



**IHBC e-letter: Issue 21
January 2015**

Quarterly highlights & 2013-14 review

1. [IHBC Associate Membership processes finalised and launched.](#)
2. [New governance strategy agreed: 'IHBC+' \(IHBC plus\).](#)
3. [NI Branch committee re-convened](#) with support of IHBC's 'LETS' Liaison Officer, with a reception at Clifton House Belfast welcoming the Committee and the appointment of Andrew McClelland as Chair and Jill Kerry as trustee serving as Branch Representative on Council.
4. [IHBC's Second Conservation Course Connection Day](#) hosted for student representatives from UK conservation courses.
5. [IHBC Branch Connection Day](#) hosted on membership applications and Associate membership.
6. IHBC's 2014 Peripatetic Council was hosted by the East Midlands Branch, and accompanied our highly successful membership support '[Derby Day](#)', on 12 September, which was attended by more than 80 delegates.
7. [Consultant support for National Office agreed.](#)
8. 85% of Year 4 targets for Corporate Plan 2010-15, from October 2013 to September 2014, were achieved including as follows:
 - Consultants for [NewsBlog](#) & [Research](#) roles were agreed and consultants appointed, as was our new staff member, Kate Kendall, who took up the critical new role as [IHBC's 'LETS' Liaison Officer](#).
 - [The 2014 Annual School](#) was hosted by the Scotland Branch.
 - We hosted our first [Conservation Course Connection Day](#) hosted in Birmingham in 2013, introducing UK students to the career and research support offered by the IHBC, as was our Branch Connection Day, on our disciplinary processes.

- [Jeremy Musson served as judge on the Gus Astley Student Award](#) and attended the IHBC's 2014 School in Edinburgh to make the award presentations to the 2013 winner and to the authors of commended submissions, all of whom were offered places at the School.
- [Work on VAT relief](#) generated a joint launch of research in Parliament while an advocacy programme on Historic Tax Credits was initiated.
- [An online database of select IHBC Full Members](#) was launched to facilitate client and user access to Members and Associates.
- [New voting and constitutional arrangements](#) were developed to enable constitutional developments.
- Local authority survey figures were collated and released, for [England](#) and [Scotland](#)
- [The IHBC-Branded BS 7913](#) conservation standard launched.
- New record levels of users registered across our digital operations: with over 9000 network members and 370,000 page visits over website suite in June 2014.
- [24 consultations](#) were submitted, alongside a number of more informal consultation contributions.
- Core publications of our *Context*, *Yearbook* and NewsBlogs were issued and circulated to plans.
- Two member surveys ([intro](#) and [initial assessment](#)) informed progress on governance and corporate planning.

December Council: Major items of business

The IHBC's Council met in London on 3 December with four key items on the agenda:

- The annual review of progress on the Corporate Plan 2010-15 (CP10)
- Governance proposals to establish the 'IHBC+' programme
- Allocating funds for the appointment of a consultant
- The Corporate Plan for 2015-20: CP20.

CP10 review

Council received the report on progress with CP10 from the National Office, with achievements noted at the top of this e-letter.

It was noted that the majority of the outstanding items were dependent on to the governance review, and that the other items on the agenda – notably the consultant support and the plans to test governance should help address many outstanding items for the term of the plan.

'IHBC+' (IHBC plus) 'experimental evolution' launched

IHBC President Trefor Thorpe and London Branch representative Sheila Stones introduced and secured Council support for a proposal

to explore new arrangements for governance under a programme headed 'Experimental evolution' and entitled 'IHBC+' (pronounced 'IHBC plus'). The strategy was shaped by Council guidance from its September meeting after IHBC trustees were advised of the need for more regular and focussed Board meetings, given both the rapid recent growth in the organisation, and the keenness registered by IHBC members in recent surveys to get more involved with the work of the IHBC.

Further details on the programme will be released in the New Year, as arrangements are progressed.

In the interim members at all levels are encouraged to consider how they might get more involved, including by getting more involved in national activities, such as national IHBC's Committees and Branch representation on Council.

A suitable starting point for members at this stage of the 'experimental evolution' is raise your interest directly with Branch or Committee officers, details of which can be found by following the relevant links from our Home Page.

