

## **Council Member snapshots**

### **Gill Foster FIHIE**

Gill works for Jacobs Engineering and is a Team Leader in the Traffic and Transportation Team at their office in Buckinghamshire. Gill joined Jacobs Engineering UK Ltd in 2005 after over 17 years with Surrey County Council. Whilst at Surrey Gill took a career break for a year to undertake a solo journey round the world. Gill feels the trip has benefited her personal development as well as improving her negotiating and communication skills.

The move to a global consultancy produced new challenges, but her understanding of Local Authorities has helped given she works mostly with Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire County Councils. At present Gill is overseeing a variety of commissions including Civil Parking Enforcement for the whole of Oxfordshire, design/implementation and review of Controlled Parking Zones, Traffic Regulation Orders and feasibility studies for traffic management measures. She became a qualified Road Safety Auditor in 2006, and is also involved in local Health & Safety issues together with staff retention and recruitment for the office.

Gill strongly believes that you can't knock something until you have tried it.

She believes IHIE members could be more involved, and provide better feedback to guide Council.

### **Congratulations Adrian Gray CEng FIHIE**

Eight months of work to compile a technical report based on innovative DfT project has proved worthwhile for IHIE's latest CEng. Adrian, Principal Engineer with Hants CC and technical secretary of the CSS Traffic Signals Group, said "The technical report option opened up CEng for me, allowing me to use technical experience, and the DfT's project and management experience at Hampshire to meet the Engineering Council's standards."

## **New Masters Programme**

The Association of Consultancy and Engineering had launched the ACE Leadership Programme with Aston, Durham, Loughborough and Manchester universities. The programme is part-time and modular with each stage from Post-graduate Certificate to Masters level requiring 15 training days paced over 12-18 months.

You'll need to be a professional working in a consultant (an ACE member), probably around 30-35, a CEng or a graduate with significant experience. The awards can top up recent BEng (Hons) degrees for prospective Chartered Engineers. There are six core modules – leadership, project and service delivery, people and business management, finance & contract management, marketing & business development and knowledge management. Maximum fees vary from £3,000 to £5,500 for the certificate.

<http://www.acenet.co.uk/index.cfm?fuseaction=news&item=727&page=4>

## Road worker safety

The Road Workers Safety Forum (RoWSaF) is a group committed to ensuring the wellbeing of those whose jobs need to be carried out at the sharp end of the road system. Its Trials Team undertakes tests on limited parts of the Highway Agency network to see if better working practices can be developed.

Recent trials included:

- Sequentially flashing road danger lamps to help guide drivers past the cones at the beginning of lane closures by giving a clear indication of which direction to head in.  
*Contractors report the number of drivers colliding with the cone taper has dropped significantly since the lamps were introduced.*
- The innovative taper technique reduces the number of cones required to close a single lane from 51 to 31, thereby nearly halving the amount of time required to complete the layout.  
*A limited area rollout was so successful the technique is likely to be made available for use on the entire Highway Agency network.*
- Mobile gantry signalling is based on a Dutch idea. The approach to roadworks can be signalled using two mobile gantries rather than a number of temporary signs.  
*The Highway Agency has commissioned a trial and a positive response is expected as road workers will no longer be required to cross live carriageways to set up signs.*

Source: NETwork

## **Young Engineers inform Parliament**

The Innovation, Universities, Science and Skills Committee would like to find out what young people think about engineering. It is therefore running an online forum and would like to hear from young engineers. The Committee would particularly like to hear how schools, colleges and universities have prepared you for, or shaped your attitude towards, a career in engineering.

This forum will run until 9 December 2008.

The Committee recently took evidence from a panel of young people as part of its engineering inquiry and is very interested in their views and experiences. It would therefore like to hear from more before writing its report which will make recommendations to the Government about action it should take in relation to engineering and careers in engineering.

[forums.parliament.uk/html/young-engineerspage.html](http://forums.parliament.uk/html/young-engineerspage.html)

## **Government supports new construction officer**

The Department for Business Enterprise & Regulatory Reform Committee's recommendation regarding the creation of a new role to 'champion' the sector and to ensure that Government remains consistent and focussed in its relationship with this vital sector, has borne fruit.

The Government announced in October its intention to consult on a potential chief construction officer role to serve as the main point of engagement between industry and government. The officer would work with and across government to ease the current fragmentation of construction policy.

