



# RHURH REGGIE



ISSUE No. 4

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE  
KING'S COLLEGE LONDON ENGINEERS' ASSOCIATION

MARCH 1995

# MEMBERS ACCLAIM ANNUAL DINNER A 'ROARING SUCCESS'

**February the 10th 1995 will go down in the annals of KCLEA as the night when the Annual Dinner was reborn - and what a successful birth!**

Norman Borrett had spent several months slaving away to encourage as many people as possible to lay down the necessary cash to make the evening a success. No one was more nervous than he as the night approached, though he needn't have worried.

One hundred and thirty Members and their guests, guests of the Association and current students assembled in the Great Hall of the College for an evening of good food, wine, convivial chat and some surprise entertainment.

After a pleasant aperitif, the President got us off to a flying start with the Sappers' grace (over almost before it had begun!) and we sat down to a fine meal of Florida Cocktail, Beef Wellington with Mange-Tout, Vichy Carrots and Parisienne Potatoes, followed by Noisette Pavlova and Cheese

and biscuits, all washed down with some tasteful King's wines.

Once the Queen had been toasted, Ray Horner kicked off a series of excellent and witty speeches, including some amusing memories of King's from Stan Earles and some suitable jibes at the legal profession from Professor John Uff of the Centre for Construction Law!

In recognition of his extraordinary efforts to rejuvenate KCLES, its president for 1994-5, Michael Grant, received an engraved tankard, certificate and hearty acclamation from those present.

A rousing rendition of the Beer's Chant was a fitting climax to the evening, waves of nostalgia flooding over the Hall.

Finally, as a special surprise, we were treated to a selection of folk songs performed in his own language by a current student of the College, XXXXXXXXXX, from Mongolia. His obvious musical talent combined with an operatic voice

was a delight to all, even prompting the assembled audience to join in!

I would like to express the Association's deep gratitude to Norman for organising a superb evening which we will all remember for years to come.

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## Editorial

Welcome to the fourth issue of HRH Reggie which, I hope you will agree, is the most spectacular yet! Not only do we have the graphics, but photos as well!

I hope you all enjoy the pictures of the Annual Dinner; for those who attended they should bring back fond memories, and for those who missed out they should be an incentive for you to attend next year.

All this improvement in the publication takes some effort (and provides much enjoyment!) but also leads to higher production costs. So the main thrust for this editorial is to talk about advertising, or more accurately the lack of it.

Now that we have established a good track record - we have been going since 1993 in the current format - we can reasonably start to market ourselves. We publish to a readership of over 700 professional engineers, a market which surely someone would like to reach.

I would therefore ask all members of the Association - and anyone else who reads this - to put on your thinking caps and come up with a few suggestions for gaining some revenue. Would you like to advertise in HRH Reggie? How about your company/employer? Or perhaps you have some links with advertising agencies and the like.

I would like to find some advertisers for both this publication and for the Directory of Members (next edition 1997) so please send your thoughts to the address on the last page. (Thanks to Dave Topping for the suggestion - it will be followed up.)

Talking of Directories, you should find enclosed with this issue the new KCLEA Directory of Members. I hope you find it both useful and enjoyable.

Wishing you all the best for 1995.

Al Steger-Lewis  
pp. HRH Reggie

## Annual General Meeting 1994

**The AGM was held on the evening of 25th November in the Council Room of the College.**

Keith Newton, outgoing President, welcomed members to the meeting. After the opening formalities he went on to outline the activities of the Association during the year. He was particularly pleased to report that the two newsletters which had been produced had generated considerable interest from members.

Relationships with the current students had been strengthened and the Wine and Cheese Party for 3rd year students had been much more successful than those in recent years. Links with KCLA continued to be strong, and the Engineers were by far the largest group at the KCLA Dinner.

Turning to the coming year Keith said that the Committee planned to publish the Directory, a mock up of which was already available, in addition to two

newsletters. A dinner was planned for February 10th. Consideration would also be given to planning events for the 150th Anniversary of KCLES in 1997.

Following the election (*see below*), KCLEA Medals were presented to Virtyt Koshi and Hiroyuki Moro. Ireen Campomanes was congratulated on her award of the Kevin Nash Memorial Prize. It was noted that medals had also been awarded to Chi Kong Chan and McChristopher Chigumba, and Prizes to Yossef Yehiel and Vijesh Patel who were unable to be present.

The 13 Club Trophy was awarded to John Harris for his services to both the Association and the College.

After the close of the formal business members enjoyed refreshments and the chance to chat informally to each other.

