



RCEA

(SUSSEX)

An Association for Retired Professional Engineers

NEWS LETTER April 2011

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS 2011

21st Apr	Thursday	Coffee - at Spotted Cow, Angmering
28th Apr	Thursday	Coffee - with Partners at the Beach Hotel, Worthing
11th May	Wednesday	Visit : NATS London Area Control Centre, Swanwick
19th May	Thursday	Coffee - at Spotted Cow, Angmering
25th May	Wednesday	Outing: Skittles The Gribble Inn, Oving
26th May	Thursday	Coffee - with Partners at the Beach Hotel, Worthing
16th Jun	Thursday	Coffee - at Spotted Cow, Angmering
Please note new venue		
22nd Jun	Wednesday	Outing: Standen (National Trust) East Grinstead
30th Jun	Thursday	Coffee - with Partners at the Beach Hotel, Worthing
Please note new venue		
20th Jul	Wednesday	Outing: West Sussex Records Office, Chichester.
21st Jul	Thursday	Coffee - at Spotted Cow, Angmering
28th Jul	Thursday	Coffee - with Partners at the Beach Hotel, Worthing
17th Aug	Wednesday	Outing: Olympic Site and Woolwich Arsenal, London

18th Aug Thursday Coffee - at Spotted Cow, Angmering

25th Aug Thursday Coffee - with Partners at the Beach Hotel, Worthing

All Talks and Meetings will commence at 2.30 pm and be held in the Chichester Room, Field Place, Worthing, unless another venue or time is indicated.

Timings for visits and outings will be as printed in the detailed description of the activity.

Coffee mornings commence at 10.30 a.m., except at The Beach Hotel, which is from 10.45 a.m

Beach Hotel Coffee Mornings 2011

Please note Coffee Mornings at the Beach Hotel will now continue until August. The hotel is still due to close in 2011, August is the latest planned date.

Website for the RCEA

For latest information and photographs, log into www.rceasussex.org.uk

Membership

RCEA 60th Anniversary Lunch 2011

Many of you will be aware that the Annual lunch this year will mark the 60th Anniversary of RCEA. So that we might make it a little special we would be pleased to hear from you with ideas for the format of the lunch.

I have offered to give a brief talk on the history and development of RCEA. My objective would be to make it both interesting and amusing, and to do this I will need your help.

Over the forthcoming months I hope to assemble stories, anecdotes and highlights giving a flavour of RCEA from its early days. I will be approaching members, particularly those with extensive knowledge of our Association, for assistance in pulling together the material.

In the meantime if anyone has any thoughts or ideas that lend themselves to such a presentation I would be delighted to hear from you. If the memory appeals to you then it almost certainly will appeal to others *Colin Pilling*

Peter Batterley

We have received a letter from Peter Batterley sending his apologies for not to have taken any part in the Association's activities for some time as he has been in hospital for what was expected to be minor spinal surgery. Unfortunately surgery and its aftermath were not entirely successful and after a month in hospital he has been transferred to the Westlake Care Home in Horsham (Pondtail Road) for continuing physiotherapy to aid his recovery. Peter would be delighted to hear from, speak to, or see any members who might be able to drop in to visit. His direct phone number at the home is 01403 262830.

Presentation at Woolwich Arsenal

As we have a visit planned in August to the Woolwich Arsenal (in conjunction with the trip to the Olympic site), see later entry, Gwylm Roberts has discovered that on June 2 the IMechE will be presenting one of their Engineering Heritage plaques to the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich. Also, it is where Sir John Anderson (the subject of his talk on September 24) was Chief Engineer and undertook his professional duties. If any members would like more details about the June 2 ceremony, please contact Gwylm directly.

New Member

New members should check the information published below for accuracy. This is the data, which will be published in the next Member's Handbook.

A. M. Sharp, BSc, DMS, MIET, CEng

98 Sea Road, East Preston, Littlehampton, BN16 1NP Alastair
& Valerie 01903856397 alastair.sharp@dsl.pipex.com
R&D in electronics, telecoms with STC, Hewlett Packard,
Wandel U. Goltermann, Eurotherm Group, Cognito,
Consultancy with
Systegration

Interests: Walking, Reading, Motor Homing, Travel

R. M. Dunnnett, BSc, PhD, C.Eng, FIEE

8 Southview Drive, Worthing, West Sussex, BN11
5HU

Maurice & Carolyn 01903503545 maurice@dunnett.name
1968-1993 CEGB, National Grid, 1994- freelance consultant

