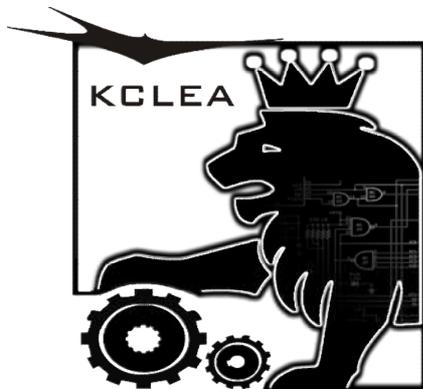

THE KING'S ENGINEER BULLETIN

Autumn 2021



AGM 2021

KCLEA

(virtual) Annual General Meeting
Formal Notification

Friday 19th November 2021 – 6:30pm



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**A message from
the President
by David Blacoe**



Dear Fellow Beers,

Despite the best efforts of medical science, the pandemic has not abated enough to allow us to meet in person again this year. Therefore I should like to advise you that KCLEA will be holding its second 'virtual' AGM via Zoom on Friday 19th November 2021 at 18:30

Given the limitations of the online platform, we shall keep the official business, which includes the election of the Officers and Committee members, as short as possible. The voting procedure will be managed by the use of the 'Polling' option in the Zoom software.

Despite the on-going challenges being faced at the start of this academic year, we will hear updates on the successful return to some 'in person' activities at King's and the significant progress in the development of facilities below the Strand Quad, encouraged by the continuing strength of numbers for both undergraduate and postgraduate degree courses.

Also, we continue in awarding KCLEA undergraduate student bursaries and medals. We will announce the winners at the meeting, as well as the selected awardee(s) of the 13 Club Trophy.

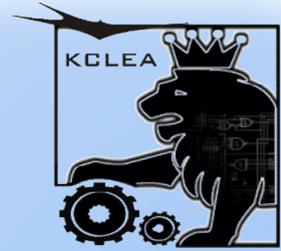
We would welcome having new committee members come forward. So don't be reticent, the duties are quite light! Committee meetings have a strong social element in addition to the development of our successful events. It would be good if we can have at least one member from each decade. If you would like more information, please visit us at www.kclea.org.uk where you can post your ideas or comments.

Remember, this is **YOUR** Association. I look forward to seeing many new faces at this 'first of a kind' meeting. Technology provides the forum!

THIS IS YOUR ASSOCIATION.

AGM 2021

KCLEA
Annual General Meeting
Formal Notification



Friday 19th November 2021 – 6:30pm

Further to the invitation from the President David Blacoe via the Alumni Office, I am pleased to present the agenda for our meeting.

The meeting will be online, via “zoom”, and joining instructions are included in the invitation. There will be an online voting option in place.

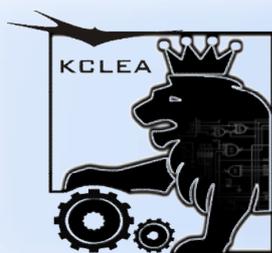
Our President, David Blacoe, has served his maximum term so a new President needs to be elected. All other Officers are willing to stand again

Agenda

- 1) Apologies for absence
- 2) Minutes of the 2020 AGM
- 3) Matters arising
- 4) President’s reports
- 5) Accounts, including the Trustees’ report.
- 6) Nominations for Officers and Committee members
- 7) Election of Officers and Committee members
- 8) Update on Engineering at Kings
- 9) KCLEA
 - a) The Annual Lecture
 - b) The Annual Lunch
 - c) Communication with members
- 10) KCLES
- 11) Bursaries
- 12) Medals
- 13) The 13 Club Trophy
- 14) AOB

- *Chris Bowden, Hon. Secretary KCLEA*

If you haven’t received the AGM ZOOM invite please e-mail kclea@clode.net



Obituaries

*Engineers who have
sadly died in the past year*



Sadly, the KCLEA has been notified of the following deaths. Our thoughts and prayers are with their friends and family

<i>Name</i>	<i>Discipline</i>	<i>Class of:</i>
Brian D Bennett	Engineering	1952
John Illston *	Engineering	1964
John Denton	Electrical	1956
Nigel Thornley *	Electrical	1973
Anthony I Thompson	Chemical	1955
Edwin RD Deacon	Mechanical	1967
Bernard A Gee	Engineering	1962
Ronald H Rakusen *	Civil	1963

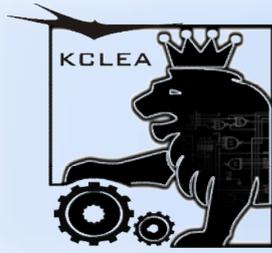
* More details given below, supplied by Keith Newton

Ronald Hyam RAKUSEN

‘RAKUSEN Ronald Hyam OBE passed away on 19th October, 2021 aged 80. Beloved husband of Christine, loving father of Clare, Annette, Paula and Mark and grandfather of 12. Mass will be celebrated on 26th October at 9.30 am at La Chapelle Saint-Roch, Dramont, followed by cremation at 11 am at Saint Raphael Crematorium. If wished, flowers to the church or donations to Alzheimer’s Disease International.’

Ronald Hyam Rakusen BSc(Eng), FICE, FIHT, FIHKE, OBE, read Civil Engineering at King’s from 1959-63. In the 1990s he was Managing Director of Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick (Hong Kong) Ltd., consulting engineers.

From The Times for Saturday 23 October 2021 page 86: spotted by Keith Newton



Obituaries

*Engineers who have
sadly died in the past year*



Professor John Michael Illston

Born: 1928, Epsom, Surrey. Died: 26 January 2021.

