

March 2019 Newsletter

Chairman's Report

2018 SGUK Awards Ceremony, House of Lords, 28th January 2019

I just wanted to say that the awards ceremony held in the House of Lords on January 28th was well worth the effort and all the hard work that the Organisation Team and the Awards Working Party have put in.

The introduction of the Innovation awards section has helped to boost flagging interest over the last few years.

For Innovation, The Lord Cullen Trophy went to Dundee and Angus College for their entry on Asbestos and the involvement of Students in a project which utilised LOCHER concept as a learning tool – further details of the D&A project and LOCHER can be found on our website. As the home group of D&A College, Tayside Integrated Safety Association was also awarded the Albert Porter Rose Bowl. Second place, the SCOS Trophy in the Innovation category went to Celtic Energy from the South and West Wales Safety Group, and third, the Stevenson Shield went to Swansea Council, also members of S&WWSG.



Stevenson Shield Winners

L-R: Lord Brougham & Vaux, SGUK President; Norman Stevenson, Chair; Lord Cullen of Whitebirk; Tracy Dicaldo & Craig Gimblett, Swansea Council; Ian Coombes, SGUK Trustee



SCOS Trophy Winners

L-R: Lord Brougham & Vaux, SGUK President; Norman Stevenson, Chair; Lord Cullen of Whitebirk; John Rees, Rob Thomson, William Watson and Keith Jones, Celtic Energy Ltd; Ian Coombes, SGUK Trustee



Lord Cullen Trophy Winners:

L-R: Lord Brougham & Vaux, SGUK President; Norman Stevenson, Chair; Lord Cullen of Whitebirk; Andy Cathro, Jason Beresford and Kerry Hastie, Dundee and Angus College; Ian Coombes, SGUK Trustee



Albert Porter Rose Bowl Winners:

L-R: Lord Brougham & Vaux, SGUK President; Norman Stevenson, Chair; Lord Cullen of Whitebirk; Colin Petrie & Stan Brown, Tayside Industrial Safety Forum; Ian Coombes, SGUK Trustee

Several entries were categorised as Highly Commended (Grangemouth Contractors Safety Alliance; JSP; NIS; Safe Step and Swansea University) and Commended (Birmingham Environmental Health and Safety Association; Performance Cycling; Qualitek; Swansea Council; TRJ; Welsh Water and Scottish Canals)

This was the first year the Innovation awards were done, and also the first year that those local groups with award schemes of their own were given the opportunity to enter their respective award winners for the SGUK awards.

The previously known Alan Butler Awards, now called the SGUK Excellence Awards was also well supported, with Gold Awards for: Hereford Safety Group; London Safety Group; Northern Ireland Safety Group; South Cumbria Safety Group and South and West Wales Safety Group: The overall best Gold Award Winner is the Northern Ireland Safety Group, who were presented with the Alan Butler Award.



SGUK Gold Excellence Awards

L-R: Norman Stevenson, Chair; Lord Cullen of Whitebirk, Lord Brougham & Vaux, SGUK President; five Herefordshire Health & Safety Group representatives; Ian Coombes, SGUK Trustee



L-R: Norman Stevenson, Chair; Lord Cullen of Whitebirk, Lord Brougham & Vaux, SGUK President; five London Health & Safety Group representatives; Ian Coombes, SGUK Trustee



L-R: Wilson Lambe, Northern Ireland Safety Group President, Norman Stevenson, Chair; Lord Cullen of Whitebirk, Lord Brougham & Vaux, SGUK President; three NISG representatives; Ian Coombes, SGUK Trustee



L-R: Carol Stearne, South Cumbria Occupational Health & Safety Group, Norman Stevenson, Chair; Lord Cullen of Whitebirk, Lord Brougham & Vaux, SGUK President; five SCOHSG representatives; Ian Coombes, SGUK Trustee



L-R: Norman Stevenson, Chair; Lord Cullen of Whitebirk, Lord Brougham & Vaux, SGUK President; three South and West Wales Safety Group representatives; Ian Coombes, SGUK Trustee



Alan Butler, Overall Gold Award

L-R: Norman Stevenson, Chair; Lord Cullen of Whitebirk, Lord Brougham & Vaux, SGUK President; four Northern Ireland Safety Group representatives; Ian Coombes, SGUK Trustee

Silver Excellence Awards were presented to Bradford, East Anglia, Humberside, Tayside, Wiltshire and Kent Safety Groups.

