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A Message from the Chairman

I welcome you to this special summer edition of the Societies’ newsletter. Our newsletter continues to be a focus for what the Society is contributing to its’ membership and the wider industry. We continue to be very proud of this production and this flagship document shows our valued professionalism within the building services sector.

As we enter the summer of 2013 the overall economic outlook is more optimistic and there are now real signs of stability and growth in some areas of the market.

I would first like to officially welcome Linda Dulieu as our new Honorary Secretary. Linda is a well known and experienced Public Health Engineer and I look forward to working with Linda over the coming year. I am sure that all of you wish Linda every success in her new role within the Society.

In terms of membership we have continued to see stable growth in the overall Membership base. Membership now stands at 191 and I hope to see further growth on this number during the coming months and during the remainder of 2013. Certainly reaching a membership of 200 individual members will be a landmark figure for the Society and I look forward to reporting this at our 10th Annual Dinner in November. Our industry working group has now reached a total of 45 members and we are indebted to each and every industry member for the support that they continue to offer the Society.

The Societies’ CPD technical seminars have continued to take place over the last few months which continues to be a key activity in what SoPHE can offer to its members. A successful number of CPD technical presentations have been run on behalf of the Society in the London area and the other SoPHE Regions and I would like to thank all of those who have contributed to these successful events.

Our AGM took place in June whereby the 4 Serving Officers and Steering Committee Members were elected. A full write-up is also included within this edition.

This is a very special year for the Society as we celebrate our 10th Anniversary. As part of this celebration we have 3 major events taking place during the year, two of which have already taken place.

On 10th May 2013, the 3rd Northern Dinner took place in Manchester. I am delighted to announce that this new established event attracted an even greater attendance than that of last year. Full details of this event are contained within this issue.

I am pleased to also announce that on 20th June 2013, our special 10th Anniversary summer boat trip took place in London on the Thames. I was very privileged to welcome new and existing members to this exclusive event. Further details can be found within this edition.

The final event which will officially celebrate our 10th Anniversary will be held on 7th November 2013, our 10th Annual Dinner which will once again take place in London. I look forward to welcoming all our members and guests to this event.

As previously reported I am coordinating all of the issues that face our industry with the introduction of BS EN 806 & BS 8558 with the aim to representing these findings to the relevant British Standards Committee (BSI) in order to recommend amendments to the current standards. I would therefore again ask all members to send me any inconsistencies that they have for collation purposes. I believe that this is just one of the ways in which the Society is trying to influence industry standards.

I’m sure you will agree with me that this year has and will be a very memorable year for the Society and I look forward to all of your continued support as we celebrate our 10th Anniversary.

As Chairman one of my key aims and objectives is to continue to promote the Society within the general industry at large and I will continue to look for opportunities to do this on behalf of our members. This will continue to remain a priority for me as your Chairman.

Our next edition of the SoPHE newsletter, the autumn edition, is due to be issued to members at the end of October 2013.

Finally, to end this edition of the newsletter I would like as always to thank again all of those who support the Society, whose dedication and enthusiasm enable us to keep improving and moving forward with the ultimate aim of raising the profile of our trusted Society.

Chris Northey
Chairman, SoPHE
SoPHE 10 Year Anniversary Boat Trip

On the evening of 19th June 2003, the Golden Jubilee set sail from Temple Pier to celebrate the official launch of the Society of Public Health Engineers.

Almost exactly 10 years later, on the evening of 20th June and on the same boat, the SoPHE Steering Committee and Industrial Working Group invited SoPHE members to join them in celebrating the 10 year anniversary of the Society of Public Health Engineers. This was an opportunity in thanking them for their support over the last 10 years in helping the society to continually grow in membership and stature.

After threats of rain and thunder showers, the skies cleared earlier in the day over London to produce a warm sunny summers evening – perfect conditions for a cruise down the river.

With a total of 61 guests, comprising individual members as well as representatives from the Industrial member companies, everyone reflected in how the society had grown and matured over the decade but what was encouraging to see was that many of the original faces, responsible for promoting the society in its infant years attended to take part in the celebrations. In order to thank them for all of their support of SoPHE over the years, Jim Buckmaster, Bill Bumstead and Don Barron were invited as Honorary Guests. All were founder members of the original CIBSE Public Health Engineering Group and assisted in the formal set-up of SoPHE. Bill and Jim have continued to input into the SoPHE steering committee since it was conceived, with Jim acting as Hon. Secretary for a number of years.

