



The Knowledge Network

TEESSIDE NETWORK

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TEESSIDE NETWORK COMMITTEE

Session – 2006/07

Chairman – Harry Wilmot

(This Report covers the period 4th May 2006 – 2nd May 2007)

1 Chairman's Remarks

Here we are approaching the end of another session and the end of my two year tenure as Chairman of the Teesside Branch.

While the tremendous work undertaken by the Teesside Branch Team will be more fully described in the body of this annual report I would like to draw your attention to a number of specific aspects.

We have a very strong committee with officers who have been in post for many years together with a contingent of “new blood” who have taken up roles in the last two years. Can I thank one and all for their support during my chairmanship, I am sure the committee will continue to grow and thrive.

If you would like to support the work of the committee in any way we are always keen to hear from you, remember that the key issue is “added value”, attendance at formal meetings is strictly optional.

Deborah Claire McKenzie, our IET staff regional co-ordinator based in Manchester has provided and continues to provide strong pro-active support to our branch activities.

John Sharp is our incoming Chairman, can I offer him every support especially in the not inconsiderable task of preparing plans for the next session.

The IET Teesside Branch continues to play a full role in our local Teesside Professional Institutions Group (TPIG) and a joint programme has been issued for the remainder of the session.

We have had two major events in the last session, namely the ATEX / DSEAR seminar and the Fire Regulations Seminar. We have also held evening events such as David Young's excellent presentation on the move of the Steel Mill from Stockton to Hartlepool. In all of these events I feel that we have been successful in our aim to provide useful information to both the members of the IET and the public at large.

I think that as far as the regional activities are concerned, the jury is still out, but this is a volunteer organisation and sometimes we are not able to move as quickly as we might like. A regional committee does exist and meet and there are interesting plans for the future.

2 Branch Membership by Grade

Grade	2006/7	2005/6	2004/5	2003/4	2002/3	2001/2
Fellows	59	58	61	59	62	59
Members (CEng)	580	453	448	444	440	439
Members (Non CEng)	311	322	334	311	288	NA
Members	93	102	101	99	119	NA
Students	73	28	32	33	64	76
Apprentices (Eng Tech)	23					
Totals	1139	963	976	946	973	995

Notes on the Statistics

- a) It is unrealistic to compare the figures with previous years as the 2006/7 figures includes the amalgam of members from the two individual Institutions
- b) Craft Apprentices are now covered by the Institution as potential Eng Tech's
- c) Rationalisation of the membership grades is currently in hand

3 TPIG

Another successful year with a combined programme of events published for all five local institutions:

The IET, I.MechE, Inst. MC., ICE [Civils] and IChemE.

Honours Boards are on display in the University of Teesside Boardroom, and TPIG continues to have strong links with the Cleveland Scientific Institution [CSI] – this organisation has clean funding available to promote Science Technology and Mathematics in the Tees Valley especially for young people – and details can be found on the CSI website or contact Keith Bell Bell, Keith Keith.Bell@uk.bp.com

Looking ahead to the next session we plan to publish a single booklet again and hope to include the Cleveland Institute of Engineers for the first time, and we will review tpiig.org website retention since most members prefer a booklet format.

4 School Liaison Activities

SETPOINT remains the key vehicle to promote our profession to the schools and colleges in the region. SETPOINT have re organised this year and our main contact will be via SETPOINT Durham & Tees Valley.

Whilst we have added to the number of members who are active SEA's in the region, we will need to assess how best the branch can contribute with further representation at careers fairs, as well as more interactive events and lectures. This will require additional support from members. With the assistance of SETPOINT we need to assess the branch Membership SEA numbers, and encourage discussion to raise our profile. We will also need to review how we encourage more members to become Science and Engineering Ambassadors. Branch Members with interests in this vitally important area are urged to consider becoming involved within schools via this scheme.

5 Younger Members Activities and University Liaison

Our excellent relationship with the University of Teesside continued during the year. As previously, they have provided us with facilities for our events, and allowed us access for recruitment. It is hoped that the University will resume accreditation for its engineering courses shortly, and thus provide a new flow of members to the Institution.

6 Social Functions

The major event organised during the year was again the Annual Dinner and Reunion. Our venue was again The Thistle Hotel Middlesbrough which proved to be excellent, as reported by our customers, with very good facilities, service and food. Again we had one speaker only - Graham Henderson the Vice Chancellor of Teesside University. The attendance of 200 Members and Guests was a commendable effort by the organising team. The function produced a reasonable paper profit. We have initiated further improvements for the 2007 event.

The tombola organisation raised over £2000.00; our best ever. This was donated in entirety to Connect (The Benevolent Fund) and two local Charities.

Due to the success of the function the 2007 Dinner and Reunion will follow a similar format.

The golf day, held in September, was also a very successful event.

7 IET (Connect)

'Connect' - The IET Benevolent Fund's new brand name and Logo was launched one year ago, linking us strongly to the IET but still remaining a separate identity. The new design and style gives the Fund a fresh look helping to portray it as a modern, relevant and approachable organisation. This is in keeping with the new, recently installed services designed to improve support to all IET members with legal, financial and welfare advice. It is important that all members, both young and old, are fully aware of the new name 'Connect' and the facilities it has to offer to those who, through no fault of their own, find themselves in difficult circumstances. Further information about the service can be obtained by ringing the IET 'Connect' Office, Savoy Place, London: WC2R 0BL. Tel: 020 7344 5498.

