

**Annual Dinner**

See the Back Page for  
ticket application form

**North Lincs**

**Dinner Dance**

See Page 2 for details

[www.iee.org.uk/Centres/Sheffield/](http://www.iee.org.uk/Centres/Sheffield/)

# NEWSLETTER

## Centre Action Plan

In our last Newsletter (February) I reported that a delegation would be attending the Second IEE Centres Congress in Birmingham at the end of March. The outcome of two days intensive debate, discussion and social activities was a new Action Plan for the Centre that will be used to focus our activities over the next three years. Whilst many of our committee objectives remain unchanged by the Congress, we have agreed the points outlined below (not in any priority order) for specific action.

### ***Consider establishing a Retired Members Section***

In placing additional emphasis on CPD related activities in our programme, we are aware that this may isolate a large percentage of our local membership who have no real wish to 'professionally develop' themselves further. We will therefore be seeking the views of our retired members during the forthcoming session to assess support for specially targeted events during the 1999/2000 session, perhaps organised at more appropriate times.

### ***Gain Sub-Centre Status for North Lincs District***

The Sheffield Centre Committee has already agreed to support the transfer of NLD to Sub-Centre status which, if successful, will result in improved representation for its membership.

### ***Establish a higher profile for the IEE within the local area***

The IEE is aware that its public relations could be improved and has agreed to back Centre committee roles of Public Relations Officer and Marketing Officer with appropriate training relating to dealing with the media and 'marketing' the IEE on a local basis.

### ***Establish a Sheffield Centre Web Site***

This is just one way in which we can improve communications with the membership. In a recent newsletter, we requested assistance with developing a web site and am pleased to report that we had an excellent response – thanks to all who replied. We hope to go live by the time you receive this Newsletter. So for up-to-date information, point your web browser at <http://www.iee.org.uk/Centres/Sheffield/>

### ***Hold regular membership transfer events***

We have a high proportion of non-corporate members in the Centre and hope that by staging appropriate events we can help them to make the transfer to corporate membership. Action has already been taken on this – see our programme.

### ***Improve links with local SME's***

Small to Medium Enterprises make up a large proportion of local businesses, especially in high tech industries. We wish to improve our links with these companies and to stage events that they will find beneficial. To this end, we are holding a series of events on meeting the requirements of the Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) Directive early in the session.

### ***Improve Centre links with student members***

The student population in Sheffield is served by a number of IEE appointed Student Counsellors working within relevant departments. We wish to work more closely with the SC's to increase contact with this relatively large body of young members so that they are aware of how continued IEE membership will benefit them throughout their careers.

### ***Involve families in our events***

It is apparent that there are many time pressures on engineers with young families and that this prevents them from taking part in our activities. We intend therefore to introduce more family oriented events over the next few years. This should improve social contact between members and may inspire another generation to take an interest in engineering.

### ***Re-assess members needs***

It is some time since we last surveyed our Centre membership and we feel that we should now repeat the exercise to get your views on how the IEE is working for you locally. The answers you provided in the last survey were valuable, so please fill in the questionnaires when you receive them.

## **SHEFFIELD CENTRE**

*Issue 10 was compiled by Richard Lee. Thanks to all those who contributed articles  
(any contributions to future Newsletters can be e-mailed to me at [richardlee@iee.org](mailto:richardlee@iee.org))*

### **Do You Know Somebody We Can Help?**

The Benevolent Fund usually asks for help in the form of donations, but this time we are asking for help in getting to know of any member or their dependents who may be in need of assistance.

People are often unaware of the help that can be given, and even if they are, can be reluctant to approach us about their own position.

So if you know anybody who you think may be in need of assistance, please let Richard Lee (Tel: 0114 2745844) or any member of the committee know.

### **CAN YOU HELP?**

**Peter Thompson our excellent Benevolent Fund Advisor for many years has decided its time to pass the role onto someone new. The problem is we need to find a volunteer to undertake this important role. Peter has produced an outline of the duties to make the transition 'painless'. We must fill this role early this session to ensure our local members needs are correctly represented. If you are in a position to give a few hours a month to help identify and assess our members in need of help please do consider offering your services.**

**If you would like further details of the duties involved or would like to offer your services please contact Richard Lee (Tel: 0114 2745844)**



### **OUR FIRST EVENT OF THE SESSION**



17th September - Sheffield University, Mappin Street, Lecture Theatre No 17

#### **'Transient Overvoltage Protection'**

Presented by Caroline Hughes, Furse Electronic System Protection

Lets get the session 'off to a flying start' with a good attendance at this our first technical lecture which will be held in conjunction with the Institute of Measurement & Control.

### **The IEE & The Internet**

Do you know that the IEE offer a 'FREE' address alias service for the Internet. This negates the need to use those unrecognisable e-mail address. Any mail received by the IEE at your chosen address, of the form *{initials/surname}iee.org*, will be automatically forwarded to your registered home or work e-mail address.

