

IHIE celebrates its first CEng

IAN BRADFELD CEng FIHIE

Ian works for the Welsh Assembly Government based in Colwyn Bay, with an oversight of the work on Trunk Roads in North and Mid Wales.

Ian came into engineering by a circuitous route, originally studying Geology and working for the British Geological Survey and Robertson Research. His first employment in Civil engineering was on the A55 "Colcon" (Colwyn Bay to Conwy) Project as a chainman.

He then worked his way up, on a variety of Motorway schemes with Messrs Sandbergs Materials Laboratories, before moving to spend 10 Years with the former Clwyd CC, where he led their Highway Maintenance Technical Surveys Team. Whilst with Clwyd he took his HNC in Civil Engineering, IEng (with IHIE) gained an MSc in Highway Engineering.

Following Local Government Reorganisation in Wales in 1996, Ian worked for the newly formed Denbighshire CC for 11 years. Here he was involved with Traffic and Transportation Planning, and became a Chartered Member of the Institute of Logistics and Transport. He was also responsible for sustainable transport and the funding bids for such projects, developing over 100 Km of cycle network, which included some substantial schemes with bridges over railways and rivers.

Ian set his sights on becoming a CEng, and spent 9 months preparing his reports and presentations as he took his Professional Review via the Technical Report Route.

Ian urges anyone starting out on their career to check that their qualifications can be registered for IEng or CEng, and to keep a record of their work so they can illustrate how they will meet the different requirements of the Engineering Council's Competencies.

He sees IHIE's ability to offer CEng as an important resource for highway engineers to progress their careers, and looks forward to this becoming a mainstream activity of the Institute.

DfT Traffic Signs Review

Tim Askew of enterprisemouchel will represent IHIE on the Government's root and branch Traffic Signs Review. The steering group is expected to deliver an action plan, for the review itself, by the middle of next year.

Richard Buckley, DfT head of Traffic Management, gave delegates at IHIE's "Traffic Signs 2008" a foretaste of the reasoning behind the impending review. Poor public understanding of signs was highlighted by TPI's research for the Department in 2004 and street clutter has been a recurring theme at the IHIE annual signs conference for several years. The Institute has welcomed the review – which will also include signals – and hopes that it's Signs Group led by Simon Morgan of Buchanan Computing and John Taylor of Atkins will prove a useful sounding board for developing ideas.

A forum will be set up on www.ihie.org.uk for your ideas.

IHIE in Action

- Traffic Signs 2008 looked back on 50 years of UK signing policy with Simon Morgan , Roger MacIntosh and Phil Blythe, Professor of Typography at Central Saint Martins. Margaret Calvert was our star guest. With Jock Kinneir, Margaret created first the motorway then the road sign designs now so familiar on UK roads.
- www.50yearsofmotorways.org – celebrating 50 years of UK motorways is now open.
- Six candidates from a range of backgrounds (including landscape architects and planners) have passed the **IHIE Professional Certificate in the Public Realm**. All had completed PRIAN's six day course which aims to give delegates a common understanding across a range of disciplines to deliver a coherent streetscape.

Traffic Signal Control roundup

IHIE now hosts the CSS user group forum.

To sign on for the CSS Traffic Signal Control group's free list, go to www.ihie.org.uk/tsgforum. Your access request will go to Peter Bull.

The new forum is a great improvement. It is much more adaptable and allows files and photos to be uploaded.

Existing members will need to sign on again. New members from the private and public sector are welcome. Group agendas and minutes will continue to be on the CSS site.

Peter Bull announced the change at the JCT Symposium on 18 September where Gafoor Din gave a presentation on IHIE's Professional Certificate in Signals. As usual several IHIE members chaired various sessions at the Symposium and it was good to meet so many members. The two IHIE Fellows who are now Chartered Engineers via the technical report confirmed that they are gearing up to advise colleagues on progression.

Thanks go to Siemens for sponsoring the new flyer on the Professional Certificate.