Interests: Folk dancing, Walking, Orienteering

F. Duggan, BA, BSc, FICE, FCIHT

2 Warnham Close, Goring by Sea, West Sussex,
BN12 4JW

Frank & Patricia 01903536791 fduggan@yahoo.co.uk

1961-1968 Dungeness Power Station, 1968-1972 London
Bridge demolition and reconstruction, 1972-1998 Project
manager, Contracts Director, then Human Resources
Director for Tarmac

Construction, 1998-2002 Director Business in the Community,

2002-2007 Director Arts Factory

Wales, 2002-2008 Employment Tribunal member

Interests: Golf, DIY, Walking

R.M. Chambers, MIEE

19 Pigeonhouse Lane, Rustington, West Sussex,
BN16 2AY

Mike & Brenda 01903369585

mchambers68@hotmail.com

Senior Technical consultant Hewlett-Packard,

Manager telecommunication projects BOC

Interests: Golf, Walking, Card games

D. Silver, Euro Ing, FIMechE, FCIBSE, FBIFM

Bluebells, 11, Foxwood Avenue, Angmering,
Littlehampton, BN16 4FU David &

Carolyn 01903782685

david.silveruk@yahoo.co.uk

Apprentice Heating & Air Conditioning, 1972-1983

Area Engineer with NHS, 1983-1994 Director Health

Authority, 1994-2009 Consultant property management

Interests: Music, Books, Theatre, Cycling, Walking,

Travel, Model making, Boating

Existing members should also check that addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses in the handbook are correct

Brief Detail – Talks, Outings and other activities April – August 2011

Visit

Wednesday, 11th May NATS London Area Control Centre, Swanwick

A visit to the air traffic control centre at Swanwick (Fareham) has been arranged for May 11th. Final detail will be forwarded to those who have applied to go, as soon as they become available.

The Swanwick Centre is one of the largest and most advanced air traffic control centre in the world. It controls 200,000 square miles of airspace above England and Wales – among the busiest and most complex in the world – with the exception of London and south-east area below 24,000 feet and the Manchester area below 21,000 feet.

4000 Parkway, Whiteley, Fareham, Hants, PO15 7FL.

Contact: Randall Keir 01903 785952, or email randallkeir@btinternet.com

Outing:

Wednesday 25th May 12:00, Skittles, at the Gribble Inn, Oving

This years skittle outing will be to the Gribble Inn in the village of Oving, which is one mile east of Chichester and south of the A 27.

Gribble Inn Postcode PO20 2BP Tel 01243786893

The skittle Alley is in a separate building with its own bar at the rear of the main pub building. There is parking is at the rear and on the road

We shall start at 12 noon with a Buffet lunch served at 1pm.

Menu An exceptional spread including, various meats, a selection of cheeses, poached salmon, pasta and rice dishes, quiche, breads and mixed leaf salad

The cost per person is £11 and should be sent to Brian Buckroyd 6 Fosters Close East Preston BN16 2TL before **Wednesday 4th May**

Contact Brian Buckroyd 01903 784926 or email brianbuckroyd@hotmail.com

Changes to programme

As a result of booking difficulties the next two outings have had to be changed at short notice.

Outing:

Wednesday 20th June 1400 : Standen (National Trust) East Grinstead

Standen was built in the 1890s for wealthy London solicitor James Beale, and his large family. Standen is the best surviving example of the architecture of Philip Webb, friend of William Morris. A showpiece of the Arts and Crafts Movement, it is decorated throughout with Morris carpets, fabrics and wallpapers, complemented by contemporary paintings, embroidery and furniture. The beautiful hillside gardens have breathtaking views and the estate offers a number of woodland and countryside walks.

Standen is situated 2 miles south of East Grinstead, signposted from town centre and B2110 (Turners Hill Road). Address is West Hoathly Road, East Grinstead, West Sussex RH19 4NE. Free car parking is provided for visitors. There are on-site catering facilities at the Barn Restaurant (licensed). The restaurant is selfservice and serves a variety of hot and cold dishes. Reservations are not possible

Cost : £7.80 per person or for National Trust members it will be free.

Standen opens at 11:00. We will meet at 2:00 pm on the Goose Green, (the area in front of the paying booth) to hear an introductory talk. We will then be free to explore the house and gardens at our own pace.

Contact: Randall Keir 01903 785952, or email randallkeir@btinternet.com

Please complete reply slip at the end of this newsletter if you wish to attend.

