National Annual General Meeting 2012 Special Edition

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In this, my first article in our journal Pipeline, I wish to outline to you some of my thoughts and aims for the next 12 months. Firstly I would like to take this opportunity to thank Richard on behalf of the Guild Board and Members for all his hard work for the Guild over the past 12 months. Richard has done a tremendous job and he has certainly set a high standard for me to aim for.

I have been a member of the Guild for over 25 years, and my involvement in the Guild has been invaluable in the development of my career. It has provided me with opportunities to meet with like-minded professionals, and not only share knowledge and experience but also to develop true friendships. The Guild is all about giving our members opportunities; these may involve networking with clients, customers or competitors or gaining knowledge, and it is my aim to focus on these key member benefits during the new Guild Year.

Richard and his immediate predecessors, Tam and Steve, have focussed on enhancing the communication experience for PIG members over the past few years and this has culminated in the successful launch of our Newsletter and new Website. Communication is central to the Guild remaining strong and it is my intention to continue to support our Director General’s Membership Engagement Initiative. It is only by gathering opinion from our members that we will be able to determine both the future strategy for the Guild and establish which benefits our members consider most valuable.

My key objectives during the next year are firstly to ensure the stability of the Guild for the future by maintaining and improving the services and events that we offer to our members. This will help us to retain our existing membership and attract new members to the Guild. Robust succession planning is also essential to this goal and to drive this I intend to encourage greater participation from within the membership on our Branch and Panel Committees. I will also continue to support the acquisition of a new Guild Headquarters which will further strengthen the Guild's foundations.

Another of my objectives is to promote knowledge transfer especially to our Young Professionals Network. The Guild has a massive pool of experience and knowledge, and I would like to harness this though our Technical Panels to provide both education and training opportunities that will offer continual personal development for all of our members. The launch of our new Technical Journal will also assist this process.

I am also keen to enhance the profile of the Guild within Government, Industry Regulatory Bodies, and Industry Representation Groups. I believe that the Guild has a big part to play in influencing policies on key issues such as sustainability, renewable energy, climate change and water security. The impact of these factors will have far-reaching effects, not only on the future our industry sector but also on the world around us, and the Guild needs to have a persuasive voice when key policies are being developed and determined.

To conclude, the Guild has a strong membership and a sound financial base and I am looking forward to meeting with our members at the many Guild events that will be taking place during the coming year. I will not only be seeking your views but I will be encouraging you to take full advantage of your Guild membership, as I believe this provides you with many unique benefits, not only as an individual but also at a corporate level. I look forward to your support during my term in this role; if you have any ideas on how we can improve the services the Guild offers, then please do not hesitate to make contact with me.

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Eastern Branch – Keith Edwards

Keith is now managing director of his own water engineering consultancy, K and J Services Ltd. He has been in the water industry for over 40 years working for East Surrey Water Company before moving to Anglian Water where he held a number of senior appointments. Since leaving Anglian Water, Keith now divides his time between consultancy work and training both at home and overseas. Keith has a passion for developing those working within what he calls a wonderfully fulfilling industry, so they can reach their maximum potential.

This is the second time Keith has chaired the Eastern Branch and has been involved since its creation 6 years ago. “The Pipeline Industries Guild is a fantastic organisation that helps widen and deepen knowledge and education. It gives both individuals and companies access to innovative ideas and experts in the field of pipeline engineering. Not only does it broaden the members’ knowledge, it is great fun. I am sure 2012/13 will be a great year for the Eastern Branch with a programme of events for everyone”

Contact: keithedwards@tiscali.co.uk

Irish Branch – Jerry Martin

Jerry is General Manager Contract Support with Balfour Beatty CLG, a JV Company awarded the Contract to maintain and construct the Bord Gais Network throughout the Republic of Ireland across distribution, transmission, meter related activities, landscaping and general maintenance activities.

Jerry is a Qualified Civil Engineer with 25 years experience across a wide range of sectors including tunnelling, heavy civil engineering, roads, bridges, commercial developments, house building, wastewater treatment plants, rail, prisons, schools, water, electricity, wind farms and gas.

