

**Safety Groups UK**

PROMOTING HEALTH & SAFETY NATIONWIDE



# **ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018**

**Norman Stevenson  
CHAIRMAN**



Helping  
Great Britain  
**work well**

## Welcome to the 2017/2018 Annual Chairman's Report for Safety Groups UK

I can hardly believe that time can pass so quickly, this has been a whirlwind of a year.

I must admit that where the organisation was a year ago in my mind, was where we should never have allowed ourselves to get to. We were in my opinion, on a steady downward course to extinction. This was for a variety of circumstantial reasons which I feel to protect those involved, should remain in the past. I do think however, that where we were failing in the past, we have made tremendous progress this year and I would therefore like to concentrate on the positives going forward.

This report provides an over view of our activities during 2017/2018. The financial report and the Secretary's reports for this period are provided separately.

We, the Board agreed early on to refocus on 3 main threads, those being: Internal Stakeholders; External Stakeholders; and Awards: At the same time, we would continue managing the bread and butter elements regarding governance and domestic issues.

**Internal Stakeholders:** the working party that already existed was strengthened by recruiting George Allcock and Roger Bibbings on to the Internal Working Party (IWP). George has taken the lead and the IWP has been extremely productive in terms of providing something tangible for the local groups to tap into. By working together as a team, and by visitations to a number of local groups by some of the working party ( and other Board Members) for a variety of reasons or occasions, we feel that whilst there is a long way to go, and there are no quick fixes, there is a new confidence within the Board that relationships with local groups has improved and that the improvement will continue until there is a healthy culture of 2 x way openness, understanding, acceptance and respect. We still have a long drive ahead of us (hopefully with a human being still at the wheel).

Notwithstanding what we wish to achieve with the groups, we must always remember that whilst we can provide guidance and assistance to groups, some of the problems are and always will be local issues that groups must, and mostly want to manage themselves, SGUK can never be considered as being dictatorial or threatening.

I would urge the working party, George Allcock, Mark Currie, Roger Bibbings and Phillip Grundy, with myself as a consultee / catalyst between the IWP and other working parties. Keep working as a team

This report will state several times "please check our website" – please check our website for more detailed information on what has been produced by the working party so far.

**External Stakeholders:** the working party existed in name only and whilst there are many external stakeholders including sponsors, supporters and partners, the main focus by all 'members' of the working party appeared to be on one single initiative that benefited only one area of the external stakeholder fraternity. Again, we have strengthened this working party who now recognise that we should focus equally on all external stakeholders, including the previously mentioned. The EWP have actually met, which is the first positive and we have agreed that the supporters include financial sponsors, service provision sponsors and those sponsors that simply give us their valuable time and advice, stakeholders, whether or not by way of a formal Partnership Agreement or Memorandum of Understanding should all be treated equally and given equal priority, whilst understanding that each sector of support should be managed individually. The EWP has created

an action plan to facilitate improvement in each of those sectors. The first area of effort it has been decided are sponsors as described above (Financial, Service Provision, Time Provision), which is why our AGM in 2018 is dedicated to those organisations, where we have provided a platform for them to demonstrate just how important they are to us as SGUK and how much we appreciate what they have done for us over the years and at the same time endorse the relationship between SGUK and the individual ‘supporter’.

Whilst supporters need our love, respect and attention, SGUK has also continued to support the existing initiatives like HRAW, LOCHER and others. (more detail later and on the website). We hope that by providing this platform at the AGM event to current, past and potential supporters, our relationships will flourish, and the supporter fraternity will grow. We are delighted that our own Ian Coombes and David Bishop of Western Publications have joined the working party. My message to the EWP is the same as that to the IWP regarding teamwork. The current EWP is Bob Rajan, Norman Stevenson, Mike Nixon, Ian coombes and David Bishop. Unfortunately, Judith Richardson resigned from the EWP and SGUK very recently due to business and personal reasons, but we are assured that the resignation is temporary, and Judith will be elected again onto the Board in the future, we wish her well and thank her for her stalwart efforts over the last 2 years

**Awards:** the SGUK Alan Butler Awards have been running for several years in its current form and the outstanding efforts of Ian Coombes and RoSPA staff are commendable however, successful as it is, we feel that vast improvements can be made. For this reason, and the availability to take over a previously very successful and prestigious award scheme operated by the Scottish Chamber of Safety, we have integrated the SGUK and the SCOS Awards. The integration process is complete and is now live. We can look forward to an even more successful House of Lords ceremony this coming January. Visit our website for further details.