## Maintenance News

- **Maintaining pavements in a changing climate** is a supplement to *Well Maintained Highways*, the maintenance code of practice. Hard copy is available from [www.tsoshop.co.uk](http://www.tsoshop.co.uk) and it will be available shortly as a PDF on [www.ukroadsliaisongroup.org](http://www.ukroadsliaisongroup.org). It is based on TRL research published in September 2008

- **Delivering durable asphalt pavements**

Road Note 42 with best practice advice on design, materials and construction is available from [www.trl.co.uk/store](http://www.trl.co.uk/store).

The IHIE/IAT course on 15 January covers the broad topic of how to get more durable surfaces – selecting the best surfacing options for the site, laying practices, EME2, etc.

## Road Safety

- The recent publication from the Neighbourhood Road Safety Initiative (NRSI) reported on the four year programme by 15 local authorities to improve road safety in disadvantaged areas. NRSI were concluded that “to work closely with the community, staffing structures with road safety need revision. A broader range of skills will be required to adopt new ways of workings that emphasises building strategic links, networking and partnership working ..... rather than direct delivery”. This is very much in line with the Academy being promoted in Devon by Jeremy Philips and IHIE’s developing work on road safety competences. All the initiatives are reported and evaluated, providing a helpful compendium at [www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/roadsafety/dpp/neighbourhoodroadsafety/](http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/roadsafety/dpp/neighbourhoodroadsafety/)
- A road safety campaign is featured in the new Channel 4 project, Battlefront. Battlefront aims to help young people campaign about the issues they care about. The programme is working with 20 campaigners aged 14-21 to help them spread their message, gather supporters and make change happen. The road safety campaign, ‘Turn Down Before You’re Run Down’, is being run by Manpreet Darroch. The campaign focuses in the danger of mobiles and music players to young people crossing the road.
- A 10 day Road Safety course is offered by Newcastle University comprising three two day courses over a month starting in 2 February 2009 plus an assessed report based on a practical exercise.  
£1250. [www.ceg.ncl.ac.uk/cpd](http://www.ceg.ncl.ac.uk/cpd)

## Development Control update

- **Community engagement**

[www.communityplanning.net](http://www.communityplanning.net) is funded by DCLG to spread good practice and casestudies on selecting the best methods for involving communities. The prime focus is planning new housing but transport planners, traffic managers and DC officers

- **Lack of traffic promotes sense of community**

Research by Joshua hart in Bristol confirms the Appleyard 1969 study of social networks that people who live on roads with lots of traffic have a weak sense of community.

[www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2008/sep/19/ethicalliving.automotive](http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2008/sep/19/ethicalliving.automotive)

- **Planning for Non-Planners**

Kirklees Council piloted an ASC/BURA course for senior and middle managers drawn from highways, design, development and leisure departments. The Academy is now offering the two day programme to help officers better understand the English planning system. It covers master planning, environmental assessment, sustainable appraisal and project assessment.

<http://www.ascskills.org.uk/pages/learning-and-skills/planning-for-non-planners>

## **Training and Development**

### **Road Safety Expo**

**1 December 2008, London SW1**

The annual event for road safety professionals.

[www.publicationsuk.co.uk/roadsafetyexpo](http://www.publicationsuk.co.uk/roadsafetyexpo)

### **How to get more durable surfaces**

**15 January 2009, London WC1**

A review and update from expert Jeff Farrington on specifying and delivering better road surfaces.

£220 IHIE members / £245 non-members

### **Foundation Training in Transport Development Control 2009**

**20-22 January plus 28-30 April, Stratford**

The only UK assessed training course leading to a qualification in development management.

There will be 2 courses delivered by TMS for IHIE and SEDCE in 2009.

£1,800, fully residential

### **Preparing for your Review 2009**

**31 March, London WC1**

**19 May, Taunton**

Advice and support in going for CEng, IEng and EngTech.

**Focus on CEng: 6 October, London**

**Focus on Technical Report route (CEng & IEng): 2 July, Sheffield**

£45 IHIE Members / £55 non-members

### **Traffic Signals Control: implementing the design**

**6-9 April 2009, Nottingham**

IHIE's annual course for signal engineers on implementation and maintenance.

Fully residential

Book before January 2009 to pay the reduced fee of £850.

### **Introduction to Development Control**

**28 April 2009, Bristol**

Start here for newcomers to DC: An overview of planning law and policy and the role of highway development control staff.

£220 for IHIE members / £245 for non-members