Left to Right: Alison Franklyn, Martin Shouler and Chris Northey enjoy the sights at the launch of SoPHE in 2003

It isn’t just SoPHE that has changed since the Launch Boat trip back in 2003. While enjoying the fantastic views from the boat, it soon became evident as to how much the London skyline had also changed, with stunning views of the now completed Shard at London Bridge and the rapidly progressing construction of 20 Fenchurch Street (The Walkie Talkie) and 122 Leadenhall Street (The Cheese Grater) in the City. These views allowed everybody to reflect on how much we, as building services engineers, influence, mould and shape our surroundings.

The boat motored down river around the Isle of Dogs to Greenwich at which point dinner was served below deck which consisted of a fine barbeque spread (not a single burnt sausage in sight) and plenty of wine to help with the celebrations. Once at Greenwich, it was possible to see three more new landmarks on the London skyline, the Crystal Visitors Centre, the walking platform over the O2 (for those who don’t mind heights) and the latest river crossing, the Emirates Airline London Cable Car. At this point, the boat did an about-turn and motored back up river past the Millennium Wheel, Big Ben and Houses of Parliament up to beyond Battersea Power Station which gave guests the opportunity to reminisce about how many development schemes they had been involved in to resurrect the old site!

The final leg of the cruise was from Battersea back to Temple Pier as darkness fell. This gave all guests the opportunity to experience the stunning views of the Millennium Wheel and Houses of Parliament illuminated in all their glory – a good photo opportunity.

Having reached Temple Pier, it was time to say farewell after what had been a thoroughly enjoyable evening and a good opportunity to catch up with old acquaintances.

For those that still required a night cap, a conveniently placed Karaoke bar was located on Embankment – I can safely say that there wasn’t a chorus of SoPHE members to be heard!

The SoPHE steering committee would like to offer a big thank you to the Industrial Group for their support over the years, without them the boat trip and many of the social events would not have been possible.

We all now look forward to the next significant date in the SoPHE social diary which is 7th November for the SoPHE Annual Dinner, to be held at the Royal Kensington Gardens Hotel. We look forward to seeing you all there.

NEW MEMBERS
Robin Williams - Student Member
Darren Brooks - Affiliate
Gordon Sharpe - Affiliate
Anna Toczek - Associate Member
Stuart Brown - Member
Neil Essam - Member
Izabela Miniewska - Member
The 3rd Northern dinner of the Society took place on 10th May 2013 at the Midland Hotel in Manchester.

The evening’s proceedings started at 6.00 p.m. where industry colleagues and guests were able to catch up with one another and network before the official proceedings got underway.

The Chairman, Chris Northey, called the dinner to order at 6.30 p.m. where the 117 attendees from all aspects of the industry assembled in the stately surroundings of the Stanley Suite of the Hotel.

Chris Northey, SoPHE Chairman then began his speech by first thanking everyone for attending the 3rd SoPHE Northern dinner and started by introducing the audience to the honoured VIP guests for the evening.

Chris then went onto describe the existing work that the Society had been involved over the last year along with outlining the current plans for the future development of the Society. Membership, education and technical knowledge are still at the core of the Societies’ aims. Chris also highlighted that this was a very special year for the Society, which celebrates its 10th Anniversary.

After dinner the Chairman’s guest speaker, Brian Newbold, entertained the guests present about his many experiences as an engineer at British Coal. Brian’s anecdotes were very informative and most of all very amusing which brought a great atmosphere to the proceedings.

Brian closed his speech by giving thanks to the Chairman for inviting him and to all of the guests for listening to him. Mike Darvill, Industrial Associate Chairman, then rose to thank everyone for attending, which also included thanking the staff at CIBSE for all their efforts leading up to the evening. Mike also thanked all of the sponsors personally for supporting the event by naming each to the audience, these sponsors were as follows: -

- ACO
- A O Smith
- Alumasc
- Blucher
- Connex
- Geberit
- Harmer
- Hydrotec (UK) Ltd
- Lochinvar
- Pipex Ltd
- Saint Gobain PAM UK
- Sentinel
- Vivreau
- Zip

SoPHE would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who attended the 3rd spring dinner and by doing so supports its main aims and objectives of the Society. We are very privileged to have so many dedicated individuals who support the Society.