**Other important issues for SGUK:** Over the past year, we have continued to fully support all of the initiatives that SGUK has supported for many years, some of them initiated by SGUK, Health Risks at Work – do you know yours, originally created by SCOS, HSE, RoSPA and SCHWL continues to be used within many member companies around the UK, LOCHER, another SGUK concept born from the fundamental values of HRAW is growing from strength to strength giving higher education, college and university establishments a simple tool to allow education leavers to enter into the workplace with some experience of the safety, health or environmental hazards they may encounter. Through supporting organisations, the LOCHER concept is also being introduced to companies that engage apprentices. We believe this is of great benefit to future employers.

To sum up, we continue to support the following:

HSE’s Health and Work strategy.

Clean Air Take Care campaign

Listen Today and Hear Tomorrow” campaign

LOCHER initiative is referenced in the HSE’s strategy under “Manging Risk Well”

Health Risks at Work – do you know yours initiative

Construction Dust Partnership (CDP)

Noise and Vibration partnership (NVP)

Healthy Lung Partnership (HLP)

SPIASH ( Scottish Action Plan for Safety and Health in Scotland)

Helping GB Work Well

Working with sponsors and supporters to reach out to small firms and help improve standards in that sector

## **Recognising best practices with Awards**

The 2017 Awards were presented at the House of Lords in January as usual, but this year's ceremony was slightly different from previous years. Instead of having keynote speakers addressing the upstairs meeting, we decided to provide a platform for local groups which had either been previous winners of the SGUK Awards incorporating Alan Butler, Maurice Adamson. Gold, Silver, and Bronze Awards or the Scottish Chamber of Safety Awards incorporating Lord Cullen, Albert Porter, SCOS and Stevenson Awards. Downstairs in the Cholmondeley Room, the format remained as before. Feedback from the attendees suggested that the new format was a resounding success and helped to demonstrate that we do care about the member groups. Later in the report, I will describe changes to the 2018 Awards and House of Lords Ceremony 2019 format.

### **My Congratulations to the following**

This year the following groups were winners and the presentation was made at the House of Lords in January, this year:

#### **SGUK Gold Awards:**

- Herefordshire Health & Safety Group
- Swansea & West Wales Occupational Safety Group
- East Anglia Construction Safety Group

#### **Alan Butler Award Winner 2017 was East Anglia Construction Safety Group**

#### **SGUK Silver Awards:**

- Kent Health & Safety Group
- Manchester Occupational Health & Safety Group
- Safety Group West Scotland
- South Cumbria Occupational Health & Safety Group
- South Wales Construction Group
- Tayside Integrated Safety Association
- Wiltshire Occupational Safety & Health Association

#### **SGUK Bronze Awards**

- Humberside Occupational Health & Safety Group
- Mid Anglia Environmental Safety & Health Group

#### **Maurice Adamson Award:**

The Maurice Adamson Award 2017 was presented to **Claire Oakes** of North West Construction Safety Group, who is a very worthy recipient.

### **Formal Partnerships and Memorandums of Understanding**

HSE

IIRSM

BSIF

All of the above are under review and progress being made in terms of updating and re-signing

## **Acknowledgments**

I wish to express my thanks for the help and support which we have received over the past year from the following:

SGUK Board of Trustees, Management Advisory Committee members and Carolyn Reid

I would like to make specific mention of Mike Nixon who has assisted me to get through the last year; Karen McDonnell, who has in a way mentored me for the last 20 years, no less so during my first year as SGUK Chair; Carolyn Reid, whose efficiency and professionalism knows no bounds, and nothing is too much bother; George Allcock for taking the IWP by the horns and provided the enthusiasm required to get results. I could provide some accolade for all of my colleagues because all Board members and Supporters know how to put in a shift.

