

IED

INSTITUTION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

SOUTH WEST BRANCH SUMMER 2007 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the South West IED branch newsletter. Its purpose is to share information about events held each year.

Message from the Chairman

There have to be comparisons made with Economic Development and the Glastonbury Festival mud! There is a competition this time for any member with the best phrase and I will think of a prize for you whilst I escape to Toronto.

"Despite working up to my armpits in mud it was all worth while?"

I have just read that Toronto has one of the largest regeneration projects in North America involving more than Can\$17bn and 800 hectares of waterfront land and they are looking for European developers and designers! After Boscombe I think this should be easy enough so I will suggest a surf reef!

Hope you all enjoy your well deserved summer break once summer has returned and please get in touch with myself or Caroline if you are happy to host a gathering of wonderful IED people in the next few months, or next year.

As John has mentioned, we are looking for locations for branch meetings in August or September this year (we have a provisional for November) and next year - this newsletter gives details of this year's visits which should give you an idea of the things we have been up to. If you have an idea for a visit please contact our branch secretary Caroline Brailey on (01380) 734634 or email caroline.brailey@kennet.gov.uk

29th September 2006 – Full Sail Ahead! ‘Poole’

The venue for this visit was the RNLI Lifeboat College and what a splendid venue it was. We listened to presentations by David Ralph, Head of Strategic Planning, and Sam Fox-Adams, Regeneration Manager, both from the Borough of Poole. They talked about the new harbour crossing that is currently in development, and the Vision for Poole regeneration project. We then had a walkabout around some of the regeneration areas and the centre of Poole including the Dolphin Shopping Centre.



Many thanks to the Borough of Poole for hosting this visit

2nd February 2007– Bournemouth – Branch AGM

The AGM was held at the beginning of the first branch meeting of the year. Members received reports from John Wicks -Chairman, Caroline Brailey - Honorary Secretary and Colin Lomax - Treasurer who were all re-elected for 2007 together with Chris Worthington in his second year as Vice-Chairman.

In his report the Chairman highlighted some of the activities taking place at the IED Council, including the need to increase membership overall, which branches can help with by each introducing one person to join. During her report Caroline stressed the need for members to come forward to host events. Some events could be based more around topic discussions. A discussion took place and everyone agreed that some meetings would be useful to talk about Local Area Agreements, and Urban Regeneration Companies (for example)– please come forward if you would be able to organise such a meeting. We all agreed that Fridays are the best day for our branch visits/meetings.

Following the AGM we welcomed Richard Knott, Principal Urban Renewal Design Officer from Bournemouth





Borough Council who gave a presentation on the Bournemouth Town Centre Regeneration Proposals followed by a walking tour of the Town Centre including the Square, major development areas, the Casino site and the sea-front.

Many thanks to Bournemouth Borough Council for hosting this visit.

4th May – Swindon Regeneration and Wroughton Science Museum

We began our meeting at the Brunel Tower, also known as the David Murray John Building – a few of our members nearly got lost trying to find it, even though it is the tallest building in the Town Centre. “You didn’t tell us that” I hear you cry!



We heard a number of presentations from David Evans, Sinclair Brown and Bill Cotton who talked about a number of things going on in Swindon at the moment, including the Swindon Strategic Economic Partnership, an overview of Swindon – growth opportunities and creating the UK’s Best Business Location, and Marketing Swindon. Carol Heneghan then talked us through the plans for the Town Centre Regeneration before we embarked on a bus tour of the town. We then travelled up to nearby Wroughton which is host to the National Science Museum, where we looked at many interesting (and large - see above) exhibits!

Our thanks go to Swindon Borough Council for hosting this visit.

15th June – Plymouth – A City of Opportunity

A potentially wet visit turned into a lovely sunny pleasant afternoon – we all met at the SWRDA office in Royal William Yard, Plymouth. It is an amazing place and my photographs don’t do it justice.



Rupert Owen told us about the Vision for Plymouth, and how the City Council intend to achieve it. We then heard from David James about the SWRDA investment into Royal William Yard and its current and future development.

Jon Turner of Sutton Harbour Group talked about the work they are doing both in Plymouth and further afield.

We then went on a walkabout of Royal William Yard which included a visit to a £1.2m apartment, which we all thoroughly enjoyed – although to be quite honest, we didn’t think it was much better than our places back home – did we!?



Many thanks to Plymouth City Council and the SWRDA for hosting this visit.

To find out more about the visits we have had, please have a look at our section of the IED website, or contact me and I will try and get information for you or put you in touch with our host.

If there are any IED members out there who have yet to experience one of our branch visits, you have been missing out! I hope this newsletter has given you a feel for what we get up to, and the fun that we have.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:-

We have a blank slot in August with potential visits to Penzance in September, and Gloucestershire in November but we will let you have dates as and when these potentials become actuals !

10-11 October National IED Conference 2007 – Cardiff Hilton
“Valuing Economic Development – delivery, investment and governance” This conference will be looking at a range of issues briefly summarised as “Who delivers? Who pays? And Who’s in charge?” of economic development. Full details of the programme and booking forms can be found on the Conference website: www.economicdevelopmentconference.com or by calling 01494 714201.

Next year so far we have provisionally lined up:

15th February 2008 – AGM – Civic Centre, Barnstaple

April – date to be confirmed – Eden Project, Cornwall

June – Exeter Quay

*****Please remember – locations required for 2008 branch visits*****

*******These events are an opportunity to inform others about the good work you are doing – please contact Caroline now to discuss your ideas *******

IED South West Branch - Chair: John Wicks 01202 451109
Secretary: Caroline Brailey, Community Partnership Liaison Officer, Kennet District Council, Browfort, Bath Road,
Devizes, Wilts SN10 2AT (01380) 734634
caroline.brailey@kennet.gov.uk

IED, P.O. Box 396, High Wycombe, Bucks HP15 6EL Tel: 01494 714201 Fax: 01494 718556
Company limited by Guarantee No. 1748926 (England)