

## South West Branch Newsletter

### The Challenge

At the start of this year, I set the committee a challenge. To ensure that member needs are met in the events that we organise. I am pleased to report that we have held very good events and this has been reflected in our membership numbers.

Despite losing members as a result of economic impact, as a branch we have managed to maintain our membership has remained static. This is a true reflection of the events offered and your ability to learn, interact and network with fellow members. We will continue to offer value for money and continue to deliver informative as well as social events.

If you do have any ideas or thoughts regarding events, then please contact us. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Sandy Sadhra - South West Chair**  
sandy.sadhra@esporta.com



### Ambitions Event

On 18 November 2010, the South West branch of Women in Property attended the 'Ambitions Event', an all-day event aimed at raising the career and educational aspirations of 14-19 year olds from six local schools and colleges. The event was hosted by the University of the West of England in its hall. The event was attended by approximately 1,600 school students at various stages throughout the day and evening.



The participating schools, Filton High School, Bradley Stoke School, Patchway Community College, Castle School, Marlwood School and Filton College organised the attendance by their students to visit various stands hosted by over 50 employers displaying at the event throughout the day and evening. Women in Property hosted a stand throughout the day and the evening event. At the evening event, the students in years 10 - 13 were also joined by their parents.

If you are interested in assisting us with education events please contact Naomi Evans of the South West branch [nevans@vww.co.uk](mailto:nevans@vww.co.uk).

### Events Calendar

#### Forthcoming South West Branch events

**Networking Lunch**  
Obento, Baldwin Street, Bristol  
19 January 2011

**Rights of Light Seminar**  
Osborne Clarke, Bristol  
22 January 2011

**Planning Seminar**  
Coutts & Co Cheltenham  
27 January 2010

**Sustainable Fashion Event**  
Burgess Salmon  
10 February 2011

### Who's who

This Newsletter features the following committee members:



Naomi Evans  
Veale Wasbrough Vizards  
Education Roadshow Co-ordinator  
[nevans@vww.co.uk](mailto:nevans@vww.co.uk)



Michelle Rice  
Thring Townsend Lee &  
Pembertons  
PR and Website co-ordinator  
[mrice@ttuk.com](mailto:mrice@ttuk.com)

# Regional Student Award Winner

On 10 June 2010, the Branch announced its winner for 2010 Student Award. The event was marked by a drinks party at Goldbrick House. A UWE student was named as the leading property student of the year. Sara Hayball, studying Architecture and Planning triumphed over 4 other (region) contenders at the regional stage of the Awards.

The judging panel included George Ferguson, Clive Woodford, Ian Mellor and Cathy Stewart, whose comments were noted as follows: 'I was very impressed with Sara's drive and ambition to succeed and excel in her chosen subjects'.



Louise Carver  
Withy King  
General Committee Member  
[louise.carver@withyking.co.uk](mailto:louise.carver@withyking.co.uk)



Alison Blade  
TLT  
General Committee member  
[alison.blades@tltsolicitors.com](mailto:alison.blades@tltsolicitors.com)



Cathy Dalosso  
Midas Group  
General Committee member  
[cdalosso@midasgroup.co.uk](mailto:cdalosso@midasgroup.co.uk)



Coriander Davies  
Clarke Willmott  
General Committee member  
[coriander.davies@clarkewillmott.com](mailto:coriander.davies@clarkewillmott.com)



Alexandra Wilson  
Osborne Clarke  
General Committee member  
[alexandra.wilson@osborneclarke.com](mailto:alexandra.wilson@osborneclarke.com)

# Post Pickles Planning Seminar

The coalition Government has had a major impact on the Planning Policy Framework. In May 2010, Eric Pickles MP announced that Regional Spatial Strategies would be abolished creating a void in the middle tier of planning Policy. Richard Guyatt (Partner at Bond Pearce LLP) and Simon Prescott (Partner at Barton Willmore LLP) talked, a crowd of 30 members and guests, through the changes to the planning system. The presentations covered the changes and how this could have an impact on the property and construction industry.

Simon commenced the seminar by outlining the changes to date. Including the delay on Local Development Frameworks and in particular Core Strategies, the reduction of housing targets in many Local Authorities and how consultation with local stakeholders is an ever increasing must. Richard continued to explain how the changes post Pickles could prevent or slow down the delivery of infrastructure and the changes due to the IPC.

Those who attended witnessed an interesting and informative seminar which was rounded up by a diverse Q and A session. Given the uncertainty in planning at present, it was concluded a follow up seminar would be useful following the Localism Bill due in December.

# Joint WiP and FBE trip to Weston Pier

Sisk the main contractors for the Weston-super-Mare Grand Pier welcomed both members of Women in Property and Forum for the Built Environment to a site visit on the landmark pier in July. Around 50 members from the organisations were given a tour around the site and entertained by presentations from Sisk.



The tour included a sneak preview of the exciting new rides including "Robocoaster" and "Indoor Multi Level Go Cart Track" as well as some old favourites. Eventually the attractions will be further enhanced by the construction of a 80m tower affording 360° degree views over the Severn Estuary.

Thank you to Sisk for making the tour possible.