President’s Column

Since I reported to you in our newsletter earlier this year, the Society has been busy on many fronts.

I can report at our December 2007 meeting of Council, Mr John Armstrong, (President of CIBSE) and Mr Stephen Matthews (CEO of CIBSE) attended. Although Stephen Matthews could not stay for the entire meeting, it did allow for useful dialogue which I am confident will result ultimately in greater mutual understanding, and closer and more effective cooperation to meet our joint goals. John Armstrong was able to attend the whole of our Council meeting and offered considerable advice on a number of topics.

On behalf of the Society I expressed thanks to John and Stephen for their attendance which I believe is the first time such meeting has taken place.

However emanating from that meeting were a number of communications and a further meeting between the President, the CEO and myself which again articulated some very positive outcomes.

These include:

a. Incoming Presidents would have an ‘induction session’ at Balham to meet the key players of the various departments of the Institution to help provide a deeper understanding of how they support and aid SLL.

b. Regular meetings (possibly 3 a year) between the President of CIBSE, and our President and Secretary will be held to aid continual dialogue and closer cooperation.

c. Stephen Matthews again reiterated his keen support for SLL within the resources and dynamics of CIBSE.

All of this I believe will contribute to making our Society more effective.

However as President I have also been keen to speak with other lighting organisations. The Lighting Liaison Group currently comprises the Lighting Industries Federation, the Institute of Lighting Engineers, the Lighting Association and SLL. The Group meet informally on an occasional basis to discuss topics which could be of mutual interest and to explore opportunities which could benefit the lighting industry and I have been delighted to have been invited to take part in these discussions as a representative of the SLL.

Shortly after I became President, I floated the idea of the possibility of a Confederation of British Lighting at a liaison group meeting with LIF/ILE. I brought the subject up again when the Lighting Association were present in November 2007. Unfortunately, on both occasions there was no support for this concept.

However, since then other initiatives are being discussed and are being pursued. As I write these are still to be finalised. As the next meeting of the group has been delayed until after our AGM, no doubt our new President Patrick Baldrey will report further on this topic.

Young Lighter of the Year continues to be a success and an outstanding example of joint cooperation. This year there were 6 finalists of different nationalities, showing this as an event which is going from strength to strength.

However on the very day YLOY took place one of the most significant events for our society was the appointment of a new Secretary Ms Liz Peck. Liz is qualified in business administration. She also has an MSc in lighting from the Bartlett and has worked both in manufacturing and consultancy. Indeed, she will be well known by many members. As her services are to be designated solely to SLL, the Society should benefit not only from her industry experience but also the significant increase in the time allocated to our Society. To this end I can report Liz has set about her new appointment in a most professional and enthusiastic manner which augurs well for the Society.

One of Liz’s most recent task was to review the ‘Survey of Members’ to which approximately 10% of the membership responded. This level of response was somewhat of a disappointment to me in so much it was a unique opportunity for members to comment on many topics.

No doubt our Editor Alan Tulla will brief you more fully on the results of the survey but 3 important responses were:-

a. Members are time scarce (maybe a reason for the low response)

b. Members seek more electronic communication on technical issues.
c. More Technical Meetings in the Regions

Referring to the last point, the Masterclasses which serve the regions were again highly successful, with good attendance levels of satisfied delegates.

May I take this opportunity to thank the sponsors of the Masterclasses without whom these events would not be possible. Our sponsors not only give financial support which means every delegate can attend at a lower cost but also provide considerable technical and human resources. I wish to, on behalf of the Society, thank you Holophane, Philips and Thorn for your support of the Masterclasses.

More specifically, I would like to thank, for their papers presented at this year’s Masterclasses:

a. David Barnwell and Dave Javes of Holophane
b. Mike Simpson, John Aston and Rowena Preiss of Philips

c. Iain Macrae and Noel Whiffin of Thorn
d. Dave Burton, Alan Tulla and Barrie Wilde for SLL

I have chaired these 6 Masterclasses and recognise how important they are in getting technical meetings into the regions. Our ‘Survey of the Members’ also highlighted the importance of regional events to our members. I therefore hope it will be possible to increase the number of Masterclasses particularly for the year of our Society’s centenary celebrations which commence in February 2009.

