

# London & Southern Counties Minerals Industries Institute



## ANNUAL REPORT OF COUNCIL - YEAR ENDING 30th JUNE 2019

The Council of the London & Southern Counties Minerals Industries Institute (MinSouth) has pleasure in presenting its Report for the 2018-2019 session, ending 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

### OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:

President:	Stuart MacGowan
Vice Presidents:	Sue Struthers Mike McLoughlin
Honorary Treasurer:	Paul Griffin
Honorary Secretary:	Ian Jackson
Membership:	Andrew Hindmarch
Sponsorship:	Clive Hallett

### Continuing Past Presidents:

Roger Emmott	2017
Robert Bacon	2016
Andrew Hindmarch	2015
Stephen Barnett	2013

### Elected Councillors:

Gavin Bowyer  
Geoff Hooper  
Clive Hallett  
Alan Stainer  
Martin Griffin  
Dennis Vega Garcia  
Iain Duncan  
Alan Bozeat  
Simon Kocher  
Richard Roethe  
Mark Burnett

### Co-opted Councillors:

John Monhemius  
Michael Forrest

### Councillors Resigned During Year:

None

## **PRESIDENTS REPORT:**

The 2018-2019 session was challenging but productive and enjoyable for MinSouth. We have held technical lectures on a plethora of subjects, our heat of the Young Person's Lecture Competition, and two mining masterclasses. Our members continue to play active roles in local affairs and the mining industry as a whole. With the support of its members and Councillors, MinSouth remains committed to being the hub for the mining and metals community in our region. Throughout the year I tried to bring new content to MinSouth which would benefit its members and provide all attendees with tangible and useable techniques and opinions they could employ in their work to the betterment of the global mining industry. This was a goal more valuable to us all than simply presenting different projects around the world which, though each may be outstandingly delivered and filled with intricate detail, does not offer much transferable knowledge to an audience.

The year has not been without difficulty. MinSouth suffered setbacks from availability of speakers, venues and ever-decreasing numbers of attendees. We perceive this to reflect the ever-declining importance of the role London plays in the global mining industry. To compound this, the ongoing price increases of venues and catering is coming perilously close to an event horizon whereby, if crossed, MinSouth will require additional funding either from IOM3, sponsors or by charging to attend its events. None of these are attractive propositions.

My original plan for this year had been to take attendees on a proverbial journey through the entire life cycle of a mine, from exploration through to closure. Though each stage has of course been covered in previous MinSouth talks they have never been the focus, rather the talks simply covered a project which was at that particular stage. This plan survived the first two talks, on exploration and resource estimation, respectively, however it broke down thereafter. The problem was I had wanted to bring in very active members of the global mining community, most of whom work and travel internationally. Thus, securing a speaker from this pool many months in advance was impossible. We changed tack. Instead of following a proscriptive schedule we began to address external factors to the industry which have powerful influence over how mining is conducted. To this end speakers gave much-valued advice on geopolitical risk, opaque governments and legislation, structuring of technical studies and reporting of mineral resources and reserves.

MinSouth also continued to develop its relationships with its allied groups, peers and students. We held our annual joint meeting with the British Tunnelling Society in February where we were again graciously hosted by the Institute of Civil Engineers. Our local heat of the Young Person's Lecture Competition was held at RSM in March, where Sidharth Talan won with their lecture on mining equipment maintenance, though all presentations received high praise. Additionally, we awarded this year's student scholarship of £1000 to Coral Byron of the RSM. For the second year in a row we joined forces with Women in Mining to hold a lecture in May. This year the talk was given by Dr Fiona Cessford of SRK and covered the positives and negatives of amalgamating or separating feasibility studies and impact assessments. MinSouth looks forward to repeating the success of these joint events in the coming year.

MinSouth also sent members to other interest groups and organisations this year. Under the guiding hand of Michael Forrest and Iain Duncan, we ran another two mining masterclasses at Simmons & Simmons' lecture theatre. We also sent Sue Struthers to the AGM of the Ecton Mine Educational Trust in Derbyshire, with whom we have had a long and good relationship. Finally, in April, we dispatched Mike McLoughlin and me to the Midlands Institute of Mining Engineers Annual Safety Seminar in Sheffield to represent MinSouth and receive excellent updates on the safety of UK excavations, both extant and closed.