I would also like to make special mention of Judith Richardson who served on our Board for nearly 2 years before having to resign due to work commitments. Judith took leadership of the EWP and worked hard to encourage new supporters and entice back those that had left us. At this point, Can I propose a Vote of Thanks to Judith and wish her well for the future. Judith will be welcome back at SGUK when her circumstances change.

Our thanks are also due for the ongoing support we receive from RoSPA, HSE, ACT, IIRSM, NEBOSH, IOSH, BSIF, UBM, Western Publications, and in particular their representatives who sit on our Management Advisory Committee

I also want to extend thanks to our other supporters past present and future: 3M, ARCO, Deb, JSP, Scott Safety, MRSL, Posturite, Pureflo, ILEVE, NEBOSH, deb, JSP, BT, BOHS, – Apologies if I have missed anyone, or organisation out.

I would also like to extend special thanks to our President, Lord Brougham & Vaux and our Vice President, Marcia Davies and also Lord Mackenzie of Luton who have all supported our organisation admirably.

Finally, I would like to thank all of our supporters, but particularly my employer idverde, who had done their research before taking me on a year ago and agreed from the onset to support me in my dealings with the safety groups movement, which they have done so far without question and lots of encouragement.

## **Main Meetings in 2017/18**

Open meetings were held as follows:

The Annual General Meeting 2017 hosted by North West Construction Safety Group,

Annual London Meeting and Awards Luncheon, House of Lords, London, January 2018

There have been a number of Board Meetings; IWP meetings; EWP meetings; Awards WP meetings.

Several Board members have attended a number of local group meetings throughout the year to assist in various ways.

## **Outlook – 2018/19 and beyond**

The main changes to look forward to this year and beyond are:

Better communication with local groups and enhanced support.

Better engagement with supporting organisations – (you may have noticed that we have removed the confusion regarding ‘sponsors’ ‘supporters’ ‘partners’ etc, we will now only refer to ‘supporters’ which collectively includes the provision of: finance, time, advice, service, by partnership agreement, MOU, or simply by reference) – all are supporters.

We have changed the constitution to allow supporter representatives to become members of the Board of Trustees and look forward to announcing the first such appointment at the 2018 AGM and on the website.

Lastly, as I have hinted at a number of times, the Awards for this year have changed. Specific details are on the website and within the information pack to be circulated at the 2018 AGM, but in essence, the previously intimated Integration of the SGUK Awards with the SCOS Awards is now complete, the timetable for this year’s awards is:

Innovation Awards (previously SCOS) – entries are open - submission deadline is 9<sup>th</sup> November - Judging 11<sup>th</sup> Dec 2018

Excellence Awards and Outstanding Service Award (previously Alan Butler) – open for entries on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sep 2018 - submission deadline is 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov 2018 – Judging 6<sup>th</sup> Dec 2018

Results for all categories announced individually to winners – 13<sup>th</sup> Dec 2018

Awards Ceremony, House of Lords 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019 – where overall SGUK Gold; Maurice Adamson and Lord Cullen Trophy winners will be announced.

Last year’s awards ceremony was a lot different from those performed in previous years, and feedback suggests it was a success - in Jan 2019, the ceremony will change again – we will be in 1 location throughout, and more time will be given to award winners, and more time for lunch and after lunch reception. Details will be issued in due course. I look forward to entries coming in for all categories, and remember for those groups that do their own awards; local group winners can be entered for the SGUK Innovation awards and possibly get a bye into the second stage of judging with the opportunity of turning their success locally into national success.

SGUK and I look forward to working with you all next year.

Norman Stevenson  
Chairman  
**SGUK**

Examples of our Supporters throughout 2017/18 – apologies for any omissions.



## 2017 Alan Butler Award Sponsors



