

# Glassi



Glass and Glazing Federation

The GGF Members  
Quarterly Magazine

Winter 2017



2017

## A Year to *Remember*

*Six-Page Special Feature Inside*



**Greg O'Donoghue**  
*Lifetime Achievement Award Winner*

# Get MONEY OFF your GGF Membership Subscription



Glass and Glazing Federation

## The GGF 'Member Get Member' Reward Scheme

Introduce a company to the GGF and if they join then you'll receive money off your next year's subscription.

### How it works

The GGF "Member Get Member Scheme" has been going since 2012 with a 10% credit offer off subscriptions. However, we're delighted to offer 20% of the first full year subscription of the new Member you introduce, off your 2019 subscription. This means that if you introduce enough companies or even one large company and the money off is equal to or more than your own subscription, then you could enjoy a free year's subscription and as it's uncapped it can be extended to further years' subscriptions!

### So why don't you...

- Send us your introductions and if they join, get money off your next year's subscription!
- Invite potential new Members as guests to GGF meetings or GGF events
- Network with your industry colleagues and spread the word about the GGF

The money off credit will go to the Member who first submitted the details to us by email or via the online form.

Companies under 3 years old can join as Promotion Programme participants, rather than Members – the offer is still the same.

To qualify for money off under the 'Member Get Member' Scheme please send the details of the company you are introducing to our Membership Department by email to [membership@ggf.org.uk](mailto:membership@ggf.org.uk), or fill in the form on our website via this link: <http://ggf.org.uk/members/member-get-member-scheme/form>

To see more on the GGF Member Get Member Reward Scheme including the full terms and conditions please visit <http://ggf.org.uk/members/member-get-member-scheme>



# Welcome to GLASSi

The magazine exclusively for GGF Members



## From the Top

Welcome to the winter edition of GLASSi.

2017 was a landmark year for all connected to the GGF as we celebrated our 40th Anniversary and made the necessary changes and appointments to ensure the Federation builds on its successful past.

In this issue of GLASSi, we review what has been a highly productive and memorable year. In our special six-page feature "A Year to Remember" we highlight the best of our activity and achievements across many areas including technical, political, health and safety, marketing and membership.

Our 40th Anniversary has been themed throughout with a unique Members' events programme, the historic timeline graphics installed in the GGF Building, awards for outstanding Members and branded souvenirs and publications with the special GGF anniversary logo to mark the special year.

The celebrations reached their peak in November, when Greg O'Donoghue received the GGF Lifetime Achievement Award at the G17 Awards.

Greg has been part of the Membership for almost 30 years and in that time has become one of the most influential Members in the Federation.

As GGF President and FENSA Chairman, Greg frequently engaged with Government. During his tenure, one of his greatest achievements was helping to set up FENSA which brought about legislative change for the domestic installation of windows and doors in England and Wales.

Many congratulations and thanks go to Greg for his remarkable contribution that has benefitted not just the GGF and FENSA but the entire industry.

As one door closes another opens and in 2018, an exciting chapter begins for the Federation.

On 2nd January, we welcome Shaun McAllister as the GGF's new Managing Director and I have no doubt his fresh approach combined with his solid management experience in the industry will take the GGF to an even higher level.

With unique events, recognition for outstanding Members, management and infrastructure changes all taking place during our 40th Anniversary, it has certainly has been a year to remember.

Have a great festive break and best wishes for 2018.

**Phil Pluck**

GGF Group Chief Executive

Edition  
**Winter  
2017**

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# Get it in the *Diary*

*All your key meeting dates for 2018*

## EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS

### Dates and venues

**Selfbuild Live, Belfast**  
16-18 February

**Security & Counter Terror Expo,  
Olympia London**  
6-7 March

**Ecobuild, Excel London**  
6-8 March

**Fensterbau Frontale,  
Nuremberg Messe, Germany**  
21-24 March

**Materials for Architecture, Excel  
London**  
25-26 April

**FIREX, Excel London**  
19-21 June

**Chartered Trading Standards  
Institute Symposium,  
Nottingham**  
4-6 June

**GGF Members Day (venue TBC)**  
27 September

**The Build Show/UK  
Construction Week,  
Birmingham NEC**  
9-11 October

**Glasstec, Dusseldorf, Germany**  
23-26 October

**EMEX, The Energy Management  
Exhibition Excel London**  
21-22 November

**JAN**

- 23 West of England and South Wales Exeter
- 24 Heritage Windows Group, Solihull
- 25 Joint Conservatory Association and Window and Door Group, Solihull
- 31 Consumer Management Group, London (GGF)