Outing:

Wednesday 22nd July 14:30 The West Sussex Records Office, Chichester

At short notice a visit to the West Sussex Records Office has been arranged in place of the outing to Rother Valley Croquet Club. This visit will commence at 2.30 pm and last for about 2 hours. We will be given a

talk and a tour of the Record Office to see how they conserve data and documents for the future. Parking is relatively easy in the area. Disabled parking may be available at the Records Office.

The cost of the visit will be £2.00 per person. If you would like to attend please complete the reply slip at the end of the newsletter.

Some of the final details have still to be confirmed with the Record Office. Any significant change to the detail above will be sent to those who apply to go

West Sussex Record Office is located in Orchard Street, Chichester, near County Hall. The address is 3 Orchard Street
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1DD

Contact Brian Buckroyd 01903 784926 or email brianbuckroyd@hotmail.com

Outing

Wednesday, 17th August depart 0730 / 0845: for trip to Olympic Site and Woolwich Arsenal, London



We have had a good response to our previous request for early registration, and can now confirm that the trip will go ahead and that the cost is £36.00 per head. As the club has to put down deposits for both the coach and guided tour, we do have to request a deposit (non returnable) of £5.00 from all members and guests intending to go on this visit, with the balance due one month before (15/7/2011).

We have attached a detailed itinerary for the day, from which you can see that we are planning a very full day at an attractive price, and would encourage any members who have not already registered an interest in the visit to return the attached slip with their deposit as soon as possible. **As this programme should appeal to both engineers and non-engineers alike, we would encourage you to bring any friends who might be interested as well, as we still have a few seats left on the coach.**

Please return the reply slip at the end of this newsletter and send it with your deposit to Malcolm Hind being careful to complete the section indicating which of the three pick-up points you wish to use.

This is an all day trip to London to visit both the Woolwich Arsenal and the 2012 Olympic site. There is some walking of approximately 300 yards to the Olympic Park viewing point. The trip includes coach travel from one of three pick-up points in Sussex, morning coffee, admission to 'Firepower', a roast chicken or vegetarian lunch and an escorted tour of the 2012 Olympic site from the viewing point. Whilst in London we will be

accompanied by a Blue Badge Guide who is qualified to provide information on all aspects of the Olympics & Paralympics, from the Ancient Games to London 2012.

We have selected three coach pick up points where there is car parking. The times and pick up points are:-

Pick-up No1 07:30am Tesco Express, The Street, Rustington, BN16 3DR

Pick-up No2 08:00am Junction of West Parade and Grand Avenue, Worthing, BN11 3RA Pick-up

No3 08:45am Hop Oast car park, Horsham, RH13 0AR

We then travel to London and begin our tour at 'Firepower' in the historic Woolwich Arsenal at 10:30am for morning refreshments before taking a seat for the atmospheric Fields of Fire - archive film on massive screens with smoke, searchlights and shaking floors. We will meet young soldiers on site who will have served or will serve with their units in Iraq or Afghanistan. Their presence brings an unforgettable immediacy to the presentation.

'Firepower' is the museum of The Royal Artillery founded in the Arsenal in 1716. Today with the exception of the Band, they have moved to Salisbury Plain and the old Arsenal is a developing campus of offices and luxury flats. We then set off by coach to see their old Barracks up on Woolwich Common, now home to 1,000 infantry following the closure of Chelsea Barracks. By 2012 they will be joined by the UK's foremost equestrian brigade - the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery. This is a controversial Olympic venue, earmarked for the shooting events but strongly opposed by the sport's governing body. Back at the Woolwich Arsenal a roast chicken or vegetarian lunch is served and there's time for an individual stroll through the impressive galleries to see exhibits spanning the centuries from the Roman Empire to National Service.

Then we head by coach to Stratford just across the water to a viewing point for the Olympic Park. You'll see the vast stadium, the Aquatics Centre and the Velodrome. Seeing the Olympic Park take shape and discovering how London is gearing up for the big event is truly exciting and inspiring. At the end of the afternoon we will stop nearby to buy a cup of tea ready to head home at 4-45pm. The coach will then drop you off back at your selected pick-up point in Sussex.

Please complete the reply slip at the end of this newsletter and send it to Malcolm Hind with your deposit **before 31st May 2011**. Telephone 01403 251719 e-mail malcolmhind@msn.com

REPORTS

Talk :

Tuesday 11th January

As Time Goes By to be given by Richard Norton (Member)

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Talk planned for 11th January had to be cancelled and at the Committee's suggestion Richard stepped in to repeat a Talk he previously gave 13 years ago, which very few present members would have heard.

