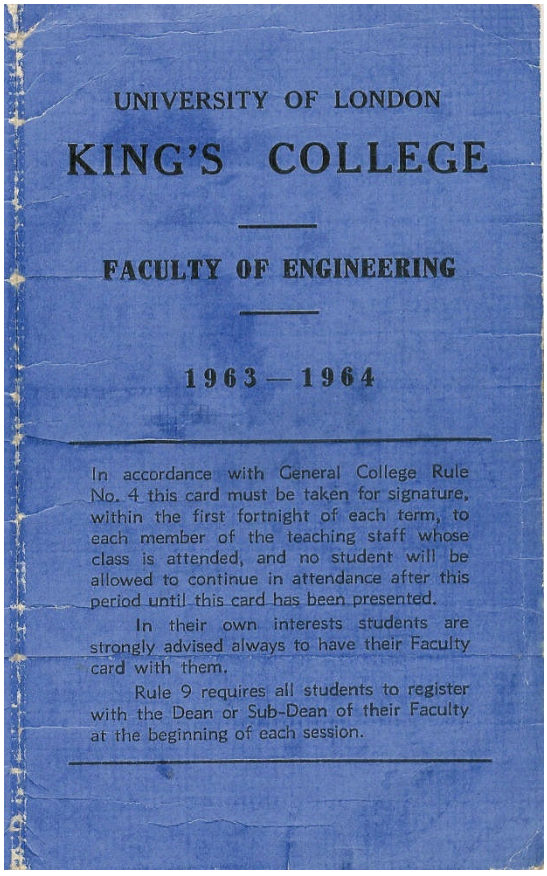
THE KING'S ENGINEER BULLETIN

Spring 2018

Save the date

Engineers' Lunch

Friday 8th June 2016


UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

KING'S COLLEGE

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

1963—1964

In accordance with General College Rule No. 4 this card must be taken for signature, within the first fortnight of each term, to each member of the teaching staff whose class is attended, and no student will be allowed to continue in attendance after this period until this card has been presented.

In their own interests students are strongly advised always to have their Faculty card with them.

Rule 9 requires all students to register with the Dean or Sub-Dean of their Faculty at the beginning of each session.

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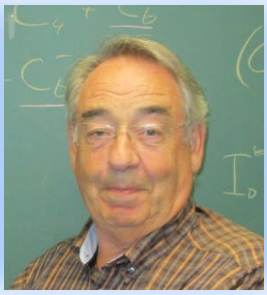
A message from the President

by Graham Raven



I am delighted that our Annual Lecture has become a firm fixture in the Alumni calendar. Bill Grose's talk on Tunnels and Tunnelling sold out in twenty four hours so we had to move it to a larger lecture theatre. Thanks to Ted Willis for organising this and I found it particularly gratifying that so many people of all disciplines stayed behind for a glass of wine. It is clear that there is a wide interest in the benefits Engineers bring to society and we have achieved one of our objectives when we initiated our lectures.

You will be aware by now that King's is expanding its undergraduate teaching of Engineering with both Electronic and Bio-medical Engineering intakes growing year on year. Physical work has started on the redevelopment of the area under the Quad and this will be ready for the 2020 intake. With the basement in the MacAdam building also expected to be devoted to Engineering the spaces will be familiar even if the subject matter has changed from that fondly remembered by many of us.

Our Annual Lunch will be on Friday 8th June in the recently opened restaurant on 8th floor of Bush House on the Aldwych. This is a huge improvement on our customary venue with a large terrace enjoying expansive views of London south of the Thames. I am very pleased that my contemporaries, John Uff and his wife Diana, have accepted our invitation to lunch and to say a few words. We will also welcome someone from the College staff who will be able to keep us up to date.

My term as President comes to an end this November and with our thriving events we are always in need of new and younger blood so please let me know how you would like to help KCLEA (g.raven@sky.com)

Where are they now ?
King's Engineers

Tara ABACHI

Since graduating in 2006, I've worked for Centrica (oil and gas company) around the country and finally settled in the North West (south Lake District) in 2009. I have worked as a Senior Integrity Engineer for Centrica's offshore platforms in the Morecambe Bay, to a lead Development Engineer assessing the feasibility of developing new gas fields and now a Project Manager looking after all Centrica's major capital projects in the North West.

I'm married now with two girls (19 months and 3 years old) and life is treating us well. I'm still very close to Jennifer Horrocks and Appu Nair and they are married (to each other) and living in Preston.