At a local level, Teesside Branch donated £1200 to the Fund collected at Tombola at the Annual Dinner Reunion in December. In addition, donations were made to two other local charities from the proceeds of the Tombola.

8 Communications and Publicity

The Teesside Network web site continues to provide information about IET Teesside Network events and other relevant events in the Teesside area.

The Webmaster will be resigning from the Teesside Network Committee at the end of this session. A replacement is being sought.

9 Professional Development

The Branch continued its active involvement in professional development activities and currently Committee Members are involved nationally and at Branch level with: -

- Professional Registration advice for CEng, IEng and Eng Tech
- Professional Registration “paper” Stage 2 and 4 assessments
- Assessment of Fellow applications
- C Eng and IEng Professional Review interviewing-
- Assessment of technical reports and subsequent interviews
- Student counselling with a high profile at local academic institutions.
- Mentoring – No candidates are currently being mentored under the IET scheme
- Degree Accreditation including UK Spec, Further Learning (Matching Section) and preparing for future degree accreditation via Output Standards assessment

10 (IET) Regional Activities

With the merger of the two organisations, there is now a regional committee in the North East comprising three branches - Newcastle, Durham and Teesside. These are roughly based on the two IEE and one IIE branch that existed pre merger.

There is a regional committee which is made up of the Chairman and secretaries of the three branches. It meets every six months and at the last meeting it was agreed that it was always going to be difficult to arrange joint events but that we should keep each other informed of individual events being held throughout the region. We do however wish to build a website to cover the whole region, and it was suggested that the Teesside branch would ask their web master if he was interested in carrying out this work. Unfortunately, however, the Teesside webmaster has resigned from the IET so we now have an even greater problem!! It was agreed that whoever does this site would have to work in conjunction with the IET but would have full autonomy as far as the branches are concerned.

The next meeting is in September and most of the present members will have resigned their positions by then.

11 Business Partners

SE&SW Scotland and NE England

- 298 New Members
- 76 Meetings
- 13 New Business Partners
- 21 Presentations on Membership and Professional Registration

Strong start for 2007 for new members.

University Group Members Schemes

This scheme was set up to encourage Universities/Colleges to pay for their student membership. A discount on the cost of membership offered as an incentive.

Northumbria University have agreed to pay for all the students on accredited degree courses. Strathclyde, Napier University, Durham are in discussions with the IET about this currently.

Fast Track Apprentice Registration

This scheme was created to engage with apprentices. We encourage companies / organisations to sign up their Apprentices and in return we approve their schemes. The apprentices can then be fast tracked to Eng Tech registration with the Engineering Council. The Approved schemes are similar to the accredited schemes but geared specifically towards apprentice technicians.

Babcock, Scottish Power, Core Utility, British Waterways, Adam Smith College, Lauder College have recently had their schemes approved.

BAE and Selex are currently working towards getting their scheme approved.

Aker Kvaerner has just made a request to get their scheme mapped.

Focus 2007

From the 1st April 07 I will be responsible for the Regional Development for Scotland and NE England (apposed to just SW, SE Scotland).

To increase the number of new members joining the IET.

To increase the number of Business Partners and support staff with their professional development

To engage with local colleges and meet all head of departments for all Scottish Universities.

To promote the three levels of registration (CEng, IEng and Eng Tech)

12 Proposed 2006/7 Committee

No new committee members have been proposed so or intention is to proceed with the following

Nominations for new committee members are always welcome of course.

Elected Members

Position	Name	Grade	Affiliation
Chairman	John Sharp	Member	Cordell/Conoco Philips
Senior Vice Chairmen	Keith Bell	Fellow	BP
Junior Vice Chairman			
Past Chairman	Harry Wilmot	Member	H E Woolley
Social committee	John Maplesden	Member	TAS
Honorary Secretary, Professional Development and Social committee	David Young	Fellow	Consultant
Honorary Treasurer	John Thompson	Member	Retired
Social committee	Daren Vipond	Member	University of Teesside
	Mike Ellis	Member	Consultant
Schools liaison and Setpoint	Gary Lawson	Member	Cordell
YM Chairman	Martin Liddle	Member	Corus
Webmaster and publicity			
Schools liaison Social Committee Professional Development	Jillian Gibson	Member	AMEC
University Liaison Officer Social committee	Alan Shaw	Member	University of Teesside
Social committee	Bob North	Member	
YM secretary	Mike Seaward	Member	
Programme Secretary	Paul Wear	Member	Invista

Ex Officio and Co-opted Members

Position	Name	Grade	Affiliation
Professional Registration Advisor	Peter Taylor	Fellow	Retired
Social treasurer	Lyn Jones	Member	Retired
Connect (Benevolent Fund) Rep.	David Monkman	Member	Retired
PN Sustainable Energy	John Sigsworth	Member	
Auditor	Les Catchpole	Member	Consultant
Auditor	Malc Nellist	Member	Consultant