

EXPOSURE

The official magazine of

BOHS The Chartered Society for
Worker Health Protection

Issue 3 2017

A New Phase of Leadership

OH2017 Reviews

Exciting Launch of New BOHS Faculty:
FAAM

Meet the President: Karen Bufton



1812/13 Harrogate Convention Centre
25 - 27 April 2017

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OH2017

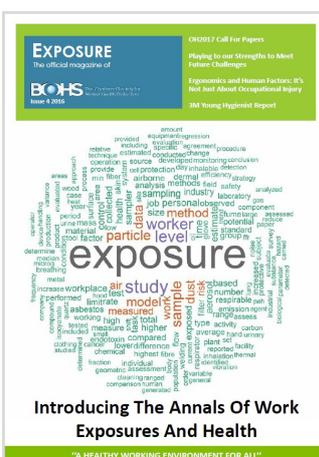
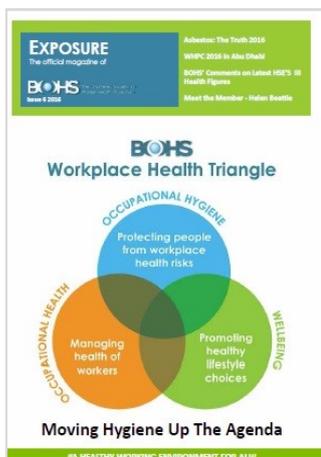
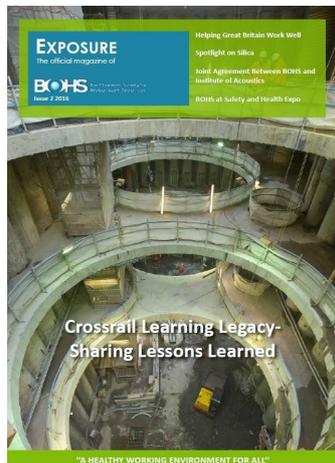
Conference Review

"A HEALTHY WORKING ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL"

EXPOSURE

The official magazine of

BOHS The Chartered Society for Worker Health Protection



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The views expressed in this issue are not necessarily those of BOHS Council.

Dear Readers,

And just like that, the conference went in a flash! It's been an enjoyable several days at OH2017 with many interesting topics and a high number of delegates attending! Thanks to all our speakers, the OH2017 conference committee and for the attendees in joining us for this year's event. Before you know it, OH2018 will quickly show its face!

This will be a bumper issue of reviews on various sessions that took place. We have our committee chair, Rupert Balfry, divulging his perspectives. We also have a photo gallery in this issue—are you one of the lucky few to be featured?

We warmly welcome our new President, Karen Bufton, as she settles into her new role. We grill Karen in our Meet the Member column. Additionally, we discuss our exciting launch of a new BOHS Faculty: FAAM. Finally, after eight years at the helm of the organisation, we share with you all the news of Steve Perkins stepping down as CEO of BOHS. We thank Steve for the great work he has done for BOHS—he will be greatly missed. Read our article on page 5 for more details.

Keep up-to-date with BOHS' updates through Twitter and LinkedIn! Happy reading!

The Exposure Team:

Caroline Smith, Claire Creed,
Evi Karmou and Michelle Chan



Cover Story:

OH2017 Reviews

Read the reviews starting from page 6

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From the President



Karen Bufton
President

As I sit here and write this, I have completed my first week as BOHS President. While it has been a very busy week, there is not a lot of ‘presidential’ business to report on. Of course, the highlights were the BOHS Gala dinner and final day of the BOHS conference, but I’ve also been preparing for the next BOHS council meeting, fielding requests from the BOHS office and contributing to one of the BOHS working groups I volunteer for. As well as my BOHS work, I am also in the first six months of a new job, and I am juggling the usual family responsibilities with my husband Paul and our boys (Tom aged 12 and Alex aged 10). Thank goodness, it’s Friday!

However, as I reflect on the last week, it occurs to me what a great lead-up the President-Elect year has been. One of the roles of the President-Elect is to travel to each of the nine BOHS regions to present a topic at a regional meeting and meet members. The topic is usually related to the BOHS strategy.

For my year, I presented ‘Your BOHS – Your Chance to Make a Difference’ with the aim of increasing volunteering, which is one of the objectives in the current BOHS strategy aimed at ‘ensuring a sustainable future and reputation of the BOHS’. The presentation was interactive and focused on the need for volunteers to help implement the BOHS strategy, and

included a video which I compiled, which showed various BOHS members explaining how they got into volunteering and what they gain from it personally.

I learnt from members in the regions that some of them already volunteer for BOHS, but some also volunteered for other organisations such as schools, museums, sports clubs, health charities etc. We discussed the new skills they could learn, the new people and networks they developed, and that volunteering can boost your career while gaining a great sense of achievement. And if you volunteer for BOHS, you get lots of CPD points!

Interestingly, a survey by TimeBank, through Reed Executive, showed that among 200 of the UK’s leading businesses, 73% of employers would recruit a candidate with volunteering experience over one without, 94% believed volunteering adds skills, and 94% of employees who volunteered to learn new skills had benefited either by getting their first job, improving their salary, or being promoted. In summary, volunteering can show others not only your ability to learn new things, take on other responsibilities and use your initiative, but it shows your motivation to make a difference. BOHS needs volunteers to help make a difference and reverse the terrible trend of occupational illness and death that occurs every year as a result of work.

Volunteering... shows your motivation to make a difference

The presentation generated lots of interest in volunteering. During my year as President, I will be continuing this theme by working with BOHS Head Office to improve the management of volunteers, for example, by connecting volunteers with opportunities and communicating more via the website.

Another role of the President-Elect is to co-ordinate responses to Health and Safety Executive (HSE) consultations, which meant I became involved in the

first year of the HSE’s three-year review of the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH), Control of Lead at Work (CLAW) and Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations.

The HSE were as keen to gain input from BOHS members as we were to provide it. We supported an HSE Consultants Focus Group by inviting a number of occupational hygiene consultants representing both small and large consultancies, and we later circulated an HSE web-based survey to BOHS members. I understand the HSE received over 2,000 responses to the survey, which also included responses from other stakeholders. It will be interesting to see what the HSE’s initial proposals are later this year. The formal consultation document will be published in 2018.

During the rest of my President-Elect year, I worked closely with the President, Tracey Boyle, and Past-President, Adrian Hirst, as well as members of BOHS Council and Head Office to ensure our current BOHS strategy and related activities remained on track. This included the Breathe Freely campaigns in construction and manufacturing, as well as the establishment of the Faculty of Asbestos Assessment and Management (FAAM) which was successfully passed at the BOHS Annual General Meeting. So, that brings me to the start of my first very busy week as President, having been inaugurated at the BOHS AGM. My first task was to hand out awards at the Gala Dinner, and then persuade some of our visitors from abroad to gamble at the casino and race cars. It was great fun! The following day, I attended some presentations from the great conference programme, which ended with my ‘Conference Round Up’ closing presentation to those who stayed right to the end.

So, now it’s down to business – I am thoroughly looking forward to an exciting year as President, leading BOHS Council and pushing forward our five-year strategy. It will continue to be a hectic year but it is great knowing I have the support of BOHS Council, BOHS Head Office and I can call on the help of BOHS volunteers.

A New Phase of Leadership for BOHS



You may be aware that BOHS recently announced a major development in a change to its leadership.

BOHS' CEO Steve Perkins, recently stepped down after eight years at the helm. Steve was the Society's first ever CEO and led BOHS through major changes, during which it has experienced significant growth in its membership, influence, businesses, finances and staffing.

