



UK HOUSEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

UKHA MIDLANDS, WALES & SOUTH WEST NEWSLETTER MAY 2016

APRIL MEETING



Our meeting in April was Afternoon Tea, held at the Birmingham Hotel du Vin, courtesy of Head Housekeeper Vivine Gayle, Angela Coulson and Shelley McKenna, Forbes Group sponsored the event. Angela gave a brief presentation about Forbes Group, the meeting also gave members an opportunity to network while enjoying their afternoon tea, and to welcome Chris Bick, Head



Housekeeper from Birmingham Malmaison. Jackie Hurst mentioned the competition that Lissadell Liddell is



running, details can be found on page 6. Apologies were given by Lesley Kipling, for not attending, due to Banbury House Hotel being in the final days of a major refurbishment; also unable to attend was Delia Cannings and Sara Cockram. The raffle took place, donations



were given by Julia Harper, Nigel Smith (Mattison Beds), Jackie Hurst (Lissadell Liddell), Julie Hampton, Chris



Bick (Malmaison) , Liz Smith-Mills (Decotel), Nigel Hallisey & Chris Moore (Mitre Linen), Michelle Lowe & Debbie Scott (Birmingham Holiday Inn), Angela Coulson & Shelley McKenna (Forbes Group), Chris Kingsford (Richard Haworth) – Many thanks to you all.

Thank you to Viv Gayle and General Manager Tony Elvin, for a delicious Afternoon Tea.



Forbes Group is a leading British manufacturer and supplier of hospitality, conference and banquet furnishings to leading venues worldwide. We provide quality fabrics, furniture and equipment which allows our customers to trust our value and service whether you are a small independent outlet or an international chain.

We have been supplying textiles from our Leominster factory since the 1980's. In 1994, we diversified into manufacturing banquet furniture. This division became Forbes Furniture, specialising in lightweight but robust tables and aluminium stacking chairs. Forbes Group was formed in 2009 from the merger of the textile business with Forbes Furniture, a logical step given their shared markets. The choice of the Forbes Group name for the merged companies reflects the growth of our products and services. Textiles and furniture are dispatched to destinations from Russia to Tahiti from our purpose built factory at Leominster in Herefordshire, England.

We expanded our offices from the United Kingdom into Benelux, France and Germany, then Italy and Spain. Today we supply hotels in more than 35 countries, as well as the armed forces, universities, sports venues, industrial companies, charities and other organisations. We supply prominent names in the hospitality business, including Gordon Ramsay London and New York, Hôtel de Crillon in Paris, The Ritz in Madrid, the Royal Parc, Evian (former meeting place of the G7 leaders), Hilton Hotels, Marriott Hotels, InterContinental Hotels, the Bora Bora Lagoon Hotel in Tahiti and NATO in Kabul.

With over three decades in the sector, we have acquired an understanding of our clients' needs from the multiple perspectives - including budgets, storage, laundering, health and safety and environmental compliance. We remain as close to our customers as ever, and as flexible to their requirements. Our ambition is to treat all our customers with the same courtesy and attention to detail. We specialise in three main categories; Fabrics, Furniture and Equipment.

Textile Products - We offer a wide range of fabrics and products to match every interior and budget, including table covers, chair covers, restaurant table skirting and conference cloths - standard or bespoke, and with optional logos. All are easy-care and hard-wearing.

Furniture - Lightweight aluminium folding tables enhance speed of set-up, save staff time, are easily handled for health and safety, practical to store and are 97% recyclable. The Buffet-Rite table top can be accompanied by a sleek Silcra stretch cover and turns a table into a temporary hot or cold serving station. We also supply stacking chairs, portable stages and portable dance floors.

Equipment - In addition to our furniture ranges, we are the European distributor for market-leading products from Forbes Industries US. Such items are the birdcage luggage carts made from solid brass, lightweight housekeeping trolleys and a range of stylish mobile bars, lecterns, easels, menu and luggage stands. **For more information please visit www.forbesgroup.eu Tel:01568616638**



SHARE KNOWLEDGE DAY



The Share Knowledge Day took place on 24th March, 2016, at Park Plaza Westminster Bridge, with 40 companies (Associate members) showcasing their latest industry developments, products and services throughout the day. The event opened at 9am giving everyone a chance to look

round some of the stands, also get their raffle cards stamped by the supplier. At the end of the day the cards were put in a draw, with several lucky winners receiving a gift, all donated by the suppliers.

