



October 2009 Newsletter

From the Chairperson

Hi Everyone

Welcome to our October 2009 Newsletter.

As we move closer to the end of this year many of you will be making plans for the festive season, perhaps you are booking ski or snowboard holidays. Make sure you have the 4 December 2009 marked in your diary, Outlook calendar, Blackberry or iPhone because that night we will celebrate the past year with our friends from Engineers Australia at the 2009 Soiree.

You can find further details below. Also note our upcoming evening presentation on The Shard and the brand new feature "60 Seconds with an Engineer".

Simone J Beesley

IPENZ UK Branch Chairperson

Chair@ipenz.org.uk

IPENZ UK Branch Members

Welcome

A warm welcome to the following IPENZ members who have recently moved to the United Kingdom:

- Dr Paul Austin
- Sarah Laurence
- Andrew Baird
- Troy Brockbank
- Ken Clapcott

We look forward to seeing you at future events.

Call for Mentors

We have a graduate member, who is a civil engineer based in Wales, needing a mentor. If you are interested, please contact Simone, Chair@ipenz.org.uk

Recent Events

Thames Boat Cruise

IPENZ UK combined forces with Engineers Australia to host a joint Boat Cruise on the river Thames. Fifteen kiwi engineers joined about 40 Australians for three hours onboard the Golden Star. The cruise departed from the Temple Pier and took us past many of the great sights in London.





Conveniently enough, before the cruise departed the second Bledisloe test match was played in Sydney. Was this on purpose? Luckily enough the AB's held on to win 19-18 and we tried not to mention it too many times on the cruise. Maybe the grin on all our faces was enough.

Catching a glimpse of the London Eye, City Hall, Tower of London, and the O2, as well as going under London and Tower Bridges made the trip a memorable one. The Golden Star was the perfect venue with plenty of seating and a large deck out the back. A few engineers even managed to check out the bridge and take the helm for a while. All in all the cruise was a great day out, and everyone enjoyed meeting some other antipodean Engineers over a few cold beverages.

By Sam Mayston

Annual Henley BBQ

It proved to be yet another fine day along the Thames River, in Henley, for the annual IPENZ Henley Rowing Club BBQ. The turn out was good, with a mixture of young and old, including friends and family. The site was picturesque as usual and well enjoyed.

We had three BBQ's going full tilt to pump out a whole stack of lovely cuts of meat and sausages. There was plenty of great salad and BBQ food to go around, with some awesome desserts to boot.

The highlight of the day was watching the kids kick around, particularly when they took to lining up along the river bank and clapping at the large tourist cruise boats as they went by. I can tell you it is hilarious watching crowds of adults on the boats not knowing what to make of it. From their faces, they seemed quite concerned, not knowing whether to smile, wave or clap, so there were a whole lot of uncoordinated responses...classic!!

Thanks to all that organised the event particularly Ian Kirker and his lovely wife Melissa, without whom the event just would not happen.



Graduates Evening

We would like to thank Derek Chisholm for his presentation at the Graduate Event.

After the success of last year's event, this year's Graduate Evening was also held at Doggett's bar on the Southbank of the Thames. The event was attended by 17 members, including some who had only just arrived in the UK and others who had been here for many years. The session provided the opportunity for everyone to learn more about the process involved in becoming a professional member or CPEng accredited, and the options that are open to us in here in the UK.

By Rebecca Gray

Upcoming IPENZ Events

Committee Meeting

The next committee meeting will be 6.30pm, **Tuesday 3 November** at the Opus Victoria offices, London.

The Shard Presentation



"The Shard will be a tower like no other, both architecturally breathtaking and technologically advanced..." (Renzo Piano, Architect of The Shard London Bridge Quarter).

"... an inspirational mixed use urban village concept tower, designed by Renzo Piano. Adjacent to London's busiest strategic transport hub at London Bridge, the Shard will become the tallest building in Western Europe standing at 1,016ft (310m)" (MACE Website, 2009).

We are excited to announce a presentation on The Shard, London Bridge Quarter by John Parker (WSP Cantor Seinuk) and Matt Massey (MACE). Upon completion of the tower there will be an open public viewing gallery, the tallest building in Europe, at 243.8 meters up the tower which it is anticipated will receive 2 million visitors a year.