Sue Doran  
Honorary Secretary

## The New Committee

**President** Ray Horner

**Vice-Presidents**  
John Harris  
Bob Hawken  
Charles Turner  
Stan Earles  
Al Steger-Lewis

**Honorary Treasurer**  
Bev Steger-Lewis

**Honorary Secretary**  
Sue Doran

**Dinner Secretary**  
Norman Borrett

**Membership Secretary/  
Editor** Al Steger-Lewis

**Past Presidents**  
Keith Newton  
Liz Beckmann  
Ron Marsh

**Committee Members**  
Julian Bean  
Peter Gould  
Alan Cruddas

**Trustees** Dennis Cooper  
Maurice Kenn  
David Lloyd

**Auditor** Ian Williams



## Letter from the President...

*Dear Fellow Beers,*

*My career at King's was not particularly distinguished, about my only claim to fame was to appear in the photograph which forms plate 8 in W.O. Skeat's history of the King's Engineering Society - about in the middle of the picture!*

*After leaving King's I had a varied career with local authorities and consulting engineers until the 39-45 War (my son advises me to make it clear that it was not the 1914-18 War!), when I served with the Sappers in Iceland, India and Iran.*

*Post war, I have worked with contractors, consulting engineers and local authorities. With the London County Council Main Drainage Division I was involved in the extensions to the main London sewage works, and can therefore claim a small share in the return of salmon to the Thames. I consider that engineers have done ten times as much to improve the environment as all the Greenpeace protesters put together! With the Greater London Council I was involved with the Thames Barrier Project, and still talk to foreign groups at the site.*

*All this adds up to an engineer who knows practically nothing about everything - and may therefore be quite useful on a multidisciplinary project!*

*A last paragraph on the KCLEA. I joined the Association because I wanted to keep in touch with the College and King's Engineers in particular. I also hoped I might be able to promote the image of the College in some way, and also help some young engineers in their careers, as senior engineers had helped me in the past. These of course are some of the aims of the Association, and it is on this note that I express the hope that all King's Engineers will support KCLEA.*

*Yours sincerely,*

**Ray Horner, President, KCLEA**

## Can You Help?

**Keith Newton is compiling a list of Presidents of KCLES. The list is shown below; can you fill in any of the gaps? Replies to the Editor.**

31-32	P R Reid	45-46	John Tavare	54-55	M Allen	65-66	Tim Sharp	80-81	David Topping
32-33			(Sir John Tavare)		E Alan Cruddas	66-67		81-82	William Burton
33-34	J C Purser		Edward Jitts		M Knowles	67-68		82-83	
34-35			Tony Driver	56-57	J Griffiths	68-69		83-84	
35-36	G Hazelden		(Sir Anthony Driver)	57-58	John Taylor	69-70		84-85	
36-37		46-47			Terry Wells	70-71		85-86	
37-38		47-48			Max Lipman	71-72		86-87	
38-39		48-49		58-59	Tony Manns	72-73		87-88	
39-40		49-50	J R Taylor		Dave Tolton	73-74		88-89	
40-41			A S Ryde	59-60		74-75		89-90	
41-42			? Parkin	60-61		75-76		91-91	
42-43		50-51		61-62		76-77		91-92	
43-44		51-52		62-63		77-78		92-93	Stephen Brittain
44-45	W I O'Hara	52-53		63-64		78-79	Josh Goodwin	93-94	Michael Grant
	S A T Warren	53-54	M Constable	64-65		79-80	Julia Young (Szerdy)	94-95	



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# **KCLEA Annual Dinner 1995**

**For those who couldn't be there, here are some images of what you missed!**





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## Letters

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**Dear Reggie,**

**Re. "Life in Retirement"**

Colin Wilson finished his article on retirement with a reference to the Boy Scout's motto. As a Scout Leader for almost forty years, I felt well prepared to tackle retirement when it was offered.

I retired fourteen years ago, and Joyce, my wife, decided to retire at the same time, so that we could be together. We bought a house with an acre of land, and promptly built an open air swimming pool, one of the best things I ever did in my life. For the twelve years we were there, I hardly missed a day, summer or winter; a quick swim straight out of bed set me up for the day. (For Joyce it was strictly summer only.)

It was a maxim for me in my working days, that if I could get up early on five days a week (six in earlier years) for my employer, I could certainly get up early on the other two for myself. So now its all seven, and the wife's the one who gets the tea in bed.

In our case, we do as many things as we can together, but we are happy to go our own ways on such activities as stamp collecting, Women's Institute and so on. We both play table tennis, indoor bowls (we were founder members of the Village Indoor Short Mat Club); we swim three times a week now in the local indoor baths; I go for a short jog most mornings; Joyce plays tennis regularly. We play Bridge two or three times a week. We support the Church, attend regular meetings of the local Historical Society, Gardeners Society, Family History Society, Winemakers Club, and attend various Social Evenings, mainly in the Village Hall. We are very involved in the running of this hall, in fact I am Chairman of the Trustees.

