



Birmingham Health, Safety & Environment Association

721 Hagley Road West
Quinton, Birmingham B32 1DJ
Email: secretary@bhsea.org.uk
Website: www.bhsea.org.uk
Tel. No. 07881 290238

Registered Charity No.: 255523

Secretary: Liz Prophet., CMIOSH

Newsletter

January 2014

Annual General Meeting 13th January 2014

Our Chair, Dally Masaun, welcomed today's Speaker and Members to the meeting. The Chair explained that the meeting would begin with the AGM, followed by the presentation.

The Minutes of the AGM are outlined below:-

1. Those Present:

Mr. D.Masaun in the Chair, with other Members present, as recorded in the Attendance Book.

Apologies:

Apologies had been received from Gerry Mulholland, Ed Friend, Chris Hopkins and Ralph Weaver. There were none from the floor.

2. Minutes of the AGM held on Monday 14th January 2013:

Members had already been sent the minutes of the 2013 AGM and, as there were no comments on accuracy, it was proposed by John Jones, seconded by Roger Caleb and agreed by the Members that they should be signed as an accurate record.

3. Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising.

4. Chair's Report for 2013:

The Chair said he would only give a brief summary as his written report had already been received by Members.

The Chair commented on the successes achieved throughout the year and the positive feedback that had been received particularly from the Questionnaire issued in May time.

The Chair thanked all our partners for their continuing support, including the Health and Safety Executive (HSE); the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA); Safety Groups UK; Birmingham City Council; West Midlands Fire Service; Health Trusts; I.O.S.H. Thanks are also due to BHSEA Members for their support and commitment given throughout the year. In particular to BHSEA Council and Management Committee. BHSEA has received a number of speakers (including Members' Corner speakers) in 2013 and thanks must go to them for their contribution to maintaining the high standards that BHSEA strives to for.

The Chair commented that during the year BHSEA had seen a small decrease in Member numbers however, several initiatives have been introduced to reverse the trend.

The Chair thanked Mark Hoare for his sterling efforts in maintaining and developing BHSEA website which helped to improve communication with our Members and the wider public.

Finally, it was noted as far as finance is concerned, that BHSEA finances are independently audited on an annual basis in accordance with the requirements of the Charity Commission.

5. Construction Chair's Report for 2013.

The report had already be circulated to Members as part of the Annual Report. The Construction Chair, Gerry Mulholland, was unable to be at the meeting today and so Neil Boon (in-coming Chair), kindly stepped into the breach and presented the BHSEA Construction Sub-Committee Report.

Neil reminded us how active the Construction Sub-Group had been in 2013 and outlined the plans to continue and build on this in 2014.

Neil commented that tower cranes are beginning to appear on the London skyline and that this should ripple out to the rest of the country over the next six to nine months. However, the decline in the construction industry has highlighted a skills shortage which must be addressed sooner rather than later.

Neil thanked BHSEA construction partners for their support throughout the year. In particular, Jo Anderson and Dee Welsh from the H.S.E. and other speakers from the HSE and from industry who have given their time and energy in support of the Working Well Together Campaign in making the Safety and Health Awareness Days (SHADs) a great success. As far as Member numbers is concerned, there has been a slight increase in Construction Section Members and support from all BHSEA Members is

needed to expand our membership.

In 2013, BHSEA Construction Section organised four SHAD's covering the following topics:

- Underground/buried services.
- Young construction workers.
- Refurbishment and maintenance.
- White Van Roadshow.

The number of delegates attending these events was high, indeed just over 100 people from the construction industry attended the 'Refurbishment and Maintenance' SHAD in November.

We also organised a Mock Trial at Birmingham Victoria Law Courts in September 2013. Numbers were restricted because of the size of the Court however, feedback was very positive and BHSEA received good coverage in the local press.

The Construction Section has already made plans for events in 2014. Watch this space!

Finally, Neil thanked supply chain colleagues who had supported the SHADs and the Secretary for her efforts in making the Events a success. Last but not least, Neil thanked Gerry Mulholland for his work in support of the Construction Section.

6. Adoption of Accounts and Balance Sheet for 2013:

The Secretary presented the Annual Accounts and Balance Sheet for 2013 and reported that no written questions had been received from Members prior to the AGM.

