

No 173

May 2004

**Recent Events hosted by IPENZ**

Well, what a fantastic evening we enjoyed with our IEAust friends at the Christmas Soiree last December. Once again, the venue of New Zealand House provided a great setting for the evening, and offered some fantastic views across London. The attendance of over 80 people was the best we have enjoyed in recent years, and we were also delighted to be able to welcome the acting New Zealand High Commissioner.

The buffet meal and great selection of beverages went down very well, and I have been pleased to receive numerous positive comments and thanks regarding the event.

To follow up the success of the soiree, we hosted a very well attended joint technical talk in February. One of our IPENZ Fellows and committee member, Jonathan Gammon, gave a very interesting and informative talk on his experience working on the Hong Kong West-Rail development project. The presentation stimulated a lot of questions from the audience, and I have been pleased to receive a lot of positive feedback from both IPENZ and IEAust attendees.

**IPENZ UK NEWS ITEMS****The Future of IPENZ UK Association**

As reported in the previous two newsletters, your committee has for some time now been working through the issues associated with the future objectives and role of the IPENZ UK Association. This has involved extensive discussion within the committee and discussions with members of the IPENZ executive when they have visited the UK, along with much correspondence back and forth with the IPENZ National Office in Wellington over the past two years. The central theme of these discussions has been to find ways to improve the delivery of IPENZ services to members of IPENZ who are resident in the UK.

Consensus has now been reached within the committee and with the IPENZ executive as to the way forward. The most significant and immediate action identified as being necessary to achieve the above goal, is the adoption (by the UK Association) of the IPENZ Branch Model, i.e. for the Association to generally comply with Rule 26 of the IPENZ Rules, deviating from that model only where necessary for practical purposes ([http://www.ipenz.org.nz/ipenz/who\\_we\\_are/Our\\_Rules/](http://www.ipenz.org.nz/ipenz/who_we_are/Our_Rules/)).

The Association's two principal deviations from the model would be:

- a) the Association would continue to maintain its own finances and bank account due to the impracticality of National Office dealing with small amounts of money in a different currency on the other side of the world
- b) the Association would continue to maintain its own Public Liability Insurance policy, as cover for our activities in the UK can not be provided by the policy held by IPENZ National Office.

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The principal changes to the Association would be:

- a) the membership would comprise all those financial members of IPENZ who are resident in the UK rather than just those who opt to become members of the Association (provision would be made for some non-members of IPENZ to become Special Members of the Association, as at present, but such applications will be more closely scrutinised by the committee than in the past and some applicants will be declined and asked to join IPENZ instead)
- b) the principal source of funding will be an annual grant from IPENZ National Office that is based on the number of IPENZ members resident in the UK.

The principal changes for existing members of the Association would be:

- a) no longer paying a local subscription to the Association but instead paying a branch levy as part of their annual fees to IPENZ (in practice, this would be seen as a reduction in the overseas member fees rebate received by members resident in the UK with the net financial effect likely to be close to zero, depending on the exchange rate between the pound and NZ dollar)
- b) a larger number of members which would provide greater diversity and richness of engineering experience within the Association and a larger pool of people from which to obtain organisers and participants for our technical and social activities.

As noted above, these changes have been debated extensively and agreed by the committee, and IPENZ National Office. The final step now is for them to be agreed by the membership of the Association. The mechanism for making these changes is to alter the Association's Rules which requires the changes to be voted upon by the membership at either an AGM or a Special General Meeting. The necessary rule changes have been deliberated over by the committee and it is the intention of the committee that they be voted upon at the forthcoming AGM on Monday, 14 June 2004. In keeping with this, a motion to alter the Rules has been received from a Member of the Association, Selwyn Aickin, in accordance with the existing Rules and written notice of that motion is being given to the membership through this newsletter.

Those eligible to vote on this motion at the AGM are the financial Members of the Association, that is people who are financial members of IPENZ (of any class) and have paid their £5 partial subscription fee to the Association for the 2004/2005 subscription year. Those eligible to vote but are not able to attend the AGM may cast a postal vote or vote by proxy. The postal vote or notification of their proxy must be in writing and reach the Honorary Secretary prior to the start of the AGM. A printed copy of the motion and proposed amendments will be posted to those who are eligible to vote and whose £5 partial subscription reaches the Honorary Treasurer by 22 May 2004. There is also a copy of the motion and the proposed alterations on the Association's website at <http://www.ipenz.org.uk/#agm>. Special Members of the Association are not eligible to vote on these rule changes.

#### **Subscriptions due for 2003/04 – see attached reply form**

Annual subscriptions for the 2004/2005 year were due on 1<sup>st</sup> April. Due to the proposed changes to the IPENZ branch outlined above, the committee anticipates the funding and membership arrangements of the Association will change as of 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2004. For this reason, we are currently only collecting £5 per member (ie. half the annual rate).

Please fill in the attached reply slip, and return it to the Hon Treasurer as soon as possible to ensure that your contact and member details are kept up to date.

#### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

Now the formalities of annual subscriptions and IPENZ political debate are dealt with, it is time to focus on the enjoyable events which your committee have arranged for the coming summer months.

### **Technical Talk Hosted by Hon Kong Institution of Engineers -**

We were delighted to have members of the HKIE attend our recent technical talk, and now HKIE have graciously reciprocated with an invitation to their upcoming technical talk.

To continue the theme set by Jonathan, the HKIE talk will also look at aspects of the West Rail Development in Hong Kong. The lecture will be lead by James Blake, OBE, JP who was Senior Director of Capital Projects for Kowloon-Canton Railway Corporation.

Please complete the attached reply slip, and return as soon as possible to the Secretary, HKIE UK Chapter to secure your place.

**LectureTitle:** West Rail Hong Kong - Successful Lessons and a few Pitfalls  
**Date:** 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2004  
**Time:** 1715 refreshments, for an 1800 start  
**Location:** Council Room, ICE HQ Building, 1 Great George St, Westminster  
**Cost:** £5 to cover refreshments (free to members of ICE and HKIE)

### **Graduates Evening**

Virginia Burton, IPENZ Director - Learning and Assessment, based at the IPENZ National Office in Wellington, will be visiting the UK during June. We have arranged an evening session for graduates to meet with her at which she will explain the **IPENZ Competency Development Systems, Mentoring** and give a brief overview of the **IPENZ Competence Assessment Process**.

Any graduates seeking information about becoming professional members of IPENZ and/or obtaining CPEng are encouraged to come along to this event to hear what Virginia has to say and to put your questions to her and other IPENZ members during the evening.

**Date:** Thursday, 10 June 2004  
**Time:** Gather from 6:30pm for a 7:00pm start  
**Price:** The evening is free (apart from the drinks you buy yourself at the bar!)  
**Reply:** Please use the electronic reply form (see link on the IPENZ UK website) so that we can assess numbers for the room booking.  
**Venue:** The Upstairs Bar/Function Room (location map on the website)  
Southern Cross Pub  
65 New King's Road (Near Wandsworth Bridge Road, opposite Eel Brook Common)  
London SW6 4SG

### **IPENZ Assessor Training**

Whilst Virginia Burton is in London, we are hoping to arrange an assessor training session. The details are not yet fixed, however an event notification email will be sent and information posted on the website once finalised. If you are interested, could you please contact Alan Raine by email [CACoord@ipenz.org.uk](mailto:CACoord@ipenz.org.uk)

### **Annual General Meeting**

This year we have the privilege of the presence of the following guests at our AGM and Annual Reception:

- Andrew Cleland, CEO of IPENZ
- Virginia Burton, Director – Learning and Assessment
- Basil Wakelin, Chair of the Standards and Accreditation Board
- John Webster, a previous President of IPENZ.

**Date:** Monday, 14 June 2004

**Time:** AGM - 6:15 pm for a 6:30 pm start  
Reception - following the AGM at around 7:30 pm

**Price:** £17.00 per head to cover food and drinks

**Reply:** Please reply promptly **and by 5 June 2004 at the latest**, as we need to know the number of people attending for catering purposes and the names of those attending to meet NZ House security requirements.  
You may either complete and return the attached postal reply to the Hon. Sec, or reply and pay online. Please see the IPENZ UK website.

**Venue:** The Penthouse, New Zealand House, Haymarket, London

The Agenda, minutes of the last AGM, and copies of the Accounts for 2003/2004 will be available at the meeting. Nominations are invited for the posts of Chairman, Honorary Auditor, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, and the Committee for the year 2004/2005.

Send nominations signed by the proposer, seconder, and nominee to the Honorary Secretary – address details on AGM reply slip enclosed. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the meeting. Please note also the important vote on the IPENZ UK Association's future, outlined earlier in the newsletter.

So, please come along and take part in the meeting. This event is your best opportunity to make your views known on what we should do and to vote on the future arrangements for IPENZ UK. After the formalities of the AGM, attendees will be able to enjoy the social aspects of the evening, including an enjoyable buffet meal and refreshments with that great view over London. There is also the chance to mingle with fellow members, or meet and discuss issues with the visiting IPENZ executive delegation.

### **Annual BBQ and Family Fun-day**

We are lucky, yet again, to be able to hold our annual BBQ and family day in the lovely grounds of Henley Rowing Club. So put Sunday 15th August into your diary, and come along to Henley Rowing Club and forget your worries while dangling your feet in the water and watching a slow moving scene of varied shapes and sizes of boats gliding past.

Further details will be notified nearer the time, but please put the date for this lunchtime BBQ in your diaries !.

### **Dates for Your Diary - 2004**

Technical Talk hosted by HKIE	Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> May
Graduates Evening	Thursday 10th June
IPENZ Assessor Training	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> June – TO BE CONFIRMED
AGM & IPENZ executive visit	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> June
Summer BBQ	Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> August
Autumn technical talk	Hosted by IEAust – details to follow
Joint Christmas Soiree at Australia House	Hosted by IEAust – Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December

Visit the IPENZ UK Association website at

<http://www.ipenz.org.uk>