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Newsletter

The Society of Light and Lighting
Part of the Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers





Update on SLL/ILE discussions

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This is a very exciting time, both for the Society of Light and Lighting and the lighting profession as a whole.

In my Presidential Address at the Society's Annual General Meeting, I spoke about the need to "Speak with One Voice" and how we can work with other interested parties to strengthen our presence. In 2009, we will celebrate 100 years since the formation of the Illuminating Engineering Society (IES) in the UK and this presents an ideal opportunity for the profession to unite and grow together into the next one hundred years.

The logic behind the argument is that a single lighting body to serve the needs of all lighting professionals, embracing a diverse range of interests and expertise, would achieve the common objective that is the betterment of the lighting profession as a whole. This could include the independent lighting design sector, street lighters and manufacturers, as well as influencers such as those in education, research & development. The fields of expertise we work in are different – yet we are intrinsically united in our professional interests.

In my address I spoke of the subject of unification within the lighting industry, and how this has been high on the agenda, not only with the SLL, ILE and CIBSE, but also with other interested parties. In particular, we should not overlook the part that the CIE-UK has to play.

This unification is especially important when we talk to Government. The All Party Parliamentary Lighting Group (APPLG), where we have direct access to, and influence with, Members of Parliament, is an example where individual professional organisations work together but where a single lighting voice would have greater power. As a profession, we are often omitted from consultation on Government papers because we are too disjointed – they do not know who to approach so approach none of us. I am reminded of what Henry Kissinger famously said, "When I want to talk to Europe, whom do I call?"

Over the past six months, a number of meetings between the Society and ILE have taken place. As a result, our

Executive and ILE Council have recently approved in principle to the formation of an entirely new, umbrella lighting organisation. This would not only bring together the combined strengths of the existing SLL and ILE organisations, but also offer scope for all lighting professionals to come together under a single organisation.

These are early days; I am sure you can all appreciate that there is much to discuss and although we are all working towards a common goal, this cannot be achieved overnight. This is very much a three-way conversation as jointly we must ensure that we are working to achieve an end result which supports the needs of the memberships of SLL, ILE and CIBSE.

The next step will be to develop a timeframe for the many issues that need to be addressed. That said, plans are already in place for a number of joint events between SLL and ILE and as the umbrella organisation is developed, we can expect to see gradual integration and move towards shared activities.

I would like to place on record my thanks to everyone that has contributed to date and I look forward to our continuing discussions with ILE and CIBSE over the coming months. Your views are important. We exist to serve our membership; we welcome your feedback. You can play a part in shaping the future and I would encourage you to do so.

This is the just the beginning to the profession expanding its influence - and developing the framework to make it happen - to ensure that our voice is heard.

I will, of course, keep you informed as we progress.

Patrick Baldrey
patrickb@urbislighting.com

Editorial



The fourth Newsletter of the year always has news of the agm and the Presidential Address. There were some well deserved awards this year including one to Derek Phillips. Most know him as the founder, 50 years ago, of Derek Phillips Associates, later becoming DPA Lighting consultants. From our perspective, he was also President of the IES in 1974, the first architect to do so. The end of 1974 was when the IES merged with the IHVE to form a new organisation called the CIBSE.

This dovetails rather neatly into the current state of the discussions between the SLL and ILE. The Newsletter leads with an update by Patrick Baldrey of the current state of play in the negotiations.

Next year, of course, is the centenary of the IES and there are plenty of events

planned. One to consider straightaway, it the call for Papers for Young Lighters. We also have a new sponsor for the Master Classes, iGuzzini, for which many thanks are due. There is also a new theme, so those of you who attended previous ones should consider going again. You can read the report detailing the new subjects elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Elsewhere, we have an interesting report from the Irish region on sports floodlighting.

Finally, we have a review of an important new guide by the Pocklington Trust. This concerns the design of dwellings for people with visual impairment. Lighting obviously has a crucial part to play in this.

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Firstly, I would like to place on record my thanks to Tony Ownsworth for all the hard work he put in to the Society during his Presidential year. At the AGM last month, he handed over the reins to Patrick Baldrey and I'm looking forward to working with him over the coming year. A full report on the AGM and Awards ceremony can be found elsewhere in the Newsletter, along with Patrick's Presidential Address.

Hopefully, most of you should have had an email from me announcing this year's Young Lighter of the Year Competition; again there are further details elsewhere but if you would like an application form, please drop me an email.

On the subject of communication, I am aware that not all of us think to update our details with CIBSE when we change jobs or houses and as a result, we may have incorrect details for you so you may be missing out. You can update your details online by logging in to the CIBSE website with your membership number (printed on your

Membership card). The last email I sent to SLL members generated about 200 'Undeliverable' reports so I urge you to log in and check your details are correct. Alternatively, if you email me your contact details, I will update them on the database.

