



Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 2

June 2012

President's Message

How time flies. It is summer once again.

The Mining Institute of Scotland has continued to build on activities to capture the young professionals through its aggressive programme targeted at young members supported by attractive technical programmes.

Our condolences to our able Younger Members Representative Beran Talinir for his recent bereavement. In spite of this he did champion a number of activities including the successful hosting of University of Dundee students at BP facilities in Aberdeen. Beran also completed 'Tour De Ecosse' for the THIRD TIME for good causes. Well done Beran.

Abbas Delavar of BP continues to progress through the YPLC competition. He has now won the National Final in London. Congratulations.

Additionally, we have a new scholar being nominated for the Arkwright Scholarship. I trust these seeds we are planting will continue to bear fruit in the near future with the younger members outnumbering the RIPs (Retiring Industry Professionals) like myself. This is why I would like to congratulate specially our elder statesmen who are still demonstrating their active involvement, for example, at the recent Retired Members' Lunch held at the Lochside House Hotel. New Cumnock on Wednesday, 9 May 2012.

This year has been especially busy for most of our office holders still in active service within the industry. Their busy schedules have led to limited but credible participation.

Overall, the outstanding success of our Institute has been due to each and every one of us and the commitment to service. I want to thank all for your contributions. You are much appreciated. I wish you and your family a blissful summer 2012!

Remain Blessed

Professor Babs Oyenyin

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History Project

Council has been actively considering ways of recording the history and current life of The Mining Institute of Scotland as an appropriate means of using the prize money won as Local Society of the Year. Although the roots of our organisation back in the 1870s, and much of its subsequent history, reflected the technical needs of the Scottish coalfields, changes in the industrial scene in the country – particularly with the accelerating development of the oil and gas sector since the 1960s – mean that we now appeal to a wide diversity of expertise and experience.

We aim to produce a lively and informative account that will appeal to a wider readership than just our own membership. To achieve this we are looking at an anecdotal approach the core of which would be perhaps 8 or 10 contributions by individual members of their lives within the widest range of topics possible. Although it is expected that the project will be formally endorsed by Council in the autumn of 2012, any of the undersigned as the Steering Group before then would welcome expressions of interest by potential contributors, or information as to whom we might approach. We are also talking to publishers who might be interested.

As the work proceeds we are anticipating that editorial work will be undertaken within three main subject areas. Craig Durham has very kindly offered to oversee contributions relevant to oil and gas and we shall make similar arrangements, firstly, for the coal industry and, secondly, for other mineral-related activity.

There is one further thing for which we are looking for suggestions and that is a title for the publication. So far we have come up with *Scotland's Mineral Wealth – the Professional's Story* or *Scotland's hidden riches – how they were found and used*. If you think you can do better, a bottle of single malt just might be your reward.

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Graham Smith caplaw@hotmail.co.uk

Allan Thomson thomson883@btinternet.com

Arkwright Scholarships

David McKinney, our current Arkwright scholar, aims to maintain his grades in his final exams. He has been studying for five Highers and feels they've gone fairly well. Expectantly, he should achieve 4 'A's and a 'B' when the results are announced in August.

David has been accepted onto a 'Headstart' course at Manchester University, funded by Arkwright, which is on during the summer. It is a broad-based engineering course with a number of academic projects, an industry visit and a trip to the cinema!

He has been awarded his Queens badge with the Boys Brigade and received his certificate from the Lord Provost at a ceremony in Broughty Ferry. Next on his agenda was a Duke of Edinburgh Gold practice hike taking in 4 Munros over 3 days.

Although David was unsuccessful in his application for the INEOS *Engineers of the Future* Programme, he did get down to the last six. Nevertheless, he is looking forward to 6th year at Dunblane High School.

Recently, the Arkwright Scholarships Trust has written to The Mining Institute of Scotland seeking our support for a further scholar in September 2012. Catriona Sinclair is a student at George Watson's College, Edinburgh. She intends to study Electrical, Chemical or Mechanical Engineering at university. Once she gets her Masters Degree her thoughts would look to a career in the oil/gas industry. Based upon her academic ability, Council believes she is a very able candidate who, with focus, can be an excellent Arkwright Scholar.

The Mining Institute of Scotland is able to fund these Arkwright Scholarships through the income stream generated by the metallurgical courses run during the year. Such commitment is a considerable investment and one that Council will keep a watchful eye on to ensure that best use is made of the funds available and it is achieving the desired outcome.

AN INSTITUTE EVENT IS THE PLACE TO MEET FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES BOTH OLD AND NEW, WHY NOT JOIN WITH US?

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TECHNICAL MEETING

13 SEPTEMBER 2012 – 6.00PM AT THE LOCHSIDE HOUSE HOTEL, NEW CUMNOCK, AYRSHIRE

Surface Mining in Ayrshire – birds, bogs and engagement

SOCIAL EVENT

26 SEPTEMBER 2012 – 12.00NOON AT THE NATIONAL MINING MUSEUM SCOTLAND, LADY VICTORIA COLLIERY, NEWTONGRANGE, MIDLOTHIAN

Retired Members' Lunch

Younger Members Update

In his Presidential Address, Professor Babs Oyenyin set out the direction that the Institute should follow with regard to long-term membership. The future of the Institute lies to an extent in its ability to recruit younger members and encourage these members to play a role in the development of their local society.