The large garden was great, but the time came when we felt we were so involved in other things, we needed a change, so two years ago we moved down to the centre of our village, to a house with a "pocket handkerchief" garden, but with a recreation ground behind us where the Council mow the grass! We couldn't bear to be without home grown vegeta-

bles, so we took an allotment just a couple of minutes across the field behind.

The family are spread around the world, with grandchildren in Australia, USA and this country to visit. We have invested in the Holiday Property Bond to "get away from it all" from time to time, mostly in this country.

Stamp collecting is beginning to take a back seat, and I find myself delving more and more into Family and Public Records to extend the Family Tree.

Our advice to those preparing for retirement: GO FOR IT. Plan just how you are going to keep fit in both body and mind. Join in with things; retirement is going to be your opportunity to give something back to the community. Offer yourself as a committee member for your favourite activity; make your social contacts and build on them. You only get out of life what you put into it.

Sydney M. Shaw,  
1940-42

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**Dear Reggie,**

**Re. "Life in Retirement"**

In Newsletter No.3, Colin Wilson lists many ways in which a retired person can keep active and I generally echo his list. The advice I would give is "Join in", and don't hang back when volunteers are needed to stand for the committee!

In my own case I have had five different offices in Poole Probus Club since I joined twelve years ago, and am President Elect for 1995. I help behind the scenes in our local museum half a day a week, I am street warden for our

Residents Association, and a "contact" for the Neighbourhood Watch.

With my wife, I exercise and swim in a Leisure/Health Club two or three time a week, we play music (piano and cello), and we belong to several other clubs and societies. We still find time for gardening and maintenance, DIY style.

Going back to the first two years after retirement, following up my interest in Numismatics, I carried out research in conjunction with a friend, as a result of which we wrote and published a book - "The Coins and Banknotes of Burma." Why? Because no one else had done it! It as very satisfying to see it accepted by

numismatists throughout the world.

Two years ago I acquired a computer, and have enjoyed teaching myself word processing. It is so much easier to write letters like this on it rather than on the old typewriter.

There is no Engineering in my activities now, though I support the meetings, visits etc. of the Bournemouth Branch of the "Mech E's".

With best wishes for the continued success of the Newsletter.

Lewis A. Shaw  
1940-42



## Letters

Dear Reggie,

### “Half Century Reunion”

Tony Gayfer and I have kept in touch ever since we left College in 1947. During a typically convivial meeting in May 1994 we decided to try to organise a reunion for all those who started their engineering degree course in 1944.

We extracted 24 names from the KCLEA Directory and wrote to all of them. We were most gratified to receive 20 replies, including one from Patrick Young in Australia, and much support.

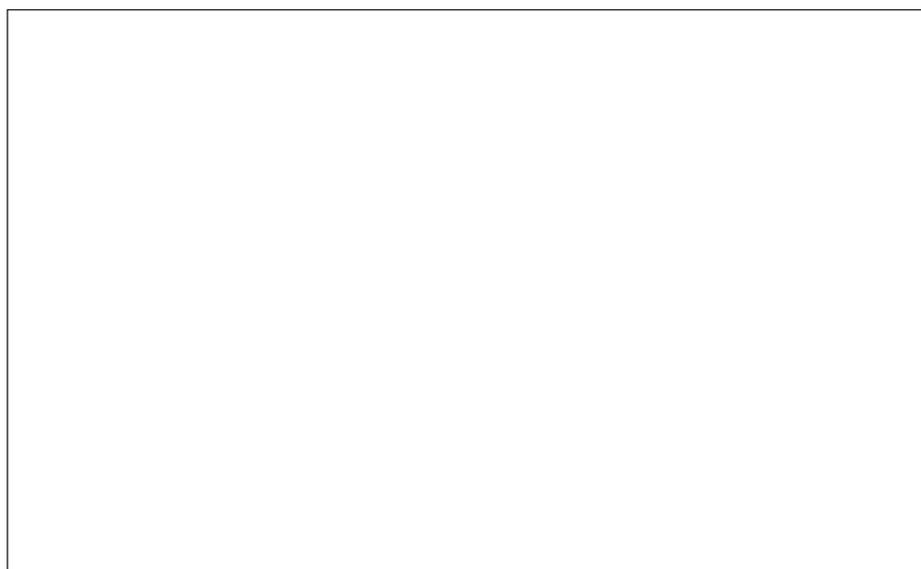
We then had to set about the arduous business of sampling and selecting a suitable meeting place and fairly quickly decided on The Founder’s Arms in Southwark.