The final category of Awards is for outstanding service to a nominated person's home group, the Maurice Adamson Award; this was presented by last year's winner Claire Oakes from North West Construction Safety Group to a worthy winner from the Harrogate Group, Sylvia Ellis.



Maurice Adamson Award

L-R: Norman Stevenson, Chair; Lord Cullen of Whitebirk, Lord Brougham & Vaux, SGUK President, Sylvia Ellis Harrogate & District Health & Safety Forum and Claire Oakes, NW Construction Safety Group previous winner; Ian Coombes, SGUK Trustee

The Excellence Awards were presented to the winners by Lord Brougham and Vaux, and the Innovation Awards were presented by Lord Cullen of Whitekirk.

Traditionally, we have held an open SGUK meeting in one of the committee rooms, where bronze and silver AB certificates were presented, then under some time pressure, we were ushered down to the Cholmondeley Room for lunch and presentation of the Gold AB awards and the overall AB Award, still under some time pressure: This year, we decided to do away with the open meeting, extend the time allowed in the Cholmondeley Room, show some presentations from the short list of Innovation winners and do all the various presentations described above in a single place. This new arrangement paid dividends, and we have received nothing but positive compliments for our efforts however, we have plans for even more improvements for next year, yet to be revealed, so watch this space, it will be bigger, and better again and again until we get it right, we will not rest on our laurels.

Another highlight of the day was the signing of a long overdue updated version of the Memorandum of Understanding between SGUK and IIRSM



Signing of Memorandum of Understanding with IIRSM

Andy Hawkes, IIRSM President and Norman Stevenson SGUK Chairman signing MOU, witnessed by Mike Nixon SGUK Treasurer and Philip Pearson IIRSM CEO

All of the above would not have been possible without the dedication of the Board, the Secretariat, our supporters and sponsors, but more importantly the contribution made by all of the local groups and their members that entered for the Innovation Awards, a huge thank you to all concerned. I am personally looking forward to next year's awards already.

Our day at the House of Lords

For over 70 of the 106 attendees at our Awards lunch the day started much earlier with a tour of the Houses of Parliament, courtesy of our President, Lord Brougham and Vaux.

Following strict security checks, not quite a full body search, we assembled in a very cold Westminster Hall ready to start our tour. An administrative error meant initially there were no tour guides, but these were hastily arranged and three parties of 20+ were provided a guided tour of the two chambers and various ante rooms. Some areas were off limits due a fire alarm issue, but the guides provided appropriate information about what we missed, e.g. the Queen's robing room.

The two chambers were very busy with numerous other tours, all vying to see the grandeur of the building and learn many historic facts.

On completion, we were escorted to the Cholmondley Room passing various MP's dining areas, libraries and committee rooms.

The next part was a drinks reception before being escorted onto the terrace for fine dining. This consisted of: Pumpkin Soup, Guinea Fowl main course, Lemon and Mango dessert followed by coffee and truffles washed down with more wine or soft drinks.

Prior to the meal, Philip White, Principal HSE Inspector; provided an update on the HSE priorities. Further short speeches were provided by our Chairman, Norman Stevenson; Tony Taylor, BT, as Excellence Award Sponsors and Lord Cullen.

Following a short break, Dr Karen McDonnell our Secretary, acted as Master of Ceremonies to announce all the award winners mentioned in the report from our Chairman.

A further break later in the afternoon saw further refreshments along with sandwiches, scones and cakes to be consumed.

Following a closing speech from Norman Stevenson, all present enjoyed a short period of networking or a visit to the Lords shop.

Quite a number of award winners, trustees and visitors then walked slowly up Whitehall, passing the Cabinet Office, Downing Street, The Cenotaph, Horse Guards Parade and other magnificent buildings before stopping just short of Trafalgar Square and congregated in The Lord Moon of the Mall for further celebratory drinks.

All in all, an excellent day which appeared to be enjoyed by everyone spoken to.

Mike Nixon

Contributions from Award Winners

Maurice Adamson Award winner:

What winning the Maurice Adamson Award has meant to me?

It's now just a few weeks since I received the SGUK award for outstanding service - 'Maurice Adamson Award' at the House of Lords. It was an amazing start of a very significant and emotional week in my life as I was also retiring from my job as a Health and Safety Inspector at Harrogate on Friday of that week.

In 2004 a group consisting of Businesses, HSE and Local Authority came together and decided there was a desire to help local SME's access relevant information to improve health and safety in their workplaces.

"The Harrogate & District Health and Safety Forum was born"

Our aim was to provide 3 Health and Safety events each year which were free of charge and would provide information, training and workshops. My role as part of this group was to make these events happen.

