



ceca
SOUTH WEST



ANNUAL REVIEW 2023

CECA SOUTH WEST PEOPLE

As we move into 2024, I would like to wish all of our members a hugely successful and prosperous year ahead.

2023 was a very busy year for us and construction opportunities in civil engineering infrastructure continued apace in the South West. Everyone in our industry should be congratulated for the way in which they successfully delivered such a wide and diverse portfolio of projects.

I recently had the pleasure of visiting the newly completed £80m phase of the South West Rail Resilience Programme at Dawlish which was delivered by CECA member contractors. It will safeguard our vital rail infrastructure for many years to come. I couldn't help but be impressed by the incredibly high standard of construction accomplished in one of the harshest of marine environments. The heritage of Brunel is evident throughout the scheme and I'm sure the man himself would have been extremely proud of this magnificent achievement.

Our South West Foundations Group continues to work tirelessly in promoting our industry, delivering fantastic engagement with local schools, colleges and universities. I should like to extend a huge 'thank you', not only to these energetic young professionals but also to their respective employers in affording them the time to undertake this vital recruitment task.

With the prospect of a general election this year, CECA has already released details of the priorities it believes must be adopted by the next UK government if it is to deliver strong economic growth and provide a more prosperous, sustainable future for our country. As I enter my final year as your chairman, I will remain focused in the support of these priorities within our region as well as tackling the day to day challenges faced by many contractors.

Finally I'm delighted to announce that in 2023 we raised a record-breaking £13,000 for Children's Hospice South West from the charity bike ride in July and the Annual Lunch in October. This money will



CECA South West Chairman Phil Ramsden (Milestone Infrastructure)

make such a difference to children with life-limiting conditions by providing respite care for them and their families. Thank you to all of you who supported us in this endeavour. We will continue to support Children's Hospice South West in 2024 so look out for details of a 'Tour de Cornwall' charity bike ride in July.

Thank you and best wishes,

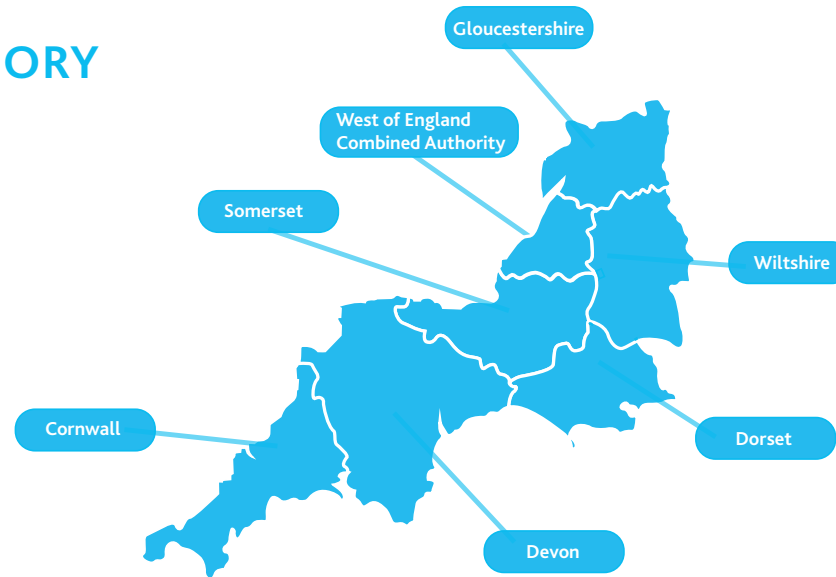
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Phil Ramsden', written in a cursive style.

Phil Ramsden, CECA South West Chairman

SOUTH WEST ADVISORY GROUP (SWAG)

The current chair, vice chair and past chairs of CECA South West collectively form the South West Advisory Group alongside CECA South West Director, Paul Santer.

The Group meets quarterly (or more frequently when appropriate) to agree strategic direction for CECA in the region and identify key member issues which need acting upon.



