

Annual Report for Year 2007/2008

Committee

Chairman: Richard N Gibson

Hon Secretary: Richard Piper

Hon Treasurer: Michael Dunn

Public Relations Officer: Damian Wilkinson

Introduction

The activities of the North East Branch during the past year have continued in the same vein as the previous year. Firstly to provide a programme of technical events for the education of our members and secondly to research, prepare and implement a three year plan to reinvigorate the Branch. The end goal of such activities is to position the Branch within the region as a leading provider of dispute resolution services. The aim to achieve our goals by providing services locally and promoting these in addition to promoting the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators generally.

Technical Meetings

Set out below is a resume of the technical meetings that have been provided to the membership combining good speakers and current topics with the desire to attract different professional bodies to attend our meetings as our guests.

Date	Subject	Speaker	Comment
May 07	Do We Have A Contract Or Not	Simon Baylis	A well attended dinner event held jointly with the North West Branch.
September 07	Choosing the Tribunal	Michael D Joyce	Michael is one of our committee members and gave a lively presentation on the advantages to parties on choosing the right tribunal and some tips on how to go about it.
October 07	Elephant Traps And Other Pitfalls: Current Issues Affecting Arbitrators And Adjudicators	Hew Dundas	The Branch was pleased to welcome Hew to one of our technical meetings. In addition to presenting an update on current issues affecting arbitrators conduct Hew told the Branch something of his experiences as the current

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	Conduct.		President of CI Arb.
October 07	The Proposed Changes To The HGCR Act And The Scheme	John Riches, Chris Dancaster, Dominic Phelps.	Our Keynote event held in the prestigious surroundings of The Royal Armouries. The Branch was honoured by the presence of three leading and well informed commentators on the review process. A hugely successful event with just over 100 people attending, the event was open to non members.
Mar 07	AGM and Dinner		Following on from a slight improvement in attendance by combining the AGM with a Branch Dinner the AGM is to be held in a local restaurant once more.