



## MY WEEK

**Name:** Ben Kidd, BSc MSc AIEMA

**Role:** Project Manager, CIRIA and Modern Built Environment KTN

*Career highs* – being invited to author a chapter of a book on infrastructure resilience and adaptation.

*Career lows* – attending a job interview in an office kitchen in Brighton, while a staff member prepared his egg mayonnaise sandwich nearby.

*Interests* – sustainable development, infrastructure asset management, climate change adaptation, early 20th century politics and philosophy, charity shop shopping, alternative comedy.

## DIARY ENTRIES

### Monday

An early start with a visit to Halcrow's offices in Hammersmith for a 9.00 meeting with Tim Broyd to discuss infrastructure innovation and technology. Back in the office, checked emails and finished composing email to Prof Brian Collins, Chief Scientific Advisor to DfT and BIS, to discuss infrastructure adaptation after meeting him at an ICE event the previous week. Reviewed a case study supplied by Blackpool Council and Gaist on their innovative use of online GIS-based software for collaborative stakeholder engagement and asset management. Finished putting together the agenda for the Technology Strategy Board Design for Future Climate Change competition event. On way home, noticed that the dry cleaning shop in Old Street station was selling off unclaimed garments and wondered whether I'd forgotten to pick up one of my suits.

### Tuesday

Gave a presentation at a Practitioners Forum for a University of Birmingham-led project on Resilience through innovation: critical local transport and utility infrastructure. At the office, had discussions with colleagues about a CIRIA Network event on onsite renewables later in the year, and forwarded my comments on a

Strategic Forum working group document on energy management on construction sites. Before heading home, picked up ingredients to cook spinach and anchovy quiche. Caroline liked it, but cringed at the sight of me struggling in the kitchen. After eating, watched "2012" comedy on BBC4 – I wonder what the Olympic Delivery Authority team think of it?

### Wednesday

announce launch of DfT Highways Maintenance Efficiency Programme in CIRIA Member News and get involved!

Another 9.00 meeting, this time at Arup's café on Fitzroy Street to discuss MBE KTN climate change adaptation activities. Strangely, it doesn't feel like work if you have a meeting in a café. Finished CIRIA briefing on infrastructure resilience, referencing various recent reports such

as the Engineering the Future report and Infrastructure UK Implementation Plan. Hosted meeting of the IEMA South East Steering Group and then led the group to another of our raucous socials at the Leicester Arms in Soho.

### Thursday

Early start to catch a train to University of Oxford to attend second day of the Adaptation and Resilience to a Changing Climate (ARCC) annual conference, and another chance to catch up with the climate change conference circuit regulars Roger Street, Prof Jim Hall, and John Dora.

### Friday

Put a call in to Prof Kenichi Soga of University of Cambridge to get an update on their Innovation and Knowledge Centre for Smart Infrastructure and to confirm his attendance at the next Geotechnical Asset Owners Forum meeting. Accepted a few more LinkedIn requests and finally succumbed to changing my profile picture on Twitter after various heckles from friends and family – I don't think I look anything like a Mexican bandit!

**Name:** Louise Clarke, BA, MArch

**Role:** Project Manager, CIRIA

MY  
WEEK

**Career highs** - Being accepted to join the 2050 group. This is a group of young professionals in the construction industry looking at how to achieve the Governments commitment to cut carbon emissions by 20 per cent by 2050.

**Career lows** - Taking a temp job as a receptionist and waiting for the phone to ring as I had no computer and no other jobs to do! The phone rang on average about 15 times a day so it was a long week!!

**Interests** - Green infrastructure, sustainable development, urban design, sustainable water management, climate change adaptation, sports - tennis, cycling and netball, films and cinema, and organising local community events as a volunteer for WaterAid.



## DIARY ENTRIES

### Monday

The usual Monday morning routine of catching up with emails and reading the latest news stories to keep up-to-date with what is going on in the industry. I make the final arrangements for the launch event on 30 November for Delivering biodiversity benefits through green infrastructure. Around noon I have to travel across town to the BSI offices for a meeting to discuss a BSI standard on biodiversity. Once the meeting finishes its home time and onwards to netball training at 19.30.

### Tuesday

Attended the launch of the Green Infrastructure Partnership set up by Defra and CLG at SWI Gallery in Westminster. I met Tom Butterworth from Natural England at the event and it was encouraging to see people from across the industry signing up to be involved in the partnership. I'm back in the office by 11.45 and have an internal meeting to discuss the arrangements for the next EMSAGG (European Marine Sand and Gravel Group) conference. I leave the office at 17.00 to attend a 2050 sub group meeting.

### Wednesday

First thing my inbox is full from emails from the Technology Strategy Boards (TSB) Design for Climate Change competition project leads. The 24 projects, which were funded as part of the competition, have to supply a project summary slide for the start up workshop next week. The CIRIA editor sends through some redrawn images for the Delivering biodiversity benefits through green infrastructure (C711) publication, which I check and approve.

Netball match -  
head straight to the  
match after work.  
We just lose in the  
last quarter - gutted!

### Thursday

This morning I speak to a few contacts about a new proposal that we are currently fundraising for BITE (Business Improvement through Ecology). Leave the office at about 12.30 to attend the last Project Steering Group meeting for the Large trees in the urban environment project. It is a successful meeting where the final sign-off for the document is agreed by the PSG. In the evening, I have a WaterAid meeting to discuss the last events including a pub quiz and organising a collection on World Toilet day.

### Friday

First thing we have a research team meeting, which is a good chance to hear what else the team has been up to. It also provides us with an opportunity to discuss possible future projects and any new contacts we have made. Once back at my desk I confirm the venue for the "Addressing crime and disorder" event on 26 January. Now we just need to confirm the speakers! We finalise the pre-release offer for Delivering biodiversity benefits through green infrastructure (C711). At 17.00 it's down the pub for a few drinks with work colleagues.