May All Of Our Members Have A HAPPY EASTER!
DISTANCE LEARNING START DATES
Apply by 22nd May for start date 2nd June 2023
Apply by 28th August for start date 8th September 2023
Please note that all course fees must be paid in full before any course materials can be released.
Please contact Karen Yates by email karen@materialsfinishing.org
You can find details of courses and qualifications on our website- https://materials-finishing.org/

UPCOMING WEBINARS/SEMINARS
18th April. 1915
Seminar: The Sun from your back garden: Beauty & Menace
19April. 1900
Webinar:-Anodising
23 May. 1900
Webinar: Electroless processes
20 June .1900
Webinar: Plating on Plastics
18 July 1900
Webinar: Corrosion
22 August 1900
Webinar: Principles of Electroplating
All information on how to join the above is available on the Materials Finishing website (www.materials-finishing.org)
Okay so yet again I’m in trouble, being as usual late in putting together my thoughts for this column. As is becoming usual, I’m out of the country once more, but this time enjoying some winter sun on the island of Tenerife. I have to say the weather has been perfect, with most days being sunny and temperatures creeping into the high 20’s.

Rather than the usual picture, I thought for this issue you might appreciate a view of the seafront at Costa Adeje; please don’t ask me the significance of the statues; quizzing the concierge at my hotel, the locals don’t even understand them!

This break from the rigours of work has been much needed, as since the start of the year my feet haven’t really touched the ground. I’ve been travelling once again running training courses in such exotic places as Singapore and Glasgow: no need to explain which I enjoyed most!

I’m very happy to report that our institute continues to be very healthy, even without much input from the Secretary General, without doubt due to the excellent work from both Helen and Karen. I seriously would be lost without these wonderful ladies. I understand we had particularly good enrolment numbers in February (well done again Karen), with a larger than usual interest in the paint modules. On the basis of this I have been asked; and agreed to give a seminar on the paint module, at a date and time to be agreed with John Burgess.

My work load has also prevented me from attending the last board meeting and several group and committee meetings, but I know from reading the minutes, plans continue to move forward on several new initiatives.

One I’m particularly happy to support has come out of the M&M group, ably chaired by John Burgess, which is looking to use some of our “younger” members to promote the IMF to employees of a less mature age working in materials finishing or surface engineering. We have two excellent volunteers happy to take on this role, Curtis Langton of Metal Finishings Ltd and Dan Allum of Indestructible. I’m not certain if they have met yet, but I’ll be happy to give them every help as they put plans together.
Yet again I’m off on my travels in early May, this time back to New Zealand, where I have been invited to give presentations at the three day convention on finishing, being arranged by the Surface Coatings Association of New Zealand (SCANZ). You will remember that I had an extensive holiday to both New Zealand and Australia last year (I still have a load of photographs to bore you all with!), and during my holiday I met the SCANZ President who extended the invitation. I must admit I took no persuading to go back to New Zealand, a country I fell in love with, and especially to a resort on North Island I particularly enjoyed!

One of my presentations will be to detail the technology institutes and associations, the trade associations and other technical bodies with the UK surface finishing industries, and how we all are working together. As I put the Power-Point together it got me thinking about if and how we can build on the arrangements we have with our colleagues in the UK but also throughout the world.

Within the IMF board, we routinely report on our interactions with like minded bodies; best known probably would be the Surface Finishing Association (SEA) and the British Coatings Federation (BCF), both trade bodies, but we also communicate with the Oil & Colour Chemists Association (OCCA), (we have a joint golf day in June), the Institute of Corrosion (ICorr) and the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining (IOM3) amongst others.

Out of the loose links between these bodies came the Surface Engineering Leadership Forum (SELF) which after a bit of a “stuttering” start is now looking to move forward, particularly to promote education within our industries.

I would be keen to hear the views of you, our members, on building worthwhile links with other technical bodies; in the first instance could you send any thoughts or comments through Helen at New Exeter House.

So back to the sun lounger, the factor 30 and my books: some of you may know that the end of March is of particular importance to this branch of the Armstrong clan, hence always having a holiday at this time. What won’t be known however, is that 55 years ago on the exact day I’m writing, a 17 year old guy met a 16 year old girl, and the rest, as , is history!
We thought that Members might enjoy these pages recently donated from *The Practical Plater and Polisher* of January 1915. Some Members may have worked for the later incarnations of R. Cruickshanks; ageism problems restrict any further comments! The labour saving devices challenge the imagination.
IMF & OCCA Golf Day - 24th May 2023 at Windmill Village Hotel and Golf Course in Coventry

The IMF and OCCA are hosting a golf day at The Windmill Village Hotel and Golf Course on May 24, 2023. Join us for golf and lunch. Bookings open for teams of 4 or individuals.

To Book please contact: Helen@materialsfinishing.org
The cost for golfers is £44.50 per person, which includes a bacon roll and coffee upon arrival, golf, and lunch. Non-golfers can join for £20.00, which includes a bacon roll and coffee upon arrival and lunch.

