

## MARCH 2016 – SPRING EDITION

*Greetings from The Branch Chair: Jonathan Gammon*

Belated “Happy New Year” Greetings to you all and thank you very much for your support to our events during my first year as your Chairman. That first year officially comes to an end at our 50th AGM on 14 March 2016.

Following on from our previous Newsletter, in July last year I was very pleased to meet the National President of Engineers Australia (EA), Dr David Cruickshanks-Boyd, on the occasion of his presentation about the work of EA and its global interests.

In early September, I had the great pleasure of meeting IPENZ’s Chief Executive, Susan Freeman-Greene, during her visit to the UK. I was joined by UK Branch Committee members for an informal and wide-ranging discussion of matters affecting IPENZ in NZ and the UK. It was clear that the Christchurch Earthquakes have had a profound effect on the engineering profession in NZ and the public’s perception of the profession. It has been a traumatic period in many respects and we are very fortunate that Susan’s legal background, and ability therefore to look beyond the immediate technical implications, is proving extremely valuable - indeed, vital - as IPENZ addresses the consequences of such events.

We enjoy an excellent relationship with EA for the purposes of both technical and social events, some of which receive attention in this Newsletter. I am grateful to both Elizabeth Harrison and Nerissa Webb, joint Chairpersons of EA’s UK Chapter, and their colleagues, for their warmth and welcome to IPENZ UK.

Our relationship with the UK Chapter of the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE) has grown stronger. This is in part due to my own membership of HKIE and also more than a decade of living and working in Hong Kong. I am delighted to have been invited by Chairman Francis Budge to join the Chapter’s Committee. Joint events with HKIE also receive attention below. In September I represented IPENZ at the Reception in London for the newly-elected President of HKIE, Ir Chan Chi Chiu, during his visit to the UK.

A further and exciting development in terms of collaboration has been the very welcome invitation from Engineers Ireland (EI) to take part in their activities. As a multi-discipline institution - like IPENZ, EA and HKIE - EI shares many of our interests. In early February I attended an excellent EI meeting about geotechnical engineering and greatly enjoyed the time I spent with the Committee members afterwards.

With regard to IPENZ UK Branch Committee meetings, we have been holding a combination of Conference Calls and get-togethers in order to tackle Branch business. The Conference Call format is dictated by pressures of work on free time and the wide-spread locations of the Committee members. We have vacancies on the Committee, particularly for the positions of Hon. Secretary, Newsletter Editor, and Hon Auditor - anyone interested should contact me (at contact details below) and register their nomination.

John Matthews has continued, with our great thanks, to run and host the Graduate Evenings, the most-recent of which was held on 27 October. Please support John in his endeavours and register your interest with him.

One of the challenges this year has been the UK Government’s changing policy with regard to immigration and related employment opportunities for NZ Engineers. This has hit home as we first lost our excellent Hon Secretary, Karl Beardsley, and then our Newsletter Editor, Emma Houghton, as both had to return to NZ as a result of an inability to extend their visas. In September last year we worked closely with IPENZ staff in Wellington to prepare a submission on this subject to the UK Government’s Migration Advisory Committee. An outline of our joint submission was provided in the November 2015 issue of “Engineering Dimension” (Issue No. 153).

Earlier this month I submitted to IPENZ HQ my contribution for the agenda of the IPENZ Council Meeting taking place in March.

Thanks to the efforts of new Committee member, Fritha Bevin-McCrimmon, we now have a map of the UK showing the geographical locations of our members. More about that at the AGM, but for now I would highlight that we only seem to be in touch with a small percentage of NZ engineers who are working in the UK. This has become clear when we compare the number of NZ engineers known to the UK Branch, to the much larger number of NZ engineers registered with the likes of Hays Recruitment for the purposes of job searches. Please help us

engage with those engineers and technicians not already registered with the UK Branch, including those who are not IPENZ members.

And I'm sure you wouldn't expect me to end this contribution to the Newsletter without reference to a certain event that took place at Twickenham at the end of last October. I'm certainly more relaxed about mentioning here our fantastic victory at the Rugby World Cup than I was at the Christmas Soiree with Engineers Australia present! Well done All Blacks!!