**FEB**

- 1 Glass Repair Group, London (GGF)
- 6 Joint Insulating Manufacturers Group and Glazing Components Group, London (GGF)
- 7 North East, Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, Wakefield
- 8 Systems House Group, TBC
- 8 Fire Resistant Glazing Group, London (GGF)
- 13 Midlands, Solihull
- 14 Security, Laminators and Tougheners Groups, Solihull
- 20 East Anglia, Norwich
- 21 GGF Scotland, Glasgow
- 21 Home Improvement Technical Group (HITEC), London (GGF)
- 23 Window Film Group, London (GGF)
- 28 North West and North Wales, Warrington

**MARCH**

- 6 Wessex and Channel Isles, Southampton
- 7 GGF Ireland - South, Dublin
- 8 GGF Ireland - North, Belfast
- 13 Kent, Surrey and Sussex, Chatham
- 14 Hardware Group, TBC
- 23 London Region, London (GGF)

**APR**

- 18 Home Improvement Technical Group (HITEC), London (GGF)
- 25 Glass Repair Group, London (GGF)
- 26 Joint Conservatory Association and Window and Door Group, Solihull

**MAY**

- 9 Joint Insulating Manufacturers Group and Glazing Components Group, Solihull
- 10 Fire Resistant Glazing Group, London (GGF)
- 11 Window Film Group, London (GGF)
- 16 Heritage Windows Group, London (GGF)
- 16 Security, Laminators and Tougheners Groups, Solihull
- 17 Systems House Group, TBC
- 17 GGF Scotland Golf Day, Gourrock
- 23 Home Improvement Executive, London (GGF)
- 24 GGF Ireland - Golf Day, Solihull

**JUNE**

- 6 North East, Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, Brighouse
- 12 West of England and South Wales, Exeter
- 13 GGF Ireland - South, Dublin
- 14 GGF Ireland - North, Belfast
- 19 Kent, Surrey and Sussex, Chatham
- 20 GGF Scotland, Glasgow
- 26 East Anglia, Norwich
- 27 Midlands, Solihull

**JULY**

- 10 Fire Resistant Glazing Group, London (GGF)
- 11 North West and North Wales, Warrington
- 17 Wessex and Channel Isles, Southampton
- 18 Hardware Group, TBC
- 20 London Region, London (GGF)
- 25 Home Improvement Technical Group (HITEC), London (GGF)

**AUG**

- 1 Glass Repair Group, London (GGF)
- 3 Window Film Group, London (GGF)
- 9 Joint Conservatory Association and Window and Door Group, Solihull
- 15 Joint Insulating Manufacturers Group and Glazing Components Group, London (GGF)
- 16 Systems House Group, TBC
- 22 Security, Laminators and Tougheners Groups, Solihull

**SEP**

- 13 28th Annual GGF North West Golf Tournament, TBC
- 19 GGF Ireland - South, Dublin
- 20 GGF Ireland - North, Belfast
- 20 London Region, London (GGF)
- 27 Members Day, TBC

**OCT**

- 9 Kent, Surrey and Sussex, Chatham
- 17 Home Improvement Technical Group (HITEC), London (GGF)
- 20 East Anglia, Norwich
- 23 West of England and South Wales, Exeter
- 24 Hardware Group, TBC
- 31 Midlands, TBC

**NOV**

- 6 Wessex and Channel Isles, Southampton
- 8 Joint Conservatory Association and Window and Door Group, Solihull
- 13 Joint Insulating Manufacturers Group and Glazing Components Group, Solihull
- 14 North West and North Wales, Warrington
- 14 Glass Repair Group, London (GGF)
- 15 Systems House Group, TBC
- 16 Window Film Group, London (GGF)
- 20 North East, Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, Brighouse
- 21 Security, Laminators and Tougheners Groups, Solihull
- 24 Heritage Windows Group, London (GGF)
- 28 GGF Scotland, Glasgow