CECA South West Director Paul Santer (above) is ably assisted by CECA South West Office Manager Linda Evans (below)



Above: The CECA South West Advisory Group. Left to right: CECA SW Director Paul Santer; Dave Ellis (Bridge Civil Engineering); Jon Benton (VolkerStevin); Andy Pritchard (Tilbury Douglas), CECA SW Chair Phil Ramsden (Milestone) and Vice Chair Andy Beech (Alun Griffiths)



ENGAGING WITH OUR MEMBERS



Above: 'Safe Digging' Event at AccXel, Gloucestershire; Below left - 'Safe Digging' presenters pictured with CECA directors who supported the event; Below right - CECA National Chief Executive Alasdair Reisner addressing CECA SW members at Sandy Park





Above: CECA SW Chair Phil Ramsden addresses one of the quarterly members' meetings at Sandy Park



Above: CECA SW Foundations Group visit to Griffiths' site on the St Austell to A30 Link Road in Cornwall



Above: Site visit to Kier's Lower Otter Restoration Project in East Devon. Darren Davis, Project Manager (Kier) and Paul Santer (CECA SW) pictured



Above: Lowering in the first bridge span on the Lower Otter Restoration Project

TRAINING & DEVELOPING OUR PEOPLE

CECA South West delivers a full and varied programme of training courses for its members - ranging from NEC4 Contract Conditions through to Temporary Works Coordinator/Supervisor and SMSTS/SSSTS health and safety sessions; from Management of Quality/Subcontractors/Risk through to Effective Communication training and from a highly respected Management Development NVQ Level 6 & 7 programme to New Entrants' Practical Skills and Site Surveying residential courses at the National Construction College in Bircham Newton. CECA training professionals Glenn Hide (GMH Planning) and Bob Bilbrough (Robert Bilbrough Associates) deliver the majority of these courses together with 2020 Safety Solutions. There are also health and safety mock trials and legal training webinars available to members via our legal partners, DAC Beachcroft.



Bob Bilbrough (Robert Bilbrough Associates)



Lucy Hudson, CECA's Training Co-ordinator



Glenn Hide (GMH Planning)



Training Hours Delivered: **5,690**



Number of People Trained: **844**



Celebrating the successful completion of the fifth and final digital leadership training session (the big guy with the long neck didn't sign up for the course!)



Above right: Some members on the digital training course relaxing between sessions; Scott Walker of Cosmic is seated third from left. Right: Digital leadership training delivered to CECA SW members by Cosmic



ENGAGING WITH OUR CLIENTS

CECA South West maintains a regular programme of client engagements annually. These meetings help to build strong collaborative relationships between CECA members and public and private sector customers in our region.

For some CECA members, particularly SMEs, this is an invaluable service since they simply don't have the time or resources to approach potentially new clients on a regular basis. CECA South West does this on their behalf and brings the customers to them. Client liaison meetings and quarterly members' meetings not only keep members informed of the work pipeline but, more importantly, they encourage two way discussions between members and their customers to bring about a better understanding of each others' concerns, for example around skills shortages, funding constraints and the net zero agenda.

The following pages illustrate the wide range of South West and national clients with whom CECA South West has engaged in 2023.



Devon County Council Liaison Meeting with CECA SW Members at Sandy Park



Devon CC/Milestone A382 Day of Innovation, Sustainability and Carbon Reduction at Exeter Racecourse. CECA SW Director Paul Santer (right) and CECA SW Chair Phil Ramsden (left) with Victoria Walsh, Highway Systems Manager, Devon County Council





South West Water presenting their AMP8 procurement plan to CECA SW members



Richard Price, Pennon Group Chief Engineering Director presenting to CECA members on South West Water's AMP8 programme



Pictured L to R: Paul Santer, Nigel Riglar (Executive Director - Place, South Gloucestershire Council), Phil Ramsden (CECA SW Chair) and Eifion Jones (Business Growth & Investment Director, Plymouth & South Devon Freeport)



Somerset Council's Andy Coupe (Strategic Manager – Infrastructure Programmes Group) and David Carter (Director for Infrastructure and Transport) flanked by Phil Ramsden, CECA SW Chair and CECA SW Director Paul Santer

Below: regular face-to-face liaison with the following organisations in 2023 by CECA South West's Director, Paul Santer also helped to consolidate a good level of understanding and cooperation between CECA members and their potential or existing customer base



Above: EDF Energy (HPC Project) updated members on progress at Hinkley Point C















INSPIRING OUR YOUNG PEOPLE



Hosting at the National Apprenticeship Show, Foundations Group members Katie Farrell (BAM), Matt Sheppard (Balfour Beatty) and Conner Kearey (Costain) with CECA SW Director Paul Santer