Thank you, again, for your continued support.  
Jonathan Gammon,  
[Chair@ipenz.org.uk](mailto:Chair@ipenz.org.uk) / [www.ipenz.org.uk](http://www.ipenz.org.uk)

*IPENZ UK Branch committee (from left) Andrew Delugar, Emma Houghton (now back in NZ), John Matthews, Selwyn Aickin, Judy Henderson, Ian Kirker, Jonathan Gammon (Chairman), Robert Lorimer, David Bigwood.*



## Recent Events

### Annual Summer BBQ

An enjoyable afternoon was spent at the wonderful riverside location of Henley Rowing Club. We had around 20 attendees, and would like to see more enjoy this wonderful family opportunity for social and networking in future.



### Gorgon Tech Talk hosted by EA

Richard Hardwick gave an excellent talk about his work on the Chevron-operated Gorgon Project in Australia. The project is based on Barrow Island and, following an overview of this huge project, Richard's talk focused on the offshore pipeline installation work that has been undertaken. That work extends from beach crossings at the Island out to Gorgon (200m water depth) and on to Jansz (1300m water depth!). The network of pipelines is incredibly complex, the technologies adopted are amazing, and the scale of the support vessels required is awesome (not to mention their cost!). Richard gave a fantastic insight to the project management and logistic challenges of work of this type. He also took the trouble to share the lessons learned from the work carried out to date before very ably answering questions from the audience.

### Technical Talk : Thames Tideway Tunnel (Hosted by HKIE)

Phil Stride, Head of Thames Tideway Tunnels, gave an excellent talk about the largest privately-funded project in Europe which, when completed, will substantially reduce the volume of untreated sewage overflowing from London's Victorian sewers into the River Thames. Phil gave us the full benefit of his seven years of work on this project, which also carries the superlative of being the largest project ever undertaken by the UK water industry. Subtitled "Building for 22nd Century London", the talk addressed the design and construction challenges presented by a 25km long tunnel that will be 7.2 metres in diameter and reach depths of up to 65 metres. Major contracts have already been awarded and construction work is due to start this year (2016).

## Christmas Soiree

This was an excellent sell-out event on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November. It was held at the penthouse of NZ House, with spectacular views across central London. Fine wine, food and company was enjoyed by all.



*Roll of Honour – (left to right)*

David Youdan (Hon Treasurer, UK Chapter, HKIE), Nerissa Webb and Elizabeth Harrison (Co-Chairpersons, UK Chapter, EA), Francis Budge (Chairman, UK Chapter, HKIE) and Jonathan Gammon (Chairman, UK Branch, IPENZ and Deputy Chairman, UK Chapter, HKIE)

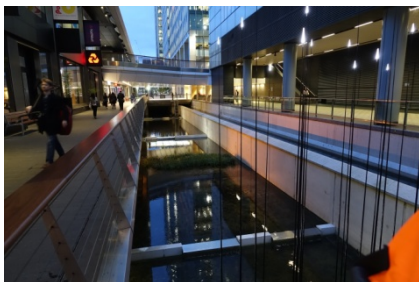


## Site Visit: Elizabeth Line (Crossrail), Canary Wharf Station

A site visit to the Crossrail Canary Wharf Station was held on 10 December as a follow-up to our visit in June 2013. We were able to see the nearly finished state of the ticket hall and platforms, impressive at around 200m in length. The platform edge doors are yet to be installed and the trackside was curtained off while track laying and other fitting out works proceed in the tunnels and through the new underground stations, although peeks through the curtains were taken. Also, installation of facilities such as customer information screens, public announcement speakers help points and CCTV was yet to be performed although due to commence shortly. All is looking good in readiness for the opening of the newly named Elizabeth Line on Sunday, 9 December 2018. We finished off our visit with a quick look at the overall site and a walk through the roof garden on top of the station complex.

Various aspects of the design were pointed out including methods to reduce the impact of terrorist bombs on the structure and to people in the area. The ways to evacuate people from the station, and the method to reduce the risk of fire in the tunnel entering the station.

Many thanks to Alasdair Kinnaird (Crossrail Project Manager) who hosted the visit, to Selwyn Aickin (also of Crossrail) and David Bigwood who co-ordinated the visit on behalf of IPENZ UK. We were pleased that the group could experience the sheer scale and progress of this landmark rail infrastructure project.