Commenting on this announcement, Karen Bufton, BOHS President said, "Steve has played a major role in leading the transformation of BOHS and advocating for occupational hygiene and worker health protection in the UK. As a Council, we are grateful for his contribution to the Society. He will be

missed as CEO, but we look forward to appointing a successor to take the Society forward in the next exciting stage of its development. We are pleased that in the interim, Steve will continue to work for BOHS in a part-time capacity as Head of External Relations, ensuring that the excellent relationships we have built across the health and safety sector will continue to grow and develop."

Steve Perkins added, "Leading BOHS as Chief Executive has been a great privilege. I have been honoured to represent the profession of occupational hygiene for over eight years. As we have grown and developed, it has been both rewarding and challenging, and I've made many new friends and colleagues. For me, the most pleasing aspects of my tenure have been seeing the significant

increase in optimism and engagement of our members and the rise in the profile of health from being the 'Cinderella' to safety. Both of these have contributed greatly towards the BOHS vision of a healthy working environment for everyone."

"Leading BOHS as Chief Executive has been a great privilege. I have been honoured to represent the profession of occupational hygiene for over eight years"

Steve continued, "It is now time to hand on the reins as I embark on new things. I'm pleased to be able to continue working with BOHS in a part-time capacity as part of my new business consultancy venture offering strategic support to businesses and not-for-profits in this sector and beyond. I want to thank my colleagues, members and friends at BOHS for their support over the past eight years. They are a great team and I will always be proud to be a friend and supporter of BOHS."

BOHS now embarks upon the recruitment of a new Chief Executive, and its Council will be conducting a thorough search process with an appointment expected in the second half of 2017.



Highlights of Steve's leadership period include:

- Achievement of a Royal Charter and Chartered status for professional occupational hygienists
- Development and delivery of a comprehensive and robust corporate strategy for growth
- Doubling of turnover, enabling significant growth of BOHS' charitable activity
- Expansion of BOHS' national profile, most notably with its first ever industry campaigns in construction, and now manufacturing, through its Breathe Freely initiative

OH2017: BOHS Annual Conference

By Marie Townshend
Conferences and Events Manager

We are delighted at how successful the event was and we extend our thanks to everyone who helped in the organisation; the committee for putting together an interesting and varied programme, plus, to all the sponsors and exhibitors and everyone who attended. We hope you enjoyed attending the event as much as we did hosting it.

Feedback from delegates was positive with 100% of respondents stating that the quality of speakers met, exceeded or greatly exceeded their expectations, and 80% rating the conference as good, very good or excellent compared to previous years. Comments included:

- 'Presentation by Chris Woods was superb - one of the best I have heard.'
- 'Food/drink service was very good. Panel discussion on Brexit was very good with excellent facilitator.'
- 'Great venue. Great gala. Good food. Great Casella evening. Great location. Well done!'
- 'The venue for the conference was superb. The gala dinner was another success. It's good to see a younger generation of hygienists coming through and I think this year, especially, it made a big difference. BOHS worked really hard to make it a success and it showed throughout the conference and the dinner.'

The conference was opened by Martin Coyd OBE from Mace who delivered an inspirational Warner Lecture, speaking on the subject of mental health. The programme included three additional keynote sessions, including:

- Erik van Deurssen delivering the Thomas Bedford Memorial Award-winning paper 'Effectiveness of a multidimensional randomized control intervention to reduce quartz exposure among construction workers',
- Martin Worthington from Morgan Sindall presenting on 'Your Health Your Future – A Construction Industry Perspective'
- Chris Woods on 'Understanding Barriers to Making Positive Health Choices'.



The BOHS Annual Conference took place at the Harrogate Convention Centre on 24-27 April

This year's President's session took the form of a panel discussion focusing on the future of worker health protection in the UK, particularly post-Brexit. The panel was led by Bharat Patel joined by Martin Coyd, Sean Elson (Pinsent Masons), John Ballard (Occupational Health [At Work]), Danny Martland (BAE Systems) and Lesley McLeod (Association for Project Safety).

There were over 45 session speakers with presentations on topics including RPE, product stewardship, asbestos, legionella and noise control. Five workshops took place over the three days, giving delegates a more interactive experience including occupational hygiene strategy, ergonomics and dermal assessment. Due to the popularity of the

IGNITE session, it was run as a plenary this year, so no one had to choose between sessions. Again, this was a big hit, with nine presenters taking part.

The mobile phone app proved popular this year - it was downloaded and used by more than half the delegates, with over 10,000 page views.

The gala dinner was well attended, and featured entertainment from a live band, casino tables and a giant Scalextric track which proved very popular with everyone getting enthusiastically animated.

Thanks again to everyone involved in making OH2017 happen and I look forward to seeing all of you in Stratford-upon-Avon next year!



Tracey Boyle, Immediate-Past President, speaking at OH2017

OH2017: BOHS AGM 2017



Immediate-Past President, Tracey Boyle, handing over the reins to President, Karen Bufton. Below: members voting on FAAM

*By Claire Creed
Membership Officer*

The 2017 BOHS AGM was held during OH2017 and was well attended. The meeting was quorate and the President chaired the meeting. The Council for 2017-2018 was appointed as follows:

- President: Karen Bufton
- President-Elect: Neil Grace
- Honorary Secretary: Alex Wilson
- Honorary Treasurer: Amanda Parker
- Registrar of the Faculty: Neil Pickering

The ordinary Council members will remain the same, as there were no available positions at this time.

Bates Weston was re-appointed as auditors to the Society, proposed by Adrian Watson and seconded by Andrew Singleton. The President reported that in line with good



business practice, a review of the Society's audit services during 2017 looks to appointing new auditors for 2017.

Following ordinary business, members were asked to vote on three special resolutions (one which included the establishment of the Faculty of Asbestos Assessment and Management (FAAM) —the press release can be read on p18) and all three were passed unanimously. At the end of the meeting, Tracey Boyle, Immediate-Past President, passed over the badge of office to our new President, Karen Bufton.

OH2017 Review: Industrial Processes

By Neil Pickering
BOHS/JCB

The Industrial Processes session was very well attended, and the large audience was treated to presentations on four topics.

Up first was Gordon Smith, of the HSE, with the high (and low) lights of his experiences in assessing controls at galvanising workshops. The two principle areas of concern being the acid pickling (hydrochloric acid) process and the molten tank of zinc, both often big enough to take very large parts for treatment. There are also peripheral activities associated with preparing the tanks, cleaning them and removing the slag from the molten zinc. Gordon explained that the substances of greatest significance were hydrogen chloride, as a gas and mist, and zinc chloride. The businesses Gordon visited are not particularly profitable, therefore basic but effective controls are important. For both of the primary process tanks, they included: good segregation, collection of

drips, a good distance from the tank lip to the top of the liquid (ullage) and of course, LEV. For the molten zinc tank, the temperature was also important.

Second to present was Alvin Woolley, of Alvin Woolley Associates, with a contrast between two sites. As the first painted car panels were polished to produce the finished condition, the dust was essentially non-toxic, and exposures were at just below 10mg/m³. Alvin then outlined the progression over four years through RPE, to shiny new extraction booths, including the first attempt at extraction which was insufficient, and had several of the operators standing in the wrong place, effectively drawing the dust onto them. With additional advice, training for the operators and improved extraction flow rates, the dust levels were reduced to a tenth of their original level. At the second factory, the intervention followed an HSE improvement notice and involved cutting and polishing stone. In this case, control was very poor and the respira-

ble crystalline silica exposures all exceeded the limit, before consideration of the RPE in use at the time of the survey. The stone was not effectively damped down and the extraction was ineffective and too far away. Unfortunately, Alvin was not invited back to assess how, or whether or not, they had improved their controls.

