



*Promoting the study and appreciation of industrial archaeology*

January 2017

Dear Member

**AIA Annual Conference, South East Midlands.**

The Association's conference this year, which is being organised by David Ingham and Nick Crank of CBA South Midlands and Peter Perkins of Northants Industrial Archaeology Group, with the support of Marilyn Palmer, will be held at Moulton College, to the north of Northampton. An agricultural college, like others we have visited before, its daytime lecture rooms are about a mile from the halls of residence, as a consequence of which we will be laying on transport at appropriate times. Parking is no problem and cars can also be taken between the two areas.

The format of the conference will be similar to that adopted for many years. On Friday there will be a Seminar on 'The contribution of contract archaeology to industrial archaeology', examining recent large excavations such as the M74 project and King's Cross. The main conference will revert to the traditional arrangements commencing with dinner on Friday. It will include talks by experts on local industries as well as reports on and presentations from our award winners and of course the Rolt lecture, this year being given by Nigel Crowe, National Heritage Manager of the Canal & River Trust, on the conservation and management of the heritage assets and the historic environment of the waterways.

As usual there will be an opportunity for members' contributions and early notification that delegates wish to make such contributions would be helpful. Those wishing to give a presentation should write or email me giving the title of the presentation and brief details.

From Sunday afternoon to Wednesday afternoon there will be a series of coach trips to sites of IA interest, with evening talks or presentations on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. Where the sites etc. to be visited have restricted numbers places will be allocated on a first come basis. The tour to Blisworth canal tunnel is restricted to 30 and that to the National Lift tower to 26.

As is normal we have had to give anticipated numbers to book accommodation at the College. Places will be allocated on a first come basis. Once all places booked have been allocated it may be possible to book further places but this cannot be guaranteed. For this reason early booking is strongly advised.

**Delegates should note the terms and conditions.**

Visits may involve walking longer distances and/or climbing into places with restricted headroom etc. Delegates, in deciding which tours to apply for, must consider their agility etc. The Association reserves the right to refuse to admit delegates should it be considered that their mobility is not consistent with the nature of the visit. All delegates are reminded that suitable clothing, including stout shoes or boots is regarded as **mandatory**.

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(Conference secretary)

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