

# IChemE

ADVANCING CHEMICAL  
ENGINEERING WORLDWIDE



## NEWSLETTER

London & South East  
Coast  
Q1, 2025



## Overview

The London & South East Coast Members Group is the largest in the IChemE by some margin. As of August 2024, we have over 3,100 members locally representing around 15% of global membership. Our region also uniquely boasts a Young Members forum (YMF) that has over a further 500 members. The YMF hosts both dedicated events for the region's young engineers but also regularly collaborates with the main group to foster knowledge sharing.

With this being one of the largest member groups in the Institution we're proudly able to draw on the vast expertise of our members from both industry and Academia to provide valuable learning and networking opportunities to you, our members!

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This newsletter aims to share updates regarding recent and upcoming news / events within the IChemE London & South East Coast (L&SEC) Main and Young member (YMF) groups.

To keep up-to-date with all we have planned please follow us on social media and stay tuned to our pages online.

# MEET THE COMMITTEE



Vice-Chair  
Colin Tamsett



Treasurer  
Andrea Di Lena



Academic &  
International  
Liaison  
Maria Centeno



Social Media  
Representative  
Despoina Rigou



Events  
Coordinator  
Gavin  
Vicknarajah

Chair  
Adam Barnes



Secretary  
Maria Kalli



Webmaster &  
Newsletter  
Editor  
Charles Brown



Industry Liaison  
Sion Griffiths



YMF Chair  
Sakiru Badmos





## Recent News / Events

### Catapult Visit

On September 17th, the London and South East Member Group organized a site visit to Catapult Braintree, offering participants an in-depth look into the future of biotech and process engineering. The visit showcased advanced multistage clean rooms and the seamless integration of biological and genetic processes with physical separations, providing attendees with a unique and insightful perspective on the industry.



### Late Summer Social

On September 26th, the group hosted their annual summer social at The Champion pub in Notting Hill. This event offered a wonderful opportunity for engineers in the area to reconnect with colleagues and forge new connections in a relaxed and friendly setting.



### Sambrook's Brewery Tour

Back by popular demand, on October 31st, IChemE members enjoyed an exclusive tour of one of London's oldest independent breweries, dating back to 1533 and recognized as the UK's longest continuously brewing site.

The heritage tour began with a guided tasting of historically styled ales, followed by a visit to the heritage center, where exhibits detailed the site's rich history and the evolution of beer brewing over nearly five centuries.

The tour concluded with drinks and an opportunity to relax and network with fellow attendees.



## Recent News / Events



### Alternative Careers Event

On November 4th, the committee hosted an inspiring alternative careers event at Imperial College London, showcasing Chemical Engineers who have ventured into non-traditional fields like risk management and insurance, strategy and supply chain consulting, startups, and systems engineering.

The panelists shared their personal journeys of breaking into these alternative careers and revealed how their Chemical Engineering background uniquely positioned them for success. It was an eye-opening event that highlighted the diverse opportunities available to Chemical Engineers.

### Bio Products Laboratory Tour

On November 19th, the committee organized an exclusive tour of a leading biopharmaceutical facility in Elstree, specializing in plasma-derived therapies and treatments for rare conditions such as coagulation disorders and immunodeficiencies. Attendees had the opportunity to explore BPL's state-of-the-art facility, learn about their latest advancements through informative presentations, and network with the BPL team and fellow participants.



### Christmas Social

On November 20th, the committee wrapped up the year in style with the annual Christmas social at The Duke of Sussex pub in Waterloo. It was a fantastic evening filled with festive cheer, celebrating achievements, and connecting with fellow members in a relaxed atmosphere over drinks and nibbles. A perfect way to close out the year!



## Recent News / Events



### KBR Visit

In December, committee members had a successful outreach visit to KBR, where they engaged with their engineers to share insights into the group, highlight its benefits, and explore the exciting opportunities available on the committee.

## St. Margaret's Primary School event

On Thursday, 23 January 2025, the IChemE London & South-East Young Members Group organised a school talk at St. Margaret's C of E Primary School in London on the "Impact of 3D Printing and Rapid Prototyping in science." The event welcomed approximately 100 students from Years 5 and 6.

The aim of the event was to introduce students to the field of Chemical Engineering, highlighting its societal impact and demonstrating how rapid prototyping techniques—such as 3D printing and laser cutting—can be applied in STEM subjects. Two industry professionals, Maria Kalli and Tom Phillips Hall, presented an engaging session on the concepts, uses, and benefits of 3D printing and laser cutting in various industries.

To make the session relatable, the speakers illustrated a real-life example of how rapid prototyping is utilised in biotech start-ups and shared insights into a typical day in the laboratory researchers. The talk concluded with a lively Q&A session, giving students the opportunity to ask a range of questions.

The event culminated in a hands-on activity where students sketched pencil case designs tailored to their stationery needs. They will then transfer their designs to Tinkercad, before sending them for 3D printing.



## Recent News / Events

We are overjoyed to celebrate the top three winners of the first-ever Master Research Poster Competition hosted by the IChemE London and South East Coast Member Group! Their hard work, innovation, and dedication have truly shone through amongst nearly 30 high-quality submissions.