**DEC**

- 11 London Region, London (GGF)
- 13 Fire Resistant Glazing Group, London (GGF)
- 13 GGF Ireland - Combined, TBC



# Spotlight

on  
**Greg  
O'Donoghue**



## A Lifetime of Achievement

In November at the G17 Awards in London, **Greg O'Donoghue** received the **GGF's Lifetime Achievement Award** for his outstanding contribution to the glass and glazing industry.

Greg started installation company Just Windows and Doors Ltd in 1985 and has been Managing Director for 32 years. During this period he has also become one of the most influential individuals in the domestic glazing sector.

His list of significant achievements and longevity clearly highlight his perseverance, industry knowledge and commitment to improving the trading environment for companies large and small. In 2000, Greg was elected GGF President and then in 2002, as co-founder and Chairman of FENSA, he negotiated with Government to bring about legislative change for the benefit of the entire industry.

Since then Greg has been instrumental in progressing the industry in many areas including consumer protection, improving industry standards and overcoming barriers to glazing in conservation areas.

Always ready to offer advice and promote the industry, in this exclusive interview Greg reflects on his career achievements and looks ahead to unfinished business.

**Firstly congratulations and thanks for your outstanding contribution to the GGF and the industry. How does it feel to have been recognised with the Lifetime Achievement Award in the GGF's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year?**

It was a genuine surprise. I wasn't expecting it at all but, now that it has sunk in, I feel really honoured.

**Which achievement do you consider the most significant in your career?**

I think the establishment of FENSA in 2002 has to be one of the most challenging but eventually most rewarding moments of my time in this industry. The timescale set by Government was almost impossible to meet and some of

the hurdles, both financial and logistical, were daunting. I have to say that there were so many competing voices in relation to the expectations that it seemed we would never overcome some of the objections. However, it is a real testament to the people in this industry that many positions were compromised and tolerated to enable the whole thing to move forward. If it hadn't happened, it would have been a very expensive and disruptive time for all of us.

**Where do you see the challenges ahead for companies in the domestic glazing sector?**

At the moment, of course, we are all concerned about market shrinkage due to inflation and stagnant wage growth. It is obvious to all of us that we need to continue to make a strong case for the introduction of more incentives to homeowners to insulate their homes. And we all need to focus on innovation that is relevant to the homeowner. I feel we sometimes lag behind the more dynamic industrial sectors in getting the message across that we are not simply selling windows but a lifestyle product. So product diversification is vital. Maybe we could start with making old words redundant! Like "conservatories"! The various products being installed in the rear of homes these days deserve better.

**What's next for you personally with regards to your career?**

I have taken a bit of a back seat in my own company in recent months. Although I don't want to be involved heavily on a day-to-day basis, I will, if asked, continue to give advice, welcome or otherwise, to the new managers. I would also like to continue my support of the Glass and Glazing Federation. For all the challenges it has, and will continue to have, it has always managed to put the interests of its Members at the forefront of its activities. I'd like to help the GGF continue with that mission.





**Steve Rice, Director of Technical Affairs**



The GGF Technical team has had a busy year to date providing advice and support to Members regarding Building Regulations and ISO, European and British Standards for the manufacture, processing and installation of fenestration products.

In 2017, the GGF Technical team delivered the following technical services:

### TECHNICAL ADVISORY SERVICE

On average, the Technical team receives more than 120 emails each month from a range of industry professionals, consumers, Members and local government officers. In addition, phone calls into the GGF Technical hotline are responded to within one to two working days and often we provide a same day service. The range of questions vary from what is an acceptable standard for glass and glazing through to the sorts of faults and features associated with glass and glazing products. We aim to provide a positive experience of the GGF for all enquiries and questions, regularly referring people to the search facility on our website so they can find Members or publications that can assist them. We always have two Technical officers available during office hours to try and answer questions or develop a line of enquiry for follow up.

