

Devon Branch CIEH

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We're on the Web.

http://www.cieh.org/members/SW_Devon.html

Championing Public Health



The Devon Branch of the CIEH is made up of one member representative from each of 10 Councils within Devon plus an independent EHO and a Student EHO. They meet quarterly at Crediton Town Hall to discuss issues relevant to the organisation, arrange for the provision of low cost CPD for CIEH members and participate in Regional matters.

Devon Branch CIEH is a part of the CIEH South West Region. They send a representative to the regional board which also meets quarterly in Taunton.

Your 2010-11 Branch Reps are:

West Devon & South Hams - Dave Sexton, EHO, Chair

Plymouth - Claire Turbutt, EHO Branch Secretary

Independent - Mike Fox, EHP Treasurer

Teignbridge - Nick Cowan, EHO, Website Co-ordinator

Torbay - Andy Pike, EHO

Exeter - Lisa Cocks, EHO

Mid Devon - Dave Turner, Senior EHO

North Devon - Aarron Turton, EHO

Devon County - Dolores Riordan, EHO

Student Member - Lee Staples

Torridge - Chris Charles

Training and Events Diary

Lisa Cocks and Claire Turbutt organised a two day training event with CIEH Wales (Cymru) director and Barrister Julie Barratt. This is the first time the branch has organised a higher cost training day. The two days covered legal and litigation skills for Environmental Health Teams. It was very well supported and in fact oversubscribed.

So we plan to run another day next year.

The branch would like to thank Lisa and Claire for their hard work

Devon Members/AGM was been brought forward to 30th November 2010, it is usually in the New Year, however we would like to have more members input into the work plan so it was held before Christmas, at South Hams Council.

The branch would like to apologise for the short notice. We will ensure there is plenty of notice for next years forum which will be held on 22nd November.

A summary of the discussions held on the day has been published on the website ASAP.

If you would like to contribute to the work plan for the branch over 2011 please contact your Branch Rep.

Devon Branch CIEH

Inside Devon

Volume 1, Issue 4

Aug-Jan 2011

Special points of interest:

- Word from the Chair
- My CIEH
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A WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN

By Dave Sexton

Hello, I am David Sexton and I am the current chair of the CIEH Devon Branch, I currently work for West Devon Borough Council and have responsibilities in Pollution and Private Sector Housing. I work closely with colleagues in South Hams as we have adopted a shared services model. I did not intentionally get into Environmental Health, I sort of fell into it, In 1998, I was made redundant as a lab technician and managed to get a technician job in the pollution team at Exeter City Council, I started off doing abandoned cars and littering, but soon got into nuisance work and drainage. A lot has changed since then, in those days I had to share what was a very basic computer and we took photos with a Polaroid! After a few years I got myself onto the Environment

Health Degree course at the University of the West of England, I studied part time, in 2005 I gained my degree and in 2007 achieved EHORB registration.

That's enough about me, we all know that we are in challenging times and that we have to justify our very existence. Every department has to look for savings and new ways of working doing the same with less. I know there are no easy answers but I am happy to speak to anyone who has any ideas or suggestions on what the CIEH could do to support our great profession.

As chair I currently attend the South West Region Management board, this is an important group as we draw our funding from there. The way we are funded has recently been changed to a formula

based on size of the region and the amount of CPD we provide. So it is important that you support the training days we organise. You may have remembered recently a survey that was circulated asking what training you would like/need. We were trying to tailor the training days to your suggestions. In light of the survey the branch will to provide more generic training.

I can be contacted at dsexton@westdevon.gov.uk or 01822 813716

MyCIEH

Chartered Institute of Environmental Health

By Dave Sexton

You may be aware that CIEH have recently developed a member's website. The new online members-only website provides more networking opportunities and environmental and public health resources including blogs, forums and you will be able to upload your CPD records.

It is envisaged that the website will work in both ways with CIEH providing some information and resources while members will use the blogs and forums to discuss current issues.



