

Seminars, 2020

The CAB member programme for 2020 has been built not only on the basis of feedback, but also the desire to continue to add value for membership, writes Justin Ratcliffe

Like all progressive trade bodies, CAB wants to be centric to members' strategies and maintains a dynamic programme of promoting members and our 21st century sustainable material – aluminium. With efficiency an ever-key driver within member businesses, taking time away for industry events has become increasingly difficult unless there is clear 'value' and 'takeaway'.

A popular and growing element of the CAB programme in recent years has been our popular contractual awareness seminars and a frequent request has been to move the seminars geographically around the UK and to repeat key themes which has led to a 5th seminar being added in 2020. The first seminar ran in Cobham, Surrey on JCT2016 followed by *Design Liability* in Leeds on 12 March and *Legal Updates* in Burton on Trent on 20 May. This year CAB will run a total of five seminars, with each one allowing two free member places. A very conservative cost for the course presented by Geraldine Fleming, Driver Trett, would be £300 + VAT so just with these seminars alone, members can gain £3,000 + VAT of value.

In 2020, CAB will also launch its first online contracts seminar which will be 'bitesize' and around 45 – 60 minutes in duration. This is in part a response to members who simply have no time or staff able to attend physical seminars or indeed regional or national events. The new free Croner telephone support helpline is another service in response to this. The helpline can be used by any employee within the business and covers H&S, commercial litigation, HR and tax issues. A number of these services are also available 24/7.

Our first regional members' meeting is at the famous Royal Armouries in Leeds, a spectacular location. It already has over 120 members and their guests booked in. It is interesting that Leeds is one of the five key construction growth cities in the UK and we are delighted that so many of our newer members will be in attendance.



On 20th May this year, CAB will run its first ever members' day. The daytime event in Burton on Trent is free for members to attend in any numbers and will provide a myriad of information and updates both technical, commercial and general. The event which is to be launched shortly will include:



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- Topical keynote speakers including economics update by Prof Noble Francis, economics director, Construction Products Association
- Legal updates contracts seminar by Geraldine Fleming (pictured)
- Contract awareness surgery by Geraldine Fleming
- CAB curtain wall installer training presentations and 'meet the provider/awarding body'
- Croner presentation of The Good Work Plan and specification updates
- Member tabletop exhibition area
- Networking buffet
- Rooms for members to use
- Member information desk
- Protecting members and the CAB brand

With the association adding 31 new members in 2019 and growing its services, it has been interesting to note an increase in unlawful use of the CAB logo on one or two company websites. While a business may believe that a trade association logo can be used if they source a valid members' products this is categorically NOT the case unless they are approved members in their own right.

All members are listed on the CAB website at www.c-a-b.org.uk/members and we encourage individuals and companies to check this to validate any membership claim that appears on a website. We also welcome in confidence anyone who discovers a company wrongly purporting to be a member of the association.

Falsely using a logo is an offence under the Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations and is actually one of the 31 specific outright prohibitions (Banned Practices (Schedule 1) /Part 2).

CAB will continue to report companies that continue to use the logo illegally in order to protect the interests of loyal existing paid up members. □

Justin Ratcliffe

To find out more about CAB membership in 2020 or if you have interest in the CAB Members Day on 20 May please contact jessica.dean@c-a-b.org.uk or ring the CAB office on 01453 828851