

# NEWSLETTER

## Welcome to 2021 From Your South Wales Region!



*IMechE President Elect Peter Flinn will assume the office of President in May.*

*Peter is a chartered engineer who studied mechanical sciences at the University of Cambridge. He also holds an MBA and attended the ISMP senior management programme at Harvard Business School. He has worked mainly in the manufacturing, aircraft, rail, commercial vehicle, and process industries sectors.*

*His most recent industrial role was as Managing Director of Vectra Group Limited, an engineering consultancy specialising in safety work for hazardous industries.*

*Since withdrawing from active consultancy in 2017, he has written a book entitled Managing Technology & Product Development Programmes.*

Welcome to the 2021 newsletter. It's been a remarkable year and one where we have had to re-think our approach to how we engage with our members in The South Wales Region. From cancelling all of our event from March onwards to re-booking events for an optimistic restart in the autumn to the scenario whereby we don't envisage holding any face to face events until at least the autumn of 2021! Nevertheless we managed to hold our belated AGM in November and elected the committee and its officers. For the year ahead, your committee has arranged a varied and interesting programme of online events. These will be promoted via our online communications channels and our members will have the opportunity to participate on line.

Don't worry, our social events are still on hold and we will return to a more visible and personal presence as soon as the conditions allow. So when the time is right, Mike Bubbins and Beverley Humphreys will be joining us for the evening.

Whatever your interests, and with the increasing focus on Continued Professional Development for Engineers we are confident that there will be something in our programme for you. We have had a very challenging 2020 in terms of events and interacting with our members. Join us as we look positively towards the future for an interesting and informative 2021!

With the increase in focus on everyone's mental health in these difficult times we will be running our first mental health and well-being course in March in conjunction with i-act who provide training in this area for organisations. If you are interested in learning more about this then please follow the link in our events preview section of the newsletter.

In 2021, we are aiming to develop our activities in terms of working more closely with our local universities, expanding our interaction with other professional institutions so that we may promote cross industry events. Furthermore, we have expanded how we communicate with you, our members, including a new regional presence on Twitter and Facebook.

We will be using several online group meeting platforms such as "WebEx" and "Microsoft Teams" for our online webinars and training sessions. Please be sure to familiarise yourself with these common software packages!

We still have some committee roles left to fill so if you want to get involved with the operation of the South Wales Region then please check our website and submit an application. The roles will be supporting the vision and strategy of our new chair Mr. Howard Jones who took over rather belatedly in November 2020 when we held our AGM.

**Contact Us:** <https://nearyou.imeche.org/near-you/UK/South-Wales>



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Search "IMEche South Wales Region"



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@imeche\_swales

Written and edited by  
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If you have any comments about this Newsletter or would like to contribute to future editions, then please do not hesitate to contact us.

South Wales Administration Team  
E: [swalesadmin@imechenearyou.org](mailto:swalesadmin@imechenearyou.org)

## Reviews – Past Events

### The Toyota Production System – 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019

#### Toyota Way

##### Respect for people

Mutual Trust / Mutual Responsibility

Train Members

No Fear No Blame

Ownership at all levels

Teamwork

Employee Engagement



The South Wales Region welcomed Martyn Hayward from Toyota's LEAN education centre on 4<sup>th</sup> February to hear about the culture of LEAN and how it's implemented in Toyota and other organisations to ensure that continuous improvement is embedded at the heart of the organisation and becomes part of the culture. The system places a real emphasis on its people who are at the heart of any change and can really make a difference to implement change.

The room was packed full of students and professional engineers alike who came to hear about this important topic. We would like to thank Martyn for giving this talk on our behalf.



### Detecting Arterial Disease - A Combined Approach 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020

We held our National Science & Engineering Week lecture in Swansea University. Unfortunately this was our last event due to the Coronavirus Pandemic until we reconvened for our AGM in November. Mr Gareth Jones who is a Research Engineer with Swansea University delivered a talk on how the medical and engineering professions are combining to detect serious medical issues. The presentation provided an overview into how Arterial Stenosis is estimated to effect between 1% and 19% of the population. Current diagnostic techniques are expensive and invasive. In particular, by using a combination of physics based models of pulse wave propagation and machine learning classification algorithms novel non-invasive, inexpensive screening methods can be achieved. With the application of hydraulic modelling techniques robust and reliable models are able to be produced to evaluate and pin point particular arterial issues within the human body.