Proposals for the centenary celebrations are currently being developed and progressed by a special committee chaired by Helen Loomes. I believe one of the areas of the celebrations will be events in the regions. These are still to be developed and to this end if you have any ideas or proposals, I am sure Helen will be delighted to hear from you.

London Technical Session events do not get the level of support they deserve with the exception of the last meeting of ‘The Lighting Guide 2: Lighting for Hospitals and Healthcare Buildings’, where around 60 people attended. I enjoyed all of these meetings but felt something a bit more wholesome than biscuits and tea before the presentation would be welcomed. No doubt the London Events Committee will be considering this.

In the past year, I have tried to attend as many meetings and events as was practicable but if I didn’t get to your region my apologies. In trying to speak to as many people as possible and in trying promote the Society’s image, my travels around the UK and the Republic of Ireland have resulted in my clocking up more than 30,000 miles so far by plane, train, bus, catamaran and indeed on foot when faced with Tube and bus strikes.

These travels and endeavours will continue until I hand over to our President...
Many of you returned the SLL Members’ questionnaire and all the results have been collated and summarised. The Executive Committee have decided to upload the full report on the website. You can read what members think of the SLL, warts and all. Go and have a look.

Of course, any survey like this only reflects the opinions of those who want to say something. Basically, the results are bi-polar – they are written by people who loathe or love us. What’s to like? The highest rated reason for being a member is professional identity and recognition followed closely by SLL technical publications (although there is great deal of demand for more). I am personally rather pleased to say that the Newsletter also scored highly as a reason for membership. Again, more technical content is wanted.

What don’t members like? Well, no-one joins the SLL for drinking and socialising, that’s for sure. Also, the UK Regions and overseas members feel quite left out. Can I enter a plea here and say that I would love to publicise what you are doing in the regions and overseas.

There was a lot of demand for articles about actual projects. I am happy to say that this issue carries a report of a winning office lighting scheme from this year’s Lighting Design Awards. I would be pleased to print other projects so please do send them in.

Interestingly, we received a lot of replies from retired members. Apart from the minor reason that they have more time to fill-in questionnaires, I think the real reason is that they are still interested in the Society and lighting. In the same way that Young Lighters remain in the profession, what binds SLL members is an interest in lighting.

Mindful with Liz in place as our Secretary, Patrick as our President and Stephen as the President Elect come May 27, I can think of no more powerful and talented a trio to maintain the new dynamic in SLL for a successful and bright future.

In the past year, I have tried to give direction and provide a basis for a road ahead which positions the SLL for greater success. It has been a privilege to encourage change and to have been of service.

I wish to express my thanks to all the people who have given me their support, guidance and encouragement in the last year. It was most appreciated.

In conclusion, I wish the Society continuing success and best wishes for its Centenary.

Elect, Patrick Baldrey and Stephen Lisk whom, on the 27th May 2008, will become our new President Elect.

Looking to the future, the long awaited new Lighting Handbook will be published shortly and I am sure will be highly acclaimed. I can report our Technical and Publication Committee continues to work hard to produce new publications. At my first meeting with the committee I acknowledged their great effort which is, in essence, the life blood to technically disseminating lighting knowledge to lighters and the public.

My congratulations must also go to David Loe who is negotiating the possibility of members receiving copies of Lighting Research and Technology electronically. (Watch this space – Ed) Any interested members should contact our Secretary, Liz Peck.

One of lighting’s enthusiasts

Most of you will have met Lou Bedocs at one time or another. He is still working but winding down a bit as of June. Don’t mention the “R” word because he isn’t. However, his successor has written an appreciation of Lou’s career thus far.

Uniting for Lighting

If you don’t receive the monthly commercial magazine, Lighting, you will be interested to learn that they are running a “Uniting for Lighting” campaign. There is report on this in the following pages. In the spirit of balanced reporting, I print a letter from a senior member of the profession arguing that we have a stronger voice if we maintain our separate identities.

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What a whirlwind couple of months it’s been since I took over the reins! After completing a full round of meetings, I am up to speed on all the activities the Council and various committees are working on and am looking forward to helping them develop these, particularly in response to the outcomes of the Members Survey.