I am pleased to say that the Masterclass programme is now finalised for 2008-2009 and I am delighted that iGuzzini have joined Holophane, Philips & Thorn as "Sponsors in Partnership"; this has enabled us to expand the programme to eight venues this year: Liverpool (September 18), Belfast (October 23), Duxford (November 20), Bath (January 14), Birmingham (February 25), Dublin (March 12), York (April 16) and London (May 13). The theme of this year will be "Drivers of Design".

The plans for the Centenary celebrations are deep in planning so with all these events on the horizon, it promises to be an exciting year ahead. If you would like any more information about these events, or if you would like to help the Society in any way, please do drop me a line; it's always nice to hear from members.

Finally, it was noted at a recent Membership Panel that we haven't had any applications for Fellow recently. You can apply for a transfer yourself or otherwise you might like to nominate someone else, maybe somebody who works behind the scenes – thinking caps on please!

Liz
lpeck@cibse.org

SLL AGM and Presidential address

This year it was held in the stately Royal Society of Arts, near Embankment. Of course, this is the event at which the new President is sworn in and this year our new President is Patrick Baldrey, a past-president of the ILE. The complete Address follows the end of this article.

Awards

The Society's Lighting Award was given to Professor Peter Boyce, recognising his many year's contribution to both the Society and the lighting industry, in general.

The Leon Gaster Award for the best paper concerned with lighting applications was made to: LM Torrington and Peter Tregenza of Sheffield University for their paper "Lighting for people with Dementia". The citation was given by David Loe.

The Society is always trying to encourage activity outside of London and the South East. This year's Regional Award was presented to Andrew Rowe for his support and work in East Anglia. Geoff Cook, gave the citation.

The Walsh-Weston Award is given for the best paper concerning the fundamentals of lighting. Yukio Akashi, Mark Rea and John Bullough of the LRC at Rensselaer Polytechnic for their paper "Driver decision making in response to peripheral moving targets under mesopic light levels". This was printed in LR&T Vol 39 #1.

The finale of the awards ceremony was an Honorary Fellowship given to Derek Phillips, founder of DPA Lighting. Bob Venning, in his citation, said that Derek should be considered a visionary in that he foresaw that lighting would become a stand-alone discipline within the context of the built environment. Derek began his career as an architect; he first studied at Liverpool and then moved to do a Masters at MIT. After some time, in July 1959, started the practice of Derek Phillips, Architect and Consultant. By the early 70s DPA was running as two integrated practices as architects and lighting consultants.

It was a pleasure to see that many of Derek's family were there to see him receive the award.

Later in the cellars

After the Awards, the assembly moved several storeys down to the cellars of the RSA where there was an excellent buffet and the wine flowed freely. The place was fairly heaving and there were just so many people to see and chat



Past Presidents, members and guests. I am deeply honoured and privileged at being elected as your President in the Society of Light and Lighting's centenary year. Next February, we celebrate our 100th birthday with a party at ARC '09 at Earl's Court 2. This party will follow the 'Young Lighters of the Year Awards', so successful in February of this year. I know those present will enjoy a memorable evening, but for those unable to be there, the 12 months from 4 February will feature several special events, all with the theme of the centenary of this Society.

Issue 1. Fragmentation versus Unification of our Profession.

Not only am I privileged to be standing here today, as your new President, I am also favoured by taking up the position at an incredibly exciting moment when we are on the cusp of change. We are a dynamic, enthusiastic Society and, as the saying goes, nothing was ever achieved without enthusiasm. We hold in our hands the future of our profession. As I look forward to a bright future, I am mindful of our past and present. So let me start there. Where we are now and how we are perceived by the body politic.

Hitherto, our development has resulted in a fragmented profession; a profession with a common interest but one that has become a whole, divided into parts. We do not speak to the wider world with one voice. Indeed, the Society of Light and Lighting, despite its longevity and distinguished history, has at times not had a voice at all. Take, for example, the recent Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution's enquiry into lighting – we, at the SLL, were not even consulted. Our voice was frozen into silence as though we had caught an interminable cold and had basically lost it, at a pivotal point.

The recent example of the Royal Commission is instructive as to how we are currently perceived and why we need to change and speak in unison, if not in unity.

In response to the Commission, I consulted a number of professional colleagues, one of whom spoke to the civil servant coordinating what they had hoped would be a coherent

to. It was a shame we had to leave so early. If we had more evenings like that, the SLL certainly wouldn't be scoring nul-points for socialising in member surveys.

Report by Alan Tulla

response to fundamental 'pinch points', to which we should have an answer (light pollution, crime, energy, environmental issues such as our impact on the night sky and wildlife). They commented that it had been difficult to achieve a consistent, lucid response on any issue, not least because there was no central point of communication. Besides the ILE and CIBSE, it was a case of contacting different manufacturers and even then, there was no reliable, dependable response. Everyone contacted gave different versions of an answer on the same theme. They also commented on how boring and verbose were some of the responses given and there was not one or two organizations that could be contacted for a proficient, coherent answer to basic issues. Their experience of contact with members of the lighting profession was described, for the most part, as tedious, lacklustre and uninspiring.