Next up was Adrian Parris, of Sellafield Ltd, taking us through the improvements to controls for the spraying of polyurethane paints on the nuclear transport flasks. Interestingly, it is particularly important that these always appear to be spotless to reassure the public that nothing is leaking, and therefore, a specific high quality paint is used containing isocyanates. Adrian's first assessment showed that the engineering controls were inadequate, the extraction was in the corner of a large room, and the paint was sprayed well away from it in some cases. The paint sprayers were, therefore, overly reliant on their RPE for protection. Over a number of years, the facilities were improved and there is now much better extraction suited to the size and position of the flasks in the room, which Adrian demonstrated with his results.

Finally, Samantha Hall, of HSL, brought us right up-to-date with an assessment of exposures to metal powders for additive manufacturing - the 3D metal printers we hear so much about. Samantha explained that this study explored control in the research and development phase before the additive manufacturing becomes more widespread in industry. The assessment included airborne dust and surface contamination. Airborne dust levels were very low in the almost laboratory conditions, and the surface contamination was also low, although the cleaning regime was important to maintain this across the sample locations. With the rapid advances in additive manufacturing, this study laid good foundations for understanding and maintaining effective control, as these facilities start to be used at an industrial scale.



Welding fumes in front of a worker's hood

OH2017 Review: IGNITE 2017

By Alex Wilson, BOHS/Rolls-Royce
and Robin Smith, Airbus

As Ant and Dec once said, “Haway the lads, let’s get on with it! “

This year saw the promotion of IGNITE into the plenary league and it did not disappoint with its usual great range of topics and styles, from first timers and experienced presenters - the perfect appetiser before the AGM.

IGNITE is about “Enlightening Us” but making it quick: the ‘pressure cooker’ of presentations with five minutes and 20 slides which auto-advance every five seconds (despite the presenters attempts to cheat the system!).

This year, we had inspiring talks on careers to dreams, and volunteering, to changing the way to measure exposures by becoming a virtual occupational hygiene team with technology and apps:

- Adrian Sims – challenged the HSE to a controversial but logical and pioneering proposal on LEV reporting. Will this have legs or will it get released to the atmosphere?
- Peter Sherfield – a guide to intrinsic safety of equipment with the help of cartoon characters to help those of us with short attention spans
- Amanda Parker and fanatical devotion



Alex Wilson

to occupational hygiene, Ramazzini’s D-on his school report for naming of new disciplines and the importance of good articulation of health risks

- Sean Mahar – metal working fluids and the risks of smoking and vaping. Eat-sleep-vape-repeat
- Eugene Büchner’s first time at the conference, and he invited us to be part of “M”. Nothing to do with 007 but M Class Vacuum cleaners and the importance of correct selection and filtration standards
- Alison Margary – a career riding the wave of regulation, being given licence to kill-assess when COSHH was introduced and not needing to become a

rocket scientist to protect people’s health

- Jim Struthers – all technology is becoming connective, so how do we use this? Can we monitor everyone all the time rather than some people some of the time? “You must learn the ways of occupational hygiene” and get a Tyndall beam that looks like a light sabre
- Karen Bufton – “What’s in it for me?” Well, quite a lot actually. The rewards of volunteering, from development of skills, networking, career, meeting new people, being part of professional communities, personal profile, achievement and CPD. What more could you ask for?



Robin Smith

*IGNITE is about
“Enlightening Us”
but making it quick:
[it’s a] ‘pressure cooker’ of
presentations with
five minutes and 20 slides*

If you missed the session this year, or the chance to present, then you never know, we might get invited back next year. Keep any eye out for IGNITE OH2018. What you can do is check out this year’s videos on the BOHS Youtube channel by searching for “BOHS Video”.

OH2017 Review: Keynote Session



Silica dust testing

By Amanda Parker
Ineos

You might think that swallows herald the arrival of Spring, but at this year's BOHS conference, it was a Martin that brought the promise of new life for health in the construction industry.

In his Keynote session, “Your Health Your Future – A Construction Industry Perspective”, Martin Worthington, SHEQ of Morgan Sindall Construction and Infrastructure Ltd, shared his passion for the construction industry and his commitment to change the shape and profile of health in the industry.

Martin originally trained as a graphic artist, so it was obvious that he would start his career working in haulage in the coal industry! However, Martin reflected on how he was able to carry the knowledge of poor health outcomes

learned in the coal industry into his current career in the construction industry.

He delivered a positive and compelling message. In the construction industry, as in many other industries, it has been a case of shouting ‘safety’, but whispering ‘health’. However, change is afoot.

Martin shared a number of key aspects about this change. Occupational hygiene is beginning to feature more widely in the construction industry, as the definition of good health moves beyond wellbeing and health surveillance.

Dialogue and honest interaction with contractors has resulted in the “grab cards” as a more “in the field” alternative to traditional classroom-based toolbox talks, or site inductions. The value of this is underscored by the statistic that four out of five people in

the construction supply chain are not direct employees of the parent company.

Site hygienists in the audience were delighted (and jealous) to see examples of sophisticated controls such as enclosed, ventilated cutting stations being used on construction sites.

Moving beyond the coalface, Martin also touched on areas such as procurement, with on-tool extraction being seen as a standard part of the deal, rather than an add-on to be costed out. Going forward, such areas as “healthy by design” and a maturity model for health were also seen as the way to bring further improvement.

Martin ended with a ringing endorsement of the Breathe Freely campaign (cheque from Mike in the post) and a plea for some thoughts on leading health KPIs. Hmmm, over to Dave and Alex on that one....

OH2017 Review: Occupational Hygiene Strategy

By Dave Marsh
ExxonMobil

The aim of this interactive workshop was to engage with the profession, to build views and ideas around occupational hygiene strategy. The facilitators of the workshop had sent a request for delegates to come prepared for the session (with any occupational hygiene strategic priorities or metrics currently being used) via an email to BOHS members.

Attendance at the workshop was very good, and the facilitators made it clear that the delegates were expected to contribute to the session, which certainly happened with numerous breakout sessions and positive feedback from all groups.

Following an initial introduction, the delegates were tasked with identifying strategic priorities related to occupational hygiene, and enablers to ensure those priorities could be put in place.

There was little time for debate due to the number of tables in the room, therefore the top three from each table were identified. On reviewing the information, the strategic priorities could be grouped into three areas: people, task/compliance based and PPE (see table below).

The delegates then considered what would be key drivers or enablers to allow the strategic priorities above to be put in place. There were four themes linked to this: leadership, data-based, financial and skill-based (see table on page 12).