John studied at King's, (1946-49) BSc(Eng) obtaining a 1st class honours, PhD, DSc(Eng), FICE, FKC.

John was on the KCL staff from January 1959(lecturer) and 1972(Reader).

He did his National Service in the Corps of Royal Engineers and was commissioned 2nd Lt from 26 April 1952. He was promoted to Lieutenant in the Regular Army Reserve of Officers (National service list) on 4 May 1956.

Editor/Joint Editor of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th editions of 'Construction materials: their nature and behaviour' published by Spon, Joint author of 'Concrete, Timber and Metals', author of 'Salisbury's water supply 1853-2000' and 'One man and his construction company, Reed & Mallik, 1937-1968' and several more articles and papers on concrete behaviour. Chairman of the Advanced Concrete Technology Diploma Committee in 1993. Moved to the University of Hertfordshire after leaving King's. Married Olga E Poulter in Chelsea in 1951. One son, two daughters.



Obituaries

*Engineers who have
sadly died in the past year*



Nigel Thornley, B.Sc.(Eng.), C.Eng., FIET,

Nigel died on 31 May 2021. Nigel read Electrical and Electronic Engineering at King's from 1968 to 1971. Born in Oldham, Lancashire, in July 1949, he went to King's from Hulme Grammar School in that town.

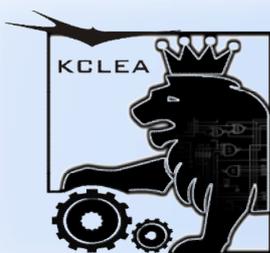
Nigel Thornley was the Chairman and founder of Medem (UK) Ltd. Medem is an electronic design and manufacturing company supplying control solutions for gas safety and air quality management. It was incorporated in 1984 and is now based in the Roundthorn Industrial Estate, Manchester M23.



He previously worked at A2Z Group Ltd as Director, at A2Z (Fire & Security Products) Ltd. as Director, and A2Z (UK) Ltd. as Director.

Nigel had a lifelong passion for the railways and started collecting model engines when his father bought him a train set as a toddler. His collection ran to 400 lots at auction in September 2021 and realised £100,000, which included four engines that sold for more than £1,000 each. The auctioneer said the response from bidders "was a tribute to Nigel's rail knowledge". He said Nigel had "specially commissioned" some of the items "at great cost" and interest in his collection "was strong right from the start". He added that "fellow enthusiasts" had recognised "how exceptional his collection was".

A spokesman for the auctioneers said top-selling items included a gauge 1 'City of Manchester' loco for £1,700, a scratch-built LNWR 0-8-0 by Bill Davis for £1,250, a 0-4-0T Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway (LYR) Railmotor by Peter Priestly for £1,200 and a 7mm finescale LYR Dreadnought loco for £1,800.



Obituaries

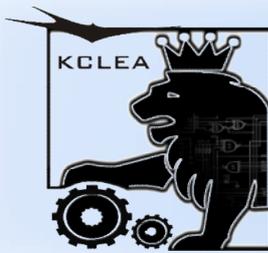
*Engineers who have
sadly died in the past year*



The Chester collector's family said his passion for trains enriched his life for more than 70 years and he had been a member and supporter of many railway societies, heritage trusts and guilds and a regular face at exhibitions. "When he was 12 years old, he used to go to the local signal box and help out," they said in a tribute. "On one occasion, he got a warning the inspector was on his way, so hid round the back. "But the inspector knew he was there, called him in and put him through his paces and got Nigel to demonstrate the correct way to operate the levers and signals. "Finally, he said 'the lad can stay' - much to the relief of the signaller and Nigel." As a teenager, Mr Thornley worked on the restoration of a "Pug" engine, which is still in service at Keighley and Worth Valley Railway in Yorkshire, and he later helped found the Rochdale Model Railway Society. His family said his "real passion was the LYR Society, of which he became a Trustee, and he became an avid modeller of engines, coaches and rolling stock and collector of anything he could find of his beloved LYR". "He literally spent hours searching the internet for items which he then bought on behalf of the LYR and sent to the archives," they said. "He will be sorely missed by all who knew him."



7 mm finescale Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway 'Dreadnought' class locomotive.



Editor's Oddment by Mike Clode



“Long time” I hear you say ! Despite the silence and non-production of KEB, the KCLEA Committee has continued to meet virtually on a regular basis and continues to support current Engineering students at King’s in many ways.

It has been difficult to pull together editions of KEB due to lack of content contributions. I have also not been as proactive as I could have been. However, so much is happening that I know you Beers would love to know about.

Hopefully, after the AGM we will be able to get a pre-Christmas edition with a summary of all the KCLEA are doing. Also, news from the Quad development; the new home for Engineering.

I hope to see some of you on-line at the AGM. Best wishes to all.



*“So, what inspired you to study engineering,
get married, find a job, move to the suburbs,
have a couple of kids, and grow old?”*

ENGINEERING FACT

LONG TIME AGO, PEOPLE WHO
SACRIFICED THEIR SLEEP, FAMILY,
FOOD, LAUGHTER AND OTHER JOYS
OF LIFE WERE CALLED

SAINTS

NOW, THEY ARE CALLED

ENGINEERS

If you have any contributions to the Engineering Alumni of King’s please e-mail me at kclea@clode.net. I am happy to consider contributions of all types, especially self indulgent ones. I wish you all the very best and look forward to hearing from you.