

Meetings and Conferences

The Society is the most active group of professionals within the ICE. As well as regional and joint meetings with associate societies, the BTS organises meetings at the ICE in London together with conferences and seminars for the dissemination of information and the sharing of knowledge and experiences among all sectors of the tunnelling industry.

Central to this is the monthly BTS meeting held every third Thursday of the month, from September to June, at the Institution of Civil Engineers in London. The meetings begin at 6pm in the Telford Theatre and include a session of audience questions and answers. For those unable to attend, each meeting is broadcast live on an internet link and a recording of each lecture is produced and made available on the BTS website for later replay. Each meeting is also reported in the Society's official magazine *Tunnels & Tunnelling International*.

BTS meetings have the reputation of being the most well attended of all ICE and affiliated society meetings with networking in the bar afterwards making it one of the busiest nights of the month. Attendance is open to all, including non-BTS members. There is no charge and all are welcome.

Recent meeting lectures have included:

- Tunnelling Induced Settlements in London Clay.
- A joint meeting with the British Geotechnical Society: What do we want from a GBR?
- A presentation of new BTS/ITA Guidelines for Working with and under High Pressure Compressed Air Conditions.
- Brenner Base Tunnel - Cross border planning of 64km of tunnels.
- Debates on topics that divide opinion and examine each side of the arguments.



From top: BTS Committee, lecture in the Telford Theatre, networking in the bar

Annual Dinner

In early May each year, the BTS hosts a black tie gala dinner for the entertainment, enjoyment and networking of members, their partners and corporate guests.

A highly successful fixture in the annual BTS calendar, the dinner is a sold-out occasion that fills the venue to capacity.



Membership and Benefits

Membership of the Society is open to anyone, anywhere in the world, interested in tunnelling and underground space development and usage. Levels of membership are available for individuals, students and retirees, as well as corporate membership for large, small and medium sized firms.

The benefits of membership include:

- Unlimited access to all parts of the BTS website.
- On-line booking of BTS events, conferences and training courses.
- Annual subscription to the BTS official magazine *Tunnels & Tunnelling International* and its supplements.
- Full access to the *Tunnels & Tunnelling* website at www.tunnelonline.info
- Membership discounts to BTS organised conferences and seminars.
- Membership discounts at the ICE Bookshop.
- Membership access to the ICE Library.
- A vote in the election of BTS Committee members.
- Membership entry to meetings of the Parliamentary Liaison Group.
- Access to the expertise of the BTS technical working groups including the Compressed Air Working Group.

Notification of membership fees and application forms are available on the BTS website.

BTS website

www.britishtunnelling.org.uk

The BTS website holds information on all aspects of the Society including:

- A list of current committee members and officials.
- A programme of monthly meetings and other Society events.
- Current news of Society members and developments.
- Notice of BTS events with on-line booking facility.
- Copies of BTS reports and codes of practice for free pdf download or on-line purchase from the ICE Bookshop.
- News of sponsorships and awards.
- Notice of current working groups, their members and topics of study.
- An archive of Society Newsletters.
- An extensive database of tunnels in Britain with all their salient details.
- A list of frequently asked questions about the running of the Society and its activities and services.
- Links to other associated tunnelling and sister society websites.



ITA website

As a founder member-nation of the ITA, the BTS has a deep and long established link with the International Tunnelling and Underground Space Association and continues to influence its operation and activity.

More details of the ITA and its operations can be found on the ITA website at www.ita-aites.org



BRITISH TUNNELLING SOCIETY

One Great George Street, Westminster, London, SW1P 3AA

bts@britishtunnelling.org.uk



BRITISH TUNNELLING SOCIETY

A learned society of the
Institution of Civil Engineers

Formed to promote the safe, efficient, sustainable
and technically advanced design, construction and
use of underground infrastructure

Front Cover - Courtesy Crossrail Ltd: Launch of two of the eight tunnel boring machines to be used on the Crossrail Project beneath central London



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About the Society

The British Tunnelling Society calls on a long tradition of tunnelling in Britain to continue industry-wide development of this vital field of civil engineering.

Formed in 1971, the Society:

- Conducts monthly meetings at the Institution of Civil Engineers in London.
- Arranges regional meetings and presentations in association with sister associations.
- Publishes industry guidelines and codes of practice.
- Conducts training courses to advance the education of tunnelling professionals and to encourage new recruits to the industry.
- Acknowledges excellence in tunnelling.
- Sponsors and supports industry conferences, congresses and seminars.
- Advises Government and the general public on tunnelling issues.
- Supports a Young Members branch of the Society.
- Maintains a comprehensive and widely informative website.