The Secretary drew out some key points from the Accounts which need to be brought to the attention of Members:

- Incoming Resources:
A deficit is shown for 2012/13 due to the vacation of BHSEA premises at Acocks Green by our long term tenants in September 2012, and the fact that the premises remained empty until January 2013. Hence there was no rental income for approximately 3-4 months until new tenants (who went on to purchase the premises), occupied in January 2013.
- Current Assets:
The proceeds of the sale of Acocks Green have been placed, for the time being, in various deposit accounts and this is reflected in the Report which shows a significant increase in the Current Assets.
- Investments/Dividends:
BHSEA investments have produced a stronger return in 2013 as opposed to 2012. Dividends are also showing a small increase.
- Resources Expended:
The increases shown here are mainly due to the running costs of BHSEA premises at Acocks Green whilst they were either empty or during the period of tenancy by the eventual purchasers.

There were no questions from the floor. The Chair reiterated that the financial report was scutinised by the BHSEA Management Committee and independently audited.

Approval of the Accounts and Balance Sheet was proposed by David Hughes, seconded by Steve Parton and agreed by the Members.

7. Election of Officers 2014/15:

Andy Chappell, former Secretary of BHSEA, took the lead on this item. Andy reminded us of the role of Council and Management Committee. Management Committee is responsible for managing BHSEA accounts and the Standing Members can co-opt additional Members to act as members of the Management Committee. This effectively means that the opportunity to co-opt is not just available at the AGM. David Hughes, in view of his recent resignation from Council and Management Committee, asked that his name be removed from the list.

Andy presented the nominations of **Honorary Officers and Elected Members of Council for 2014** as follows:-

BHSEA Vice-President	Dalvinder Masaun	Trust H&S Manager Sandwell & Birmingham Hospitals
BHSEA Chair	Tim Prestage	Managing Director, Tim Prestage Ltd.
BHSEA Vice-Chair	Steve Parton	Liability Risk Control Surveyor, AXA Insurance Plc.
BHSEA Construction Committee Chair	Neil Boon	Carillion Buildings, Midlands.

Elected Council Members:

George Allcock	Consultant
Malcolm Copson	Health and Safety Manager, Geopost
Eric Hickman	Consultant
Mark Hoare	H&S Manager, University of Birmingham
Chris Hopkins	Associate, Barrister, Pinsent Mason LLP
John Jones	Managing Director, John K. Jones Ltd.
Mike Morton	H&S Adviser, Dudley MBC

It was proposed by Roger Caleb and seconded by David Hughes and agreed by the Members that the nominations be approved.

Co-opted Council Members (for information):

Dr Paul Billinger	Principle Inspector, HSE
Roger Caleb	H, S and E Officer, National Grid Metering
Sue Chalder	Birmingham Medical School
Andy Lucas	Birmingham City Council
John Wood	President, Dudley, Sandwell and Birmingham FPA

8. Close of AGM:



At this point, Dally Masaun presented the BHSEA Badge of Office and Chair role to the incoming Chairman for 2014/15, Tim Prestage. Tim thanked Dally for his service to the Association as Chair 2012/13. (Dally is on the left of the photograph).

Dally presented the Construction Chairs' Badge of Office and role to the incoming Construction Section Chair, Neil Boon.



Tim took the opportunity to personally thank all Committee Members and the Secretary for the work carried out in support of BHSEA. Moreover, BHSEA would not survive without the continuing support of the Members.

9. Introduction of the Speaker:

As there was no further business, the Chair closed the AGM and introduced the speaker for today, Sam Peace.



'HSE – Annual Progress Report & Future Plans'

**Sam Peace, HSE Divisional Director,
Wales, Midlands and South West.**

Sam opened her presentation with a reminder that everyone in the room today shares a common goal, and that the work of BHSEA Members is synonymous with the work of the HSE.

Sam said that her presentation will pick up on the issues raised by her predecessor, Rosi Edwards at the BHSEA AGM in January 2013, and explore the progress/outcomes.

Death & Major Injury Rates (W Midlands):

- Deaths 148 (171)
- Major Injuries 20,600 (10.8% drop)

Sam commented that there may be fewer major injuries of late, but that they are actually quite horrific.

Illness:

New health risks are emerging, for example, from the waste and recycling industry where the health record is generally not good. Recycling is a new industry and in such activities we don't always understand or appreciate the risks. The top health risks are unchanged from those that Rosi talked about a year ago and many of the strategies for tackling ill health in the workplace are either being or have recently been reviewed.

Fee For Intervention:

One year on...where are we? Sam made the point that the HSE targets risks, not money. Some figures to consider.....

11,441 Number of invoices issued.

11,282 Duty holder invoices issued.

(Sam told us that the average cost of an invoice is £483).

283 Queries following receipt of invoice.

(This is low and Sam believes it is an indication that Inspectors are being very clear about what they are doing and why). It is a figure that is just over 50% of that projected.

274	Queries resolved.
9	Level One disputes
0	Level 2 (independently investigated dispute).
£5.5 Million	Has been recouped.