15 years later we are now a recognised Safety Group with delegates regularly travelling from far and wide to attend our events. My personal thanks go out to all the speakers who have given up their time free of charge to support the Forum Group as without them we would not have continued.

Receiving this award was a complete surprise as I had no idea that I had been nominated by the Forum Management Team. I cannot thank them enough for recognising my efforts in making these events happen and to SGUK for selecting me to receive this award.

Even though I am now retired I have decided to remain with the group supporting Businesses to provide Healthy and Safe workplaces for their employees.

Alan Butler Award Winner quote:

Northern Ireland Safety Group – The Highest Award for Excellence

"To go home with a Gold Excellence Award was an achievement, but to go home with the Overall Alan Butler trophy was the icing on the cake."

Innovation Award Winners:

Dundee and Angus College: - The Lord Cullen Trophy

Last year, I was delighted to be invited to and attend the Safety Groups UK Awards for 2017 at the House of Lords. This was my first visit to this prestigious ceremony, and I was impressed with the magnificent surroundings, the organisation of the event and hearing and meeting individuals from numerous organisations throughout the UK, who were all contributing to the 'Helping GB Work Well' strategy that I therefore decided to submit an entry for innovation for the 2018 awards. Never did I envisage that a year later I would be presented with the Lord Cullen Trophy, from the man himself, for the asbestos awareness raising film which was created by employing the LOCHER approach with a group of the Dundee & Angus College's Princes Trust students and their Team Leaders, Jason Beresford and Kerry Hastie.

The process began back in August when I completed the SGUK Innovation entry form and provided a short summary description and supporting information about the asbestos awareness film.

At the beginning of December, I was delighted to receive the news that the entry was through to the next stage and I was invited to make a presentation of the submission to the judging panel at RoSPA's head office in Birmingham.

Jason, Kerry and I made the trip down south to deliver a 15 minutes presentation to support the submission and answer questions by a panel of expert judges. The judges were very supportive and made us feel at ease throughout the process.

A few days later I received the news that the submission had stood out as one of the very best and therefore had won one of the top prizes. This resulted in an invitation to attend the annual SGUK Awards ceremony at the House of Lords in January 2019 during which the final allocation of 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes were to be announced after the three finalists had provided the audience with a summary of their entries.

Once again, I was so impressed by the organisation of the event, hearing about the efforts that different groups and organisations are contributing to improve health and safety outcomes including the presentations from fellow finalists Celtic Energy and Swansea Council.

I was overjoyed when it was announced that the film had won the best overall entry and thrilled to receive the Lord Cullen trophy for innovation. I would recommend that organisations who are involved with creative and innovative initiatives to raise health and safety standards consider entering these awards.

The asbestos film can be viewed on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2qVs9hDwKuU>

Celtic Energy – The SCOS Award

The chairman of our local Safety Group, Phill Jones, is very active in persuading his members to engage in all events, especially the Awards. From this, I was, shall we say, encouraged to apply for the Group's Safety Shield Award. We were fortunate enough to win and were presented with it at an excellent Awards Dinner event in May 2018.

Later in the year, Phill asked me if I would take things a step further and apply for a SGUK national Innovation Award. I agreed, not realising that should we progress, I would not only be required to give a presentation before a panel of judges at RoSPA HQ but in the event of being selected as an award winner, I would have to speak to the assembled guests at the luncheon in the House of Lords! ... A daunting prospect, I can tell you.

Despite the time, effort and attention needed over and above the more immediate and pressing demands of the 'day job', I have found the journey a very satisfying personal experience and confirmation that our ideas and approach are on the right track. In addition, both the local and national awards have significantly raised the profile of Health and Safety within our Company and promoted an engagement with celebrating success in this area at all levels of the business.

The whole day out at the Houses of Parliament was certainly a special one for all four of us who attended and gives the Awards structure a very worthwhile aspirational element.

Other Reports:

Internal Working Party

Helping and Supporting Groups – ‘Info for Groups’

Over recent months, driven by a small sub-committee, SGUK ‘products and services’ have undergone a major development with the aim of helping and supporting groups.



The content and ideas have come from groups, including SGUK Award winners, who have been willing to share what they do and how they do about it for the benefit of others.

The new and improved ‘products and services’ are available via the ‘[Info for Groups](#)’ page on the SGUK website and include the items opposite.