Further positive news came early in the year when MinSouth welcomed two new members of Council, Richard Roethe and Mark Burnett. Invitations for applications to Council were again distributed in the second

quarter of 2019 and a number of potential candidates have submitted their interest in taking an active role in the Institute. These will be voted upon at the October AGM.

A significant weakness this year has been my own attendance at meetings. This has been a function of my professional work requiring me to travel, often at short notice. However, without even blinking, Council always took over, never faltering, and ensured our ship stayed its course and they have my thanks for this, and sincere apologies for placing them in this situation on four occasions. Additionally, notable mentions go to Honorary Secretary Ian Jackson and Treasurer Paul Griffin for their endless grappling with the collation and distribution of news, paperwork, accounts and my erratic correspondence, and to Sue Struthers, Mike McLoughlin and Gavin Bowyer for their sheer tenacity and faultless presence at every meeting with always a joke to spare and an infectious positive attitude. We all owe them a debt of gratitude.

I will finish my term at the AGM in October and will pass the role on to Sue Struthers. Sue has proven to be an incomparable force on Council and a cool voice of reason at each debate. To provide support Sue will have Mike McLoughlin as her VP. I have every faith the two will lead MinSouth superbly and I look forward to their every success.

#### **MEMBERSHIP:**

The society now has 820 IOM3 “members” (1094 - 17/18). Of these 568 have agreed to be contacted and have current emails. There were 15 affiliate (non-IOM3) members (20 in 17/18)

Note: IOM3 “members” these are people who have indicated to IOM3 that MinSouth is their preferred local society.

#### **MEETINGS:**

##### **General Meetings:**

The MinSouth AGM was held at The Counting House on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018 where Stuart MacGowan was appointed President.

A total of 9 technical meetings were held during the year. These included joint events held with the British Tunnelling Society (February) and Women in Mining (May). Average attendance for the technical meetings was 31 persons (34 - 2017/18).

The MinSouth presentations given were:

Sep:	Exploration techniques, financing and expectations	Huw Richards
Oct:	Resource estimation, disclosure and the role of the geologist	Rob Davies
Nov:	Risk in the Middle East	James Watt
Jan:	Dealing with unscrupulous authorities and companies in Mining	Rachel Speight
Feb:	Winsford salt mine	(BTS Joint Event)
Mar:	Young Persons Lecture Competition (Local)	
Apr:	Evolution of Steel	Roger Emmott
May:	Impact assessment and feasibility studies – amalgamate or separate	Fiona Cessford (WIM Joint Event)
June:	International Reporting of mineral resources and reserves	Neil Wells

The Council expresses thanks to all authors for their time and effort spent in preparing and presenting papers at MinSouth events. It is recognised that pressure of work leaves little free time for such voluntary, learned society contributions.

### **Masterclasses:**

In addition, two “Masterclasses” were held in partnership with Simmons & Simmons entitled:

Nov 2018	A focus on Southern Africa
Mar 2019	Battery Metals in Europe

The Council expresses its sincere thanks to Michael Forrest for organising these events, and the law firm Simmons & Simmons for making available the lecture theatre at their offices in Moorgate.

### **Young Persons’ Lecture Competition:**

The local heat of the Young Persons’ Lecture Competition was again held at The Royal School of Mines. The selected presentations were:

Sidharth Talan	“Risk-based Maintenance of Mining Equipment”.
Joshua Rasera	“Mining on the Moon: The future of Space Exploration”
Luc Phillips	“The Operational Running of a Remote Junior Open Pit Gold Mining Operation”
Joshua Shaw	“How Sensor-based Sorting Technology is Now Being Employed in the Mining Sector”.

The winner was Sidharth Talan.

Council expresses thanks to all the student representatives for encouraging submissions. Also, for the ongoing support from Golder Associates and Saint Barbara LLP who not only financially support the event but also provided expert judges for the evening.

### **SOCIAL ACTIVITIES:**

#### **Mining Sundowner:**

Although the Sundowner is not formally a MinSouth event, it has traditionally been supported by MinSouth members. It is on the last Thursday of every month and continues to draw large crowds. Special thanks are due to Liv Carroll for her promotion of the event and for sending out reminders without fail every month. Thanks are also due to the companies that generously put money behind the bar for the benefit of the attendees.

