



ceca

Working for Infrastructure

# Civil Engineering Contractors Association South West

Annual Review  
2021





# CECA SOUTH WEST PEOPLE

Although 2021 was another incredibly tough year in our industry, CECA South West members continued to demonstrate a firm resilience to the ongoing pandemic whilst facing up to new challenges such as the lack of availability of raw materials (and their spiralling costs) and the imminent withdrawal of the tax rebate on red diesel.

CECA South West addressed the materials' challenge head on with a live Question Time infrastructure materials summit in Swindon in November. This event brought together a panel of industry leaders and an online audience who explored ways in which clients and contractors could work together more effectively to mitigate the impacts being felt by our industry. And whilst the red diesel issue will shortly become a reality, CECA has consulted extensively with members and government ministers, firstly to ensure the effects of these measures are fully understood by politicians and secondly, to try to bring about a fairer transition to the new tax regime.

Elsewhere in the CECA South West 2021 calendar, we resumed physical quarterly members' meetings in September and December and these will continue at our Sandy Park venue for 2022. A record turnout for our Annual Lunch and Young Achievers Awards event in Torquay in October witnessed an excellent guest speaker in Ben Collins (aka The Stig and 007 stunt driver).

Our training programme continued almost exclusively online throughout the past year with a record number of courses rolled out for regional members and their employees whilst our South West Foundations Group scaled even greater heights with an ambitious CPD programme, several new initiatives and an expanding membership of enthusiastic young engineers and technicians. Client engagement remained a priority for members too with a regular programme of liaison meetings held throughout 2021.

A key ambition for CECA in the coming year will be to increase, retain and improve resources and skills levels in our industry, potentially including an exciting initiative to establish a new construction school in our region (with some help from our friends at AccXel). We will also continue to work closely with clients, nationally and regionally, to bring about greater collaboration between contractors and their customers, whilst helping members work realistically towards the net zero agenda.

Although I will be handing over my chairmanship of CECA South West at our March members' meeting, I fully intend to stay engaged and supportive of all the good things which CECA does for us, both here in our region and nationally too. And finally, I wish my successor, Phil Ramsden, the very best of luck in his new role. Knowing him as I do, I'm confident that he will put his own positive stamp on it and represent South West members and their views with his customary enthusiasm and skill.

**Dave Ellis**, CECA South West Chairman



**Paul Santer**, Director and **Dave Ellis**, Chairman, CECA South West

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The South West Advisory Group (SWAG) was established to offer strategic direction to the Regional Director and provide feedback on regional and industry issues. This ensures that CECA South West remains relevant, informed and representative of its members. SWAG consists of:



