



THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF LAUNDERERS

Incorporated by Royal Charter 2010

Dear Liveryman,

As you know the aims for the Livery Company is charitable giving and educational initiatives and this is the responsibility of the Benevolence and Education Committees, who meet on a regular basis to consider the many applications received and plan forthcoming educational initiatives, lectures and seminars. The criteria for the use of our resources is how can we make a difference or enhancement to the lives of those we touch.

We have great pleasure in circulating this Newsletter and informing you of the typical donations and activities the Company has made on your behalf over the year or so and thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes,

Paul Higgs and John Shonfeld

Past Masters and Chairmen of the Benevolence and Education Committees

Disaster in Ukraine

With the focus on the growing humanitarian crisis in Ukraine, like many of you, we are shocked and saddened by the images of the people in Ukraine enduring the invasion and fleeing from war.

The Committee agreed to donate to the Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC) Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.

The DEC is an experienced, well-trusted route for financial donations to war-torn areas and disaster response. The DEC is made up of fifteen member charities which are experts in humanitarian aid and specialise in different areas of disaster response.

It was agreed to donate a total sum of £6,000.

Oasis

It was decided to support two essential Oasis initiatives, With the of rising cost of food and energy, Oasis is offering warm spaces for communities in schools, churches and community centres in the London area. Food banks and stores are also being set up to make food accessible and affordable.

Bede House

Bede House is a community charity based in Southwark where poverty exists alongside prosperity. The charity supports people with learning disabilities and supports families suffering from domestic abuse.

Robes Project

This charity is in support of the homeless in Southwark and is organised by the Company's Chaplin, The Very Reverend Andrew Nunn, Dean of Southwark and involves the annual sleep out in which some Past Masters have taken part in previous years.

**Christ's Hospital School**

The Worshipful Company of Launderers' financial support is to prepare the next student to be funded when our current scholar completes her education. Any amount the Benevolence Fund donates is matched by PM Forbes MacDougall who, himself, was a Christ's Hospital School scholar.

Listening Books

This charity supports many members in the Southwark area who have physical or visual impairments such as arthritis or glaucoma. The charity also supports young people in education by helping with the national curriculum.

Aphasia Re-Connect

Aphasia RE-Connect supports the social welfare of adults with Aphasia and other acquired communication disabilities. Aphasia affects stroke survivors, but can also result from brain injury, tumours or infections resulting in the disability to speak, understand, or read and write. Our donation supports two Southwark groups.

Blind in Business

This charity offers unique training to blind children in London introducing them to role models working in modern careers.

The courses include creating a CV, searching for jobs and mock interviews. This work is carried out remotely and in London Schools.

The OutwardBound Trust

The grant donated will allow three young people from Compass School Southwark to experience an OutwardBound residential course. The Outward Bound courses improve confidence and communication skills which will enhance their education.



No Going Back

NGB is an innovative programme launched in 2020. The ambition is to support people from prison back into employment and where appropriate find housing for those in need. This is a Livery led programme to reduce re-offending, consequent prisoner recidivism and integrate offenders into society.

Dementia UK

The Benevolent Committee and Past Master Ken Cupitt, together, have donated to Admiral Nurses who specialise in assisting patients with dementia.

An additional donation will be made to support the new Admiral Nurse service in Southwark, which will play a vital role in providing specialist dementia care to people living with dementia and their families within the Borough.

Multiple System Atrophy Trust

MSA is a terminal neurodegenerative disease that results in deterioration of nerve cells in the brain. Located in Southwark, the charity offers specialist support and practical help to those affected by MSA. The charity currently supports thirteen people living in Southwark.

Treloar's School

This is a charity the Company donates to annually together with the Livery Community. Providing education, care, therapy, medical support, independence training and skills to young people with physical disabilities thus helping them to achieve their full potential.

A very worthy charity supported by the City and the Lord Mayor who visits annually accompanied by City Livery Companies, including the Worshipful Company of Launderers.

