

# The Polymer Society

A Division of the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining

## Summer 2020 Newsletter

In this edition, we introduce you to our new IOM3 Polymer Society Chair, follow up on University based PPE initiatives from two board members and discuss IOM3 webinars, blogs and workshops to enhance your knowledge and professional credentials

### ✓ Welcome to Dr David Hughes

Hello, I'm very much looking forward to working with you all through the Polymer Society.

I started as a tool room apprentice in an injection moulding facility and have developed through the polymer sector working in research and industrial projects. I now work as an Enterprise Fellow at Teesside University teaching materials but with a specific role to support knowledge exchange into industry and support economic growth. I am passionate about developing a sustainable future and coordinate Teesside's Circular Economy Innovation Centre.



I believe the purpose and values of the Polymer Society have never been so important. Polymers will no doubt play a key role in the future of energy and resources, food, health, mobility & infrastructure and communication. There are so many developments and new approaches being proposed, the role of the Society, for knowledge exchange and training, I believe, is critical. As a committee, we are reviewing how we can support and equip you as polymer professionals to make an impact both economically and environmentally. We are very open to hearing from you and I look forward to engaging with you all moving forward.

### ✓ PPE Manufacture at University of Bradford and Queen Mary College University of London

Professor Phil Coates reports that when the world went into lockdown, engineers from the University of Bradford began working flat out on a design for face shields in response to the coronavirus outbreak. Engineers from the Faculty of Engineering & Informatics used advanced design and modelling software to come up with a new, cost-effective design. Specialist mould sets from Germany were machined in-house and injection moulding equipment was deep cleaned.

Now their design is being mass produced in conjunction with two local companies, ActiveCell Technologies and Teconnex, with one unit made every 30 seconds. To date, the university has fulfilled orders for 10,000 and 5,000 units for the NHS and Bradford Council but it is close to signing a deal for a further 400,000 units.

[This video](#) explains the process.

Professor James Busfield also reports that the technical team at QMUL's School of Engineering and Materials Science is also doing something with over 3000 masks now donated to various hospitals, care homes and charities in and around East London. The

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design of the face shield was modified and upgraded from original designs used by Foster and Partners. Design and documentation were also shared with London South Bank University, UK, with the aim of a cheap, easily made, one-material design with the team achieve a material cost at only 20 pence per visor.

## ✓ IOM3 Webinars and Blogs

Are you aware that IOM3 are currently running free live and on-demand webinars for members covering many different areas that could be of interest to YOU e.g. [Communicating with Staff during Coronavirus](#)

Also, in support of members enhancing their professional credentials including those with the requisite amount of experience to achieve Competent Person Registration (CPR), IOM3 are running a series of online and free to attend workshops to help people apply for CEng, CEnv, CSci and FIMMM. For dates and how to book, visit [www.iom3.org/registration-workshops](http://www.iom3.org/registration-workshops)

Also keep an eye open for [IOM3 Blogs](#)

Better still follow the discussion through the Institute on Twitter @iom3 and/or LinkedIn.

To ensure that you receive these notifications via email you currently still need to login via the current IOM3 website. Detailed instructions to “Set up and manage your alerts” can be found via this link to access subscriptions [www.iom3.org/alerts](http://www.iom3.org/alerts). Webinars are being announced via the events tab so selecting this option in the subscriptions management portal will ensure you see all opportunities via email.

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Interim Chair Polymer Society Board

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Chair Designate Polymer Society Board

Website: [www.polymersociety.org.uk](http://www.polymersociety.org.uk)

The Polymer Society is a Division of the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining (IOM3).

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