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## Honorary Chairperson's Report

1 March 2011

Ladies and Gentlemen

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

This year was a 1<sup>st</sup> term of office for myself and our Honorary Secretary and 3<sup>rd</sup> term for our Honorary Treasurer. New faces and more experienced faces filled the general committee which is always fantastic to see. The committee gelled extremely well together to arrange and manage many events which have continued to see growing attendances, as well as many new faces and members. We continued to hold monthly meetings (10 in total) and to make events possible, there was continual email contact amongst the committee members to maintain communications for event organising.

We had a fantastic technical talk in September 2010 by John Parker, Technical Director WSP Group, on The Shard, a 310m 83 storey building currently under construction next to London Bridge station. This talk was also combined with guest speakers from Engineers Australia administration, Dr David Robinson (Director Education and Assessment) and Mr Gareth Jones (Manager Migration Skills Assessment). These gentlemen spoke about their areas of responsibility, and some general items of news from Engineers Australia. I would like to thank our speakers for their time and effort.

Similar to previous years we held a 'Getting Chartered' Seminar which was conducted by Craig Giaccio, Peter Walsh and Clinton McHenry. These continue to be informative and useful for members wishing to find out more about attaining Chartered status. Well done to all those heading in that direction!

Recently, the UK Chapter hosted a Regional Visit to Bath, located in the south west of England, to visit the museum and natural springs. Our group of 18 were very lucky to have a lovely sunny Winter weekend for our visit around such an iconic town which included visits to the Bath at Work Museum, a presentation about the Combe Down Stone Mines stabilisation project, a visit to and nourished by the hot springs and an Indonesian Sunday lunch. Many thanks to Tien and Noreen Kho for planning, organising and catering for the weekend away.

As usual, our social events have proved popular and have been fun, entertaining as well as providing great opportunities for networking. We have continued our relationship with IPENZ with the ANZAC Day softball game, which unfortunately due to bad weather was adjourned to the pub and re-match etched in for 2011. The relationship with IPENZ was extended to the Thames Cruise in 2010 with approximately 40 people from both organisations attending. And the Christmas Soiree, considered to be the main feature event was this year hosted by Engineers Australia at Australia House. A special thanks to all committee members for such a successful night!! We look forward to the 2011 Soiree to be hosted by IPENZ at New Zealand House.

Our other social events included the popular golf day, summer lawn bowls, and most recently Australia Day drinks.

On behalf of Engineers Australia UK Chapter, I would like to thank ARUP for their continued support in providing meeting rooms for the AGM, all our committee meetings and technical talks, as well as refreshments for our monthly committee meetings. I would also like to acknowledge GBM Minerals Engineering Consultants Limited for their contribution towards the Thames Cruise. We look forward to the continued support of both companies in 2011.

Following a review of international chapter operations in 2009, Engineers Australia head office has increased the annual subvention paid to Overseas Chapters. This increase has been due to the amount being fixed for a number of years. In future years the amount will be indexed to inflation, although the actual amount received in the UK Chapter account is also subject to variation due to currency exchange rates between the Australian Dollar and the British Pound.

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In January 2010, a figure of AUD\$17,154.90 (£9,674.24) was allocated based on 441 financial IEAust members with a UK nominated address. This number was down slightly from 458 members in January 2009. In January 2011, we have received an annual subvention for 2011 of AUD\$16,779.00 (£10,325.63) based on 418 members.

During the committee year we have released three newsletters (two in 2010 and one in 2011). Peter has done a marvellous job, in addition to his role as Honorary Secretary, collating and constructing the newsletters.

My first year in the role of Chairperson has gone quite quickly and although quite demanding at times, I couldn't have done it without all the support of the committee and other members. I would like to thank everyone involved for volunteering their time and effort in attending meetings, relentless organising and performing continual administrative activities. The other members of the 2010 committee were:

- Raymond Lowe
- Arthur Richards
- Craig Giaccio
- David Rasmussen
- Jason Adcock
- Joshua Stark
- Kristy Chandler
- Meelit Shah
- Sally Parker
- Peter Walsh
- Tien Kho
- Michael Short
- Tregan Ru
- Clinton McHenry
- Nicola Woolford
- Cossel Chang

I would particularly like to thank Nicola, Craig and Meelit for their support of the committee. They will not be continuing with the committee in 2011 as they will not be in the UK.

Also a special thanks to Peter Walsh (Honorary Secretary) and Kristy Chandler (Honorary Treasurer) for tackling the two more challenging positions of the committee. Peter has looked after meeting minutes, correspondence and newsletters. Kristy has been valuable in maintaining control and visibility on our finances.

Finally, I would like to welcome the incoming committee for 2011 and wish them all the very best over the next 12 months.

**Tianca McHenry**  
BE MIEAust  
Hon. Chairperson