Neil Boon asked whether a breakdown of the figures is available, and in which industries they were incurred? Sam said that the bulk of the invoices emanated from the construction and manufacturing industries. Dally Masaun was curious to know what happens to the £5.5 million collected. Sam explained that it is the businesses that do not comply who pay and not the general tax payer.

Sam commented that the number of prosecutions have broadly remained stable. Steve Parton suggested that if the HSE targets well, then there should be more prosecutions for failing to manage. It was agreed that the current targeting regime will be more about 'getting in' early and identifying management system failures and addressing those issues before something goes wrong.

Taking us through a series of Power Point presentation slides, Sam showed a particularly desperate looking work situation, and made the point that there doesn't need to be masses of site problems for a material breach to occur. Indeed, a material breach may involve one issue, for example, a confined space.

Safer Construction Sites:

Sam gave us some stats following this HSE campaign in September 2013:

- 2,607 Sites visited.
- 1,105 Not meeting basic standards.
- 644 Notices issued.
- 539 Prohibition Notices.
- 414 Improvement Notices.

Sam suggested that in view of the above, there was still a job to do!

Agriculture:

Of the 148 deaths:

- 29 in agriculture
- 39 in construction

Sam commented that the agriculture industry is 'a difficult nut to crack', in terms of making improvements. The HSE have led a number of campaigns that have been very successful but the 'pressure' needs to be kept up. Some of the most effective campaigns have been targeted at the farmer's family. Sam's view is that the fatalities are not tragedies, but rather needless deaths. There are, of course, those 'little people around on many farms and sometimes there is no concept of risk because the farming families have grown up in that environment. A culture change is needed. Farming is a business not a way of life. Another risk factor relates to age, with the average age on farms being 66 years.

There are also the risks associated with livestock and Sam related a story about cows that can literally jump over barriers and fences!

Manufacturing:

- 20 in manufacturing, including being pulled into machinery. All are accidents that could have been prevented.
- 10 in waste and recycling. This work activity is a huge priority for the HSE.

The Rest:

- Some services, hospitals (e.g. unrestrained windows).

Sam reported that the HSE is keeping a 'close eye' on the energy sector including wind turbines. People have got involved in this without being competent to do so. Wind turbines can, of course, be on-shore as well as off-shore. Standards are different between the two and off-shore turbines are particularly expensive.

Other Issues:

- Around 22 Regulations are disappearing.
- The system for dealing with complaints has been centralised at Liverpool.
- The website giving advice to members of the public has been revamped. The aim has been to give people the
- advice they want at the first hit. The language is simpler and the site has been made easier to navigate.

Triennial Review:

The detail has yet to be examined however, the news is good. The HSE has maintained its independence and it has been encouraging for the HSE to see how positive the impact of recent changes has been for stakeholders.

And the Future?:

The HSE has been asked to look at the skills mix on the HSE Board, and potential commercial opportunities. Board skill levels could be enhanced by bringing in independent candidates/members at Level One Reviews.

Members' Questions:

At the end of Sam's presentation, members were asked to make comments/ask questions. The main points from this debate were:

* **Myth Busting:**

General agreement in the room that 'a corner had been turned' with regard to this.

* **HSE Cuts:**

Following a general question about HSE resources for the future, Sam said that negotiations are continuing with the Treasury

and we won't know until they are completed. Sam reported that there is a general aim to try to maintain the 'shape' of the HSE. There are a couple more tough years to go. The HSE are 'doing their bit' in terms of making savings. Premises etc. are being rationalised/down sized. The 'ceiling' of 22,000 inspections makes it crucial that the inspections are worthwhile.

* **Stress:**

Mark Hoare asked about the stress/wellbeing agenda? Sam said that wellbeing is, in her view, part of the growth agenda. A well workforce is a productive workforce. Sam added that HSE would intervene if a particular issue occurred however, stress is not a priority except through the local authority partnership. Thus, the responsibility is discharged through partnership working and stress is not a priority across the piste.

* **UK Safety Record:**

Sam said the UK has the third best safety record in Europe. In response to a comment, Sam confirmed that the HSE does share health and safety experiences with our European neighbours. We learn from each other.

* **Priorities?:**

Sam confirmed that there is indeed a published list of Priorities. Waste and recycling is on the list and the topics include those work activities that will kill and that the HSE can use to assess whether managers are doing a good job.

* **Opportunities Abroad?:**

Sam confirmed that these opportunities do exist, and that the HSE has indeed 'dipped its toe in the water' and shared expertise in other parts of the world.

* **Level 1 / 2 Review:**

Anu Spratley asked about the people involved in the Level 2 Review. Sam reported that it involved business people who make up an independent and willing group.

