



February 2010 Newsletter

From the Chairperson

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2010.

I have just returned home from enjoying that English Tradition the Sunday Roast, at Pub in Spitalfields, London. It may be my third year living in the United Kingdom but I still get a buzz when I discover a new place, meet someone new or learn an intriguing fact about the place I now call home.

There are a number of groups and societies that offer free events and exhibitions but at this time of year it is tempting to stay indoors rather than venture outside. However I encourage you to seek out new experiences in 2010 and make the most of what is on offer. You can start by checking out our Calendar of Events for 2010 below.

I wish you all the best for 2010 and look forward to seeing you soon.

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 UK:

Stephen McMillan
Paul King
Sam Stephens
Tessa Irving
Kevin Stretton
Richard Cass
Simon Harty

James Andrews
Andrew Slaney
Ian Greenwood
Brad Burrowes
Andrew Griffin
Craig Wong

We look forward to seeing you at future events.

Call for Nominations

This year our president, treasurer and secretary are coming to the end of their terms, so we will be electing new people at this year's AGM in June. Thank you to Simone, Judy and Matt for your hard work over the past few years. Being a member of the committee is a rewarding experience, and allows you to give something back to the organization as well as having an active say in the events which are run throughout the year.

- The president runs the branch, including charring committee meetings and ensures there is a full and varied programme of events during the year.
- The treasurer looks after our branch finances, particularly events.
- The secretary deals with general correspondence and takes minutes at our meetings.
- The committee's role is to support the president, treasurer and secretary.

If you are interested, or you know of someone who would be perfect for the role please send your nominations to Chair@ipenz.org.nz. All volunteers need to be financial members of IPENZ.

Recent Events

Shard Presentation

In November, twenty five members attended the presentation on The Shard at London Bridge in the Network Rail office in Bermondsey. The presenters, John Parker (WSP) and James Adams (MACE) spoke on the design of the structure and the construction process respectively.

The speakers offered experienced insight to this iconic project and members enjoyed food and drink at the project office in Bermondsey, London.

Attendees were encouraged to take the pedestrian bridge adjacent to the site when returning from the venue to London Bridge Station and it was interesting to look upon the site with knowledge of where the project is heading.

If you could not attend, take a look when you are next at London Bridge Station or check out www.shardlondonbridge.com.



Soiree

The Christmas soiree was hosted by IPENZ at New Zealand House on 4 December 2009. This year was a full house with 109 IPENZ and EA members, partners and guests attending. As we entered the penthouse we were rewarded with an astounding view of the city of London. A few guests were brave enough to venture out doors to admire the 360 views, while most of us stayed inside where it was warm and dry.

The soiree was a chance to meet up with old friends, recent acquaintances as well as meeting some of the newer members of both organisations. Throughout the night we enjoyed New Zealand wines and beers as well as a delicious meal. At the end of the night, the party animals of the group continued celebrating in the sports bar next door.



Upcoming Events

Crossrail

Crossrail will be the new high frequency railway connecting London City, Canary Wharf, the West End and Heathrow Airport to areas east and west of London. We are fortunate enough to have Patrick Griffin presenting a technical talk about Crossrail, including the background, history, justification, parliamentary process, details of the route, tunnelling and community relations.



Who: IPENZ UK Members

What: Crossrail Technical Talk

Where: Crossrail Visitor Centre, 16-18 Giles High Street, WC2H8LN (opposite the junction with Denmark Street, near Tottenham Court Road underground station)

When: 6.00pm on Thursday 11 March 2010

How: RSVP to kelvin.smith@freeuk.com or 07815 872 834

Event Calendar 2010

If you are keen to organise a site visit, a tour to a place of interest or if you would like to make a presentation please contact the committee through our website www.ipenz.org.uk

Date	Event	Details
April	ANZAC softball game against Engineers Australia	Each year we take on EA at softball.
Tuesday 4 May	Committee Meeting	Committee only.
Wednesday 19 May	Technical talk on the Olympic Village	Members only. The countdown is on until London hosts the 2012 Olympic games.
July	Site visit to Olympic park	Members only.
June	Technical talk and Annual General Meeting	Members only.
July/ Aug	Boat cruise on the Thames with Engineers Australia	A chance to view London from the water.
Aug/ Sept	Annual BBQ at Henley Rowing Club	IPENZ UK Members, partners and families. The traditional BBQ at the Henley on Thames Rowing Club.
	Tour of the Kew Steam Museum	Members and families. Tour of the Kew Steam Museum, including the 90inch, Boulton & Watt or Maudslay and Bull engines.
Oct	Graduate Night	IPENZ UK Members and IPENZ members new to the UK. An information evening for graduates looking to gain CPEng accreditation.
Dec	Christmas Soiree	Members and partners. Our annual Christmas soiree is the IPENZ/EA social event of the year. This year it will this year be hosted by Engineers Australia.

Other Events of Interest

London Geological Society

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

- Hot prospects in the cold: the new geological map of the Arctic, Marc St-Onge (Canadian Geological Survey), 10 February 2010
www.geolsoc.org.uk/gsl/events/listings/page6432.html
- Carbon capture and storage: our only hope to avoid global warming? Martin Blunt (Imperial College London), 10 March 2010

www.geolsoc.org.uk/gsl/events/listings/page6434.html

- The search for source rocks on Mars, John Grotzinger (Caltech), Wednesday 14 April

www.geolsoc.org.uk/gsl/events/listings/page6435.html

Four Kiwis Walk into a Bar

Four Kiwis Walk into a Bar is a kiwi-themed stand-up comedy night, showcasing a brilliant line-up of kiwi comedians currently taking the UK by storm.

When: Last Thursday of every month
Time: Doors open 8.00pm, show starts 8.30pm
Venue: Headliners Comedy Club, George IV
185 High Road,
LONDON W4 2DR
Information: www.sanza.co.uk/



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 Hwei Gjin Ow



Name: Hwei Gjin Ow
Originally from: Auckland
Now located at: Kings Cross, London
Engineering Discipline: Mechanical 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 biggest difference is the culture, the work ethic. As well I'm not working for an engineering company, I'm working for a property-leasing consultant, in an internal engineering group alongside architects and planners.

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

Yes, I have 2½ years experience and we work on smaller projects. There are a lot of senior people about to get information from which is very helpful.

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

Just enjoy yourself! The UK is wonderful. Have fun and enjoy the flow.

What are your next travel plans?

I've only finished part of Europe so I'm going to keep on going with that. My next trip is Egypt which I'm looking forward to.

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

For anyone who is into ski trips I really recommend France, Switzerland and Sweden, the slopes are way better than New Zealand.

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

Try all the different beers and the fish and chips.

60 Seconds with Chris Cable



Name: **Chris Cable**

Originally from: **Tauranga**

Now located at: **London**

Engineering Discipline: **Structural engineering**

Where did you study? **Canterbury University**

What do you find is the biggest difference between working in the UK and working in NZ?
The scale of the projects and the budgets that are being thrown around.

Do you think working in the UK has benefited your career?
For sure. I wouldn't have touched projects like this back home and just thrown into a lot more responsibility than I'd normally have had so it's been great.

What advice would you give to engineers coming over to the UK for their OE?
Just go for do it.

What are your next travel plans?
Morocco on Thursday, I've got 4 days over there. The next trip after that is back to New Zealand in December, arriving in April after traveling through Asia.

What travel destination would you recommend to others and why?
Sharm El Sheikh, the diving is just fantastic.

What one thing should every kiwi living in the UK do before returning to NZ?
The Circle Line pub crawl – not that your allowed to do it anymore.