I am all too aware that, on the whole, this is the image we convey to those outside our profession (let alone within it). Yet we have, at the core of our common interest, issues that are of concern to the wider public and government: energy, pollution, public security, traffic safety, conservation and sustainability. Notwithstanding, we still manage to bore the pants off everyone.

We must embark on a mission to change this image and we will take a leap forward by improving our communication and speaking with one voice. We need to re-unite what the history of individual egos has harshly, albeit unintentionally, divided. As we stand, we are a crowd without wider company. We hang together or we shall hang separately.

Of course it matters what we say, but from now on, we should make a concerted effort to 'all say the same' from an agreed point of contact. At present we have the tendency to ride off, madly, in all directions.

One of my objectives is to discuss with you, and other related professional organizations, especially the ILE, the IALD, the PLDA, CIE and the Daylight Group, how to develop the appropriate mechanism to achieve the reality of communicating with one accord. I need your insight, acumen and understanding of our profession in order to achieve this. I will start with a request for suggestions in a forthcoming Newsletter.

A couple of weeks ago I came across the following quote from the Financial Times and it struck me as to how apt and applicable it is to current debates between the SLL, CIBSE and the ILE.

It's from Michel Izza, Chief Executive, Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales. "For trust to exist between business and Government, both sides have to be prepared to listen and give ground where there is good reason to do so."

Presidential Address

There is a real enthusiasm within CIBSE, today, to give far more support to the SLL than in the past, and I look forward to listening to and working with John Swaffield, CIBSE President, Mike Simpson, CIBSE President Elect and Stephen Matthews, Chief Executive, especially as we embark upon this exciting period of change. Our new Secretary, Liz Peck, has made a great start and I look forward to working with her, too.

Issue 2. Education and Youth.

Turning now to what I regard as a key issue: education. This is inextricably intertwined with the importance of our young members. They are our future.

I see education as having two strands. The first is the sharing and dissemination of the knowledge we have, amongst ourselves. The second is formal education and tied to both is the vitality and inclusion of our young members.

Formal education will undoubtedly be improved by the proposed new BSc in Lighting. Hopefully, in time, this will furnish our profession with a highly qualified source of new members. In the meantime, we should be thinking of ways to engage with our young lighting engineers. I will, with your input, begin to consider ways of encouraging them to take a more active role in our Society. We should all encourage them to contribute articles to the Newsletter and/or the Lighting Journal. The talent is out there; we have to think of ways to make it more inclusive.

Jeff Shaw and his committee are very active in encouraging young members. I am also heartened in this endeavour by the fantastic success of the Young Lighters of the Year Awards, earlier this year. For the past decade, there have been times when we have struggled to get sufficient high quality papers to have a final. This year, there was an unprecedented number of exceptionally good papers. Rather than struggling to make up a decent cohort of finalists, we actually expanded the number of finalists who could present their contributions. The interest and verve is already present within our Society and the Profession as a whole, both here in the UK and further afield. As President, I regard it as an important aspect of my role to ensure that our Society's young engineers submit papers on what they see as burning issues. We should start immediately by publicizing and repeatedly promoting this event, as a way of persuading our members to develop their self confidence, to apply and compete. Again, this can be done through the Newsletter and the Lighting Journal, but these written sources should also be augmented by mentoring from us old lags. I can speak for myself when I say that coming up to sixty is hard in many ways. "I'm constantly being asked to do more and more things and I'm not yet decrepit enough to turn them down."

Regional Provision

Some of our regions hold joint meetings with the equivalent region of the ILE. There is tremendous scope to pool resources and increase collaboration between the

two Institutions, at a regional level. Together, Stephen Lisk and I will be launching a new initiative to encourage closer working relationships. This, in turn, should increase our understanding of each other and gradually contribute to the objective of speaking with one voice.

If education makes us what we are, then there is scope for improvement. Our recent survey of members' needs highlighted a wish for more widespread regional services. I'm pleased that our Immediate Past President, Tony Ownsworth, who has done a great job over the past year, is going to oversee the Lighting Masterclasses, targeted at regional level, for the next two years. Together we are looking to increase their number. Obviously, we are grateful to our sponsors: Holophane, Philips and Thorn, who do a great job in ensuring the high quality of the technical content.

I'd like, at this stage, to acknowledge and thank our Sustaining Members. Thank you for your support which we much appreciate.

Environmental Issues

Environmental issues are becoming ever more important with energy top of the list. As lighters, we are energy users, not energy conservers. However, it is our duty to use that energy as effectively as possible. The current 'Ban the Bulb' debate is a wonderful opportunity for the SLL to put the case for quality in lighting and generally add to the knowledge of the public – and politicians.