Since returning to Ireland in 1997, after 10 years of working in the UK, he has been involved in a range of specialist pipelines projects in the water, wastewater, electricity and gas industries as well as the green energy area.

“An energetic committee has been formed at this year’s AGM which will continue to take the branch forward. The committee includes existing experienced members, three new committee members Adrian Blakemore, Conleth Green and Thomas McEllmeel and officers Des Maguire (Secretary), Michael Sheedy (Treasurer) and Paul Murphy (Deputy Chair)” he said.

“We look forward in the coming year to building on the success of previous years and we anticipate another good turnout at the annual dinner on Feb 8th 2013."

Contact: jerry.martin@bbclg.ie

Midlands Branch - Jo Parker

Jo is an independent consultant who specialises in infrastructure and asset management. She has been technical auditor for the water mains installation for the London Olympic Development, managed a number of UKWIR projects and also completed a major update of the ‘Managing Leakage’ manual. She has also undertaken assignments in Indonesia and Iran for the World Bank Institute as well as Madagascar and Mozambique for Water and Sanitation for the Urban Poor amongst many other prestigious projects for major organisations.

In 1996, Jo was awarded an MBE for services to the water industry.

A chartered civil engineer with more than 30 years of experience in the water industry, Jo has worked for a number of water utilities, in a variety of roles including Operations Director for North Surrey Water and Head of Network Asset Management for Veolia Water Partnership.

As Chair of the Midlands Branch, Jo said “I hope to continue the very strong work done by my predecessors in the area, I am particularly grateful for the input by the young professionals team in the area and hope to help ensure that this remains strong and active. I look forward to organising a strong technical and social programme starting off with a pig roast which I am hosting at my own alpaca farm with some very much appreciated support by Laing O’Rourke.”

Contact: j.parker101@btinternet.com
Northern Branch – Tim Farley

Tim is a Business Development Manager for Balfour Beatty Utility Solutions working within their Gas and Water Sector. Balfour Beatty Utility Solutions is a specialist business within the global Balfour Beatty Group, creating and maintaining the vital utility infrastructure essential to modern life.

“I am genuinely excited about the year ahead,” Tim says. “I feel that the Guild has evolved over recent years and now offers unrivalled support and services to members. Within the Northern Branch I am fortunate to have the support of a vibrant committee who have assisted in pulling together an exciting programme of social and technical events which are always well supported and enjoyed by our members.”

“My theme for this year is ‘Evolution’ and I am particularly keen to encourage the Young Professionals to make the most of the networking opportunities that we provide. I am also committed to supporting the United Response Charity who seek to maximise opportunities for adults with learning difficulties to develop careers in business and industry. It is an honour to represent the Northern Branch and I look forward to serving the Guild to the best of my ability.”

Contact: tim.farley@bbusl.com

Northern Ireland Branch – Frank Hennity

Frank is a Construction Manager with Farrans Construction Ltd where he has spent the last 15 years working throughout the UK and Ireland in a wide range of sectors including Waste Water Treatment, Marine works, Roads, Water Transfer and Treatment, Trenchless pipe line installation, Railway, Water main Rehabilitation, Public Realm and most recently large diameter Cross-country Pipelines.

“The Northern Ireland Branch has a well established and dedicated committee with strong links to local industry. Good succession planning has ensured that the NI Guild maintains a vibrant and progressive attitude. This in turn ensures that the hard work and momentum built up during the past 17 years will be maintained long into the future. Technical papers and social events throughout the year provide excellent networking opportunities and knowledge sharing within the Industry. Our annual branch dinner and North South Golf competition are also key calendar events that promote the Guild to new members and raise in excess of £10,000 for local charities”. The NI Guild were most privileged this year when one of our past chairs and key branch members Mike Caulfield, received the award of Honorary Life Membership of the Guild at the National Dinner in London.

