

Nottinghamshire Branch Report for 2010

Introduction

It has been a challenging year for the Branch Committee. Helen Penniston stepped down as Branch Secretary at the January 2010 AGM having been in the role for a number of years. This role was taken on by Peter Gibson of Broxtowe who has unfortunately left the Nottinghamshire Branch in November to take on a new role at a Leicestershire authority. Lisa Cobb has therefore become Nottinghamshire's third Branch Secretary within 12 months.

Of the eight local authorities, a maximum of four authorities have been actively represented this year at any one time although the commercial sector has remained involved throughout. Other challenges throughout the year have included professional fees not being paid by some Nottinghamshire authorities, job evaluation, restructuring and the continued talk of cutbacks. With this in mind, the branch has tried to evolve to maximise the use of minimum resources. With a new focus, it is hoped that 2011 will be a successful year and that branch members can enjoy what the branch provides / offers.

CPD Hours for 2010

The change in branch members along with budget cuts has resulted in no formal training being offered by the branch during 2010. However, two free visits to sites of interest were arranged to allow the branch to offer members some CPD.

The branch has also offered a free student place at the 5+1 training seminars and these have proved to be extremely popular.

If there is any particular training you would like to see during 2011, please contact your local branch rep.

Highlights of 2010

This year the Branch has

- Arranged the first joint AGM with Derbyshire Branch in January 2010. Presentations were made on climate change by Gary McFarlane (CIEH Northern Ireland Director). Unfortunately numbers were lower than expected due to the bad weather.
- Organised free visits which allowed the branch to provide 72 hours CPD at no charge to the Branch. These were visits to Nottingham Forest Football Club and Bramcote Crematorium.
- Had active representation on the Regional Management Board, strengthening links with the Region
- Taken part in the Derbyshire & Nottinghamshire Annual Quiz

2011

This year we intend to build on our current successes by organising more free visits / CPD and social events. The branch will organise low cost training events and subsidise through branch funding where appropriate to ensure costs are kept to a minimum. Where possible we will link with other active Branches such as Derbyshire with whom we are able to host an AGM, and support student members to gain EHRB registration.

This year we also intend to focus on the students within our area and introduce a support service. Ways of managing this are currently in discussion and we would welcome your views on how to ensure this is successful and actually offers what our students want!

Finances

Our financial position has dropped slightly this year as we have continued to support the Tony Turton Memorial Award and provide a free AGM for members. We have received £500 from East Midlands Region which is to be used in 2011 to subsidise training for members and overall we remain in a strong financial position.

Communicating with Members

Contact has been difficult during 2010 as HQ stated that the branch could not directly contact members due to data protection issues. However this has now been resolved and email will continue to be the preferred method of communication. This allows information to be passed on quickly and efficiently. However we still have a small percentage of members without registered e-mail addresses. We will continue to try and obtain e-mail addresses for those members.

The 'My CIEH' system available from central CIEH is now up and running. If you have not used it yet, I would urge you to log on, if only to ensure your contact details are up to date. MyCIEH also has the facility to track and record your CPD. If you do not have log in details, please let me know.

Who's who / More information

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

Chairperson – Vacant
Secretary – Lisa Cobb
Treasurer – Rosemary Herrett

Ashfield – Rosemary Herrett
Broxtowe – Irene Kurlak
Mansfield – Una Colgan
Nottingham – Patricia Hodgkinson
Commercial Sector – Jennie Lawson

Bassetlaw – Hannah Bigden
Gedling – Kevin Nealon
Newark & Sherwood – Lisa Cobb
Rushcliffe – Phillip Scotney

For further information please contact Lisa Cobb on 01636 655431 or email Lisa.Cobb@nsdc.info

Nottinghamshire Branch wishes all its members a very Happy New Year.