So, what mechanism do we have for getting these points across? A recent APPLG luncheon at the House of Commons allowed representatives from the SLL, ILE and LIF the opportunity to speak with the Climate Change Minister, Joan Ruddock. We were able to speak with one voice. A unified voice. More of these APPLG luncheons are planned. The next will focus on street lighting, in June, and, with some local authorities turning lights out, we have another opportunity to speak with one voice with the campaign 'Invest to Save'.

Conclusion

We need to improve our communication within and without our Society. Speaking with one voice is essential. Nonetheless, we must avoid simply being a voice and nothing more. At a time when there is talk of working more closely together for the good of all, it seems to me implausible that the mutterings of factions or egos, for and against, this or that, should prevail against the voice of our future profession. By uniting, we will prevail; by maintaining unnecessary division, we will fail. Although divided duties and loyalties exist, open and honest discussion will enable us to build a stronger future and that is my role. At which point I will finish. Although if there is anyone here I have not insulted, then I do beg their pardon.

If readers would like to make any comments on Patrick's speech, you can email him directly at Patrickb@urbislighting.com



Patrick Baldrey receiving his chain of office from Tony Ownsworth



Andrew Rowe



Derek Phillips



Professor Peter Boyce

AGM Reception



Members and guests enjoying the reception of this year's AGM.





Ireland Regional event, Dublin

Report by Kevin Kelly, SLL Representative

The SLL event held in the Dublin Institute of Technology on April 10th had sixty attendees and was very successful. The first speaker was Mark Reilly of Arup, and a recent graduate of the Electrical Services Engineering programme in DIT, (Dublin Institute of Technology). He presented his award winning *Young Lighter 2007* paper on *Stadia floodlighting*. The second speaker is a world renowned lighting designer having designed floodlighting for Wembley stadium, Telstra Stadium Sydney, Super Bowl XLI in Miami, the world's largest lit racecourse in Ryadh, and the largest lit golf course in Asia in Shenzhen China. Huu Chi Tran of Thorn Lighting gave his lecture on the design of the floodlighting of Croke Park, Dublin.

Mark Reilly, in a thorough and insightful presentation, explained the importance of luminaire selection that aims to maximise efficiency and minimise lightspill. He emphasised the importance of lamp selection with regard to colour rendering and colour temperature (4000K to 6500K). The demands for adequate illuminance and uniformity for colour television were highlighted. The vertical illuminance for good visibility of players was essential to meet broadcasting requirements for slow motion replays and close up shots. This is because the resulting small depth of field could mean that players in different planes might not be in focus at the same time. Glare depends on luminous intensity distribution, the aiming of luminaires, their number, arrangement and mounting height. Mark's presentation laid a perfect foundation for the next speaker.



The two speakers: Huu Chi Tran, Mark Reilly

Huu Chi Tran of Thorn Lighting gave us a comprehensive, informative and entertaining report on the Croke Park project. Born in Vietnam, he first acquired an interest in lighting design from an Irishman in the 1960s. He arrived in Ireland for the Croke Park project forty years later requesting illuminance requirements for Gaelic games – there were none.

He was faced with a horseshoe type stadium with the



Keith Sunderland, Kevin Kelly, Mike Murphy, Kevin O'Connell, Huu Chi Tran, Terry De Lacy(Thorn), Margaret Dolan, Kevin O'Farrell, Mark Reilly, Justin Keane, David Muldrew, Terry Lockyer, Tom Nugent (DIT)

famous Hill 16 development restricted because of planning requirements. High definition television requirements were also raised for the first time with the suggestion by television companies that the illuminance requirements would now need to be higher. Not so, according to Huu Chi who proved that the signal to noise ratio for high definition transmission was not such as to require higher levels of illuminance – thus saving the client considerable capital and running costs not to mention reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.

Croke Park is designed for nine different light levels. Maximum horizontal illuminance is 2000 lux but the much more critical vertical illuminance is 1400 lux. There was much animated angst expressed by Huu Chi when the clients decided to install a large (black) back net behind the goal for health and safety reasons, to protect spectators from risk of being hit with a very hard and fast hurling ball (or slithor as it is called). This net resulted in significant attenuation of light at the Hill 16 end. Huu Chi minimised this problem by ensuring the light hit the net at 90 degrees thus minimising light loss. Similarly Huu chi was very upset when the decision was made to install giant screens in positions that blocked the light. Huu Chi also overcame this and other diversity in his most efficient and charming way. His presentation delighted the large audience gathered at the Dublin Institute of Technology.

Obituary – Walter R Stevens 1911 – 2008

Readers will be sorry to hear that Walter Stevens, known by many in the lighting profession as Steve, died on the 2nd April 2008 just before his 97th birthday.

