

# British Tunnelling Society

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## NEWSLETTER

### January 2005

#### COLIN KIRKLAND

Colin Kirkland's unexpected death from cancer on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2004, at the age of 68 is a great loss to the tunnelling industry worldwide.

Colin joined Halcrow, at the early age of 16, in 1952 and worked for the firm, with the exception of four years with the contractor A. Waddington & Son on the Brixton extension of the London Underground Victoria Line, until he retired in 1996.

He worked initially in the office on tunnelling projects, before moving to site as Resident Engineer on cable tunnels, as Deputy Resident Engineer on the Victoria Line running tunnels between Finsbury Park and Kings Cross and for Highbury Station and as Resident Engineer for the running tunnels between Baker Street and Bond Street on the Jubilee Line.

When he returned to the office in 1975 he was Project Engineer for the challenging Cardiff cable tunnel and gave technical advice on many tunnels both in the UK and overseas.

Colin was made an Associate in 1980 and a Director of Sir William Halcrow & Partners in 1983. He continued to give specialist tunnelling advice and to act as an expert witness. His responsibilities also included the rehabilitation of the Victorian Glasgow Underground.

Colin was Chairman of the British Tunnelling Society from 1985 to 1987.

In 1985 Colin was a member of the Channel Tunnel Group bidding for the Channel Tunnel. The group's bid was accepted in early 1986 and Colin later that year became Technical Director of Eurotunnel, a position he held for 5 years. His many responsibilities included providing technical support to the periodic requests for

further financial support from the 198 banks and to negotiate with the Contractor. Alastair Morton, the Chairman and Colin developed a mutual respect during this period.



Colin Kirkland at the Channel Tunnel Plaque  
(courtesy of the New Civil Engineer)

John King, Alastair Biggart and Colin were jointly awarded the British Tunnelling Society's James Clark Memorial Medal in 1991 for their achievements on the Channel Tunnel and Colin was appointed an OBE in 1992 for services to Civil Engineering.

Between 1989 and 1992 Colin was President of the International Tunnelling Association and later became the ITA Auditor reviewing the work of the Executive.

Colin returned to Halcrow in 1991 and was appointed the Group's Development Director until his retirement in 1996 and continued as a consultant until recently. He gave technical advice on tunnels worldwide, was an expert witness and was appointed to several Disputes

Review Boards, including Chairman of the Board for the Lesotho Highlands Water Project.

Following the Heathrow collapse Colin was chairman of the Institution of Civil Engineers' Commission, which published guidance on the safe use of sprayed concrete linings, which was published in 1996.

Colin had a great interest in the Brunel Engine House at Rotherhithe and was appointed a Trustee in 1992 and became Chairman of the Trustees in 2004.

At home Colin had a long association with Guildford Cathedral. He was appointed a member of the Guild of Stewards of the Cathedral in 1961 and Chief Steward from 1994. He was a Trustee of the Friends of the Cathedral and in 2003 was appointed the first lay member of the Cathedral Chapter.

Colin will be remembered with great affection for his enthusiasm, his interest in the industry and its safety, his human touch, his encouragement to younger members and his sense of humour.

There will be a memorial service on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2005 at 11.30am at Guildford Cathedral

#### STEVE COFFEY

Steve Coffey died very suddenly on a plane returning back to the UK in January. Steve was only 53. An obituary will be written for the next issue of the Newsletter

#### GOSSIP

Any interesting news about members to [rodneycraig@compuserve.com](mailto:rodneycraig@compuserve.com)

#### FUTURE MEETINGS and EVENTS

All meetings now start at the Institution at 18.00 unless stated, with tea and coffee on the lower ground floor from 17.30. The bar opens at 17.30 and is open until late. Flysheets on the details of the meetings are circulated in advance in T&TI and details are also posted on the website a month or so in advance of the meeting.

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| 17 <sup>th</sup> February | Joint meeting with IMMM, Mechanised coal mine construction in Iran |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> March    | London Tideway Interceptor Tunnel                                  |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> April    | Harding Prize  |

#### HARDING PRIZE COMPETITION 2005

The Harding Prize is named after the founder Chairman of the Society, Sir Harold Harding, and is awarded biennially. The Competition is open to all aged 33 or under on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2004.

