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Did you know the Minimum Wage is increasing?

From April 2020 the National Minimum Wage is increasing so please do bear this in mind when doing any budgets for the forthcoming year. Displayed below are the increases:

National Minimum Wage & National Living Wage Rates for 2019/2020

Age	2019-2020	2020-2021
25 and over	£8.21	£8.72
21 to 24	£7.70	£8.20
18 to 20	£6.15	£6.45
Under 18	£4.35	£4.55
Apprentice	£3.90	£4.15

Peninsula Group (TKMR Members) Free to attend Half day Seminar with Lunch – Covering Employment Law Changes for 2020 and Risk Assessment / Health and Safety.....

Sonning-on-Thames, 4th March Don't delay book soon, please mention you are a TKMR Member but the course is Free to all

*** Are Your Staff Contracts Up to Date and Ready for the Employment Law Changes Due in April 2020? ****

If the answer is no, or you want to know more about the 51 changes to employment law coming into effect in April this year, please come along to the Seminar.

We will be covering the following topics:

- New items required by law in contracts, handbooks, and other essential employment documents
- How to deal with staff behaviour, performance, attendance, and attitude
- Handling health & safety, risk assessments, fire safety policies and procedures
- Understanding the five fair reasons for dismissal to help avoid tribunal claims
- Managing gender-balance, employment status and pay
- Stress in the work place and the responsibilities of an employer
- Mental Health in the workplace

When: Wednesday 4th March 2020

Time: 9:30am welcome with complimentary tea/coffee/pastries. 10am start. 12:45pm finish with a complimentary lunch

Where: Sonning Golf Club, Duffield Road, Sonning On Thames, Reading, RG4 6GJ

Places are in high demand, so please move fast to reserve yours today using any of the contact details below.

Call: 0844 892 2771

Email: alasdair.lane@peninsula-uk.com

Quote: 44962M

Link to Register: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/clairelogic-hosts-with-peninsula-tickets-85778306223>

Snow Clearing.....

It's time to plan ahead.... We have a number of sites in Berkshire, Oxfordshire, Hampshire & Wiltshire that we need members to help with snow clearing when/if the snow arrives!!

If you normally help our Members with snow clearing please could you let Steve or Sandi know if you would like to help this year and what kit you have available.

Are you prepared for a cold snap.....

Please do remember to check your tanks in advance and order your kerosene, gas oil or derv in good time.

Reminders – Insurance/Risk

Assessments/Good Practice

- ❖ Every member needs to ensure adequate insurance cover is in place, whether you are a supplier or demander to the ring.
- ❖ It is good practice to ensure a risk assessment/ method statement is requested from any supplier working for you ahead of job commencement (your insurers may require this in the event of a claim).
- ❖ Ensure machinery is always returned clean and full of fuel (as per hire arrangements)
- ❖ If you undertake work that require certification, please ensure your operators hold the appropriate documents.
- ❖ Upon hiring a machine, in most cases, you will need to arrange appropriate insurance cover for the length of time the machine/equipment is on your premises. It is your responsibility to phone the ring and off hire the machine when you've finished the job.

Do you need to update your Machinery Lists?

If you have changed/updated any of your farm machinery over the last year or so, please remember to update your Machinery Lists with us before the busy season arrives as it's vital we know what our members have so we are able to find the right member for the right job!.

Please do also contact us should any of your employees need to update any of the training requirements as we have 3 training companies that we can link into, who all offer a variety of courses to suit any employees.

JOB VACANCY

- ❖ A Member is looking for a **general farm worker/tractor driver** in the **Wallingford area**. Must have experience driving tractors with trailers, spraying and drilling. Current spraying certificates required. Must have a clean driving licence.

Please contact the Ring office for more information.

- ❖ **Merrimoles Farms** are looking for a **Stockman/tractor driver** with some agricultural training and practical experience to join our hardworking, friendly workforce as a stockperson/tractor driver/GFW. Merrimoles Farms is 440ha, all organic and part of a larger Estate. We are a mixed farm with dairy, sheep and arable. Responsibilities will include sheep and cattle tasks, calf rearing, and stock feeding. A willingness to milk is also desirable. Tractor and loader driving, machinery maintenance and fencing will also be part of the role. Weekend work is required as part of a rota and at busy times.

A reasonable level of practical experience and ability will be required. A full, clean, driving licence is necessary. Accommodation may be available locally.

Applications by email to: philipwday@outlook.com. More information and/or enquiries please contact Philip Day 07984743830.

