



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

– SOUTHERN BRANCH –

NEWSLETTER – SUMMER 2008

- CHAIRMAN'S LETTER -

- NEWS -



Trudi Harris receiving the cheque for 'Cherry Trees'

Welcome to the Summer edition of the Branch Newsletter. It is now a year that I have been in office and a busy one it has been too. As I reported at the AGM, during this period the Branch has organised no less than 8 events, attracting over 260 delegates.

As you will see from the newsletter, it has also been a year for presentations. I was pleased to present the Brian Sefton-Smith Award to Claire Gale at our Winchester Seminar. Also, it gave me great pleasure to present a cheque for £750 to Trudi Harris, who represents our nominated Charity of the Year, Cherry Trees. This was a donation from funds raised at our Wine and Wisdom evening in November.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your support in my first year in the Chair, with special thanks to the Committee for all their hard work during the period.

I look forward to seeing you at future events.

Alison Coffey
Branch Chairman

CEng Route - Update

The great news is that IHIE have been given a one year extension to continue undertaking Chartered Reviews. The Engineering Council UK, which is the governing body were very pleased with the work that IHIE have put into this role. Southern Branch has also made a significant contribution.

I can report that the first CEng has now been awarded under the scheme to no less than Ian Bradfield whom you may remember was President of the Institute 2002-2004. Congratulations to Ian on his success and also on his move to the Welsh Office from Denbighshire County Council.

Institute Name?

The question being asked is – 'does the title Institute of Highway "Incorporated" Engineers fit with its expanding role into the CEng award?'

Council will be considering this over the next few months and taking into account the members' views on what they feel is right for the future of the Institute.

Your views and suggestions are always welcome. It is your Institute and you have the authority to contribute and, if required, vote on its future.

Have your say - email your personal views and comments to the Secretary at IHIE, or, if you prefer, to the Branch Secretary or myself for collation at Branch level, whereupon we can submit a Branch view to Council. Your contributions are always greatly appreciated and valued by us.

Committee News:

We are delighted that Sara Pegram, has joined Council as a Student/Graduate Member. (Sara is from Surrey CC Highways and currently based at Godstone with the Carillion Partnership Contract Team).

Sara will be maintaining Southern Branch presence on Council in place of myself, since I have now been obliged to stand down having served my statutory entitlement! They were happy days for me and I wish you well Sara!

Chris Bowley – Editor & Recruitment officer

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 a suggestion for a branch activity we would be delighted to hear from you. If you have an article it can be published on the website.

www.ihie-southern.org.uk

– PAST EVENTS –

17th January – Technical Presentation, Midhurst. CCTV Remote Traffic Monitoring

CCTV surveillance is nothing new to the UK. We have the dubious record of having the highest level of surveillance on its citizens in the western world. Though there may be views for and against such systems, its use a value in providing a greater number of 'eyes' than might otherwise be achievable.



A CCTV Camera of the type portrayed in the presentation

This was an informative session that generated numerous questions. Delegates appreciated the merits of the various systems that can provide value for money as short term effective solutions to the many problems facing authorities, especially in terms of 'managing traffic'.

We are grateful to Dan Walker and his colleagues at WCCTV Limited for providing the presentation. Further information can be obtained from their web site www.cctv.co.uk

A full report appears on the website.

11th March – Technical Presentation, Leatherhead. The London 2012 Olympic and Paralympics Games: Delivering the Transport Challenge

When the spectacle of the modern Olympics was last held in London, 1948, the Transportation Strategy was a simple affair, about 3 pages of A4 typed sheets and that was it! Time has moved on and, in the bid for the 2012 event, the Olympic Delivery Authority was required to confirm their entire proposals as part of the bid. The success in achieving the promotion of the event effectively meant "you have told us you can do it and how you propose to do it, now deliver it"

Southern Branch members were given a taste of the depth and complexity of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) requirements at a presentation given by Clare Springett. Claire is an Olympic Delivery Authority team member, whose challenging task is to put words into actions.

Clare presented an overview of the demands that are to be achieved for transporting the Olympic and Paralympics Family (Athletes, Officials, etc). – to and from venues, not only within London, but at provincial venues.

Figures of 55,000 people moving, on a daily basis, in safe, secure and reliable transport. Having fulfilled this aspect, the next demand was to manage travelling arrangements without causing too much disruption to normal life at each of the venues.



Clare Springett detailing the London Olympic venues

Clare's presentation was, in the main, an opener to the planned arrangements. Despite many searching questions from those present, delegates left with a more favourable impression of successfully delivering the arrangements, which will be under the world's microscope.

The Branch is grateful to Clare and the Olympic Delivery Authority for this impressive presentation and we hope that a further updating event can be arranged.

A full report appears on the website.

15th May – Annual Seminar, Winchester. Drive for Safety

The day started with a flurry of activity due to a technical hitch. This left Muriel Killin from the DfT giving her presentation on Signing, 2 hours early. Meanwhile, Peter Lazic from Marshalls Water Management drove back home to Romsey to collect his presentation on surface drainage.

Nick Stilwell from The Stilwell Partnership, tried to encourage speakers to stick to their allotted timings by using his unusual "snoring" alarm clock.

