



# NEWSLETTER

**RETIRED CHARTERED  
ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION  
WORTHING**

**Hon. Secretary: S. Oliver. Elphinstone, North Drive, Angmering, BN16 4JJ ☎ 0903 787116**

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

28th Oct.	Thursday	Coffee - with Ladies at Beach Hotel, Worthing
3rd Nov.	Wednesday	Coffee - at Albion Inn, 110 Church Road, Hove
9th Nov.	Tuesday	<b>Visit to Southern Publishing Co.,</b> 2.00 p.m. Hollingbury Industrial Estate see page 9 for signing up.
18th Nov.	Thursday	Coffee - at Three Crowns, East Preston
25th Nov.	Thursday	Coffee - with Ladies at Beach Hotel, Worthing
26th Nov.	Friday	<b>Cooch Memorial Lecture.</b> Southern Water by F.N. Midmer, M.I.C.E. Group Tech. Dir. 2.30 p.m. Lecture Theatre, Worthing Library
1st Dec.	Wednesday	Coffee - at Albion Inn, 110 Church Road, Hove
15th Dec.	Wednesday	<b>Talk - Engineering Against Bilharsia</b> by Ted Pike, M.I.C.E., Member 2.30 p.m. Durrington Community centre
16th Dec.	Thursday	Coffee - at Three Crowns, East Preston
20th Dec	Monday	Copy date for next Newsletter
30th Dec	Thursday	Coffee with Ladies at Beach Hotel, Worthing Publication of December Newsletter
Every	Monday	Coffee at Laing's Arcade Cafe, Montague Street, Worthing.

Coffee mornings commence at 10.30 a.m., except at The Beach, which is from 10.45 a.m.  
Please wear your name badges.

## Inclement Weather Arrangements

Should very bad weather be anticipated on a day that a meeting is scheduled, the President shall decide by 10.00 a.m. whether or not to cancel. Members in any doubt can then ascertain the position by telephoning either the President, Vice President, Secretary or Assistant Secretary. This arrangement will also apply to the Coffee mornings at the Beach Hotel, but in this case the operative time will need to be 9.00 a.m.

## ERRATA

Please note that some of the dates given in the last Newsletter for the latter half of 1994 are in error, but the **dates given in the 1993/94 Handbook are the correct ones.**

## EDITORIAL

As your new honorary secretary, it falls on me to not only perform the secretarial duties but also to edit the Newsletter. I am new to the area and association, having taken up residence on 1st January, 1992 after 24 years living in Geneva whilst working at CERN - the European Laboratory for Particle Physics, as an electrical engineer specialising in power conversion. I am not yet familiar with the requirements of the Newsletter, but I hope that the content, format and style will evolve and improve with time. I should therefore welcome comments of any type. This Newsletter is for you, the members, and for it to be informative and interesting I require input from you; so please do not hesitate to contact me with any items of interest, news of members, etc. However, I can only publish items as received as I am a computerised editor, not a literary genius.

By tradition this first Newsletter of the 1993/94 session is published on the occasion of the annual dinner. For those of you who have made it, welcome, and enjoy the dinner.

## Publication dates of Newsletters

From examination of previous issues, it appears that there are usually 5 issues per session with the date of publication chosen to coincide with the Annual Dinner and thereafter at a Beach Hotel coffee morning, with the date of final copy fixed at 10 days before publication. Therefore, the dates for this sessions Newsletters are as follows:

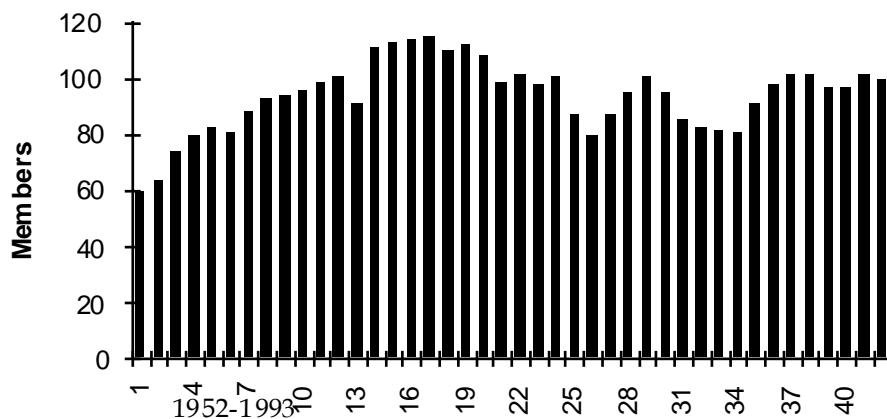
Month	Publication date	Final date for copy
October	21 Oct. 93	11 Oct. 93
December	30 Dec. 93	20 Dec. 93
February	24 Feb. 94	14 Feb. 94
April	28 Apr. 94	18 Apr. 94
August	25 Aug. 94	15 Aug. 94