In particular a great thank you is well deserved especially for all the great help received from Malcolm Atherton, Steve Ingle, Mike Darvill, Peter Hardiman & Alan Flight.

Due to the success of this event the 4th Northern Dinner will take place again in May 2014. Watch this space and we’ll keep you updated with progress and further details will follow nearer the time.

SoPHE London region
Forthcoming technical Seminars
All London Events held at: AECOM, 4th floor, MCP, 71 High Holborn, London, WC1V 8QS (unless otherwise stated)

Date: 10th September 2013
Time: 18:00 – 19:30 (approx.)
Topic: Conservation & control of water at point of use
Sponsor: Delabie

Future seminars (Dates TBC)
- Residential sprinkler design, SoPHE Technical discussion forum
- Legionella control in domestic water systems. An engineers approach.
  By Dave Harper

SoPHE North West region
Forthcoming technical Seminars
All Manchester events held at: The Rain Bar, 80 Great Bridgewater Street, Manchester. M1 5JG

Date: 10th September 2013
Time: 18:00 – 19:30 (approx.)
Topic: Blue roof thinking
Sponsor: Harmer Drainage / Alumasc Rainwater & WSP

SoPHE forthcoming Technical Seminars
“Every water system shall contain an adequate device or devices for preventing backflow of fluid from any appliance, fitting or process from occurring.”

These words in Schedule 2 (para 15) of the Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999 apply to filling closed-circuit heating systems just as they do to any other parts of a plumbing system which is supplied from the public supply.

In case you might think that the risk of backflow is over-played, an example occurred in a block of flats converted from offices. Investigation by the water supplier of complaints about the quality of drinking water discovered that the filling loop had been left connected to the closed circuit and water from the circuit had back-flowed into the supply pipe and was affecting taps. The chemical inhibitor used in the closed circuit was a risk to unborn babies if their mothers had consumed the contaminated water.

The Water Fittings Regulations prohibit the connection of closed circuits for heating systems directly to the supply pipe, without an approved backflow prevention arrangement. (Schedule 2 Clause 24). Approved backflow protection arrangements differ depending on the size of the heating system.

The Water Supply Industry has agreed that for heating systems used in any domestic premises and those used elsewhere with an output of up to 45kW (150,000 Btu/h), such as in small offices, the minimum backflow protection for filling or topping-up the system is a non-verifiable disconnector with different pressure zones (type CA device), or a removable filling loop with a double check valve. The filling loop must be completely disconnected from the supply pipe and the heating circuit after completion of filling, leaving the double check valve on the connection to the supply pipe to protect the connection point in case it is used for other purposes (see Figure 1). This is a change from the arrangements permitted by the former water supply byelaws.

An acceptable variation on these arrangements is where filling is through a fixed manifold, integral with the heater, with a “key” which is removed after filling, leaving an air gap, and where the supply pipe connection cannot be used to attach a hose or other device. In this case the check valve is permitted to be on the “downstream” side of the air gap.

Manufacturers should be well aware of the revised backflow protection requirements, which came into force in England and Wales in 1999, in Scotland in 2000 and in Northern Ireland in 2009. All new water heaters which incorporate filling loops as part of the manufactured boiler must comply with the requirement for the position of the double check valve. Where the filling loop is provided as a separate accessory, a double check valve must be fitted on the “upstream” (supply pipe) side of the loop – a duty which falls on the installer of the equipment.

Heating systems in non-domestic premises with an output of over 45kW (150,000 Btu/h) are a fluid category 4 backflow risk because of the larger volume of the primary circuit, the use of additives and the need for a permanent connection for automatic topping up. They must be protected by a suitably-rated backflow device, such as a reduced pressure zone (RPZ) valve (type BA device) (Figure 2) or similar, such as the Mikrofill unit, which is recognised by the Regulator as a fluid category four backflow prevention device for this purpose.

Consent from the water supplier is required in advance of installation of an RPZ valve or other fluid category four or five mechanical backflow device. For RPZ valves WRAS publishes advice on their design and installation, and guidance on the regular testing and maintenance which is required by the regulations. This is given in the Water Industry Approved Installation Method (AIM) “Type BA Device – Verifiable Backflow Preventer with Reduced Pressure Zone (RPZ Valve)” available free on the WRAS website (http://www.wras.co.uk/Publications).

