

Minerals Engineering Society (Formerly The Coal Preparation Society)

Horizons

MES Sponsors Arkwright Scholarship

Special points of Interest:

- Arkwright Scholarship.
- Engineering UK
- Out & About in the Groups
- BCURA Coal Science Lecture
- Hopley Lecture
- Events



The Presentation of Arkwright Scholarships was held once again in the inspirational surroundings of the Institution of Engineering and Technology building on the banks of the Thames in London. President Peter Cooper attended the event along with immediate past president Mike Gurr to congratulate our MES Arkwright Scholar, Mr Gary Cheung from Woodlesford near Leeds. Gary is our third MES sponsored Arkwright Scholar.

The MES are proud to be associated with the Arkwright Scholarships and to support UK Engineering and Education.

Arkwright Scholarships

Sir Richard Arkwright inventions were a catalyst for the Industrial Revolution. He is most famous for the design and development of the water powered spinning frame. He rose from humble beginnings to Knight of the Realm. His reputation for innovation and invention is the example that the Arkwright Scholarships promotes and extends to today's talented and hard-working students. The Arkwright Scholarships organisation has a



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proven track record in encouraging and stimulating talented 15 - 16 year old youngsters to take up engineering or technological careers by awarding Scholarships funded by industry partners, institutions and the MES.

Mr Gary Cheung attends Queen Elizabeth Grammar School in Wakefield. He has an impressive record of GCSE 's

The MES will be supporting our 4th Arkwright Scholar later in 2010 , further details to follow.

Presidents Prelude.



My year as President is almost over, but the months since my inauguration seem to have flown by.

In the last issue of this newsletter, I referred to the disappointing attendance at our National Conference and AGM

at Ravenscar, and asked you all to express your views. It saddens me deeply that the response to this invitation was zero. Notwithstanding this apathy, your Council has given serious consideration to the future form of the National Meeting, and has decided that in 2010 we will hold a two day Industry Professionals Conference in the Nottingham Hilton on 14th/15th October. This major event is advertised elsewhere in this issue, and thanks to a lot of hard work put in by several members, is already in an advanced stage of preparedness. As part of the process, it has also been decided that the Society AGM will be held separately, on 16th September in Chesterfield.

As well as being involved with Council business, I have also attended several other meetings and functions. In mid – October, together with five other MES members, I attended the BCURA Robens Coal Science Lecture at the Institute of Physics in London. At the end of October I was back in London, this time at the Institute of Engineering and Technology on the Thames Embankment, where our MES sponsored Arkwright Trust scholar, Gary Cheung, received his award. My third visit to the capital, on 1st December, was to the Houses of Parliament at the invitation of the Engineering and Technology Board, to attend the launch of *Engineering UK*. Three days later, my wife Christine and I enjoyed a great night among many friends at the Northern

Group Christmas Dinner Dance at the Crown Hotel in Bawtry.

Since the New year started, I have attended the Southern Group / South Midlands Mining Institute Hopley Memorial Lecture in Ashby, a joint MES / IOQ meeting in Walshford, and a Northern Group technical meeting at UK Coal Harworth. In mid–March Christine and I enjoyed another great Society social event - the Scottish Group Dinner Dance in Dunfermline, then a month later we were at the Minerals Industry Joint Dinner Dance in Sheffield, one week before we flew off to Lexington for the International Coal preparation Congress. This major event will be the subject of a separate newsletter. In between, I attended a Royal Society of Chemistry symposium on prospects for growth in coal use, and the Coal Research Forum Annual Meeting.

Since my return from Lexington, I have been involved in preparations for the Symposium that the Society hopes to stage at the Nottingham Hilton in October (see flyer in this issue), and in more discussions about the future of the Society. By the time I hand over to my successor in September, I will be tired but happy to have been involved in so much of the Society's business. I only wish that more of you would take the opportunity to join us at these events and enjoy what the Society has to offer. So please, do come along and meet up with me and maybe some old friends and ex-colleagues, I can promise that you will be made welcome!

Peter Cooper



The newly rebranded Crown Hotel in Bawtry provided the backdrop for the Northern Group's Christmas Dinner & Dance, an event which is traditionally

Northern Group Christmas Dinner and Dance .

oversubscribed. Because of its good food and ambience. This year was no disappointment either with over 100 members and guests turning up to enjoy some of Yorkshire's finest hospitality.