Steve was one of the pioneers of illuminating engineering. He studied physics at London University and after graduation spent three years at the National Physical Laboratory under Dr John Walsh. After this period he joined the Research Laboratories of the General Electric Company in the Illumination Laboratory and became its director in 1939. During the war years the department, which included John M Waldram and Dr Ralph G Hopkinson, was responsible for solving many defence problems concerned with light, lighting and vision.

After the war the department went on to explore fundamental lighting issues which included helping with the development of the UK IES Glare Index System and studies into the relationship between brightness and luminance. Special lighting applications were also part of the department's remit including the sports floodlighting for Wembley Stadium. And it was during that period that Waldram developed his designed appearance model. Many of the staff of the Illumination Laboratory will be grateful for the opportunities they were given by Steve to initiate, or to develop their career's in lighting.

In 1953 Steve was appointed president of the Illuminating Engineering Society (later the Society of Light and Lighting) and in 1966 president of the Association of Public Lighting Engineers (later the Institution of Lighting Engineers). He was also president of the Commission Internationale de l'Eclairage (CIE) for the period 1975 – 79. He was the author of a number of technical papers and of two books including Principles of Lighting (1951) which was recognised as a valuable textbook on the subject.

His awards included the Crompton Premium by the Institute of Electrical Engineers and the Leon Gaster Premium by the Illuminating Engineering Society and in 1976 the Order of the British Empire for services to lighting.

Steve was a great friend and colleague to many.

David Loe



Call for Papers

Young Lighters of the Year 2009

Once again the Society of Light and Lighting is running the 'Young Lighters of the Year' Competition to help promote the younger element in the lighting profession.

The Competition provides a unique platform for young lighters, whether Society members or not, to hold forth on a lighting subject, to hone their presentation skills, and to win the considerable professional kudos of being chosen as a 'Young Lighter of the Year'.

Each finalist receives a cash prize, a certificate and a free lighting publication. Additional cash prizes are donated

by The Worshipful Company of Lightmongers and the Institution of Lighting Engineers.

If you are under 30 on 4th February 2009 you should consider entering. If you know of someone, please encourage them to enter the Competition.

Applicants can choose any lighting subject of their choice. Entries may be based on previously prepared work, such as a thesis, and must be capable of being presented in 15 minutes. Successful applicants will be expected to present their work, using visual aids as appropriate.

Outline timetable of events:

01 August 2008:	Closing dates for applications and 300 word synopses
15 August 2008:	Entrants notified whether they have reached the shortlist
01 December 2008:	Closing date for submission of short listed entries
15 December 2008:	Finalists notified so that they can prepare presentations
04 February 2009:	Finalists present papers at ARC'09 at Earls Court 2, London

If you need any further information to help you to generate interest among would-be entrants, please get in touch with the Society of Light and Lighting. We want a broad spread of entries and entrants. We hope to hear from you.

For full details and an application form please contact: Liz Peck, Society of Light and Lighting, 222 Balham High Road, London. SW12 9BS. Tel: 020 8772 3622. e-mail: lpeck@cibse.org

Masterclasses 2008-9

If you haven't been to a Masterclass, you should seriously consider doing so. There are topical subjects with top class speakers – I know because I have attended them and once had the honour of being a guest speaker. This year has a new theme "Drivers of Design", so the subjects covered are different from previous years. We also have a new sponsor, iGuzzini Lighting Ltd.

The topics this year are:

"Optic design & technology" by Chris Wilkes, Holophane.
"Circadian rhythms & dynamic light" by Stephen Judge, iGuzzini
"LED update & lighting controls" by Mike Simpson, Philips.
"Light pollution" by Iain Macrae, Thorn

Venues

September 18th	Liverpool	Tate Liverpool
October 23rd	Belfast	University of Ulster (tbc)
November 20th	Duxford	Imperial War Museum
January 14th	Bath	Assembly Rooms
February 25th	Birmingham	Science Museum
March 12th	Dublin	Clontarf Castle
April 16th	York	York Racecourse
May 13th	London	HNS Belfast

Format

There will be four 45-minute presentations – one for each sponsor – plus a Guest speaker, likely to be from the

independent lighting design profession.

The provisional timetable would be as follows:

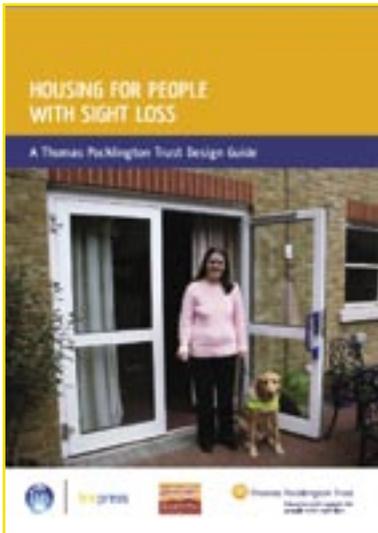
10.30	Welcome
10.45	Presentation 1
11.30	Break
11.45	Presentation 2
12.30	Presentation 3
Lunch	
14.00	Presentation 4
14.45	Break
15.00	Guest Presentation
15.45	Questions
16.00	Close

Masterclasses are kindly sponsored by: Holophane Europe, iGuzzini, Philips Lighting and Thorn Lighting.