### STRUCTURAL CALCULATIONS

The Technical Department has invested in one of the most advanced pieces of software (MEPLA) for the calculation of structural loads on glass facades. This enables the Technical team to provide an advanced service to the Membership and the industry. To date, two GGF Technical officers have been fully trained on MEPLA and a further two will have completed their training by March 2018.

#### Consultancy Service

The Technical team provides a unique consultancy service to the Membership and the industry. This has

proven itself to be a very popular service, generating additional revenue and raising the profile of GGF Technical expertise. To boost this service, two members of the Technical team have this year completed Expert Witness training qualifications.

### GGF REPRESENTATION ON EXTERNAL BODIES

GGF Technical staff are also currently working with many external organisations such as the Construction Products Association (CPA), British Standards Index (BSI), Fire Safety Federation (FSF) and Centre for Windows and Cladding Technology (CWCT). The GGF presence on the technical committees for these organisations and more, ensures our Members' views are heard across the industry and their products are professionally represented.

### CONCILIATION SERVICE

With the growth in Membership disputes, the Conciliation Department priority for 2017 was to streamline the way in which we resolve cases, make accessing the service more controlled and to promote what the department has to offer to both Members and consumers alike. This includes the time to resolve each case, which has been reduced by 21% since January 2016. The application process of the Conciliation Service will move online in 2018 to further enhance the resolution time.







# Tech Talk



## ENERGY SAVING CALCULATOR

Since its launch back in 2008, the GGF Energy Saving Calculator has gone from strength to strength. It is now one of the most popular pages on both the GGF website and *MyGlazing.com*. It has therefore been important to ensure that the calculations and information it delivers are both accurate and current. To achieve this the calculator is constantly monitored, keeping in line with new innovations such as triple glazing and A++ energy ratings. We are in regular communication with British Fenestration Rating Council (BFRC) who inform us of any updates to both available products and energy ratings.

## STANDARDS

The Technical Department has produced a centralised list of British, European and International Standards entitled The Standards Report. This relates to the current position of all glass and glazing related standards, i.e. under review, published or out for public enquiry. This Members-only document, available in the Publications section of the GGF website, lets GGF Members quickly ascertain the current position of all glass and associated product standards.

## SPECIALIST GROUP SUPPORT

The Technical team provided technical and secretarial support for all GGF specialist groups and regional meetings in 2017, and were instrumental in producing 15 new and/or revised technical data sheets and good practice guides including:

- + GGF Data Sheet 4.4 - Quality of Thermally Toughened Soda Lime Silicate Safety Glass for Building
- + Safety and Security Glazing: Good Practice Guide
- + Employee Safety in the Glass and Glazing Industry
- + Working at Height: Safely with Ladders
- + Deposit Indemnity Trust Fund Voucher
- + A Guide to the Planning Requirements and their effect on Replacement of Windows and Doors in England
- + Homeowners Guide to Planning
- + Guidance on Sharing Initial Type Test (ITT) - Conformity with EN 1279-5:2005+A2:2010
- + Insulating Glass Units (IGUs) - Conforming to the Construction Products Regulation (CPR)
- + Spontaneous Breakage of Thermally Toughened Glass
- + Laminated Glass – Safety and Security
- + Toughened Glass – Safety and Strength
- + Low Emissivity Glass (small revisions / address update)

It's been a busy year on the Technical front and we aim to continue to deliver our high quality range of technical services and publications in 2018 for the benefit of Members.

**Technical hotline: 0844 567 4014**

Email: [technical@ggf.org.uk](mailto:technical@ggf.org.uk)

Always use a current GGF Member To view the latest list of GGF Members visit [www.ggf.org.uk/members](http://www.ggf.org.uk/members)



Glass and Glazing Publications

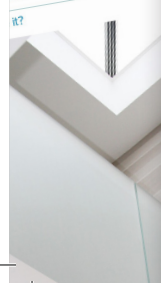
MEMBERS GUIDANCE REFERENCE NUMBER T51 SEPTEMBER 2017

