

British Tunnelling Society

at The Institution of Civil Engineers

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NEWSLETTER January 2002

INTRODUCTION

The new Session has now started and we have had two meetings in October, on Antwerp Tunnels, and in November, on the problems at Hull. The film evening has been held in December.

The editor was not at the November meeting on Hull, but he understands that there was a frank discussion about the problems but that there were no conclusive reasons for the collapse. We look forward to the future report in T&TI.

Due to organisational reasons the AGM was delayed from the October meeting to the November meeting. Details of your new Committee are given below.

JAMES CLARK MEMORIAL MEDAL

The James Clark Memorial Medal is available to be awarded annually for lifetime achievement in tunnelling.

Peter South, the BTS Chairman, presented the award, at the October meeting of the Society, to Katie, Richard and Sarah Wallis on behalf of their late father, David Wallis who died last November partway through his term of office as Chairman of the Society.

Peter South gave a short history of his nearly 40 year career with Halcrow which included two spells on the Channel Tunnel, in 1974 and 1986 and latterly on the CTRL. (An appreciation of his life was given in the January 2001 issue of the Newsletter)

Peter ended saying that David will be remembered for his honesty, integrity and enthusiasm. All who knew him will vouch for his ability to find ways through practical

problems on the job whilst maintaining a sense of balance and fair play.



Peter South with Richard, Katie and Sarah Wallis

NEW COMMITTEE

At the AGM, Chris Smith, Helen Nattrass and Jack Knight resigned. However, all three have agreed to continue as co-opted members for specific tasks.

Chris Smith will continue as Chairman of the Sub-committee preparing the Design Guide and will leave the Committee when the Design Guide has been published next summer.

Jack Knight has been co-opted to continue his work as Chairman of the Awards Sub-committee and the HAVS Working Group.

Helen Nattrass will take over as Chairman of the Lobby Group from Hadyn Davies following a short handover period and will particularly work on the Parliamentary Working Group.

The new elected members of the Committee are David Caiden, W. S. Atkins, Bill Grose, Ove Arup and John Scholey, Brown & Root.

The full Committee is:

Chairman	Peter South
Vice Chairman	Anthony Umney
Past Chairman	Eric Snowden

Retire 2002	David Court
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Chris Smith

Retire 2003	Anthony Deane
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Eddie Woods

Retire 2004	David Caiden
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Bill Grose

John Scholey

ICE Representative	Peter Jewell
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IMM Representative	Alan Bozeat
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Co-opted	Myles O'Reilly
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Donald Lamont

Jack Knight

Helen Natrass

Reporting -	ITA	Martin Knights
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	Newsletter	Rodney Craig
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	Insurance	Terry Mellors
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The Chairman of the Sub - committees are:

Papers and Meeting	Eddie Woods
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Training and Education	Peter Jewell
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Awards	Jack Knight
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Finance	Anthony Umney
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Health & Safety	Donald Lamont
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Design Guide	Chris Smith
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Tunnelling Lobby	Helen Natrass
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T&TI Advisory Board	Myles O'Reilly
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International Tunnelling	
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Association	Martin Knights
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Annual Dinner	John Scholey
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Newsletter	Rodney Craig
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Insurance	Terry Mellors
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If anyone wishes to contact any Sub-Committee Chairman, they should contact Dionne Dalgety, the BTS Secretary at the above address.

The ICE Representative on the Committee for many years has been Terry Mellors. Terry's sterling work in this area has, among many other things, recently led to proposals for amendments to the Society's Constitution, the rescheduling of BTS Committee and Sub-Committee meetings to make them more effective and to reduce administrative cost.

The Society would like to thank Terry for his long service on the Committee, which has included his terms of office as Vice Chairman, Chairman, and Past Chairman and subsequently ICE Representative. His past knowledge of the workings of the Society has been invaluable. He will,

however, continue to give us his experience as Chairman of the Insurance Working Group.

The post of ICE Representative includes attending meetings of the British Geotechnical Association (BGA). Peter Jewell, Brown & Root, has agreed to take over the position of ICE Representative on the Committee.

Consideration has been given to the date of the Annual General Meeting, which has been for many years in October. This date was originally fixed because the Society's financial year ended in June

In 1995 the ICE requested that the financial year should be changed to fit in with the ICE calendar and the financial year was changed to 1st January to 31st December from 1st January 1996.

It has now been agreed that future AGMs will be held in May.

GOSSIP

Gareth Mainwaring and Colin Weeks received their award for the triennial Baker Medal at the ICE Annual Awards Ceremony in November at the Institution for their paper on 'the Detailed Design of the Medway Tunnel Project'.

A picture of Gareth and Colin receiving the award will be in the next issue of the Newsletter.

Jim Buchanan, Douglas Parkes and Dick Watts have recently been awarded Distinguished Service Certificates by BSI in recognition of their work in connection with BS6164 over the past 25 years. We also congratulate all three of them on behalf of the BTS.

FUTURE MEETINGS

All meetings at the ICE at 17.30 unless stated.

