



Chartered Quality Institute

West of Scotland Branch

# Newsletter

September 2007

---

## 1. Chairman's comment

Hello to all our Branch members. Over the last year we have seen many changes, not least is the change from IQA to CQI. With this change we have also seen the introduction of a Scottish website at [www.thecqiscotland.org](http://www.thecqiscotland.org). This change provides for all of us a golden opportunity to raise the profile of our profession and also our own profile.

Our theme for the programme for 2007/2008 will be "Up to Standard" and kicks off with another visit from a popular guest speaker, Tony Brown. You can see the full West of Scotland programme in the events brochure enclosed with this letter. You will also see that we have added details of the events in the East and North of Scotland. You may attend any CQI Branch event. Many of the events for Branches outside Scotland are advertised on the CQI website. Occasionally attendance requires pre-booking (mainly visits), but normally visitors can just turn up. You will receive a warm welcome, find an excellent opportunity to network and find out some of the latest developments in the quality and related business arenas.

Please support our events. A strong Branch promotes the quality profession in Scotland and enhances your personal standing. I look forward to seeing you at the Branch events. I am sure you will enjoy the chance to meet and network with your professional peers.

Yours sincerely,

Colin Sansome ( [Chair.west@thecqiscotland.org](mailto:Chair.west@thecqiscotland.org) )

## 2. Committee members

Colin Sansome – Chairman  
Peter Lucas – Vice Chairman & Engineering Representative  
Jeff Marven – Secretary  
Marc Elmes – Treasurer  
Jim Burns – Education Representative  
Cath Macneil – Sponsorship

Mike Izon – Committee Member

Ron Rivans – Committee Member

Colin Sansome and Peter Lucas represent the West of Scotland Branch at regional level. Peter Lucas is also the Branch and Regions Board representative for Scotland.

## 3. Your committee needs you!

We are always seeking new blood for the committee - are you prepared to sit back and let the rest of the world dictate your future? As a quality professional and a member of the CQI you can have an influence. Together, not only can we influence the quality profession, we can influence the professional's quality of life in the West of Scotland. It's not always necessary to be a corporate member; if you are willing to contribute ideas or a small amount of time then you could help to make the Branch more successful and effective. It is also an opportunity to gain personal experience related to CQI activities and add to your own professional development.

Email [Sec.west@thecqiscotland.org](mailto:Sec.west@thecqiscotland.org) if you are interested or discuss the possibility with any committee member.

## 4. Our programme and venue

Most of our meetings will again be held on the fourth floor of the James Weir Building of Strathclyde University, 75 Montrose Street Glasgow G1 1JX, thanks to the kind support of [competitiveSCOTLAND.com](http://competitiveSCOTLAND.com) and The University of Strathclyde DMEM. Meetings start at 6.30pm with networking opportunities and refreshments before the event. We aim to close meetings by 8.00pm. Some meetings are sponsored and we encourage you to visit the sponsor's stand either before or after the event. Sponsorship enables us to have a higher standard of facility and refreshments thus improving the networking experience and our enjoyment of the evening. Encourage them through your support.

This year we have chosen not to have a special event, nor to hold a meeting in November. The East of Scotland Branch is running the John Loxham Lecture event at Murrayfield on the 8<sup>th</sup> November. This event is being held during the afternoon and early evening, to provide attendees the opportunity to attend and still travel home at a reasonable time. The event also includes the presentation of CQI Awards, is free of charge and is open to all CQI members (numbers permitting). There is also an opportunity to attend a networking buffet at the end of the event. There will be a charge for the buffet, but no charge for any refreshments served earlier during the day. If you wish to attend either the John Loxham Lecture or the Awards presentation please register at either the main CQI website at [www.thecqi.org](http://www.thecqi.org) or at the Scottish website at [www.thecqiscotland.org](http://www.thecqiscotland.org). When you register there is an opportunity to register for the optional networking buffet after the event.

## 5. Chartered Status and CPD

Now that our institute has a charter the CQI are examining how individual members can become chartered. Key aspects of chartered status are likely to be our acceptance of ethical standards and a commitment to Continuing Professional Development (CPD). If you are not already in a CPD scheme then why not join the CQI scheme? See the main website or contact Membership at the CQI in London to register.

Many CQI members will be recording CPD under the IRCA scheme, which is likely to be acceptable to the CQI as it is quality-related CPD. Members of other schemes may find that much of their logged time is acceptable, but an element of quality should be included. Conversely, the CQI scheme may be acceptable to other institutes.

We strongly recommend our branch members to record CPD. We make every effort to make sure that our events provide opportunities for quality professional development and hope that it can be beneficial to those who need it. Watch out for our CPD form for our events on the CQI Scotland website. Feel free to download it and print it as a start for you records.

## 6. Upgrading your Membership

The Qualification Board is keen to help people get through the application process as easily as possible (though sometimes it doesn't seem like that)! If you would like guidance on filling up your application, or know others who would like guidance, then talk to a committee member.

We are also able to provide assistance to companies that would like to become company members.

## 7. Branch and Region Organisation

You may have heard of the Branches and Regions Board (BRB). All Branches are part of a region and each region is represented on the BRB. This is the main link to the CQI Secretariat for the Branches.

The BRB is keen to try to make Branch activities relevant to members, although we have to bear in mind that all Branches are run by volunteers. The BRB is responsible for the part of the CQI organisation that delivers branch events. We are pleased to say that the West of Scotland shared the "NQA Branch Award" for 2005.

If you have any issues with the CQI in London that you are unable to resolve, then please contact a Branch committee member who may be able to find the right person to help. Members are also entitled to request assistance directly from the Scottish Region Councillor who is independent of the BRB and is a member of the Advisory Council. The member for Scotland is Tom Candlish who can be contacted by email on [scotrep@thecqiscotland.org](mailto:scotrep@thecqiscotland.org).

## 8. Sponsorship

The quality and depth of our programme is due in no small measure to the help that we receive from our sponsors, whose names you will see on programmes and event flyers. Their donations ensure that we can present a full and professional programme for our members and associates. On behalf of the membership, the committee extends its sincere thanks to our sponsors for their support.

*If you know of someone who would like an opportunity to sponsor us during 2008/2009 please contact [Cath Macneil](mailto:Cath.Macneil@thecqi.org) or one of the other committee members.*

## 9. Keep your details up to date

Please also keep your personal details up to date (go to <http://www.thecqi.org/members/> or contact the Membership section in London). You can also update your email address there, and any change to details will be notified to your Branch secretary.

If you want to provide your Branch with an email address immediately (or a different address from that provided to London) then please drop a line to the Secretary: [sec.west@thecqiscotland.org](mailto:sec.west@thecqiscotland.org). We send email reminders of Branch meetings and other events (please note: Firewalls and Spam filters can block message receipt so please, if possible, make sure we are "friends" in your spam filter and "allowed" by the email firewall). We can rarely afford either the cost or time to circulate meeting reminders by post. Any email address provided will be used for Branch business only. All you need to do is to send an email to your branch secretary: [Sec.west@thecqiscotland.org](mailto:Sec.west@thecqiscotland.org).

**FIRST EVENT REMINDER 9<sup>th</sup> October 2007 - see you there.**