### A Guide to the Planning Process

and its effect on the Replacement of Windows and Doors in England



and Glass and Security



# A year to Remember



## FEBRUARY

- + The GGF celebrates its 40th Birthday at the President's Reception in The Building Centre in London
- + The GGF launches its anniversary logo to mark its 40th Anniversary year
- + The GGF forms the new Systems House Group



Glass and Glazing Federation

## JUNE

- + Founders Day marks the GGF's special celebration of and thanks to the 37 Founder Members who have remained for the full 40 years with unbroken Membership
- + The GGF presents its consumer support services at The Chartered Trading Standards Institute Conference and Exhibition in Harrogate
- + Following the Grenfell Tower fire, the GGF sets up a new Government Advisory Panel system to ensure swifter response to Government for any help or advice required on emergency situations involving glass or glazing

## APRIL

- + The GGF launches a special 40th Anniversary souvenir issue of GLASSi
- + The Home Improvement Technical (HITEC) Group is formed.



## JANUARY

- + The GGF announces its official plans to celebrate its 40th Anniversary
- + Brian Baker starts his term as interim Chief Executive
- + The GGF conducts its first ever consumer survey and receives responses from 2000 homeowners



## MARCH

- + Timeline graphics are installed at GGF Head Office and uploaded to the GGF website to show the roots of the Federation and its outstanding achievements over the past 40 years
- + The GGF sets up the Political Strategy Committee to ensure better use of resources and improved planning for its political campaigns
- + Gareth Jones of REHAU is appointed to the GGF Board to represent the System House Group



## MAY

- + Phil Pluck is appointed as new GGF Chief Executive
- + The GGF holds its 40th Anniversary Party at the UK glazing industry's largest exhibition - The FIT Show at Birmingham's NEC
- + The GGF Consumer Guide to Planning is launched at The FIT Show
- + The GGF launches the "Employee Safety in the Glass and Glazing Industry" booklet together with an associated online assessment tool





**AUGUST**

- + John Agnew of Independent Glass starts his term as GGF President
- + The GGF's new Mission and Values statement is published

**OCTOBER**

- + Asha Pyndiah is promoted to Group Director of Finance and Company Secretary
- + The GGF publishes its special 40th Anniversary souvenir brochure which includes the full historic timeline and list of Founder Members
- + The Window Company (Contracts) Ltd is recognised for continuous improvement in its Health and Safety practice, with Managing Director David Thornton receiving the Silver 3 level in the GGF GLASS Charter merit scheme
- + The Members-only "Guide to the Planning Requirements and their effect on the Replacement of Windows and Doors in England" is launched to help Members cope with the complexities of the planning framework when installing glazing in conservation areas



**myglazing.com**

**DECEMBER**

- + Billy Quinn is appointed Commercial Managing Director to oversee the operations of the GGF's subsidiary companies – FENSA, BFRC, GGF*i*, RISA and Borough IT
- + Shaun McAllister is announced as GGF Managing Director responsible for all the activities and operations of the Federation
- + The GGF's consumer website, *MyGlazing.com* reaches over 200k unique users – a 100% increase on 2016
- + On the recruitment side the GGF confirms that 46 companies have joined the GGF in 2017 – the highest number of companies to join the GGF in a single year since 2003



**JULY**

- + In Venice, the first ever Global Glass Convention for Trade Associations takes place and the GGF presents to an audience made up of international trade bodies and press
- + Phil Pluck is appointed GGF Group Chief Executive to oversee a new Group structure to ensure the GGF and its subsidiary companies work closer together for Members' benefit

**SEPTEMBER**

- + GGF Members Day attracts 115 guests to Glaziers Hall in London. The event features three presentations and Members enjoy a 40th Anniversary Party
- + The Federation produces a range of souvenirs in the form of branded merchandise for Members to commemorate the 40th Anniversary
- + Stephen Payne of Britelite Windows is appointed GGF Vice President
- + Russell Day is promoted to GGF Director of Home Improvement
- + Brian Baker and Brian Waldron are given special awards at Members Day in recognition of their outstanding service to the GGF
- + The GGF Annual Report is published with the 2016 accounts showing financial stability