Training Events are held throughout the region



The websites can be accessed at www.cieh.org/members/SW_Devon.html

and www.cieh.org.uk/southwest

Website contains all info on Branch activities

Home About us Policy Professional Development Training Events Membership

search go

Home > Members > Regional network > South West region > South West region Devon Branch

South West region Devon Branch

These are the key members of the Devon Branch in the South West Region:

Branch Officers
 Secretary - [Claire Turbutt](#)
 Chair - [Dave Sexton](#)
 Vice Chair - Lisa Cox
 Treasurer - [Mike Fox](#)
 Website Co-ordinator - [Nick Cowan](#)

Local Authority Branch Representatives
 West Devon & South Hams - Dave Sexton
 North Devon - Aaron Turton
 Mid Devon - Dave Turner
 Plymouth - Claire Turbutt
 Exeter - Lisa Cox

Benefits
 Membership Grades
 Membership Newsletter
 Regional Network
 > East Midlands
 > East of England
 > London
 > North East
 > North West
 > Scotland
 > South East
 > South West

The Student Bit by Lee Staples



With funding tight in local government, and Managers looking to balance the books, the number of paid student placements in the Devon area has fallen sharply, with most students in the area either studying part time whilst working as Technical Officers, or undertaking unpaid placements. As a result of this, the work of the student group has taken on increased importance as students seek to

share resources across local authority areas.

Over the last year we have organised trips to Ambrosia, Brixham Fish market, and most recently Quicke Cheese. Students have also been swapping portfolio reports so that they can benefit from peer review, and have been sharing visits in different districts.

During the Quicke Cheese visit students learnt about the food preservation factors associated with traditional cheese making. We started off with a tour of the dairy accompanied by the owner Mary Quicke, who spent time explaining the different processes, and provided information on how they produce unpasteurised cheeses safely. After the tour of the dairy we then proceeded to view the storage facilities where the cheeses mature, and were given information

by Mary on the novel technique which they use to control cheese mites. At the end of the visit we were given an opportunity to taste some of the different varieties that they produce, and the students were invited to try and complete an 'EHO Questionnaire' on the preservation factors relevant to cheese making.



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Advanced Warning A Social Event is coming

At the last branch meeting it was discussed that a social event would be nice. Rather than overburden someone in organising such an event it was mentioned that it would be better that we go to an event, such as Horse Racing at Newton Abbot/Exeter or perhaps a tour of a brewery (before you say it that was not my idea!). No time or event has been confirmed yet, however we are keen to hear from the members if they have any ideas on what we could do or they would be interested in doing.

CIEH GOVERNANCE

The CIEH are also launching a consultation for members to have their say on the proposals to change the governance of the CIEH. This will be available throughout October and further information will be promoted in EHN and through your Region and branch. The proposals aim to enhance member involvement and engagement in the decisions and policies developed

at CIEH so your views again are really important.

we have enclosed a link to the documents http://www.cieh.org/members/membership_consultations.html

Editors Note: This consultation is now finished please see website for results and to see upcoming consultations.



CIEH MEMBERSHIP
Benefits of becoming a CIEH member

The Secretary's Spot By Claire Turbutt

Well its time for a secretary update again – already!! The branch has continued to be a hive of activity and hopefully you will have attended one or two of the events organised so far this year.

I have enjoyed my first year as a Trustee and have tried really hard to get someone else to take over the branch secretary role for me; being a Trustee involves much more work than I had expected (but in a good way). Thankfully Dave Sexton has taken over producing this newsletter and Nick Cowan has taken over doing minutes at the committee meetings so that relieves the pressure a bit and a big thank you to them both.

We have continued to provide training days through our joint working with the Peninsula Teaching Public Health Network and the two branch training days which

were held in October.

The branch continues to contribute to Regional issues with either Dave or myself attending the SWRMB meetings held 3 times a year. We will soon be attending the November training day for Secretary's and Chairs where I hope to highlight some of the excellent work being done in the County.

I am so proud of the student group which has helped at least 3 people to gain EHORB registration so far with at least three more within months of achieving their goal as well. We are hoping to create a directory of suitable visits which can be organised annually to help students complete those difficult bits of the ELP. If you have any within your district please let me or Lee Staples know.

Our Website has grown

over the past year and I hope you have been checking it out as all details of courses, committee meetings and our terms of reference will continue to be put on there. As yet we do not have a presence on MyCIEH but hopefully we will soon.

We have undertaken a membership survey which was administered by HQ on our behalf and the results of that have helped us to plan our training programme focussing more on specific work related topics with the legal training the first of this new type of training. The higher cost for these two training days reflects the higher cost of the trainer.

As always feedback is very welcome and I look forward to seeing you at a training event soon

Claire

Contact the
Chairman on
01822 813716



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