“During this, my second year as NI branch Chairman, I want to ensure that our new committee members are encouraged to bring the branch forward and ensure that new links are forged with as many new people as possible people within local industry. I see this being achieved by encouraging more of our local Companies and Engineers to present Technical papers on their latest projects and innovations from within our highly skilled region and by ensuring that everyone is fully informed of the benefits that being a member of the Guild can bring”.

Contact: FHennity@farrans.com

Scottish Branch – Joe Somerville

Joe Somerville is a Senior Consultant Archaeologist with RSK. He is responsible for delivering RSK’s Environmental Impact Assessment, Planning and Design work across Scotland, and has been an active member of the Guild since 2007. “The next year in Scotland could see some major political changes as well as opportunities coming up. I want to make sure that our members are able to make the most of these opportunities and for the Guild to give them a platform to put their views across to Government.”

Contact: jsomerville@rsk.co.uk
Southeast Branch – Sandra Rolfe-Dickinson

Sandra is a Chartered Civil Engineer specialising in water and wastewater pipeline design, construction and renovation, commencing her experience in 1984. She has worked for MWH for 22 years, and is now head of the specialist Pipeline Engineering team based in High Wycombe, and is Technical Director for Pipeline Engineering throughout the Europe-Africa region.

Since 1996 Sandra has specialised full-time in Pipeline Engineering, providing detailed technical advice throughout the MWH Global group. She is a Fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE), and serves as a reviewer for the ICE for those seeking Chartered status. She currently chairs the British Standards committee for the structural design of buried pipelines, and also undertakes guest lecturing at Brunel University to final year BEng students in association with the UK Society for Trenchless Technology.

Sandra is also passionate about the development of young engineers within the industry, and has acted as both an ICE Delegated Engineer and Supervising Civil Engineer for many years. She is a keen and active mentor to more junior members of the industry.

“My goals for the coming year are to build on the excellent work done by Wilf Green and Mike Stratton in the South East over the past two years, by ensuring the South East has a full and varied technical programme, where knowledge sharing and networking are promoted. We are proud to have our Young Professionals fully integrated into the South East committee, with the roles of deputy, secretary and technical events co-ordinator being filled by YPs”

Contact: sandra.j.rolfe-dickinson@uk.mwhglobal.com

Wales and Western Branch – Tam Bream

Tam started his career at Fisher German in 1995 as a Junior Assistant in the Pipeline and Utilities department and has worked his way through the ranks, in a variety of roles, to become a Partner in 2003. His department represents Total UK, maintaining their pipeline network.

He has been involved with the Guild in a number of positions including Wales and West Chair, Midland Chair, Secretary, 2nd deputy, 1st deputy and National Chairman.

“Having seen the Wales and West Branch thrive under the leadership of John Thompson, I am honoured to be voted in as the Chairman for this next session. Having just completed 4 years following through the National Chairman roles, it is a real privilege to be able to join a Branch that has an abundance of proactive and fun personalities that are supportive to the Young Professionals finding their way in industry.

I hope that I can use some of my previous experience to build on the foundations that have been laid. My aim is to build on the global Pipeline Guild philosophy of providing added benefit to our members and to facilitate opportunities for networking and cross selling. Not forgetting of course the immense opportunities for mentoring and encouraging young professionals coming into the industry.”

Contact: tam.bream@fishergerman.co.uk
Offshore Panel – Robbie Williamson

Robbie Williamson is Business Manager for Woodgroup Integrity Management (WGIM) in Aberdeen. He has 32 years experience working with pipelines both onshore and offshore during which time he has accumulated seven years of international experience working in the Middle East, Norway, the Caribbean and extensively throughout South East Asia. His experience has been gained within the areas of pipeline, installation, testing and commissioning, repair as well as inspection, supported by technical integrity assessment. During his time spent in South East Asia, Robbie worked closely with the PETRONAS Research and Scientific Services facility in Kuala Lumpur and was responsible for the development and implementation of the Risk Based Inspection (RBI) program for the subsea pipelines operated by PETRONAS. He is currently studying for an Engineering Doctorate at Kings College, University of Aberdeen.

About his plans for the year ahead, Robbie said “I believe that we should build upon the success of the Offshore Panel technical seminars to highlight the new technologies available within the industry.