**NOVEMBER**

- + Richard Hearn is appointed GGF Head of Membership and Training
- + James Lee is promoted to Director of Group Marketing and Communications to head up the new GGF Group Marketing Department
- + Greg O'Donoghue receives the GGF Lifetime Achievement Award at the G17 Awards, held at Park Lane Hilton in London



# A year to Remember <sup>17</sup> in numbers



## ONLINE

*MyGlazing.com*

330,000 page views

203,000 unique users

28,000 returning visitors

4,000 users of the GGF Energy Saving Calculator

*GGF.org.uk*

410,000 page views

98,000 unique users

32,000 returning visitors

11,000 downloads



## MEMBERS MEETINGS

47 specialist (technical) group meetings

40 regional meetings

27 committee/executive meetings



## EXHIBITIONS/EVENTS

11 industry events/conferences

7 national exhibitions

5 awards ceremonies



## AWARDS

37 Founder Members Awards

2 Outstanding Service Awards

1 Lifetime Achievement Award



## TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS

9 technical articles

6 trade guides

3 new data sheets

3 guidance documents

1 health and safety booklet



## CONSUMER PR

32.5m opportunities to view *GGF/MyGlazing.com* brands across all consumer media (online and print)

91 articles covered in consumer titles

76 articles and press releases created



## MEMBERS EVENTS

1 Members Day

3 golf days

3 anniversary parties

4 regional networking events



## POLITICAL ACTIVITY

340 hours spend on political engagement

15 political meetings attended/held

13 formal responses to government consultations

12 press releases/articles distributed

10 political blogs written



## TRADE PR

7.2 million opportunities to view GGF across all trade media (online and print)

140,000 estimated readership

340 articles regarding the GGF in the trade media

62 press releases issued to the trade press



## MEMBERSHIP

262 web enquiries to join

96% retention rate

43 new Members



## MEMBERS COMMUNICATIONS

361 news articles published online

24 editions of GGF Newswire – the GGF Members digital newsletter

4 anniversary promotional flyers/brochures

3 special editions of *Glassi*



47

MEMBERS MEETINGS

# Specialist (Technical) Group meetings



# A year to Remember <sup>17</sup> in pictures







# Health & Safety Matters





## Mental Health – It's time to get serious

**Phil Pinnington, GGF Director of Health and Safety, highlights some of the issues employers may face with regards to mental health and offers guidance on how to handle them.**

A survey carried out in 2009 showed that at any given time, across England and Wales, one worker in six is said to be experiencing depression, anxiety or other stress-related problems.

I have worked across a number of different industries in my profession. Most have been male dominated and stress and mental health was seen as weakness. 'Can't cut it, or he's a weakling' were often phrases heard about workers who had been signed off by their doctors with stress.

Thankfully through a better understanding and the glare of publicity brought by members of the Royal Family and other notable figures it is acceptable to have this previously taboo subject discussed in the workplace.

Before we explore the landscape where stress and its effects exist we should consider what the Health and Safety Executive's (HSE) definition of stress is. HSE defines stress as "the adverse reaction people have to excessive pressure or other types of demand placed on them".

We live in a 24-hour society where pressures are on us from all sides. Work, family, friends, peers etc. We are expected to share our lives with the world. How many 'Like's do we get on a Facebook comment? How many Twitter followers do we have? How many hours a week do I need to work to pay the bills? Have we got our children in the right school and are their friends the right ones that won't lead them into trouble? All are real pressures.

### Why should it affect me as their employer?

I'm not advocating that employers should micro-manage their employee's lives. It's not healthy and I believe it is a step too far. We all need some level of stress to function, to get up in the morning and head to work requires incentive. What I do think is initially acknowledging it is an issue is a start and, that it has the potential to impact the performance of your employees with obvious consequences that affect your business.

Having employees who are regularly off work, or who continue to work with stress-related conditions, is not good for any business. High turnover of staff and worker burn out are both real and regular scenarios that employers across a range of industries experience.

For some years now, it has been a major concern in the glazing industry that the pool of labour may be decreasing. I believe it is in everyone's interest that this pool not be reduced further. Putting time and effort into the mental health of your employees is one way to invest in the future and sustainability of both your business and of the industry as a whole.



