



CIBSE Annual Heritage Lecture - Wed 24th Oct 2007

A time to reflect on Past Experience to Inform Future Development

The River Lee Hydro-Electric Scheme - 50 Years in Operation

Synopsis of Lecture

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the construction of 2 dams and ancillary works on the River Lee at Inniscarra and Carrigadrohid in County Cork. Besides the harnessing of the River Lee to produce 'green' electricity, the scheme has delivered other important benefits to the people of Cork. These include the management of flood waters, storage of water for the Cork Harbour water supply and the creation of a significant leisure amenity. However there were major social upheavals and environmental losses, examples of which were the loss of private lands and homes, the destruction of the Gearagh forests and the collapse of the prestigious wild salmon fisheries of the river.

The following distinguished speakers have had a close involvement with the River Lee, the hydro-electric scheme and with the local environment. They will each deliver a short presentation with a focus on key points of interest to the engineering profession:

Mr Ferdie O'Halloran – Civil / Structural Engineer on Inniscarra Dam and Cork Harbour Water Scheme,
Mr Liam Buckley - ESB Manager of the River Lee Hydroelectric Station,
Mr Donal Murphy – Fisheries Engineering Consultant,
Mr Jack O'Keeffe – Former ESB Chief Civil Engineer and Member of International Committee on Large Dams,
Mr Kevin Corcoran - Specialist in history and preservation of the Gearagh,
Mr. Seamus O'Donoghue - Author of 'Flooding of the Lee Valley'

This is a unique opportunity to learn about the formation of the dam, the subsequent years of operation and the impact of the scheme on communities in County Cork.

Programme for the Day:

2.30pm and 3.30pm

Tours of the Inniscarra Dam (numbers limited - please RSVP)

Kindly hosted by the ESB.

6.00pm

Light refreshments in the Boole Library Lecture Theatre Lobby, University College Cork,

See reverse side for Parking Details.

7.00pm to 9.30pm

Presentations by Listed Speakers

9.30 to 10.00pm

Open Forum & Closing Comment

Date: Wednesday 24th October 2007

RSVP: Friday 19th October 2007 – Numbers need to be confirmed for Tours of Dam and Refreshments.
Anna Maria Murphy, Arup, Tel No. 021 422 3274 or email anna-maria.murphy@arup.com

