



AIA 50th Anniversary Conference and Seminar, 1st to 6th September 2023 at the University of Bath

Dear Member

January 2023

This year the Association is celebrating its 50th anniversary and your Council has decided that this year's conference should celebrate not only the achievements of the Association over the past half century, but also the spread of Industrial Archaeology to other parts of the world. To this end several speakers of international renown have agreed to contribute lectures on the Saturday morning in tribute to the AIA (see the attached intended programme). The seminar on Friday, in contrast, will consider the work currently being done by younger members.

In place of the traditional Rolt lecture on Sunday morning, we will be celebrating the achievements of Angus and Brenda Buchanan. It is also hoped that conference attendees will be shown a representative sample of the archive material of the Buchanans, George Watkins and others held at the University.

Both the seminar and the conference will be hybrid allowing those members unable to attend to access the presentations. However, it is hoped that members will take this opportunity, after a break of three years, to renew old friendships and form new ones.

Following the formal conference, at lunch time on Sunday Council members Michael Messenger and Geoff Wallis have prepared an exciting programme of visits to local places of interest, starting with a visit to the Museum of Bath at Work. An outline programme of the whole conference is attached to this letter.

The campus at the University is large but it is anticipated that the facilities we shall use are not too far apart. The University offers three classes of modern accommodation, namely: single, double or twin. While I have not yet been able to see inside these, I have little doubt that they are of a high standard.

In part because of the current economic situation, it has been decided that the cost of conference together with the application form will not be available until early March. **This information and an online conference booking form and information will be available on the AIA website: <http://industrial-archaeology.org/conferences/service001/>**

For members who need to book by post, booking forms can be requested in writing, from the Booking Secretary (Michael Messenger, 2 Cae Newydd, St Nicholas, Cardiff CF5 6FF).

I, along with the other members of Council, hope that many members will join us in Bath to celebrate the achievements of the Association and to enjoy the fellowship of others interested in the industrial heritage.

John McGuinness
(Conference Secretary)

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