Muriel's interesting and at times humorous presentation concluded with advice that it is 'unwise to invent your own signs'. Rob Gillespie from Ringway Infrastructure Services Ltd gave a short and factual presentation on a wide diversity of road surfaces fulfilling a wide diversity of needs.

Rex Perkins an independent consultant followed. He informed us that, good quality road markings and studs can improve road safety and reduce accidents by up to 32%.

Following the morning coffee break, Peter Lazic was back and spoke about the Beany Block and how it was possible to 'install it and forget it', as they were built to last with minimal excavation required.

The last session before lunch, had Philip Turner from Surrey County Council standing in to present Terry Felstead of WSP UK Ltd's presentation on Road Safety and Lighting. (Sadly Terry had been taken ill).

The presentation started with some facts from the 1950s through to the 1990s, and included video footage of 'passive safety' posts. Our grateful thanks go to Philip for stepping into the breach!

The afternoon started with a presentation to Claire Gale of Gifford Ltd, who was presented with the Brian Sefton-Smith Award, an annual award for the best supporting report and evidence before undertaking their Professional Review.

Then, Steve Parson and Colin Pennington from Siemens Ltd introduced us to a brief history of VMS and some more stats! The presentation encompassed Siemen's input into transportation safety and the range of measures that are available to address safety hazards.

Matt Smith, from Surrey County Council then gave an informative and varied presentation on Road Safety Audits, including some fantastic photos of engineering errors on the highway.

Finally Keith Harwood of Transport for London gave us the salient aspects of the CDM Regulations 2007, providing a valuable update to the regulations that became effective from last year.



Alison Coffey presenting Claire Gale with the Brian Sefton-Smith Award

The afternoon session chairman – Judith Walker, Secretary IHIE, ensured that we stuck rigidly to the timetable and Final Questions were put to the panel by the still attentive audience.

Finally Alison Coffey, IHIE Southern Branch Committee Chairman, summed up the day's events and presented a golfing umbrella to each of the speakers. Then the delegates raffle took place.

Later that evening the committee members invited the speakers to share a dinner with them as a way of thanks. Everyone went home having earned a full day's CPD learning and refreshing a variety of highway knowledge.

19th June – AGM at Dapdune Wharf, Guildford

Southern's Annual General Meeting was the ideal opportunity for the Branch to welcome the recently appointed IHIE President, Tony Sharp, who came on two wheels from Bristol to Guildford – no mean feat –arriving in one piece, dry and with the inevitable appetite that motor cycling produces. On this aspect neither he nor the 16 delegates were disappointed.

The venue chosen for this year's event was the very popular Dapdune Wharf, which is The National Trust Wey Navigation Visitor Centre. Though located in the heart of Guildford it represents a part of the more sedate pace that existed over a hundred years ago.



Dapdune Wharf

On closing the meeting, delegates were able to tour the Visitor Centre and enjoy the exceptionally good weather – fortunately for Tony Sharp and his return journey!

Southern Branch holds Career Development Seminars with Surrey County Council and its Partnership Contractors.

East Surrey at Godstone 10th January and West Surrey at Guildford 17th April

In cooperation with Highway Officers of Surrey County Council, Southern Branch has recently held two career development seminars for Surrey's highway staff at their East and West management areas.

Following the presentations, delegates were able to have personal meetings with the IHIE Secretary, Judith Walker, to discuss their individual requirements and objectives for progressing their Professional Review Portfolios and assessing their achievements.

Southern Branch is grateful to Surrey County Council, Carillion plc and Ringway for their positive support with this project and for hosting both events.



Judith Walker giving the IHIE Presentation

A full report appears on the website

– PAST EVENTS CONT. –



A3 Tunnel Excavation at Hindhead

24th July – Technical Visit, A3 Hindhead Tunnel

This was a well supported half-day visit to this massive construction site. We saw the progress made to date on excavating the tunnel to carry the A3 Trunk Road beneath the village of Hindhead.

A full report will appear on the website shortly

– FUTURE EVENTS –

All future events are subject to confirmation. Please check the website for details or check with Tony Suter the Branch Secretary

August – NO EVENTS

9th September – Technical Presentation, International Road Assessment Programme (iRAP) Venue TBA

Dr. Suzy Charman of iRAP will present an international overview of the state of the UK's highways. This is a good opportunity for all to hear what IRAP thinks of our National Highways and for you to question their ratings. A potentially controversial and interesting afternoon!

Watch out for further details on the website

October – Watch out for event details on the website

28th November – Wine and Wisdom, Ripley

Why not canvass your colleagues and office to make up a team for this year's event. You will be guaranteed a warm welcome, supper with wine and the opportunity to win the coveted Shield from the 'The Nightmare Team' who were the winners of last year's competition. Alternatively, you can always help make up the numbers in another team if you are solo! All in aid of a good cause, supporting this year's children's charity.

Watch out for further details on the website

4th December 2008 – Motorways & Trunk Roads Network Management & Control Systems

A joint presentation by the Highways Agency and their partners, SERCO as operators of the National Traffic Control Centre on network management so as to achieve the Highways Agency's objectives of "Safe Roads, Reliable Journeys, Informed Travellers"

Watch out for further details on the website

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