People	Task/compliance	PPE
Proactive approach to ill health	Prioritise high risk activities	Reduction in reliance on PPE
Eliminate ill health stigmas	Clear view of all activities	Respirator free by 2023
To continuously challenge	Development of data for indicators	
Competent staff in place	Alignment with business risks	
Drive continuous improvement	To continuously challenge	
Health and safety culture at work and home	Compliance with standards	
Exposures are personal	Drive continuous improvement	
Zero harm/goal zero	No exposure above limits	
Capability, development and retention of staff	Zero harm/goal zero	
Health risk assessments conducted	Health risk assessments conducted	
Champions of emerging issues		
Engagement with stakeholders		
Empowerment from the line		

OH2017 Review: Occupational Hygiene Strategy continued

Leadership	Data-based	Financial	Skill-based
Influence design	Regulatory guidance and active enforcement and evaluation	Robust budget commitment	Management tools
Leadership behaviours and leadership framework	Identification of leading indicators and use of wider KPIs	Financial, legal and moral aspects considered	Multi discipline business benefits – horizontal integration
Building capability and responsibility in management	Consistent risk assessment process	Influence design culture	Influencing at board level with a board sponsor
Ownership of health risks	Use of new technology as an enabler	Resource and time commitments	Influence design communications strategy in the right language
Stakeholder education	Colour-coded metrics		Building capability and responsibility in management
Soft skills			People based implementation
Use of show and tell/Toolbox talks			Consistent risk assessment process and evaluation
Culture/belief change leading to behavioural change			Soft skills
			Use of new technology as an enabler
			Competency – risk-based

There is clearly passion and desire to put strategic priorities in place, with a good understanding of the “enablers” required to do so. This has provided some great food for thought and is definitely something to work with.

The delegates were then asked to consider metrics, or measures that could be used to demonstrate the value of occupational hygiene to a client or organisation. The metrics have been grouped into three themes relating to audits and assessments, exposure prevention and control, and health surveillance and impact directly on the worker.

The delegates were fully engaged and agreed that consideration for BOHS to define strategic priorities and metrics for occupational hygiene would be beneficial. A proposal for such will be presented to BOHS council to commission a working party to develop a draft and share at a future BOHS meeting for consideration of the membership. Any BOHS members who would be interested in being part of the working group as a volunteer, please contact Dave Marsh (Dave.Marsh@exxonmobil.com) or Alex Wilson (Alex.Wilson2@Rolls-Royce.com).

Audits and assessments	Exposure prevention and control	Health surveillance and impact directly on the worker
Use of a mature matrix to ensure process is in place, and identify leading indicators	Maintenance log (relating to exposure controls) – number or percentage completion - leading	Number of employees identified with a work-related illness from health surveillance and any Riddor – (lagging)
Management behaviours – walks, inspections, audits	Measurement of exposure greater than exposure limit (can also relate to other metrics) – lagging but develop trends	Lifestyle measure – body mass changes
Use of an engagement KPI	Failure rates of engineering controls	Testing mental state against risk profile
Assurance/audit on compliance. Regulatory or corporate standards	Number of risks identified	Number of occupational hygiene actions overdue
Reporting of near misses – health-related	Number or rate of monitoring completed against risks and controls in place	Number of health visits/assessments conducted
	Percentage of tasks completed/monitored/ against plan	Measure of work-related sickness absence
	Percentage of implementation of plans (RA, leadership etc)	Training – number of employees trained
	Risk assessment measure in place compared to the control	Measure of workforce who are aware and concerned with health hazards
	Normalised number of risk ranking/rate against identified health hazards	Percentage of workforce requiring health surveillance
	Risk-based monitoring plans	Measure of employees with sub clinical indicators of exposure
	Percentage of tasks reliant on PPE	
	Continuous improvement monitoring, e.g. bio mon 90% guidance value	

OH2017 Review: Breathe Freely into the Future

By Mike Slater
Diamond Environmental

Mike Slater's keynote kicked off just before lunch on the second day of the conference. He started by linking with the other previous keynotes through his "love of rugby league" and also the "links of health in construction".

Mike reminded the audience of the launch of the original Breathe Freely Initiative, which took place alongside the IOHA 2015 conference in London. He explained it was a collaborative initiative, developed by BOHS in partnership with HSE, Mace Construction, Land Securities and Constructing Better Health. This was a new way of thinking for BOHS, and proved to be a great philosophy by having "partners" on board from within the construction industry who could support and provide key contacts to ensure it would be a success.

He talked about the two key objectives:

- Raise awareness of occupational ill health
- Raise awareness of occupational hygiene and BOHS

The main focus was to target respiratory disease within the construction industry, although Mike did have a personal objective as well which was to involve as many BOHS volunteers as possible in the campaign.

Over the past two years, Breathe Freely has achieved significant success in raising awareness of the potential health problems in construction. From this, BOHS has aimed to provide employers with practical solutions to help them implement effective exposure control. This has included a range of free guidance materials, produced with the input of BOHS members and construction industry representatives. This information has been disseminated through a series of roadshows: nine to be exact in all parts of the UK (although Wales was still on the "to do list"). Mike went on to explain there has been a great take up by BOHS volunteers, getting out there and presenting the Breathe Freely slide pack across the country. There have been at least 50 presentations to contractor and safety groups.

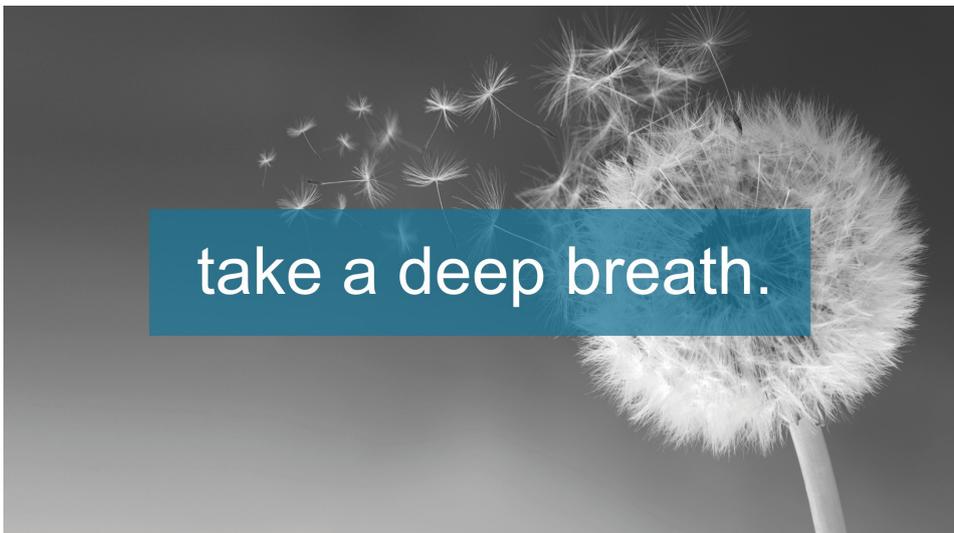
As well as the partners mentioned earlier, Mike mentioned there are 191 supporters who have signed up to the initiative, 147 companies on board for the "Hi-Standard" and 850 subscribers of the newsletter. Other developments coming to fruition in the near future include the development of an audit scheme for the Hi-Standard and a Certificate in Construction Health Risks qualification which is due for launch. There are also some new topics due in the future, which will include noise, vibration and skin.

Mike went on to talk about a new initiative that was launched on 25th May 2017 in London at the EEF Headquarters, which is Breathe Freely in Manufacturing.

This will be in partnership with HSE, EEF, TUC, The Welding Institute, BAE Systems, JCB and Toyota. The initial phase will be on welding. Why? It is estimated that 200,000 workers carry out welding in the UK, although this is thought to be a vast underestimation, and from this, the HSE stats show that there are 152 deaths per year as a result.

Once more, this campaign will be aimed at helping employers to raise awareness of the health risks, and provide information and resources to help them better control and manage those risks. This is all packaged in a two-year plan.

Mike finished by asking for support: *What can you do to help?*





NEW

Breathe Freely in Construction

2017 Breakfast Roadshows

- 21 Sept
Brunel's SS Great Britain, Bristol
- 27 Oct
Surgeon's Hall, Edinburgh
- 15 Nov
London, venue TBC

Join us and be part of the solution

Register now at
www.breathefreely.org.uk



OH2017 Reviews

Thomas Bedford Memorial Award Winner

By Kate Jones
HSE

This prize is awarded not more than once every two years, to the author or authors of the most outstanding paper published in *Annals of Work Exposures and Health*.