Papers must be written, submitted and presented by an individual. The paper must be original and relate to any aspect of tunnelling considered of interest to those associated with tunnelling. The papers will be reviewed by the BTS Sub-Committee and the authors of selected papers will be invited to make oral presentations at the April meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2005.

Copies of the rules have been circulated or are available from Gavin Bowyer, the Secretary. The winner of the Competition will receive a certificate, a cheque for £500, a copy of Sir Harold Harding's book and two tickets for the Annual Dinner. Those entrants selected for oral presentations will receive a £100 cheque. All other entrants submitting papers which the Sub-Committee consider are of the approved standard will receive a cheque for £50. In addition all entrants whose papers are of the approved standard will receive a year's free membership of the Society.

**It is not too late to write papers, but they must be submitted to Gavin Bowyer by 28<sup>th</sup> February 2005.**

#### TUNNEL LOBBY GROUP

The next meeting of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Underground Space (APGUS) will take place on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 18.00 in Portcullis House. It will be a presentation by Jack Knight, of Haswell, about 19<sup>th</sup> Century tunnels which are still in use today. It will look at their significance as heritage and assets. Anyone interested in attending should contact Helen Nattrass.

APGUS is also planning a visit for Parliamentarians to Abbey Mills pumping station 'The Cathedral of Sewage' in East London in mid-May. We may have to cancel this if we have a clash with the General Election!

Further information from Helen Nattrass [h.nattrass@sir-robert-mcalpine.com](mailto:h.nattrass@sir-robert-mcalpine.com)  
Tel 0207 808 5000

## BTS DINNER

Plans are well advanced for this year's annual dinner, which will be at London's 'The Brewery' banqueting centre on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May.

There will be a speaker, but along more conventional lines than of late. This year's speaker is Robbie Glen (ex-governor of Barlinnie Prison in Glasgow), who has an excellent reputation for entertaining his audience.

There will be music to end the evening, provided this year by 'Get-it', described as a 'most versatile showband for all occasions'.

For the last three years we have presented the Tunnelling Industry Awards during the dinner. The awards ceremony has now grown to the level where it merits its own event, which will be held during Underground Construction 2005 (see below). Therefore, the annual dinner will return to being a non-technical social occasion (except perhaps for the many tunnel schemes that will be rebuilt by those round the bar at the end of the evening!).

Further details, including the menu, will very soon be available on the BTS website where, once again, you will be able to make your booking on line.

## TUNNELLING AWARDS

This year's Tunnelling Industry Awards will be held during an evening reception on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> October as part of Underground construction 2005. This takes place at Olympia Exhibition Centre in Kensington, London.

The BTS Committee is still seeking sponsors for the awards. For 2005 we are proposing two levels of sponsorship. 'Gold' sponsor at £1,000 and 'Silver' sponsor at £500. If anyone is interested in sponsoring an award, please contact Bill Redhead via e-mail at [bill.redhead@halliburton.com](mailto:bill.redhead@halliburton.com)

## UNDERGROUND CONSTRUCTION 2005

The Underground Construction 2005 Conference and Exhibition will take place at Olympia, London, UK on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2005. The First Bulletin and Call for Papers can be found on the BTS website and is an insert in journals.

It is currently planned to have a single stream of Conference session, and, to make the event more relevant and worthwhile, sessions will focus on some of the Big Issues which are effecting UK and International tunnelling, including:

- Political and financial mechanisms for ensuring the delivery of underground projects
- Providing a future for the UK Tunnelling Industry
- Urban and environmental constraints for underground projects
- Refurbishment of old tunnels

Topics for papers include:

- Design and construction
- Case histories
- Environmental aspects
- Machines and methods
- Health and safety
- Rehabilitation and refurbishment
- Contract procurement
- Risk assessment and management

**Abstracts of papers should be no longer than 300 words and written in English and must be received by Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2005. The exclusive method of submitting abstracts (and final papers) is via the Underground Construction 2005 website, [www.tunnelling-show.com](http://www.tunnelling-show.com)**

## VISIT TO ST GOTTHARD ALPTRANSIT TUNNEL

Martin Smith, Rascor, is organising a visit to the Alptransit Railway Tunnels, Lotschberg and Gotthard to mark the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Swiss Tunnelling Society FUS. It is proposed that a party of a maximum of 25 members of the Society will visit the tunnel during the weekend 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> April 2005.

