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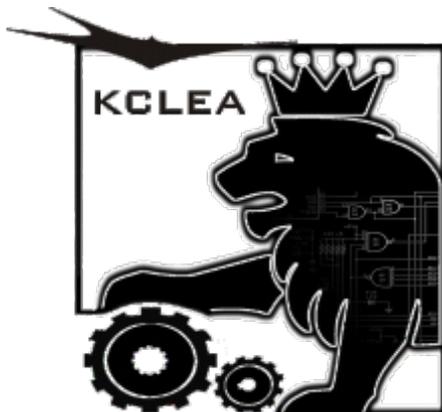
King's Engineer



ISSUE 8

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175 years of
teaching
engineering at
King's College
London has ENDED

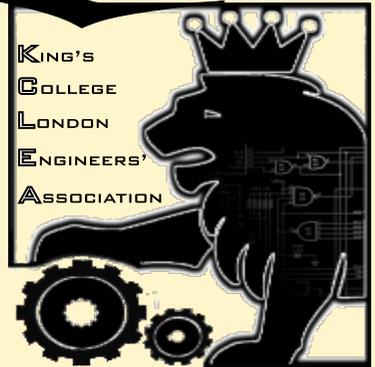


Our 8th issue records the final closure of the Division of Engineering at the end of July 2013. It was a sad moment, and like at any moment, it passes, only good memories and positive feelings linger. I was so glad to have attended the annual lunch with my wife Yevgenya (who I want to thank deeply for assisting in editing this newsletter issue), we had a fantastic time reminiscing with newly graduated students and old. I feel a solidarity with all the Alumni, we all went through an education which has shaped our lives. Right now I'm creating a technology start-up business, and much like the first day I stepped into King's, it's frightening and seems an immense amount of work. Thank's King's, now I'll say challenge accepted and just cry out:

'We are, we are, we are the engineers!'



Nigel Sharp - Honorary Editor



What is KCLEA?

KCLEA is the free membership graduate association for engineers who have studied or worked at King's. The King's Engineer is the main KCLEA publication. The Association's overarching aims are to:

- Facilitate communication between members
- Facilitate communication between the College and members
- Provide support for the College and current engineering students
- Provide support for the King's College London Engineering Society (KCLES)

Annual General Meeting Formal Notification Friday 29th November 2013 – 6 pm

The Committee would urge as many of you as possible to attend the AGM so that we can update you on future engineering based courses and hear your thoughts on the way forward for the KCLEA. Indeed we would particularly welcome new committee members at this important time for the KCLEA.

Please check on the website for agenda and room details or enquire at Strand reception upon arrival.

Notes from the President

Taking over the KCLEA Presidency from Mike Clode was a daunting task with his energy and affinity with students and recent graduates. Thank you Mike for handling the difficult and deeply disappointing closure of the Division of Engineering that none of us wanted. By last November, we had accepted that the closure was inevitable and the job of incoming President and the Committee was to maximise any opportunities to renew contact with the Engineering alumni who are all members of KCLEA.

It is impossible to celebrate the closure of the Division but we wanted an upbeat note to any event. For several years now we have held our Annual Lunch as part of the Alumni Weekend. We decided therefore to expand this event into a Celebration of 175 years Engineering at King's and the achievements of King's Engineers. The original ambition was to fill the Great Hall but this not possible as it was to be closed for refurbishment. We therefore reluctantly moved to the IET; overall, this was fortunate as they had adequate and quite a pleasant space where everyone enjoyed a fine day with views of the Thames. After lunch, we went back to King's where the loss of King's Engineering was demonstrated to all with a heritage timeline displayed to all in the main College corridor in the afternoon. Many friendships were renewed in a deluge of nostalgia. I should like to thank all involved in this success but particularly Keith Newton for his tireless work.

My hope that we will be able to build on this is reinforced by the fact that Keith has been able to organise two events already. Of course there are many challenges in maintaining momentum with several issues to resolve, including how best serve our changing membership, the future of KCLES and the bursary fund.