This year's recipient was Erik van Deurssen (RPS Analyse BV) and co-authors for their work on reduction of quartz exposure in the construction industry. Erik gave a plenary lecture on the work presented in this paper. Quartz exposure (respirable crystalline silica) is a widespread issue in construction and Erik's team came across many familiar excuses for not implementing control measures (slowing up the task, uncomfortable RPE etc). The researchers wanted to conduct a randomised controlled trial – this is very hard to do in occupational settings and is consequently quite rare. Participants were randomly assigned (on a company basis, not individual) to either the intervention group or the control group (no intervention). Eight companies participated and four received the intervention between the baseline (2012) and follow-up (2014) surveys, which looked at silica exposures, technical controls, work organisation and worker behaviour.

The intervention group saw a reduction across tasks (e.g. concrete driller and demolisher) compared to baseline and compared to the non-intervention follow-up (this group also saw some reduction from baseline). Even so, some exposures in the intervention group still exceeded the OEL. The project demonstrated that interventions can be successful despite the challenges of the construction industry (temporary sites, dynamic environment, contractor/sub-contractor structures). During the Q&A, Erik was asked about the ethics of applying an intervention to only some of the study population (since respirable crystalline silica is carcinogenic); Erik confirmed that all participants were given the benefits of the intervention at the end of the study.

Metal Working Fluid/Skin Health Surveillance

By Kate Jones
HSE

This was a short and mixed session comprising two presentations, one from Erik Lewry (AWE) on “Determining a Suitable Standard and Assessment Techniques to Demonstrate Control of Exposure to Water-Mix Metal Working Fluid Mist from Enclosed Machines in a Large New Machine Workshop Facility”, and the other from Helen Taylor (EnviroDerm Services) on “Skin Health Surveillance: Making it Effective and Beneficial”.

Despite the mixed subject matter, both presentations were very informative. Erik gave an overview on how AWE sought to control metal working fluid (MWF) in a new machine workshop that was being set up. MWF is responsible for some serious outbreaks of ill health (notably the Powertrain incident) but there are no official standards of measuring MWF in the workplace. Several techniques have been proposed such as gravimetric analysis and using boron as a marker compound. However, none are ideal. AWE looked to use particle counters as a way of determining control.

Erik went on to describe how control measures such as significant alterations to LEV design and the timing of door interlocks were able to significantly reduce mist generation in the workshop. An internal standard based on particle counting was established and, along with substantial awareness training, a cleaner and safer working environment has been created. In recent light of another company being recently very heavily fined for an outbreak of MWF-related ill health, the cost-benefit argument for the work was well received at board level.

Helen Taylor then gave an overview of skin health surveillance. She covered the main aspects (questionnaire, visual assessment and measurements) with their features and benefits. For the questionnaire, Helen highlighted some important questions that should be

covered, including asking about exposures outside of work, as many everyday consumer products can also cause problems. She covered a couple of scoring systems for visual checks and described how the scoring could be used to determine when referrals are appropriate. She then covered a number of measurement techniques and their uses. Helen also talked about the use of “responsible people” – non-experts within the company who can be trained to look for problems; this increases the resources for minimal cost, making it more likely that skin conditions of concern can be picked up early and the people referred to specialists. A number of case studies were given to illustrate how surveillance programmes might work in different scenarios.

RPE

By Marian Molloy
HSE

The RPE session featured a good mix of people, including two speakers from RPE suppliers 3M, and two speakers from HSE's Science Directorate.

The talks highlighted the common challenges of a RPE programme, specifically:

- How managing a global RPE programme is made more complicated by not having a consistent global approach to the protection factors assigned to RPE
- The need for accredited schemes, such as the FIT2FIT to improve the quality of respirator fit testers

Peter Stacey from HSE (SD) gave an insight into the developmental research of a miniature respirable particulate sampler for in-mask workplace measurements. The research trial has involved the mini sampler being used inside P3 masks worn by a worker, during tasks where airborne dust containing respirable crystalline silica was generated. We look forward to an update on how the research is progressing at future conferences.

OH2017 Review: Progress in the Use of RPE



Mike Clayton, HSL

*By Phil Roberts
HSE*

This superbly attended session was a tripartite event with presentations from Dr Peter Griffin, HSE Principal Specialist Inspector (Occupational Hygiene), Frank Angear, General Manager of the British Safety Industry Federation (BSIF) and Mike Clayton, Principal Scientist at HSL and Past-president of the International Society for Respiratory Protection (ISRP).

Peter provided an update on all things HSE/RPE-related, which included the new, improved OC 282/28 fit testing of respiratory protective equipment face pieces. Peter discussed how duplication is removed and a more concise, usable document will be publically available, whilst also being used as an aide memoire for HSE Inspectors in relation to any enforcement issues – a good document to look at if RPE is used in your workplace! Peter also discussed any new fit test methods that are appearing in the RPE world. He emphasised that for a new fit

test method to be valid, it needs to comply with the current standard (ANSI Z88-10) but this requires some clarification and assessment. HSE are working with BSIF committee members to develop a draft criteria, and further consultation will be needed. If you would like to be involved, please contact Peter Griffin or Phil Roberts at HSE.

Frank Angear then delivered a great talk on BSIF's Registered Safety Supplier Scheme (RSSS) which aims to ensure that those companies selling safety equipment, including RPE, are registered and audited to a high standard. A line in the presentation stated that 'Anyone can sell safety, but you wouldn't buy safety from anyone', and Frank emphasised the RSSS helps to avoid poor, non-compliant products from being sold to end-users.

Finally, Mike Clayton delivered an excellent summary of a pretty complex change to the RPE standards that will take a little getting used to. Mike began

with a discussion about the importance of correctly selecting RPE and the current guidance available to assist the dutyholder, for example Assigned Protection Factors (APFs) and how these may be replaced by the new ISO standard. Mike explained that the new ISO classification is not defined by the type of RPE, and is derived from the application of safety factors to the Total Inward Leakage (TIL) requirement, but not from any workplace study data.

Mike went on to discuss the new ISO RPE classifications in more detail, and how it looks like we may need to learn a lot of new terminology before the proposed implementation deadline of 2025 (it's closer than you think). If possible, I recommend a look at Mike's presentation for more details.

Looking for OH2017 presentations?

Go to www.oh-2018.com,
click on **Past Events**,
then to **OH2017 Presentations**

OH2017 Review: Martin Coyd - A State of Mind

By Rupert Balfry
Viridis Safety

The Warner Lecturer this year was delivered by Martin Coyd OBE. Martin, a self-confessed Lancastrian with “an irrational regional pride” was brought up during a time when signs declaring “Dogs must be kept on a lead. No soiled overalls. No Women” were still commonplace, opened our eyes to the problem of mental health in the UK.

With one in four people experiencing a period of mental ill-health each year, and men being much less likely to seek help, be diagnosed and receive treatment than women, Martin quickly proved the relevance of mental health protection and support in the context of worker health protection. In 20 to 50-year-old males, suicide and injury/poisoning of undetermined intent is the leading cause of death, and if you are a construction worker, you are ten times more likely to die from suicide than a fatal accident.

Why do men commit suicide? Martin described this very simply as having the belief that “the people I love most in the world would be better off without me.”

