

Chairman's Message

I felt the Annual Conference in Cork was a great success, so our thanks go to Fiona Cawkwell and Ned Dwyer. As well as having a good technical programme / exhibition, with contributions from our commercial members and the British Association of Remote Sensing Companies (BARSC), we also had great social events such as the conference dinner and céilí. I'm sure that Bournemouth will be equally enjoyable next year with Ross Hill busy taking notes during Chairman's Half Hour, which was very well attended. We had a lively session that started with some points about the current conference, but moved onto wider topics. Ideas that were aired included a "Guide to Remote Sensing & Photogrammetry" with technical monographs on specific applications / subjects. Increasing public engagement through learning materials linked into the school syllabus and visits linked to the annual conference. Also, public lectures that would attract local interest. If you would like to respond to these ideas / provide additional ones then please make contact via the various routes...

In addition to the Facebook Group (primarily setup/administrated by our Student Community, but open to anyone), we now also have a LinkedIn Group (<http://www.linkedin.com/groups?mostPopular=&qid=3262301>). The UKGEOforum (a group of societies and associations who are interested in geospatial information, which includes RSPSoc) have also setup a LinkedIn Group. The next UKGEOforum Annual Lecture (27th Jan 2011, 17.30 for 18.00 at the RICS, 12 Great George Street, Westminster, London, SW1P 3AD) will be by Prof David Lambert on "How can geography contribute to education for survival?" This lecture is free to attend and open to all, but delegates must log their interest with cmallett@rics.org. Get in early as this year's lecture by Vanessa Lawrence (Ordnance Survey) was oversubscribed.

RSPSoc have teamed up with the Open University who will provide a 10% discount off the published fee for short web-based CPD courses. For further information please visit <http://www8.open.ac.uk/employers/added-value-services/professional-body-partnerships/special-arrangement>. If other training providers are willing to provide a discount to members I would be very happy to hear from them and hence for the Society to publicise their courses / events. My own feeling is this provides added benefit for those joining / considering what their membership fee pays for.

Sam Lavender

chairman@rspoc.org