



HELCL

HERTFORDSHIRE ENGINEERS' LUNCHEON CLUB

WELCOME PACK

An Introduction to the Club's features

History

HELCL is a club for professional engineers and scientists from Hertfordshire and surrounding districts. It was formed in 1997 for membership by present and past members of any Engineering Institution. The Club was initially sponsored by the Herts Area of the IEE, but is now a totally independent organisation with 120+ active Members, and has become more inclusive, welcoming professional people from various scientific backgrounds.

Club Objectives

The objective of the Club is to enable members of the engineering and scientific professions to meet socially for lunch at regular intervals and attend visits to places of interest. Lunches are followed by a talk on a subject of engineering or general interest.

The monthly lunches

The lunches are held on the third Thursday of each month at 11.30 for 12.30 in the *Homestead Court Hotel* in Welwyn Garden City. Dress is normally smart casual with a jacket and tie for the men. Expect to get away by 3pm. The three course lunch with coffee costs £23.00 and includes a starter, meat main course, and a sweet and coffee. An alternative main course "chef's selection of fish", may be pre-booked when registering for the lunch. On arrival for lunch members check in by the hotel reception. Those who have pre-booked fish are asked to collect a 'Fish' card which they should display on their lunch table to assist the waitresses.

A cash bar is open for drinks before, and with the meal. Lunches must be booked no later than the Friday of the week before the lunch. Details of the lunches, along with the necessary booking forms are included in the Newsletter.

Any Member who is unable to attend after booking is responsible for the cost unless a cancellation is notified by the Friday previous to the booked lunch.

Some individual members reserve seats for themselves and their guests by placing cards on the tables. Whilst this has disadvantages and is less than ideal, nobody has come up with a more acceptable idea yet!

Newsletter

A bi-monthly Newsletter is produced and published on the weekend before the Lunch in January, March, May, July, September and November.

It is distributed to our members in colour by e-mail but a black and white printed copy can be posted to members who so choose for an additional payment.

It contains Club news, details of forthcoming events, lunch booking forms and Letters to the Editor.

Other activities

The Club organises a number of other activities which currently include Walks, Visits and Additional Lectures. The visits range from a one day trip to an interesting venue to an Away Break covering perhaps four days to places of interest.

The Committee

John Hammond <i>Chairman</i>	Chairman@helc.org.uk
David Bell <i>Treasurer</i> <i>Membership Secretary</i>	0845 463 6645 * Treasurer@helc.org.uk Membership@helc.org.uk
Allan Goodfellow <i>Secretary</i> <i>Newsletter Editor</i>	Secretary@helc.org.uk Editor@helc.org.uk
Paul Smith <i>Lunch Secretary</i>	0845 467 9983 * Lunches@helc.org.uk
Roy Franklin <i>Speaker Secretary</i>	SpkrSecretary@helc.org.uk
David Purser <i>Joint Away Breaks</i>	AwayBreaks@helc.org.uk
Ian Reeve <i>Joint Away Breaks</i>	ian.reeve@helc.org.uk
Ian Williamson <i>Webmaster</i>	Webmaster@helc.org.uk
Philip Molloy	Philip.Molloy@helc.org.uk
Peter Arrigoni <i>President</i>	President@helc.org.uk
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Mike Champion <i>Vice-President</i>	Mike.Champion@helc.org.uk
Chris Dawes <i>Vice-President</i>	Chris.Dawes@helc.org.uk
Paul Douglas <i>Vice-President</i>	Paul.douglas@helc.org.uk
Vernon Clough <i>Walks Secretary</i>	Walks@helc.org.uk
Eric Riches <i>Honorary Member</i>	Eric.riches@helc.org.uk

* Calls cost 5p [plus 5p per minute after the first 60 seconds] plus your phone company's access charge.

New members

Initially you will be required to fill in a form to provide the Club with data about yourself and your preferences along with a name for the person that could normally accompany you on visits and lunches.

This will only be seen by Committee Members unless you tick the box to allow your information to be seen by all members. This visibility is often useful when it comes to transport sharing on visits and lunches.

A current copy of the Constitution can be downloaded from the HELC website.

You, and if you wish, your partner or guest, are invited to attend the next lunch. Fill in the booking form in the Newsletter and send the cheque as described. At this your first lunch as a member, you may wish to accept our Chairman's invitation to join him at his table.

At this lunch you will be welcomed and shown the booking in procedures and given your name badge and one for your named guest if so requested. Please make yourself known to the Committee Member at the booking-in desk.

Administration

David Bell, the Membership Secretary maintains the HELC database containing the personal details of all

Members and deals with all matters to do with eligibility and membership.