Having spoken of his long-term interest in clocks, he outlined his professional training and activities in Horology as his qualification to talk about the history of timekeeping in the Western World over the last 5,500 years.

It is well researched that the Chaldeans and the ancient Egyptians were aware of time, as we know it today, mainly from their study and knowledge of astronomy. They realised the constancy of the year on earth as evidenced by their temples where the rising sun always appears on a particular date, usually mid-summer's or mid-winter's day morning, in relation to a particular feature of the building, such as an archway. This is, of course, the same as Stonehenge but that is probably a thousand or more years later. It is thought that they also had time measuring devices such as water clocks where water dripping through an orifice was measured in a calibrated receptacle, but no positive evidence of such has been found. They certainly measured time using what we now call a Sundial, literally a stick stuck in the desert sand throwing a shadow on a divided circular

“dial”. It is thought that our 12-hour day derives from the easy way a circle can be divided using a compass.

Skipping several thousand years, Richard picked up the development of mechanical clocks in the Western World. Without doubt, the “automation” of bell ringing to call monks to prayer in the Christian monasteries was the major factor in this development, occurring in about 1100. Whilst these were purely bell ringing devices, within about 100 years, clocks, as we know them today were being made. There is one of the earliest clocks ever made of this type, still working in Wells Cathedral. By the end of the 14th Century, many churches throughout Western Europe had clocks, usually installed as they are today in the tower.

This outline was followed by a description of the calendar, again going back to the ancient Egyptians, via the Julian calendar named after Julius Caesar to the present day, Gregorian Calendar, first adopted by the Catholic Church in Europe in 1582 and accurate for some 16,000 years.

The talk concluded with slides showing the development of clocks from a reproduction of a Chinese water clock with time indicating display from the 9th Century AD up to the present day. This ended with a description of Atomic Clocks, used to establish Co-ordinated Universal Time (UTC) which, globally, has now replaced Greenwich Mean Time. This is based on a statistical average from some 250 Caesium 132 based clocks around the world nominally accurate to 1 second in over 300,000 years. The latest development in atomic clocks is based on the Aluminium Ion with an accuracy of 1 second in 3.7 billion years, infinitely more accurate than the motion of the sun and the stars.

R Norton

Talk:

Worthing Tuesday 8th February

“Magistrates in the Community”

A total of 44 members, partners and guests came to hear about the British criminal justice system. The presentation was given by 5 local magistrates with Aimée Blattmann Esswood taking the lead.

This year marks the 650th anniversary of the inauguration of the office of Justice of the Peace, which was founded in 1361 and is one of the oldest public offices still active in this country. Office holders today are usually referred to simply as magistrates.

We learnt that some 95% of all criminal cases are dealt with in the magistrate’s court, the balance being referred to the higher Crown Court to be heard by a Judge and jury. Sentences imposed in the magistrate’s court are limited to a maximum of 6 months imprisonment (per offence), community sentences or fines of up to £5,000 (more for environmental offences involving corporate bodies). Much more severe sentences can be imposed in the Crown Court.

Apart from their more obvious work in the adult courts, magistrates also deal with family and youth matters in special court hearings, cases of animal cruelty, violations of health and safety legislation and environmental pollution and also approve police search warrants and electricity disconnection notices. Magistrates are ordinary members of the public drawn from all walks of life, the only restrictions being that they are aged over 18 and less than 70 years old and have no criminal convictions. Candidates undergo a prolonged interview process and extensive training over a period of about 12 months prior to first appointment. Magistrates are not legally qualified as they at all times have access to a qualified legal adviser,

The criminal process begins with police carrying out investigations into alleged crimes, and following identification of suspects; the Crown Prosecution Service makes a decision as to what charges to make. Defendants then appear in court to be formally charged with each offence and are initially asked to enter a plea of guilty, not guilty or no plea. There are significant reductions in sentence available for those pleading guilty at this stage, as it reduces court time and hence public cost. Those pleading guilty are sentenced, often after reports have been sought from probation officers. Those pleading not guilty or offering no plea will subsequently go to trial where a bench of three magistrates will determine their guilt or innocence after hearing all available information concerning the alleged offence(s). As there is inevitably a considerable delay between

first plea and trial, magistrates have to decide whether to grant bail (possibly subject to some restrictions) or remand in custody awaiting trial.

At this point we (the audience) were asked to make a bail decision based upon a fictitious (but very realistic) case – the majority of us decided to allow bail subject to some restrictions.