Following up on his successful approach at the University of St Andrews, Allan Thomson has been busy speaking with students at the Adam Smith College, Glenrothes. The College offers both Higher National Certificate (HNC) and Higher National Diploma (HND) courses in petroleum engineering and students hope to gain employment in the oil and gas sector following qualification. HNC and HND certificates allow holders to become registered as Eng Tech or IEng respectively with the Engineering Council. Following Allan's visit, six students have become members of the Institute. Welcome to Marcin Andrejuk, Christopher Golz, Ross Hardie, Aaron Hunter, Kate MacGregor, and Cameron Todd. Already Kate has found a job with Subsea Engineering Technical Services as a graduate subsea engineer. Well done Kate.

Allan will be meeting with students at St Andrews on 4 October to follow up the interest generated in the Department of Earth Sciences. The Mining Institute of Scotland Trust aims to provide financial support to help students become members during the last two years of their course. The format of the event has still to be finalised but it will be followed by a cheese and wine reception.

The Mines Rescue Service based at Crossgates, Fife was another organisation that Allan visited. As a result, four younger members have joined the Institute. Welcome to Ross Calder, Aiden Henderson, Liam Parrish, and Daniel Penman.

Younger Members Representative, Beran Tanilir is busy at the University of Dundee where he organised a visit for students from there to BP, Aberdeen. Twenty-six students made the journey on 20 April 2012 and it is hoped that some of these will take up a career in the oil and gas sector.



University of Dundee students at BP offices, Aberdeen

COUNCIL 2011/12

PRESIDENT: BABS OYENEYIN *

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT: IAN PURDIE *

JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT: ALEX CROSSLAND*

SECRETARY: DAVID SEATH

TREASURER: IAN PURDIE

BENEVOLENT FUND: JIM WISHART

YOUNGER MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE: BERAN TANILIR

STEVE BEDFORD (P&DE DIVISION BOARD)

GORDON BEETHAM (MIS TRUSTEE)

SIMON BRASSEY

MARGARET COPLAND* (P&DE DIVISION BOARD)

MARTIN COX* (P&DE DIVISION BOARD)

RICHARD CROCKETT (ARKWRIGHT SCHOLARSHIPS)

MARTIN DOWNING (INDUSTRY LIAISON)

CRAIG DURHAM* (P&DE DIVISION BOARD)

MARK FRIEL (INDUSTRY LIAISON)

JOE HEFFERNAN (UNIVERSITY LIAISON)

STEVE JEWELL (P&DE DIVISION BOARD)

JON LATIMER

KEN MACKIE MBE (MIS TRUSTEE)

GRAHAM SMITH (CONFERENCE ORGANISER)

JIM SOMERVILLE (UNIVERSITY LIAISON)

ALLAN THOMSON (MIS TRUSTEE)

VACANCIES (2)

*** DIRECTOR OF THE MINING INSTITUTE OF SCOTLAND**

SPECIFIC ROLES OF INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL MEMBERS ARE GIVEN IN BRACKETS.

SECRETARY'S ADDRESS

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Members can receive all correspondence by email. Please contact the Secretary if you wish to receive correspondence electronically but currently don't.

YPLC 2012

In the last issue of the *Newsletter* it was announced that Abbas Delavar came first in The Mining Institute of Scotland local heat of this competition and would represent Scotland at the National Finals.

The final of the Young Persons' Lecture Competition 2012 was held on 25 April at The Armourers' Hall in London, home to The Worshipful Company of Armourers & Brasiers, who support the event. At the finals, Abbas scooped first prize with his winning and enthused talk, *Liquid Loading & Gas Deliquification*. This is the first occasion that a contestant from Scotland has won this prestigious competition. He will now go through to the World Lecture Competition, which will be held in London on 5 July.

Liquid loading of a gas well results from the disability of the produced gas to remove the liquids from the wellbore. Abbas's lecture briefly explains why liquid loading occurs in a gas well and how understanding of its principles has helped in the development of different deliquification techniques. The advantages and disadvantages of each technique are also presented.

Abbas studied Petroleum Engineering in Abadan Institute of Technology, Iran. His BSc thesis was on 'Applications of Artificial Neural Networks in Petroleum Engineering'. He graduated with a Masters Degree in Petroleum Engineering from Delft University of Technology, in the Netherlands. His thesis was on 'Interfacial Science and Wettability'. He joined BP in 2009 as a Production Engineer for Southern North Sea Gas assets, involved in several appraisal studies and designing of operations for gas well deliquification. Abbas currently works as a Petroleum Engineer in Central North Sea oil fields investigating and progressing several well interventions, and would like to continue supporting other assets in deliquification operations.



Abbas receives his winner's medal and certificate from Jan Lewis, President, IOM3.