Housing for people with sight loss:

a Thomas Pocklington Trust design guide



Anthony Slater who is the Lighting Development Manager at the Pocklington Trust has kindly written this article for the Newsletter. Readers will know that Anthony was previously Director of Environmental Engineering at BRE. It is also worth pointing out that Dr Geoff Cook, past SLL President and Director of the Research Group for Inclusive Environments at the

University of Reading, has also given specialist advice in relation to lighting issues.

Thomas Pocklington Trust is the leading provider of housing, care and support services for people with sight loss in the UK. Each year Pocklington also commits around £700,000 to fund social and public health research and development projects.

Pocklington's operations offer a range of sheltered and supported housing, residential care, respite care, day services, home care services, resource centres and community based support services.

Pocklington's research and development programme aims to identify practical ways to improve the lives of people with sight loss, by improving social inclusion, independence and quality of life, improving and developing service outcome as well as focussing on public health issues. Pocklington is also applying its research findings to develop best practice.

Sight loss

The prevalence of sight loss increases with age. A Medical Research Council study has estimated that serious sight loss (which would be registerable) affects:

- 1:8 of people aged over 75,
- 1:3 of people aged over 90.

Thus, using 2005 population data, this means that around 600,000 people over 75 years old suffer serious sight loss.

However, less serious sight loss can have a significant effect on the activities of daily living. It has been estimated that some 2 million people in the UK have sight loss that affects their everyday life. Given the normal ageing processes of the eye, most of the 13 million people in the UK over the age of 60 could benefit from better lighting at home. As the population ages, this figure will rise.

Few people with sight loss are totally blind. Most

have some residual vision and appropriate design can help to maximise their functional vision. Pocklington has commissioned a series of research projects, undertaken by University College London and University of Reading, to investigate the needs of people with sight loss and the benefits that can be provided by improved lighting in their homes. These projects led to implementation of lighting improvements in over 70 homes of Pocklington tenants with sight loss.

Design guide

The findings from the research and implementation projects have been included in a new publication entitled *Housing for people with sight loss: a Thomas Pocklington Trust design guide* published by BRE Press. It is the first comprehensive guidance to draw on extensive research with visually impaired people and has been published as part of the 50th anniversary of Thomas Pocklington Trust.

The guide, aimed at architects, designers, builders and others involved in housing, covers every aspect of making a home easier and safer to live in. Full of practical recommendations, it shows how to design out potential obstacles by considering such things as the way doors open, the shape of hall turns, and the type of hinges that will best reduce hazards. It highlights the use of texture and contrast, and explains the need to avoid high gloss surfaces which cause confusing reflections and glare. It offers simple solutions to the problems of wayfinding, how to use light to enhance low-levels of sight, and the best shapes and sizes of controls, handles, and taps.

General design principles for people with sight loss

The overall emphasis when designing environments for people with sight loss is on maximising functional vision and on minimising barriers and risk.

The design guide outlines a series of general principles applicable to design including:

Inclusivity

An inclusive environment should be easy for everyone to use, by considering people's diversity it aims to break down unnecessary barriers and exclusion.

Site location

Proximity to important amenities and good transport links, and the safe and relative ease of access to these facilities, is key to enabling independence and social inclusion.

Site layout

Site layouts should be simple and logical. Homes should, as far as possible, be sited to allow in the maximum amount of natural daylight without making them too hot. Gardens and areas with external seating should have some direct sunlight for at least part of the year. The pedestrian routes within the site should be simple, logical, clear and accessible. **Space standards**

While the design guide does not state minimum space

standards, the guidelines given in each chapter give a good idea of spatial requirements. As a basic rule, however, designers should ensure that there is adequate space to enable simple and direct circulation routes within all rooms.

Simplicity and consistency

Simple, logical design of all external and internal layouts will assist orientation. The design should aim to achieve consistency of form and placing of key items (e.g. switches and sockets should be at the same height and locations in rooms, door and window handles consistently located, hot and cold taps in the same form on the same sides, etc.).

Preventing barriers and trip hazards

Designers should locate everything out of the main line of pedestrian travel.

Providing contrasts

Providing bigger, bolder and brighter contrasts between adjacent surfaces, potential obstacles/hazards and their background, and controls on appliances and their background is a general principle to be applied. An appendix to the design guide gives detailed information on providing contrasts, either by creating differences in brightness/luminance or differences in colour/hue, or both. However, care should be taken to avoid a garish appearance.

Textures and finishes

Large areas of highly polished/mirror-like reflective surfaces and finishes should be avoided whenever possible as they may become a source of glare. Finishes should generally be comfortable to the touch for people 'feeling' their way.