## NEWS OF MEMBERS

**Lewis Bannister**, our new president, has recently had a stroke and will unfortunately be unable to preside at the Annual Dinner. **Eric Higgins**, former secretary and president, recently suffered a minor stroke. He now resides at a nursing home in High

Salvington (Larkspur Tel. 0903 262828). Eric will be 93 next birthday. **Len Blowers' wife**, Joan, recently had an accident whilst on holiday in the U.S.A., and we wish her a speedy recovery. We look forward to seeing **Gerry Carr** again after recovering from his operation. It is with regret that we note the death of **K. Bentley** on 13th August, 1993.

At the date of copy the association had 100 members and 4 widows. The evolution of membership over the years from 1952 to 1993 is plotted below, the data being obtained from the membership handbooks held in the archives. The booklet for the year 1976/77 is missing and the number of members estimated (year 25 on the plot). If any member has a copy of the 1976/77 booklet, please let the secretary know.



Evolution of the membership from 1952 to 1993

### A.G.M. 1993

The 42nd Annual General Meeting was held at the Durrington Community Centre on Wednesday 15th September, 1993, in the presence of 41 members, with the President, D.J. Fuller in the chair. Apologies for absence were received from 10 members. The minutes of the 41st A.G.M. were approved, the only matter arising being the Prize to a Brighton University student which the committee had decided would no longer be presented, due to lack of interest by the University.

The Treasurer's report was approved as it stood, showing a healthy balance; the committee had previously decided that the **subscription would remain at £6**, as it has been for the last two years, but an increase may be necessary next session.

The following officers and committee were elected:

President	L.D. Bannister
Vice President	S.R. Renew
Hon. Secretary	S.Oliver
Hon. Asst. Secretary	S.M. Butler
Hon. Treasurer	R.A. Carey
Hon. Asst. Treasurer	D.H. Lear
Hon. Auditor	A. Parry

Hon. Membership Secretary	E.W. Ayling	
Committee member	D.J. Fuller	Immediate past president
Committee member	J.L. Fowler	Spring Break organiser
Committee member	B.R. Knight	
Committee member	R.G. Martin	
Committee member	E.B. Trotter	Visits secretary
Committee member	L.A. Fosbrooke	
Committee member	T.J. Morgan	

The Hon. Treasurer, R.A. Carey, does not intend to stand for re-election next year, therefore the association is looking for a **volunteer to take up the position as Treasurer elect**, so that he can obtain some experience whilst Bob is still Treasurer.

A proposal for an Autumn break to the Blackpool illuminations, Lake District or North Yorkshire, instead of a Spring Break, was proposed; a show of hands gave limited interest. Members' preferences for visits, talks, holidays, etc will be investigated, by a questionnaire to members with the December Newsletter.

In his address, the retiring President, J.L. Fuller, said that he thought that the highlight of his year in office was the visit to Smith Kline Beecham and is looking forward to visiting the Combined Heat and Power plant, (CHP), when it is operational in the future. He thanked the officers and committee for their support during the year, with special thanks to Harry Brown for making the visits and outings so successful.

An appreciation to Stan Gibson was recorded in the minutes for his many contributions to the association, including being membership secretary since 1979. An inscribed plaque was shown to the members which will be presented to him later, as Stan was not present.

D.J.Fuller introduced the new President, L.D. Bannister, and presented him with his insignia of office-The Gavel.

In his **presidential address L.D. Bannister** gave a brief talk covering his career in local government engineering. This started in 1935 at age 16 with a three year articed pupilage in the Engineering & Surveying Office of Cowes D.C.. The wide ranging coverage included: County and District Roads, Sewage and Sea Outfalls, Water supply, Refuse collection & Disposal, erection of council houses and buildings, Sea Defence works etc. Before completion of his articles he obtained a job at Havant at £125 per annum. During this period study was obtained through correspondence courses. After passing Intermediate exams, he obtained a job at Newport, I.O.W. at £156 per annum, and could live at home. In January, 1939 he volunteered, with friends, for the Territorial Army in the Gunners and in August, went to a camp at Weybourne which lasted for 6 years; moral - never volunteer. Back in civilian life, he returned to Newport and continued the difficult task of study by correspondence course, whilst working on various projects, including a one way traffic system in the town centre. In 1948 he moved near Liverpool, as chief

