



Newsletter Sponsor:



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- April Consumer Data Report [out now](#)
- Hall of Fame Awards 23: Call for judges. Book tables/tickets [HERE](#)
- GCVA November One Day Summit NEW for 23 - register [HERE](#)
- May Open Forum Catch-up [HERE](#)
- GiftBetter: [Book now](#) for Father's Day & Thank You Teacher promotions
- GoGift Newsletter Sponsor content - come join the team!
- New members - Cadogan, Chick-fil-A, Inc, and Dunnes Stores

GCVA Newswire



Want to promote your news and company? Hiring new talent? Send us your updates and we'll share in the newswire and our social communities.

Welcome to your May Newsletter...

Hope you had fabulous bank holiday weekends - whether gardening in your raincoat or enjoying the Coronation capers. All eyes are on the UK this month with the palace party and Eurovision. A welcome boost in overseas tourism - hope the tills are ringing out for you all!

As we draw close to the end of May with the halfway point of the year now visible on the horizon, it's a good time to revisit objectives and goals for the rest of 23. The GCVA Executive Board got together for our annual planning & strategy meeting. Lots of exciting updates and initiatives to get involved in - watch this space. Thank you all for your ideas and enthusiasm.

Hall of Fame – Call for entries is now open; see the awards [overview](#) and [entry pack](#) here. Book now, be part of the judging panel and decision-making process, and sponsor by emailing awards@gcva.co.uk. And most importantly, GET ENTERING.

Just a few tables left - two Gold, a handful of Silver and, of course, we have reserved places for individual tickets - be quick! Make sure you are there to celebrate and recognise this wonderful industry's talents.

'GCVA November One Day Summit' 9 November, St Mary's Marylebone, London W1.

I am really excited about this. The next BIG event post-awards is the new format for the annual AGM. We wanted to introduce an opportunity for a second big event a year – think very, very mini-conference. This will be a full-day event

with an evening social.

Includes: AGM (members-only), guest speakers, discussions, networking, exhibitors and party, meeting rooms (to book). Members, of course, go free, and this year we are also offering paid places for non-members. Now open for booking [here](#). Sponsorship, Exhibition and Quick X space are available – great rates! Get in touch: members@gcva.co.uk.

Great to see you at the GCVA Connect May Open Forum last week. A thought-provoking discussion and deeper dive into State of the Nation 23 research, gifting & gift cards – key challenges and opportunities, and our new member spotlights. Thank you to all our speakers and to you all. Members' replay online [here](#) if you missed it.

And a very warm welcome to our newest members: Cadogan, Chick-fil-A Inc, and Dunnes Stores. It is great to have you as part of the community. Find out more below.

GCVA Moves. This month, we're saying a sad goodbye to Tasha Keene, our brilliant Operations Director. Tasha has done an outstanding job leading on the conference and keeping things running smoothly. You will be missed. Thank you for everything, and good luck on your next adventure.

I'm delighted to welcome Laura Guy, our first GCVA Marketing & Events Manager, who has hit the ground running. Laura previously worked in marketing for the property investment world; intro below.

GCVA membership – a reminder that 1st July is the start of our membership year. We'll be emailing key contacts with more info shortly. Please look out for this.

As always, if you want to discuss anything about your membership and what else we can do to support and grow the industry, get in touch - gail@gcva.co.uk.

Have a wonderful week.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gail". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'G'.



GCV Executive Board 23. L-R: James Malia, Glenn Sizer, Siobhan Moore, Stephanie MacNeill, Gail Cohen, Warren Humphries, Heather Rogers, Malc Berg, Miranda Graesser, Adam Hobbs.

GCVA Events



GCVA Connect May Open Forum

GCVA Events Calendar 23 - dates you must not miss this year. Sign up now!

Have your say, share your knowledge, and catch up with

Hall of Fame Awards



Lead Sponsor



colleagues and GCVA members.