Highways Development Management

- **PPS6** – planning for town centres is out for consultation. Closing date 3 October.
www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/pp6consultation
- Midlands based Mayer Brown, The Workplace Travel Plan Company and Reeves Green have joined forces to tackle everyone's **Travel Planning** nightmare – sustainability. Influencing travel behaviour and delivering change, the team promises to provide a one-stop shop for government agencies and private developers looking to create a sustainable Travel Plan that will enhance a community's quality of life and reduce its carbon footprint. The combined offer includes 'Travel Plan Builder' software allows clients to develop a bespoke plan online and marketing expertise. www.momentumgroup.uk.com
- **Townscape in focus:** the EHTF annual conference in Lichfield on 9/10 October revisits 'townscape in trouble' to review the management of conservation areas. www.ehtf.org.uk.
- **Streets for all:** ten practical cases studies from English Heritage. These offer practical advice about small actions that can make a big difference to local streets. Go to IHIE's Technical Gateway for such advice from Glasgow and Bury St Edmunds on implementing parking restrictions without yellow lines. www.english-heritage.org.uk
- Public space lessons: adapting public space to climate change. A new leaflet from CABE:
www.cabe.org.uk/publications

Construction Matters

The Business and Enterprise Committee's Report **Construction Matters**, a major strategic review of the UK's construction industry calls on the Government to create a new post of "**Chief Construction Officer**" to tackle the problem of the fragmentation of construction policy and procurement across government, and to set the industry on the right footing to tackle the major challenges it faces both in the short and long term. The Committee's recommendations cover a call for the Office of Government Commerce's (OGC) to be put on a better footing and to engage with the supply chain early on, poor employment practices and procurement for the 2012 Olympic Games.

The Committee sees it as "a disgrace that only a quarter of construction companies are training apprentices" and calls on employers to "do their part by taking on more apprentices, tapping into the large number of people who want to work in the sector".

Responding to the Select Committee report, Tony Sharp, IHIE President, said "The Committee draws attention to the short-termism of using migrant labour and castigates construction companies for their poor record on apprenticeships but itself, fails to pay sufficient attention to the skills shortages at professional level.

IHIE believes that day release courses need to be re-established and that industry and academia must prioritise promoting engineering as a career outside the white male comfort zone."

Anti-Skid “Manhole” Covers

A major innovation in road safety developed by Saint-Gobain Pipelines tackles one of the biggest problems facing motorcyclists and cyclists on Britain’s roads – metal access (manhole) covers worn smooth by decades of traffic increasing the risk to road users on two wheels to skidding.

Newly launched, GripTop access covers provide a solution for the problems caused when the raised metal studs on traditional access covers become polished by passing traffic leaving a smooth, slippery surface which is potentially lethal to motorcyclists and cyclists.

Located on road surfaces subject to heavy traffic where bends and traffic lights and encourage acceleration and deceleration, the covers were monitored over a two-year period in trials in Bristol. Mike Brewer, Senior Network Management Officer of Bristol City Council and his team reported: “The feedback we received was very positive. The covers appear both practical and durable and they have required no essential maintenance or further treatment.”

www.griptop.co.uk

Forthcoming events:

- **IHIE South Western** has an Environmental Day on 21 October in Stalbridge, Devon. Find out about NERC, your environment responsibilities on site and new environment – friendly products. Includes a tour of the revolutionary Gibbs Marsh depot. Contact "dizeyware@aol.com"
- RSTA autumn courses include: **The Highway Engineers** tool box 4 December in Durham covers surface dressing specs, micro asphalt, new specs and recycling. Surface treatments training will be on 9 October in Glasgow and Surface Dressing on 19/20 November in Bristol and 9/10 December in Preston.
www.rsta-uk.org
- **Living Streets** autumn conference on 18 November focuses on how to plan streets to work for pedestrians.
www.livingstreets.org.uk
- **IHIE Mercia Branch** is following up its very successful re-launch meeting with "Designing safer roadsides" with Andy Pledge of the Passive Revolution. Wednesday 22 October 2008 at 6.00pm at Telford & Wrekin Council Offices.
Contact: Nick.Newton@mottmac.com

Training and Development

Preparing for your Review

4 November, Birmingham

1 October, London, WC1

In depth advice and support in going for CEng at this course, plus IEng and EngTech.

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

21 October, Manchester

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

Foundation Training in Highway Development 2009

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.

The first part is in Stratford on 20/22 January with part two 28/30 April.

Details available in November

c.£1,800, fully residential