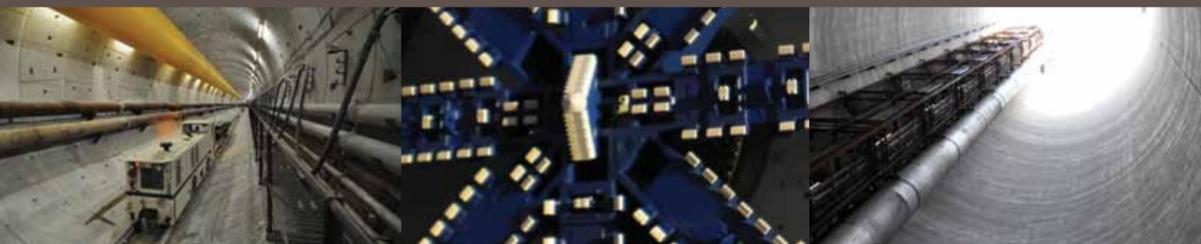


Sir Harold Harding,
Founding Chairman

BTS Chairmen

2012 - 2014	Damian McGirr
2010 - 2012	Robert Ibell
2008 - 2010	Paul Hoyland
2006 - 2008	Bill Grose
2004 - 2006	David Court
2002 - 2004	Anthony Umney
2000 - 2002	Peter South
1999 - 2000	David Wallis
1997 - 1999	Eric Snowdon
1995 - 1997	David Fawcett
1993 - 1995	Colin Mackenzie
1991 - 1993	Roy Jennion
1989 - 1991	Dr Terry Mellors
1987 - 1989	David Donaldson
1985 - 1987	Colin Kirkland OBE
1983 - 1985	Stephen Tough
1981 - 1983	Oliver Bevan
1979 - 1981	Douglas Parkes
1977 - 1979	John Bartlett OBE
1976 - 1977	John King
1975 - 1976	Sir Alan Muir Wood
1974 - 1975	Douglas Parkes
1973 - 1974	Sir Alan Muir Wood
1971 - 1973	Sir Harold Harding

Courtesy Thames Water. Lee Tunnel - tunnel drive, TBM and working shaft.



Links with Government

The BTS actively engages with Parliamentarians from both Houses of Government and all political parties to raise the profile of the tunnelling industry.

Engagement takes a number of different forms including:

- Arranging visits for Members of Parliament to tunnelling projects to show-case underground design and construction expertise.
- Organising presentations to the Members of Parliament to address issues of topical interest.
- Writing to Ministers about particular issues of concern.
- Having a nucleus of Members of Parliament who support the tunnelling sector on committees and among their peers.

Awards and Prizes

The BTS has the honour each year to recognise the efforts and achievements of many within the industry.

The James Clark Medal

Presented annually in recognition of outstanding contributions or achievements and in memory of James Clark, a leading British tunneller who worked on many well-known tunnelling projects.

The Harding Prize

Named after the Society's founding Chairman and open to young professionals aged 33 or younger, the prize is awarded to the winner of a biennial competition to write and present a paper on a new or advanced area of study in the tunnelling industry.

The Harding Lecture

Named also after the founding Chairman, the Harding Lecture takes place every second year, alternating with the Harding Prize, and invites an eminent tunnelling engineer to lecture on a specialist, industry-related subject.



From top: Recipients of the James Clark Medal and young participants of the Harding Prize competition

Education and Training

The BTS sponsors and conducts several programmes to promote tunnelling as a career choice among new construction workers and young graduate and undergraduate engineers.

Masters Degree Course at the University of Warwick

Open to post graduates with a BSc, BEng or MEng degree in Civil or Mechanical Engineering and designed specifically to advance the study of design and construction of underground infrastructure.

Annual Design and Construction Course

Modelled to address the ever-changing face of the tunnelling industry. The week-long course consists of an introduction to all aspects of a tunnelling project from concept to operation.

Annual Health & Safety Course

Addressing exclusively the underground working environment and the particular health and safety issues that working in an underground construction environment can pose.



Scholarships, Bursaries and Apprenticeships

The BTS offers bursaries to assist UK resident students to attend the year long Masters Degree course in tunnelling at the University of Warwick in the UK.

It also sponsors scholarship programmes for young engineers and apprentices of tunnelling to attend courses and training workshops.

Working Groups and Technical Reports

BTS working groups study and report on various aspects of the industry.

Recent reports include:

- BTS Specification for Tunnelling - Third Edition
- Joint BTS/ABI Code of Practice for Risk Management of Tunnel Works
- Monitoring Underground Construction - A Best Practice Guide
- Tunnel Lining Design Guide
- The Management of Hand-Arm Vibration in Tunnelling - Guide to Good Practice
- Best Practice Guide on Occupational Exposure to Nitrogen Monoxide in a Tunnel Environment
- Closed-Face Tunnelling Machines and Ground Stability - A Guideline for Best Practice
- Joint BTS/ITA Guidelines for Good Working Practice in High Pressure Compressed Air

Copies are available as free pdf downloads from the BTS website or as hard copy purchases from the ICE Bookshop.



Young Members

Established in 2008 to encourage the involvement of younger recruits of the tunnelling industry and to promote tunnelling as a career to undergraduates and high school students. It provides a platform on which younger professionals can learn and grow academically and practically within the industry, and is supported by the main BTS Committee. Membership is open to all students and engineers aged 33 and younger.

The BTS-YM:

- Organises regular meetings at the ICE in the Telford Theatre in London to introduce various techniques of tunnelling and address specific topics of interest.
- Arranges site visits to different tunnelling projects in the UK.
- Holds social events to attract young members to meet and network.

BTS Young Members and students of the Tunnel Design and Construction Course



The BTS Young Members group has a dedicated website at www.britishtunnelling-ym.org.uk