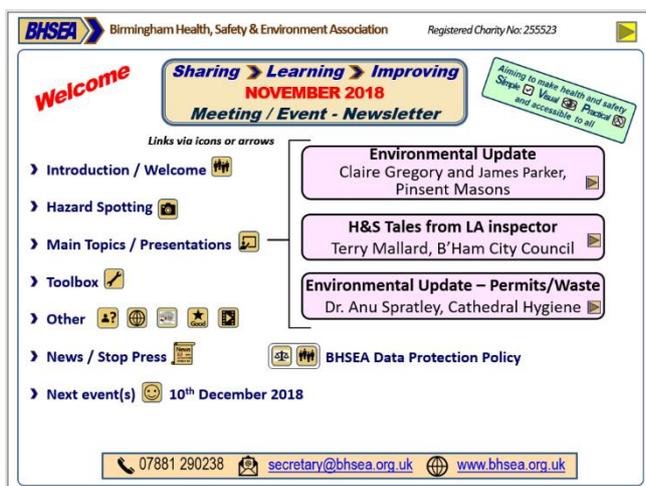
Please let us know what you think and don’t forget to let us have your input, ideas and examples. Most of all remember that we are

here to help. Contact via ‘[Contact us](#)’ tab on the SGUK website.

Group Contributions:

Birmingham Health, Safety and Environment Association (BHSEA)

BHSEA has been increasing its interest and relevance to members with a focus on something of value for everyone including SME’s at every meeting. As well as helping to retain existing members the new approach is aimed at attracting new members.



An ethos of *Simple-Visual-Practical* has evolved and all monthly meetings now include a variety of content including, hazard spotting photos, a toolbox item and a variety of other items likely to be of interest, as well as a main topic/speaker.

Pictures, diagrams, graphics, icons and simple messages with fewer words is proving to be an effective way of getting information and messages across.

PowerPoint slides used at the meeting (first slide / page shown opposite) then form the basis of the newsletter sent to all members following the meeting.

For more information contact the [BHSEA Secretary](#).

Safety Group – West Scotland

Annual General Meeting

On 13th March at 2pm in **Room 4, Abercorn Conference Centre, West College Scotland**, we will be holding our **Annual General Meeting**.

Volunteer and **take an active role** in running the group, if you or someone you know wish to be considered for the committee or as an office bearer, please intimate your wishes to the [secretary](#).

If you have any business requests to be discussed please send them to the [secretary](#).

AGM Agenda:

1. Adoption of previous AGM Minutes
2. Adoption of activity reports from office bearers
3. Recommendation and election of committee & office bearers
4. Honorarium & expenses
5. Membership subscriptions
6. Changes to Terms of Reference
7. Members business requests
8. AOCB

Next Meeting

Our next meeting is on the **10th April at 2pm in Room 4, Abercorn Conference Centre, West College Scotland** where **Jessica Smyrl of YSM Solutions** will be speaking on **Building Personal Resilience**.

Why do some people appear to adapt to stressful situations better than others? Why do some recover from adverse experiences when others don't, and cope with high work demands more successfully? And why do some seem to deal better with change?

This is the topic of resilience. Learning to adapt by looking after your own resilience will put you in a position to help others.

SNEOSG (Suffolk and North Essex Occupational Safety Group)

The group submitted their annual programme in a pdf format that was not compatible with this newsletter, however an extract has been included below:

Meetings
21 March 2019
Legionella
18 April 2019
AGM and Fire Safety, EDF
16 May 2019
Mental Health in the Workplace
20 June 2019
First Aid
18 July 2019

Health & Safety Portal
15th August 2019
Site visit to Celotex

With the exception of site visits, all meetings are held at the Ipswich & District Indoor Bowling Club, 136 Rushmere Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP4 4JU.

For other information about the Local Group events please visit:

<https://safetygroupsuk.org.uk/diary/>

Other relevant information:

SAFETY ALERT: Change in Enforcement Expectations for Mild Steel Welding Fume

11-02-2019

Having trouble viewing this email? [View the content as a web page.](#)



Health and Safety
Executive

HSE eBulletin

HSE Safety Alert issued

HSE has issued a safety alert about a change in enforcement expectations for mild steel welding fume.

[Read the full alert here.](#)

There is new scientific evidence from the International Agency for Research on Cancer that exposure to mild steel welding fume can cause lung cancer and possibly kidney cancer in humans.

The Workplace Health Expert Committee has endorsed the reclassification of mild steel welding fume as a human carcinogen.

With immediate effect, there is a strengthening of HSE's enforcement expectation for all welding fume, including mild steel welding; because general ventilation does not achieve the necessary control.

[Read the full safety alert here.](#)