17th January 2002 **Tunnelling in Switzerland
Lep Tunnels - Cern
AlpTransit**

24th January 2002 **Joint meeting with South of
Scotland, Tunnelling at Ayr**
Contact John Henderson
01413321425

21st February 2002 **Joint meeting with IMM,
Innovative mine construction
and development**

6th March 2002 **Joint Meeting with East
Midlands Association Notts,
Derby and Leics Branch**

Leicester Northgates Project,
Quality Inn, Loughborough at
6.30

21st March 2002 **Joint meeting with Teeside
ICE, Tunnelling around
Teeside**

Details from Colin Fenby
01642800400

21st March 2002 **Debate**

9th April 2002 **Half day meeting on
settlement, face loss and
building damage - a review of
the London Jubilee Line
Extension experience**

18th April 2002 **Copenhagen Metro**

SUBSCRIPTION

The Institution of Civil Engineers has already issued details of the subscription rates for 2002. These are:

Corporate	£500	Overseas	£800
Individual	£ 50	Overseas	£ 80
Student	£ 17.50	Overseas	
	£ 25		
Retired	£ 20	Overseas	£ 25

Please ensure that you pay these promptly. Those who have not paid by March 2002 will not receive copies of Tunnels & Tunnelling International

PARLIAMENTARY WORKING GROUP

Lawrie Quinn, MP, has agreed to hold a reception at Portcullis House to inaugurate the formation of the Underground Space Group. More details of the Group, the reception and sponsorship will follow.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

BS 6164:2001

BS 6164:2001 'Code of Practice for Safety in Tunnelling in the Construction Industry' has at last been published. It is available to order from BSI Customer Services on 02089969001.

BS 6100 Part 2

The BSI Committee having finished its work on BS 6164, has been asked to revise BS 6100 Part 2 Section 2.2.3 'Glossary of Building and Civil Engineering Terms -

Tunnels. This document was last published in 1990 and is badly in need of revision. It is hoped that a draft will be issued for comment by BTS members in mid 2002.

Ban on the Use of Acrylamide and Similar Chemicals in Grouting

Existing Substances Regulations (ESR) is a European risk assessment programme for high production volume chemicals. Member States review occupational, environmental and consumer exposure of their chosen chemicals. If the risk assessment identifies that risk reduction measures are required an EU agreed strategy is produced.

The ESR risk assessment of acrylamide by the UK and methacrylic and acrylic acid by Germany have identified risks to the environment from the use of all these chemicals in grouts. Additionally risks for workers and humans via the environment have also been determined for the use of acrylamide grout. Therefore the UK and Germany have developed the corresponding draft risk reduction strategies for these substances.

The UK is proposing a ban on the use of acrylamide grouts in both small scale and large construction use. Germany have suggested a number of options including:

- The introduction of national approval systems for chemical grouts on EU level within the framework of Council Directive 89/106/EEC on construction products.
- Regulation of general conditions for use of chemical grouts for EU level within the framework of Council Directive 2000/60/ec (the Water Framework Directive); and
- Establishing national training systems for field personnel and planners of chemical grout measures.

These risk reduction strategies are still under negotiation; further discussion will take place in early 2002. If agreed these recommendations will be published in the Official Journal of the European Communities and then passed to the relevant authorities, either the European Commission or Member States, to further develop these proposals.

Any member of the Society concerned about these proposals, should contact the BTS Secretary by the end of December 2001. (ed. as you will not be receiving this Newsletter until January; you should make contact as early as possible after you have received it.)

(Ed. For those with knowledge of grouts this recommendation is not unexpected. In fact acrylamides have not been used in Europe since the problems in Sweden and Norway in 1997)

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

The new Sub-Committee consists of Peter Jewell (Chairman), David Court, Tony Deane and Bill Grose. Following the successful tunnel design and construction course held at Royal Holloway College, Egham, in June 2001, this group has started to plan a course for the summer of 2002. If you have particular topics which you would like to see covered, please let us know by e-mailing Peter Jewell at peter.jewell@halliburton.com.

The principal task of this group will be to look at qualifications required by tunnelling personnel in the light of the institutional (Government, Health & Safety Executive, Trade Associations, Insurance Industry, etc.) requirements to demonstrate competence and accreditation. This will build on the findings from the questionnaires on training distributed to BTS members and educational establishments last year.

The International Centre for Geotechnics and Underground Construction (CUC), based in Sargens, Switzerland, holds frequent training courses on a wide range of tunnelling related topics. Further details can be found by visiting www.icguc.com

INTERNATIONAL TUNNELLING ASSOCIATION

The 28th Annual meeting of the International Tunnelling Association will be held in Sydney, Australia, from 2nd to 7th March 2002 in conjunction with the Australian Underground Construction and Tunnelling Association (AUCTA) 11th Tunnelling Conference on Modern Tunnels - Challenges and Solutions.

Details of the conference and how to register can be found on the website www.tourhosts.com.au/ITA2002 or alternatively on the ITA website www.ita-aites.org.

Martin Knights has asked that any member of the Society who plans to attend to let him know so that consideration can be given to the Society's attendance at the various Working Group meetings.

Details of the ITA and the Working Groups were given in the July 2001 Newsletter.

CONFERENCES

Don't forget to look at the back of Tunnels & Tunnelling and World Tunnelling for the forthcoming conferences. You can also look at the ITA website where most of the International conferences are given www.ita-aites.org