The meal consisted of traditional Christmas Dinner, roast turkey with all the trimmings accompanied by fine wines and beers. Rounded off by an amazing array of sweets

and liqueurs.

The evening was rounded off by dancing and a raffle until the very early hours

The event is set to take place again this year , so if you would like to enjoy some Northern Hospitality then contact Andrew Howells

hon.sec.mes@lineone.net

First come first served!

Welcome to Engineering UK.



As a member of Engineering UK, previously known as the Engineering and Technology Board (ETB), the MES was invited to the launch of their flagship 'Engineering UK' annual report on engineering and technology in the UK.

The prestigious event took place at the Houses of Parliament in Westminster. Representing the Society this year were MES President Peter Cooper and immediate Past President Mike Gurr. They were treated to fine parliamentary Fayre as canapés and hot punch were served on the Terrace at the House of Commons. Phil Willis, MP for Harrogate and Knaresborough, Sir Anthony Cleaver EUK Chairman, and Paul

Jackson EUK's Chief Executive presented the Engineering UK report.

For the past 12 years the Engineering UK report has provided policy-makers with an evidence base across the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) continuum. The 2009/10 edition is a comprehensive edition, built upon feedback from stakeholders and contains extensive supply trends, discussion of demand-side issues, enhanced information on political and economic environment, as well as benefiting from expert external case study contributions from various organisations. The interactive Engineering UK 2009/10 report with all its statistics can be seen at the ETB website www.engineeringuk.com.

The ETB inspires young people to choose a career in engineering and promotes the key role that engineers, engineering

and technology plays in our society. Engineering UK is an independent, not-for-profit organisation whose purpose



is to promote the vital contribution that engineers, and engineering and technology, make to our society.

They also aim to inspire people at all levels to pursue careers in engineering and technology. They work with partners across business and

industry, education and skills, the professional engineering institutions, the Engineering Council and the wider science and engineering communities. Engineering, now more than ever, is critically important to the UK.

Whether it's climate change or sustainable energy - engineering can make the wider world better. It also provides one of the most satisfying and rewarding careers possible. If you feel the same way and would like to join the MES, please get in touch with Mr. Andrew Howells at hon.sec.mes@lineone.net.

For the past 12 Years The Engineering UK Report has provided policy makers with evidence"



Scottish Dinner & Dance, Keavil House Hotel.



The Minerals Engineering Society Scottish Group held their Annual Dinner Dance at their new venue the Keavil House Hotel in Crossford near Dunfermline. The ever-popular event attracted over 100 guests who enjoyed excellent Scottish hospitality, fine food, good music

and good company! Included in the MES members who travelled from South of the border with their partners, to be warmly greeted by Billy Ogg and Willie Wishart, were the National President Peter Cooper, past presidents Ian Flanagan and Mike Gurr and Steve Pringle who had ventured North for this truly spectacular event. The weather for the weekend was extremely kind allowing the attendees to partake in some of the Scottish Hospitality and shopping on offer in the Dunfermline and Stirling areas.

until most people retired to the bar in the "wee" hours.

Thanks Billy & Willie for a great night!

"The ever popular event attracted over 100 guests who enjoyed the Scottish hospitality"

Entertainment at the Dinner and Dance was provided by the usual high quality live band and the night was danced away to both modern and traditional sounds



Northern Group Golf Tournament.

Prize winners were: -

"Norec Trophy" for members – Peter Skinner 35 points

"Metso Trophy" for guests- Ian Wright 34 points

"Arthur Mason Shield" was won by a team lead by David Young who was joined by Jonathan Moser, Ian Wright and Mick Cockerham who scored 74 points

The weather was once again kind to us on the day when a disappointing total of 14 intrepid golfers met at Styrrup Hall Golf and Country Club for the now well established Yorkshire Golf Day. There was an extra trophy up for grabs as the former Northern Section had allowed the "Arthur Mason Shield" to be played for as there was no competition in the north east last year, it was decided to create a new



category for this and it will awarded to the winners of the team competition. The course played long and the scoring reflected the poor conditions that had prevailed in the days before but completion was again fierce with no quarter given or asked for .



Coal Methane Drainage & Utilisation by Harworth Power.