Fashion & Textile Children's Trust

This charity supports children of people working in the textile industry. Our donations help fund such items as school uniforms, beds, household items and educational needs for children with a disability or additional needs. Other Livery Companies also support the Charity, notably the Drapers' Company.

Red Cross

The Lady Mayoress, Felicity Lyons, recently wrote to us requesting a donation to support the British Red Cross appeal usually supported by the Christmas Market which did not take place this year. This request was fulfilled.

London Air Ambulance

This is a charity the Company supports annually to enable the incredible service which the London Air Ambulance is able to offer to the most critically injured patients in the London area. The Air Ambulance Service operates 24/7, 365 days a year and is funded by charitable donations such as our annual donations.



Education Initiatives

Each year the Education Committee organises a tour of state-of-the-art laundry facilities either in the UK or abroad for four Travelling Scholars. This year, February 2023, four scholars took advantage of the offer of two days of intensive activity which included a visit to Lindstrom UK in Bradford processing cleaning wipers, Christeyns (Bradford) chemical processing plant and JSG Leeds, both their Hotel Linen and Workwear Rental Plants.



Following this successful event, the candidates produced written reports on their experiences, and these reports have been issued to the trade press and are available on the Livery website at www.launders.co.uk

On Wednesday, 8th February, a Livery Open Day, was scheduled for all members, to co-incide with the Scholars' visit to the Johnson's Hotel Linen and Workwear Rental Plants in Leeds. This, too, was well supported.

The cost of energy is foremost in the minds of the public and business owners alike since the restrictions on supply of natural gas and oil has initiated hikes in prices. Prompted by the hardship massive increases in the cost of energy and its impact on the business community, a Conference, with the title "The Future of Energy in the UK" with an illustrious line up of specialist



speakers, was held at the Hall on Monday, 20th February 2023. It was well supported by members and members of several other City Livery Companies.

During the course of the day, delegates listened to speakers covering six separate energy-related topics and these papers were video recorded. The intention is to set up links for open viewing very soon. A USB Memory Stick containing twelve short videos on energy related subjects lasting 35 minutes is available for sale at £5 with all proceeds going to the Lord Mayor of London's Charity Appeal.

During 2022 the Company provided a Bursary of £3,000 to a post graduate student at the University of Northumbria to carry out an in-depth study of Micro Plastics over the following three university terms, both washing water effluent and in the air from tumble dryers were studied, following the wash cycle and a report issued. This study was prompted by much media publicity for the growing problem of micro fibres polluting our water ways and these fibres are thought to come from synthetic textiles. From your favourite pair of jeans to the most sweatproof sportswear you can find synthetic textiles are used for a variety of clothing. It is reported that in 2021, 69% of all clothing was produced with synthetic fibres, such as polyester and nylon. Textiles are estimated to be the largest source of synthetic fibres in the oceans with microplastics shedding into the water system every time a wash discharges into the effluent and the report showed tumble dryers were equally polluting.

Links to three scientific papers from the University on this subject are available for viewing on the Livery website at www.launders.co.uk

Northumbria University was chosen because of the close association that was built up during 2018, prior to the Covid Pandemic, when funds were offered for a study into low temperature at Northumbria. This study established that a range of pathogens, in the absence of a bactericide, can survive low temperature processes. Of particular interest was the fact that pathogens can survive even longer than 28 days on wool textiles, prior to processing, a major part of the dry/wet cleaners' workload and they also survived for at least five days on all textiles, risking further cross contamination.

In the early part of 2023, it was decided to provide a further Bursary to a University post-graduate student on a suitable topic for this ensuing year. Northumbria university, for example, would like filtration of micro plastic on washing machines fibres to be the next project. The process of looking for the next post-graduate student to receive this offer has begun.

Future Plans - The Oliver Family Memorial Trust Lecture, postponed for several years due to the Pandemic has been scheduled to take place on Monday, 18th September at the Hall. The topic will be Management.

Thank you for your continued support enabling us to carry on and do the valuable things we do for both the industry and communities at large,