The ongoing need to demonstrate the condition of ageing pipeline assets provides an excellent opportunity to showcase what new technology can deliver as well as allowing us the opportunity to increase the exposure of our young engineers.”

Onshore Panel – Ian Harrison

Ian is the Scheme Design Manager for National Grid, responsible for managing the “front-end” engineering and design of multi-disciplined project proposals for pipeline systems, compressors and installations on the high pressure gas National Transmission System (NTS).

He is an Incorporated Engineer and has worked for National Grid for over 30 years holding a number of management roles including the operation and maintenance of high pressure pipelines and associated installations, asset management of the NTS and maintenance policies and procedures.

He is taking up the post of onshore panel Chairman for the third consecutive year.

“One of our primary aims this year is to reach out to Guild members as we are here to provide representation, support and answer technical queries which is an important member benefit that is not being used to its full extent.”

“Following on from the success of last year’s carbon capture and storage conference, we are currently planning another quality event to be held later this year.”

Contact: Ian.V.Harrison@uk.ngrid.com

Utilities Panel – Phillip Clisham

Phillip Clisham is a chartered civil engineer with 23 years of experience. He started his career with North West Water Authority, and has since worked for both consultants and contractors in the pipeline industry and although his experience is mainly based in the water sector he has also worked on gas and petrochemical industry projects.

Phil is currently Chief Engineer (Pipelines) for Mouchel. In this role he has to cover the full range water supply and sewerage projects, taking a very “hands-on” approach to projects and problems when allowed.

Another part of Phil’s role is to help ensure that training provision for younger engineers is in place. Mouchel has set up an academy to provide structured technical training for professionals entering the water industry, and believe that this is vital for the future of the industry.

“Jo Parker has done an excellent job of bringing together a group of people from across the industry with a broad range of complimentary expertise. I want the panel to help to influence the future direction of the industry, and training standards at all levels will be one of the areas that we will want to work on. We will also look to hold national events which are focussed on issues which are important to the Guild’s members.”

Contact: Phillip.clisham@mouchel.com
**International Panel- Keith Mole**

As International Business Manager for McElroy Manufacturing, Keith has responsibility for the company’s business relationships in Europe, Africa, India and the Middle East.

He has over 30 years experience in the HDPE pipe joining business, in both butt-fusion and electrofusion techniques.

Having being a member of the Guild for most of those years, as well as serving on various national committees and panels he was elected as National Chairman in 2007, and has also been Chairman of the Midlands Branch. This is the third year that he takes up his post as Chairman of the International Panel. Keith is an active member of the UKSTT Council, the PE100+ Advisory Committee and the Gulf Plastic Pipes Academy.

“During the coming year we are planning on consolidating the panels activities and establishing a substantial executive. The panel was represented at the recent World Gas Conference in Malaysia and we will start planning for a larger presence or a UK pavilion, at the next World Gas to be held in Paris in 2015. Many of the panel members will be present, with the Guild’s Director General, at the IPLOCA Conference in Turkey. The Panel will also have a strong voice at the UK Trade and Investment departments summit on Global Business on Infrastructure meetings in August 2012.”

“Once again, I particularly want to focus on the business opportunities in the emerging BRIC countries; working with UKTI on inward investment missions into the UK and working with UK utilities operating internationally. We also want to develop partnerships further with a range of organizations involved in international activities in the industry.

Contact: kmole@mcelroy.com

**Young Professionals Network - Gavin Ware**

Gavin is a Senior Quantity Surveyor with Rhead Group. Gavin joined Rhead Group in 2007 following a successful period in strategic planning management for the Welsh Assembly Government and the NHS. He has been responsible for leading teams in effective negotiation and delivery of multi million pound capital investment projects.

Gavin had been involved with the Guild’s Midland Branch for two years, before taking on the responsibility of becoming the Midland Branch YP Chair and Deputy National YP Chair at the same time.

Gavin’s hard work was recognised when he received the Ruth Allen Award at the 2012 National Guild Dinner. The awarding committee were quick to commend his commitment to the Guild and the aims of the YPN both regionally in the Midlands and across the UK.

