Dear Members of the Southern Joint Branch

In June 2019 I sent out a short dit on the state of play regarding technical lectures. It discussed venues, use of Eventbrite and forthcoming lectures.

I'm pleased to say that for the 2019 – 2020 season, we will have two lectures in Poole at the RNLI College. I hope this will mark the start or return to holding lectures and events in this location. If you haven't been before, the RNLI College and the associated tours are well worth a visit.

We have also pencilled in a lecture at Southampton University. At the moment it is not confirmed but there seems to be enough momentum to make it happen.

Less of a success was holding an event in Portsmouth. I had a number of offers of help to host a lecture at BAE Systems in Portsmouth but in spite of their best efforts, it hasn't resulted in anything. Hopefully this is something that can be fixed for the 2020 – 2021 season.

The programme cards will be winging their way to you electronically shortly and printed cards will hopefully be available by the dinner on 29th November at St Mary's stadium. We did discuss whether we abandoned the printed cards but it was felt that some members still benefitted from them so they are here to stay for another year.

We are going to continue using Eventbrite to promote and provide details of events. The key difference with last year is that we have created our own Eventbrite account. As a result, it should be easier to tailor the registration process. For the majority of lectures, this will just be registering using your name and e-mail address. For others e.g. QinetiQ and Sultan, we will extend the list of questions to match the security requirements of those locations.

I have sent links to the first two lectures to RINA and IMarEST. For the first lecture on 10th October I have suggested that there is no need to register but for subsequent lectures please use the registration process. Within the Eventbrite page there is an option to Follow the SJB. Clicking on this will enable automatic notifications of SJB events.

Whilst I'm sure there will be a few lessons identified, it does seem to be a good solution now we have more control over it. I would welcome (constructive) feedback on the process.

Cheers

Guy

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