

## MMTA 38<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner



The 38<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner was held at The May Fair Hotel on 4<sup>th</sup> October. The MMTA was joined by over 220 members and non members, who had congregated in London during London Metals week. Guests were greeted with a glass of champagne in the Danziger suite at The May Fair, and were entertained by a jazz trio. The champagne reception gave attendees a brilliant opportunity to network and catch up with colleagues within the industry.

The dinner took place in the fabulous Crystal Ballroom, where the band continued to play throughout the meal. A raffle in aid of the Carey

Mufulira Community Partnership Trust took place, and a staggering £3,200 was raised for the charity, with prizes of Harrods vouchers for the winners, generously sponsored by Alfred H Knight International Ltd. Many thanks to all those who helped make the evening such a success.



## Welcome Message from Maria Cox

Dear Members

This is my first opportunity to contribute to The Crucible, and I wanted to take the opportunity to say thank you for the way I have been welcomed into the MMTA. So many members have taken the time to convey their good wishes that I have felt very privileged, and above all, my first two months in the role have only reinforced my belief that I am a very lucky woman. I would also like to thank Roland Chavasse for his hard work helping to develop the Association over the last 4 years.

LME week gave me a great opportunity to meet many of you, and continuing to get out and talk to members and prospective members is high on my list of priorities. Of course, both the New York Dinner and the Christmas Lunch in London will be excellent networking opportunities for me as well as for you.

Since joining the MMTA, I have been working closely with Emma Newman and members of the Main and Sub-Committees to learn the way the association works and plan for the future. We have lots of ideas which we are looking forward to implementing over the coming months. One of these is to re-launch The Crucible in 2012, so if you have any suggestions for topics you would like to see more of or other changes you would like to see, please let myself or Emma know.

Finally, as the end of the year approaches, it will soon be time for membership renewals, and we are very pleased to announce that there will be no increase in subscriptions for 2012.

Best Wishes  
Maria

## Dates for your Diary

North American Dinner	New York, USA	6 December 2011
Christmas Lunch	London, UK	15 December 2011
Annual General Meeting	Cologne, Germany	23 April 2012
International Minor Metals Conference 2012	Cologne, Germany	23- 25 April 2012

## The MMTA International Minor Metals Conference

The MMTA's International Minor Metals Conference will be taking place at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Cologne, Germany, from April 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> 2012.



Following last year's sell-out event in Philadelphia, Metal Events Ltd are once again organising an innovative and thought-provoking conference on behalf of the MMTA. There will be a strong programme of speakers highlighting those areas where minor metals are used in developing new products for energy, electronics, batteries and other sectors.

Metals to be covered include Cobalt, Molybdenum, Rhenium, Lithium, Selenium, Indium, Tellurium, Cadmium, Rare Earth Metals, Rhodium, Ruthenium, Silicon, Germanium, Gallium, Chromium, Niobium, Tantalum and many more.

Register now and pay just £780. For more information, or to register, contact: [sales@metalevents.com](mailto:sales@metalevents.com) or telephone: +44 20 7840 0145. Details of the programme and companies attending are available at [www.metalevents.com](http://www.metalevents.com)

## Minor Metals Dinner - The Cornell Club NYC

Back by popular demand, our North American Sub-Committee will once again be inviting MMTA members & guests to the prestigious Cornell Club in the heart of Manhattan for an evening of good food, good company and plenty of networking.

Our special guest speaker, Barry Ritzholt, will be discussing topics critical to the minor metals markets. Barry is a prominent American analyst and network

television economic commentator. He will give us insight on the US economy in the coming election year, the ramifications of the US and European debt crises, the impact of China, currency, and the implications on industry, commodities and metals. Given the uncertainty in the world, this should be particularly compelling.



Dinner has been generously sponsored by Canton Port Services, LLC, dba Canton Stevedoring and Canton Maritime Services Inc.

Canton has over ten years experience in the metals industry, including minor metals, non-ferrous, and ferrous products and operates two warehouses in Baltimore, totalling 300,000 sq ft. [www.cantonmaritime.com](http://www.cantonmaritime.com)

# MMTA Open Trade & Lobby Committee Meeting and Dinner, Brussels



Members of the Trade & Lobby Committee, and other members and invited guests, met at the offices of Sidley Austin in central Brussels to discuss a range of key issues around metals recycling and the encouragement of free trade. The

group was treated to 3 high quality presentations from Ross Bartley, the Environmental & Technical Director of BIR, who gave an overview of commodities recycling, Christina Meskers of Umicore Precious Metals Refining, who discussed balancing sustainability and access to raw materials, and Niall Lawler of the European Commission Enterprise & Industry, who presented on the Raw Materials Initiative & Recycling.