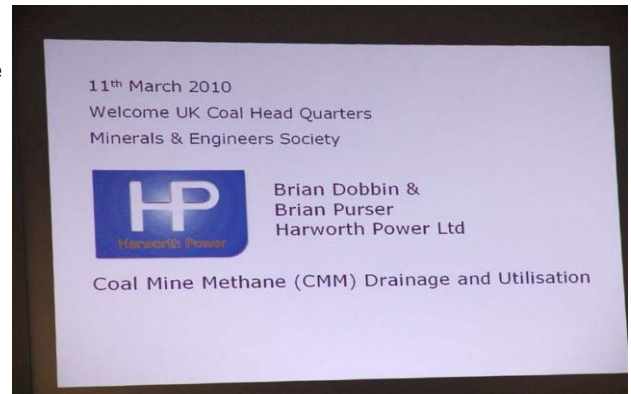
Mr Brian Dobbin & Mr Brian Purser of Harworth Power Ltd gave members of the Northern group a very informative and illustrated presentation on the drainage of

Coal Methane and its utilisation, how it is collected and if the quantity and quality met certain parameters the gas could be used to generate electricity in specially designed plant on the surface of the mine. The gas produced in all of UK Coal's mines, of which Harworth is just one and has been on care and maintenance for the last 4 years has added significant value to the overall business by using this methane.

Coal mine methane accounts for 6% of the world's methane emissions resulting from human activities. In 2005 CMM accounted for 400 million tonnes of CO² equivalent, by 2020 this is set to rise to 450 million tonnes

There was a pleasing turnout of over 20 members and guests and it is hoped to hold a similar meeting at the same venue next year.

Thanks go to UK Coal for the use of their facilities and the splendid buffet.



BCURA Robens Coal Science Lecture.

Mr Holt's lecture embraced a whole host of data illustrated by numerous graphs and diagrams. It was impossible to keep track of all that he said and the following can only be a *pot pourri* of that which was perceived to be particularly striking.

Intriguingly, Mr Holt did not enter the debates as to whether the planet is, or is not, threatened by global warming or whether carbon capture and storage (CCS) is a means of contributing to the solution of this problem. Mr Holt's paper dwelt entirely on the problems associated with CCS and, even then, he left his audience to decide on whether or not those problems are surmountable.

Mr Holt divided the world into three groups of nations: the Coalition, by which he meant the major advanced westernised nations, the BRIC Countries (Brazil, Russia, India and China), and the Remainder. He projected the extent to which CSS and other measures appeared likely to succeed in each of these groupings. Two of Mr Holt's points appeared to be

particularly pessimistic to advocates of CCS. Firstly, whereas the Coalition ought to be able to commence CCS now if the will is there, the BRIC Countries could not start until 2030 at the earliest ... and even after 2030 only half of China's carbon emissions could be eliminated by the implementation of CCS.

Secondly, whilst discussing different methods of CCS, Mr Holt observed that, in order to bring about CCS, whichever method was used some 60% to 70% of the calorific value of the 'raw' materials would be lost during the process ... and, what's more, it would cost a fortune to implement! You pay more and get less!

Mr Holt delivered his lecture in a non-contentious manner and made no attempt to influence his audience by drawing his own conclusions to the data which he presented. Alas, the structure of the session did not allow for Questions & Answers and it was not possible to seek Mr Holt's own opinions and conclusions.

The Society was strongly represented at a prestige lecture held recently at The Institute of Physics in London. President Peter Cooper and National Secretary / Treasurer Andrew Howells were accompanied by Past Presidents Ian Flanagan, John Hillman and Douglas Jenkinson, as well as Hon. Archivist Vic Branfoot, to hear Mr Neville Holt deliver the Annual Robens Coal Science Lecture organised by The British Coal Utilisation Research Association.

Mr Holt is Technical Fellow for Advanced Coal Generation Technology in the Environment and General Division at the Electric Power Research Institute in Pal Alto, California. He is also technical lead for the Coal Fleet programme of Future Coal Generation Technology Options. His lecture was entitled "Coal Usage in a Carbon-constrained World?" and was delivered to a packed audience embracing many experts in such matters.

Southern Group, Hopley Lecture 2010.