**1 First Place: Ande Fudja Rafryanto** - *Fabrication Of Graphene Oxide Membranes With Controlled Graphitic Domain For Liquid Separation*

**2 Second Place: Sultan Shiddiqi Salman** - *DRL Based Control Dryer Cycle In Surfactant Plant*

**3 Third Place: Carmen van Poelgeest** - *The Impact Of Surface Roughness On The Removal Of Fat Under Microfluidic Surfactant Flow*

A heartfelt congratulations to these outstanding scholars. Your contributions exemplify academic excellence and real-world industrial relevance. We also want to extend our deepest gratitude to all participants. Your efforts and brilliant work made this inaugural competition an incredible showcase of talent and research.

Stay tuned for more opportunities to showcase your research and accomplishments, and connect with professionals to accelerate your career.



Institution of  
Chemical Engineers

London and South East Coast  
Member Group

INNOVATE 2024  
Master Research Poster Competition

First Place	Ande Fudja Rafryanto
Second Place	Sultan Shiddiqi Salman
Third Place	Carmen van Poelgeest

## Upcoming News / Events

### Climate Conversations

*4<sup>th</sup> March*

This event, hosted at Imperial College London, aims to inspire meaningful conversations about the crucial role chemical engineers play in addressing climate change across diverse industries. It will explore topics such as innovative carbon capture technologies, the global impacts of rising temperatures, and cutting-edge methods to reflect sunlight out of the stratosphere to cool the planet.

The event is free for members and includes food and drinks during the networking session.

Why Attend?

- **Insightful Viewing:** Deepen your understanding of the challenges and solutions in the fight against climate change.
- **Interactive Discussion:** Engage in a moderated discussion to exchange ideas on how chemical engineers can contribute to impactful change.
- **Networking Opportunities:** Connect with fellow members over food and drinks, building valuable professional relationships and potential collaborations.

Please note spaces are limited so we encourage IChemE members to register soon via the link [here](#).



### Careers Event

*17<sup>th</sup> March*

This event, designed for chemical engineering undergraduates, features a panel of speakers who have pursued diverse career paths, ranging from biotech startups to the energy sector, and tax advisory services. It aims to demonstrate the versatility of chemical engineers in transitioning between industries and roles. Attendees will gain valuable insights into the speakers' career journeys and receive practical advice.

The event will include individual talks from each speaker, followed by an interactive Q&A session.

Event registration can be accessed using the following link [here](#).

## Upcoming News / Events

### Paper Mill Visit

*Date – 25<sup>th</sup> April*

The committee is organising a site visit in Kent to Kemsley Mill, the largest recycled paper mill in the UK and second in Europe, producing around 830,000 tonnes annually. The site is currently a leader in recycled paper, with all products being fully recyclable and sustainably sourced.

### Annual General Meeting

*Date – 1<sup>st</sup> April*

This event will be a chance for the current chair to thank the volunteers, share information about the forthcoming activities and allow members to question and offer feedback.

### Biotech Site Visit

*Date – May*

The committee is hoping to organise a biotech site visit, more information to be announced soon!

This meeting will also feature guest speaker Prof. Paul Shearing, Professor of Energy Engineering and Sustainable Science and Director of the ZERO Institute at Oxford University,

### Get Chartered

*Date – May*

The London and South East Coast Members in collaboration with the Young Members Groups plan on organising a series of events to support those seeking Chartership with the institution.



### Brewery Tour

*Date – 21<sup>st</sup> May*

The committee has organised their annual brewery tour at the historic Fuller's Brewery.

### Summer Social

*Date – July*

A staple event in the calendar, this will be a great chance for a catch up with fellow engineers in the area, or an opportunity to make new connections!

For more details on when registration goes live for these events, please stay tuned to the events page found [here](#).



## Upcoming Events Calendar

Date	Event Name
04/03/25	Climate Conversations
17/03/25	Careers Event
01/04/25	Annual General Meeting
25/04/25	Paper Mill Visit
May	Biotech Site Visit
May	Get Chartered
21/05/25	Brewery Tour
July	Summer Social
More to be announced!...	

**To keep up-to-date with all of the news/events we have planned please follow us on social media and stay tuned to the [Main](#) and [Young](#) Member Group pages online!**

## How to get in touch

Main: [abarnes@ichemevolunteer.org](mailto:abarnes@ichemevolunteer.org)

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Main: [IChemE: London and South East Coast Members Group](#)

Young: [IChemE London Young Members Forum](#)

Main: [IChemE London & SE, @London\\_SEIChemE](#)

Young: [IChemE Young Members Forum LSEC, @YMFLSE](#)



Main: [icheme\\_london\\_south\\_east](#)

Young: [icheme\\_ymf](#)

## Want to get involved?

Did you know the London and South East Coast Members Group is the **largest group in the IChemE** with over 3100 members? Most of our members are situated within London itself with a scatter across the surrounding counties. Over a third of our members are in their early career phase being in the 18 – 24 age range. The remaining members are made up of individuals who are at the mid to end point of their career, the oldest members being in their 80's. This is reflected in the type of membership our members hold, with around 800 being chartered, circa 800 associates, circa 700 student and circa 200 at fellow level.

Our regional committee hosts monthly meetings online where we catch-up with our fellow volunteers to discuss the latest events in planning as well as generate ideas for new events. We're always looking for new volunteers to share their views on how we can better serve our region. If you have an exciting new idea or would be interested to help organise/support one of our existing events, then we'd love to hear from you!

Please reach out to [abarnes@ichemevolunteer.org](mailto:abarnes@ichemevolunteer.org) for more info on how to get involved