The keynote speakers began from 10am, starting with Peter Ducker, CEO of the Institute of Hospitality, followed by Anne Harper, Head of Professional Development, both to discuss what the Institute of Hospitality has to offer to its members, and the link with the UKHA. Also mentioned was the qualification that is jointly being put together for our members. UKHA members had an opportunity to join the Institute on the day at the very special offer mentioned on page 4.

Later in the morning Stuart Johnson, General Manager at Brown's Hotel, spoke of his career, followed by Lorraine Dale, National Chair and Head Housekeeper at Windsor Castle. Lorraine mentioned the number of Executive Housekeeper vacancies currently available in London that aren't being filled, and the need to encourage people to take up Housekeeping as a career. Having the working relationship with the Institute of Hospitality is a way forward.





After a delicious buffet, and a continuing opportunity to network, there was a choice of attending three



different meeting rooms, which included an Acupuncture and Osteopathy workshop. In the other two meeting rooms there were short presentations from Ben O’Connell, Vice President at Clean the World – recycling of used soaps, and toiletry bottles; Amanda Barlow, Managing Director of Spiezia Organics – using natural products, some even edible; Paritosh Kumar, Vice President of Sales at Knowcross; Elizabeth Marsh , CEO of Elizabeth Marsh Flower Designs. There was also a Fashion Show by Abbati, a family business, a leader in creative design.



The day was a great success

INSTITUTE OF HOSPITALITY Membership Offer

- Initial Affiliate Membership offer of £55 to December 31st 2016. Thereafter all current and fully paid up members of UKHA are entitled to a minimum of 20% discount on their Institute of Hospitality Annual Subscription.
- Any member wishing to apply for upgrade assessment to Member or Fellow can apply for upgrade without paying the upgrade fee of £40. They will still be entitled to the discounted rate of membership subscription according to the grade they are eligible for.
- All new members will receive a membership card and membership pack with details of benefits/ services, plus any material from the Institute of Hospitality
- All existing Institute of Hospitality members of the UKHA are entitled to the above discount on their annual subscription and upgrading application.



Registrations may be received throughout the year and treated on a pro-rata basis. The discount remains the same regardless of joining date. Visit www.instituteofhospitality.org

Use the code “UKHA15” when purchasing membership to take advantage of this offer



NATIONAL AGM

The UKHA National Annual General Meeting is taking place on Thursday 19 May, 2016, at The Holiday Inn Birmingham Airport, starting 11.30am.

NEW WEBSITE

The website is undergoing a major facelift, and will be re-launched within the next couple of months. One of the features will be an opportunity to pay on-line for your membership, sponsorship and tickets for National events. Already on the existing website is the new UKHA logo, and updated application forms for each region.



DIARY DATES



THURSDAY 19th MAY – NATIONAL AGM @ HOLIDAY INN BIRMINGHAM AIRPORT, 11.30am

TUESDAY 28th JUNE – MEETING @ BIRMINGHAM MALMAISON HOTEL

FRIDAY 22nd JULY – ANNUAL SUMMER BALL @ COTTON CLUB, MARRIOTT CITY CENTRE HOTEL LEEDS

— Win —
A luxury spa break for two at
Europe's leading spa resort*
Plus monthly champagne prize draws

To celebrate Liddell's 150th anniversary, we have
launched an exclusive Housekeepers' competition.

Established in Ireland in 1866, we are proud to have reached our 150th year,
now we want you to show us what has made you proud at your hotel each month.

Photograph and send us your proudest monthly moment to be in with a chance of winning a great
monthly prize or our overall prize of a luxury spa break for two.

What has made you feel proud?

This could be a member of staff, a particular milestone you are celebrating or even a celebrity visit; anything that
has made you feel proud of your job or your establishment we want to know about it.

Send your picture via email, social media or upload to our site

www.liddell-international.com

Email: enter@visionsupportservices.com

Twitter: @liddell1866

Instagram: @liddell1866

Facebook.com/liddellinternational

If submitting your entry by social media, don't forget to use the hashtag #LiddellProudMoment

— Prize Details —

3 nights stay at Monart Resort and Spa in Ireland inc. flights and car hire,
Monthly prize draw of bottles of champagne for the best entry each month

Competition starts: 1st March 2016

Monthly prizes announced last day of each month

Final prize to be announced 31st July 2016

See full terms & conditions at www.visionsupportservices.com/terms-conditions

YOUR MIDLANDS, WALES & SW REGION COMMITTEE

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COMMITTEE – DELIA CANNINGS dcannings@sky.com

COMMITTEE – NIGEL SMITH nigel.smith@ukha.co.uk

COMMITTEE – BEV WESSON bev@southcrestmanorhotel.com

DO NOT FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

IT IS NOW DUE

www.ukha.co.uk