The Committee will be discussing these issues in preparation for what we expect to be a lively AGM. I urge you to attend the 29 November AGM and perhaps even join the Committee. If you are unable to attend and wish to contribute, please contact me (g.raven@sky.com or 01608 645134). Better still, we could meet over a beer.

Graham Raven
President KCLEA



KCLES FIFA Tournament



Throughout the years, many students have shown interest in a FIFA video game tournament. This year, we've finally decided to organise it as we had the required resources.

The event took place at the Students' Union in the Waterfront bar; the union provided two screens and Victor and Fabio provided the PlayStation.

The entry fees were low (£1 for members and £3 for non-members) as the venue and the equipment were provided free of charge. Turnout was great since so many students were excited about the tournament. In order for the games to be fair, a limit was set regarding the team strength. After each member had chosen his team, the committee drew a tournament table and game-by-game each member was knocked out of the tournament.

When we got to the high stages of the tournament, it was decided to do best out of three games for the semi-finals and best out of five for the final. However, this would take too long so only the final was played best out of three. At the end of the tournament, the winner, *Kaan Mazlumca*, received £25 from the president. The second place finisher, Thomas Clayton, received the small "have a drink" prize of £5.

Overall, the event was very well organised and managed by the committee; the students were all seated in one part of the bar creating a very sociable and enjoyable atmosphere.

Finally, since we obtained such a positive outcome from this event, a second semester FIFA tournament is likely to take place.

KCLES Christmas Party 2012



The night of 14 December 2012 saw the final party that would be held by the Division of Engineering for the students before its closure. The KCLES committee spent three weeks planning and organising the event in order to make it one of the best shows that the department could put on. King's College were generous enough to grant us access to their night club in the Students' Union building to use as the venue for the night. With a Santa Claus roaming around the venue, the event boasted a live DJ playing the top tunes, an open bar and a vibrant and exciting atmosphere; one could almost taste the excitement in the air.

The party boasted an incredible line-up of events. The show began with an introduction from the KCLES President himself, welcoming his fellow students and lecturers to what would be the final Christmas the division spent together. An incredible talent show and the annual pop quiz followed, and the evening finished off with karaoke.

Our fellow engineers displayed an amazing range of talent during the show, from singing to playing the guitar to a full musical. Not only were students impressed by the excellence of their peers, even the alumni were captivated! The winner of the talent show for the second consecutive year was the very gifted Simone Caenazzo, who gave an outstanding electric guitar performance with his excellent rendition of Star Trek mixed with Pirates of the Caribbean. Other acts included a rap song composed by the singer himself as well as a musical song sung by an alumni member. Thus it was great to see the current and old students come together to showcase the talent that the Division of Engineering at KCL nurtured through the years!

There was also a sense of unity with this year being one of the first Christmas parties where the lecturers of the Division not only attended in their masses but also stayed till the very end enjoying the event with their students alike.

Thus the KCLES committee can proudly assert that the event was indeed a success! With a higher than expected turnout and the dynamic event that followed, it was a great evening for all the engineers at KCL to let their hair down and really enjoy the end of the semester.



ENGINEERS' DAY REPORT, FRIDAY 7 JUNE 2013



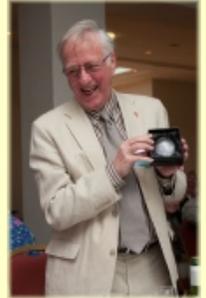
To mark the end of the teaching of Engineering at King's on 31 July 2013, the KCLEA committee decided to make this year's Annual Lunch a special event to commemorate and celebrate the achievements of King's Engineers and King's Engineering. It turned out to be the most popular and successful event in years. The original intent was to hold the lunch in the Great Hall at College, but this was not possible due to a planned refurbishment of the hall. Fortunately, the dining room of the Institution of Engineering and Technology, in nearby Savoy Place, was available and provided a magnificent alternative venue with splendid views along the Thames in both directions. About 140 members and guests attended and, after a welcoming drink, sat down to a two-course

lunch followed by tea or coffee. Members and guests were welcomed by Graham Raven, President of KCLEA, in a short introductory speech.