“I relish the opportunity to take forward the YPN this year and I hope to build upon the very successful work of my predecessor Seb Kingsley,” he said.

“My focus will be to build relationships with affiliated Universities and encourage students to join the Guild.”

“I will support the Guild’s regional Young Professional representatives in organising events in their respective regions and work with them to build a cohesive, supportive and enthusiastic Young Professionals Network.”

Contact: gavinware@rheadgroup.com
Honorary Life Memberships

At this year’s Annual Dinner, the Guild awarded three Honorary Life Memberships to Michael Caulfield, Keith Mole and Mike Stratton. The award is bestowed upon individuals who have given special services to the Guild. When presenting the award at the Annual Dinner, National Chairman Richard Price said “Michael, Keith and Mike have all served the Guild with professionalism and passion. They personify and embody the Guild; they have contributed to what the Guild is today and work to shape the Guild in the future.”

Michael Caulfield said “Having attended the National Dinner for over twenty five years, it was a great honour and a surprise to receive an honorary life membership for my work with the Northern Ireland Branch. It has been a pleasure to serve on the Northern Ireland committee since it was established in 1996, working with friends and colleagues within all the utilities and with fellow contractors. It has been a delight to watch many of the younger members move onwards and upwards in their careers, helped by the wider vision of the pipeline industry which being a guild member has given them.

As past Chairman I enjoyed attending such dinners across the UK and Ireland and was especially proud to be part of an organisation that not only celebrated its own successes, but also does so much to support local charities and good causes. I would like to thank all those who have worked with me and supported me on the committee and within McNicholas over the years – I consider that the award is not only for me but for the many other faithful individuals who have served within the Northern Ireland branch.

Commenting on receiving the award Keith Mole said “I am extremely pleased and honoured to have been recognized by the Guild with this award. I am grateful to Bob Murray and the Midlands Branch for the nomination. I have been involved with the Guild for almost 30 years and I have really benefited, both in my career and my education, from that membership. I will continue to try and play a role in Guild matters wherever and however my colleagues feel I can help.”

Mike Stratton said “It is a huge honour & privilege to have received this award. I have worked with the Guild for over 27 years and I look forward to continuing this successful relationship in the future.”
It has been a great honour for me to fulfil the role of National Chairman

Thankfully and through the hard work of my predecessor, Tam Bream, past Board and Guild staff, the organisation was in good shape when I took the Chair and I am pleased to report remains in such a strong position.

At the start of my year, five key aims were identified and I’m pleased to report significant progress against each one.

Ensure the Board focuses on the key issues/decisions required

I would like to personally thank the Board and each Director’s supporting organisation for their contributions during the year. The Board has remained as strong as ever and committed to ensuring the Guild is both sustainable and member focused. Each Branch & Panel Chair has worked tirelessly to create successful events, resulting in an impressive nationwide event programme.

Without exception, the Regional Dinners have been superb; as networking opportunities, industry celebrations, superb entertainment and raising funds for local and national charities.

Board meetings have been focused on the key matters for the Guild and have benefited from the guidance and contributions from all of the Directors.

Raise the profile of the Guild’s Panels and Panel Chairman

In recognition of the hard work and contribution, significant steps have been taken to raise the profile of key contributors:

- Panels now have regalia for their Chairs, promoting visibility and status.
- Panel and Branch Chairs are now highly visible on top tables at events.
- Honorary Life Members have been awarded medals for their contribution. It was a great pleasure to award these medals to our existing Honorary Life Members at the National Dinner. In addition, three new appointments were made: Keith Mole, Mike Stratton and Michael Caulfield, in recognition of their personal contributions.

Strengthen succession planning within Branches and Panels

Succession within Branches and Panels is key for on-going success and in many areas strong succession is well established. Branches and Panels are always keen to attract new members and promote this at events. In addition, the opportunity for personal development, increasing your personal network and profile through active involvement in the Guild is significant.

