

## EDUCATING FUTURE ENGINEERS

### ENGINEERING AWARENESS DAY 2013

On Saturday 16th November, the annual Engineering Awareness Day took place at St Benedict's School. The event was supported by local further education and training providers, engineering employers and engineering Institutions, all providing stands and activities showcasing local engineering careers.

IMechE West Cumbria provided financial support for the event and had a large stand manned by the both the Area and Young Member committees providing advice, guidance and literature to the students on the available routes into an Engineering career, as well as hands-on activities using Lego Mindstorm Robots. The day was a successful one for IMechE West Cumbria, with many students and parents seeking some advice and finding out more of what we can offer to engineers of all ages. Mandy Pattinson, Marketing & Publicity Officer at St. Benedict's School stated – "Another successful event with pupils attending from as far as Keswick, Silloth and Millom. This



annual event could not happen without the support and dedication of local companies and we would like to thank them all." IMechE West Cumbria are delighted to continue to support this invaluable engineers careers event. It offers an opportunity for local West Cumbrian secondary school students to come and talk to local employers about potential

engineering careers, further/higher education providers about college and university course options, as well as representatives from professional Institutions like the IMechE to provide straight forward advice about professional career development.

**Matt Cleaver, IMechE West Cumbria**

### ENGINEERING YOUR FUTURE 2013



Sixth form and college students took the opportunity to pick the brains of a wide variety of local engineers at the recent Engineering Your Future careers event.

The careers day, led by the IMechE, was held at West Lakes Science Park on Friday 22nd November giving 62 Cumbrian students an insight into the world of engineering.

A variety of engineers from Sellafield Ltd, James Walkers & Co., Jacobs and other local

companies provided inspiring presentations alongside activities run by leading engineering bodies such as the Institution of Chemical Engineers (IChemE) and the Institute of Physics (IoP) in order to demonstrate the skills required to succeed in each industry.

Stands were also set up by local companies and educational organisations showcasing education, training and work opportunities available to the students.

We had really great feedback from the students. Four out of five students agreed that the event had influenced their choice of career and nearly nine out of ten would now consider following an engineering related career path.

A large number of local engineers gave up their time to support the event and the IMechE would like to thank them for their time and positive attitudes on behalf of the students that attended.

**Matt Cleaver, IMechE West Cumbria**



## BIG BANG LIVE 2013

The 19th & 20th November saw IMechE West Cumbria taking part in what is becoming a regular event in the science and engineering calendar - the 'Big Bang' event organised by STEM Cumbria.



The high demand generated by the events of previous years meant that this year separate events were held in North and South Cumbria to make sure everyone could experience all that was on offer. IMechE West Cumbria was pleased to attend the two-day North Cumbria event, held at Energus Lillyhall, provided an interactive stand for over 900 primary and secondary school students that attended.

Exhibits were provided by Cumbrian businesses and Industries, Further Education and training providers with hands-on science, technology, engineering & maths (STEM) activities delivered by practicing scientists and engineers. The demonstrations, hands-on activities and competitions were aimed at reinforcing the need for students to think about a STEM career and demonstrate to everyone that STEM will be an increasing part of everyday life.

Excellent feedback was received from the students with the majority of students leaving with a better understanding of science and engineering education and careers, a quarter were more likely to consider a STEM career and almost all had a great day's experience.



Matt Cleaver, IMechE West Cumbria