



I H I E | **INSTITUTE OF HIGHWAY
INCORPORATED ENGINEERS**

– SOUTHERN BRANCH –

NEWSLETTER – AUTUMN / WINTER 2006

– INTRODUCTION –



Welcome to the latest edition of the IHIE Southern Branch Newsletter. I hope you are finding it to be a useful source of information about the Branch's activities and should you have any suggestions on items that you would like

to see included either in this or on our website then please feel free to contact me or any member of the Branch Committee.

I would like to take this opportunity to formally welcome our Sponsor, Nick Stilwell as a Fellow to the Institute. As you are all no doubt aware IHIE is seeking a Route to CEng for Members and Nick has agreed to join with myself and other CEng members as Chartered Reviewers when the project goes live in the next 12 months. If any of you are interested in becoming Chartered through the IHIE please let me know or contact the Institute Secretary, Judith Walker at HQ.

I would also like to remind Branch Members, given the current restraints on training budgets, that many of our presentations and events are free of charge and provide a valuable opportunity to keep your Continuing Professional Development Record up to date. I look forward to seeing you at some of our forthcoming events.

Finally I would like to thank the Branch Committee Members for all the hard work and dedication they have shown throughout the year and wish them and all of you Seasons Greetings and a Prosperous New Year.

Billy Gooch
Branch Chairman

www.ihie-southern.org.uk

– NEWS –

Southern Branch Committee:

We welcome Lisa Pearce to the Committee. Lisa works for Ringway Ltd and is attached to the SCC Partnership Contract based at Merrow.

Transportation Professional:

You will no doubt have read the article in the November edition concerning the withdrawing of the IHIE pages from TP at the end of 2006. This was an IHT decision and is based on the commercial changes being made by them regarding the journal.

Alternative outlets are now being sought by IHIE for publication of our news and activities and currently there are 2 options which are open to us. Firstly to continue with the monthly pages in Surveyor which can be purchased at the discount price of £34pa (total of 50 editions pa) and secondly Highways Magazine have offered 2 pages per edition (10 editions pa) and this will be FREE to Members. It is being recommended that BOTH options be available to Members. Confirmation should be received shortly, in order that we have coverage from January 2007 onwards.

Congratulations:

Committee Member Helen Currie gave birth to son Samuel James on 10th October 2006. Samuel weighed in at 7lb 1oz. We send our best wishes to Helen and husband Simon.



Samuel James

Publicity:

If you have any news items or suggested improvements to the Newsletter please contact the Editor or any Committee Member. Also should you have an article or suggestion for a branch activity, we would be delighted to publish it on the website.

– PAST EVENTS –

22nd June 2006 - AGM Banstead Mobility Centre – Banstead, Surrey

This year's AGM was held on Thursday 22nd June 2006 at The Queen Elizabeth Foundation Mobility Centre, Surrey. Despite a low attendance, delegates enjoyed an excellent buffet lunch prior to the meeting. An excellent presentation followed by a tour of the facilities was given by the Centre Manager, Sue Vernon, on the work of the Centre that aims to bring independence and mobility to people physically affected and across all age ranges.



Sue Vernon the Centre Manager demonstrating a typical vehicle to Members

Also at the event the Chairman made a presentation to a long standing Member, Graham Hodgson. Graham has now retired and will join the Institute and the Branch as a Retired Member. He was thanked by Billy for his services to the Branch and to IHIE as a Reviewer.



Graham Hodgson receiving his Award

A full report of the AGM appears on the website.

20th September – Winchester Seminar 'Sustain and Gain – Go for Green'

53 Members and Delegates congregated at the Winchester Guildhall to listen and learn from the excellent speakers presenting this topical programme.

The Seminar, had a revised date this year and also had an international flavour about it. Amongst the delegates was a team of 10 members of 'The British Experience' contingent, who were in the UK representing the Governments of Russia, Kazakhstan, Baltic States and Georgia. The delegation was looking at the way we in the UK design, build and maintain our highways. Coming from sectors of the globe dominated for many years by Communist rule, it was a privilege to host them and to experience their enthusiasm for the way in which we administer our networks in the UK.



Delegates examining the Highways Agency Traffic Officers vehicle in the outdoor display

The feedback from all was truly positive and the organising team from the Branch are to be congratulated for providing yet another successful event.

A full report of the Seminar appears on the website.

7th December 2006 – Just Another Day

An afternoon presentation by Steve St. John, Ringway Group on the ever valuable subject of Health and Safety in the workplace. An essential reminder of the employers and employees obligations and consequences of failure.

A full report on this event will appear in the next newsletter

23rd & 24th October 2006 - Godstone Highways Agency Regional Control Centre

An evening and an afternoon visit were kindly arranged by the Highways Agency to their new RCC at Godstone.

On one visit Members witnessed two serious incidents being handled at the same time. In appalling weather conditions, a major closure of 3 lanes of M25 at Junction 13 due to an overturned goods vehicle resulted in the need to resurface sections of the carriageway and a collision in which a motor cyclist had fallen from his machine caused the closure of two lanes on the Kent section. The adverse weather had added to the number of broken down vehicles, but the overwhelming atmosphere was of quietness and calm, the latter being conveyed to a driver who was having difficulty communicating on the Emergency Roadside Telephone.