Wayfinding assistance

In the external environment or within communal internal settings, the use of colour (e.g. different front door/gate colours, different brick shades for different blocks of housing, colour themes for different storeys in communal corridors) can assist in wayfinding or determining location.

Lighting

Lighting is discussed in detail in Chapter 14 and throughout the technical chapters in the design guide. The main recommendations include adequate illuminances, an even distribution of lighting within and between rooms, avoidance of glare and flexibility of controls. There are also two appendices listing recommended task lighting illuminances and recommended illuminances at the floor of each room. These recommendations are drawn from Pocklington research projects on home lighting for people with sight loss.

Security

Security is particularly important for people with sight loss, who may be perceived as vulnerable.

Technical guidance

The technical chapters of the design guide are intensely practical and well illustrated with diagrams and floor plans. The sections covering each individual area of the home and the wider environment begin with a statement of the primary

objective to be met in that particular area, followed by

- a list of design considerations to be borne in mind when working towards a design solution; and
- a list of requirements that the final design and specification solution should achieve.

The technical guidance covers:

- External areas
- Functional spaces
These include:
 - Entrances to individual homes or blocks of flats
 - Hallways and circulation areas
 - Living areas
 - Kitchens
 - Bathrooms and WCs
 - Bedrooms
- General services and components
Separate sections deal with:
 - Windows
 - Heating systems and general plumbing
 - Electrical (excluding lighting)
 - Internal lighting
 - Surface finishes and their contrasts
- Communal areas
These include car parking areas, gardens, waste and refuse disposal areas, stairs, lifts and any communal areas such as lounges and laundries.

There has been little published guidance on lighting of homes and the design guide has been endorsed by SLL as it complements other SLL guidance and provides information that can be usefully applied to homes, especially those for people with sight loss.

How to obtain further information

Further information on Pocklington's research and publications can be found on the Pocklington website www.pocklington-trust.org.uk

Housing for people with sight loss: a Thomas Pocklington Trust design guide is published by IHS BRE Press and copies may be obtained from:

www.ihsbrepres.com or
IHS BRE Press
Willoughby Road
Bracknell RG12 8FB
Tel: 01344 328038
Fax: 01344 328005
Email: brepres@ihs.com

Letters

From Jeff Shaw, Arup Lighting

I am writing in response to Graham Large's letter in the last issue, concerning the possible 'merger' between the ILE and the SLL. As you will have seen in this issue of the Newsletter, the ILE and SLL talks have moved forward, and I would like to answer a few of Graham's points:

Graham refers to the aborted conjugation between the IALD and ELDA, and suggests that the failure of this was due to the fact that their respective memberships felt that any benefits were not equal to the merger requirements. While I am sure that this was partly the case, I feel that it is perhaps naive to think that such a rational analysis was the entire basis for the two organisations remaining separate. As is my experience with the current discussions with ILE and SLL (and CIBSE), history, politics, strong contrasting opinions and personality play a large role in the discussion of any proposed 'merger'. This is one of the many reasons why the current proposal for ILE and SLL is not a merger as such, but for both bodies to together form a new umbrella organisation that focuses on our combined strengths and common priorities.

Concerning Graham's points about many voices being better than one; I do take his point to a degree. However, by definition those many voices are relatively small and the number of different organisations can cause confusion. Yes - like he says there are more organisations to petition government, for example - but surely one large voice has more chance of being heard than many small ones? And thinking of the example the other way around, when government wants to approach the lighting industry for a discussion on policy, is it clear to them who to speak to? I don't believe so. If they speak to only one lighting organisation, does that organisation speak for us all? Perhaps not.

Graham used the FSA and HM Customs & Revenue as examples of merged organisations that have not been successful. Fair enough for those examples - but is lighting really comparable? There is an argument, for example, that Inland Revenue and Customs & Excise were previously entirely different organisations with different priorities, remits and cultures - a merger was bound to be difficult. At least in lighting we are all fundamentally in the same business - there is much more common ground. A good example of the benefits of one voice is the medical profession - there are countless specialties in medicine, all who do things in different ways and have different priorities. However, rather than all clamour to be heard, they choose to all be represented by a single body - the British Medical Association. As a result, they speak with one, very strong voice, and they get things done for their members - the recent favourable hospital consultant and GP contracts are good examples of this. And the benefit is also that the public think of doctors as a single group - the fragmentation of the lighting industry only serves to confuse and hinders our recognition as a profession.

From Russell Clear, Projects Engineer, Trilux Ltd

Hope you don't mind me sending you this mail, but I was reading your Editorial, and Dominic Meyrick article, from News letter (Jan/Feb).

Dominic had it spot on! There is too much back stabbing between lighting designers; a common body would stop all this. All people concerned could learn from each other, and grow into a formidable profession.

