

15 May 2007

MUSEUM COMMITTEE - ANNUAL REPORT 2006-7

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

Last year I reported that there had been a serious gas explosion in the tower above our collection which caused water damage to the display cases. Although the collection was undamaged all items had to be taken into temporary storage.

Good-looking new cases were installed and have now been refilled for some time providing a satisfactory temporary display pending a more systematic one.

As part of the 250th celebrations of the anniversary of Telford's birth we have been approached by the National Library of Scotland and National Portrait Gallery to loan, for a Telford Exhibition to be held at the latter in September and October, two of our artefacts. These are the original wrought iron link from Telford's Menai Bridge and the finely executed model of ca. 1870 of Telford's Broomielaw Bridge over the Clyde at Glasgow. We have agreed to this request and Jim Dignan has made a replica of the Menai Bridge link in wood so that our display will not look bereft for the two month period that the original will be on display at the Portrait Gallery.

A party of distinguished engineers from home and abroad who are visiting Scotland from 1st-6th July for the Telford conference and tour will be shown over our museum during the evening of 1st July after dinner.

An exciting new acquisition for the collection is a replica of the Telford commemorative plaque to be unveiled by the Duke of Edinburgh at Edinburgh's Telford College at a soirée on 2nd July in the presence of Professor Quentin Leiper President of the Institution of Civil Engineers and other eminent persons. The cost of this replica plaque is being met jointly by the University and ICE.

This year Professor Archer donated an Assmann Hygrometer which we were particularly pleased to receive as it fits in very well with our existing collection of testing/measuring machines.



David McGuigan
Secretary to the Museum Committee