Jen, Appu and Tara at the end of session party 2005

Student 'mug-shot'

Where are they now ?
King's Engineers

Panagiotis 'Agis' TSAHAGEAS

Panagiotis (Agis) TSAHAGEAS graduated from KCL on 1989 with an M.Sc. in Digital Electronics. After completing his military service he started working as a field engineer and site manager on various construction projects. In 1995 he joined Hellenic Cables S.A. (CABLEL) as a Plant Engineer and on 1997 he was transferred to SIDENOR S.A. as a civil works project manager for the revamping of a steel plant. Hellenic Cables S.A. and SIDENOR S.A. are subsidiaries of the VIOHALCO S.A. Group, the largest industrial group in Greece.

In 2001 he participated in the founding of ERGOSTEEL S.A., a contracting and construction company of VIOHALCO S.A. and he is now the Technical Director of the company. ERGOSTEEL's construction activity is around professional buildings with a specialization on heavy industry projects. ERGOSTEEL recently delivered the civil works of two 150kV/20kV GIS substations for Grid Solutions Hellas S.A., a subsidiary of General Electric. Agis is the proud father of three children aged 12, 10 and 10. Agis's hobbies include long distance running and skiing.

A message from the Vice Dean (Technology) NMS

by Professor Simon Parsons

The big news in the continuing expansion of Engineering at Kings is the completion of the first stage of the work on renovating the Quad building. This phase included most of the necessary demolition work, removing internal walls and all of the structures in the south light well between the Quad and the King's Building. This work was completed ahead of schedule. During the demolition, vibration and noise was carefully monitored to help predict the disruption that later phases of the work will have on campus activities. The second phase of the work is now out for tender, with the plan being to start this work over the summer. This will include the resurfacing of the Quad deck (the roof of the Quad building), to make the building watertight, and to improve the appearance of the area between the Kings Building and Somerset House.

Recruitment has also continued. A second new academic staff member, Dr Ernest Kamavuako, joined us in October, and we are in the midst of recruiting another four lecturers. Soon we will embark on a search for a Head for the Engineering Department, and we are also looking to bring in some senior Professors to lead new research groups that complement our existing groups in Telecommunications and Robotics.

Did you Know ?

King's Engineers

by Keith Newton

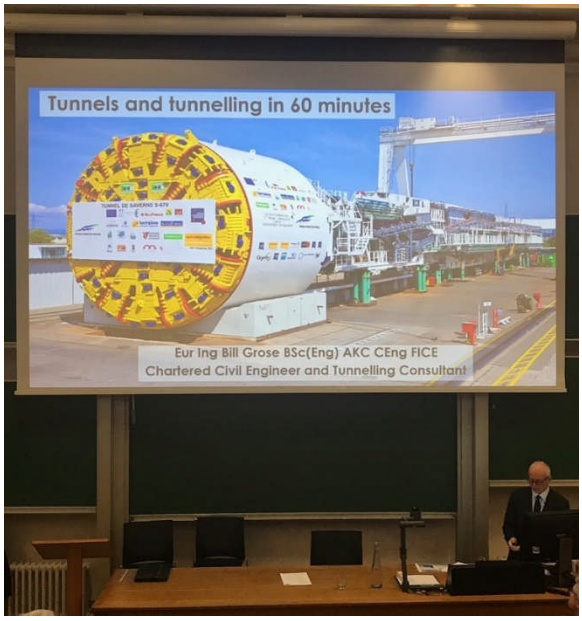
In view of the recent exchange agreement between Kings and the University of New South Wales (UNSW), it is timely to give a few details about UNSW. It was founded in 1949 and focuses on scientific, technological and scientific disciplines. It currently has more than 50,000 students from 128 countries. One of the first lecturers was Dr A H Willis who joined the university on Australia Day 1950 as a Senior Lecturer. Over the next 17 years he rose to be Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and finally Pro-Vice Chancellor of the University until his retirement in 1978. On his retirement, he was commissioned to write a history of UNSW entitled 'The University of New South Wales: The Baxter Years'. Not satisfied with this contribution to the university that had occupied most of his working life, Dr Willis established 'The Al Willis/UNSW Endowment Scholarship' to enable a student of high academic ability whose economic circumstances may hinder their academic success, to begin an undergraduate degree course in the School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering. Dr A H (Al) Willis was a KINGS ENGINEER.

Indian Railways is the fourth largest railway network in the world with about 42000 route miles of track, of which 18000 miles are electrified using 25kV AC electric traction. Since 1951 it has been run by a Railway Board of which there have been 40 Chairmen, most of whom have been Engineers. One of these was Mohindra Nath Bery who held the post from October 1973 to his retirement in April 1976 after serving as General Manager of several of the regional railway boards. His tenure of the top office was the fourth longest. Mohindra Nath Bery was a KINGS ENGINEER.