Southern Group was delighted to welcome our National President Peter Cooper to the joint MES – SMMMI Hopley Lecture held at the Willesley Park Golf Club on the 21st January 2010. The long standing and enduring relationship between the MES Southern Group and the South Midlands Mining & Minerals Institute once again brought about an interesting and well attended 'Hopley Lecture'. The Hopley Memorial Lecture as many members will recall was established as an annual lecture in 1976 by the South Midlands Branch of the Association of Mining Electrical and Mining Mechanical Engineers (AMEME) to commemorate the life and work of the late F J Hopley Past President of the Association who died in May 1971.



This year's event which was held at the Willesley Park Golf Club, Ashby de la Zouch produced a milestone in the history of the 'Hopley' in that it was the first to be presented by a woman. Carolyn Abel is the Principal Curator of the Snibston Heritage Centre and it is perhaps a little poignant that Carolyn agreed to give her presentation which was entitled '**Snibston – Celebrating our Industrial Heritage**', particularly given that many in the audience had been involved in the technical development and operation of the local mining industry. Carolyn outlined the history of Snibston Colliery which was sunk by George Stephenson in 1833 and remained in operation for some 150 years, and was a major contributor to the birth and growth of the town of Coalville whose centre is only around 650m from the mine. The mine closed in the 1980's and the mine site was bought by Leicestershire County Council in 1986 with the intention of developing it into an interactive science and industrial heritage museum and country park.



The audience were taken through the development of the site which now includes five major galleries, a railway and the country park which was developed around what was the colliery spoil tip. Snibston does and will continue to depend to a large extent on volunteers supporting the organisation, particularly those who previously worked in the mining industry with tales to tell and skills to offer. Carolyn concluded her presentation with an open invitation for volunteers and for people to become 'Friends of Snibston' and help secure its future and preserve our industrial heritage. The 40+ people in the audience responded with a wide variety of questions the first of which came from Doug Jenkinson who pointed out that in all the mining artefacts and technology exhibited at Snibston there was no reference to the role of coal

preparation in the industry. Carolyn acknowledged this shortfall and welcomed any input from members of the audience on how it might be addressed. This certainly has provided food for thought from those of a coal preparation background as to how they might help. **Watch this space!!** The Hopley Shield and inscribed tankard were presented by David Eastwood President of SMMMI.

Northern Group, Technical Meeting.

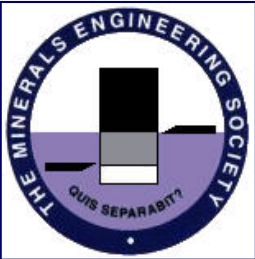
The February meeting of the Northern IoQ Branch Chairman Mark Sacker introduce Professor Kingman at The Bridge Inn, Walshford, just North of Wetherby, with members of the Yorkshire Branch of the Institute of Quarrying. This year it was our turn to offer a speaker and we fielded the impressive Professor Sam Kingman from Nottingham University to speak on the subject of 'Microwave Processing of Ores and Minerals'. The meeting started with the usual hot buffet supper, following which 33 MES and IoQ members and guests heard

minerals to microwave energy breaking ores and minerals rather than use for heating or drying, for which conventional burners remain more efficient and cost effective. The ability to focus microwaves, however, combined with a scientific analysis of the responses of various



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The meeting closed with a Vote of Thanks proposed by our National President, Peter Cooper.



Who will Keep the lights on?

UK Energy Symposium, Hilton Hotel

Nottingham, UK. 14th & 15th October 2010

A Two-Day Symposium

With an ever increasing gap between energy supply and demand, who will really keep the lights on? Why not come and find out? This event will feature speakers from The Department of Energy and Climate Change, The major Electricity generating companies, Manufacturers and Suppliers all presenting their view on who will really keep the lights on in the UK. Are Renewables and Nuclear the answer? Can coal compete? What really is Carbon Capture and Storage and is it economically viable? These and many more questions will be answered in Nottingham in October by the most comprehensive panel of experts available.

Full details of this conference will be given in a separate flyer and in notifications from your Group and National Secretary's



Symposium Gala Dinner

A Symposium Gala Dinner will be held on the Evening of Thursday 14th October 2010. This will consist of fine dining and the cost of this is included in the symposium fees. After dinner entertainment will be by a comedian. This Dinner is also open to companies simply wishing to entertain guests or clients and further details are available on the website www.mineralsengineering.org or by e mail from the Symposium Secretary Mr Andrew Howells hon.sec.mes@lineone.net

MES National Golf Day 30th July 2010 Styrupp Hall Golf & Country Club, Doncaster.



