

IAgrE East Midlands Branch Annual Dinner & AGM

Tuesday 9th April 2019 7.00 for 7.30 pm.

at the Quorn Lodge Hotel, Asfordby Rd, Melton Mowbray, LE13 0HR



Notice and Agenda

The Branch Annual Dinner and AGM will begin with a pre-booked two course meal. Partners invited.

Agenda

1. Welcome and introductions.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Minutes of the last AGM (held Tuesday 20th March 2018)
4. Matters arising from the Minutes.
5. Branch Chairman's Report.
6. Finance Report.
7. Election of Branch Officers.
Existing Branch Officers are:
Chairman. Richard Trevarthen.
Treasurer. Paul Skinner
Secretary. Richard Trevarthen.
Committee Members. Richard Clarke, Gordon Day, Sandy Donald, Keith Hawken, Nigel Penlington, Thomas Ray, Phil Spencer, Charles Szabo, David Yates.
8. Nominations received/proposed:
Chairman:
Treasurer:
Secretary:
Committee Members:
9. Presidents Address.
10. Any other business
11. Date of Next meeting: Assuming the current Branch policy of meeting the 2nd Tuesday of the Month continues, the next Branch Meeting will be Tuesday 8th October 2019.

N.B. A Committee Meeting will be held in the very near future to plan our October 2019 /March 2020 programme, (details of this to follow shortly).

If any member has a good idea for a Branch event (visit/speaker) for our next session, please inform a Committee member asap.

Please make every endeavour to attend this social as well as business meeting. A very warm welcome awaits you and your partner.

PS Please bring a biro/pencil with you.



IAgrE East Midlands Branch.

Minutes of the AGM 2018.

The Branch Annual Dinner and AGM was held on Tuesday March 20th 2018 at the Quorn Lodge Hotel, Asfordby Road, Melton Mowbray, LE13 0HR, and commenced with a pre-booked two course meal, which was enjoyed by the 19 members and guests who attended.

Present: Richard Clarke, Gordon Day, Sandy Donald, Peter Leech, Matt Maher, Martin and Catherine Parsons, Nigel Penlington, David Preece, Thomas Ray, John Sartain, Paul and Judy Skinner, Charles Szabo, Alistair Taylor, Richard Trevarthen, David and Diane Yates, Colin Worsley.

Apologies: Jonathan Booty, Keith Hawken, Harry Henderson, Gary Hill, Mr & Mrs Jack Ranyard, David Roe, Phillip Spencer, David Wilks, Phillip Wright,

Minutes of the Last meeting:

The minutes of the last AGM, held on March 21st 2017 at the Quorn Lodge Hotel were read and approved.

Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising.

Branch Chairman's Report. (copy attached).

Richard Trevarthen read his report on the year's activities Branch activities, and thanked everyone who contributed in any way to a very successful and enjoyable programme. The report was discussed and approved.

Finance Report:

Treasurer Paul Skinner gave an account of the Branch finances which showed it is in a healthy state. Copy of report enclosed.

Election of Branch Officers and Committee.

The make-up of our full committee is currently Chairman & Secretary: Richard Trevarthen; Treasurer: Paul Skinner.

Committee Members: Richard Clarke, Gordon Day, Sandy Donald, Keith Hawken, Nigel Penlington, Thomas Ray, Phillip Spencer, Charles Szabo, David Yates.

It was proposed by Sandy Donald, Seconded by Peter Leech that all of the above be re elected en bloc. This proposal was unanimously agreed by all present.

President's Address: Following the AGM the President's Address was delivered by the IAgrE CEO Alastair Taylor, on behalf of our President, Dr. Robert Merrall. Amongst the topics raised in the report, was the need to look closely at our membership, and try and increase same, and to remember that ag engineering is a very wide subject indeed: the Institution working with Sub-Saharan Africa and the important work we are doing there. And to "watch this space" as the Institution is celebrating it's 80th birthday in May, and some special events are planned. The Address led to a general discussion, and Alastair said he will take note of some of the points raised and if necessary feed them back to the executive committee.

Any Other Business:

Richard Trevarthen again thanked everyone for attending and for their support, and stated that a full committee meeting would be arranged in the very near future to discuss and plan our 2018 / 2019 Branch Programme. Once again David Yates kindly offered to host the meeting at his premises..

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

Date of next meeting: To be arranged.



IAgrE East Midlands Branch

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Tuesday March 20th 2018

Branch Chairman's Report

Last year our AGM was again held at the Quorn Lodge Hotel, Melton Mowbray, and following the success of the previous year, combined it with a two course meal, and it really was great to have so many members' partners join us.

