



**ENGINEERS
AUSTRALIA**
UNITED KINGDOM CHAPTER

NEWSLETTER

**Engineers Australia
UK Chapter**

April 2007



ENGINEERS AUSTRALIA UNITED KINGDOM CHAPTER



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Forthcoming Events

We have a number of exciting events already planned for 2007. We are working closely with our Kiwi friends at IPENZ to help coordinate events and provide a greater range of social and technical activities throughout the year.

If you have any ideas for events that you would like to see included in our event schedule, drop us a line at events@engineersaustralia.co.uk

For information on IPENZ events – check out their website : www.ipenz.org.uk

Details of all events will be emailed in advance and will be shown on the website as they are confirmed. Remember to check the website regularly as details are subject to change.

Month	Organisation	Date	Event	Location
April	EA/IPENZ	25th	ANZAC Softball Challenge.	Regents Park (tbc)
May	EA	Sat, 12th	Golf Day	tbc
June	EA	Sat, 10th	IPENZ/ EA Lawn Bowls Day	tbc
	EA	Wed, 13th	An Evening with Past National President, Peter Greenwood	Arup, 13 Fitzroy Street
July	IPENZ	tbc	AGM & Technical Talk	tbc
	EA	Sat, 21st	Manchester Trip	tbc
August	IPENZ	Sat, 19th	Henley Family Barbeque	Henley Rowing Club
September	EA	Thurs, 13th	Boat Cruise	tbc
	EA	Mon, 24th	National President/ CEO Visit	tbc
November	EA/ IPENZ	Wed, 7th	Prestige Lecture	Arup, 13 Fitzroy Street
December	IPENZ	7th	Xmas Soiree	NZ House

Letter From the Chairman

By David Rasmussen

The beginning of 2007 sees us looking forward to another action-packed year for Engineers Australia- UK Chapter. The committee has started laying down the plans for a good number of events. We also look forward to working more closely with our fellow antipodeans over at IPENZ to improve the frequency and quality of our events.

Looking back, 2006 saw EA UK host a varied number of events, as detailed elsewhere in this newsletter.

Attendances at each of our events continued their year-on-year growth, which bodes well for the year ahead. We were also very encouraged to meet a number of new faces at our events, as well as welcoming many old members.

Two 'getting chartered' seminars were held during 2006; one during the Bristol visit and another in London. Judging by the turnout at these events, it is evident that not all Aussie engineers are here solely for the weather!

Our parent organisation, Engineers Australia, continues to make progress in improving conditions and looking after the interests of professional Australian engineers. The National President, Peter Cockbain and Chief Executive, Peter Taylor, during their visit in September, described the efforts being made to increase the international mobility of Australian Engineers – particularly in North America and South-East Asia. They also mentioned a number of forays by the institution into public debate, which is helping to increase the public profile and awareness of professional engineers.

All of the great events put on this year didn't just happen themselves. I would personally like to thank each of the committee members: Max Kraus, Malcolm Rae, Brad Zannes, Arthur Richards, Amanda Best and Chlodagh Smith, for all their hard work and dedication to the EA UK during 2006.

We look forward to welcoming a number of new faces to the organizing committee for 2007. Being a committee member is not about hard work (it's only one meeting a month!) but more about contributing ideas and working as a team. It is also great for CPD points (ideal if working towards CPEng status), and a great way to meet people.

We're on the Web!

www.engineersaustralia.co.uk

Engineers Australia National President and Chief Executive Visit, London 31st September 2006

The two Peters (National President, Peter Cockbain and Chief Executive, Peter Taylor) were warmly received by about 20 members. Peter Cockbain spoke about his term as National President, including the number of destinations he has visited during the past year - very impressive even by the standards of UK-based Aussies! He explained how the skills shortage in engineering is affecting not only Australia, but countries worldwide, and how professional engineers, as a result, are in high demand.



Peter Taylor outlined the work that has gone into forging new links with Engineering Associations around the world; in SE Asia, China and North America. There are a number of obstacles to overcome in order to achieve their goals, but Engineers Australia appear to making great strides towards doing so and should in the long run benefit Australian engineers for years to come. Engineers Australia has been more involved in public debates this year. Peter explained the success of the infrastructure report cards and the debate and investment it has created in various states. He had also been a guest of Snowy Hydro where the facility managers showed them challenges

faced by one of the country's largest engineering achievements and related an pragmatic rather than emotive view of the mooted public float. The other main issue discussed was the present water crisis in Australia. This was quite relevant to the English based audience given that there have been "drought" conditions and water restrictions in England this year! Peter and Peter had visited Singapore on their way to the UK where they had a chance to tour a water recycling plant and were able to relay their experience there. Ironically, it rained heavily outside for the duration of the evening.

Many thanks must go to Peter Cockbain and Peter Taylor for taking to the time to speak to Engineers Australia UK.



Petition to protect the Status of UK Engineers

A petition calling for the term 'engineer' to be protected has been launched on the UK Prime Minister's e-petitions website.

Engineer Jon Jennings, who set up the petition, was spurred into action by what he perceives as a 'lack of respect' for engineers at all levels of UK society, with car mechanics, plumbers and electricians commonly referred to as engineers. The petition demands professional status for engineers and engineering.

The petition now has over 23, 000 signatories, indicating a growing body of support. It now appears as the eighth most popular petition out of the 4877 available on the website.

You can sign the petition by clicking on the web link: <http://petitions.pm.gov.uk/Engineer-Status/>

E-Petitions

Sign a petition

We the undersigned petition the Prime Minister to Professional Status For Engineers and Engineering. [More details](#)

Submitted by Jon Jennings – **Deadline to sign up by:** 23 January 2008 – **Signatures:** 26,958

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New Engineers Australia UK Committee

Engineers Australia UK is pleased to announce the 2007 organising committee elected at the 2007 AGM held on the 23rd March at Arups' London offices.