The Golf Day is open to all Members and guests. It will

commence at Middy and there will be individual and Team competitions. Tea & Coffee on arrival, 18 holes of Golf and the Renowned Steak Pie Dinner to Finish all for £26 For further details please contact **Mr Andrew Howells** Tel:- 01909 591787

AUSTRALIAN COAL PREPARATION SOCIETY LIMITED <small>ABN 74 001 837 145</small>		National Board PO Box 2315 DANGAR NSW 2309 Tel: 02 4926 4870 Fax: 02 4926 4902 Email: acpsnational@acps.com.au www.acps.com.au
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THIRTEENTH AUSTRALIAN COAL PREPARATION CONFERENCE

COAL PREPARATION 2010
 "ADVANCING COAL PREPARATION TECHNOLOGIES FOR OUR FUTURE"

CAIRNS CONVENTION CENTRE, CAIRNS, QUEENSLAND
 12th – 17th SEPTEMBER 2010

Why not join friends and MES members "down under" for the ACPS flagship event? Meet up with Ex Pat's and experience leading edge technology in the field of Coal Preparation. You know us Poms will be made welcome and it's guaranteed barbeque weather and with Fosters flowing like the Murray river who could resist?

EVENTS 2010

Sad Loss

We are saddened to report the death of Mr David Eastwood, President of the South Midlands Mining and Metals Institute and a good friend of the Minerals Engineering Society. He was involved in the long standing collaborations with South Midlands and Southern Groups and was working with the MES on organising the planned joint seminar in October which he was approaching with his usual enthusiasm and humour. David can be seen on page 6 of the Newsletter at this years Hopley lecture. He will be sadly missed

Northern Group AGM

April 19th saw the Inauguration of the new Northern Group Chairman at the Group's AGM in Barnsley. Mr Andrew Howells will take up the reigns for the 2010 / 2011 session in addition to his role as National Secretary & Treasurer.

Andrew has a full programme lined up for 2010 / 2011 including a very interesting Technical visit to a Power Station and a two day Industry Professionals Conference at the Hilton Hotel in Nottingham (see Events page)



On the Social scene, events kick off with the "National Golf Day" at Styrrup Golf and Country Club on 30th July 2010 and there will be the usual Christmas Dinner & Dance at the Crown Hotel Bawtry in December 2010

Look out for further details in the correspondence from your Group Secretary and in the next edition of our new newsletter "Horizons"



For the eagle eyed amongst you, you will have noticed the photograph bears a strange resemblance to last years when Andrew stood in for Group Chairman Greg Kelly and presented the Group Medal to Colin (see picture on left), this year the roles

were reversed and saw the medal presented back to Andrew, some might say history repeating itself?

A Message from the Editor



Well here we are again summertime already and not one of our finest hours on the sports scene, England out of another world cup courtesy of the Germans and our Wimbledon tennis hopes smashed by the Spanish, still the sun is shining and the rain is staying away so I hope you enjoy the rest of the summer.

This time of year is traditionally a quiet time for the Minerals Engineering Society, but with the Nottingham Energy Conference looming in October your Symposia and Exhibition committee are working harder than ever to ensure the event is a success, so please support them, full details are given in the Events Section of this Newsletter. Your Group Chairmen are also busy working on their programmes for the coming year and are trying to be as inventive as possible to capture your interest with visits and presentations, so please support them too they put in a lot of hard work for your benefit, remember this is **YOUR** Society.

The next Edition of "Horizons" will be a Coal preparation special and will focus on the International Coal preparation Congress held in Lexington USA, earlier this year. It will be full of reports and photographs from the members that attended and will also feature articles from the ladies present on the Horse farms and other Kentucky tourist attractions.

As always we welcome your contributions to "Horizons" but it saddens me to say that despite major changes to your Newsletter now there is no MQR Magazine, I have not had one single e mail from a Member of this Society, other than Council Members. If we have got it wrong tell us, If we have got it right tell us but please don't just sit there on the fence assuming the "good old few" will take care of your Society for you because one day that won't happen.

To make things easier for you we've set up a dedicated e mail address for newsletter items, comments or feedback to be submitted newsletter@fdcgroupp.co.uk Please don't be shy we'd love to hear from you.