Martin went on to speculate on why he thought mental health is under threat in a modern British society, a society that offers instantaneous gratification, life on demand, but with relentless pressure to conform to data-driven norms and to perform and deliver in the workplace. Using examples of successful sportsmen, Martin illustrated how even people who from the outside seemed to be at the peak of fitness, to have everything, have been driven to mental illness, self-medication and suicide by these same pressures to conform and perform.

Martin briefly spoke about some of the steps the Health in Construction Leadership Group have started to take to introduce a new industry approach to mental health in order to provide leadership in tackling this difficult issue, help people to communicate, educate and provide clear pathways to help and support. Martin talked about the signs you might spot –

warning signs that a friend or colleague may be struggling with mental ill-health. These included: productivity problems, loss of morale, erratic timekeeping, safety issues, absenteeism, alcohol and/or drug misuse, lack of co-operation, being tired all the time, unexplained aches and pains, extremes of emotion, appearing silent or withdrawn and not hearing things. Do you recognise a lot of these symptoms?

Martin closed with a few things you should do if you suspect a friend or colleague is experiencing mental ill-health: talk to them, encourage them to talk and, more importantly, be ready to listen. Remember that silence can also be supportive. Also, ask what you can do to help and share encouragements. Do not label or stereotype but offer support rather than solutions and be positive.

In the hours and days following Martin’s presentation, the number of people I heard speaking about mental health, to me directly, to other delegates – discussions about problems they had experienced, friends, family members and colleagues had experienced, how we must be more ready to talk about mental health in the workplace – Martin certainly got us thinking and talking about mental health. I hope these conversations continue for some time to come.

Ten Ways to Look After Your State of Mind

- Talk about your feelings
- Eat well
- Keep in touch
- Take a break
- Accept who you are
- Keep active
- Drink sensibly
- Ask for help
- Do something you’re good at
- Care for others

I will leave the final words on this lecture to a delegate I got talking to soon after Martin’s session: “When I was going through the conference programme and got to the Warner Lecture, I was surprised and a little concerned that the session was on mental health. One minute into the session, I was already thinking, ‘Well, this is a pretty entertaining presenter’ and five minutes in, I got it – I understood why we were talking about mental health at the BOHS Conference.”



Martin Coyd OBE, Mace Group



OH2017 Mini Photo Gallery *Can you spot yourself?*

Exciting Launch of New BOHS Faculty: FAAM



- View BOHS' latest technical publications
- Gain expert industry advice
- Free attendance at BOHS regional meetings
- Access to online forums
- Use of the BOHS online searchable membership directory

Career progression & industry recognition

- Access to a professional development programme.
- Participate in the Continuous Professional Development (CPD) scheme
- Entitlement to FAAM's post-nominal letters to illustrate their competence

Keep in touch with the latest industry news

- Regular e-bulletins sharing both industry news and faculty updates
- Discounted rates to BOHS events and conferences
- BOHS *Exposure Magazine* – keeping up-to-date with Society news

Shani Jackson, Head of Member Services at BOHS commented; "We are very excited about the

BOHS makes move to raise competency levels in the asbestos industry, with the launch of its new faculty – FAAM.

BOHS has taken steps to enhance the level of competency and expertise of asbestos professionals by launching a new Faculty of Asbestos Assessment and Management. The official launch of FAAM will take place at an evening reception at the prestigious Conrad Hotel in Westminster on 11th October.

Asbestos still kills around 5,000 workers each year, with around twenty tradesmen dying each week as a result of past exposure. Tackling issues related to asbestos continues to be a challenge, with the UK

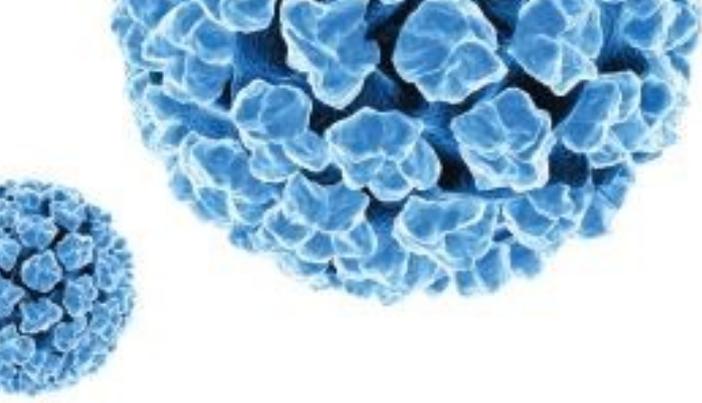
still possessing one of the highest rates of mesothelioma (a type of cancer linked to asbestos exposure) in the world. Cancer Research UK outlined that there were over 2,500 deaths from the disease in 2014, with 94% of cases being deemed as preventable.

BOHS envisages that FAAM, in the long term, can help to reduce these statistics by making sure asbestos professionals are operating with a higher level of competency and expertise. Members of FAAM will be empowered by the following benefits:

Being part of a professional network where best practice can be created

launch of FAAM and the role this will play in raising competence and awareness within the asbestos industry. FAAM will create a forum for professionals to network and share best practice, whilst working towards achieving the BOHS objective of protecting the public from health hazards in the workplace. The launch event in London marks the official opening for membership and celebrates the work achieved so far in bringing experts together to form FAAM".

If you would like to find out further information about FAAM, please contact BOHS at the following link and we will be in touch: www.bohs.org/faam



25 - 27 September 2017
Glasgow Marriott Hotel

IPXII

Inhaled Particles XII

Bookings open

Bookings are now open for Inhaled Particles XII (IPXII) the latest in a long line of highly successful and prestigious international conferences and meetings organised by the British Occupational Hygiene Society (BOHS). It is the oldest ongoing symposium series on the adverse health effects of inhaled particles.

The first Inhaled Particles conference was held in Oxford in 1960 and over the next 50 or so years the meetings have been successful at attracting leaders and students in all of the scientific disciplines associated with particle-related disease.

Delegate rates

Delegate Rates	Full Conference	Early Bird*
BOHS Member	£450	£400
Non-member	£550	£500
Speaker	£350	
BOHS Student Member	£300	

*Early bird rates end on 31 July 2017

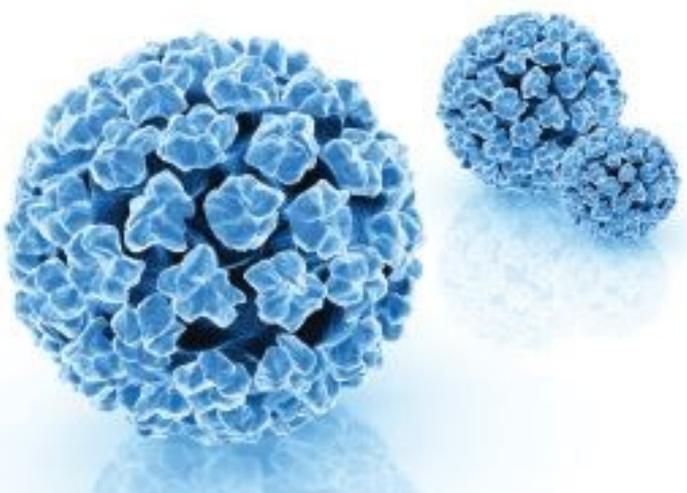
Exhibitor packages

Stand package	£1,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 x 2m shell space• One delegate place including entry to all conference sessions and daytime refreshments• Logo and company profile in the conference programme• Logo and link from the IPXII website to your own• Logo on holding slides throughout the conference	

Sponsorship opportunities

• Sponsorship of the conference dinner	£2,000
• Advert in the conference programme	£500
• A5 or A4 single sheet Insert into delegate bags	£500
• Branding of delegate bags	SOLD

All prices are subject to UK VAT currently at 20%.