On the evening of 1st October thirteen of us gathered together at the Founder’s for food, drink and good conversation. Many of us had not met each other since 1947 and were perhaps a little apprehensive of what we might find. In fact the whole evening was great fun and we carried on almost as if there had been no gap. The faces and figures might have changed but the people were the same and it was a real joy to meet so many old friends in this way.

I know that Tony will join me in thanking all those who could not come but wrote or phoned with their best wishes. We might even try to arrange another one.

Peter Simpson  
1944-47

## KCLES



**KCLES have had a busy year, including 3 Bar Evenings, a Pub Crawl, football matches against the Medics and between the Mechanical and Electrical Engineers, plus visits to Rover, Marconi, Ford, Perkins Engines, an Egg Race and of course the statutory visit to Young’s Brewery, shown above.**

## TIDBITS

### Oops!

Many thanks to all those eagle-eyed readers who spotted the deliberate mistake in HRH Reggie No.3.

J. D. Harris’s article “The War Years - King’s Engineers at Bristol” ended rather prematurely - the last paragraph should have finished with the words “he was never far wrong.”

The proof-reader has been tarred and feathered and promises to try harder next time!

## KCLEA Directory

The long awaited and long overdue updated version of the King’s College London Engineers’ Association Directory of Members is with us at last and should have found its way to you with this newsletter.

Hopefully you will find it interesting and useful, and worth the wait! Please remember that it is only as accurate as the information supplied by the members, so if your details are wrong or you know of another member whose details have changed, please let us know for the next edition in 1997.

### Many Thanks

Thanks to H. Casperd for the press clippings for our archives, and to Richard Triggs and Dr. Peter Allen for their contributions for HRH Reggie. I’m sorry that we haven’t had the space to print them this time, but I promise that they will appear in a future issue.



## Obituary

# J. H. R. Haswell

**J. H. R. Haswell (Known to his friends as Roddy or more formally - Roderick). 30th June 1912 - 13th October 1994.**

Educated at St.Pauls School and King's College London. B.Sc.(Hons.), Eur.Ing., C.Eng., FICE, FStruct.E., FGS, FCI Arb., President of the Society of Engineers, 1990.

He was proud of being a fourth generation engineer. His great grandfather, John Haswell, having taken the railway locomotive to Austria became known as the Father of the Austrian Railway, his grave being still maintained by the city of Vienna. Roddy's grandfather was similarly employed and his father, C.J.R. Haswell was Director of Public Works in Cairo under Kitchener.

Roddy in his days at King's (1933-36) was a strong supporter of the Engineering Society and was involved in many of its activities. He was also a member of the College rugby and swimming teams.

His early experience after graduation included the construction of Aldgate East Underground Station, Cromwell Curve Railway Flyunder Survey, design and construction of King's Cross Bomb protection tunnels, deep level Tunnel Shelters at the Oval and Camden Town, the design of a munitions factory, and of a Drydock and also a Mooring Dolphin, Port of Beira.

He served in the Royal Engineers Transportation (Major R.E.) and was employed on the design and construction of the military ports of Faslane and Cairn Ryan, Marchwood Depot,

Mulberry Harbour, Appreciation of Crossings of the Rhine and Composite Piers for Japan.

From 1947-94 he was the senior partner in J.H.R. Haswell & Partners, London, and Haswell & Giuntoli, Italy.

His first client after the war was the French Government, working in French Equatorial Africa. This was followed by a long career of varied projects around the world both in construction and solving construction failures. He evolved his own Haswell Crack Classification and became an Arbitrator and Expert Witness.

It was important to him to pass on knowledge and experience to younger engineers both in his office and those he lectured at Battersea College and later as a Visiting Reader at Surrey University.

He was also the author of numerous technical publications, and he will be sadly missed by all those who knew him.

## *In Memory of W.O. Skeat*

I was very sorry to hear that W. O. Skeat has died; forty years ago he was a great help to me when I wished to become a member of the Institute of Water Engineers, he being Secretary at the time. I would like to send to his family my sadness at hearing this news.

T.J.B Wright,  
Shropshire

*J. H. R. Haswell*

### Contacts

#### President

Ray Horner  
Heortnesse  
Hollybush Hill  
Stoke Poges  
Slough  
Berkshire, SL2 4PX  
Tel: 01753 663245

#### Honorary Secretary

Sue Doran  
159a Norman Road  
Leytonstone  
London E11 4RJ  
Tel: 0181-539 0138

#### Honorary Editor

c/o Al Steger-Lewis  
429 Clarence Lane  
Roehampton  
London SW15 5QD  
Tel: 0181 878 6098  
Email:  
100043.3312@compuserve.com