I’m pleased to say that the new LG2, Lighting for Hospitals and Healthcare Buildings is now available and we were very fortunate to have Nicholas Bukorovic in London on April 15th to make a presentation on the Guide. A full report on the meeting can be found later in the Newsletter AT to check. The Lighting Handbook is now being finalised and that will be available soon – watch this space!

Ready Steady Light this year was a phenomenal success. A record-breaking 19 teams took part which stretched all the resources – both physical and mental! – to the limit. A huge thank you goes to Mike Simpson for all his efforts and all the students and staff at Rose Bruford College who are most accommodating to the annual SLL invasion! Congratulations to the teams from Speirs & Major, Rose Bruford and iGuzzini for scooping this year’s awards.

The 2007-8 Masterclass programme finished with a flourish (and a birthday cake for Iain Macrae!) in Edinburgh. All of the Masterclasses have been very well attended and for those of you who haven’t been before, they are a very informative and well structured day. It’s an event I would recommend to you all. The topics and venues for the 2008-9 programme will be announced shortly but at this stage, I would like to place on record my own thanks to Holophane, Philips & Thorn for sponsoring the series, their support is invaluable.

I hope to see as many of you as possible at the AGM and Patrick Baldrey’s Presidential Address on May 27th. As a Society, we are always looking for feedback so if you have any questions about the Society – or suggestions about how we can make it work better for you, please do drop me a line.

Liz
lpeck@cibse.org

A winning project

Double - First

Each year after the Lighting Design Awards, we like to cover one of the winning projects in greater depth. This year, the winner of the Workplace category was the ISG Interior Exterior Headquarters, designed by Paul Pompili who works for them as Divisional Technical Services Director. This is a double-first because in 2006, the winner of the Workplace category was, again, Paul Pompili at his previous employer. By profession, Paul is a Chartered Electrical Engineer. The lighting design was done by Paul in close co-operation with the architect, ORMS.

Background

ISG Interior Exterior might best be described as corporate fit out and refurbishment specialists. Projects typically have a contract value of £10M to £100M. Having conducted a survey amongst their staff in 2005, they found many aspects that weren’t conducive to productive and stimulating work. Their new HQ remedies these deficiencies and acts as an advertisement to show new clients what ISG can do.
Skylights

The key focus of the scheme is the construction of artificial skylights. These measure 3m x 3.5m and are located in the open plan offices. It takes visitors quite a while to realise that a skylight on the 6th floor of an eight storey building can’t be real. They have been created using a combination of 3000K and 6000K cold cathode lamps aligned alternately behind a Barrisol diffuser. There are eight scene sets varying from warm light in the morning to cool in the evening. The final scene (night) is a blue skylight which gives an atmospheric feel to the space. This blue colour is again picked up in the selection of the glass pendants within the reception area and the blue wash on the perimeter columns within the office area.

The Reception area is a multi function space used throughout the day not only as a reception, but also for informal meetings and as a coffee bar. During the evening it can be transformed into a presentation area or party space for large gatherings and functions. The installed lighting scheme enables all these functions to be carried out without the need for supplementary specialist units.

Energy

One of the key criteria was the sustainability target and Carbon neutral target for the project.

All luminaires use low energy light sources where possible; this includes all the pendant luminaires.

Daylight control is provided throughout the general office area to ensure minimal energy usage during the life of the project. ISG used the existing ceiling tiles and grid to ensure there was not unnecessary waste generated during the construction process.

They subsequently designed the offices using the Zumtobel mellow light IV luminaire that incorporated a digital/Dali dimmable ballast unit.

All electrical energy is monitored throughout the office in each quadrant of the space. The lighting energy
is separately metered. This gives a direct indication of the amount of energy being saved from daylight into the space via the full height glazed façades.

One of the major challenges Paul had to overcome was in the large meeting rooms. The ceilings are solid plaster and the perimeter lighting used a flangeless aluminium Slotlight extrusion for fluorescent lamps. Being manufactured to very high tolerances, when bolted together, the solid extrusion showed up variations in level in the ceiling plaster. The extrusion would either protrude down at one end and be flush in the other or, alternatively, recess upwards showing bare plaster edges. The solution was to very carefully fix the extrusion just a few millimeters below the nominal ceiling line. In practice this detail is impossible to notice when the units are illuminated and subsequently does not distract from the overall effect of the scheme.

