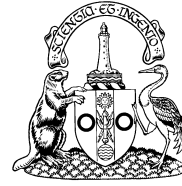

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**THE INSTITUTION OF
CIVIL ENGINEERS**
East of Scotland Association
Museum Committee

6 September 2001

MUSEUM COMMITTEE - ANNUAL REPORT 2000-1

Membership: Mrs Fay Fyfe
Professor Paul Jowitt
Dr David McGuigan, Secretary
Professor Roland Paxton, Chairman
Mr Charles Roe
Mr Ted Ruddock
Ex officio Mr Richard Williams (Local Association Secretary)

Passers by have often admired the Museum's Bilston Glen viaduct display, now painted, outside the Civil & Offshore building at Heriot-Watt University and a modified display for the general public is currently in preparation for mounting at the viaduct site.

The suspension link from one of the anchorages of Menai Bridge on loan from the General Assembly of Wales has now been carefully stripped down and flakes of paintwork preserved for future analysis. Its 1825 colour was probably white. No load proofing mark was found which raises the question as to whether the anchorage links, which were of larger scantling than those outside, were proved. It is hoped to exhibit the link this autumn.

Arrangements are in hand with the Tweeddale Museum to obtain the portrait of John Miller by Watson Gordon on long loan and hang it in the students' long gallery, near to that of his professional partner Thomas Grainger (by the same artist) on permanent loan from ICE. This partnership was largely responsible for engineering Scotland's railways in the 19th century. The painting requires restoration and glazing and is not expected to be available for display until August 2002.

On learning that the Association for Industrial Archaeology is to have its annual conference at Heriot-Watt University next year, the Committee invited its members to join with Local Association members at a sherry conversazione to view the updated Museum Collection. This event will take place during the early evening of 6 September 2002 when it is hoped to unveil the Miller portrait. The last such event was in March 1998.

On the administration front, the museum's catalogue has now been set up in Microsoft Access. This will allow greater flexibility in maintaining and using the catalogue.

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

David McGuigan
Secretary to the Museum Committee