Industry update

LSB look north

London School of Barbering are proud to announce the opening of their third world-class barbering training academy in Manchester this summer, along with a free service of high quality haircuts that will be available for men. The decision to open up a third academy up north, is due to Manchester being UK's second most culturally diverse city.

"Manchester being the home of unique art, music, fashion - and two huge football teams, meant it was the perfect home for our third academy," said Michael Kontos, Creative Director and Co-Founder. "With our two other academies located in London, it is our very first academy opening in Manchester."

Don't be caught out by April's minimum wage rises!

The rise of the National Minimum Wage and the National Living Wage rates on April 1st 2018 will impact barber businesses up and down the country. The NHF is urging employers to check staff are being paid at the right rates and to take advice before making deductions from wages. Business owners should take the following steps:

- Check which staff will be eligible for the National Living Wage
- Ensure staff under 25 are on the correct National Minimum Wage rate for their age
- Check that apprentices aged 19 or over who are in their second year of an apprenticeship are paid at the age-related rate, not the apprenticeship rate
- Update payroll ASAP
- Tell staff about any changes to their pay and get them to check they are being paid correctly

Barbering student bags bronze

East Durham College is pleased to announce continued success at the Association of Hair and Therapy (AHT) national competition after student Suzanne Woodward won a third place prize in barbering. Suzanne, 27, from Peterlee, competed against 22 other competitors. Students had just 30 minutes to complete a 'Cut and Style' on their models, where hair had to be removed from every part of the head and students were judged on technique, style, and speed.

Suzanne placed first in the AHT Regional competitions in Gateshead, earning the right to compete at the annual national competition which is held in the Winter Gardens in Blackpool.