### Swansea University Students Excel In Design Competition!

In conjunction with Swansea University the South Wales Region hosted a design competition with the faculty of Mechanical Engineering. Engineering Central was the venue for this latest competition which it is hoped will be held annually to support the Mechanical Engineering discipline in one of our local universities.

Students were given the task of designing a remote controlled vehicle and producing a design report. The design study and report were examined by a panel of judges and prizes were given out to the winning students. Mathew Holt our Young Member's Panel Chair was on hand along with Dr. Andrew Rees to make the presentations to the winning students.

Prizes were awarded to the following students:

1st place: Rory Crockatt

2nd place: Katie Clark

3rd Place: Evan Millership



## Previews – Future Events

### i-act Mental Health Awareness Training 2<sup>nd</sup> March & 9<sup>th</sup> March 2021



With the ever increasing focus on everyone's mental health and wellbeing the South Wales Region has partnered i-act who are a mental health and well-being organisation to run a course on Understanding and Promoting Positive Mental Health and Wellbeing in the Workplace. This accredited online i-act training is aimed at supporting managers, employees/front-line workers to improve their own wellbeing in the workplace, and support others who may experience a mental health or wellbeing issue. The course will be delivered over two separate evenings in 1.75hr sessions. This is being offered to members of the South Wales Region and is accredited for CPD points with the Royal College of Psychiatrists.

**Venue:** Delivered by I-Act over their online delivery system.  
*Please note that the course is delivered over two separate evenings (2<sup>nd</sup> March and 9<sup>th</sup> March)*

- The 3.5-hour live instructor-led online i-act session.
- A hard copy of the evidence-based 168-page i-act course manual, toolkit, and resource pack (inc. p&p direct to participants' home/work address).
- Certification as a registered i-act manager/practitioner (valid for 3 years).
- A free i-act pen, reference card and pin badge.
- Access to the online i-act resources (valid for 3 years).
- Accreditation with The Royal College of Psychiatrists and certified CPD points.

To find out more or to book using Link: <https://nearyou.imeche.org/near-you/UK/South-Wales/event-detail?id=18631>

Contact South Wales Administration Team at [swalesadmin@imechenearyou.org](mailto:swalesadmin@imechenearyou.org)

## South Wales Region Centenary Celebrations

Believe it or not but the South Wales Region celebrates its Centenary in November 2021. We will be holding a series of commemorative events throughout November which will include a prestige lecture.

If you have any information about the Region from its early days or have any ideas on how we can celebrate this milestone in conjunction with our usual programme then please do get in touch with us. We would love to hear from you!



Contact South Wales Administration Team at [swalesadmin@imechenearyou.org](mailto:swalesadmin@imechenearyou.org)

## Regional Matters

### Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the 2021 Annual General Meeting of the South Wales Region of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers will be held on:

Date: Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2021  
Time: 6:00 for 6:15 p.m.

Venue: *This event will be run on line. Registered members will be sent the joining instructions prior to the meeting.*

Nominations for the Regional Committee, including the signature of the nominator and signed written consent of the nominee(s) should be sent at the earliest opportunity and before 11<sup>th</sup> April 2021 to:

Mr Andrew Hall, Hon. Secretary, IMechE South Wales Region

Email: [swalessec@imechenearyou.org](mailto:swalessec@imechenearyou.org)

After the list of nominations by the Committee has been presented at the meeting, any member of the Branch/Region who is a Corporate Member of the Institution shall be entitled to add to the list a candidate for election to any or each of the offices to be filled, by causing to be delivered to the Chairman at the meeting nominations signed by him as nominator, together with the written consent of his nominees. Any additions shall be confined to the offices of the Committee for which the nominations have been made by the Committee.