



President Address 2019

Mrs Katy Moss
Managing Director
Trent Refractories Ltd
Scunthorpe

President Address

Being part of the IRE is significant for me both personally and professionally, to be president is a whole new honour.

Having grown up with a father who believed in the IRE, who was an early member to the institute, it has been part of my journey into the refractory world to get involved and try to make sure that the skills learned by generations present get passed down to the next.

In 2011 I took over the family business in difficult circumstances following my late fathers death (R Crossland). My previous career was from a financial and business background, learning about such a specialist field has been and continues to be a steep learning curve.



Katy Moss



IRE Dinner March 1973, Robert and Jean Crossland

I recognise that the refractory market has changed significantly since the IRE began, it is a global market place now and the scale of the market in the UK has declined massively with the loss of many steelworks and foundries around the country and in our local area. The way people work and interact has also altered – smart phones, the internet, cheap travel. We work harder and have less free time, communicating mostly through electronics.

It has also come to my attention that this year is 30 years since my late father was Vice-President of the IRE, having found an old one in the filing cabinets around the office this was a welcome surprise and quite poignant.

My aim as president is to make the IRE sustainable, engaging and relevant to its members and supporters. Modernising how we interact and foster new talent is imperative to growth and being able to offer more to our members. The committee and I are determined to ensure this and hope to bring many changes over the next year.

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Contents

ANNUAL CONFERENCE	4
TECHNICAL PAPER	8
NEWS RELEASE	15
EDITORIAL	19
A.G.M. REPORT	20
GUIDE TO GOOD PRACTICE	23
CONFERENCE PHOTOGRAPHS	25
NEWS FROM INDUSTRY	28
BRANCH NEWS	29
BUYERS GUIDE	33

ADVERTISERS INDEX

Anderman & Co. Ltd.	16
Arnhold Trading Co. Ltd.	18
Bartles Graphic Services Ltd.	21
British Clay Products Ltd.	22
B.S.C.	back cover
Chiron Steel Products Ltd.	30
Cleveland Refractory Ltd.	6
Denaby Minerals Ltd.	18
Derby & Co. Ltd.	7
Diamond Anchor Co. Ltd.	6
Flogates Ltd.	front cover
Gibbons Refractories Ltd.	27
GR-Stain Refractories Ltd.	17
KER Ltd.	32
M.D.S. Furnace Services Ltd.	16
Newbold Refractories Ltd.	31
Purimachos Ltd.	19
The North Bitchburn Fireclay Co. Ltd.	18
Tighe Industrial Cleaning Contractors Ltd.	22
Universal Abrasives Ltd.	2

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What should I be remembered for in my presidency?

- Sustainability
- Engagement
- Relevance

Long may the IRE continue, I will do my best to understand it and make it sustainable.

We want to interact with our members and continually improve for their benefit, growing membership as we go.

We want to give our members and supporters what they want, staying relevant and keeping them up to date with market developments. Remember this is your IRE.