To view the preliminary programme, for more details about sponsoring and exhibiting or to book your place visit www.inhaledparticles.org

10 Reasons Why Instrument Hire Could Be Right For You

The following article is an advertorial from Shawcity

There are several reasons our occupational hygiene and environmental monitoring customers choose to hire an instrument...

Often it is only needed for a limited period of time so buying the product outright is not a justifiable expense.

Sometimes customers are sending us their own instrument for annual service, calibration or repair and need a replacement for the interim period.

Or customers sometimes like to use an instrument for a trial period before committing to a purchase.

If these scenarios sound familiar, have you considered the multiple benefits of hiring an instrument for your next project?

Shawcity has one of the largest hire fleets in the industry, with options available for:

- Personal and portable gas detection and monitoring:
 - > VOCs
 - > Benzene
 - > Single Gas
 - > Multi Gas
 - > Confined Space
 - > Leak Detection
 - > Ground Gas
 - > Contaminated Land
- Sound ● Noise ● Vibration ● Air Quality ● Dust ● Heat Stress.

If you require monitoring equipment for a specific application or would like advice on your requirements, contact us on Tel: **01367 899424** or email: hire@shawcity.co.uk.



The top 10 benefits of instrument hire:

- 1 We offer guidance to ensure you select the right product for the job.
- 2 Guaranteed correctly-maintained instruments. Our manufacturer-trained technicians also ensure they are calibrated and set to your requirements before dispatch.
- 3 Our technical team are available to support you for the duration of your hire.
- 4 Duration: Minimum of three working days (to allow for delivery and return) and no maximum. Hire extensions are quick and simple to arrange.
- 5 Book before 12 noon and, subject to stock availability, instruments dispatched for next-day courier delivery to multiple sites if necessary. If you are really short of time you can arrange a same-day collection at our Oxfordshire site.
- 6 All instruments are provided in a durable protective case, docks, batteries and charging capability (where applicable), power leads, software, manufacturer manuals and data logging if requested.
- 7 Download of your data for you once the instrument is returned on request.
- 8 Cost-effective, time-saving solution for your monitoring tasks, with maintenance and cost of ownership taken care of by Shawcity.
- 9 Discounts for multiple hires or duration of hire to maximise your budget over larger or longer-term projects.
- 10 Courtesy reminders when your hire period is coming to an end. Stay in control with the option to extend if required.

For further information, visit www.shawcity.co.uk/hire.

If you would like to discuss your hire requirements, contact our friendly team on Tel: **01367 899424** or email: hire@shawcity.co.uk.



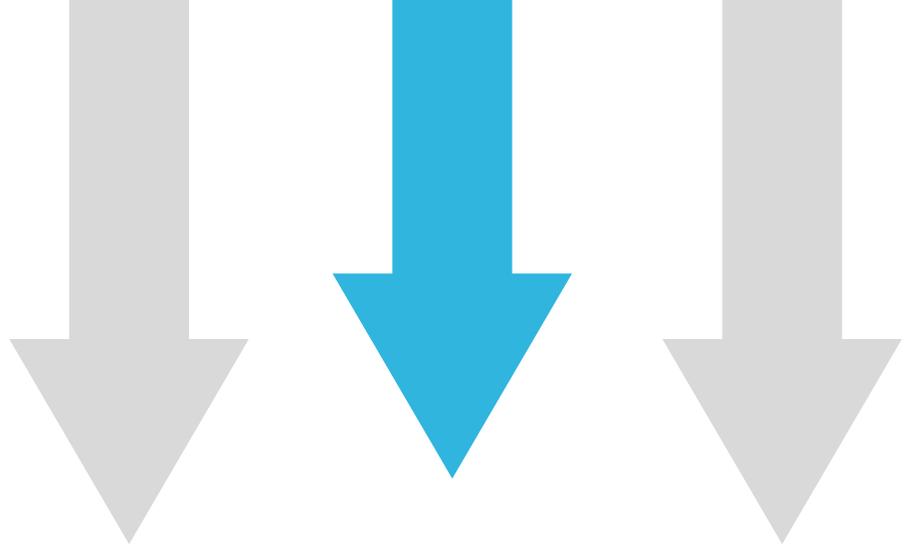
The Chartered Society for
Worker Health Protection

Upcoming **FREE** Regional Meeting

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Attendance counts towards your CPD!

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via the **Events** page
on the BOHS website



London, South & South East:

27 Sept

SCI Building, London

:: Ergonomics
and Upper Limb
Disorders ::



Why not sponsor a regional meeting?

BOHS regional meetings provide a
cost-effective sponsorship opportunity
for companies, with benefits such as:

A launch platform for new products and services

Increase brand awareness

Contact with key decision-makers

Networking opportunities

If you would like to sponsor a BOHS regional meeting,
please email membership@bohs.org with details of your
company and which regional meeting you are interested in

Member Services Update



Claire Creed
Membership Officer

After many years working for BOHS, I am writing my first *Exposure* column, which is very exciting! This means I can finally tell you all how proud I am to work here. Our mission to be the premier forum for information about protecting people from health hazards in the workplace means a lot to me, and I know we will get there!

To see what we have achieved since I first started here has been amazing. BOHS has developed from five office staff to a Head Office with 22 staff members. I know we receive lots of support from our members and this makes BOHS a great place to work! I feel BOHS members are a strong community of dedicated professionals, and I am proud to be part of it.

Membership news

Now that the renewal period is over, we have had a chance to catch up with our day-to-day membership duties, and I thought this would be a good opportunity to remind you how to access one of your most important membership benefits.

Annals of Work Exposures and Health

Members are able to access issues of the *Annals of Work Exposures and Health* (formerly known as the *Annals of Occupational Hygiene*) right back to the

original issue from 1956, online.

If you have not already done so, you may need to activate online access for your subscription here: <http://academic.oup.com/my-account/activate-subscription>. If you do not have an Oxford Academic account, you will need to create one as part of the activation process. Registration is free and only takes a minute. You will need your subscription number which appears on emailed correspondence from OUP or on the label of your hardcopy issues.

Please note that from this year, we are going to provide online access only to members. However, we know some members prefer to read a printed copy of the *Annals*, and if this is your preference, you will still be able to receive a hardcopy version. All you need to do to ensure you benefit from the posted copies is to let us know by following the steps below:

- Log on to your My BOHS account
- Click 'My Preferences' in the left-hand menu and then 'My Account Preferences'
- Tick the box next to the question 'Do you want a printed copy to be posted as well?'

While you are updating your preferences, it would also be a good opportunity for you to check that the personal details we hold for you are correct, and to tell us about your particular interests in occupational hygiene. We are now able to tailor our content so that you only receive communications that are relevant to you, but we can only do this if the data is up-to-date and accurate.

CPD

Faculty Members: if you haven't already started adding information for 2017 then now is a good time to start thinking about adding data. We know it can be hard to find the time to keep your records up-to-date, and sometimes CPD gets put to the bottom of the list. However, if you start now, you may find it is of great help to you with your professional development, as it gives you the time to reflect on your personal plans and needs.

A few simple steps that can help you plan for CPD:

- Make space in your diary. Put aside at least 30-45 minutes
- Log on to the CPD section of your 'My BOHS' account
- Update your record with your latest activities and developments
- Reflect on the details you have just added and plan your CPD activities for the next three months
- Add another date in your diary for three months' time to repeat the process. It is probably a good idea to repeat this process at least three/four times a year

If you have any questions about the *Annals*, CPD or any membership-related matter, then please contact the Membership Team and we would be happy to help. We always like to hear from our members!