Dave Ellis

**Chairman**  
**Dave Ellis,**  
Managing Director,  
Bridge Civil  
Engineering



Phil Ramsden

**Vice Chairman**  
**Phil Ramsden,**  
Regional Manager,  
Dyer & Butler/  
Milestone



Andy Beech

**Deputy Vice Chairman**  
**Andy Beech,**  
Operations Director  
Alun Griffiths  
(Contractors) Ltd



Jon Benton

**Past Chair**  
**Jon Benton,**  
Contracts Director,  
VolkerStevin



Andy Pritchard

**Past Chair**  
**Andy Pritchard,**  
Project Director,  
Tilbury Douglas



Paul Santer

**CECA South West  
Director**  
**Paul Santer**



Linda Evans

**CECA South West  
Office Manager**  
**Linda Evans**  
Joined the team  
Sept 2021

## CECA South West Members

Aggregate Industries UK  
Balfour Beatty Construction Services UK  
BAM Nuttall  
BAM Ritchies  
Bridge Civil Engineering  
The Clancy Group  
Cleantech Civils  
Concrete Repairs Ltd (CRL)  
Cormac Solutions Ltd  
Devon Maintenance Plus  
Dyer & Butler  
Forest Traffic Services  
Galliford Try  
E & J W Glendinning  
Alun Griffiths (Contractors)  
Hanson Contracting  
HOCHTIEF (UK) Construction  
Ingenium Civil Engineering  
JSS Rail t/a Sisk Rail  
Keltbray  
Kier Infrastructure & Overseas  
Knights Brown Construction  
McLaughlin & Harvey Construction  
Midas Construction  
Mildren Construction  
Morgan Sindall  
R&W Langley  
Ryearch  
Sir Robert McAlpine  
South West Highways (SWH)  
Suttle Projects  
Tarmac  
Taylor Woodrow  
Teignmouth Maritime Services (TMS)  
Tercon  
Tilbury Douglas

## Associate Members

Drainology  
Gilpin Demolition  
Harmonic  
Smart Drainage  
Wessex Archaeology



# ENGAGING WITH OUR CLIENTS

CECA South West liaised with key clients and public/private sector bodies in 2021 to influence thinking and decision making on infrastructure investment in the South West.

Title pages from presentations given at our client liaison meetings



CECA South West is an Advisory Board member of the South West Business Council and sits on the Steering Group for the South West Infrastructure Partnership, working alongside key influencers for business and infrastructure in our region.





# ENGAGING WITH OUR MEMBERS



## Infrastructure Materials Event November 2021

A live interactive Question Time event from Swindon featuring a panel of industry leaders in the studio and an online CECA member and client audience.





# Members' Annual Lunch at the Grand Hotel Torquay October 2021

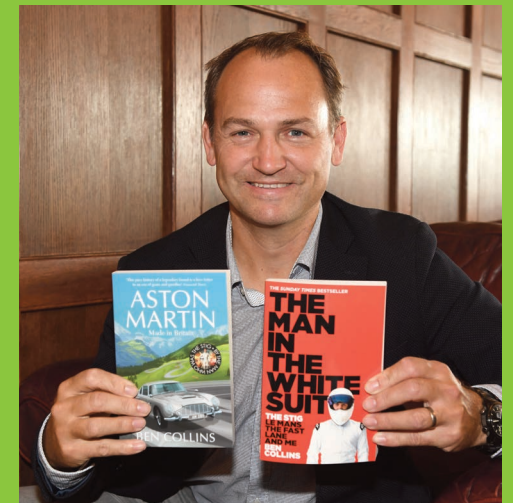


Over 200 people attended the Annual Lunch Event





Guest Speaker Ben Collins  
(aka The Stig and 007 stunt driver)





## Quarterly Members' Meetings at Sandy Park

Our Members' Meetings resumed at Sandy Park in September 2021, after eighteen months of meetings on MS Teams. Guest speakers in September and December included Dorset Council, AccXel Construction School and Margaret Oscar (pictured), who spoke about how internal communication builds an attractive business and increases employee performance.



**Site Visits:** £45m Forder Valley Link Road due for completion in Summer 2022. Main contractor for client Plymouth City Council is Balfour Beatty.

Paul Santer visited the site in December 2021; pictured from left to right, Tony Bloxsome (Commercial Manager), Jon Cartwright (Senior Project Manager) and Paul.



## CECA Inspiring Change Conference & Awards 2021

Suttle Projects was a winner at this event in November 2021. Liam Tucker and Stephanie Lamb were on hand to collect the certificate.





# TRAINING AND DEVELOPING OUR PEOPLE

CECA New Entrant Programme Practical Skills Week (Bircham Newton)



Training hours delivered

4,158



No of people trained

594



## Training Programme 2021

NEC4 Overview Workshop

NEC4 Compensation Event Workshop

NEC4 Pricing Contracts and Managing Risk Workshop

NEC4 Programme Workshop

NEC4 Overview and Introduction to the Engineering and Construction Subcontract

NEC4 Understanding Contract Data

NEC4 Role of the Project Manager

Common NEC4 Pitfalls and how to avoid them

CITB Temporary Works Co-ordinator Training Course

CITB SSSTS (Site Supervisor Safety Training Scheme)