assistant, for three years and then returned south to the Metropolitan Borough of Woolwich, as a senior engineer for 6 years. This involved: Highways, Sewers, Cemetery drainage and one particularly interesting job involving the abandonment of tram tracks in Eltham and Plumstead. In 1956 he became the Divisional Engineer in the eastern half of Stepney, known as the rural half, as the other half butted on to the City. That summer he was "recalled to the colours" and flew out to Port Said via Cyprus and was Garrison Engineer for 3 weeks. Following that he obtained the job as Town Engineer of Luwasa, Tanganyika. This was on the shores of Lake Victoria and he was able to draw on his previous experience in the I.O.W., as a town on Lake Victoria is similar to one on the Solent. His main task was canalisation of the river Muongo which ran through the town, a Town Hall and houses for local dignitaries. By the time his three year contract had run out, the available government funds were exhausted, Independence was fast approaching, and his daughters needed better education; so he returned to his old job in the U.K. With the reorganisation of London Local Government he decided to move again, this time to Wandsworth, in a completely different environment, the work consisting of mainly Traffic Engineering and supervision of road and sewer contracts on large housing estates. His next move, as chief assistant to Southwater, brought him nearer home; the work involved everything except Highways Traffic engineering. His final move was to Lewisham, as Assistant Borough Surveyor, which embraced most of the functions at Southwark and entailed less travelling. Dealing with the Unions, the public, and the many subsidence claims, due to clay shrinkage during hot summers, made this an interesting but difficult job. After this, he decided to retire in 1981, after 40 years service.

### **RCEA slide projector**

A new automatic slide projector, with cordless remote control and zoom lens, has been purchased with the bequest to the association from Mrs. Stella King-Jones, in memory of her late husband, Eric. A suitable plaque noting the donor will be affixed. The old slide projector, which is in good working order after intervention by members, complete with carrying case remote control, cassettes and additional long throw lens, is offered for sale to members at a price of £25. Please contact Brian Haynes on 0903 774914 for more information.



### **SPRING BREAK TO HARLECH & NORTH WALES**

To date, 40 members (which includes widows) have signed up with Woods and there is a waiting list of 4 non-members. Will any members intending to go on the Break

**please sign up with Woods by 29th October, 1993**, so that the remaining seats can be allocated to non-members.

GHHHJ

**The London Underground** - Talk by E.E. Laird, member, at the Durrington Community Centre, 13th October, 1993.

**Note from secretary:** Available on request is a tape cassette of the talk, for loan to members and also the written notes consisting of 6 pages. This transcript is rather long for the Newsletter and has not been included. However, if members feel that the complete notes should be published, please inform a committee member.

The talk followed the subject headings listed below:

1. LONDON TRANSPORT - THE COMPLETE ORGANISATION  
1993 - Diamond Jubilee Year
  - (a) Brief History since formation of LPTB in 1933
  - (b) The War Years 1939 - 45
  - (c) The present area covered by London Transport; and statistics of Road (Bus) and Rail (Trains) operation.
  
2. THE LONDON UNDERGROUND
  - (a) The present system - geographical
  - (b) The split between Surface Railways, Sub Surface
  - (c) Railways and Deep Tube Railways
  - (d) Staffing levels for Track Maintenance and Renewal
  - (e) What is the PERMANENT WAY - in the open  
in the tunnels
  - (f) Tunnel Construction - Types and Sizes
  
3. TRACK DESIGN AND PARTICULAR FEATURES OF MAIN COMPONENTS
  - (a) In the open
  - (b) In the Tunnel
  - (c) Advantages and Disadvantages of optional alternative components
  
4. WORKING METHODS FOR TRACK MAINTENANCE
  - (a) Inspection
  - (b) Safety Procedures for Staff and Track Stability
  - (c) Limited working hours
  - (d) Need for mechanised methods
  - (e) The effect of weather
  - (f) Emergency Organisation
  
5. SPECIALLY DESIGNED PLANT FOR MAINTAINING L. U. TRACKS  
Battery Locomotive  
Flush Butt Welder  
7 1/2 Ton Crane

Tunnel Cleaning Train  
Plasermatic  
Track Digger  
Weed Killing Machine  
Unimog Leaf Cleaning Machine  
ROTRA Grinding Machine

6. SOME MAJOR JOBS OF INTEREST
  - (a) Victoria Line/Piccadilly Line - Track Lowering to give same level interchange
  - (b) Victoria Line - Oxford Circus Umbrella
    - " " Peter Robinson Stores - Supports on Victoria Line Running Tunnel
    - " " Oxford Circus Station Layout
  - (c) Tottenham Hale - Tunnelling through Frozen Ground for Stability
  - (d) Bridge Renewals

The following covers point 1 of the talk:

#### LONDON TRANSPORT - THE PAST

It was in 1933 when Parliament created the first unified passenger transport authority for London. At that time there were some 170 independent railway, bus, coach, tram and trolleybus undertakings competing for a share of the passenger transport business. At street level passenger congestion was the order of the day, as private companies competed for business. (These two slides show Piccadilly Circus in 1920 and Oxford Street in 1928).

