

## Charity Retail Conference 2017: 15 Bursaries

The Charity Retail Conference, held at East Midlands Conference Centre on Monday 26 – Tuesday 27 June 2017, is a fantastic opportunity for delegates to update their knowledge, network with colleagues and **learn more** about the issues facing charity retail. The Conference offers you interactive focus sessions, an exhibition, drinks reception, awards dinner, disco and lots of opportunities to network with people within the sector.

We aim to provide all delegates with practical information and guidance on how to plan for a successful future in charity retail. We are delighted to have two plenary sessions at conference this year, one from our very own Chief Executive, Robin Osterley and the second from Oxfam GB Chief Executive Mark Goldring.

To ensure the experience is relevant and valuable for all our delegates we offer a number of focus sessions aimed specifically at smaller charities and hospices, as well as those new to charity retailing. These include:

- ***The Social Value of Charity Retail***
- ***Charity Shops as Community Hubs***
- ***Maximising Sales through Visual Merchandising***
- ***The Power of Profit***
- ***Recruiting Volunteers***

This year, the Charity Retail Association and **1<sup>st</sup> Waste Management** are offering **15 bursaries** to those from smaller charities or hospices that need financial assistance. Each bursary will cover the following:

- ***Half the fees for a residential delegate including session attendance. Bursary winners from CRA membership are required to pay £190 + VAT towards their place\****
- ***All meals and refreshments***
- ***Attendance at the Drinks Reception & Awards Dinner***
- ***Overnight standard accommodation in Halls of Residence***



\*Full member rate excluding VAT is £380; full non-member rate excluding VAT is £680

If you are interested in attending our Charity Retail Conference and would like to apply for a bursary place, please read the main selection criteria below and the full terms and conditions.

- ***Bursaries are available to those who work in charity retail***
- ***Your charity must run 5 or fewer charity shops***
- ***This is the first year you are attending the conference***
- ***Only one delegate per charity may apply***
- ***Both members and non-members of the CRA may apply***

The deadline for applications is **Friday 5 May 2017**. Winners will be notified by **Friday 12 May 2017**.

## About the Venue

Our Conference is this year is held at East Midlands Conference Centre and is the ideal location for you to focus on the strategic issues surrounding charity retail. Once you're at the venue you won't need to worry about anything. The Conference and Exhibition Hall are just a short walk from your accommodation, with transport to and from the Drinks Reception and Awards Dinner in the evening. There is also a small shop and cash machine on-site in case there's anything you forget.



You will have your own room with en-suite facilities; we provide all your meals including lunch on Monday.

We keep our registration desk open throughout the Conference so we're always available to help if you need anything. As this will be your first time attending our conference and you may not be with colleagues we offer an optional mentor scheme; your mentor is usually another charity delegate who can show you round, introduce you to people and answer any questions you may have.



## Transport

East Midlands Conference Centre is really easy to get to either by car or by train. The nearest stations are Beeston Station and Nottingham. There are over 30 direct trains that travel between St Pancras and Nottingham on a daily basis and the taxi rank is just outside the station

If you're driving it's just off the M1, the full address of the venue is East Midlands Conference Centre, Beeston Drive, University of Nottingham, NG7 2RJ. For travel by car, use the following postcode (NG7 2QL) to find the conference centre. Guests are entitled to complimentary car parking.

## The Charity Retail Association

We are a membership organisation set up by charities to support charity retail. We provide our members with a wide range of benefits including:

- **Effective lobbying and public relations** on key issues, such as Gift Aid improvements, rate relief, town centre partnerships and donated stock
- **Promotion of good practice and high standards** through our up-to-date guidance
- **Regular, exclusive market analysis and benchmarking reports** covering shop numbers, turnover, sales streams, gift aid conversion, rag prices, and much more
- **Free advice line** on personnel issues, accessible 24 hours a day
- **Special interest groups and members' meetings** – valuable networking opportunities
- **Exclusive access to our website's members' area**, containing a wealth of guidance and resources
- **Regular news and events updates**, keeping you up to date with the latest sector issues and opportunities
- **Access to and discounted deals** with our many Corporate Members who supply and actively support our Charity Members

Our members range from the largest national charities to locally based hospices, running over 8,000 shops between them. Whatever the size of your retail operation, our member benefits and services are tailored to meet your needs.

## Full Terms & Conditions

- Bursaries are available to those who work in charity retail
- Only representatives of charities running 5 or fewer charity shops as of 1 April 2017 are eligible to apply
- This must be the first year **you** are attending the Conference
- Only **one** delegate per charity may apply
- Both members and non-members may apply
- The Bursary covers half the delegate fee at the Conference as a residential delegate, including session attendance, all meals and refreshments, the Drinks Reception and Awards Dinner and one night's accommodation
- Bursary winners who are members of the CRA are required to pay £190 towards their place and non-members are required to pay £340. Payment must be received by **Friday 9 June 2017** or you may forfeit your place
- The Bursary **does not** cover any related costs of attending the Conference, e.g. travel
- Any application received after the closing date on **Friday 5 May 2017** will not be considered. The Association is not responsible for lost or late post
- Each application will be assessed individually by the Charity Retail Association whose decision will be final
- If you are a successful Bursary applicant but have already paid the full delegate fee, the Association will refund half your delegate fee
- Bursary recipients will be notified by **Friday 12 May 2017**
- By signing the Bursary Application Form you agree to have a photograph taken with the Sponsor at the Conference which will be used by the Sponsor and the Association for marketing and promotional purposes. Photographs will be taken at 2.45pm, **Monday 26 June 2017**