CITB SMSTS (Site Manager Safety Training Scheme)

Management of Risk

Communicating Effectively with Clients

Tendering Masterclass Workshop

Management of Quality

Management of Sub-contractors

Management Development Programme NVQ L6/7

CECA New Entrant Programme –  
Site Surveying and Setting Out course

CECA New Entrant Programme – Practical Skills Week

CECA New Entrant Programme – Commercial Awareness

CECA New Entrant Programme – Planning and Programming



## CECA'S PROFESSIONAL TRAINING TEAM



Glenn Hide



Bob Bilbrough



Brian Stretton

# Supporting Apprentices

CECA South West has forged strong relationships with colleges across the region including Weston College, Exeter College, CETC and AccXel



Chairman Dave Ellis's visit to the Civil Engineering Training Centre (CETC) in Hampshire (pictured with David Richardson CETC's Director of Civil Engineering)





AccXel is the UK's first co-funded, industry led construction school, built in Cinderford, Gloucestershire. It opened in January 2022 with the first 80 apprentices already promised work. AccXel's core initiative in the first two years will include trainee programmes in

groundworks, bricklaying and plant operations. Nicola Bird and Natalie Bell are the drivers behind this unique initiative and CECA, with AccXel's support, is keen to replicate their achievement by opening a second school somewhere in Devon – watch this space!



The new Construction School



Paul Santer and Natalie Bell on a site visit to the school during construction



AccXel launch event in November 2021



Nicola Bird, Katie Hathaway and Natalie Bell



CECA SW Chairman, Dave Ellis, Vice Chairman Phil Ramsden, Nicola Bird, Peter Bell and Natalie Bell at the launch event



# INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION

## CECA South West Young Achiever Awards 2021

The CECA South West Young Achiever Awards celebrate young men and women who demonstrate exceptional talent and ability in our industry. Awards were presented at the CECA South West Annual Lunch in Torquay in October.



The 2021 award winners with  
CECA South West Chairman,  
Dave Ellis



## CECA South West Young Achiever Awards 2021



**Most Promising Apprentice 2021**  
**Brian Munyanyiwa**  
(South West Highways)



**Most Promising Trainee Quantity Surveyor 2021**  
**Daniel Wardrobe**  
(Alun Griffiths (Contractors) Ltd)



**Most Promising Trainee Civil Engineer 2021**  
**Eylul Su Karakus**  
(Kier)

## University of Plymouth / University of Bath Industrial Placement Awards



**University of Plymouth  
Industrial Placement Award Winner**  
**Fergus Longbottom**



**University of Bath Industrial Placement Award  
Winner**  
**Thomas Cohen**



**University of Bath Industrial Placement Award  
Highly Commended**  
**Grace Jackson**



# CECA South West Foundations Group

Despite Covid, the Group remained highly proactive with online CPD meetings, new podcasts, virtual presentations to colleges, careers fairs, Trimble digital construction equipment demonstrations and even a Christmas party!



Group meeting at CECA's Exeter Office

Attending the Annual Lunch at Torquay



Plymouth University's Annual CivSoc Careers Fair



Trimble Demonstration



Christmas Party 2021





Jack Walker  
Kier



Finley Craig  
Keltbray



Mike Wilcox  
Milestone



Hugo Wellum  
BAM



Conner Kearey  
Gilpin



Emily Adlam-Cook  
BAM



Greg Crowe  
Bridge



Matt Devoto  
Tercon



Peter Boden  
Milestone



Eythyn Ward  
Kier



Katie Farrell  
BAM



Kate Firth  
TMS



Dan Wardrobe  
Griffiths



Fergus Longbottom  
Plymouth Uni



Jake Danson  
Suttles



Molly McMaster  
VolkerStevin



Photo credit:  
Plymouth City Council and  
Forder Valley Transport Improvements

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