We and the motoring public can be reassured by the determination of the Operations Managers and their staff to give the highest level of service to keep customers informed and provide reliable journeys.

We are very grateful to Operations Managers Gary Parsons for arranging the visits and Nicci Potts for hosting them.

25th October 2006 – Technical Presentation SCC Network Management Information Centre, Leatherhead

“NOT JUST TRAFFIC SIGNALS – BUT ALSO…….”

A technical presentation from
SIEMENS TRAFFIC CONTROLS LTD.

The Siemens name is found on a considerable number of grey metal cabinets out on the public highway, very often next to a traffic signal junction.

For that reason, many consider Siemens Traffic Controls Ltd. to deal only with that function, but the true situation could not be more different.

Hosted by Surrey County Council at their Network Management and Information Centre in Leatherhead, twenty five members and guests heard from Steve Parsons, Keith Manston and Mark Bodger from Siemens of the various pieces of equipment and applications available for use by all highway engineers. Ranging from the “normal” signal heads to intelligent VMS signs which can identify the presence of large vehicles at road junctions and impart appropriate information to vehicles on the main roads. Their presentation covered a very wide range of topics and included something of interest to all.

Our thanks go to Steve, Keith and Mark for their time and effort .

24th November 2006 – Social Event “Wine and Wisdom” Charity Quiz Night, The Village Hall Ripley.

This year’s competition was won by a ‘new team on the block’. The ‘Perky Parkers’, a Car Parking Team from Guildford Borough Council, won by 4 points to take the Trophy from last year’s winners, Chris Britton’s team the ‘Brains of Britton’, . Our congratulations go to the new winners and we look forward to their return next year to defend their position.

This year’s event was in support of **Debra** a charity which helps children with the fragile skin condition. Epidermolysis Bullosa (EB). A total of £750 was raised and this will be presented to Debra at a later presentation event. Their organiser, Laura Pratt, attended the evening together with her Christmas stall and participated in the event as a member of the ‘Old Wine, New Bottles’ Team. Having led in the first half, they finished 5th out of eleven.

A great evening was had by all and our thanks go to all those who put in their time and effort, together with the donors of the raffle prizes who make this such a popular annual event.



Perky Parker’s Team Captain receiving his trophy

– FUTURE EVENTS –

Your Branch Committee has arranged an attractive series of events for the forthcoming months. More information will be made available either on the website or News Letter. Please support these events, they are arranged for your benefit and interest, are usually free and all earn a CPD certificate.

Wed 7 Jan 07



Traffic Management 'new' Chapter 8. Following an extensive consultation exercise, Chapter 8 of the Traffic Signs Manual has been revamped and incorporates many changes together with the various codes of good practice. Issued in June 2006, it is anticipated that requirements will be come 'mandatory' in early 2007. We have organised an event to look through the new volumes and their requirements. A must for those overseeing contractors operations. **To book contact**
tony.suter@spitfireuk.net

Thurs 22 Feb 07
(Provisional)



Dartford Crossing Major Incident Exercise In June 2006, a major exercise simulating two major accidents to test emergency services response. Participants included emergency services from Kent and Essex, the Highways Agency and crossing operator 'Le Crossing'. A full report on the event has been commissioned and it is hoped that following a participant's de-brief we can have an insight of the exercise and the lessons learnt. This event will be held at The Grange Centre, Midhurst commencing at 1400 hrs. Light refreshments will be available. **The date is dependent on the publication of the report.**

To book contact
tony.suter@spitfireuk.net

Thurs 22 Mar 07



Trackjet is a rapid and effective surface cleaning and friction restoration machine which, by using an ultra high pressure water-jetting will cleanly remove rubber deposits and line markings on roads and airport runways. A proven piece of equipment which is 'green' in operation consuming a fraction of water that other conventional systems use.

Widely applied to airport runways and roads in Europe with significant success and savings on resurfacing options. We have arranged a presentation and demonstration to take place at the former Dunsfold Aerodrome, Surrey/Sussex border. As this is partly an 'outside' event suitable PPE should be worn (high-viz jackets necessary). 1400 hrs. to include demonstration, presentation and light refreshments. **To book contact**
tony.suter@spitfireuk.net

Thurs. 26 April 07 We are hoping to hold a 'mini' seminar discussing speed management by the Safety Camera Partnerships within the Southern Branch area. Topics to cover strategic approaches, objectives and operation.
Further details to follow

Thurs 17 May 07 2007 Annual Seminar. Winchester Guildhall
Further details to follow

Thurs 14 Jun 07 Annual General Meeting. Amberley Working Museum, West Sussex. AGM, with buffet lunch and the opportunity to tour the museum which includes the recently refurbished Paviours Exhibition. Previous visits have been very successful. **Further details to follow**

We hope you can find something of interest to you in the above and you will support our efforts to make membership of the Institute more meaningful.

If you have any ideas for events, please let the Branch Secretary know – we will do the follow up (unless you wish to do it!).

Do we have your details so that you can be kept informed? If you move home or office address, please advise the Branch Secretary (including your preferred e-mail contact). We can then circulate details of events that may be of interest to you/your colleagues.

Unless stated otherwise all our events are free of charge and usually include refreshments and all qualify for Continued Professional Development (CPD) Certificates. All we need is your support and 'bums in seats'!

– CONTACT DETAILS –

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Alternatively, visit our website at:
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www.stilwell-llp.co.uk

