

# Newsletter

Issue 30 April 2018

## From the Chair

Winter is now over, and everyone should now have submitted their annual reviews – those who are still actively undertaking audits anyway. My thanks to Libby Sands and her army of reviewers for getting through all the submissions so readily.

The 2018 Annual Conference is rapidly approaching, and the final programme has been agreed. Once again, we look forward to welcoming as many of you who can make it to Birmingham on 25 and 26 June for what promises to be yet another entertaining event. Following comments received from delegates in previous year we have agreed to change the layout of conference hall to try and improve the quality of the experience for all involved. As a result, we have had to limit numbers to 175 delegates – so make sure your place is booked early!



I continue to be doing a lot of travelling in delivering the free workshops for anyone interested. Most recent trips have been to Abergele, Leicester, Ipswich and a lunchtime presentation in Northallerton. If anyone wants to host one of these events, then please get in touch.

The committee has also been moving around the regions with meetings in Bristol in November and Edinburgh in April. All this is to bring the activities of the Society closer to members and make the committee less insular and remote. I hope it is working?

We are continuing to work on preparing the revision to the Road Safety Audit Guidelines, which have been progressing well. However, discussions are needed with Highways England to make sure that changes to the current standard HD19/15 can be taken account of. More of which will be revealed at the Annual Conference in June!

In addition to all this, administrative changes within CIHT (Project ALPHA) are requiring us to examine our own working practices to ensure that we comply with CIHT Good Governance and the legal requirements of the GDPR that come into effect in May this year. Proposed revisions to the Society's constitution are being finalised to put before members at the AGM. All in all a very busy time for all concerned.

Let's catch up fully in June!

John Barrell

Chair 2017-19 [SoRSA@CIHT.org.uk](mailto:SoRSA@CIHT.org.uk)

# SoRSA Conference 2018

Once again, we will meet for our annual conference at the Crowne Plaza in Birmingham on 25 and 26 June. The committee have been working hard with Aldercross to ensure a great event, more details on the Aldercross website here:

[http://www.aldercross.com/events.php?event\\_id=121](http://www.aldercross.com/events.php?event_id=121)

This year, in response to your requests we are limiting places to improve arrangements in the hall. Alison tells me places they are going fast.

So don't delay, book today to avoid disappointment.

And remember there will be no parking at the hotel this year.

## Membership Secretary's report

### SoRSA Annual Review 2018

As of 09 April 2018, SoRSA has received a total of **112** applications, of which the majority have been reviewed successfully. However, out of a total of 31 Fellows who need to submit Reviews, we have received only **16** applications and out of the 252 Members who need to submit Reviews, we have had only **96**. That is less than 50% of those who need to submit a Review have done so.

**Please Note:** The Annual Review for 2018 will close at **16.00hrs on Sunday 29 April 2018** and **NO extensions** will be allowed. If your Review has not been received into the SoRSA email address ([Sorsa@ciht.org.uk](mailto:Sorsa@ciht.org.uk)) Inbox by that time your membership of SoRSA will be suspended and you will not be able to reinstate your membership until the submission of a successful Annual Review in February 2019.

## Another SoRSA Scottish Workshop Day

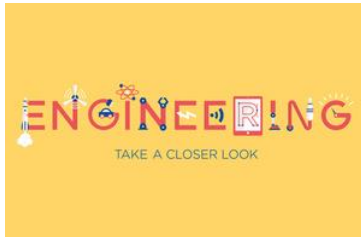
The fourth Annual Scottish SoRSA Event is planned for the 19<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at the Forth Bridges Contact and Education Centre, Queensferry, Edinburgh. The event coincides with European Day Without A Road Death "Project EDWARD".

If there are any topics that members would like included at the event please contact [sorsa@ciht.org.uk](mailto:sorsa@ciht.org.uk)

Further information relating to the event will be published in the CIHT and SoRSA Web Sites and newsletters.



# 2018 Year of Engineering



## What is the Year of Engineering?

This is part of a year-long campaign to tackle the engineering skills gap and widen the pool of young people who join the profession.

The government announced that 2018 will be the Year of Engineering, Launching a national campaign to increase awareness and understanding of what engineers do, among young people aged 7-16, their parents and their teachers.

The UK Space Agency is supporting the campaign by funding a series of education and outreach projects designed to inspire interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

## So what is Engineering?

The dictionary definition suggests engineering is:

1. the branch of science and technology concerned with the design, building, and use of engines, machines, and structures.

2. the action of working artfully to bring something about.

"if not for his shrewd engineering, the election would have been lost"

## But more importantly, what does it mean to you?

I was interested in finding out what Engineering meant to people who didn't think they were in any form of engineering, so with the help of social media, I asked the following questions and have listed the answers received below each question:

### *When you hear the term engineering what does it mean to you?*

- Problem solving
- Future proofing by design innovations,
- Career opportunities for women,
- Design and mechanics through thought and innovation
- STEM
- Wonders of the world
- Designing for the future

### *What do engineers do?*

- Design things
- Instruct people
- Make things safe
- Fix things
- Make technical products

### *Who are engineers?*

- Leaders
- Innovators
- Designers
- Mechanics
- Problem solvers
- Creators

From those answers it seems that we can all be engineers in some form, we can all fix things round the house, fix our children's toys, design our next decorating project etc.

So why is it so hard for the industry to find new inspiring engineers? Is it the lack of career advice at school? The lack of knowledge on social media? How do we get the message out that Engineering is a brilliant career made up of many exciting themes?

As you are reading this in the SoRSA newsletter, you are probably engineers, but what are you doing to encourage the next generation of engineers, and not necessarily civil engineers, road safety engineers or highway engineers.

Whatever your interests, there will be a connection with engineering. *Engineering* is everywhere, transforming people's lives around the globe, but do people realise it? As an engineer you could even be involved in designing wind farms or working as part of a team to improve artificial hip joints making a difference to people's lives.

So, let's get out there and inspire the next generation of designers, innovators, creators and problem solvers.

You can support the Year of Engineering by highlighting some of the many different ways that individuals and organisations can #inspireanengineer on social media – follow the hashtag on Twitter to find out more and to let everyone know what you are doing

#ThisIsEngineering #STEM #YoE

## And Finally,



Many thanks to those of you that have sent in ideas and pictures for our "Is It Problem" workshop at this years conference. Its not to late if you have a subject you would like us to consider, send it in, with a picture or drawing please, to the address below.

Ian Medd Newsletter Editor

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