As we were by then in the mood for more active involvement, we were asked to assist in a mock trial of two young offenders charged with shoplifting. We had to form a bench, play the role of witnesses, defence and prosecution lawyers and the defendants.

M Hind

Talk :

Worthing. Tuesday 8th March

Engineering Aspects of the Wey and Arun Canal Restoration by Mr Eric Walker MBE, C Eng.

Eric gave a very full overview of the restoration of the Canal, which was finally completed in 1816 as part of an inland route from London to Littlehampton from whence other canals connected to Portsmouth.

The intention was to avoid the use of coastal shipment, which was at the time plagued by French raiders. It is sometimes referred to nowadays as London's Lost Route to the Sea. The Canal was a success at first, it's peak being in 1839, but with the advent of the railways loads diminished and the Wey and Arun part was abandoned under an Act of Abandonment in 1871 although several parts remained in use for many years.

The Restoration Trust was formed in 1973 with the intention of connecting the navigable River Wey near Godalming to the Arun near Pulborough thus restoring the 23-mile section of the 82-mile route from London Bridge to Littlehampton. Eric oversees all the engineering works needed as part of the restoration for which he received the MBE.

Eric described the works carried out so far but emphasised that there is still a long way to go to complete the route. He covered locks, aqueducts, bridges, the canal itself tow paths and water supply. Perhaps of particular interest are the works at Loxwood with a new lock and the main road bridge re-built to give adequate clearance. At all times, particular attention is paid to enhancing the diversity of natural habitats. He mentioned a routing problem where the site of the canal had, in the past, been sold and in some places built over necessitating rerouting causing problems of land purchase.

Altogether an exceedingly interesting talk of quality enjoyed by one of our largest attendances in recent times indicating a great local interest in the project.

R Norton

Spring Lunch

Worthing Tuesday 24th March Northbrook College

A total of 52 members and guests attended this years Spring Lunch. The reaction received was that all appeared to have had a convivial time and an excellent lunch.

The president thanked the college staff for the excellent way they performed their duties. He also explained that they were training to become airline cabin crews.

The president also encouraged those present to consider joining in the coffee mornings at present held in the Beach Hotel

J Underwood

REMINDER:

RCEA members are covered by a Members' Club Protection Policy whilst engaged in Association activities This cover does not extend to non – members and guests.

REPLY SLIP 1

**To: Brian Buckroyd, 6 Fosters Close, East Preston, BN16 2TL
Telephone 01903 784926**

I/We wish to attend the Outing on **Wednesday 25th May at 12:00, for Skittles, at the Grible Inn, Oving**

Full Name.....(Block capitals)
Address.....
.....
Phone No..... Number of Persons.....

**I enclose a cheque made payable to RCEA for £.....(£11.00 per person)
Applications by 4th May 2011**

REPLY SLIP 2

**To Randall Kier, 16, Shirley Close, Rustington, West Sussex. BN16 2EG
Telephone 01903 785952**

I/We would like to attend the outing on **Wednesday 20th June at 1400 to Standen (National Trust) East Grinstead**

Name..... Telephone.....
Address..... e-mail.....
.....
Phone No..... Number of Persons.....

**I enclose a cheque made payable to RCEA for £.....(£7.80 per person) Applications
by 1st June 2011**

Intentionally

Blank

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REPLY SLIP 3

**To: Brian Buckroyd, 6 Fosters Close, East Preston, BN16 2TL
Telephone 01903 784926**

I/We wish to attend the Outing on **Wednesday 22nd July 14:30 to the West Sussex Records Office, Chichester**

Full Name.....(Block capitals)
Address.....
.....
Phone No..... Number of Persons.....

**I enclose a cheque made payable to RCEA for £.....(£2.00 per person)
Applications by 20th June 2011**

.....

REPLY SLIP 4

**To: Malcolm Hind, 7 The Castle, Horsham RH12 5PX
Telephone 01403 251719 e-mail malcolmhind@msn.com**

I / We would like to attend the **RCEA visit to Woolwich Arsenal and the Olympic Site on Wednesday 17th August 2011.**

Name..... Telephone.....
Address..... e-mail.....
.....
.....

Number of places required.....at a cost of £36.00 per person

I will be at pick-up point 1.....2.....3..... (circle point selected)

I enclose a deposit of (£5.00 pp, balance of £31.00 pp due by 15/7/2011)

Please complete this reply slip and send it to Malcolm Hind with your deposit **before 31st May 2011.**

April 2011

