



## Celebrating William Rankine 5th July 1820 – 4th December 1872

Dear members,

This has been a most unusual year for the Institution with the restrictions due to the Pandemic resulting in a change in how we do things to continue serving our members and Scottish society. This has meant a much greater reliance on the internet and trying out new ways of communication. It is our intention to undertake a full programme of lectures, most of which will be online until such time as meetings can safely take place. This is unlikely to occur until 2021. The main casualty of the pandemic has been the postponement of the James Watt Dinner which will now take place in 2021, details below. We are holding a major event with the Institute of Refrigeration to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Professor William Rankine's birth, co-founder of our Institution. Originally intended as a conference to be held at Glasgow University, it will now take place online; details are included in this bulletin.

I hope that members have managed to stay safe and we look forward to developing an interesting programme for you over the coming year.

## Free online lectures celebrating Rankine's Life

I am delighted to let you know that the Legacy Event programme of lectures celebrating Rankine's life and achievements will still be held on the morning of Monday 27th July – online. Please register for this event – it is a great programme

Registration - <https://ior.org.uk/events/william-rankine>

- Rankine's Glasgow and his Contribution to Engineering Education - Prof. Joe McGeough of University of Edinburgh
- Rankine's legacy in Thermodynamics - Dr Helen Czerski of University College London
- Rankine's legacy in Shipbuilding - Paul Sweeney of Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders in Scotland
- Rankine's legacy in Metallurgy - Prof Margaret Stack of Strathclyde University
- Rankine's legacy in Civil Engineering - Prof Gordon Masterton of University of Edinburgh

## AGM

The date for the AGM will be Tuesday 25th August, we will hold this as an online meeting, full details on how to participate will be sent to members. We will be putting forward a Special Resolution to revert the Institution name back to its original as conceived by William Rankine which Council considers better reflects current engineering in Scotland. Full details on how to vote are given in the rearranged AGM notification and I hope that you will be able to support this Resolution.

## JWD

With the national lockdown and restrictions on social events and meetings it has been decided, regretfully, to cancel this year's James Watt Dinner. It is the first time for many years that the event has been cancelled but we have confirmed a date for 8th October 2021 – we look forward to seeing you then and raising a glass to those we have missed.

The dinner celebrates the engineering achievements of James Watt and is one of the oldest engineering dinners. In addition, it celebrates Engineers who are inducted into the Scottish Engineering Hall of Fame at the dinner. If you haven't been before please consider coming along, all are welcome.

*David M. Washmore.*

# The Rankine 2020 Conference

## Advances in Cooling, Heating and Power Generation



**Rankine 2020  
Conference**  
Advances in Cooling, Heating  
and Power Generation

This conference will explore the legacy of William Rankine, looking at his ground-breaking research to see what modern engineering can learn from this great Victorian innovator. It will also look to the future and offer a forum where the disciplines of power generation, refrigeration, air conditioning, and heat pumps come together to discuss their common challenges and learn about the solutions that are being developed to tackle them. IESIS Vice President, Andy Pearson, is a lead organiser for this event.

For further information please visit [www.rankine2020.com](http://www.rankine2020.com)

## William Rankine Appeal



The appeal to fund the re-instatement of Rankine's gravestone has had a good start in the present circumstances, we are about a quarter of the way towards our target

Donations can be paid to IESIS, please identify with 'Rankine's Gravestone Appeal' please, or via the website where we have a donate 'button' which will link to our Paypal website

[The Institution reinstated Rankine's grave in 1951 and have carried our similar philanthropic work for John Robertson (Comet) and Henry Bell (Comet)]

## The Rankine Songbook



The Rankine Song Book is now available to purchase, £15 per copy (plus postage if required)

A larger A4 version is available please contact IESIS for details [iesis@btconnect.com](mailto:iesis@btconnect.com)

## Happy Birthday William!

Our Vice President Dr Andy Pearson shares the wit of William Rankine

"in 1867 he wrote "The second law...has been much neglected by the authors of popular (as distinguished from elementary) works" and added a footnote "The explanation of the second law of thermodynamics in Dr Balfour Stewart's excellent treatise on heat is elementary, but it is not, nor does it profess to be, popular."

Happy birthday, sir! We salute you.



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