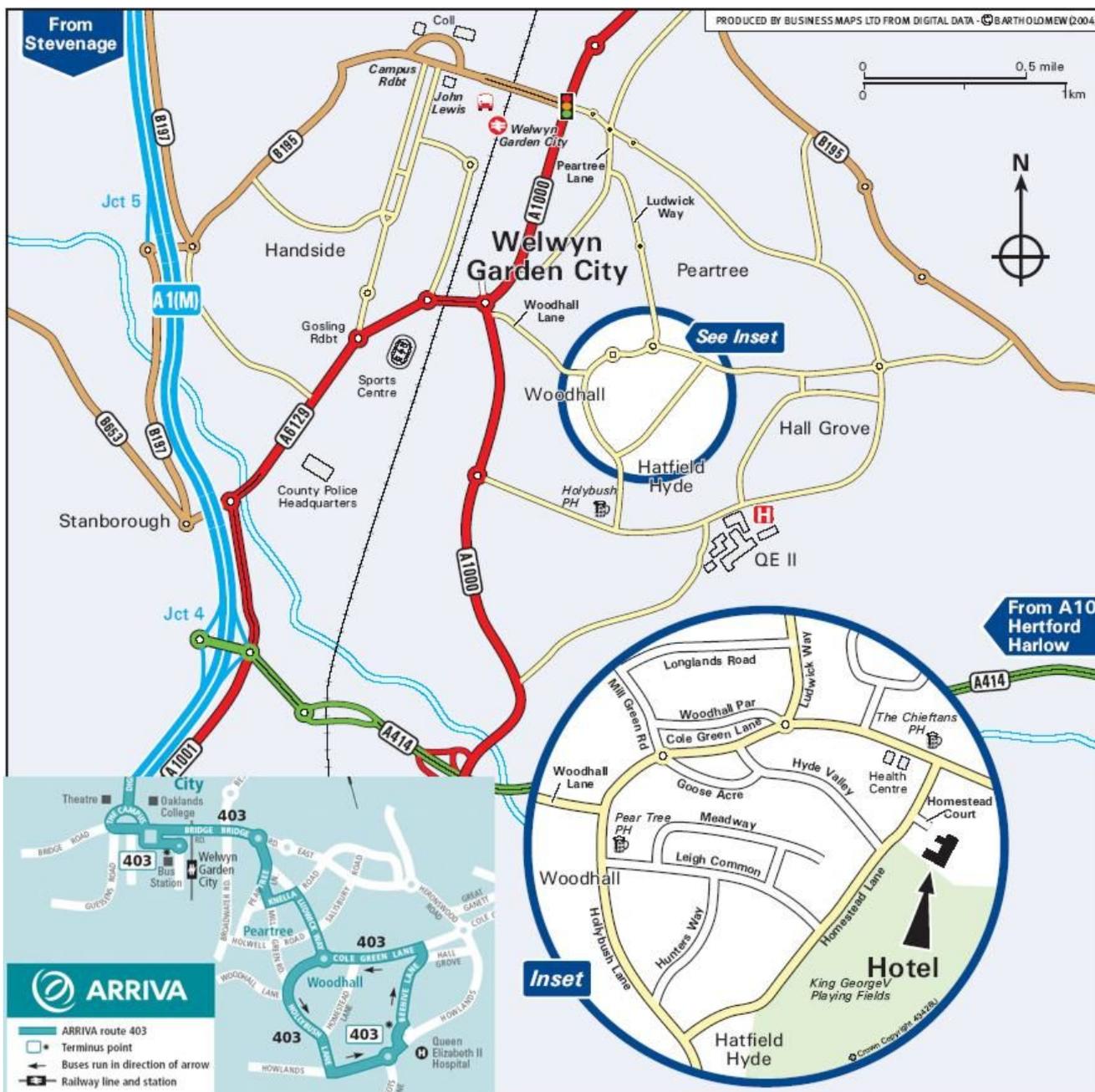
Membership Fees are due on the 1st January each year and reminders are sent out in the November Newsletter or by e-mail, along with a form to update any changes to your personal details.

The annual membership fee is currently £20 - if you take the bi-monthly Newsletter by e-mail, or £30 if you want a printed version posted to your home address.

Please inform David Bell of any changes that occur to your personal details during the year, especially to your e-mail address or telephone number since you will not receive your Newsletter if your address is incorrect.

The AGM is usually held just before the March Lunch and is well advertised in advance in the January Newsletter.

How to get to Homestead Court Hotel



If you are new to the area, perhaps the easiest way to find the *Homestead Court Hotel* is to follow the signs to the QE II hospital, which is well signposted, and then use the above map for the final approach.