After lunch, Graham presented the 13 Club trophy to Dr Cecil French for services to King's Engineers over many years and the development of petrol and diesel engines.

He then introduced Mark Whitby, a former President of the Institution of Civil Engineers and King's 1969-1972, who proposed the toast to 'King's Engineers'. Mark spoke of how he managed to scrape into King's having bluffed Professor Nash as to his academic abilities and found an environment that suited an initially rather retrograde student who spent his time in the English Department growing his hair long. However, he regaled the audience with stories about the pleasure he took in being amongst the first undergraduates allowed access to 'the beast', otherwise known as the CDC6600 main frame computer, with the consequence that he was able to earn beer money writing and selling programmes to fellow engineers. This knowledge was to serve him well, when 11 years later, having upset everybody he worked for, he was left with the only option of setting up his own business, Whitby and Bird. Convinced that engineering could be fun, his new business was at the forefront of the IT revolution, pioneering the application of computer-aided manufacture in design (now called BIM) for which they earned a Queen's Award for Innovation and a top 20 position in the Sunday Times best businesses to work for. He digressed amongst many stories into the lives of previous staff, such as Wheatstone, the nature of Kings as a God-fearing university and in particular a certain escapade in which members of his year, some of whom were present, managed in revenge for some insult on Reggie, to paint KCL on the dome of the heathen establishment, UCL – a sight that is still discernible to a tutored eye.

Continued on the next page...



The reply to the toast was given by Dr Michael Clode, the last head of the Division of Engineering at King's. After this, Keith Newton was presented with the 'Reggie Award' by Megan Bruns on behalf of the College in recognition of his efforts in organising the lunch and producing the timeline. The lunch was then rounded off by a resounding rendition of the Engineer's War Cry, led by Chris Sladden.

After the lunch, the group moved to the old entrance hall of College to view a display of memorabilia provided by members, and a historical timeline (a 20-metre banner pictured on the front cover) listing many achievements of King's Engineers both inside and outside College. This also provided the opportunity to renew old acquaintanceships and reminisce. To remind King's of what it was losing with the closure of Engineering, another rousing rendition of the War Cry was given to round off the day, this time led by Bob Hawken.



VISIT TO BLETCHLEY PARK MUSEUM, 20 JULY 2013

The second event of the year was a visit to Bletchley Park Museum, near Milton Keynes. Bletchley Park is the historic site of secret British code-breaking activities during World War II and birthplace of the modern computer.



Twelve members and guests assembled at the entrance in time to join one of the excellent conducted tours around the museum site. We then separated to explore the various facilities at our own pace, meeting up again for lunch and tea in the museum's cafeteria.

Seeing one of the Enigma machines was undoubtedly the highlight but there were more than machines in this visit. Tales of spies and strategic deception, wartime toys, working computers, a wartime mini cinema and the Churchill collection were included in the exhibits. We also were able to look inside the ornate Victorian Mansion that was headquarters to intelligence staff during the war, wander by the lake and relax and observe the wildlife.

Each ticket is, in effect, an annual season ticket and at least one of the group intends to return for further visits. All in all, it was a worthwhile visit.

VISIT TO WYCHWOOD BREWERY, WITNEY, 14 SEPTEMBER 2013

The Wychwood Brewery is tucked away behind the main street of the market town of Witney, in the heart of the Oxfordshire Cotswolds. Witney is historically famous for its 3 'B's'; its bread, its blankets and its beer. Brewing has taken place in Witney for centuries.

On Saturday morning, 14 of September, eight members and guests assembled to take part in one of our traditional activities: inspecting a brewery and sampling the product. This group was not disappointed in its findings!



