



# Northamptonshire Industrial Archaeology Group

## Industrial Heritage Day

### EMIAC 93

# Engineered in Northampton



Saturday 14 October 2017

National Training Academy for Rail, Northampton

The programme looks at three Northampton-based companies in the engineering sector from three different centuries. Nineteenth century iron founder EH Barwell's products can still be found in southern England. In the twentieth century the Express Lift Company's lifts were to be found across the world and their innovative testing tower is once again being used for development work. Alongside their train care facility, Siemens have recently opened a new training facility for the railway engineers of the 21st century.

## Programme

- 08.30 Set-up and displays
- 09.00 Registration and Coffee
- 09.45 Welcome and Introduction
- 10.00 Barwell – Early 19th Century Iron Founder - Peter Perkins
- 10.50 Break
- 11.05 The Express Lift Company: Lift Manufacturers and Installers of Northampton – David Thompson
- 11.55 Mind the Gap: Responding to the Skills Shortages within the Rail Industry – Simon Rennie
- 12.45 Business meeting
- 13.00 Buffet Lunch
- 14.00 Visits to NTAR and Traincare facility.
- 16.00 Tea and depart
- 16.30 Building cleared

## Location

This event will be based at the newly-built National Training Academy for Rail located in Northampton.

Admission to the conference is by advance booking only as this is a secure site. Parking will be off-site, an easy ten minute walk away. Maps and full directions will be provided for which an SAE is essential when booking. For those bringing stands/display material, parking space will be provided on-site. Also please advise if you have a mobility problem.

The cost for the day will be £23.00 per person which includes refreshments, lunch and car parking. Please complete the enclosed booking form and return it, together with your cheque made payable to NIAG and SAE, to:

Dr TJ Waterfield, 6 Bakers Lane, Norton, Daventry, NN11 2EL.

## Speakers

**Peter Perkins** is Secretary of NIAG. From the 1820s, Edward Harrison Barwell became one of the leading ironfounders in Northampton, undertaking a variety of work including bridges, glasshouses, fountains, railings, heating systems and ovens, some of which were for the nobility. He also had *fingers in several other commercial pies*. His Eagle Foundry continued after his death, finally closing in the 1990s. This talk traces the history of Barwell and his business and identifies some of his work that can still be seen over the southern half of England.

**David Thompson** is now Director of Vertica Consulting, a business supporting the lift design and building industries having started his engineering apprenticeship with The Express Lift Company. Rising through the ranks to senior managerial positions he is well placed to present the history of the company and its many achievements such as the UK's first double-deck lifts in the National Westminster Bank Tower, London and the development of hydraulic lifts.

**Simon Rennie** was appointed General Manager of the National Training Academy for Rail (NTAR) in 2014. His presentation will look at the skills challenges facing the rail industry and how NTAR has been set up to respond to these problems. He will also discuss how modern technology is helping NTAR achieve its goals.



Images courtesy of NTAR.

## Industrial Heritage Days

EMIAC, the East Midlands Industrial Archaeology Conference, comprises a group of societies from across the East Midlands. EMIAC Industrial Heritage Days are held twice a year and are open to anyone with an interest in industrial archaeology or related historical subjects. The first event was held in 1970 and this, the 93rd, is being hosted by NIAG, Northamptonshire Industrial Archaeology Group.

The other EMIAC affiliated societies are:

Derbyshire Archaeological Society

Leicestershire Industrial History Society

North East Derbyshire Industrial Archaeology Society

Railway & Canal Historical Society – East Midlands Group

Society for Lincolnshire History & Archaeology

## About NIAG

NIAG has been active since 1965 and is concerned with studying and promoting the county's industrial heritage. The group meets monthly between October and March and has a programme of weekly outdoor meetings during the summer months between May and August visiting sites both inside and beyond the county boundary. A quarterly newsletter keeps members informed of activities and news.

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