Hosting at the National Apprenticeship Show, Foundations Group members Dan Wardrobe (Griffiths), Peter Boden (Milestone) and Mike Wilcox (Kier) with CECA SW Director Paul Santer



Above: Schoolchildren from the entire SW region attended the National Apprenticeship Show in Exeter in January where the CECA SW Foundations Group hosted a stand



Left: Nicola Bird and Natalie King shared their incredible success story of the AccXel Construction School with CECA members in March. AccXel's Constructing Futures programme is inspiring young people to take up groundworker and plant operator apprenticeships at its Cinderford campus in Gloucestershire





South West Foundations Group member and Plymouth University student, Fergus Longbottom, at his graduation ceremony in September with Dr Jon Miles and Paul Santer



Plymouth University student, Thomas Tomalin won the CECA SW prize for his project addressing climate change and sea level rise



Overall prize winner at the Plymouth University Project Showcase event was Ben Sedgwick for his outstanding project entitled 'Marine Contribution to Island Energy Supply'



Students presented their work to industry professionals at the Plymouth University Project Showcase event in May



Apprentices Robbie Balloch (Kier), Joshua Hemming (Bridge/Tercon) and Aiden Edwards (Suttles) rose to the challenge to star in CECA South West's apprenticeship video this year and astounded us all with their honest and engaging performances on screen. Hollywood beckons!



Jake Danson (Suttles) fronting the CECA stand at Corfe Hills School careers evening near Poole



Peter Boden, Ben Kneeshaw and Jack Walker presenting at Blundell's School, Tiverton



SWFG Christmas Party 2023



Mike Wilcox (Kier) has taken over from Jack Walker as Chair of the South West Foundations Group (SWFG)



Above: CivSoc careers event at Plymouth University with Tom Pritchard (Milestone) and Fergus Longbottom (BAM). Below: SWFG pictured after one of their regular meetings with Rufus as guest of honour!



SUPPORTING OUR SOUTH WEST COMMUNITY



'Lycra Dads': CECA SW Chair, Phil Ramsden and Jerry Bricknell of Milestone complete their 225 mile marathon charity bike ride for Children's Hospice South West



Left: Supported by CECA SW members and their supply chain partners, the 'Lycra Dads' raised over £6,000 from their charity bike ride. Above: a staggering £7,000 was raised at CECA South West's Annual Lunch for Children's Hospice South West



Alex Dawson of the BroProject gave a moving account at a members' meeting of how he helps prevent young men from contemplating suicide



CECA SW Chair, Phil Ramsden and Paul Santer were amongst a group of employers who conducted mock interviews for pupils at Sidmouth College

CELEBRATING OUR FANTASTIC INDUSTRY

Our Annual Lunch and Young Achievers' Awards 2023 took place in October at the Grand Hotel, Torquay. CECA members were pleased to come together to recognise the fine achievements of young people in our industry and enjoy a stimulating speech by our special guest, BBC news and current affairs presenter, Evan Davis.



The BBC's Evan Davis was guest speaker. Below right: with a captive audience!



Members of the South West Foundations Group with CECA SW Chair Phil Ramsden & Paul Santer





*Prize winners' group photo:
Left to right are Joshua Hemming (Bridge/Tercon), Jo Giles (Milestone), Phil Ramsden (CECA SW Chair), Michael Green (Bridge/Plymouth University) and Jacob Hardy (Taylor Woodrow/Balfour Beatty/Bath University)*

Below: Nathan Mansfield (BAM Ritchies) receiving his award from CECA SW Chair, Phil Ramsden



Below: Paul Santer presented the 2023 Awards



Jo Giles (Milestone) celebrating her award as Most Promising Trainee Quantity Surveyor 2023





Working for Infrastructure

CECA (South West)
Office 3, First Floor
Alphinbrook Business Centre
Alphinbrook Road
Marsh Barton
Exeter
EX2 8QR

T. 07827 314880

E. paulsanter@cecasouth.co.uk

www.ceca.co.uk



@CECASouthWest



CECA South West

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Rock Armour Project on the Isles of Scilly –
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