The 80's Engineering Graduates:

30th Anniversary Gathering hosted at Philip Ng's house

Saturday 20 July 2013

It was our pleasure to be treated by Philip and Vy-vyen with all types of delicious Asian food, vintage Champagne and wines from 1980 to 1983 (our times in KCL) and end up with Château d'Yquem 1934 at the end of the dinner.

There were 19 diners including spouses. We appreciated that our guest of Honour, Dr A Lue, our former maths lecturer and former Vice-Principal, joined us and met the product of a King's College education from 30 years ago. Of course the real reason he was there was to make sure we all behaved ourselves.

We toasted absent friends such as Albert Cheung (1980-83 Mech) and Athena Lui (1981-84 Law), many of whom had sent messages from distant places. We recalled people long-forgotten, we laughed at our memories and marvelled at the fact there has been so many great improvements at the College. It still remains for us a landmark in time, forever changing but still a permanent memory.

All in all, it has been a great reunion with lots of memories brought back. Our education and life experience at King's remains one of the highlights of our life. Philip proposed we should have a Fundraising dinner for the College next year either in Singapore or Hong Kong. This is to ensure our Engineering spirit to build continues actively despite the closure of the Division of Engineering.

It was perhaps best summed up by saying, 'Thank, King's' for bringing us together here, thanks to Philip for generously hosting a wonderful dinner and thanks to God for blessing us with the opportunity to see each other again after graduating 30 years ago.

Those present were: Dr and Mrs A Lue (ex-Lecturer & Vice Principle of KCL), Philip Ng (80-83 Civil)/Vy-vyen, CY Liu (80-83 Civil)/Heidi/Chris Liu, CK Law (80-83 Civil), Peter Cheung (80-83 Civil)/Phoebe, Terence Lo(80-83 Mech)/Pamela, Thim Chooi(80-83 Mech)/Leila, H E Khoo(80-83 Mech)/Bey fan, Norman Tam(81-84 Mech), Yee Chau Hwang (80-84 Dental) /TK Teoh.

Reported by Terence LO



A Brief word from the last Head of Division

The Division of Engineering closed on 31 July 2013. After 175 years of teaching Engineering at King's College London, the final days were very emotional. There were no formalities on the final day, as the 'Celebration of Engineering had taken place on 7 June at the Engineers' Lunch held at the IET in Savoy Place.

The Division of Engineering finished on a high with excellent graduation results and National Student Survey satisfaction.

Quo Vadis, King's?

-- Dr Mike Clode

The Head of the Division of Engineering disappears...



A King's Memory:

"From the endless student nights, attempting to scramble into lectures the following morning to spending endless nights spent at Maughan and Waterloo library and scrambling into the exam hall! Words itself cannot describe my three years spent at KCL. It was a golden time of a life, experiencing new things, meeting people from all over the world and creating lasting relationships."

Ravi Shah

(Mechanical Engineering, 2010)

The hunt for KCES Dinner Menu Cards



KCLEA are assembling a collection of copies of the first King's College Engineering Society (KCES) dinner menu cards illustrated by Fougasse (CK Bird, a King's Engineer). If any member has, or knows the whereabouts of, any of the menus, particularly those for the dinners in 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1919, 1920, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1938, 1939, 1945 and 1964, please contact Keith Newton, Events Secretary.

More details on our website below.

www.KCLEA.org

Just a reminder, the website contains all the back issues of King's Engineer and are freely available for download.

We will tweet any updates from the website, along with event reminders and other news, so leave a message. Don't forget you can also find us by liking our ever growing **Facebook group**

Further suggestions for web content can be directed to our webmaster via the website's nifty contact box.



The Engineering Association would like to once again thank the KCLA for their continued financial support towards *The King's Engineer* printing costs but we would also like to stress to our readers that the KCLA's sponsorship is not conditional upon content and does not signify agreement or otherwise with opinions expressed within this publication.

