

CIPFA South East New Members Evening

Tuesday, 22nd November 2011 was the date for celebration in the Council Chamber at CIPFA's Robert Street offices when eleven new CIPFA members were welcomed to CIPFA membership by President Chris Bilisland.



Nick White, South East Regional Chairman hosted the happy event and representatives of CIPFA and other members of the South East Council were also there to welcome the new members and their guests.

CIPFA South East is proud to be able to celebrate the success of students with their families and friends and to welcome them to the Institute. Hopefully this will be just the beginning of an ongoing involvement with the Region.

After the presentations everyone enjoyed an excellent buffet and a glass or two and took the opportunity to network with friends old and new.

Those welcomed to membership were:

James Beveridge
John Hartley
Gavin James
Phil Killingley
Helen Lawrenson
Luke Linnell
Kay Newberry
Jane Redfern
Laura Shaw
Christopher Szubert
Andy Wickes

Audit Commission
Surrey County Council
Metropolitan Police
Department for Transport
British Airways
PwC
Kent County Council
London Borough of Haringey
Bracknell Forest Borough Council
Hampshire County Council
Surrey County Council

The last piece of the puzzle! – says Laura Shaw

I was very much looking forward to travelling to London to be presented with my CIPFA certificate as it would be something I could keep to symbolise my achievement.

The rewards for my hard work will be far reaching in my career however I also made some friends-for-life with whom I shared the anxiety in the lead up to exams and also the excitement on results day. It was therefore important for me to share this occasion for celebrating such a great achievement with one of those friends.

The evening was enjoyable because it was formal yet relaxed and allowed for people to talk to one another and to see what everybody was up to now that the studying was over. It was also good to look around the CIPFA building and see the views of London.

I feel that attending the presentation ceremony and receiving my certificate was like filling in the last piece of a puzzle on which I have been working for some three years and of which I am very proud.



The President presents Laura with her membership certificate

Nick White welcomes Luke Linnell



“Joy, nerves and uncertainty” – some thoughts from Luke Linnell

For me, the new members' ceremony is the final recognition of three years hard work, of long nights spent revising and self-enforced social embargos! It is an opportunity to celebrate in your success and congratulate friends in theirs. Whilst it's sad to end such an important and defining chapter in your

life, the elation from having those letters after your name far outweighs it.

It is important to maintain the traditions that have shaped the Institute for over 100 years, and the ceremony was presided over and attended by some familiar faces from across the CIPFA network. Not only do you get to share your achievements with your peers, but also with the people who helped get you there.

Amid the formalities photos were taken, each capturing the mix of joy, nerves and uncertainty over how to shake someone's hand whilst simultaneously displaying two certificates! Said photos were made freely available to attendees, which was a nice touch - providing a quality memento that captures the occasion and would look good on any parents' mantelpiece.

The evening was a fitting acknowledgement of our accomplishments. I encourage all future new members to attend their ceremonies and become part of the Institute's illustrious history.

The next presentation evening will be on Wednesday 23rd May 2012