CATCH-UP:

GCVA Connect May Open Forum
Replay [here](#)

GCVA Connect Webinar: HMT's
Payment Services Regulations
Review and Call for Evidence.
Full recording [here](#)

Catch up on all past events [HERE](#)

RETAILER-ONLY FORUM:

20 July: 12:30-14:00 - Register [here](#)
26 Oct: 12:30-14:00 - Register [here](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

GCVA-KPMG June Data Workshop
14 June: 10:00-11:30. *GCVA data
members only (link to register to
follow).*

GCVA Summer Social
28 June: 17:30 till late. London -
Register [here](#). Come and enjoy the
sunshine with the fabulous GCVA
members.

GCVA Connect July Open Forum -
Register [here](#)
13 July: 12:30-14:00

GCVA Hall of Fame Awards 23 -
Reserve tickets/tables [here](#)
14 September: 18:30 till late

GCVA Connect October Open Forum
- Register [here](#)
12 October: 12:30-14:00

November GCVA One Day Summit
NEW for 23 - Register [here](#)

Hall of Fame Awards 23 - the most
celebratory, glamorous night of the
gift card year, recognising the huge
talents of the GCVA community.

Lead sponsor: Blackhawk Network.
Reserve your table or places [HERE](#)

14 September 23
8 Northumberland Avenue, London,
WC2N 5BY
18:30-01:30
Evening dress (black tie optional)

Gold: Table of 12 only @£4800 |
£400 per ticket (Prime table position
+ 2 bottles of champers) - *Two Gold
tables left.*

Silver: Table of 12 @3000 | £250 per
ticket (Standard table position -
allocated by booking time) - *Very few tables left.*

*Ticket includes drinks reception, 3-
course meal with wine and after
party till 01:30. Full details [here](#).*

12 categories: Entry pack [HERE](#).
Closing date for entries: **3 July**.

Call for judges - email us!

**Rising Star of the Year *NEW for
23** (*members' vote*). Nominate the
'one to watch' person by sending
their name, job title and company
along with supporting comments to
awards@gcva.co.uk.

If there is no outright winner, the
members will be asked to vote.

SPONSORSHIP: Great positioning,

9 November: 10:30-17:30, St Mary's Marylebone W1 (Non-members welcome)

2024 events:

GCVA Conference 24, London - Hold the date: 6/7 March.

GCVA Research & Data Reports



GCVA 23 gift card data reports:

[State of the Nation 23](#)

KPMG 22 H2 Data Analysis:
[Executive Summary](#) | [Full Report](#)

[GCVA Whitepaper: What's in a Name? Gift cards, more than just a gift](#)

Go [HERE](#) to access all the latest data in one place.

New Members

A warm welcome to Cadogan, Chick-fil-A Inc, Dunnes Stores

great promotion, great night to see and be seen...

- 3 x Category sponsors
- Drinks Reception
- After Party
- In-kind

All enquiries to victoria@gcva.co.uk.

GCVA Conference 24



GCVA Conference 23 highlights

[GCVA Conference 24](#) - Hold the date 6 & 7 March - announcements coming soon!

Missed out on 23? No fear. You can still buy catch-up tickets [HERE](#)

GCVA April Consumer Data



The GCVA April Consumer Data report is now out – login [HERE](#) to view.



Cadogan is a family business, property manager, investor, and developer - with a 300-year history that informs its dynamic estate management approach today.

As proud custodians of over 90 acres of Chelsea and Knightsbridge, their long-term stewardship aims to enrich the area's unique character, while safeguarding its future vitality.

Visit cadogan.co.uk for more information.



Atlanta-based **Chick-fil-A, Inc.** is a family owned and privately held restaurant company founded in 1967 by S. Truett Cathy. Devoted to serving the local communities in which its franchised restaurants operate, and known for its original chicken sandwich, Chick-fil-A serves freshly prepared food in more than 2,500 restaurants in 47 US states,

Key highlights:

- Inflation continues to impact spending on non-essential items, with UK retail spend forecast to be £374.9bn in 23
- Retail gift card purchasing at its highest level since May 20
- Opportunities for employers to leverage gift cards as a support mechanism
- Consecutive months of solid performance for digital gift cards
- Experience gift cards experience lower demand, though leisure activities (travel, theatre tickets, spa) saw an increase over March 22
- Gift card demand was weaker over March 22 - lots of opportunities for the industry to promote the benefits in the current climate

GiftBetter Campaigns



#GiftBetter - Boost your gift card programmes across Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

As of April 23, we now have an incredible reach to date of 8.7+

Washington DC, Canada and Puerto Rico. Visit www.chick-fil-a.com.

