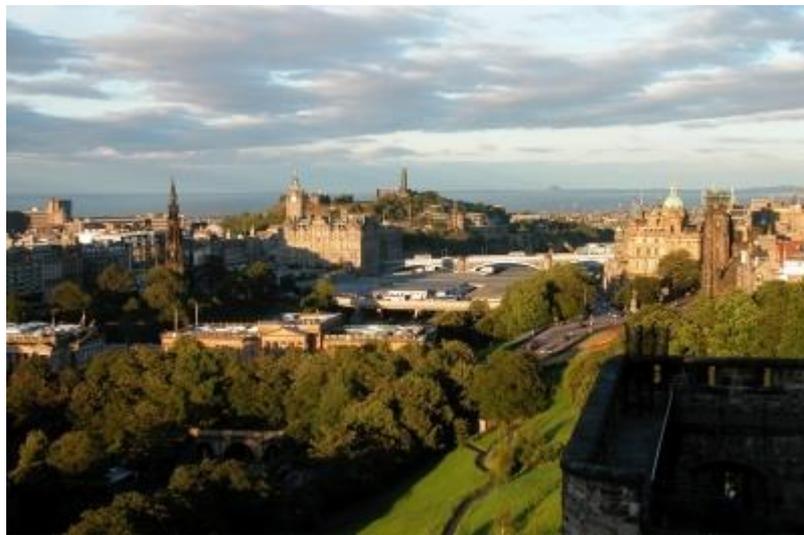


· INSTITUTE · OF · HISTORIC ·  
BUILDING · CONSERVATION

*The home of the conservation professional*

**IHBC e-letter:** Issue 18

**March 2014**



*'Edinburgh Cityscape' courtesy of Fiona Newton*

**COMPLETE IHBC'S MEMBER SURVEY  
BY TUESDAY 25 MARCH & ENTER DRAW  
[HERE](#)**

### **Recent Highlights**

1. [Annual School launched](#)
2. [Construction sector VAT relief research update](#) and
3. [Parliamentary launch on 3 March](#)
4. Record 350,000 page visits across website suite in January 2014
5. [IHBC's Conservation Course Connection Day initiated and concluded](#)
6. Branch Connection Day on 'Disciplinary' issues hosted
7. [IHBC Gus Astley Student Award 2013: Winners announced](#)
8. [10 Consultation Responses submitted, including Wales'](#)

[sustainable management and ERR Act](#)

9. [Context issued, themed on 'Nationhood'](#)
10. [Scotland's LPA scoping study published](#)
11. NewsBlog Author (support) appointed: Alison McCandlish
12. [Research Notes lead appointed: Bob Kindred MBE](#)
13. 'TeamStarter' pilot at Aberdeen to test Associate route to full membership

### **Council business: overview**

Spring Council meetings in the IHBC usually are focussed on preparations for our essential corporate business for the year, the Annual General Meeting (AGM). This year the AGM will take place in Edinburgh, as part of our Annual School as usual.

### **Officers' reports**

As with each Council meeting, the institute's lead officers presented reports on their recent activities. IHBC President Trefor Thorpe offered feedback on his meetings with senior officials and organisational representatives, including Maria Miller, England's Culture Secretary, and Sir Laurie Magnus, Chair of English Heritage.

IHBC's Chair Mike Brown reported to Council on his own recent activities, including his involvement with the National Heritage Protection Plan (NHPP) Advisory Board, where he serves as vice-chair. He also noted the renewed interest of English Heritage in local authority capacity and measures.

### **Annual report 2012-13**

Council also received the draft annual report for 2012-13, which it recommended for approval at the next AGM. The annual surplus was welcomed, while Council also asked that interim 'options' for the allocation of strengthened income streams to be presented at the next meeting council, on April 3.

### **National office report**

The national office report offered its regular review of progress on the IHBC's Corporate Plan for 2010-15, our 'CP10', which has entered its fourth year. The report highlights are listed at the start of this e-letter.

### **Forward planning review & governance**

Council also agreed to progress interim and strategic areas of our governance with:

A secure online voting system, to ensure that our internal corporate

and charitable structures address any democratic deficits

A 'proxy' form, so members unable to attend the AGM can submit their votes

An 'interim' revised constitution, specifically the Articles of Association, to allow for these changes, alongside miscellaneous updates, to ensure that future changes in our constitution can be enacted effectively.

A membership survey to inform thoughts on wider changes in the governance, to be reported to Council in April by President Trefor Thorpe, now open at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/IHBCgovernance>

Details and updates will be made available to members through our NewsBlogs and other communications networks.

### **Forward Planning**

Council also received updates on developments initiated at the Council meeting in September, namely:

To extend operations to help deliver on the AGM's commitment to support those progressing from Affiliate to full membership

To build our specialist credentials in research and guidance by mining our rich resources of data and advice, making it ready for publication under the IHBC marque

To develop advocacy in the sector, and to extend the capacity of the national office to underpin all this by outsourcing the collation and writing of some of the IHBC's NewsBlogs.

