

Industrial Heritage Association of Ireland Awards



Pictured at the Industrial Heritage Awards evening on 26 February were (l-r) Patsy Gorman, Senior Executive Engineer, Road Design & Construction, Environment & Transport Department, Dublin City Council; Nicholas Tarrant, Executive Director, Engineering and Major Projects, ESB; Carla Marrinan Funder, CEO National Print Museum; Dr. Ron Cox, Chartered Engineer and Visiting Research Fellow at the Department of Civil, Structural & Environmental Engineering, TCD; and Michael Grace, Retired Consultant Town & Country Planner.

In his welcoming address, Nicholas Tarrant, Executive Director Engineering and Major Projects, said:

“IHA was created by people of vision and commitment and the fruits of your earlier efforts are now slowly but surely creating an awareness of our rich industrial past. The approach you are taking to progressing your aims is to be admired. I commend your organisation’s efforts in fostering connections between different sectors, diverse professional organisations and voluntary groups and this is actively forging a consensus that we should not only have a sense of shared ownership for our past, but it is something we strive to safeguard and celebrate.”

Brendan Delany from the IHA stated: *“The IHA is delighted with the continued and invaluable sponsorship of these awards from ESB which seek to give recognition to individuals and organisations who have made an outstanding contribution to promoting and safeguarding industrial heritage on an all-Ireland basis. It is important that we both recognise and celebrate achievement.”*

The recipients of the Awards were:

Best Museum/Industrial Heritage Site: National Print Museum.

The National Print Museum was founded by members of the print industry and in 1996 it officially opened at the Office of Public Works’ Garrison Chapel in Beggars Bush Barracks, Haddington Road, Dublin 4. The Museum is a private company and a registered charity, with principal income from the Irish government — chiefly the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and the City of Dublin Education and Training Boards through the provision of the Cultural and Heritage Studies

Programme. The Museum is fully accredited under The Heritage Council's Museums Standards Programme for Ireland.

It is a unique museum — the only one of its kind in Ireland. The collection is made up largely of letterpress printing equipment. The main collection is not behind glass or rope, but is instead an example of a working collection which consists of fully-operational letterpress printing equipment, displayed and organised like a traditional 1960s print-shop. The panel of retired printers and compositors, who founded the Museum continue to play a vital role in preserving the collection and the craft

Special Recognition Award: Dublin City Council Bridge Maintenance and Restoration Programme.

Dublin City Council's Road Design and Construction Division has over the past 30 years pro-actively progressed a programme for the restoration and maintenance of bridges which come under their care. This is a challenging and difficult task as there is very significant differences in design and functionality of each bridge. Continual changes in the demographics of the city, changes to lifestyle and to the way business and commercial life operates in the city bring new demands. In particular, there has been a significant increase in the demand for improved pedestrian and cycling facilities as well as an expansion of public transport services.

There are over 130 bridges in the care of Dublin City Council that span the Rivers Liffey, Tolka, Dodder, Finglas, Santry, Poddle & Camac, the Grand & Royal Canals and the railways. The work involved in overseeing the restoration and maintenance of these important civil engineering structures is an essential public service which must be carried out with minimal disruption to public services and to the general population going about their daily business. This work also enhances the environment in the city by ensuring these bridges remain attractive, functional and fit for purpose while remaining an integral and dynamic element of our industrial heritage.

Many of Dublin's bridges are protected structures and require special care. Overseeing this process includes the engagement and supervising of specialist contractors who undertake repairs to steel and reinforced concrete bridges, wrought iron & cast iron, stone re-pointing, restoration of parapet railings, capping's and balusters, cleaning and painting to deal with graffiti and many other services.

Mary Mulvihill Media Award / Best Publication: *Called to Serve* Volumes 1 & 2, published by Engineers Ireland. Author: Ron Cox.

The book *Called to Serve Two* published in 2018 is the follow up to *Called to Serve*, which was published in 2014. This presented a brief history of the Institution of Civil Engineers of Ireland (ICEI) up to its unification with the Engineers Association (Cumann na hInnealtóirí) in 1969. A major portion of the book was devoted to short biographies of each of the presidents from John Fox Burgoyne in 1835 to James Clement Ignatius Dooge in 1968. The presidential addresses were analysed, the aim being to present their highlights and insights in an historical context. *Called to Serve Two* covers the Presidential Addresses from the time of unification of the engineering profession in Ireland in 1969 up to 2018 and these are also presented in an historical context. Edited abstracts from the addresses are preceded by a continuation of the brief history of the Institution of Engineers Ireland (IEI) from 1969 to 2018 in order to provide a framework within which the addresses may be considered. A major portion of the book is devoted to biographical sketches of each of the presidents – from Jock Harbison in 1969 to Peter Quinn in 2018.

Lifetime Achievement Award: Michael Grace.

Michael Grace has had a life-long interest in the environment, especially that of urbanised areas, and a parallel interest in the history of technology and industry.

Michael spent most of his career with the consultancy firm of Brady Shipman Martin, in which he later became a Partner. As his career developed, he established a particular expertise in seeking to reconcile the requirements of industrial and infrastructural development with the needs of conservation and heritage, both of the environment and of industry itself. These developments included motorways, railways, airports, power stations and many types of manufacturing and service industry, particularly the quarries, mines and plants of the extractive sector. In undertaking these projects, Michael always believed that both development and conservation should be treated as an integral part of the overall project, rather than as separate, often conflicting, issues.

Of particular heritage significance were a series of plans and strategies relating to both the legacy and the future of canals and navigable rivers, both here in Ireland and in Great Britain. These plans identified appropriate ways in which to develop the resources of the waterways, whilst, at the same time, securing their on-going heritage value.

At a higher level of planning, Michael was the chief author of the Strategic Planning Guidelines for the Greater Dublin Area, which established a new direction for the development of the region, in particular through control of sporadic sprawl and the development of enhanced public transport. He also worked on follow-up bus and rail strategies.

Michael has been a member of the Industrial Heritage Association of Ireland for many years, has served on its Executive Board and is currently completing a term as President. He has also been actively involved for over thirty years with the Newcomen Society for the Study of the History of Engineering and Technology. Michael served as President of the Newcomen from 2015 to 2017 and remains a member of Council.