

**Edinburgh & East of Scotland Association
Museum Committee**

Chairman: Professor Roland Paxton, MSc CEng FICE
Secretary: David McGuigan. PhD CEng MICE MIHT DipTE
City Development Department
The City of Edinburgh Council
1 Cockburn Street
EDINBURGH EH1 1BJ
Tel: 0131 469 3658 Fax: 0131 469 3730



**THE INSTITUTION OF
CIVIL ENGINEERS**

Edinburgh & East of Scotland
Association

MUSEUM COMMITTEE - ANNUAL REPORT 1996/97

Membership: Mrs Fay Fyfe
Professor Paul Jowitt
Dr David McGuigan, Secretary
Professor Roland Paxton, Chairman
Mr Charles Roe
Mr Ted Ruddock

The Museum Committee continues to be active. Although the past year was not as busy in terms of acquisitions as the previous year, another five items have been added to the collection which now comprises exactly 200 items. One major item - the Grainger portrait - is now back on display following repair.

The collection of engineering materials has been enhanced by the acquisition of a brick from Brunel's Thames Tunnel which was opened to pedestrian use in 1843.

The collection has been further enhanced by a replica commemorative plaque in ductile cast iron manufactured recently for the Laigh Milton Viaduct on the Kilmarnock to Troon Railway near Kilmamock.

The portrait of Thomas Grainger MICE (1794-1850) which suffered some vandal damage has been fully restored. The frame has been strengthened to accommodate a heavy 6mm plate glass cover to protect the picture from further damage and is now on display again at the west end of the crush area adjacent to the main collection. The cost of this work (£800) did not have to be met by the local association as Great George Street provided the finance.

It is hoped to invite members of the local association committee to view the collection one evening later this year or early next year. It is hoped to conduct the evening in the form of a conversazione with light refreshments.

The exhibition is on permanent display in the Department of Civil and Offshore Engineering at the Heriot-Watt University. Anyone wishing to see it will be most welcome.

David McGuigan
Secretary to the Museum Committee