I recently had a very interesting conversation with one of our SME members. I was very impressed to hear that he was taking the issue of mental health seriously. Gone were the taboos and the fear of opening up a can of worms, they recognised that it was the right and sensible thing to do and had the courage to bring the issue out into the open with very positive results.

By providing a safe space and open culture for employees to discuss mental health they were clearer on how certain personal issues could impact on their employees' work.

Employers should be aware of what prescription or non-prescription medication their employees are taking, and the potential side effects. Relationship issues at work, a lack of leadership, and - more significantly - a perception that people lack control in their working lives can all play a part in employee mental health.

### What are others doing?

The construction sector is one of the latest to recognise mental health as a factor affecting their industry. The Health in Construction Leadership Group, along with the British Safety Council, late last year launched the 'Mates in Mind' programme. This mirrored a similar scheme successfully launched in Australia some years ago.

The programme had three objectives:

- + Raising awareness about suicide in the workplace
- + Making it easy to access help
- + Ensuring that the help offered is practical, professional and appropriate

The programme has recruited some of the largest civil engineering companies and works with experts in the field of mental health, but they too recognise that SMEs are often the ones that need to recognise mental health as a risk and act on it.

Not every employer is able to set up a confidential Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) or employ experts in mental health, however there are other ways to address the matter. Training in Mental Health First Aid is now widely available, as is suicide awareness training. Often a colleague plays the part of confidante but doesn't know how to deal with what they've heard. By investing a relatively small amount in this your employees could reap real benefits.

Our industry does, in small part, recognise mental health as something that needs to be addressed. We as the GGF are willing to act as a conduit for Members who take the matter seriously and want to do something about looking after their employees' mental health.



# In the Groups & Regions

## GROUPS

### Heritage Windows Group

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The next Heritage Windows Group meeting takes place on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January at the Arden Hotel, Solihull. If you wish to attend this meeting, please contact the Group Secretary, Russell Day [rday@ggf.org.uk](mailto:rday@ggf.org.uk).

### Conservatory Association and Window and Door Groups

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The next joint meeting of the Conservatory Association and Window and Door Groups will take place on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January, at Solihull, West Midlands. For further information or if you wish to attend this meeting please contact the Group Secretary, Bridie Joyce [bjoyce@ggf.org.uk](mailto:bjoyce@ggf.org.uk).

### Consumer Management Group

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The next Consumer Management Group meeting takes place on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January at the GGF Offices, London. For further information or if you wish to attend this meeting, please contact the Group Secretary, Petra Akinsiku [pakinsiku@ggf.org.uk](mailto:pakinsiku@ggf.org.uk).

### Glass Repair Group

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The Glass Repair Group next meets on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February at the GGF Offices, London. For further information or if you wish to attend this meeting, please contact the Group Secretary, Micky Sulston [msulston@ggf.org.uk](mailto:msulston@ggf.org.uk).

### Insulating Glass Manufacturers Group (IGMG) and Glazing Components Group

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The next joint meeting of the IGMG and Glazing Components Group takes place on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February at the GGF Offices, London. For further information or if you wish to attend this meeting, please contact the Group Secretary, Russell Day [rday@ggf.org.uk](mailto:rday@ggf.org.uk).

### Systems House Group

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The next meeting of the Systems House Group takes place on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February. The venue has yet to be confirmed but for further information on the Group and the next meeting please contact the Group Secretary, Russell Day [rday@ggf.org.uk](mailto:rday@ggf.org.uk).

### Fire Resistant Glazing Group

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The Fire Resistant Glazing Group will next meet on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February at the GGF Offices, London. For further information or if you wish to attend this meeting please contact the Group Secretary, Richard Kells [rkells@ggf.org.uk](mailto:rkells@ggf.org.uk).

### Security, Laminators & Tougheners Groups

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The next joint meeting of the Security, Laminators and Tougheners Groups takes place on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February, in Solihull. For further information or if you wish to attend this meeting please contact the Group Secretary, Ben Wallace [bwallace@ggf.org.uk](mailto:bwallace@ggf.org.uk).