For more information, see the Water Regulations Guide, published by and available from WRAS or the WRAS website (www.wras.co.uk).

Figure 1: Using a removable filling loop and double check valve (type EC or ED device) for systems of less than 45kW output.

Figure 2: Using a type BA device (RPZ valve) or similar for larger systems above 45kW output.
The fault was considered unusual but not unheard of, lateral piping and strainers in the base of the filter. Washing had led to an early failure of the plastic.”

How the engineer approaches the problem:-

The engineer will:
• Assess the adequacy of the asset planning process.
• Assess the adequacy of the asset management plan.
• Assess whether the asset management plan is up to date and implemented in practice.
• Assess whether the plan clearly assigns responsibilities and whether these have been applied in practice.

Sounds like an awful lot of assessing, but in fact this is just the very tip of the iceberg. Like lawyers, they build up a watertight case based on all the “what if’s”?

Another side of asset management looks at the ‘Effectiveness Criteria’
• Does the planning process and objectives reflect the need of all stakeholders and is it integrated with business planning?
• Have service levels been defined?
• Have non-asset options (e.g. demand management) been considered.
• Have the lifecycle costs of owning and operating assets been assessed?
• Have funding options been evaluated?
• Are the costings justified and have the cost drivers been identified?
• Have the likelihood and consequences of asset failure been predicted?
• Are the plans being regularly reviewed and updated?
• Is the capability of the plant adequate to meet future demand?

With reference to the above scenario, the asset team focus more on, what the owner/operator has in place to mitigate a serious environmental breach. Having seen how an ‘asset management team’ build up their case, I can equate it to clearing a path through a jungle, acknowledging dangers whilst ensuring measures are put in place to handle potential mishaps.

In respect to the above WWTP, the management and operation will be looked at under a microscope to determine whether or not the parties responsible have something to answer to, which is why the big mining companies, port authorities, transport infrastructure providers and many more have an ‘Asset Management’ team on board from day one - rather than face the consequence when things go pear shape. I at least now understand why sensitive projects employ such people to shore up all the “What if’s?”
If I told you that waste/sewage can run uphill, then you would probably think that you’re either in a parallel universe where the laws of gravity don’t exist or you’re using vacuum technology.

Vacuum in buildings isn’t a new concept. The first systems in buildings date back to the Victorian era. Since then the EVAC Vacuum Drainage System has been modified and refined to fit into the demands of the 21st century building services design mould.

HISTORY

The modernisation of vacuum drainage started in the 1950’s when a Swedish engineer called Joel Liljendahl developed a toilet that could flush with air and use little water. The rights to the vacuum toilet concept were sold to Electrolux. During the 1970’s another company, EVAK started to compete with Electrolux in this field. In 1975 the companies merged and the new company EVAC was formed. Today EVAC remains the world leader in this field even though today the main user for the vacuum drainage technology is the transport sector, Evac now has thousands of building installations worldwide from major supermarket chains up to large commercial buildings including 5 star hotels and major infrastructure projects like St Pancras international railway station and Terminal 5 Heathrow

DESIGN FLEXIBILITY

The EVAC Vacuum Toilet System could not be simpler. Instead of relying on traditional solutions, which use the principle of gravity to remove waste and are heavily reliant on the location of services cores and outgoing sewer connections, the EVAC system creates a powerful vacuum to flush the toilet. This allows a system which is capable of lifting sewage from appliances, such as WC’s to run in overhead voids. The system offers the designer a greater flexibility and freedom to position appliances where most suitable for the building. The pipework can then drop through the building in the most convenient locations and not be dependent on service duct locations. Vacuum transportation means there is no requirement for a continuous fall of pipework across the building with the added bonus that vacuum pipes have the ability to route around obstacles such as beams, air conditioning ducts and other services.

In multiple occupancy buildings, drainage pipework can remain within your client’s domain with only a single floor penetration.

