

Honorary Chairperson's Report

8 March 2016

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am proud to present the Chairperson's report on the activities of Engineers Australia UK Chapter over the last 12 months.

This year was the first year in office for myself as Chairperson. It has also been the first year for our Honorary Treasurer, Bryn Smith and our Deputy/Co-chair Nerissa Webb (who was also our Honorary Secretary for the third term). Also quite active within the committee were Tregan Ru who continued in the role of Assistant Treasurer, Brianna Towers who held the role of Assistant Secretary, and Benton Macted and Richard Kim. The committee has worked extremely well together this year to arrange and manage many social and technical events. We continued to hold monthly meetings (9 in total) interspersed with continual email contact for organising events.

Technical Talks

We have had another very strong but slightly different/flare year of guest speakers and technical presentations. The strength in guest speakers is a testament to the members on the committee who have assisted in organising specialists to speak to our members, and to the excellent speakers who gave up their time for the reward of a bottle of Aussie Red. We are very grateful for their time and expertise.

Date	Speaker(s)	Topic
26/03/2015	Brian "Freddie" McFadyen	Technology for High Performance Cricket (held in the Committee Room at The Oval Cricket Ground)
30/04/2015	Prof. David Cebon	Advances in Heavy Vehicle Technology
20/05/2015	Prof. Rachel Williams	Biomedical Engineering for Treatment of Vision Loss
24/06/2015	Inês Oliveira	London Bridge Transformation Project
27/07/2015	Dr David Cruickshanks-Boyd	Engineers Australia National President Reception and Address
16/09/2015	Dr Warren Macdonald	Bioengineering: Cutting Edge Engineering at the Great Frontier – The Human Body
22/10/2015	Richard Hardwick	Gorgon Project – Project and Offshore Pipeline Installation Review

In November 2015, the UK Chapter organised an international weekend visit to Geneva, Switzerland. This replaced our traditional 'regional' weekend away to a place of engineering interest. Several new members attended and the event had a decidedly fresh feel to it this year. The visit included a tour of CERN - The European Organisation for Nuclear Research, but better known for housing the giant Hadron Collider, as well as a tour around the city, the botanical gardens and the UN building, and lastly topped off by a very informative and interesting guided tour of the JTE Headquarters (Japan Tobacco International HQ Building in Geneva) lead by one of our committee members Stuart Marsh, who was the lead project engineer on Project Floyd during design/construction of this building. Many thanks again to Nerissa Webb for organising and planning the weekend away.

Chartered membership continued to be a focus for UK Chapter members in 2014/15. We held a Getting Chartered Seminar last year in November, which was well attended and included very active dialogue on the process. We have another Getting Chartered Seminar schedule for next Monday 14th March. I would like to thank Craig Giaccio (and to the support by Richard Kim and Christine Newton) for the planning and enthusiastic running on these events.

Networking and Social Events

As usual, our networking and social events have proved popular and entertaining. We have continued our close relationship with IPENZ with the ANZAC Day ten pin bowling and the annual summer event. This year, in keeping with the Cricket theme from the start of the year, the annual summer event held in June took us again to The Oval Cricket Ground, but this time for a Summer BBQ Lunch and afternoon of networking amongst fellow Australian and New Zealand Engineers and Cricket on the fabulous located rooftop terrace. August saw the annual City Lawn Bowls competition held again, while this year's annual Engineers Australia/IPENZ Christmas Soiree was hosted by IPENZ at New Zealand House November 2015. We thank IPENZ for a well organised and wonderful evening with terrific views across London from the penthouse at New Zealand House. We look forward to hosting the 2016 Soiree at Australia House. January 2016 saw a well-attended Australia Day ice skating afternoon, followed by drinks and nibbles in Central London.

This year, we have also been invited to a few events hosted by Hong Kong Institute of Engineers (HKIE) UK Chapter which we are thankful for and has been great in starting to build a network with other expat engineers. We hope to grow this collaboration of expat engineers' network with HKIEUK and more recently Engineers Ireland in the next year to come, and beyond.

Corporate Sponsors

On behalf of Engineers Australia UK Chapter, I would like to thank Arup for their continued support in providing meeting rooms for the AGM, and all our committee meetings and technical talks. We would also like to acknowledge GBM Minerals Engineering Consultants Limited for their sponsorship of the annual summer event. We look forward to the continued support of both companies in 2016.

Finances

The UK Chapter is primarily financed by Engineers Australia by an allocation of membership fees paid by members with a UK address. 2016's subvention of £9,593.63 has been received from head office based on 457 financial EA members with a UK nominated address. Unfortunately the falling Australian dollar has meant that this amount has not translated as well to GBP as in recent years; however with a rise in UK registered members, this subvention is greater than last year's. More detail on our finances can be found in the Treasurer's report.

This year we have continued to use the Eventbrite system for advertising events, and collecting payments for those social events for which a contribution is charged. This system has worked well throughout the year, and we are looking to continually improve our use of the system to make sure we get the best out of it.

This year, also saw the UK chapter migrate webpages and email addresses to the main Engineer's Australia host website and email system. This system has worked well for the first initial few months, but we are looking to improve our use of this new system so as to utilise the most and best use out of EA's own systems, as well as reducing capital administration costs such as website and email hosting costs in the next year and beyond.

The Committee

My first year in the role of Chairperson has gone quite quickly and although quite demanding at times, the support of the committee and other members (including my predecessor Peter Walsh) has contributed to a very successful year. I would like to thank everyone involved for volunteering their time and effort in attending meetings, relentless organising and performing continual administrative activities.

Thanks to the executive members of the committee, Nerissa Webb and Bryn Smith for their assistance in keeping the year to have run smoothly. Nerissa has looked after meeting minutes supported by Brianna Towers. Tregan Ru has also assisted and supported Bryn Smith with the finances. A special thanks to Tien Kho, for his continuing involvement as Honorary Auditor, and for giving us all guidance and the wisdom of his experience as a founding member of the UK Chapter 37 years ago. Another special thanks to Stuart Chambers, and supported by Brianna Towers for being our Arup liaison on behalf of our committee. The members of the 2015 committee were:

- Elizabeth Harrison (Hon. Chairperson)
- Nerissa Webb (Hon. Secretary/Co-chair)
- Bryn Smith (Hon. Treasurer)
- Tien Kho (Hon. Auditor)
- Craig Giaccio (Past Chairperson)
- Brianna Towers (Hon. A/Secretary)
- Tregan Ru (Hon. A/Treasurer)
- Clinton McHenry
- Michael Short
- Stuart Marsh
- Tianca McHenry
- Stuart Chambers
- Benton Maxted
- Emily Challen
- Richard Kim
- Christine Newton
- Tom Hill
- Jan Tran
- Tony Puopolo

I would like to thank all my fellow committee members for their support, friendship and devotion to the organisation this year. It has been an honour and privilege to serve as Honorary Chairperson this year, one that although challenging at times, it has also been worthwhile and rewarding. I would certainly commend getting involved in the committee as a way to meet fellow engineers in the UK, and to contribute CPD hours to satisfy Chartered status requirements. I would like to congratulate and welcome the incoming committee for 2016 and look forward to working with them all over the next 12 months.



Elizabeth Harrison
MIEAust
Honorary Chairperson