Members are invited to attend this evening presentation and to hear more about the development described as *"an inspirational mixed use urban village concept tower"* (www.skyscrapernews.com).

- What:** The Shard Presentation
Where: 40 Bermondsey Street, Southwark, LONDON
When: 18.00 Tuesday 24 November 2009
Who: IPENZ UK Members
How: RSVP to Chair@ipenz.org.uk

To learn more about the project check out www.shardlondonbridge.com

Christmas Soiree

The annual Christmas Soiree is the highlight of the IPENZ calendar, and this year we are hosting Engineers Australia, in the Penthouse of New Zealand House.

- Who:** EA and IPENZ UK Members and their partners
What: 2009 Christmas Soiree
Where: The Penthouse, New Zealand House
When: Friday 4 December 2009



More details will be available on our website www.ipenz.org.uk from the beginning of November 2009.

Events to Watch Out for in 2010

- Tour of the Kew Steam Museum
- A presentation night from New Zealand engineers in London

Other Events of Interest

New Zealand Society Winter Drinks and Christmas Fair

Thursday 26 November at the Penthouse, New Zealand House, 80 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4TQ.

- Canapés, NZ Wines and NZ Beer
- Cash Bar
- Stalls for Kiwi themed Christmas gifts
- Charity raffle
- £12 NZ Society Members/ £16 Non Members



See www.nzsociety.co.uk

London Geological Society

The London Geological Society runs a series of events and lectures including:

The London Basin, 28 October – www.geolsoc.org.uk/gsl/groups/specialist/engineering/pages6238.html

Mountains in the Sea, 11 November – www.geolsoc.org.uk/gsl/shellondonlectures09/mountainsinsea

60 Seconds with an Engineer

The newest feature in our newsletter is a series of interviews with our members. This is a chance to get to know your fellow kiwi engineers, share experiences and maybe even get some travel tips.

60 Seconds with Andy Baird



Name:

Andrew Baird

Originally from:

Wellington

Now located at:

Islington, London

Engineering Discipline:

Electrical and electronic engineering

Where did you study?

Canterbury University

What do you find is the biggest difference between working in the UK and working in NZ?

I think it's the work pressure, I think in New Zealand it's a bit more than here. I found that I worked a lot harder in New Zealand. It may be that we just haven't had an intense project yet.

Do you think working in the UK has benefited your career?

Yes, I think that it's good to have overseas experience, it looks good on the CV and also you gain different skills.

What advice would you give to engineers coming over to the UK for their OE?

Just do it. You meet different people and experience different projects, more international projects.

What are your next travel plans?

I'm going to Dublin in November [2009], just for a holiday.

What one travel destination would you recommend to others and why?

Well I've got a French girlfriend so I'd better say France, anywhere in France is good.

What one thing should every kiwi living in the UK do before returning to NZ?

That's a tough one. I think it's the travel factor, going to see European destinations and that sort of thing. Living in London is a good thing. It's totally different to New Zealand because it's two and a half times the population of New Zealand in one location.

60 Seconds with Jonathon Chadwick



Name:

Jonathon Chadwick

Originally from:

West Auckland

Now located at:

Clapham, London

Engineering Discipline:

Mechanical, but now works in structural engineering

Where did you study?

Auckland University

What do you find is the biggest difference between working in the UK and working in NZ?

The scale of the projects. The projects that I have worked on in London are worth hundreds of millions of pounds compared to the much smaller projects I was working on in New Zealand.

Do you think working in the UK has benefited your career?

Absolutely. I think that the exposure that you get to the scale of projects, and the type of construction they do here is at the forefront, especially in London.

What advice would you give to engineers coming over to the UK for their OE?

Try and get involved in a company that you enjoy working for, working with people that you aspire towards.

What are your next travel plans?

I've been away from New Zealand for coming up to over 3 years so back to New Zealand for a little while.

What one travel destination would you recommend to others and why?

You can't go wrong over in Europe. Barcelona, Turkey. I had a trip up to the Arctic Circle up the north of Norway which was beautiful, pretty unique.

What one thing should every kiwi living in the UK do before returning to NZ?

Go to Oktoberfest. I just got back in the weekend and it was probably the best weekend I've had since I've come over.