SOCIETY NEWS

Update from our CEO

Ahead of the 59th AGM of the Concrete Society, Claire Ackerman reflects on 2024 and previews forthcoming initiatives.

The Annual General Meeting of The Concrete Society in July marks my first year in post and is the perfect opportunity to provide an update and share some of the plans for the reinvigoration of The Society.

With a packed diary of networking and technical events, being part of a concrete community is a key reason to be a member of The Society. The money raised for charities and local initiatives by our collective activities is incredible – for example, in 2024 our Wales region raised a staggering £50,000 for the Wooden Spoon children's charity.

It is great to see the return of our Midlands Region and the growing number of young members volunteering across our regions. To encourage member engagement and support our Regions we hired a new director, Lee Sadler. Lee has already reinstated our Regional Assembly and the common goal is to work together to support a thriving and diverse concrete community.

Technical excellence and providing knowledge are at the core of The Society. For the Technical Advisory service and access to technical resources – whether it be the online nuggets of information in 'Fingertips', advice notes, Good Concrete Guides, Technical Reports or training – it is essential that The Society supports best practice in the use of concrete.

Since joining, it has been a pleasure to work with Peter Hewlett, convenor of our Technical Committee, and welcome new committee members and set the wheels in motion for the update and development of key guidance. At the time of writing, we have announced three co-chairs of the committee to take the lead on Materials, Design & Construction and Repair & Remediation. By the end of the year, we aim to have eight active task groups working to update key technical reports.

In February, we launched a new Good Concrete Guide on the *Digital Monitoring and Measurement of Fresh Concrete*, in partnership with a working group of the I3P. And in June, we look to launch the update to TR43 on post-tensioned floors at Evolving Concrete. This annual technical conference, another returning initiative, to be held at the Building Centre, London.

These highlights are just the tip of the iceberg of work being delivered thanks to the knowledge, commitment and patience of our committees and groups comprising our members and our staff, supported by our sponsors. Volunteering can be fun and rewarding, and I would encourage members to get involved.

In June, why not get involved in the member survey – your feedback will shape investment and development of our services and communications.

In July, check out the new Society logo and website. And on 2 July eligible members are invited to our AGM. Proceedings will include: the handing of the presidency from Michael Amodeo to Steve Thorpe; nominations for general members of our governing council; and the announcement of two honorary members. C

Calling notice for the 59th

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 2 July 2025

Notice is given that the 59th Annual General Meeting of Concrete Society Ltd (The) will take place on Wednesday 2 July, in person at **St Anne's Manor, Wokingham, RG40 1ST** at 9.30am and by remote access online, for Voting Members.

The agenda for business to be transacted is available online at: ***tinyurl.com/nhkrha4p.***

Individual members and the main and additional nominees of Corporate members are entitled to attend the AGM.

To attend in person or remotely, visit: ***tinyurl.com/nhkrha4p***.

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