

## Events in Brief

### FIDIC India

FIDIC 2010 begins on 19 September in New Delhi, bringing together industry, government bodies, consultants and engineers from around the world. Expert speakers include industry leaders such as Chris Cole, Geoff French and Kevin Stovell. The event concludes on 22 September.

### H&S Lecture

ACE and Capita Symonds will hold their joint health and safety lecture on 6 October. Judith Hackitt CBE, chair of the Health and Safety Executive will give the lecture.

### GCC Conference

ACE will be returning to the Middle East to host the ACE GCC Conference on the 17-18 October. The 2010 conference will address the challenges and opportunities across the booming Gulf Cooperative Countries (GCC).

The event will be opened by British Ambassador Dominic Jermy and there will be speakers from the legal, insurance, client and health and safety sector.

### European CEO Conference

ACE is to host its two day European CEO Conference, starting on 3 November. This is a high level event for industry figures taking part in ACE's benchmarking.

### ACE Annual Reception

ACE's Annual London Reception will take place on 23 November. The annual gathering of key figures in consultancy engineering is a chance to network and discuss the big issues facing the industry.

# Children engage on sustainable schools



Leicester school children work on green plans

The Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), is funding three years of research into sustainable education. The project in Leicester brings together pupils, teachers, governors and members of the local authority to develop energy efficient schools and apply sustainability measures into live building schemes.

Leicester's local authority

has a 25-year ambition to transform itself into Britain's sustainable city. Its partners include De Montfort University and ACE member Hulley & Kirkwood, who have been involved in its Building Schools for the Future team.

Hulley & Kirkwood and De Montfort have been helping pupils at schools to express their views and what they have learned. They have been

helped to produce PowerPoint presentations, newsletters, podcasts and videos as they discussed sustainability and presented their opinions to designers and local policy-makers.

Andrew Harris, associate with H&K, said: "Having listened to the excellent presentations given by each of the student groups I was astounded by their grasp of both their understanding of the subject and their passion for the integration of renewable technologies in their new school. It was obvious that a great deal of high quality research has been carried out by all participants which resulted, not only in excellent presentation work on a variety of technologies, but furthermore a challenging question and answer session. It is encouraging to see that pupils of such a young age can engage in a mature debate and who are likely to develop into our next generation of high quality engineers."

## First Woman of Property Michelle McDowell

Days after being awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours, Michelle McDowell was recognised as a glass-ceiling breaker and a pioneering woman in industry.

Nelson Ogunshakin OBE, ACE chief executive, said: "I am delighted to congratulate

Michelle on winning this award. It is recognition of her major contribution to construction and her commitment to the engineering sector. This is a well-deserved award that comes after Michelle being honoured in the Queen's Birthday list."



ACE chair Michelle McDowell

## Engineering in government

Professor Sir John Beddington has called on government to put engineering advice at the centre of policymaking.

Sir John was asked to update guidelines on the use of scientific and engineering advice within Whitehall. In his report he argued that engineering advice should be central given its importance to significant areas of policy.

Sir John explained: "Climate change, security, pressures on the supply of energy, food and water, health and migration pose unprecedented and interconnected challenges to the world. Science and, particularly, engineering are central to identifying, understanding and addressing these challenges."

The report will be published in the summer.