Consultant support

Council agreed the allocation from excess reserves of £10,000 to offer interim senior-level management support and assistance to the running of the National Office during an especially busy period.

IHBC Corporate Plan 2015-20: CP20

Council reviewed an early working draft for CP20, the Institute's Corporate Plan for the period 2015-20. A consultation draft will be released early in the New Year to allow further comments from Council to be incorporated. If you'd like to see progress at that stage do contact your local Branch representative on Council.

NI Branch & 'LETS' Liaison Officer update

LETS Liaison Officer Kate Kendall, attended her first Council in her new capacity as support officer for Branch volunteers and linked practice networks, reporting on, among other things, the success of the re-launch of the NI Branch, and with the new Branch representative Jill Kerry also updating Council on progress there.

Annual School 2015: Norwich **'Cultural connections: conserving the diversity of place'**



An update on the 2015 Annual School was offered from the East Anglia Branch, hosts for 2015, and it was noted that a main sponsor was still sought for the event.

Council welcomed the programme, and in particular its expeditious development by the committee, and warmly thanked the Branch members for their work to date.

NB: ANY NOTES OF INTEREST IN OR SUGGESTIONS FOR SPONSORSHIP OF THE NORWICH ANNUAL SCHOOL, ON 'Cultural Connections: conserving the diversity of place', ON 18-20 JUNE 2015, SHOULD BE PASSED TO IHBC PROJECTS OFFICER FIONA NEWTON: projects@ihbc.org.uk

Other Branches already committed to hosting future Annual Schools include West Midlands for 2016, while Council urged Branches to consider options for 2017 and following years.

New members

The following members were elected to the corresponding membership categories and branches. They are noted here with congratulations and welcomes as appropriate:

Full members

Tim Murphy (LO), Mike Daniells (SW), Sara Davidson (SO), Thomas Pearson (LO), Owen Barton (NW), Andrew Fuller (WM)

Affiliate membership

Melanie Adamson (LO), Fiona Albarracin (NW), Kelly Appleton (YO), David I Boulton (YO), Jonathan Clarke (LO), Tamsin Cooke (NW), Steve Coyle (YO), Feargal de Buitel eir (SO), Geraldine Delaney (WA), Hettie Dix (SO), Gerry Dolden (EA), Jonathan Downer (LO), Nicola Higgins (SE), Ian Holloway (SO), Simon Howard (EA), Ullin Jodah McStea (SW), Dan Jones (WA), Andrew Kenyon (SW), Peter Lloyd (NW), Paul Lucas (SO), Robert Lynch (SW), Paulette McAllister (SE), Kim Miller (YO), Andrew Newman (LO), Alex Oliver (SW), Chris Patrick (WM), Suzanne Pickering (NW), Cath Poucher (SE), Peter Preston (SO), Berta Sanchez Velar (LO), Jo Sanderson (SE), Ill an Santos (LO), John Somers (WM), Charlotte Stranks (SE), Jenny Timothy (EM), Wendy Tippet (SW), Emily A Tracey (SC),

John Tracey-White (LO), Hannah Walker (LO), Paul Walters (WA), Jeremy Wildbore-Hands (LO), Fiona Wooler (NW), Ashley Wynn (SE), Freya Bohea (SW), Louisa Davidson (WM), Clare Fidler (EA), Silvia Rossi (NW), Frances Swanston (SC)

Vice Chair standing down

IHBC Vice Chair Emilia Hands will not be going forward for re-election and nominations are sought in line with the guidance at the bottom of this newsletter. To see the current job description please contact the National Office or IHBC Secretary Jo Evans at ihbcsecretary@ihbc.org.uk

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.

NB: All Branches are especially encouraged to announce their activities and publications on the IHBC's LinkedIn Group, and take advantage of this open network to advertise their achievements across our digital networks.

As ever, Branch updates may be posted on our website. Branch representatives should pass their reports and updates to the IHBC's IT consultant, Peter Badcock, at it@ihbc.org.uk for posting on the Branch pages on our website.

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://www.ihbc.org.uk/page63/page67/index.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.*
- For information on particular posts please contact the IHBC's National Office, IHBC Secretary Jo Evans - at ihbcsecretary@ihbc.org.uk - or the incumbent or retiring officers and ask for the job description for any relevant post.*