Dunnes Stores is a family owned and managed Irish retailer committed to supporting Irish suppliers, partners and designers across our network of stores.

We take pride in continuing to re-imagine, challenge and evolve our “Better Value” promise in response to our customers’ changing needs.

Dunnes Stores offers grocery, home, textiles and beauty all under one roof with gift cards available across all departments and platforms. Visit dunnesstores.com.

GoGift Newsletter Sponsor Content

GoGift is looking for new global colleagues!

GoGift is on the lookout for some

million! And combined engaged audience of over 35K followers.

- April promotions reach: 101K
- Jump in followers across all platforms - over 1K gained on Twitter
- Tesco's giveaway had the highest reach at 28K
- First giveaway via Instagram Reels was viewed over 3.5K times

April (latest) report [HERE](#)

[Book now](#) for June/July promotions: Father's Day and Thank You Teacher.

Get your own branded posts using #Giftbetter as a marketing channel (subject to availability and GCVA campaigns) - email giftbetter.co.uk for details.

GCVA Charity 23

Give now and help change lives!



The GCVA is proud to support The Trussell Trust, a charity working to end food poverty in the UK.

£2300 raised so far - £5K target - help us get there!

Stay tuned to find out how you and your company can get involved.

awesome new colleagues from around the world!

We're all about helping companies with their corporate gifting needs, but we also love to have a good time together as a team across our 27 nationalities!

Here's a sneak peek of the awesome perks you'll enjoy as a GoGift employee:

- Our very own padel tennis court
- The GoGift Gunners football team
- Relaxing at our sauna club (we have lots of Finns!)
- Bike-to-work events
- On-site massages to soothe tired shoulders
- Bingo, quizzes and trivia
- Enjoying weekly Friday bars
- A cinema club...
...and so much more

Sound like your kind of workplace?
So come join our team at GoGift!

Check out our current job openings or send us an unsolicited application - we always welcome new talent!
See all roles [HERE](#)

GCVA News & PR

- [Give now](#) via our fundraising page or scan the QR code below
- Text 'GCVA' followed by your donation amount to 70085



Together, we can make a difference - financially via food donations & volunteering.
#TogetherForChange

GCVA Job Board

Opportunities at Lego, Tillo

Find new career opportunities by browsing our [featured posts](#), and post your own job ad for free!

Email members@gcva.co.uk with your open roles and we'll add them to the website and newsletter.

[Lego: Gift Card Manager \(London | Denmark\)](#)

[Tillo: Multiple roles \(UK\)](#)

People on the Move



The annual State of the Nation report shows the continued versatility and resilience of the gift card market.

Learn how the industry is evolving and responding to consumer demands around cross-channel flexibility and developing other digital elements, e.g. digital wallets.

Gift card leaders - discover what you need to focus on now to stay ahead.

[Demand for cross-channel gift cards increases across generations](#)

[Global gift card conference returns to celebrate continued growth of industry](#)

View the latest PR Report [HERE](#)

Members News & Moves



[Samantha Mitchell has a new role at Prezzee | Head of Sales UK & Ireland](#)

Members Secret Skills



Pssst. Got a secret skill or amazing story to share?

Are you circus trained? A champion level swimmer? Master of Wine? A celebrant?

GCVA members are a talented bunch...

Did you know that we have at least two expert horse riders, and a renowned pantomime dame?

Todd Tomlin, the digital nomad, was running Ncentiva on the road while skiing in the Alps; now back in the

Edenred acquires leading employee engagement business Reward Gateway

Edenred has acquired Reward Gateway, a leading employee engagement platform business. The move will support Edenred's ambition to be the most trusted platform for people at work.

The acquisition brings together two organisations with aligned visions & values, complimentary solutions and capabilities and track records of delivering services to employers, helping them engage and motivate their employees. Full story [here](#)



[Kicking off BCorp UK week at Motivates: Home of the Lifestyle Gift Card with the release of a brand new video...](#)

[...Motivates BCorp Impact Report 23](#)
- progress on their BCorp journey.