The Research and NewsBlog appointments had been concluded, with the appointment of Full Members Bob Kindred as Research Notes author and Alison McCandlish, as NewsBlogs support author.

### **Annual School 2014: Edinburgh & the art of conservation**

**NB: ANY NOTES OF INTEREST IN OR SUGGESTIONS FOR SPONSORSHIP OF THE EDINBURGH 2014 ANNUAL SCHOOL, ON 'THE ART OF CONSERVATION', ON 5-7 JUNE, SHOULD BE PASSED TO FIONA NEWTON, IHBC PROJECTS OFFICER:**  
[projects@ihbc.org.uk](mailto:projects@ihbc.org.uk)

Progress was reported on the 2014 Annual School, with a special welcome to the news that Fiona Hyslop MSP, Scotland's Culture Secretary is to speak; that Professor Jukka Jokilehto would offer an international perspective on the topic of art and conservation, and that consultancy CgMS were to be confirmed as main sponsors in the coming days. Council thanked the Branch Committee for their efforts here, and congratulated them on the programme.

Other Branches already committed to hosting future Annual Schools include East Anglia for 2015 in Norwich and the West Midlands in 2016. Council is also looking at the Republic of Ireland as a venue for 2017.

## **New members**

The following members were elected for the corresponding membership categories and branches. They are noted here with attendant congratulations to all, and welcomes to new arrivals:

### Full members

There were no new Full Members recommended to Council as the timetable for assessment did not coincide with the Council programme this year, as it had been adjusted to accommodate the governance review.

### Affiliates

Alice Bowers	(NO)
Chris Briggs	(YO)
Emma Bryant	(LO)
Gabriel Byng	(LO)
Ross Cannon	(WA)
Lorna Goring	(WA)
Paul Jackson	(LO)
Kristian Kaminski	(LO)
Matthew Kennington	(EA)
Barry Martynski	(SE)
Charlotte Staniforth	(SE)
Siobhán Stewart	(RI)
James Sturgess	(SE)
Angharad Allsop	(SW)
Julia Crimmins	(RI)
Nick Dyson	(LO)
Dr Helen Evans	(NW)
Gwenan Hughes	(SC)
Simon Parkin	(SC)
Artemis Sofokleous	(LO)
Anna Zucchelli	(LO)

## **Branch updates and reports**

Each Council meeting receives updates on circulated Branch reports, details of which may be found on the Branch pages on the IHBC's website. All Branches are especially encouraged to announce their publications on the IHBC's LinkedIn Group, as the open-access platform for advertising the IHBC's achievements across our digital networks.

As ever Branch updates are also available through the Branch pages on the IHBC's websites.

## **IHBC Volunteering & Governance: A reminder**

A cover note from our Chair Mike Brown:

The strength of the IHBC lies in the willingness of its members to step forward and volunteer. The trustees are always pleased to hear from members willing to contribute their skills, time and experience, either at local or national level. Council has asked our President, Trefor Thorpe to conduct a review of our governance arrangements and recommend improvements to them and our election procedures. In the meantime here is a reminder of the current arrangements:

*The Institute of Historic Building Conservation is a registered charity and limited company operating under the oversight of our Council, a Board of Trustees who are also the directors of the company. The IHBC's Council is supported by an executive body, the National Office, and advised by council members and volunteers operating through our Committee and Branch structures. See our website and 'Yearbook' for details.*

*Each year the IHBC's Council members are elected at our Annual General Meeting. Council Members are the trustees of the Institute and include elected Officers (Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Secretary), Branch Representatives and Committee Chairs. Only Full Members of the IHBC enjoy voting rights on the Council.*

*All IHBC members and supporters are encouraged to contribute to the operations of the institute, locally and nationally. Such contributions serve as suitable preparation for trusteeship.*

*All posts are open for election each year. Anyone interested in developing skills for a post as a trustee should review the relevant job descriptions and specifications, and also consult with a relevant post-holder, Branch or Council member, or the National Office, on how to best to progress skills.*

*Anyone interested in trusteeship should:*

- Get involved with IHBC Branches and/or relevant national Committees*
- Develop a strong understanding of the IHBC's national operations by monitoring regularly our membership and news information services, including the NewsBlogs, Membership eletter and our in-house publications, Context and our Yearbook*
- Familiarise themselves with the duties of trustees in general, and of the corporate operations of the Institute (see [http://ihbc.org.uk/about/corp\\_papers/corp\\_papers.html](http://ihbc.org.uk/about/corp_papers/corp_papers.html))*
- Familiarise themselves with the duties of any particular post they are interested in, in line with the guidance provided on the website (including business plans and, where available, job descriptions)*
- Be prepared to offer a minimum of 8 days per year in the service of the institute, typically working days*
- Recognise that, by law, trustees are not allowed personal gain from their role, and are obliged to represent the national interests of the IHBC.*