KCLEA Activities

Annual Lecture Report

by Ted Willis



The Annual Lecture was given by Bill Grose (Engineering 1978) on the 21st February 208, and the topic was ‘Tunnels and Tunnelling. It was originally intended to hold the lecture in the Kevin Nash lecture theatre, which holds 100 people, but within a few days of the invitation to the lecture being circulated the number applying to come to the lecture exceeded the seating capacity and consequently later applicants were initially advised that the lecture was over booked. Urgently we agreed with the Alumni Office and the College Authorities that the lecture could be held in the Anatomy Lecture Theatre on the 6th Floor of the Strand Campus, which has a seating capacity of about 200. The theatre was full for the lecture.

In keeping with the policy for the Annual Lecture, they are intended to be of general interest, rather than a specialised technical lecture, and the lecture by Bill was very much in keeping with that policy. Over half of the attendees were not Engineers or did not have basically Engineering background. The lecture covered the time from the very early days of tunnelling with the ‘Brunel’ tunnel under the Thames to the latest major tunnels, still under construction, e.g. Crossrail 1 tunnels and the planned Crossrail 2 tunnels etc. The lecture was very enthusiastically received.

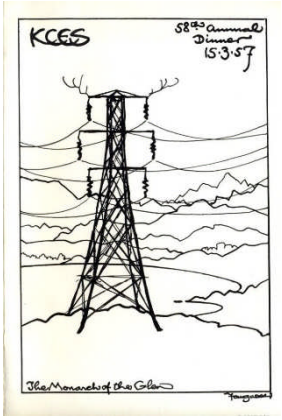
After the lecture a reception was held in the Anatomy Museum next to the lecture theatre, where drinks and nibbles were served.

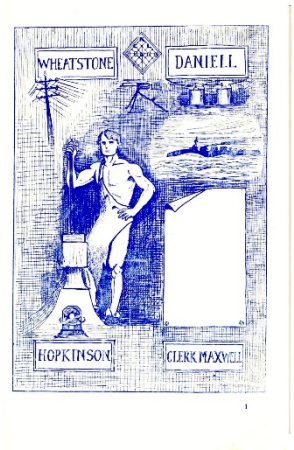
There will be another Annual Lecture next February/March and details will be circulated before the next AGM.

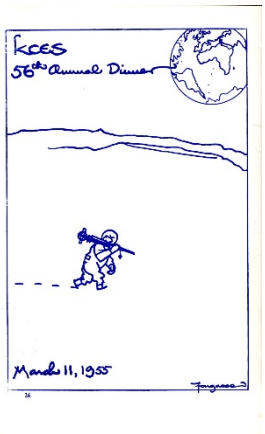
KCLEA Activities

Engineers' Annual Lunch

by Ted Willis







The annual KCLEA lunch will take place this year on Friday June 8th. Inspired by King's outstanding history of pioneers the theme this year – Revolutionary- celebrates innovation.

The lunch, which is during the King's Alumni Weekend, will be held in the restaurant on the 8th floor of Bush House, with impressive views over London. We are fortunate to be joined by Emeritus, Professor John Uff and his wife who were both students at King's in the 1960's. Also here will be a comprehensive update on the return of Engineering to King's in its new refurbished home under the Quad

Lunch will commence at 12.30 with a welcome drink, followed by a 2 course sit down buffet lunch with tea or coffee. (A cash bar will also be available).

The KCLEA is subsidising the occasion to keep the cost at £25 per head and encourage the widest attendance possible.

Tickets can be booked on line from 4th April .

Great views over London too !!

Mike C

Editor's Oddment
by Mike Clode

Hello again Beers/Engineers. Thank you for all the messages received after the last mailing of the Bulletin. I am not sure how the KCLEA stand with the new Data protection Laws and e-mailing this Bulletin in the future. (Fingers crossed)

The KCLEA Committee had an injection of young blood at the AGM held in November 2017 which can only be good news, and will help the KCLEA faithful build on the good work it is doing.

As ever, any contributions for the Autumn edition of the King's Engineer Bulletin gratefully received. Please e-mail me at kclea@clode.net.

This is the best way to tell the difference between a Mathematician and an Engineer

The Mathematician would say:

$$\ln\left[\lim_{Z\to\infty}(1+\frac{1}{Z})^{Z}\right]+(\sin^2 x+\cos^2 x)=\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}\frac{\cosh y\sqrt{1-\tanh^2 y}}{2^n}$$

To which the Engineer would reply; "yeah I know, 1+1=2"

The world through the eyes of Mike Clode

*Hug-a-Hoody, Modelling the 2010 Engineering Hoodie*s
(with Soon-Ling who sadly died in 2011)

Xmas Poser Answers

YES, the plane does take off as the take off speed is relative to the air NOT the ground.

The Gold block always has a volume of 64.5cm^3