### **COMMUNICATIONS:**

#### **Web Site:**

The web site provides comprehensive information and news on MinSouth activities. The site has now been updated and moved to a new server. The Council expresses its thanks to Mike McLoughlin for his help with the new site.

#### **Social Networking:**

MinSouth continues to have contact groups on LinkedIn and Twitter with 608 followers (509 – 17/18)

### **COUNCIL MEETINGS:**

Nine Council Meetings were held during the year. These are held before the General Meeting each month.

## **FUNDING:**

The IOM3 sponsored the society a total of £4,213 in 2018/19 (£3,469 - 17/18). This included the payment of £1,000 for the award of the Local Society of the Year in 2018.

MinSouth received corporate sponsorship of £6,150 in 2018/19 compared to £4,200 in 2017/18.

### **Gold:**

Bara Consulting  
CSA Global

### **Silver:**

Auramet  
Consolidated Nickel  
Golder Associates  
Knight Piesold  
St Barbara  
Behre Dolbear  
Mott MacDonald

### **Bronze:**

Wood  
SP Angel  
Emmott Associates

MinSouth is most grateful to all sponsors for their ongoing support. This sponsorship allows MinSouth to pursue its objective of supporting the education and development of the next generation of mining professionals.

The Council wish to thank Clive Hallett as Sponsorship Secretary for his efforts in engaging with our sponsors.

## **SCHOOLS PROGRAMME:**

MinSouth continued its educational support through the year. Specifically, this involved maintaining contact with the Earth Science Teachers Association, (ESTA) and including information and teaching materials for both teachers and students on the MinSouth website.

## **STUDENT PROGRAMME:**

### **Sponsorship and Support:**

MinSouth is continuing to sponsor university students. The total support given to Students over the past 9 years now totals £25,000. This year MinSouth sponsored Coral Byron from RSM with £1,000 to assist through her undergraduate studies:

### **Student Sections:**

MinSouth continues to support Student Sections at several universities including the Camborne School of Mines and the Royal School of Mines. We continue to reach out to other institutions running appropriate courses with the aim of encouraging further student participation in our activities.

## **CHARITABLE DONATIONS:**

The following donations were made during the year:

Society of Economic Geologists (RSM) Field trip - Peru £500

**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

The Society's Annual Statement of Accounts are summarised below:

	2019	2018	2017	2016
Total Income for the year to June 30 <sup>th</sup>	£10,754	£10,445	£12,420	£14,471
Total Expenditure for the year to June 30 <sup>th</sup>	£ 5,702	£16,531	£14,690	£15,564
Excess of income over expenditure	£ 5,052	(£6,085)	(£2,270)	(£1,093)
Total Cash held as of June 30 <sup>th</sup>	£19,781	£14,729	£20,814	£23,084

<b>2018/2019</b>			
Opening Cash	RBS		13,524.26
	Paypal		1,204.74
			14,729.00
Receipts	IoM3 funding	4,213.58	
	Sponsorship	6,150.00	
	Memberships	290.00	
	Merchandise	92.00	
	Dinner	-	
	Raffle	-	
	Other	8.58	
		10,754.16	
Payments	YPLC	910.00	
	Student IoM3 Membership	18.00	
	Sponsorship	1,500.00	
	Meeting Rooms	1,965.00	
	Items for Sale	-	
	Prestige Lecture	-	
	Honorariums	1,000.00	
	Website	-	
	Dinner	-	
	Misc	289.60	
	Charges	19.30	
		5,701.90	
Surplus/Deficit			5,052.26
			19,781.26
Closing Cash	RBS		19,780.26
	Paypal		1.00
			19,781.26

The Society saw an increase in funds for the year. This was partly due to the receipt of the £1,000 Local Society of the Year Award in the year, and higher Corporate Sponsorship than in previous years. On the cost side there were fewer applications for sponsorship and the closing of the scheme of sponsoring Student membership of the IOM3.

Cash reserves stand at £19,781.26 as of 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019

**SPECIAL THANKS:**

The President wishes to express his sincere thanks to all Councillors for their support throughout the year, despite often hectic work schedules. Without the willing support of the councillors the post of President would have been a lot harder.

Finally, Council wishes incoming President Sue Struthers every success in her year of office.

**Stuart MacGowan**  
**President 2018 – 2019**

September 2019.