### Home Improvement Technical Group (HITEC)

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The HITEC Group next meets on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February at the GGF Offices, London. For further information or if you wish to attend this meeting please contact the Group Secretary, Micky Sulston [msulston@ggf.org.uk](mailto:msulston@ggf.org.uk).

### Window Film Group

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The next meeting of the Window Film Group takes place on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at the GGF Offices, London. For further information this Group or should you wish to attend this meeting, please contact the Group Secretary, Ben Wallace [bwallace@ggf.org.uk](mailto:bwallace@ggf.org.uk).

### Hardware Group

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The next meeting of the Hardware Group takes place on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March. The venue is yet to be confirmed but for further information or if you wish to attend this meeting please contact Group Secretary, Russell Day [rday@ggf.org.uk](mailto:rday@ggf.org.uk).



Here are some of the key GGF meetings over the next few months.  
Make sure you contact your Regional or Group Secretary to book your place at these meetings.

## REGIONS

### West of England and South Wales

The West of England and South Wales Region will next meet on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January at the Devon Hotel, Exeter. For further information or if you wish to attend this meeting please contact the Regional Secretary, Peter Stuttard [pstuttard@ggf.org.uk](mailto:pstuttard@ggf.org.uk).

### North East, Yorkshire and Lincolnshire

The North East, Yorkshire and Lincolnshire Region will next meet on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February at the Holiday Inn, Wakefield. For more information or if you wish to attend this meeting please contact the Regional Secretary, Ann-marie Waugh [amwaugh@ggf.org.uk](mailto:amwaugh@ggf.org.uk).

### Midlands

The Midlands Region will next meet on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February at the Arden Hotel, Solihull. For further information or if you wish to attend this meeting please contact the Regional Secretary, Ann-marie Waugh [amwaugh@ggf.org.uk](mailto:amwaugh@ggf.org.uk).

### East Anglia

The East Anglia Region will next meet on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February at Dunston Hall, East Anglia. For further information or if you wish to attend this meeting please contact the Regional Secretary, Peter Stuttard [pstuttard@ggf.org.uk](mailto:pstuttard@ggf.org.uk).

### GGF Scotland

The Scotland Region will next meet on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February at the Garfield Hotel, Glasgow. For further information or if you wish to attend this meeting please contact the Group Secretary, Ann-marie Waugh [amwaugh@ggf.org.uk](mailto:amwaugh@ggf.org.uk).

### North West and North Wales

The North West and North Wales Region will next meet on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February at the Holiday Inn, Warrington. For further information or if you wish to attend this meeting please contact the Regional Secretary, Ann-marie Waugh [amwaugh@ggf.org.uk](mailto:amwaugh@ggf.org.uk).

### Wessex and Channel Isles

The Wessex and Channel Isles Region will next meet on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March at Botley Park Hotel, nr Southampton. For further information or if you wish to attend this meeting please contact the Regional Secretary, Peter Stuttard [pstuttard@ggf.org.uk](mailto:pstuttard@ggf.org.uk).

### GGF Republic of Ireland

The Republic of Ireland Region will next meet on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March in Dublin. For further information or if you wish to attend this meeting please contact the Regional Secretary, Ian Young [iyoung@ggf.org.uk](mailto:iyoung@ggf.org.uk).

### GGF Northern Ireland

The Northern Ireland Region will next meet on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March in Belfast. For further information or if you wish to attend this meeting please contact the Regional Secretary, Ian Young [iyoung@ggf.org.uk](mailto:iyoung@ggf.org.uk).

### Kent, Surrey and Sussex

The Kent, Surrey and Sussex Region will next meet on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March in Bridgewood Manor Hotel, Chatham. For further information or if you wish to attend this meeting please contact the Regional Secretary, Peter Stuttard [pstuttard@ggf.org.uk](mailto:pstuttard@ggf.org.uk).

### London

For further information on venues and dates for 2018 or if you wish to attend the London Region meetings, please contact the Regional Secretary, Peter Stuttard [pstuttard@ggf.org.uk](mailto:pstuttard@ggf.org.uk).

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