



THE FRENCH CONNECTION FOR ENGINEERS, SCIENTISTS AND TECHNICAL PROFESSIONALS

ABOUT US

Since 1919 we have maintained strong professional and social links with our French colleagues and regularly visit France to explore their engineering and scientific achievements (as well as French culture and cuisine). Many eminent people have been members over the years including Sir William Halcrow, William Binnie and William Kirby Laing.

We welcome all engineers, technologists and scientists of professional standing into our membership.



At Chantilly on our Paris trip in 2024

OUR ACTIVITIES

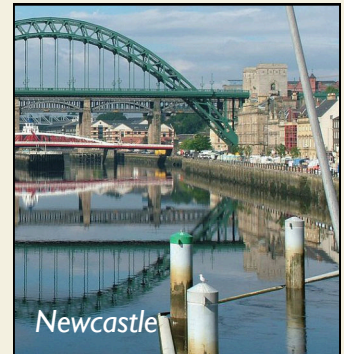
Both the social and professional aspects of our activities are important to us. We aim to be welcoming and friendly and take care to involve members' partners in what we do.



Lecture at the Caledonian Club

- Understanding ways to combat climate change -

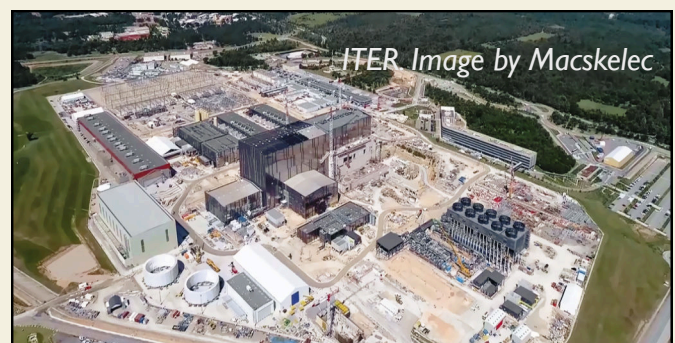
Each year we enjoy a number of technical lectures (with dinner) in prestigious venues delivered by the experts involved, make group 'voyages' to France and elsewhere, visit engineering and scientific projects in the United Kingdom and look forward to social visits together. All our activities are conducted in English.



Newcastle

Recent 'voyages' have taken us to Germany to study the manufacture of tunnel boring machines, and Paris to study the rebuilding of Notre Dame Cathedral. The late summer of 2024 found us in the Channel Islands.

In 2025 we are planning to visit Newcastle upon Tyne in the spring and Avignon in the autumn, the latter to take in the ITER experimental fusion reactor site at Cadarache.



ITER Image by Macskelec

MEMBERSHIP

We greatly value the perspectives of professional people from different backgrounds and are committed to promoting equality, diversity and inclusion. We hope that you will be interested to join us as members. Details are shown on our website or are available from mem.secretary@iesf.co.uk.



IESF BRITISH SECTION 2025 PROGRAMME

27 January

UNUSUAL TUNNEL COLLAPSES – THE ROLE OF GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING

Professor Lord Robert Mair CBE FREng FICE FRS NAE.

The key role played by geotechnics and how tunnel collapses are generally caused by ground instability at the tunnel face or tunnel lining failure. An evening lecture at the Institution of Civil Engineers.

2 to 9 March

IESF SKI GROUP: CERVINIA, ITALY

18 March

CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE FUTURE OF LIFE ON EARTH

Professor Alex Pigot BSc MRes PhD (University College London).

Climate change affects all living things on earth. The extent to which current and future generations will experience climate change depends on the choices we make now and in the near term. An evening lecture at the Caledonian Club.

30 April

CLIMATE CHANGE LECTURE: THE EXISTENTIAL THREAT, MISINFORMATION, AND THE NEED FOR NEW NARRATIVES

Professor Peter Stott MBE BSc MASt PhD (Exeter University).

The mounting evidence linking human activity to the rapid increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events. An evening lecture at the Royal Air Force Club.

21 to 25 May

SPRING VOYAGE TO NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

10 to 14 September

AUTUMN VOYAGE D'ETUDE BASED IN AVIGNON

7 October

HOW CAN WE MAKE HEALTHCARE SAFER ? – REFLECTIONS FROM 20 YEARS ON THE FRONTLINE

Professor Peter McCulloch BA ChB (Nuffield Department of Surgical Sciences).

Surgical care is not as reliable as it should be. How can we make surgery safer? How can we conduct valid studies to find out how good (or bad) it is? An evening lecture at the Army and Navy Club.

5 November

TIDAL POWER FROM THE BRISTOL CHANNEL

Professor Chris Binnie MA HonDEng FREng FICE FCIWEM.

The various ways of using tidal energy with focus on the proposed West Somerset Lagoon (a 14km diameter semi-circular lagoon with a capacity of 2,500MW generating 6.5TWh/year at an estimated capital cost of £8.5bn). An evening lecture at a venue to be confirmed.

November/
December

CAROL SERVICE AND SUPPER

Registration for Lectures To comply with the security arrangements of the venues registration is required in advance. Publicity photographs may be taken at the various events.