



286<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the IOSH Thames Valley Branch  
held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019 at the University of  
Reading

Members present: Ian Allen, David Armstrong, Nick Bathurst, Colin Behan, Gareth Broughton, Vince Butler, Darren Carter, Tanya Chalkley, Tony Connell, Charlie Cribbes, Alan Curtiss, Simon Cutmore, Graham Dandridge, Tim Gassick, Laura Graure, Rasib Hussain, David Heath, Kat Hemmings, Shirley Hoskins, Grahame Jamieson, Colin Johnson, Zuzanna LaLanne, Bridget Leathley, Julian Marks, Nick Marsh, Louisa Mead, Brian Middlemiss, Dean Middlemore, Chris Moore, Paul Mrozowski, Andrew Panting, Graham Parker, Tyrone Partridge, Andrew Price, Jim Prowse, Steve Pulling, Steve Rogers, Rebecca Russell, Gill Saunders, David Slade, John Steed, Chris Stops, Jennifer Toner, Mat Thompson, Leeroy Thompson, Steve Turner, Sally Wearing, John Whittle, Chris Williamson, Tom Wilson.

Apologies for absence: Shirley Parsons.

Visitors: Ryan Charman

Matters arising : None

Members questions and anecdotes.

A member asked for opinions on the implementation of a prescribed (and non prescribed/over the counter) medicine policy. The Company has a drugs and alcohol policy which is supported by unions.

The general view was that it depends on the type of work and the possible side effects. For safety critical work – eg driving, work on railways, operating machinery, working at height, the person has to be fit to work safely and so should inform the employer of any medication.

A member asked if anyone had experience of using HAV monitors, in this case for checking on HAVs of gardeners. The member was referred to an article written by Bridget Leathley (Branch member) in the November 2018 issue of the IOSH Magazine. While manufacturers of measuring equipment may promote their methods of measurement, assessors should use the HSE method of assessing HAVs. Another member mentioned that while gel filled gloves may reduce exposure, in some cases they can actually increase exposure.

Topic for the evening: Safety Management systems – Gareth Broughton, MARS Ltd.

His slides are in the document library of the Thames Valley branch microsite.

Forthcoming meetings : 18<sup>th</sup> February ‘No time to lose – Asbestos’

– Michelle Muxworthy IOSH Vice President

Reply to: David Heath, Branch Secretary

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