Details have been sent out by e-mail to those whose addresses the Society has. If you wish to attend please contact Martin Smith on [martin.smith@matrics.co.uk](mailto:martin.smith@matrics.co.uk) Please contact him soon as the numbers are limited and more than half of the places have already been reserved.

The proposed programme is:

Day 1 – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April, arrive at Basle Airport before 09.00. Travel to Gotthard north portal and visit Amsteg. Then travel to Bodio Ticino for a FUS social event Musica Ticinese with A Henke, the Presidnet of FUS.

Day 2 – Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April 08.00 Materials handling at south portal visitors centre Bodio. 10.00 travel by bus over St Gottard Massive to Lotschberg and visit the south portal lining/track laying. Followed by a fondu evening in Wallis.

Day 3 – Morning discussion and visit local area. Bus to Basel Airport and flight home.

## THE GROUND FORUM

<http://www.ground-forum.org.uk/>

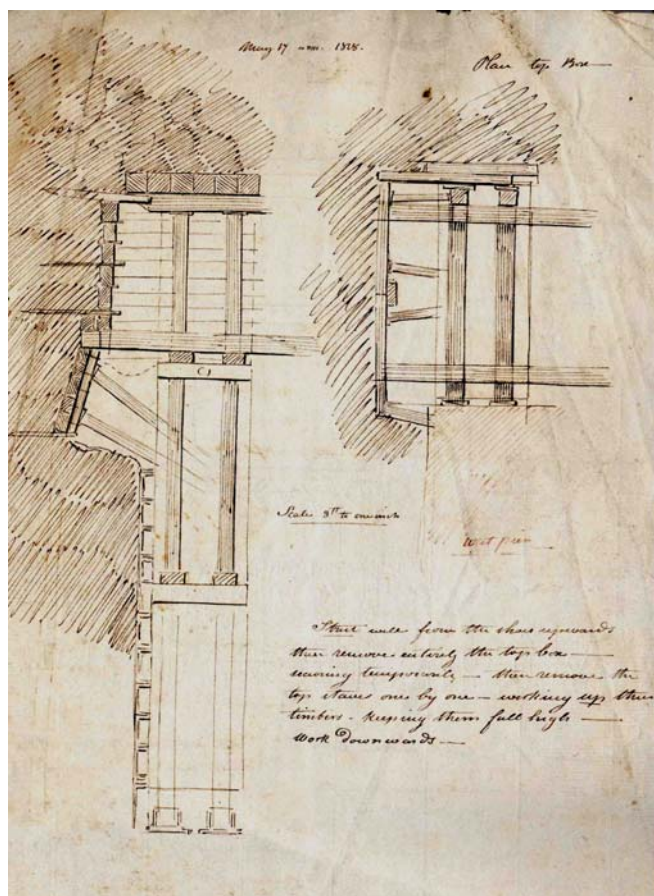
The Ground Forum brings together the learned society and commercial interests within the ground engineering sector. Its members are:

- The Association of Geotechnical & Geoenvironmental Specialists, AGS
- British Drilling Association, BDA
- British Geotechnical Association, BGA
- British Tunnelling Society, BTS
- Federation of Piling Specialists, FPS
- Engineering Group of the Geological Society, Geol Soc
- UK Chapter – International Geosynthetics Society, IGS
- Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining, IoM<sup>3</sup>
- Pipe Jacking Association, PJA, and
- Society for Underwater Technology – OSIG Committee, SUT

The new Chairman of the Ground Forum is Rodney Charteris, from the Geol Soc, who will be in the Chair for the next three years. Anthony Umney and Helen Natrass represent the Society on the Ground Forum.

## BEAMISH DIARY VOLUME

The Institution has purchased another Beamish Diary volume for 1828 to add to the others in its archive with a contribution of £1,500 from the Society. Sir Alan Muir Wood requested that his honorarium for giving the Sir Harold Harding Memorial Lecture last year be used towards the purchase of the volume. The Society agreed and matched this sum to assist the purchase. A scanned page of the volume is shown and in a future Newsletter we will write more about the volumes.



A drawing of timber work from the Beamish Diary for 1828

## INTERNATIONAL TUNNELLING ASSOCIATION

The 31<sup>st</sup> International Tunnelling Association General Assembly will be held in connection with the ITA – AITES 2005 World Tunnel Congress in Istanbul, Turkey from 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> May 2005. Details of the Conference can be found on the Congress website [www.ita2005.org](http://www.ita2005.org)

The early date reduction of the Conference fees is 28<sup>th</sup> February 2005. So book early. If you are attending and would like to attend one of the Working Group meetings on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May, please contact Martin Knights [martin.knights@halliburton.com](mailto:martin.knights@halliburton.com).

