

Dear colleague,

We are pleased to bring you our third edition of the IHBC East Midlands Branch Committee bulletin and to provide more information on our Annual General Meeting and an exciting opportunity to meet up and socialise with colleagues from the North-West Branch.

IHBC East Midlands Branch returns to Buxton for the 2015 AGM



This year's AGM will take place in Buxton on **Friday 4th September**, the location of the IHBC Annual School in 2009 when we welcomed our colleagues from around the UK to the East Midlands.

The AGM will be followed by a joint social event with our friends at the North-West Branch, which will both provide a chance to get to know and network with members from the other side of the Pennines and also get to see a behind-the-scenes tour and talk on John Carr's masterpiece, the Grade I listed Buxton Crescent, in advance of the planned major refurbishment into a 79-bedroom 5* spa hotel. The tour will be followed by drinks and a hot supper social at the Old Hall Hotel. For more information, please read on.

We also want to canvas our members on the type of events we organise with a quick survey that will take less than five minutes to complete – so please follow the link!

AGM, TOUR AND SOCIAL EVENT INFORMATION

Programme for the day

4pm	Meet at the Old Hall Hotel, Buxton (SK17 6BD)
4.15pm	Branch Annual General Meeting at the Old Hall Hotel (all members welcome)
5.15pm	Presentation and tours on Buxton Crescent (booking required)
6.45pm	Hot supper (drink included) at the Old Hall Hotel (booking required)
8pm	Close of formal event but potential for relocating to suitable hostelry nearby

About Buxton Crescent

The Crescent was built in the 1780s by the Fifth Duke of Devonshire as the centre-piece of his Georgian Spa development. Derbyshire County Council took over half the building in the 1970s and used it as offices and a library. High Peak Borough Council has owned the other half of the building since 1993 (formerly the St Ann's Hotel). The Natural Baths were run by High Peak Borough Council as a public swimming pool from 1937 until 1972 and then as Buxton's Tourist Information Centre.

The refurbishment project proposes:

- A 79-bedroom 5* spa hotel occupying the majority of the Crescent and which will incorporate the magnificent Assembly Rooms
- A thermal natural mineral water spa in the Natural Baths
- A visitor centre in the Pump Room and the Crescent that will present the town's spa heritage and allow public access to some of the buildings' best interiors
- 6 small retail units in the front ground floor of the Crescent
- An enhanced setting to the buildings incorporating a new water feature to the Crescent's front forecourt

External links: [Derbyshire County Council](#), [High Peak Borough Council](#), [BBC Derby](#), [Buro Four Project Design and Development Managers](#), [Buxton Advertiser](#).

About the North-West Branch

The North-West Branch is one of the more active branches of the IHBC, drawing on the Conservation Officers of both Greater Manchester and Merseyside, as well the more rural parts of the region in Cheshire and Lancashire. The Branch also covers the Isle of Man.

With this resource, the North-West Branch organises a number of national conferences and as a result the joint social event should be an exciting opportunity to hear what's going on in the North-West Region. For more info, go see their webpages on the [IHBC website](#).

Practicalities

Full personal protective equipment, i.e. footwear, hi-vis vest and hard hat, are not required, but sensible footwear is recommended. Drinking trousers advisable.

Booking

Attendance at the AGM is free to our members but we will need to charge members a £5 nominal fee for the hot supper (including drink) at the Old Hall Hotel. We also need people to book by **26th August** onto the event so that we can plan the catering.

To book, please click on the following link and complete the [online booking form](#).

MEMBER SURVEY – WE WANT YOUR VIEWS!

To inform the review of our Branch Business Plan, we want your views on the type of events we organise to provide CPD for our members and also opportunities for socialising and meeting members from around the Region.

In addition to your name and email address, the survey has only seven questions which seek your views on the type of CPD events, such as those focussing on practical craft skills or on the IHBC membership competencies, and on how far you might be willing to travel for the right event.

We also want your views on how we can help our Affiliate Members progress to Full Members.



You can access our short [Member Survey](#) from this link or via the [East Midlands webpages](#).

Your views will then be considered at the AGM and will influence the events we organise for 2015/16 and onwards.

SO PLEASE GIVE US FIVE MINUTES OF YOUR TIME SO THAT WE CAN PLAN THE EVENTS THAT YOU WANT TO ATTEND!

Yours,
The East Midlands IHBC Branch Committee