Remember to check the BHSEA website for the supporting notes to Sam's presentation www.bhsea.org.uk

Tim thanked Sam for her presentation and said that BHSEA was very much looking forward to working with her in the future.

Tim also thanked Andy and Liz Chappell for coming along to the meeting today and for supporting us in covering the election of Officers to the BHSEA committees.

Hot off the Press.....Job Opportunities:

1. BHSEA Member, **Andy McCluskey** of Andy McCluskey Ltd., has a client to the south of Birmingham who is interested in obtaining CHAS Accreditation and therefore needs their staff of 40 to be trained in contractor health and safety and possibly asbestos awareness. The training provider courses must be acceptable/recognised by CHAS. Contact Andy direct on 07986169243 andymccluskey@btinternet.com

2. **Trevor Fletcher** from **NHSG** has been in touch with BHSEA to advise our Members that 'Realise Potential' based in Stoke-On-Trent, are looking for a freelance self-employed Health and Safety Training Lecturer to come in to their premises to deliver the various courses they have on offer. 'Realise Potential' is based at Port Vale Football Club in Burslem where most of the courses will be run however, they do require the successful candidate to be able to travel to various locations and to provide in-house risk assessments and possibly in-house training courses.

The successful candidate needs to be accredited in Health and Safety and hold the ability to issue certificates to clients upon course completion.

Contact Claire Milner, Admin Assistant at Realise Potential in Stoke-On-Trent, direct on Claire.milner@realise-potential.com if you are interested in joining this relatively new organisation.

3. **BHSEA Help**...BHSEA Secretary is still on the lookout for part time admin. support. Based at the Headquarters in Quinton, we are looking for someone to work with the Secretary about six hours per fortnight (on average). The job involves:

- *Assisting with the maintenance of the (rapidly expanding) BHSEA Membership Database (Excel),*
- *Helping with the Committee meetings held at Quinton HQ,*
- *Preparing and issuing invoices, receipts and Membership Certificates (Word),*
- *Preparing and collating BHSEA Newsletter and other information posted to Members on a regular basis.*

Days and hours can be flexible.

Contact the Secretary secretary@bhsea.org.uk or telephone 07881 290238 for an informal discussion.

HSE Triennial Review:

On the 9th January, the DWP published the long awaited outcome of the Triennial Review of the Health and Safety Executive by Martin Temple. Roger Bibbings of RoSPA and Secretary of Safety Groups UK, tells us that from an initial reading of Mr Temple's conclusions and recommendations the review seems positive in some areas:

- supporting the continuation of HSE's functions;
- arguing for an end to 'Fee for Intervention' and closer links with other Departments and with Local Authorities and
- making suggestions for changes to HSE's approach to performance measurement and governance.

Martin Temple comes out against privatisation of HSL but makes suggestions for developing a more commercial approach to some of HSE's activities such as advice in land use planning and in delivering audits for organisations with developed H&S management systems.

In Roger's view, his first impression is that Mr. Temple and his team have carried out a thorough and thoughtful review, and that his conclusions

concerning the need to preserve and strengthen the role of the Health and Safety Executive as the lead regulator in this field are to be very much welcomed.

The review can be accessed at

www.gov.uk/government/publications/triennial-review-report-health-and-safety-executive-2014

Hot off the press....

BHSEA Hits the Headlines:

If you didn't manage to get a copy of the newspaper, check out the following link to see a copy of BHSEA's Article in the Business Supplement of the Express and Star on the 21st January 2014:

<http://edition.pagesuite-professional.co.uk//launch.aspx?eid=65832e95-16ad-4dc8-8d18-fc52a087a8fa>

Although the BHSEA Article is on Page 44 of the newspaper copy, it appears on Page 28 of the electronic copy.

The 'Glossy' Magazine version is out week commencing 27th January 2014.

Thanks go to our Members who sponsored the Article, for their support:

- *BSS Billington Safety Services*
- *Tim Prestage Ltd.*
- *Dunsby Associates LLP*
- *Environ UK Ltd.*
- *DMW Environmental Safety Ltd.*
- *Direct Safety Solutions Ltd.*

Continued overleaf....

Date of the February Meeting

2.00 pm on Monday 10th February 2014
at the Birmingham Medical Institute

‘Lessons for H&S Practitioners From Organisational Development’.

*Les Wright, Assistant Director Human Resources,
Workplace Wellbeing.
University of Birmingham*

Date of the March Meeting

2.00 pm on Monday 10th March 2014
at the Birmingham Medical Institute

‘Scaffolding Safety Update Including NASC TG20’

*Ray Johnson BSc
Joint Managing Director,
Safety & Access Ltd.*

Don't forget the buffet lunch at 1.15 pm!