



Collective inspiration

# The Institution of Engineering and Technology

## Northumbria Network

### May 2011 Newsletter

#### Chairman's Welcome

Dear Colleague

May I take this opportunity in welcoming you to the second half of the 2010/11 session for the IET Northumbria Network. I am writing to thank you for your continued support of The IET and in particular the Northumbria Network. We have a balanced range of programmes throughout the session, hopefully there is something for everyone. The remainder of the session is busy and the immediate events are:

- **Northumbria University PhD Students Presentation**  
Exact date to be confirmed shortly.  
Room A108, Northumbria University, Newcastle.
- **16<sup>th</sup> European Conference on Networks and Optical Communications (NOC 2011) and the 6<sup>th</sup> Conference on Optical Cabling and Infrastructure (OC&I 2011)**

Full details can be found at  
<http://www.noc-conference.com>  
20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2011  
Northumbria University, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

Our additional aims for the remainder of this and future sessions are to:

- Develop new and exciting communication links to allow great freedom of communication.
- Develop relevant and interesting IET young professionals' activities.
- Assist members with their professional development and membership progression.

Please do not hesitate to contact myself or any member of the committee if you wish to be involved with our activities, or to simply contribute new ideas and proposals.

I look forward to meeting you in the near future.

It is with regret that we include Obituaries for John Douglas and Alan Jarvis, both were excellent members of the main committee and retired members committee respectively.

#### North East Region Events

We intend to host some regional events in conjunction with the Durham and Teesside Networks, details of these events shall be published on the website nearer the time.

#### North East Region Events – Summer Ball

In June of this year we will be hosting the first North East Region Summer Ball at Hardwick Hall, Sedgefield. Further details shall be published in due course. If you are interested in attending please contact me at the email address below.

#### Students Project Competition

This years competition was held on the 16<sup>th</sup> March 2011 at Northumbria University. The poster competition was won by YE Yujian of Northumbria University and the presenting prize went to Ben Gormasall of Durham University for: Calculating winding loss in inductive charge of EV's.

There was also great interest in Carl Waltons "Universal Remote" project, with both Northumbria and Newcastle academics being most impressed.

#### Retired Members

The Northumbria Network has a very active retired members network, their events tend to be held during the day, generally on a Wednesday. The initial retired members events are listed on the following page.

#### IET Northumbria Network Committee Meetings

These are held at 6.00pm. on a Monday night at Northumbria University. New and existing IET Members are most welcome with varied Personal Development and networking opportunities in a very supportive environment. If you would like to attend any of the committee meetings, then please contact the Network Chairman who will advise the date of the next meeting.

#### Website

The URL for the Network's website is:  
<http://www.theiet.org/local/uk/northeast/northumbria/index.cfm>

Kind regards  
**Eur Ing Craig Carter**  
B.Eng (Hons) CEng MIET  
Chairman – The IET Northumbria Network  
[craig.carter@theiet.org](mailto:craig.carter@theiet.org)

## Northumbria Network – Programme of Events 2010/11 News and Session Details

### Obituaries

#### John Douglas

John Douglas died in October 2010 aged 67.

His engineering career commenced when he gained a first class honours degree at Cambridge University; a distinction not achieved by many. After joining English Electric as a graduate apprentice, he joined the staff of the mine-winding division. He was later employed as a member of staff at Merz and Mclellan (later PB Power) as a consulting engineer. An enthusiastic Chartered Engineer, he was always willing to help others with a quick reference from a vast store of knowledge. Two passions outside employment were the IET and radio communications in the Territorial Army. He was a past Chairman of the Power Section of the North Eastern Centre and later served as Centre Chairman. He also served on several advisory groups. He achieved the rank of Major in the Territorial Army and in recognition for his service he was awarded the Territorial Decoration (TD). After officially retiring, he continued to work as a Professional Registration Advisor for the IET and part time for PB Power at Newcastle.

#### Alan Jarvis B.Sc. FR.Eng FIET

Alan Jarvis was a founder member of the Retired Members' Section and a pillar of strength to the Committee.

He was a distinguished Chartered Engineer being elected a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering and a Fellow of the Institution of Engineering and Technology.

He always took an interest in young people and was responsible for several schemes to interest them in engineering and science. In business he was a much respected Partner in Merz and McLellan, and the staff looked up to him.

His widespread interest and support for engineering disciplines, other than his chosen field of electrical engineering, was unparalleled.

His passing will be greatly missed by the engineering profession, and all those closely connected with him.

### News

NaREC – The National Renewable Energy Centre, based in Blyth, Northumberland has recently awarded a framework contract to Shepherd Construction for the building of three new facilities, to house new test rigs, for full scale wind and marine prototype devices:

#### Project Nautilus

A 3MW drive train test rig, will de-risk in field activities by allowing NaREC to perform certification activities, reliability and performance appraisal of new marine devices.

#### Blade Test Facility 2

A new 100m blade test facility will provide an independent and confidential environment to accelerate the development of new blades before they are taken offshore. It will be largest of its type in the world and expands on NaREC's existing blade testing facility.

#### Project Fujin

Project Fujin will be the worlds offshore wind drive train test facility rated at 15 MW. It will provide land based development and testing of 'whole power systems' in conditions representative of the in field environment. Funding has the support of the Energy Technologies Institute (ETI) and One North East (ONE).

### Retired Members Section

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2011:**

**BBC Newcastle – A visit to the studios**

Contact: John Cure (0191) 257 5677

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2011:**

**SAC Tissues PLC – A visit to SCA Tissues paper mill at Prudhoe.**

Contact: John Cure (0191) 257 5677

### Young Professionals Activities

The Routes to Registration Clinic detailed above is being supported by our Young Members and provides a great opportunity for other members to progress their careers.