

# THE INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

Edinburgh and East of Scotland Association Museum Committee

Chairman:  
R A Paxton MSc CEng MICE  
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YOUR REF.

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7 October 1987

D C Beak Esq BSc MICE  
Honorary Secretary  
Edinburgh and East of Scotland Association  
Institution of Civil Engineers  
North of Scotland Hyrdo-Electric Board  
16 Rothesay Terrace  
EDINBURGH EH3

Dear Colin

## ANNUAL REPORT 1986-87

Following Charles Roe's resignation as Chairman earlier this year the Committee now consists of myself, Ron Noble, Ted Ruddock and the welcome addition of new member David McGuigan.

The question of any re-negotiation of our Museum's founding agreement with the Royal Scottish Museum has not yet come to a head but is expected to exercise the Committee during the forthcoming session.

Three other local engineering bodies in the UK and Ireland are associated with museum collections and contact has been made with Dr Ron Cox of the School of Engineering, Trinity College, Dublin; Professor George Fleming of Strathclyde University; and Dr Michael Gould of Queen's University Belfast to discuss matters of mutual interest. Dr Cox has presented the museum with an illustrated exhibition catalogue 'Engineering Ireland 1778 - 1878'.

In August arrangements were made with ScotRail for the loan of a late Victorian 4-screw level for display at the Forth Bridges Visitor Centre.

The most notable acquisition during the year was an Elliot Bros brass transit instrument with 30-inch telescope and 7-inch vertical circle used for setting out the Talla water supply scheme c.19000. This fine instrument was donated by Lothian Region Water and Drainage Department through the good offices of Ken Richards and Gus Ferguson. A copy of Tait's 1905 account of the Talla Scheme has been acquired to complement this item.

Any other offers of contributions for the collection would be most welcome.

Yours sincerely

*Roland Paxton*