Other major companies contributing to the scheme were: Cundell – Mechanical and Electrical Services consultant and Trilectric – Electrical contractor.

Report by A Tulla

Uniting for Lighting

It was heartening to read in the March issue of Lighting magazine that the Editor, Ray Molony, has launched a “Uniting for Lighting” campaign. He says that this Spring provides the lighting profession with a unique opportunity to restructure itself so that it wields an influence in the wider community commensurate with its importance.

The reason, he says, is that almost all lighting professionals have come to realise the problems caused by fragmentation and disunity. Ray lists the lack of influence on legislation, the lack of a structured research programme and coherent education path. But why now? Because coupled with this realisation is the coming together of like-minded people across many of the lighting organisations and professional bodies. These people realise that recasting the lighting landscape is inevitable, but that there are hardliners who must somehow be kept “on board”.

He goes on to say that his magazine is to help provide a focus and forum for this realignment. Obviously, the magazine can play no role in unifying the organisations but may help to facilitate. Finally, he also hopes that the campaign acts as a sort of imperative, a call to arms for the industry as a reminder that there is no better time to deal with these issues.

As you may know, in March, Richard Frost the Chief Executive of the ILE met with Stephen Matthews of CIBSE for some preliminary talks. These are early days and CIBSE is not saying much. However, the feeling amongst senior SLL and ILE officers is more bullish.

The last discussions about an ILE/SLL merger were back in 1999 when the SLL was called the Lighting Division. It is still structurally a division of CIBSE, but the SLL name and administration makes it a bit more autonomous. My personal view is that most members think of themselves as being SLL rather than a sub-group of CIBSE. However, it must be remembered that there is a significant number of engineers who just need to know about lighting from time to time. I.e they are not full-time lighters, but do have to act responsibly and professionally in their lighting design.

For a contrary view, there is a letter from Graham Large saying that having one lighting organisation will weaken the profession. Let me know what you think at slleditor@cibse.org

Report by Alan Tulla
This was held at the delightful Chichester Planetarium (see last issue’s In Brief) and there were two presentations. One was by Jacqueline Balian of CIBSE on the forthcoming register of Low Carbon consultants. The other was by me, Alan Tulla, on whether fibre optics and leds were low energy lighting.

Low Carbon Consultants

The starting point of Jacqueline’s presentation was the EPBD, Energy Performance of Buildings Directive, which requires building to have an energy efficiency rating. The important dates are: April 6th 2008 Energy Performance Certificates, EPCs required on construction, sale and rent of all non-domestic buildings with a floor area over 10,000m2, July 1st EPCs required on construction, sale and rent of all non-domestic buildings with a floor area over 2,500m2, October 1st EPCs required on construction, sale and rent of all non-domestic buildings. DECs are required for all public buildings >1000m2.

The DEC, Display Energy Certificate, shows various aspects of the building’s energy performance. In many ways, it looks like the green to red energy stickers you get on household white goods. Information to be displayed includes: an energy rating A – G, the name of the expert assessor and scheme, carbon emissions together with some recommendations for improving the existing efficiency.

At present, there are few accredited schemes and the CIBSE one is right at the forefront. There are two routes to qualify as an energy assessor. There is a qualification based on NVQ where the candidate starts from scratch and no previous knowledge is required. This is slow and expensive. A more likely route for most candidates is APEL: Appraisal of Prior Experience and Learning.

In essence, a qualified assessor will visit a site and collect a huge amount of data about the building structure, insulation, energy use, materials etc. This data is then processed by software and the results sent for QA checks by CIBSE. When ratified, a DEC is returned to the client. Information on assessed building is held centrally for the whole of England.

As at 21 February, the date of Jacqueline’s presentation, the position was as follows: Applications forms up on website. CPD forms already issued. Lodgment software due on line by end March. The first 100 LCCs have booked top-up training and exams (including one test certificate). Special software training and examination prices negotiated for LCCs.

Are fibre optics and leds low energy solutions?