## Chinese New Year Celebration - The Year of the Monkey

To celebrate the arrival of the Chinese New Year of the Monkey, representatives of IPENZ and EA attended a lunch organised by the UK Chapter of HKIE and held at the Phoenix Palace Restaurant (near Baker Street Underground Station). This is the second year that we have attended this event, which this year saw attendance exceed fifty participants. The restaurant forms a wonderful setting in which to celebrate the Chinese New Year and it provided an excellent selection of food over a total of fourteen courses (including oranges)! The quiz was won by the table with the highest percentage of IPENZ members but we were not so lucky when it came to winning raffle prizes. This is a truly unique social event that is always enjoyable.

## Upcoming Events

### Engineers Australia AGM and Networking - 8th March

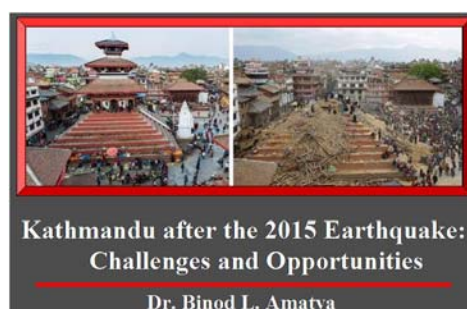
EA have invited us to join them for their UK Chapter's AGM and Networking evening. Further details and the RSVP form can be found on EA's website [www.engineersaustralia.org.au/portal/event](http://www.engineersaustralia.org.au/portal/event)

### IPENZ UK Branch AGM and Technical Talk- Nepal Quake – Mon 14th March

6pm Doors Open and Networking commences, with refreshments [food and drink] provided  
6.30pm IPENZ UK Branch AGM commences for those concerned. [Others remain in the Reception]  
7.15pm Technical Talk commences, followed by Q&A.  
8.15pm Post-Talk networking with drinks

Please refer to [www.ipenz.org.uk](http://www.ipenz.org.uk) for event flyer, and RSVP form <http://ipenz.org.uk/forms/agmform.htm>

**Technical Talk Summary:** Kathmandu, the capital and historic city of Nepal, was devastated by two major earthquakes in April/May 2015. This presentation will highlight some of the features of the damage resulting from the earthquake, particularly in the Kathmandu Valley. Some basic features of the Kathmandu soil will be highlighted to consider how these could be used for our urban design, infrastructure planning and reconstruction of the capital. This presentation will also discuss how a metro rail network in the Kathmandu valley can be developed for regeneration of the capital.



**About the speaker:** Dr Amatya is a practicing consulting civil engineer with CH2M in London and a geotechnical specialist involved in a broad range of design work encompassing roads, railways and tunnelling projects. Before joining the company in 2010, he conducted post-doctoral research in the fields of civil engineering and geotechnics at Cambridge University, UK.

The AGM event is being kindly hosted by HAYS Recruiting Experts Worldwide, in their offices located at: 107 Cheapside, London, EC2V 6DB

### Engineers Ireland Technical Talk – Urban Traffic Engineering - 28th April

Technical Talk: Urban Traffic Engineering - The Next Cycle Speakers: Hugh McCarthy, Mark Artis and John Green Venue: Palestra House, 197 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8JZ.

### Dragon Boat Racing: June 2016 [Date to be confirmed]

Although HKIE are not yet sure of the date for this event, which is currently expected to take place during a weekend in June, they are sure that they need the strength and determination of Kiwis to help them win this event in 2016. Pitched against "professional" teams, and despite a minimum of practice, the HKIE boat achieved a remarkable fourth place last year. Please register your interest with a member of the IPENZ committee.

**Annual Summer BBQ – late August / early September.** Details to follow

**Christmas Soiree hosted at Australia House** – details to follow

In concluding this newsletter, I am very pleased to pass on congratulations and best wishes to Kamal and Manish.

Kamal Patel was our Hon Treasurer until returning to NZ last year. He and Manish were married in Rotorua last December, and we congratulate them and wish them well in their new life together.

Andrew Delugar, Newsletter Editor, IPENZ UK Branch, March 2016.  
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