SAVE THE DATE

TKMR AGM

Wednesday 13th May 2020

7pm at TKMR Offices, Stanmore, Nr Newbury, RG20 8SR

Training Courses

West Berks and Oxon Training

February

28th LANTRA 1 day ATV (sit-astride)

March

3rd LANTRA 1 day Rodent Control

6th Welding

9th LANTRA 1 day Chainsaw Refresher

10th LANTRA Safe use of Aluminium Phosphide

16th & 17th LANTRA 2 day Felling up to 200m

April

9th LANTRA wasp control

20th & 21st LANTRA chainsaw Maint & safe use of cross cut

Kennet & Thames Training

February

25th Basic tree inspection

26th Manual handling (am)

26th Working at heights (pm)

Hampshire Training Providers

February

27th & 28th City & Guilds CS30 Maintenance & Cross Cut

24th Abrasive Wheels Half day

27th LANTRA Chainsaw Refresher

March

5th First Aid

11th & 12th LANTRA Chainsaw Maint & Cross Cut

12th LANTRA Responsible and effective control of Rodents

18th ATV and RTV

30th & 31st City and Guilds Maintenance and Cross cutting

Business For Sale

LIME AND FERTILISER SPREADING BUSINESS FOR SALE

Kookaburra Contracting Ltd, established 15 years. Large customer base and contacts. Operating area covered Oxfordshire, Berkshire, North Hampshire, Gloucestershire.

Sale to include 2 modern spreaders, mounted on MAN 4 x 4 truck and Unimog U400, both equipped with Topcon. Kobota loader, low loader trailer.

Genuine reason for sale, this represents a good opportunity for someone to buy a successful business operating in a niche market.

For more information please contact David on 07834 475217

SCS Spreader & Spray Testing Ltd

If you need your Fertiliser spreader, sprayer, slug pellet applicators or granular applicators tested please do contact the Ring as we have a qualified member able to do the testing and are able to get the following discounts:

1 machine tested 5% discount

2/3 machines tested 15% discount

4 or more machines tested 25% discount

Dates for the Diary

February

29th – End of the Hedge cutting season

March

4th – Peninsula Event, Sonning-on-Thames

4th – Farm eXPO show, Kent County Showground

18th – RABI AGM, Warnford Village Hall, SO21 1UU

21st – 22nd – West of England Game Fair, Bath & West Showground

21st – Beetle Drive, Warnford Village Hall, SO21 1UU

24th – R.A.B.I. breakfast, The Burley Inn, Burley

Container to Rent



20ft x 8ft x 8ft container to rent. In good condition. Secure location. Nr Theale, Berkshire.

For more information and price please contact Sandi in the Ring Office.

Fuel Card Prices

The weekly fuel price is 119.32ppl

As with all prices please check the price at the pump
As it may not be cheaper than the fuel card price.

Lambing

If you require any Lambing supplies please do contact the Ring office and we will get quotes for you.



Calf Jackets

As the colder weather is now here, calf jackets help calves use their energy more effectively for growth rather than warmth. We are able to source calf jackets so please do give the Ring Office a call to get a quote.

Stihl Chainsaw Offers

Stihl M S462 C-M 20-inch bar, 70cc

Retail price £1040, Offer Price £775!

Stihl M S500i 25-inch bar, electronically controlled fuel injection

Retail price £1368, Offer price £805!

Winter road rock salt

To ensure you don't get caught out when the temperature drops, order your de-icing road rock salt. Road salt is available in either single bulk bags or pallets of 20kg sacks.

Beat the rush - call now to order whilst prices and availability are good. Prices are subject to VAT and any levy.

Damage from the recent storms has been widespread, we have been doing a large amount of woodland surveys, ensuring the storm damage has not left dangerous situations. As I'm sure you've seen there were many trees blown into roads, the affect in woodlands was equally damaging. Surveying of Large woodlands and lakes, which previously would have had to have been undertaken in teams taking sometimes weeks can now be completed in a matter of days. We have previously spoken about [Ash Die-Back](#) in our woodlands, the storm damage has only enhanced the weakened state of some of these trees. We are now able to survey woodland aerially which means the identification process is much swifter and the land owner is able to take action much sooner than may otherwise have been the case.

In recent weeks we have been using our drones not only to assess the storm damage in woodlands and wild areas, but also to assess damage to land, property and out buildings - roof surveys in particular are in demand following Storms Denis and Ciara.

To complete a roof survey previously you would have had to either hire a cherry picker or put a person actually on the damaged surface; however with the use of a drone we can do a roof survey with less time, no danger to people or property. With a drone survey it not only saves money and time but gives an up-close view of the damage with high resolution video footage and photographs.



For more information on the new Drone Surveys offered by James Gillies please contact the Ring, who will put you in touch. 01635 285405.

End of Tax Year Panic?



Miss Bee

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Non Member advert, no association to TKMR