As is the norm now the Committee met early May 2017 to plan well in advance the Winter 2017/Spring 2018 programme, to gain the maximum publicity during the months leading up to October, and I wish to thank most sincerely those who came up with ideas, and acted quickly in getting things established. Thanks also go to David and Diane Yates for hosting the meeting at their house.

I am sure you will agree with me that in the main, (with one or two hiccups), this past programme has been good and with meeting attendance averaging 25, I think is excellent. It has been great as well, to welcome new members who attend every meeting.

As usual, our 6 monthly October through to March meetings were planned early, and meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, is now firmly established, and by far and away suits the vast majority of our members.

First meeting in **October 2017**: 29 members and guests received a very warm welcome at Witham Oil & Paint, at their HQ on the edge of Lincoln, where we all enjoyed a very interesting and informative evening with this very go ahead and innovative Company. The evening consisted of a presentation about the Company history, their very comprehensive product range, a tour of the factory, and a lovely buffet.

November was a meeting with a difference, but thoroughly enjoyed by all. We met at Ben Craig's restoration and social centre based at Harby. It started with an excellent talk on the History of Stilton Cheese, by Kim Kettle the Quality & Production Manager, at the well known Long Clawson Dairy. The talk included a super Stilton cheese (and biscuits) tasting session, then a tour of Ben's superb renovation projects and his museum, with the evening concluding with tea/coffee and a lovely range of homemade cakes freshly made by Vanda Day & Anne Clarke, wives of Branch Members.

December. It was very unfortunate, that due to health problems our host at N.J.Froment had to cancel last minute. I say cancel, really it has been postponed, as all being well we will be back there next session.

January 2018. A presentation entitled "Engineering Excellence-70 Years of Land Rover given by John Holland of Jaguar Land Rover to an audience of 32. We all enjoyed a fascinating talk which included his meteoric 20 yr career, which now sees him leading the JLR Way...the integrated management system deployed throughout Europe. Then moving briefly through the company history to today where it is a combination of two UK brands forming one company under the ownership of Tata, a company with a great future, employing 42000, producing over half a million vehicles per annum.....exporting over 80%, with the company tripling its global turnover since the takeover by Tata.



February: A hastily arranged meeting saw 24 members attend a visit to the National Fluid Power Centre. This was indeed a great turn out, as Worksop is on the edge of our region and some travelled big distances to get there. Have to say we received a very warm welcome, and were treated to an excellent, and very interesting evening, which consisted of talk, detailing the history and purpose of the NFPC, and then a tour of their superb training facilities. These are organized into 3 modules reflecting their 3 levels of courses, covering hydraulics, pneumatics and control systems.

March saw us following the trend of the past couple or so years visiting a dealership, and this year the visit was to Chandlers Farm Equipment Ltd, at Belton, Grantham, NG32 2LX, a Company reputedly the largest AGCO dealer in Europe. Well, this proved to be a Dealership plus, and we heard about the Company history, including developing their own bespoke computer business systems, and their tremendous input into massive irrigation system in Egypt. This was followed by a tour of the facilities, and finally the evening concluded with delicious refreshments.

In conclusion, I think it is fair to say at every meeting we have always had a very warm welcome, and very generous hospitality. They all say "how many can we expect", and this is why I drive members to let me know if they are coming!

Not too much to report news wise re our Branch members, only to say that last year, long time member of the IAgrE, David Wilks, decided it was time to step down from his role as Branch treasurer. David, who completed a marathon stint in this role, was awarded a Branch Meritorious Award to recognize his outstanding contribution. Since then I am sorry to report David has not been well, and I am sure all here tonight will join me in wishing David a full, and speedy recovery.

In closing, again I think the average attendance at meetings this year has been excellent, and as I said before it has been particularly pleasing to welcome some new faces, regular attendance by some younger members, and latterly some apprentices from JCB. On the down side it is disappointing that we never see any College students at the meetings now.

As always I would like to thank Sarah at the IAgrE HQ, for all her help and support and especially for regularly sending our Branch members the colourful Mad Mimi reminders of all our forth coming meetings. (Does everyone see them?), and all the other members of the team there as well.

If anyone has any ideas for next session, be it a visit or talk, please inform one of our committee members as there will be meeting in the near future to plan our 2018/2019 programme.

FINALLY: again....**PLEASE** do let me know if you are planning attend a meeting. It is so important that our host for the evening knows how many to expect, as well as being polite!