

# Derbyshire Branch Report 2010

## Introduction

It has been another difficult year with Committee Reps struggling to attend meetings and organise courses due to pressures within the 'day job'. However, the few remaining Reps have soldiered on and tried to meet the objectives of the Business Plan (see over for details)! Unfortunately with the government cuts likely to lead to redundancies, the time available to 'volunteer' is likely to dwindle – Derbyshire Branch has always been known for being an active Branch and I hope this can continue. If you can offer any assistance at all, it would be greatly appreciated.

## Highlights of 2010

- The year began with our first joint AGM with Nottinghamshire Branch. In view of falling numbers it seemed sensible to join forces! We were lucky to have Gary Macfarlane (CIEH Northern Ireland Director) attend and start the year with a thought provoking presentation on climate change. Rebecca Hardiman was voted in as Chairman. We were pleased to see the Retired Member Rep (Barrie Sheard) and Student Rep (Alex Taylor) posts filled again and I would like to thank both for their work.
- June saw a free joint CPD and Social Event. The speakers were all EHPs working in industry who gave insights into their role on the 'other side'. Unfortunately the social event was not a huge success with only five people staying on after the CPD event, but at least we've tried it now!
- The Branch offered the CIEH Principles of Regulatory Enforcement course – the first time the course had ever been run. Bookings came flooding in resulting in two courses being run over consecutive days.
- The visit to the Magistrates' Court in November was an excellent informal session led by a number of Magistrates and Legal Advisors.

Feedback from the events offered by the Branch has generally been good/excellent. Ideas on future events/training needs are always welcomed. We were pleased that our input helped the Region to secure a good level of funding for 2011.

## Plans for 2011

As the Business Plan shows, we have fewer objectives for next year. CPD provision, support to students and providing a local 'face' to the CIEH will no doubt keep us busy.

## Finances

The success of the Principles in Regulatory Enforcement (PinRE) course produced a good surplus, allowing us to offer two free CPD events. The Region has decided to automatically distribute the capitation fee to Branches which will aid running of the Branch Committee. It is hoped that the Branch can be run on a cost neutral basis, with an aim of making 10% profit on any paid courses. We end the year with an increase in funds and in general the Branch remains in a strong financial position.

## Communicating with Members

Thankfully the data protection issues have been resolved so I am now back to distributing information to members by e-mail. The website is underused but I hope to start getting information uploaded on there again. MyCIEH is at last up and running. If you have not used it yet, I would urge you to log on – if only to make sure that your contact details are up to date and to use the CPD log. If you do not have login details please let me know.

## Who's who / More information

The Branch Committee comprises of the following (to be reviewed at the AGM):

President – John Tomlinson	Chairperson – Rachael Hughes	Secretary – Lisa Brooks
Treasurer – Rasila Sarda	Retired Member Rep – Barrie Sheard	Student Rep – Alex Taylor
Amber Valley – Rebecca Hardiman	Bolsover – Roberta Borges-Stewart	
Chesterfield – Vacant	Derby – Dawn Deakin	
Derbyshire Dales – Rachael Hughes	Erewash – Vacant	High Peak – Vacant
North East Derbyshire – Matthew Boot	South Derbyshire – Lisa Brooks	

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Achievement</b>
1. Arrange and run AGM	The first joint Derbyshire & Nottinghamshire Branches AGM was held in January. 15 Derbyshire members attended (unfortunately bad weather led to lower numbers than expected) providing 30 CPD hours.
2. Document and compile an annual report	This is it!
3. Hold at least three Committee meetings	January – 6 Committee Reps attended, April – 4 Committee Reps attended, November – 5 Committee Reps attended.
4. Plan and execute at least three low cost training events	1) CPD & Social Event – 20 delegates with five staying on for the social event (67.5 hours CPD). Free event. 2) Principles of Regulatory Enforcement – 40 delegates (220 hours CPD). This was the first time this course was offered to EHP's, it booked up so quickly that we had to run two courses! 3) Work of the Magistrates Court – 30 delegates visited North East Derbyshire and Dales Magistrates' Court (60 hours CPD). Free event.
5. Co-ordinate training events with sub-groups	E-mails have been sent to the Study Group Secretaries to ensure no duplication of training and to try to establish members training needs. Money within the Branch account remains ringfenced for a pollution themed event.
6. Continue support of Members at County level.	Contact has been difficult as HQ stated that the Branch could not directly contact members due to data protection issues. However this has now been resolved and normal service has resumed!! I have continued to attend the Regional management Board meetings on behalf of the Branch.
7. Help full or part-time students to maximise training opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following guidance from HQ stating that individual students should not be financially supported, the Branch has unfortunately had to stop the discretionary grant. One request for support – information was passed on regarding the ability to submit ELP/sit exams and defer payment until after paid employment is obtained.</li> <li>• The Student Group continue to meet and hold 'self help' meetings.</li> <li>• Due to the current job situation, a campaign for a student intake was not undertaken this year. The Branch is instead currently working to improve links with Derby University.</li> <li>• The Region began offering a free student place at each 5+1 Pack seminar, this has been advertised to Derbyshire students at each event.</li> </ul>
8. Encourage Chartered Status applications and help maintain CPD hours.	There have been no requests for assistance/info about Chartered Status applications & the objective has become to encourage members to renew their membership in these difficult financial times! A total number of 14 hrs 45 mins CPD hours per member have been offered by the Branch, resulting in an actual total of 360.5 hours CPD.
9. Ensure members are consulted on review of the Business Plan and encourage feedback	All members with registered e-mail addresses were e-mailed the Business Plan before the AGM. A paper copy was sent to those without a registered e-mail address.
10. Encourage lapsed members to rejoin the CIEH	Again, this objective was amended to encourage members to continue with their CIEH membership. It is hoped that the work of the Branch and Region will show what CIEH is achieving locally and encourage members to renew memberships.
11. Assist with arrangements for Notts/Derby Quiz night	Nottinghamshire Branch again took the lead in organising the quiz. The quiz was advertised to Derbyshire members by e-mail. It continues to be the main social event of the year.