The new organisation was called the "London Passenger Transport Board" - L.P.T.B. for short, chaired by Lord Ashfield and assisted by Frank Pick. (I joined it in 1936 and stayed for 46 years until I retired some 10 years ago). Re-organisation proceeded rapidly until 1939 when, along with the main line railways, the Government took control of L.P.T.B. under the Emergency Powers (Defence) Act. World War 2, of course, caused upheavals for passenger transport in London. Normal vehicle and railways maintenance suffered as the major workshops turned over to war work. Part of the main Bus Overhaul Works became "London Aircraft Production". My call-up was deferred to allow me to complete my apprenticeship and I well remember the excitement of working to one tenth of a "thou" on armament work, compared with the run-of-the-mill plus or minus one-sixteenth for railway construction. During the Battle of Britain air raids wrecked havoc. (These two slides show just one of the stations hit - Sloane Square, and general use of tube tunnel station platforms as air raid shelters).

With the war over, steps were taken as soon as possible to complete all organisational changes, overtake arrears of maintenance and to get to work on new construction. Signs of the old companies still remain. There was a healthy competitive

spirit between groups of staff from different companies. Put to good use with interdivisional prizes.

#### LONDON TRANSPORT - RECENT AND PRESENT

(This slide shows the London Transport Area in 1980 - now still much as it was then. The facts given on these two slides indicate the size and complexity of the present organisation).

630 square miles

6.5 M passenger journeys each day

More passengers carried each day than all the worlds' airlines put together.

London Underground handles about 750 million passenger journeys per year (about 2 million per day). Ten times the number handled by all UK airports.

About 3.9 million passenger journeys per day on London buses (about the population of New Zealand).

Busiest L.U. stations:-

Victoria					about 57 M journeys per year
Oxford Circus	"	47 M	"	"	"
King's Cross		"	38 M	"	'

GHHHJ

### COOCH MEMORIAL LECTURE - open to the public

This lecture, to commemorate H. Cooch, who founded our association in 1951, will be held in the Lecture Theatre of Worthing Library at 2.30 p.m. on Friday 26th November, 1993. A big effort has been put in to make this a success with an external lecturer. It is hoped that the members and friends will show their support for this event. The subject of the lecture is **Southern Water** and it will be given by the group Technical Director, **F.N. Midmer, M.I.C.E.**



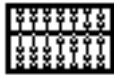
**THE INSTITUTION  
OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS**      **FARADAY LECTURE 1993/94**

This year's presentation is by Northern Telecom on the global telecoms network, using demonstration and audio-visual presentations, to give the audience an understanding of the development, operation and likely future of the world's most complex machine. The local presentation will be at the Dome, Brighton on Wednesday, 1st December, 1993. There will



be three sessions: 10.30 a.m., 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Admission is by **free ticket**, all being welcome. Application for tickets -group or single- (please enclose SAE) stating session to Eur.Ing. B. Gregory, Dept of Elec. & Electron. Engineering, University of Brighton, Lewes Road, Brighton, BN2 4GJ.

### Notes from Treasurer



The annual subscription of £6 is now due; although most members have already paid, some 30% are still outstanding. If you are not sure whether you have paid or not, please ask the Treasurer - it saves sending reminders.

The copper collection for the Cancer Research Fund amounts to approximately £50 so far this year (last years total was approx. £75). Our thanks go to Desmond Lear, who regularly collects and segregates the money and takes it to the Funds' treasurer.

After 14 years as Hon. Membership Secretary Stan Gibson has decided to retire, and our sincere thanks are due for all his fine efforts over so many years. As a sign of the Association's appreciation, he is being presented at the annual dinner with an engraved plaque which we trust he will treasure. Stan will be greatly missed as membership secretary but I am sure he will be the first to welcome back Ernest Ayling again as his successor. We need a few more men like Ernest!

*Bob Carey*

## Visit to Southern Publishing

The next visit is to: Southern Publishing, Crowhurst Road, on the Hollingbury Industrial estate at 2.00 p.m. Meet at the security office entrance (Evening Argus); a map is available. Please send your application forms to Ted Trotter by 1st November.

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To: E.B. Trotter, 34 The Marlinspike, Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex, BN43 5RD

I wish to take part in the visit to Southern Publishing on Tuesday, 9th November, 1993 at 2.00 p.m. at the Hollingbury Industrial Estate.

\* I would like a lift

\* Please delete as appropriate

\* I can offer.....spare seats in my car, travelling from.....

Name: (Block Capitals please).....Telephone.....

**E.B. Trotter**  
**34 The Marlinspike**  
**SHOREHAM-BY-SEA**  
**West Sussex**  
**BN43 5RD**