SIMPLE AND RELIABLE

Once the flush button is pushed, a pneumatic signal is sent to the control mechanism. This then opens the discharge valve, allowing vacuum from the pipe work system to the bowl. Air at atmospheric pressure then forces the sewage into the piping. Simultaneously the water valve opens and pressurised rinse water cleans the bowl. This whole operation
is performed using just vacuum, NO electrical connections are required. EVAC toilets can be re-flushed more than four times as fast as conventional gravity toilets, on average; an EVAC toilet will take 5 seconds to complete a flush cycle, as there is no toilet cistern to refill. Whilst the EVAC vacuum toilet is an integral part of the system, the system will accept waste from all other gravity fixtures, including wash basins, baths and showers using a vacuum interface unit. The interface unit is similar in operation to the EVAC vacuum toilet, except the activation of the operation is automatic and once again no electrical connections are required.

**UNRIVALLED WATER SAVING**

We are all aware of the need to conserve water as even recycling has an impact on the environment. The vacuum toilet uses little more than 1 litre per flush. Whilst using a small amount of water, the vacuum toilet with its powerful vacuum is highly reliable unlike some other low water flush toilets. Low flush water volumes can be reduced by some 80%, reducing fresh water storage tanks and reduced sewage output thus benefiting our already over burdened sewage systems.

**WHY FLUSH FRESH WATER DOWN THE DRAIN?**

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**VACUUM IS NOT JUST FOR SEWAGE?**

A growing source of waste in the western world is from food, and all food waste has to be managed. We all do this in our personal life by separating our waste food matter in our homes and relying on a dedicated council collection to remove this. We all believe it’s the correct and environmental thing to do. But doing this on a commercial scale in restaurants, kitchens and food hall complexes produces a new set of challenges. One of these is getting all of the food waste from several areas of the building to a central location for collection. This is where vacuum plays its part once again as an efficient medium for conveying waste. Using our expertise gained through our experiences in 50 years waste transfer in the transportation and building sectors, EVAC offer the vacuum food waste collection system.

**DID YOU KNOW…?**

Food waste generation can be up to as much as 3kg per day per person. The greenhouse gas emissions associated with avoidable food and drink waste in the UK are around 20 million tonnes of CO2 each year. However, food waste can be recycled to generate renewable energy and create a valuable bio-fertiliser using a process called anaerobic digestion. The storage of food waste inside bins in kitchen areas and corridors is unhygienic and brings risk of cross contamination. Food waste fermentation starts quickly and it generates unpleasant smells and toxic corrosive gases adding to the hygiene issue. Large numbers of bins and containers consume a lot of floor space. Even with dedicated collection, costs for disposal to landfill is both high financially and environmentally.

**ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTION**

By using the EVAC food waste system, kitchen waste can easily be placed into a locally positioned feeding station. The feeding station will then add a small amount of water and macerate the waste into a slurry. Using the same well established principles as the EVAC Vacuum Drainage System, the waste is the transported through high level small bore piping to a collection tank in a central located plant room. The waste will be stored at this point until a sufficient amount has been collected. This will then be removed by truck at significantly cheaper rate than landfill. Investigations have shown a probable saving of over £40.00/tonne of waste. Companies such as Biogen are able to collect and carry out this treatment. Once treated, the waste will generate renewable energy and return a valuable bio fertiliser to the land.

**EVAC WILL ELIMINATE**

Bins in kitchens that create unpleasant smells & fluids
Transportation of waste from kitchen to refuse room
Expensive collection and disposal method
Non environmentally friendly disposal methods
SoPHE is represented in Australia via Paul Angus and myself with active participation on the CIBSE New South Wales / West Australia committees. In addition, Paul has taken over the reins as NSW Chairman. I reside in Perth WA, Paul lives in Sydney NSW. Given that Australia has a land area of 7.7 million square kms, and drawing a line through ‘Alice Springs’ - we effectively represent 3.85 million square kms of land a piece - Paul gets the snakes, I get the spiders!

I guess it stands to reason that outside of CIBSE we need to align ourselves with a like-minded organisation. An organisation that almost to the ‘T’ mirrors our own SoPHE and that organisation is the AHSCA (Association of Hydraulic Consultants Australia).

Over the last seven months we have been in negotiations with the AHSCA for our two representative bodies to form a relationship, to cross-pollenate ideas, share technology and work towards a common goal. I have tried to encapsulate their history in a few words (not something that I’m particularly good at as I tend to ramble on!).