I agree that there are not enough, younger people coming into Lighting or for that matter engineering. I think the main reason is lack of interest at secondary school level, science is seen as a past time and not as profession. Added to this apprenticeships, are getting shorter, and more costly, numbers are falling.

Younger people need to be made aware at an early age, that lighting is not just a filament bulb, it can be inspiring, dramatic, artistic and enjoyable. In turn, teachers would teach and employers would employ.

I have been lucky in the sense that I have met, many good lighting designers, but more than 70% are in their 40's plus. May be it's time for a change, and Dominic could head up such a body. He uses language that every one understands and is not afraid to speak his mind!

It is always welcome to receive letters. Having spoken to Dominick, whilst pleased to receive such a complimentary letter, he is less enthusiastic about heading up the new body. Ed

LuxEuropa 2009 – Call for papers

The UK, a founding member of the LuxEuropa via the SLL, together with 20 other European countries created the LuxEuropa organisation. It holds a congress every four years and this time it is being held on the 9 – 11 September in Istanbul, Turkey. The working theme is "Lighting and the Environment". The key subjects to be covered are: Energy efficiency, Lighting quality, Light for people at work, Light for people at work, Health and lighting, Light and architecture, Lighting of cities, Adaptive lighting, Standards of lighting, Sustainable lighting and measurements.

Abstracts of about 400 words should be submitted to the conference organiser before 30 September 2008. The submission should be made via the "abstract submission form" available on the conference website. The Papers Committee will review submissions and notification of acceptance will be given before 31 December. The full paper must be submitted before 1 June 2009.

Details are on the LuxEuropa website www.luxeuropa2009.org.tr. The venue will give delegates an excellent insight to the life, culture and architecture of Istanbul, the largest city in Turkey. It is worth noting that Istanbul will become the European Capital of Culture in 2010 for which preparations are well advanced.

If you need any help or advice, please contact Liz Peck at the SLL, lpeck@cibse.org or Lou Bedocs.

In Brief

Humour

Summer has arrived, so here is some more humour, In Brief.

The first two are two from Brian Kelly in Bexleyheath. The final item I shall leave to readers to figure out.

Two villagers are watching a drunk staggering down the street. One turns to the other and says, "Hm, definitely a five bar gait".

Four cars passed me with a notice in the back window saying "Baby on Board". Wow! All those directorships for one so young.

Maybe one of our readers could confirm the following story which was reported as true. In World War II, once an aircraft was caught in the beam of a searchlight, it could easily be shot down by ground mounted guns. However, I saw an article that said if the aircraft flew away from the light in a clockwise spiral; the lamp in the searchlight would unscrew and hence drop out. Thus the aircraft could escape into the darkness!

Floodlighting

I came across this photo of Everton FC. Maybe they should have got Kevin Reilly or Huu Chi Tran (see Ireland regional report) to aim the floodlights.



Events

- 18 Aug PLDA Workshop, Stavanger
www.stavanger.kommune.no
-
- 7-10 Sept Plasa08
Earl's Court, London
www.plasashow.com
-
- 9-10 Sept LIF Certificate Course, Balham
-
- 16 Sept Joint SLL/ILE sessional meeting, London
-
- 18 Sept Masterclass, Tate Liverpool
-
- 18-21 Sept 100% Light With 100% Design,
Earl's Court
www.100percentdesign.co.uk
-
- 24-26 Sept ILE Annual conference, Bristol
-
- 29 Sept PLDA Workshop, Alingsas
www.alingsas.se
-
- 7 Oct Joint SLL/ILE afternoon session
"Inside Out", Speaker from Trilux
Afternoon session, London
-
- 14-15 Oct LIF Certificate course, Balham
-
- 14 Oct London Sessional, The Future of Road
Lighting, Steve Fotios and Peter Boyce,
London

- 22 Oct Low Carbon Design conference
Cavendish conference Centre, London
www.low-carbonlighting.co.uk
-
- 23 Oct Masterclass, Belfast
-
- 18 Nov London Sessional, Topic tbc
-
- 20 Nov Masterclass, Imperial War Museum,
Duxford
-
- 27-28 Nov 7th National Lighting Conference, Istanbul
Contact: alpin.yner@itu.edu.tr
www.atmk.org.tr
-
- 9 Dec London Sessional, LEDs & Installations +
Drinks, Penny Hatzi – Bartlett & Mo Islam
- Osram

Masterclasses are kindly sponsored by Holophane, iGuzzini, Philips and Thorn. Topics covered this year: "Optic design & Technology", Circadian Rhythms & Dynamic Light", LED update and Lighting controls", Light pollution". For details, see the website (www.sll.org.uk).

Mid Career College runs various courses across the whole spectrum of lighting and at sites across the UK. For the full list, see www.mid-career-college.ac.uk for details.

LIF Courses: Details from John Hugill, Tel 0208 529 6909, or email training@lif.co.uk