One of the most rewarding aspects of my year has been to see winners of Young Professionals competitions at many regional and national events, demonstrating and harnessing the young talent entering our industry.

Succession for the role of National Chairman remains equally strong with a series of exceptional candidates coming forward. The Board’s recommendation to the Annual General Meeting of John Ineson for the role of 2nd Deputy National Chairman will secure a key industry figure for the role.

Guild focus on member services

To ensure the Guild delivers and continues to adapt and evolve to meet member needs, the Guild has embarked on a strategy to get much closer to current and prospective members.

The Guild Headquarters runs day to day under the management of Samantha Byrne our Operations & Administration Manager. This allows our Director General, Dr Cheryl Burgess, to be much more member focused and visible going forward. Current and prospective members will be visited to both raise the profile of the Guild and ensure/adapt our services to compliment member’s needs.

Our newsletter is now well established, promoting the industry, developments and innovation together with member’s successes. The newsletter continues to provide a great vehicle enabling both professional development and members to promote their services.

Without exception, the Regional Dinners have been superb; as networking opportunities, industry celebrations, superb entertainment and raising funds for local and national charities.
A forthcoming attraction is a periodic technical journal providing a mechanism for publishing technical papers and further more in-depth coverage of the industry.

Secure permanent Guild Headquarters

The Banbury administration base is working well and the intention is to invest in a permanent base in this location. A number of potential options were investigated, although none were acceptable. Consequently, the search continues.

The Guild’s financial position remains strong, returning a surplus in the 2011 audited accounts of £46,588, considerably ahead of the budget for the year. This has been achieved by the dedication and focus of our HQ Staff, Executive Committee and Board.

In addition, during 2011/2012 the total sum raised by the Guild and its members for local and national charities was £60,099.

Membership is stable in most categories, although a decline of 4.5% was experienced in Corporate Members, emphasising the need to work much more closely with current and prospective members.

Conclusion

The organisation is strong and well positioned to continue and develop. I would like to personally thank our President, Les Dawson OBE, for his continued support and guidance during the year, the Board and Guild Staff for their tireless efforts to ensure the success of the organisation.

I have total confidence in my successor, Norman Howell, as he takes the Chair for the coming year. I have really benefited and appreciated his support over the last year. Norman and his 1st Deputy Vince Braniff make a really strong team.

Finally, I would like to thank Southern Water for fully supporting me in the role of National Chairman.

“The Guild’s financial position remains strong, returning a surplus in the 2011 audited accounts of £46,588, considerably ahead of the budget for the year. This has been achieved by the dedication and focus of our HQ Staff, Executive Committee and Board.”
## Guild Board June 2012 – June 2013

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<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>National Chair</td>
<td>Norman Howell</td>
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<td>NC1</td>
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<td>NC2</td>
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<td>Audit Group</td>
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<td>Scottish Chair</td>
<td>Joe Somerville</td>
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<td>Keith Mole</td>
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<td>Young Professionals Panel Chair</td>
<td>Gavin Ware</td>
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<td>Director General</td>
<td>Cheryl Burgess</td>
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### National Dinner 2013

**The 56th Annual Pipeline Industries Guild Dinner**

**Tuesday 12th March, 2013**

**Grosvenor House Hotel, London.**

An evening of awards, networking and entertainment.

To book for this prestigious event contact Kate on events@pipeguild.com or 0207 245 8832

### Other important Annual Branch Dinner dates:

- **South East Branch**: Friday 28th September, Runnymede Hotel, Egham
- **Scottish Branch**: Friday 5th October, Thistle Hotel, Glasgow
- **Northern Branch**: Friday 2nd November, Majestic Hotel, Harrogate
- **Midlands Branch**: Friday 9th or 23rd Venue and Date to be confirmed
- **Wales & West Dinner**: 7th December The Thistle, Bristol
- **Eastern Dinner**: January Date and Venue to be confirmed
- **Irish Branch**: February Date and Venue to be confirmed
- **Aberdeen Section**: 12th April, The Marcliffe Hotel, Aberdeen
- **Northern Ireland Branch**: 19th April, The Europa Hotel, Belfast.