On 25<sup>th</sup> January 2005 Claude Berenguier, Director General of the ITA, visited the Society to discuss how the BTS can assist the ITA. David Court, Chairman, Anthony Umney, Past Chairman, Martin Knights, Vice President of the ITA, Sir Alan Muir Wood, Hon. President of the ITA, and Gavin Bowyer, Secretary attended.

At the time of the visit the UK branch of the National Council of Engineers and Scientist of France, CNISF, was meeting at the Institution and a Meccano model of the Eiffel Tower and a section of the new Millau Bridge

was in the foyer. To mark Claude's visit and to emphasise the international nature of the meeting a photograph was taken in front of the model showing the Tricolor and the Union Jack .



Claude Berenguier with Sir Alan Muir Wood, Anthony Umney, David Court and Martin Knights

On 29 November 2004, Alex Sagy, Chairman of the Israeli Engineering Tunnelling Association, visited London and had a meeting with Anthony Umney and Martin Knights to compare society activities and national tunneling industries.

For more news of ITA Member nation activities read the ITA Newsletter <http://www.ita-aites.org/cms/itanews.html>

## REGISTRATION

The first draft of the results of the questionnaire to members was before the Committee at their meeting in January. 94 members replied to the questionnaire, about one in eight of the membership. More work need to be carried out to provide a suitable text for an article in Tunnels & Tunneling International.

## CALLS FOR PAPERS

ITA 2006 World Tunnel Congress, and 32<sup>nd</sup> ITA General Assembly, 22<sup>nd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> April 2006, Seoul, Korea. Abstracts Deadline 1<sup>st</sup> March 2005. [www.ita2006.com](http://www.ita2006.com)

Underground Construction 2005, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> October 2005, London. Abstracts Deadline 24<sup>th</sup> March 2005, (see above)

## CONFERENCES

Don't forget to look at the back pages of Tunnels & Tunnelling International and Tunnelling and Trenchless Construction for the conferences coming up over the next two years. Also the International Tunnelling Association website [www.ita-aites.org](http://www.ita-aites.org)

12<sup>th</sup> Australian Tunnelling Conference 2005, 17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> April 2005 Brisbane, Australia, "Tunnelling Towards Better Cities" including and accompanying workshop on "Tunnel Waterproofing and Grouting" [www.tunnelling2005.com](http://www.tunnelling2005.com)

ITA – AITES 2005; World Tunnel Congress and 31<sup>st</sup> ITA General Assembly, 7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> May 2005, Istanbul, Turkey, [www.setur.com.tr](http://www.setur.com.tr)

RETC 17<sup>th</sup> Rapid Excavation & Tunnelling Conference and Exhibition, June 27<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> 2005, [www.retc.org](http://www.retc.org)

Tunnel China 2005, 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> September 2005, Intex Shanghai, [www.tunnel-china.com](http://www.tunnel-china.com)

3<sup>rd</sup> EFEE World Conference on Explosives and Blasting, 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> September 2005, Hilton Hotel Metropole, UK, [www.efee-web.org](http://www.efee-web.org)

Tunnelling for a Sustainable Europe, AFTES Congress 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> October 2005, Chambéry, France, [www.aftes.asso.fr](http://www.aftes.asso.fr)

Underground Construction 2005, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> October 2005, London, UK. [www.tunnelling-show.com](http://www.tunnelling-show.com) (see above)

World Long Tunnels 2005 Taipei, Taiwan, 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> November 2005, [www.longtunnel/2005.tanceb.gov.tw](http://www.longtunnel/2005.tanceb.gov.tw)

ITA 2006 World Tunnel Congress, and 32<sup>nd</sup> ITA General Assembly, 22<sup>nd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> April 2006, Seoul, Korea, [www.ita2006.com](http://www.ita2006.com)

INTER tunnel 06, 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> May 2006, Lingotto Fiere Exhibition Centre, Turin, Italy, e-mail [intertunnel@mackbrooks.co.uk](mailto:intertunnel@mackbrooks.co.uk)