[Understanding consumer preferences: Runa survey reveals when consumers opt for digital value over traditional payments](#)

[Tillo sponsors the Brighton Gift Card to boost local spending](#)

UK.

Even someone quite close to home lends her hand to a bit of reiki, Chinese medicine and aromatherapy in her spare time.

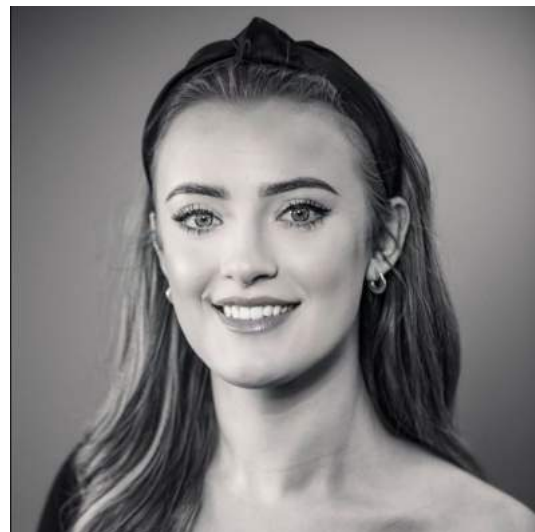
So many people with fascinating stories.

Share your hidden talents! What do you get up to in your spare time to relax or challenge yourself?

[Tell us your stories](#) and we'll give you a shoutout in the next newsletter!

Team GCVA

Welcome to Laura Guy!



"Hi, I'm Laura, the new GCVA Marketing & Events Manager.

Having worked as a Marketing professional for 5 years, my experience ranges from the catering industry to property investment and now I'm excited to join the gift card industry.

I'm ready to learn about the UK's best incentives programmes, as well

[Tillo's Year in Review 22](#) - Co-founder Alex Preece reflects on their 7-year journey and lessons learned.

[Thames Technology selected by NatWest Rooster Money to produce their prepaid contactless debit cards for children](#)

[Little Starts Gift Card now accredited as an official supplier to The British Franchise Association](#)

[Fiserv is named a Fortune World's Most Admired Company](#)

[Miconex: Chester gift card scheme sees around £150K to put back into the city's economy](#)

[Coming soon to the Voucher Express range, Ecologi Tree planting eGift Cards - taking climate action this Earth Month!](#)

[CleverCards win the Business & Finance Media Group ESG Finance award](#)

[Former Meta Payments head joins CleverCards](#)

Gift cards in the news: [In what might be an industry first, \\$4M in frozen Walmart gift card funds from an internet scam is available for victims to claim](#)

Excellent detective work from Walmart's global fraud investigations team!

as working with the team to grow the GCVA through our marketing channels and events programme."

GCVA Staff:

Gail Cohen, Director General
Tasha Keene, Operations Director
Allyson Kolan, Operations Manager
Laura Guy, Marketing & Events Manager
Victoria Evans, Events & Sponsorship Manager
Rhiannon Whitehead, Digital Content & Events Executive

GCVA Freelance:

Nika Talbot, Copywriter & Newsletters

Any topics, ideas or innovations you want to discuss?

News or Moves to share with members?

*Email
members@gcva.co.uk*

BRC-KPMG Retail Sales Monitor



Retail Sales Monitor: Easter brings growth despite poor weather - see full report [HERE](#)

"While retail sales grew in April, overall inflation meant volumes were down for both food and non-food as customers continued to adjust spending habits. Clothing sales underperformed as the poor weather left customers thinking twice before decking out their summer wardrobe. Meanwhile, a boost to overseas tourism over Easter helped jewellery, watches and cosmetics." - Helen Dickinson | BRC

[The Retailer Magazine | Spring 23](#)

[How retailers are supporting customers during the cost of living crisis](#) (quoted in [The Metro](#))

[Why retailers should invest in behaviour change](#) | [Amber](#)

[Can the promise of the metaverse support our high streets?](#) | [IBM](#)

[5 ways retailers will embrace the data economy in '23](#) | [Snowflake](#)



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Forward

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Our mailing address is:
Gift Card and Voucher Association
45 Robertson Street
Hastings, TN34 1HL
United Kingdom

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