCA membership at the end of the line.

Spot & Stain Removal Course
27th March 2009
NSPCC Training Centre in Leicester

Delegates will learn about stain identification, what to look out for, which chemical solutions to apply and how to determine expected results. The delegate will use his or her own spotting products on prepared samples which will be handed out during the training. They will not just be taught how to remove the soils but also how to do it without causing further damage to the samples. Each delegate will also receive a course manual and three spotting tools to be used on the day which can be taken home to use again.

Further details of these and subsequent courses are available from the National Carpet Cleaners Association at: 62c London Road, Oadby, Leicester, LE2 5DH. Tel: 0116 271 9550, e-mail: admin@ncca.co.uk

IICRC Elects New President from Europe

Past BCC Chairman, Paul Pearce has been elected President/Chairperson of the IICRC Board of Directors. The first Institute of Inspection Cleaning and Restoration (IICRC) board member to be elected from Europe, Paul takes up his new position following several successful years as International Vice President of the Board.

Paul Pearce said: “Now is the time for us to take a broader look at the organisation in terms of it being a force on the global stage. In doing so, we’ll also be looking closely at how we can further engage our registrants so that more of us are contributing to the greater good of the industry both within as well as outside of geographic lines.”

Paul, part of the industry since 1973, is a Master Cleaner, Restorer and Instructor as well as the owner of Country House Carpet Care. He is also a past president of the National Carpet Cleaners Association for which he currently serves as Technical Director.

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

BCC Website:
www.britishcleaningcouncil.org
Member websites:
asset+skills
www.assetskills.org

abcs
www.abcdsp.org

bactc
www.bache.org.uk

bic
www.bacsnet.org

britloos
www.britloos.co.uk

chie
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cieh
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ncpa
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ukcp
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ukha
www.ukha.co.uk

www.environmental-cleaners.com

www.keepwalestidy.org

www.nawbw.co.uk

www.nccs.co.uk

www.ewc.co.uk

www.ukcleaning.org