The Wellington Park rocked to the sounds of ‘I know that I just can’t remember the answer’ on Friday 4th March at the latest Annual Safety Quiz.

Over 20 teams fought a thrilling contest for both previous entrants and new entrants categories.

With scores neck and neck up until the very last round the ‘Natural Choice’ team from Ulster Carpets just pipped the ‘Up the Lagan in a bubble’ team from Lagan Water for the ‘Previous Entrants’ cup.

Actavo’s Team Sky won the ‘New Entrants’ Bowl.

Anybody that thought a H & S quiz is boring would have witnessed something completely different on the night.

As is traditional at the quiz money was raised in a charity ballot and this year the chosen charity was Cancer Research UK. The total raised on the night was a generous £524.

Thanks go to quiz master Alan Birch from Safety Advice Centre, HSENI for their support and all the ballot prize contributors.

Thanks also go to Executive Committee members and volunteers on the night.

Good luck to both teams who’ll go on to represent Northern Ireland in the All Ireland Finals on 16th April.

Case 390 - Family told by undertaker that shoes are not allowed on deceased’s body for funeral

ISSUE
Family arranging a funeral told by undertaker that the deceased would not be allowed to wear shoes as it was against health and safety regulations.

PANEL OPINION
Health and safety at work legislation does not stop undertakers enclosing shoes in coffins. Depending upon whether the deceased is to be buried or cremated after the funeral, there may be other reasons for not allowing shoes but this should have been explained properly to the enquirer. It is certainly not a health and safety matter.
RoSPA has launched its first older drivers website. The aim is to help older people continue to drive for as long as they are safe to do so, and to provide advice on making the decision to retire from driving if an individual is no longer able to do so safely.

Packed with useful information this is also useful to those who manage work related road safety.

Image licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.

Construction industry needs to look at internal fall protection

Earlier this month HSENI reminded the construction industry about the importance of internal fall protection when working at heights.

Many contractors have got to grips with external fall protections and safe work platforms, such as perimeter scaffolding and MEWPS. However, some don’t realise the need for internal fall protection during work at height. Read HSENI’s press release below.

https://goo.gl/6BEQcx

New Construction (Design and Management) Regulations

The Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment has, on 11 March 2016, made a Statutory Rule entitled 'Construction (Design and Management) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016' (S.R. 2016 No. 146) ('CDM 2016').

New Regulations

**CDM 2016 will come into operation on 1 August 2016 and will replace CDM 2007.**

The new Regulations maintain the framework for management of health and safety risks established by the earlier Regulations but are shorter and substantially simpler in structure.

The main difference between the 2016 and 2007 Regulations is that the previous CDM Co-ordinator role is replaced by a Principal Designer who will have a more central role in the project.

Schedule 5 of the new Regulations provides transitional provisions so that, where an existing project has a CDM Co-ordinator, a Principal Designer must be appointed within 12 months of 1 August 2016, unless the project ends before that date. During the transitional period the CDM Co-ordinator must fulfil the duties set out in Schedule 5.

The Regulations will be included in the list of subordinate legislation on the HSENI website and in due course there will also be a link to a copy of the Regulations on the website:

https://goo.gl/6BEQcx

Cambridgeshire flood means health and safety event ‘too dangerous’

The BBC Cambridgeshire report of what must be a H & S Event Organiser’s worst nightmare.

http://www.olderdrivers.org.uk/

Contact:
info@nisg.org.uk
028 9336 8928
07938 049270

Safety Group Patron:

shponline.co.uk has an interesting article on workplace cyber bullying.

Read the article at the link below.

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Safety Group Patron:
Sign up for City and Guilds NVQ level 5 Diploma in Health and Safety, contact bill@safetyadvicecentre.com

**DIARY**

**DATES**

Tuesday 12th April
DRIVING FOR WORK CONFERENCE

Monday 16th May
MONTHLY MEETING
Holding a H & S Disciplinary meeting (role-play)

Monday 20th June
MONTHLY MEETING
Topic - TBC

Monday 15th August
MONTHLY MEETING
Topic - Confined Spaces
Venue - ITS, Portadown

Monday 19th September
MONTHLY MEETING
Topic - Joint meeting with IOSH

Monday 17th October
MONTHLY MEETING
Topic - TBC

November TBC
ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Topic - Mental Health Matters
Your people, your future

Monday 12th December
MONTHLY MEETING
Safety & Social Media

Full details will be available nearer the time

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THIS YEAR'S JOHN GORDON SAFETY PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNER

Stephen Copley from Actavo (Sky NI Division) wins the third John Gordon Safety Person of the Year award.

Stephen has worked for the company since October 2011 and has consistently demonstrated the highest level of compliance with health and safety requirements.

He is a trained Special Access Task (SAT) engineer qualified to carry out work on premises where standard ladder work does not provide safe access to SKY dish and/or cable location.

Stephen often provides valuable insight on safe systems of work required at those types of installation.

The judges felt that Stephen was a worthy winner of this year’s Award.