This talk began by me, the speaker, emphasizing the difference between energy efficiency and low energy consumption. “Efficiency” has got to be one of the misused words in the English language. In terms of converting the chemical energy contained in a litre of petrol to mechanical work, a F1 racing car is much more efficient than a 600cc urban runabout. Of course, the runabout does many more mpg, but that is a separate issue. One reason is that power produced is easier to harness. Diesel is even better. I was told recently that a steam engine is actually better than either in terms of pure conversion efficiency. I would be happy to hear from anyone who has an authoritative answer.

I then discussed the various measures of lighting efficiency such as: lumens/watt, LOR, UF – all which are different ways of describing efficiency. When researching the talk, I visited the websites of various lamp manufacturers to update myself on lamp efficacies. It was interesting to see that LED manufacturers on their Technical Data Sheets now quote 37lm/w for typical 1w units and 27 lm/w for 5w leds.

Of course, how the light is emitted from the source and how well it can be controlled also affects the “efficiency” of the lighting.

Colour was discussed because LEDS can produce it directly rather than filtering out all the wavelengths you don’t want from a conventional white light source. If you want pure red light, an LED will produce it much more efficaciously than metal halide.

Finally, I discussed two projects. One started off designed for fibre optics and became an LED scheme. The other was initially designed for LEDS but was rejected in favour of fibre.

An important part of the presentation is the demonstration of various different light sources with optical control and colour. I am indebted to Crescent Lighting Ltd and iGuzzini for the loan of equipment.

Low Carbon consultant update: Since this article was written, things have moved on. Here is an update from
The Society of Light and Lighting’s annual Ready Steady Light competition took place at Rose Bruford College on March 19th.

A record number of entries had been received and a total of nineteen teams took part. Each team was allocated a site within the college grounds, a selection of lighting equipment and three hours to create a masterpiece.

Following on from last year’s success, the event was un-themed and the teams challenged to best interpret their site using only lighting effects.

Rose Bruford College provide the Society with tremendous support, having adopted Ready Steady Light as part of their own Lighting Design course. A team of students led by Charlotte Jobson and Chris Hirst coordinated all of the power distribution to the sites and provided key liaison with the College.

However, an event of this magnitude simply could not take place without the support of our sponsors, through both financial and logistical support by donating equipment to the event. Our heartfelt thanks go to Concord:marlin, Holophane, iGuzzini, Lightform, Martin Architectural, Philips, Sill, Thorn, Urbis, Crescent Lighting and Zumtobel.

Three hours later and the transformations were complete. There are three prizes available to the teams: Technical Merit, Artistic Impression and the Peer Prize.

The Technical Merit prize was judged by Tony Ownsworth, SLL President, Patrick Baldrey, SLL President Elect, Alan Tulla, SLL Newsletter Editor and Kevin Mansfield and Peter Raynham from the Bartlett. Judging the teams on the technical implementation of the installation, energy use and control of light pollution, they gave Highly Commended to ‘The New Courtyard’ (NDY Light), ‘Lakeside’ (Urbis) and ‘Ramps Ahead’ (Parsons Brinkerhoff). However, Tony Ownsworth explained that the unanimous winner “for its elegant nightscape, excellent control of light spillage and the great textural appearance of the subject” was ‘The Cabin’, an installation from the iGuzzini team.

The prize for Artistic Impression was sponsored by the IALD and judged by Kevin Theobald from PLDA.
alongside some of the great and the good from the theatre lighting world, including Paule Constable, Alex Murphy, Roger Hennigan and Tony Simpson. They gave Highly Commended to ‘Lakeside’ (Urbis) and ‘Wasteland’ (The Lighting Designers’ Sewing Circle). However, first prize was awarded to ‘The Old Stables’, an installation from the team from Rose Bruford College. Presenting the award, Kevin Theobald commented “Year on year, the imagination of the teams and the quality of the projects continue to improve”

Finally, the Peer Prize. This prize is judged by the teams themselves and they have to judge each other’s efforts (without voting for themselves!). This prize went to the Speirs and Major team for “The Barn”

**Report by Liz Peck**

**Editor’s note:** the complete list of teams is: iGuzzini, The Lighting Designers’ sewing circle, Arup London, Holophane Europe, NDY Light, DW Windsor, Parsons Brinkerhoff, Arup North, Zumtobel, DPA Oxford Team 1, DPA Oxford Team 2, DPA London, Speirs & Major, Philips, Rose Bruford College, Bartlett UCL, Thorn Lighting, BDSP, Urbis.

