
Honorary Chairman's Report

27 March 2009

Ladies and Gentlemen

I'm pleased to report another busy and successful 12 months with the Engineers Australia UK Chapter.

The year began with the election of completely new executive committee members (chairman, secretary and treasurer), as well as almost half of the committee members being fresh faces. The team has worked well together to arrange many events which have continued to see growing attendances as well as many new faces.

We have had a number of technical talks this year:

- Michael Short – 'The history of GBM in the UK, it's work in the minerals and mining industry, opportunities to combine work with travel and what are the future prospects?'
- Mark Carter – 'Biomedical Engineering : Oncology Techniques and Equipment'
- Molly Webb – 'The Climate Group & Smart 2020 initiative'

I would like to thank all our speakers for their time and effort.

As in previous years we also held two 'Getting Chartered Seminars' which were conducted by Craig Giaccio and Jason Adcock. These continue to be informative and useful for members wishing to find out more about attaining CPEng status.

This year we were approached by the Victorian government to represent Engineers Australia at a number of Living in Victoria seminars that were aimed at attracting skilled migrants from the UK to Victoria. I'd like to thank Nicola Woolford and Tianca McHenry for volunteering to give presentations at the Dublin and London events. Thanks also to Sally Parker (who joined the committee midway through the year) for attending the second London seminar.

Due to the busy calendar our technical visit and weekend away to Iron Bridge Gorge was postponed till 2009. Instead, we had a technical visit arranged by Tien Kho to the Royal Mail international mail sorting centre for Heathrow located near Slough.

Once again, our social events have been proved popular and have been fun, entertaining and provided an greater opportunities for networking. We have continued our relationship with IPENZ with the ANZAC Day softball game as well as hosting the Christmas Soiree at Australia House. I would like to thank Michael Dunn for providing all the alcohol for the evening at cost (and ex VAT) through the High Commission defence social club. Our other social events have included the traditional golf day, lawn bowls, Thames cruise, and Australia Day drinks. Those who attended our events this year would have also noticed the quality of food (including home-made ANZAC biscuits) Nicola has organised at our self-catered events.

In October 2008 we had the pleasure of a visit by the Engineers Australia National President and Chief Executive. Julie Hammer and Peter Taylor had the opportunity to meet local members to discuss events back in Australia and provided an informative seminar on what EA is up to back home.

On behalf of Engineers Australia I would like to thank ARUP for their continued support in providing meeting rooms for all our meetings and technical talks, as well as sandwiches for our monthly committee meetings.

During the year we have released 4 newsletters prepared by Tim Lancaster with contributions from the committee.

I would like to thank everyone in the committee for volunteering their time and effort in attending our monthly meetings as well as organising events:

- Arthur Richards
- Craig Giaccio
- David Rasmussen
- Jason Adcock
- Joshua Stark
- Kristy Chandler
- Malcolm Rae
- Nicola Woolford
- Sally Parker
- Tianca McHenry
- Tien Kho

I would like to thank Joshua Stark (Hon. Secretary) and Kristy Chandler (Hon. Treasurer) for tackling the 2 most challenging positions of the committee. Joshua has looked after correspondence and website maintenance as well as the on-going task for migrating internet and email services from the UK to Engineers Australia. Kristy has been valuable in maintaining control and visibility on our finances. David Rasmussen has also provided valuable guidance to us all as we have picked up the ropes from the 2008 committee.

A special mention must be made of Arthur Richard's and Tien Kho for their continued involvement with the committee. Both are retired and travel from a long distance out of London to attend the meetings and events. Tien has also continued to offer his services as auditor of our financial statements.

Finally, I would like to welcome the new committee for 2009 and wish them all the best for the next 12 months.

Yours sincerely,

Raymond Lowe