Accommodation is also available at the Windmill Hotel on the Wednesday evening on a B&B basis, where the cost for a single occupancy room is £115.00, and for a double occupancy room (two people sharing) is £125.00. Evening meals and bar snacks can be purchased directly at the venue on the evening.

For those who wish to reserve buggies in advance, the cost is £25 per buggy, which must be paid for at the venue on the day of the event.

Individuals or teams of four can book now, and those who wish to participate as individuals will be placed in a team on the day. For more information or help booking, please contact Helen at helen@materialsfinishing.org or Ann-Marie at admin@occa.org.uk.

This promises to be an enjoyable event for golf enthusiasts, and we hope to see you there!
It is with deepest sadness that we have to report the death of Miss Anne Chapman.

She had been an active member of the IMF for almost 50 years and was the recipient of the IMF’s highest accolade, the Gold Medal, in 2017, the Eddie Marlow Medal in 2010 for outstanding contributions to the education and training of people in the surface engineering sector, as well as the Samuel Field Medal in 2009 for her extraordinary voluntary services to the IMF.

Anne died in January 2023 and such was her nature that she requested there should not be any funeral or memorial for her. She was born in 1931 in Brentford, west London, where she spent most of her life.

After leaving school she joined the International Tin Research Institute (ITRI), where she spent her whole professional career; ITRI subsequently became the International Tin Association. She was recruited to ITRI by Dr Joseph Cuthbertson, who was later President of the IMF between 1953-55; she worked with him on the electrodeposition of tin alloys and their analyses.

Amongst other things, Anne also worked on the development of lead free solders, the use of butyl tin and the detection of lead in tin coatings in the food industry; these interests and her skills as an analytical chemist, resulted in numerous publications and citations. Through her activities at ITRI, she developed a lasting interest in tin plating and was a major source of information about this and alloy plating technologies.
Anne first became involved in the IMF in 1975 and she quickly took on an increasingly active role in its operations and management. Anne was always very contemplative and quiet, yet very articulate. When she spoke, everyone paid attention to her comments and no-one could or would disagree with her. Her skills were used to their maximum when she became the Institute’s Honorary Secretary General between 1997 and 2000. This was a particularly troubled time for the Institute and resulted in Anne also taking on the role of office manager because the incumbent office manager left suddenly and finding a replacement proved difficult. Anne would come into the office virtually every week for a couple of days and took control of the day to day running of it; not something she expected to do when she agreed to be Hon Sec. Gen.!

Later Anne became a very active member of the Institute’s Examinations and Qualifications Board, where her moderating influence was always much appreciated. Again, she was very contemplative and thoughtful, whilst also being considerate and forward thinking. She was also very demanding in the correct use of English!

In 1999 Anne was invited by the Master of London’s Worshipful Company of Tinplate Workers alias Wire Workers, Beresford Barry, to become a Liveryman. She quickly became a very active member of the livery company as well as its Education, Enterprise and Charites Committee, which awards prizes and grants to both worthwhile students and charities.

Towards the end of her life, Anne became increasingly aware of her failing health, so she was keen to relinquish all her responsibilities as she felt she could no longer fulfil her obligations. However, it was such that her contributions were so highly valued that she was coerced into remaining active for an extra year.

Anne liked to relax away from west London and she would escape to Kings Lynn, Norfolk and later to Poole, Dorset, but she always retained living in her beloved Brentford/ Ealing area.
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How Energy Efficiency is Achieved by ClearVUE.Business

The Southern Branch of the IMF held a webinar on 7th March 2023 at 19-15 hrs which was aimed at companies who were looking to reduce their energy bills together with their carbon footprint.

Dan Smith (Director of Energy Services) and Dr David Lloyd (Sustainability Consultant) from ClearVUE.Business gave a presentation to show how businesses could become a more sustainable and resilient operation through comprehensive energy management, net zero, legislation and compliance.

The webinar was opened by Dan Smith who explained that the company was a Net Zero Consultancy business which had been operating since 2017. They have offices in 6 countries with their technical hubs in Malta and Chennai and the main office in Gateshead employing around 200 employees.

He explained about the 3 C’s of energy management which is cost, consumption and carbon and how these are interlinked into achieving the goal of reducing your energy and improving your carbon footprint.

Dan Smith was followed by Dr David Lloyd who discussed “Sustainability for Business”.

How is your business working with respect to effects of the natural world and what is your business doing about improving this?

The webinar was well received and was very interesting to listen to and also made you think about the way your business is run and how by saving energy you could improve the efficiency of your own business both in terms of production.
EXHIBITIONS

SURFACE WORLD LIVE
4th & 5th October 2023, NEC, Birmingham - we have everything covered

MACH 2024
15-19 April 2024
NEC Birmingham UK
machexhibition.com