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**Letters**

With all the talk of lighting societies amalgamating and having closer ties, here is a letter from Graham Large, Design Director at Waterman Lighting Design questioning the whole concept:

“**All for one and one for all**”

A hearty and robust cry, but is this the only way forward for the various societies and groups representing the lighting design industry? There is discussion at the moment concerning the possible merger between the Society of Light and Lighting with the Institution of Lighting Engineers. Previously there has been the aborted conjugation between the IALD and ELDA (as it was known then and PLDA now). In the former this may be judged a positive move, but the membership will need to consider what they presently require and expect from their organisations, and how those requirements and expectations may be enhanced by the merger of their societies. The respective memberships of IALD and PLDA presumably felt that any benefits were not equal to the merger requirements, therefore could not reach an agreement, and the proposed marriage was not consummated. This is not to say that these organisations are any the worse for retaining their identities. Both have moved forward to enhance their organisations and provide for their members benefits that may not have been possible as a joint association.

Clearly there are issues upon which the lighting design industry needs to have a voice, education, and Government legislation (both its composition and implementation) to name but two. Is the creation of a conglomerate organisation the only way forward? Recent history of forming huge organisations has not always been encouraging. The formation of the FSA to control the entire retinue of financial services, and its subsequent contribution to the Northern Rock fiasco. The merger between the Inland Revenue and Customs & Excise, with the subsequent loss of millions of confidential records.

Surely any case that has to be made benefits from repeated presentation. Presently if one organisation is rebuffed, then another is waiting in the wings to take up the cause. As long as the organisations are agreed in a common approach in any case they pursue, then the continued presentation and re-presentation of the case by more than one voice must be beneficial. If the case is presented by a single organisation, then it only takes a single “no” to kill the case.

_Graham Large_
Lou Bedocs, the longest serving employee of Thorn Lighting, recently completed 50 years of service within Thorn. During this time Lou has become one of the best-known and well-respected lighting experts within Thorn and in the lighting industry as a whole.

The early years Lou was born in Kormend, Hungary. Whilst he was still at school there was an uprising in Hungary that failed and Lou found himself helping refugees to escape across the frontier into Austria. He made many trips back and forth until the Russians took over the borders. At this point he felt he could not return home thereby making himself a refugee, leaving his parents and family behind.

Arrival in England At 14 years old Lou’s plan was to go to America but after waiting and travelling for 6 weeks he finally arrived in England on the last day of November 1956. He was adopted by Mr and Mrs Roberts, a Welsh family working for the YMCA, and was sent to school in Malvern to learn English. Before joining Thorn, in October 1957, he helped many refugees, who were in local camps, by being an interpreter and traveling to Spennymoor in County Durham to explain their options until he decided that he would ask for a job with Thorn for himself.

Steps of his career Lou started on the Spennymoor production line as a trainee working on assembling radio consoles that were sold to Japan in kit form. To advance through his career he attended evening school learning electrical engineering and then moved into the test gear labs. In 1959 he moved to Enfield to work on televisions and later on to lighting but continued to study and achieved his HND and IEE Diploma in electrical/lighting engineering. From 1959 to 1990, whilst working at Enfield, Lou met Jules Thorn and experienced many changes and developments within the organization. In 1965 he became the first Environmental Engineer for the company, integrating luminaires with air-conditioning systems, and being involved in the development of measurement techniques for air-handling luminaires. The first Thorn Lighting catalogue was produced in 1970 when he was head of the interior lighting development group. Lou has a wide breadth of knowledge, from lighting fundamentals to lamps, luminaire design to lighting application, knowledge he used in developing new concepts such as pioneering uplighting techniques and integrating electronics and controls within a luminaire to produce the Sensafit. Lou has given lectures to many professional bodies, published numerous papers and presented at events around the world. He has taken a leading role in the IES, SLL and many other professional bodies, and was Chairman of the CIBSE Lighting Division. He has participated in the development of standards and guides within organizations such as CEN, CIE, CELMA and LIF and received a variety of awards in recognition for his contribution to lighting. Lou has always taken in a keen interest in the training and development of others, and has developed and run many training courses and taught at a variety of universities and colleges.