The AHSCA formed in 1995 and incorporated in 1996. In 1974 the first chapter in Australia was formed in NSW. Like SoPHE they are a not-for-profit; professional organisation dedicated to the advancement of the Hydraulic Services / Public Health engineering profession. Their key goals are;

• Raise awareness of the Hydraulic Services engineering profession within the building
• construction industry and develop affiliation with other Industry Groups and organisations.
• Advance the scientific knowledge and technical skills of all Hydraulic Services Consultants.
• Provide a process for the solutions of professional problems pertaining to Hydraulic Services
• Provide a forum for exchanging technical information pertaining to Hydraulic Services Engineering.
• Facilitate greater co-operation between members of the Association; other professional and Industry Groups; government and statutory authorities.
• Unify the Hydraulic Services engineering profession through the National Chapter.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD)
The Chapter has a comprehensive CPD policy which has been operating for many years.

SEMINARS
Monthly technical seminars are held to assist continuing professional development of members.

CONSTITUTION
The AHSCA WA Chapter is bound by a comprehensive Constitution Document.

WEBSITE
Their Chapter has an active and vibrant website, monitored and regularly updated.

Looking at the above, it is obvious here lays a kindred spirit. For example, this Thursday I am presenting a seminar to ‘Engineers Australia on behalf of CIBSE entitled “The Role of the Public Health / Hydraulic Engineer in Building Services” covering key items which influence the design & installation of a successful public health/hydraulic engineering solutions for new & existing buildings covering :

1. The transition of technology
2. Regulatory influence
3. Education
4. Where will the discipline be in the next 20 years

Will keep you all posted …… If you want to know more about them I have included their web site below:

www.ahscawa.com.au

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SoPHE Australia update

By Les Wilson

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SoPHE Australia update

By Les Wilson

We’ve all heard the phrase “money doesn’t grow on trees”, how about the one about “you can create water out of fresh air”? Seems far-fetched, we’ve all seen many advertisements providing a gimmick, an illusion even a play on words, however this advertising campaign was created to inspire and recruit engineering students for the new semester at the University of Engineering and Technology of Peru (UTEC).

By simply utilizing the saturated humid air (85% humidity) in Lima, Peru, the advertising boarding consists of five osmosis filtration systems generating a total of 100 litres of water a day, which is then piped to an ordinary every day tap, located at the bottom of the structure.

Early reports suggest that in just under 3 months 9,450 litres of water has been generated, which could supply drinking water to hundreds of families.

What with the limited rainfall in Lima, Peru (12.5mm annually), effectively results in this area being the driest desert in the world and the second largest desert city in the world, after Cairo, Egypt. As a result of climate change, water sources are diminishing and a valuable resource in this part of the world.

If just one advertising board can produce 100 litres per day, consider the possibilities for constructing multiple structures where fresh drinking water is scarce and effectively a valuable resource, which could potentially be a lifeline to hundreds, if not thousands of families.

As the phrase goes “The best ideas are often the simple ones”!
REGIONAL UPDATES

SoPHE North West Update
By Malcolm Atherton

Since our last update the 3rd Northern Dinner has taken place & I’d like to thank everyone, especially the table sponsors, for a wonderful evening – I believe a good time was had by all!!

A number of technical evenings have taken place since last time (I won’t mention them here as it’ll take too long / too much space to identify them!). I would simply like to thank the respective manufacturers – Sentinel Performance Solutions, Ltd.; Brightwater & Bristan – for their assistance, as well as those people who attended. As always, I believe that everyone enjoyed the evenings, especially our last one when Dr. Tom Makin attended – which was an honour.

SoPHE Scotland
By Lynne Jack

SoPHE Scotland is pleased to announce a new programme of events commencing Tuesday 3rd September 2013 with a presentation sponsored by ACO Water Management. This event will focus on the topic of ‘Grease Management Systems for Food Processing Areas’ and will take place in the B+B Edinburgh (previously the Melvin House Hotel), 3 Rothesay Terrace.

SoPHE London Update
By Steve Vaughan

The London and South East region of SoPHE have continued to host Technical evenings over the last few months since the last newsletter was issued, all of which have been well attended – my thanks go to those who continue to support and contribute to the lively debates that often follow the presentations. The last three months have included presentations by IPS Flowsystems on the use of CPVC Thermoplastic Fire Sprinkler Piping Systems in April, Grundfos presenting Sprinkler Systems Design and Installation Guidance in May and most recently in June, a presentation by Chris Moore (Arup) and Andy Dolan (D G Robson mechanical Services Ltd) about Designing and Installing Public Health Systems in Western Europe’s Tallest Building – The Shard. The June presentation was then followed by the SoPHE AGM. We already have events planned for September (see ‘SoPHE forthcoming Technical Seminars’ within this publication) and are currently working on ideas for future events. If there are any topics that you would like to see covered within the Technical Events calendar, please do not hesitate to contact me.