Hon. Chairman	David Rasmussen
Hon. Secretary	Brad Zannes
Hon. Asst. Secretary	Malcolm Rae
Hon. Treasurer	Max Kraus
Committee Members	Arthur Richards
	Chris Brown
	Stu Beatton
	Jamie Mullins
	Raymond Lowe
	Tianca McHenry
	Joshua Stark
	Karl Grossbach

This year we say farewell and thank-you to Amanda Best and Chlodaugh Smith who have decided to step aside after a number of years of service to Engineers Australia UK.

CPEng

EA UK will once again be hosting the popular "Getting Chartered" seminars this year. If you are in the process of applying for CPEng status, or if you have recently done so – we would like to hear about your experience; good, bad or otherwise. Contact cpeng@engineersaustralia.co.uk Stay tuned for details of future seminars.

Membership

If you are interested in joining Engineers Australia – go to the www.engineersaustralia.org.au website and follow the links.

Engineers Australia members with UK contact addresses are automatically included on our member database – please notify Engineers Australia member services if you haven't updated your contact details since moving to the UK so that we can find you!

Spread The Word

If you know any Aussie Engineering colleagues who don't receive Engineers Australia UK communications – feel free to pass this newsletter on. They can also add their name to our email list by entering their details on the website: www.engineersaustralia.co.uk . Rest assured that contact details are used for Engineers Australia UK internal purposes only and are not passed on to any third parties.



Bristol Weekend 28th & 29th July 2006



Engineers Australia UK travelled to Bristol on the 28-29 July for this 2006's regional technical tour. Bristol was chosen to coincide with the 200th anniversary celebrations of Isambard Kingdom Brunel's birthday, arguably one of the greatest engineers of the industrial revolution. Many of the weekend's attendees travelled down to Bristol on the Brunel-built Great Western Railway on Friday night, in time to enjoy a sumptuous feast and some of Bristol's fine watering holes. A 'Getting Chartered' seminar kicked off a busy Saturday.

Malcolm Rae delivered an informative presentation on the mechanics of achieving CPEng status via IEAust. I'm sure there will be a number of budding applicants churning out their career episode reports this winter! The getting chartered seminar was followed by our guest speaker; Mr Graham Roberts, MD of the Bristol branch of Atkins plc. Graham delivered an inspiring talk on the role of professional engineers in the future and the challenges and opportunities we are likely to encounter.



The highlight of the weekend was surely the visit to the Airbus facility at Filton and the tour of Concorde. The volunteers at Filton provided an excellent tour of the manufacturing facility, detailing its history since aeroplane production began there in 1907. Concorde itself proved to be an insightful and emotional experience into an engineering work of art. There were definitely a few visitors there who were keen to get her off the ground and go for a quick supersonic blast! The weekend was made complete by the Bristol River Festival's fireworks display on Saturday night. A great weekend was had by all concerned.

A special thanks must go to Brad Zannes for his expert organisation of the weekend, Malcolm Rae for presenting the 'Getting Chartered' seminar, guest speaker Graham Roberts and volunteers at Concorde.



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Engineers Australia UK & IPENZ UK Christmas Soiree 24th November 2006



On the evening of Friday 24th November 2006, EA UK Association together with IPENZ UK held the annual Christmas Soiree event in the magnificent Downer Room of Australia House in London. The event was our biggest and most successful soiree yet, attended by over 100 Australian and New Zealand members, partners and guests.

The evening was a regal affair, with fine foods and great selection of Australian beers and wines as guests mingled and socialized in the high opulence of the Downer Room. Another successful element to the evening this year was the addition of a concert pianist to provide some cocktail bar style musical ambience.

The event closed at 10pm, after which 30 or 40 people moved to Motion Bar on the Thames Embankment where our grateful sponsors BBT Recruitment ran a bar tab into the wee hours. A gesture which was definitely enjoyed by all.

We would like to thank once again Australia House for the fine venue, as well as Alexander Catering, The Australia Shop, BBT Recruitment, Winston Chesterfield our pianist and the committee volunteers who helped out during the evening.

Join us this year in December when we do it all again, hosted by IPENZ in the Penthouse level of New Zealand House !



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Engineers Australia UK Golf Day

Stockley Park Golf Club

6th May 2006

A closely contested golf day was held at the Stockley Park golf club on Saturday 6th May. Cameron McInnes and Chris Brown weathered the conditions on the back nine to share the honours of overall winners. It was pleasing to see a good turnout of members and guests, including a number of new faces. Everyone had a great time and enjoyed the hospitality of Stockley Park GC before, during and after the day's play. Thanks to Stockley Park for their hospitality.

Sponsors

We are looking for companies who are interested in sponsoring Engineers Australia UK events throughout the year. If you would like more information, please contact enquiry@engineersaustralia.co.uk

Website Upgrade

The Engineers Australia UK Association website will be upgraded over the next few months in order to make it more relevant and easier to use. If you have any ideas you would like to see incorporated on the new website, email them to

enquiry@engineersaustralia.co.uk

Stay tuned for details!

Tell Us About Yourself

Are you working on a ground-breaking engineering project?

Have you uncovered a world changing discovery in the course of your research?

Can you spin a good yarn?

Then we would like to hear from you. Our new website will have the facility to incorporate more news and information from our members and we are always on the lookout for speakers at technical evenings.

Contact enquiry@engineersaustralia.co.uk

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