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**HSE to prosecute Alton Towers’ owners after ‘Smiler’ incident**

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) has informed Merlin Attractions Operations Ltd that it will be prosecuted over an incident in which five people were seriously injured on a rollercoaster ride at Alton Towers in Staffordshire.

Two female passengers on the ‘Smiler’ ride suffered leg amputations and three others were also seriously injured when their carriage collided with a stationary carriage on the same track. The incident happened on 2 June 2015.

Merlin Attractions Operation Ltd based in Poole, Dorset, will appear at North Staffordshire Justice Centre, Newcastle-under-Lyme on 22 April 2016 to face a charge under the Health and Safety at Work Act etc, 1974.

Neil Craig, head of operations for HSE in the Midlands said: “We have today informed Merlin Attractions Operations Ltd that it will be prosecuted for breaching health and safety law.

“This was a serious incident with life-changing consequences for five people.

“We have conducted a very thorough investigation and consider that there is sufficient evidence and that it is in the public interest to bring a prosecution.”

Merlin Attractions Operations Ltd is the company responsible for Alton Towers and under health and safety law is responsible for managing the risks created by the operation of the theme park’s rides.

Article from HSE Press release.

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**Glasgow truck deaths highlight need for proper health checks**

The inquiry into the Glasgow bin lorry crash, which left six people dead, has highlighted the importance of employers meeting their duty of care responsibilities.

The fatal accident inquiry heard how the driver allegedly "misled" his employers about his medical history.

This incident highlights that employers must ensure that drivers are not only fit to work but that they carry the appropriate licence for the vehicle they drive.
HEALTH & SAFETY HISTORY

Continuing our history of health and safety from the beginning which began with the Factory Act 1802. In this issue we cover the period 1995 - 1997

1995 -

Health and Safety Laboratory (HSL) becomes an agency of HSE

The Research and Laboratory Services Division laboratories were integrated into one laboratory which became the Health and Safety Laboratory.

Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 1994

The CDM Regs came into force on 31 March 1995.

RIDDOR

Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) is introduced.

1996 -

RoSPA began campaigning to promote the Management of Occupational Road Risk (MORR) in the mid 1990s after calculating that using the road was the greatest risk that people faced in the course of their work.

1997 -

The UK Southall rail accident occurred when the 10.35 high speed train from Swansea to London Paddington collided with a freight train operated by English Welsh and Scottish Railway. The incident happened at 13.15 on 19 September 1997 at Southall East Junction. Seven people died in the accident and 139 people were injured, some of these sustaining serious injuries. HSE’s Railway Inspectorate investigated the incident and an official inquiry was conducted by Professor John Uff.

www.historyofosh.org.uk

Didcot Update 16.3.16: Joint statement from HSE and Thames Valley Police

“RWE has today (16/3) presented a plan to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and Thames Valley Police (TVP) to commence work on the collapsed debris, ready to recover the missing men.

“Starting today, large equipment and people will be arriving on site to start work to enable the recovery operation to resume at the weekend, sooner if possible.

“Progress with the plan over the coming days will be closely monitored by HSE and TVP.

“Our priority remains the recovery of the missing men so they can be returned to their families and to understand what caused this incident. Specialist officers from Thames Valley Police continue to support the families and are providing them with regular updates on the progress of this work.”

Thinking about entering this year’s Safety Awards but are unsure?

Read the comments made by Greg Livingstone, H & S Manager Montupet (UK) Ltd., Belfast – Winner: Distinction and Joint Winner of the Occupational Health Award from 2014

“We were delighted to have been awarded the inaugural Occupational Health Award and consider it a major achievement for the Company. Entering was tough, but we found the experience a very good way of helping us to improve the overall Health & Safety standards within our organisation. I’d encourage any Safety Group member who’s serious about safety to enter the Awards”.

And then register your interest at info@nisg.org.uk

Find the details at www.safetyawards.ie

Behr Iron and Steel pleads guilty to OSHA violation causing death of employee

ROCKFORD — A Rockford-based company pleaded guilty today before U.S. Magistrate Judge Iain D. Johnston to willfully violating Occupational Safety and Health Administration regulations, resulting in the death of an employee at the company’s facility in South Beloit.

Behr Iron and Steel Inc., a high-volume ferrous and nonferrous scrap processor, admitted in a plea agreement that on March 10, 2014, the company failed to provide lockout-tagout protection and confined space protection as required under OSHA regulations for the company’s employees who were cleaning a shredder discharge pit. The company admitted that those violations caused the death of Reynaldo Hernandez-Ortega, 39, of Beloit, Wisconsin.

Mr Hernandez-Ortega was caught in a moving, unguarded conveyor belt. He was pronounced dead at the scene. An autopsy showed he had died of traumatic asphyxia.

The company faces a maximum sentence of five years probation, a maximum fine of $500,000 and restitution to the victim’s estate in an amount to be determined by the court.

Thanks to member Kevin Howlette for showing us that H & S is no different across the pond.