2013 Annual General Meeting (AGM) Report
By Chris Northey

Membership Working Group Update
The Society now consists of a total of 189 individual members from all regions of the UK & overseas. We currently have 45 Industry Members within the Society. The Society has continued to raise its’ profile by campaigning to increase the membership base. A total of 9 Membership Interview Panel meetings have taken place over the last year.

Education Working Group Update
The SoPHE Young Engineers Award took place during the year with the overall winner and runners up being presented with their awards at the 2012 SoPHE annual dinner, held last November. Continued collaboration with Wateraid has enabled the now established annual award to grow and provide a means for practical development of some of the finalist’s designs’. Plans are also being put into place to develop short CPD type degree level Public Health engineering modules, in order to support the wider career development of Public Health Engineers.

Communications Working Group Update
The SoPHE web site has continued to be updated and streamlined to provide greater and easier access to information for our members. Our high profile newsletter is continuing to be produced and supplied to members and industry on a quarterly basis. The annual dinner took place in November 2013, as well as the 3rd Northern Dinner which took place in May 2013. The Continuation of working relationships with other industry bodies, etc, has also been progressing, i.e. CIPHE, BSRIA, TW COP, CIWEM, C&G, IOW, IHEEM, WRAS, SummitSkills, etc.

Technical Working Group Update
A total of between 4 - 8 CIBSE CPD accredited technical presentations have taken place in each SoPHE region, i.e. London, Manchester, Scotland and the South-West. We have continued to provide advice on Government advisory panels, such as Building Regulations Advisory Group on the revision of Part G (Hygiene and Water Efficiency). The Society has also continued to be involved in the revised TM13 Steering Group.

Industry Working Group Update (IWG)
The IWG are a key source of support and information to the Society and they support many activities, including the Annual dinner – London, the Northern dinner – Manchester, the Newsletter and many CPD technical Seminars, which are now established as the heart of the Societies’ activities.

Election of Executive Officers
After the update the following Executive Officers were elected to serve for another year: -

Chairman - Chris Northey
Vice Chairman – Ian Fellingham
Hon. Secretary – Linda Dulieu
Hon. Treasurer – Martin Shouler.
THE STEERING COMMITTEE

Chairman:  Chris Northey
           chris.northey@bdsp.com

Vice Chairman:  Ian Fellingham
                ianfellingham@googlemail.com

Honorary Secretary:  Linda Dulieu
                    Linda.Dulieu@mottmac.com

Honorary Treasurer:  Martin Shouler
                     martin.shouler@arup.com

Steering commitee

David Shaw
Roger Vincer
Jonathan Gaunt
Mike Darvill
Alan Flight
Paul Angus
Malcolm Atherton
Kris Wojcik
Les Wilson

Regional Committee Contacts
North West:   South West:   Scotland:   London
Malcolm Atherton  David George  Lynne Jack  Steve Vaughan
malcolmatherton@hoarelea.com  david.george@arup.com  l.b.jack@hw.ac.uk  steve.vaughan@aecom.com

FEEDBACK

We would welcome any comments on this newsletter or contributions to future editions, in particular with regards to:

- Future events for consideration
- What should SoPHE be providing to our members
- Items or comments you think may be worth raising or informing your fellow members
- Technical articles from members, giving situations encountered and how they were overcome

Please email comments to Jonathan Gaunt or Paul Angus at
jonathan.gaunt@arup.com
paul.angus@wspgroup.com.au

The Challenge
Develop an innovative system for urine management which minimises contamination in small towns where conventional sewerage networks are not appropriate or financially viable.

Submissions
Demonstrate your idea on one A1 poster. Please refer to the SoPHE website for more information.

Entrants
Teams of up to 3 people aged 18-35

The Award
An in-country trip to verify the applicability of the design

Society of Public Health Engineers (SoPHE) in association with WaterAid
Young Engineers Award 2013

Mariam Saidi, Mbouyuni, in front of her composting latrine, Tanzania

WaterAid / Marco Betti

in association with

www.cibse.org/sophe