Meeting the Queen When Lou returned to Spennymoor, as Technical Director, his first task was to redesign the old warehouse into the Technology Centre. Into this he consolidated the technical teams and helped to relocate members of his team from Enfield.

The highlight of his career was meeting the Queen when she visited Thorn Spennymoor in 1995. This was not his first meeting with her as he had previously met the Queen and the Queen Mother while working with the YMCA. He showed the Queen round the Technology Centre and introduced his team to her and to the accompanying local MP, a Mr Tony Blair!

Thorn Academy of Light Lou’s latest role is to help to establish the Thorn Academy of Light, a worldwide training facility for Thorn at the new factory being built at Spennymoor.

Away from lighting His biggest leisure interest is his six grandchildren and he hopes to pass on his knowledge and life experiences to them. He is deeply involved in his local community, from helping manage the village hall to participating in litter picking teams.

We congratulate Lou on his many years of service to the lighting industry.

Report by Peter Thorns of Thorn Lighting, Spennymoor
In Brief

There are 10 types of person.
Those who understand binary arithmetic and those who do not. An SLL member in Nigeria wrote in the questionnaire that a touch of humour in the Newsletter would be welcome. I’m sure readers can improve on this one.

Lighting Design Awards even bigger in 2009
I understand that although there was a record 901 people at this year’s event, the organisers Emap, had to refuse entry to many more. Next year the Awards will be in an even larger venue.

ARC show even bigger in 2009
Next year it will be held at will be at Earl’s Court 2 on 4 & 5 February.

A record number of entries in Ready, Steady, Light
This year we had 19 teams, more than any other previous year. A full report is elsewhere in the Newsletter.

How’s your mnemonic?
I recently had the task of lecturing on point source calculations and basic trig functions. To generate some feedback, I asked the students how they remembered the formulae for Cos, Sin and Tan. All came back with SOHCAHTOA which, personally, I can neither pronounce nor remember its spelling. However, during coffee break, a young woman recounted one which begins: Sex On Hard Concrete …… - I fear some readers might blanch at the rest, so I cannot continue. At school, I was taught Some Officers Have Curly Auburn Hair Till Old Age which, I suppose, reflects gentler times.

Events May June 2008

27 May  SLL AGM
Royal Society of Arts

28 May  Lightfair 2008
Las Vegas
www.lightfair.com

12 June  Joined up Lighting seminar
“Is office lighting killing us – or just making us rather ill?”
Speakers: Mary Rushton-Beales, Iain Trent, Maida Hot
BDP offices EC1
Register at www.ile-events.org.uk

18 Jun  Using the SLL 2008 Code for Lighting
Presented by Peter Raynham
London
E: courses@mid-career-college.ac.uk

18 Aug  PLDA Workshop
Stavanger
www.stavanger.kommune.no

29 Sep  PLDA Workshop
Alingsas
www.alingsas.se27-28 Nov  7th National Lighting Conference
Istanbul,
Contact alpin.yner@itu.edu.tr or www.atmk.org.tr

Masterclasses are kindly sponsored by Philips Lighting, Thorn Lighting and Holophane. Topics covered this year: Using new technology to meet legislation; The 02 Arena case study; Sustainability; Wembley Stadium case study; Part L in Practice. 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.

Change a bulb or tv?
I read that changing all the gls to compact fluorescent in an average household would save about 400kWh per year. However, a new plasma screen tv would outweigh any savings from the cfls. These televisions are so terribly power hungry, the manufacturers don’t even give the power rating. My local electrical store has all the plasma tvs in an air-conditioned room which must mean something.

An illuminated street
I just love this photo. It is in Longyearbyen, the world’s northernmost town. It is situated in Norway’s Svalbard archipelago. The sun rose on March 8th, the first time since last October. Photograph: Jan Eric Svenndsen/Getty. You can see more of this series at www.guardian.co.uk/inpictures.

In Brief