### **North Lincs Dinner Dance**

● ● Friday 30th October - Book Early to avoid disappointment ● ●

Once again we are expecting a rush for tickets for this very popular social event held at **'The Royal Hotel'** Doncaster Road, Scunthorpe. Contact the North Lincs Chairman or Secretary for further details.

### **Committee Members Required**

We still have a number of vacancies on the Centre Committee. Why not get involved with the IEE locally and give something back to the profession. We have specific vacancies for a

Public Relations or Marketing Officer. If you use these skills in your working environment we would very much like to hear from you. Please contact Richard Lee (Tel: 0114 2745844) if you would like to volunteer or discuss any aspect of the Centre committee role and function.

### **Forthcoming Events October**

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> is our Chairman's address at the University of Sheffield, Mappin Street, Lecture Room LT2. Bob will talk about **"Dowsing with (micro)Waves - Moisture Measurement in Bulk Materials"**. The talk will commence at 7.30 with refreshments from 7.00. A **'free'** buffet will be served after the lecture. A collection will be held in aid of the IEE Benevolent Fund.

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> is the first North Lincs District event, a lecture on **"Road Traffic Monitoring by Satellite"** by Prof. Tim Spracken from Aberdeen University. The lecture is being held at the Wortley Hotel, Scunthorpe and will commence at 7.30 with refreshments from 7.00.

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> is the first event in our EMC series. The event **"EMC for the Small Business (the Prologue)"** will be presented by Chris Marshman (author of the

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best seller 'The guide to the EMC Directive') and Dai Davies a member of the 'International Electro-technical Committee TC56 - Legal Advisory Working Group'. This event forms the prologue to our one day colloquium on November 25<sup>th</sup>. The event at the Holiday Inn start at the **earlier time** of 6.30 with refreshments from 6.00.

### **Visit Our New Web Site**

**<http://www.iee.org.uk/Centres/Sheffield/>**

By the time you receive this Newsletter our Web Site should be active. We intend to develop the site over this session and any ideas for improvements from our Internet experts out there would be much appreciated. The site will be regularly updated and we hope it can be developed as a key vehicle for the notification of last minute programme changes.

A volunteer Alastair Gibbs, a Sheffield Centre student studying at the University of York, has developed the site over the summer. The Centre committee would like to thank Alastair for his assistance in getting this project implemented for the start of this session.

Most of the Centre committee officers now have e-mail addresses and so we should be easy enough to contact. A full list of addresses will be posted on the Web site.

**Forthcoming**  
**Events**

*October*

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup>** is our 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner at the Sheffield Holiday Inn. (See ticket application form below)

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>** is the Yorkshire and Humber 'Professional Engineering Institutions' (PEI) 1998

Royal Armouries, Steve McDonald will give Leeds and the Lecture '**Digital Communications**' from NTL/CABLETEL. Attendance of the lecture is 'free' but a ticket to the Dinner is £50! Contact the Honorary Secretary for details.

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup>** is the North Lincs Dinner Dance at the Royal Hotel, Scunthorpe. (See page 2 for details). This very popular social event and is often over subscribed so book your tickets early to avoid disappointment.

Copy of WEB Site Home Page

**Forthcoming  
Events**

*November*

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>** is a PC Skills Workshop on '**Problem Solving with METLAB and SIMULINK**' The Workshop at 18.30 will be held at Sheffield Hallam University and will be run by Cambridge Control Ltd. (See Programme Booklet for details)

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup>** the North Lincs District is holding a partners lecture '**UFO's - A Historical View**' at the Grimsby College of Technology starting at 19.00.

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>** is a joint event with the Institute of Quality Assurance. The **lecture 'The Case Against ISO 9000'** will be presented by John Seddon of Vanguard Consulting the Rutland Hotel, Sheffield. The event has an earlier start time of 18.30, refreshments from 18.00.

**SHEFFIELD CENTRE 19<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL DINNER**

This year's Dinner will be held at the Sheffield Holiday Inn on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> October at 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.

We look forward to meeting many of our friends and colleagues who will be assured of good food, good speakers and good company. **We need your support to make this event a success.** The cost is £28.00 per ticket, exclusive of wines. Dress will be dinner jackets/evening dresses. Please complete the attached pro-forma and return, enclosing remittance and **stamped addressed envelope** by the 10<sup>th</sup> October 1998.



**SHEFFIELD CENTRE - ANNUAL DINNER**

Please return to: Mr. R J Lee  
90 Holmhirst Road  
Norton Woodseats  
SHEFFIELD S8 0GW  
Tel: 0114 2745844

Please forward ..... tickets for the annual dinner for which I enclose a cheque to the value of ..... at £28.00 per ticket made payable to the "IEE Sheffield Centre Social Account"

My party will consist of:

I/We wish to be seated with:

Name: .....  
Address: .....  
.....  
..... Tel No: .....

**PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS AND ENCLOSE A STAMPED  
ADDRESS ENVELOPE FOR TICKET REPLY**