You can contact us at the following:
membership@bohs.org
or by telephone: +44 (0) 1332 250714.



Stay informed about BOHS news as it happens!



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SAVE
THE DATE



The Chartered Society for
Worker Health Protection

OH 2018 STRATFORD- UPON-AVON

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16-19 April 2018

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Qualifications Update



Natalie Horton
Project Manager—Qualifications

Well, Spring has sprung, and it’s certainly been a busy couple of months in the Qualifications office!

The big topic for us right now is asbestos. We’re very excited about the voting in of FAAM, and what it will mean for BOHS and the asbestos industry. Whilst the final stages for FAAM’s launch are being prepared by our hard-working Member Services team, we’ve been developing P400, a new Foundation level module suitable for anyone training to become an asbestos surveyor or analyst. Not only does it give them a valuable stepping stone in the asbestos career path, P400 will also give candidates the required knowledge to be able to take our asbestos Proficiency qualifications. This will give them the opportunity to become involved in FAAM, and play an important part in promoting good working practice in the asbestos industry.

In the last issue, we highlighted that we’d just launched our international asbestos Proficiency qualification IP404, designed for asbestos assessors in New Zealand, Australia and further afield. We’re now preparing to launch IP403, a qualification suitable for asbestos analysts working overseas; specifically New Zealand, Australia and South Afri-

ca. As we continue to grow internationally, we are also building good relationships with occupational hygiene societies overseas, and are working together to promote worker health protection as widely as possible.

Those of you who attended the BOHS Annual Conference in Harrogate may have spotted some shiny yellow flyers advertising the Certificate in Controlling Health Risks in Construction (CCHRC). This is a one day training course aimed at site supervisors, which informs them about the most common health hazards on construction sites, and how to control them in order to prevent occupational ill health. We’ve been developing this course over the last 18 months in collaboration with the construction industry, and at the beginning of May, we carried out a final pilot training course, which was received very positively by the attendees. We are now preparing to roll out the final stages of CCHRC, with a view to launching it in the very near future.

It’s a big step for BOHS and the construc-

tion industry, in helping people to recognise that ‘health’ is just as important as ‘safety’.

The ladies in International Services, Roz and Michelle, also attended the BOHS Annual Conference, to promote the *Annals of Work Exposure and Health*. Chief Editor, Professor Noah Seixas, travelled over from Washington to give a talk on how to get your work published in the *Annals*. It continues to receive a high volume of paper submissions, with its new name allowing for publication of an even wider scope of subjects on workplace health and occupational hygiene.

In the meantime, we continue to review and develop our existing qualifications and examinations. This involves everything from the training provider set-up process through to the teaching materials, examination papers, marking system and admin processes. We are working closely with our training providers in order to ensure that we are delivering the most up-to-date industry information to course candidates, and to assure the best quality of service for all our customers.

Faculty of Occupational Hygiene
BOHS

CCHRC
Certificate in Controlling Health Risks Construction

We’re always keen to get new people involved in our examination development process!

If you’re interested in becoming a question writer, or would like to recommend someone, please drop a line to natalie.horton@bohs.org



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Meet the Member (President): Karen Bufton



Karen relaxing on holiday with her husband, Paul, and children, Alex and Tom

Current job title and organisation for which you work?

Health Operations Manager, Shell International, based in London.

What A-levels and first degree did you take?

Maths, geography, economics and general studies A-levels. BSc Environmental Science Degree at Bradford University, which at the time had a module specialising in occupational hygiene and toxicology.

What was the first job you got when you finished your full-time education?

Occupational Hygienist, BP International Ltd, based in Sunbury, Middlesex.

What further qualifications do you hold?

Certificate of Operational Competence in Occupational Hygiene, Diploma of Professional Competence in Occupational Hygiene, plus, other safety related qualifications.

How long have you been a member of BOHS (or any of its predecessors)?

26 years! How the time has flown!

When and why did you become interested in occupational hygiene?

I read a job advert for an occupational hygiene university placement year at BP when I was 20. I remember trying to memorise the definition of occupational hygiene on the way to the interview! I got

the job and had a great year learning about occupational hygiene in practice, and supporting the corporate occupational hygiene team with monitoring at a variety of different sites across Europe. After that year, I was hooked on occupational hygiene and continued to work for BP after I graduated.

What is your 'pet subject' in occupational hygiene?

Chemical exposure risk assessment and management.

How has BOHS, or BOHS membership (including its predecessors) helped you in your career?

Of course, I gained all my qualifications (including 'Chartered' status) via BOHS, but I really value the conferences and regional meetings which enable me to network and meet other occupational hygienists. Through this network I can always find an occupational hygienist who can help me with a tricky technical question, and I can also help others resolve their issues if needed.

Describe a typical day in your job.

There is no typical day! I work in the Shell Health Risk Science Team, which comprises toxicologists, ecotoxicologists and exposure risk scientists. At the moment, I am leading a global project team, reviewing how we introduce and

manage purchased chemicals. On this project I have to work with different teams across the Shell businesses, including occupational hygienists, risk scientists and product stewardship. As a result, I spend a lot of time in telephone meetings, with occasional meetings in The Hague in the Netherlands.

How did you get your current job?

The company I worked for was taken over by Shell, and fortunately, I was successful in getting a position within Shell. I started last November and I am really enjoying it.

What do you enjoy doing when you're not working?

Spending time with my family (husband Paul and two boys Alex and Tom aged 12 and 10) on days out and travelling.

Football or rugby (and which team)?

Neither, but my family are Chelsea supporters so I get dragged to the odd match. I actually prefer cricket and enjoy watching matches in the summer.

Where did you last go on holiday?

Sightseeing and walking around Loch Lomond in Scotland at Easter.

Cat or dog?

Cats definitely. We have two rescue cats called Liesl and Ziggy. We recently bought some cat cameras so we can see them when we're on holiday!

Favourite film?

My favourite is 'The Philadelphia Story' with Katherine Hepburn and Cary Grant.

What was the last music album you bought?

I have no idea as I tend to listen to the radio. However, I recently went to see the Kaiser Chiefs who were excellent!

Favourite book?

Tricky one! I read a lot in my spare time and tend to gravitate towards murder mysteries and thrillers. I'm currently reading 'The Trouble with Goats and Sheep' by Joanna Cannon, which is a mystery set in 1970s Britain, and describes how two 10-year-olds set out to try and find out what happened to one of their neighbours who has disappeared. I still haven't worked it out and I'm nearly at the end of the book!



Karen's rescue cats,
Liesl and Ziggy

Interested in appearing in
Meet the Member?
We are always looking for
members to feature in this
regular column!

If you would like to be
the next person, please
contact Claire Creed at
exposure@bohs.org



Park currently has a requirement for qualified or part-qualified occupational hygienists to work on our acclaimed construction and major infrastructure projects across the UK. A competitive salary and benefits package will be negotiated commensurate with your skills and experience. Knowledge of construction and civil engineering is desired but not essential.

In addition, we are seeking enthusiastic candidates with an interest in occupational hygiene to join our development programme. Suitable for graduates with a science background or those who wish to retrain in a new field.

**For more information and an informal chat, please contact:
Linda Williams**

01296 310454

Or send your full CV detailing qualifications to linda.williams@parkhs.co.uk



take a deep breath.



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- **27 Oct: Surgeon's Hall, Edinburgh**
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