What to do with metals when they reach the end of life (EoL) was one of the questions posed by the 3 speakers, who each approached this important issue from a different perspective. The meeting heard details of the uneven distribution of recycling efforts, as well as the difficulty in creating a level playing field, both within and outside the EU, when costs for both recycling and developing new recycling plants are so high. Another issue raised was that of products containing minor metals being exported for re-use, particularly to countries without advanced recycling capabilities, and the challenges this poses when trying to manage and control EoL materials and recapture them for recycling purposes. The issue of convincing people to recycle is fundamental, and is currently problematic, for example, glass is almost 100% recycled, so why not mobile phones? Items may be re-used, but no consistency exists on what happens at EoL, and there is currently no real incentive for individuals to change their behaviour.



The core message of the session was consistent: a longer term vision is required. A total of 41 critical materials have been identified by the Raw Materials Initiative & Recycling survey, but there remains uncertainty about how this list will impact such areas as import duties and green materials. The meeting heard that environmental issues should be given consideration from the mine onwards, not just at the point of import. All metals have a green function, not just in reducing pollution, but also in increasing the durability of the products they contribute to.

Following the meeting, the Chairman of the Trade and Lobby Committee, Charles Swindon of RJH Trading, thanked all those who had attended the meeting and Sidley Austin for their generous sponsorship and hosting of the event. He said that he felt the Committee was now set to make real progress. It was agreed that lots of valuable information had been shared on a critical area and one that is a challenge to the MMTA as well as the minor metals sector at large. After the meeting, attendees enjoyed a wonderful dinner at La Maison du Cygne in the centre of Brussels.



The Trade & Lobby Committee also wishes to welcome André Clodong as a new member. At EcoMundo, André is responsible for international business development, regulatory monitoring and liaison with EU and US institutions, and links to trade federations such as the MMTA and the US Society of Chemical Manufacturers & Affiliates. Before joining EcoMundo in 2009, André was an adviser on European affairs to a number of corporations and trade associations in the aerospace, chemical, energy and transport sectors, after having spent 15 years in public affairs with a large US industrial corporation in Canada and Europe.

# MMTA Committee Changes

The 38<sup>th</sup> Anniversary dinner at the May Fair Hotel on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October was the final event under the directorship of Peter Nicholson. Reluctantly, Peter has taken the decision to stand down from the MMTA Board of Directors and as Chairman of the Association's Business & Social Events Committee. The directors would like to thank Peter for his commitment to the association over the past 5 years, and for his valuable contributions to putting on so many memorable MMTA events.

Peter has worked in the metals and chemicals industry for 10 years and is currently a director of London Chemicals & Resources Ltd, a distributor of metal salts such as Vanadium, Molybdenum, Nickel, Tungsten and Cobalt.

Peter says: "The 5 years I have spent working on the MMTA's Main Committee have been an amazing experience and a privilege, and I would strongly recommend any of our members to lend their services to one of the MMTA's various Committees. For me it has been enjoyable and challenging, sometimes frustrating, but always rewarding to work in the midst of so much energy and experience. Above all, it has been a very good chance to make contacts and friendships within the minor metals community.

In arranging the MMTA's events, I have sought to introduce variety in terms of the venues used and the entertainment provided. It is important for the MMTA's continued development for new members to join the Committees, bringing with them fresh ideas and approaches. This is the reason why I have decided to step down after 5 years, and I am delighted that James Peer has volunteered to take over from me. James joined the Business & Social Events Committee a year ago and has contributed a great deal to the events we have arranged over the last year. He and Jill FitzGibbon make a formidable team, and I am sure they would be delighted to hear from any members interested in joining them."

James started his career in the tobacco trading industry, spending 10 years in Asia, followed by 3 years with Johnson & Johnson in Switzerland. In 2008, he joined the family trading business, Maritime House Ltd ([www.maritimehouse.co.uk](http://www.maritimehouse.co.uk)), which has been run by Chris and Joan Peer since 1986. Maritime House Ltd is an industrial chemical and metals trading company that specialises in the markets of the Former Soviet Union. The metal side of the business is built around the supply of Nickel based super alloys into the Russian and Ukrainian Gas turbine industry.



James says: "I am looking forward to building on the work done by Peter Nicholson and to ensuring that the MMTA delivers a wide and interesting range of social functions to its members."

Should any MMTA member wish to express an interest in increasing their engagement with the Association by participating in one of our committees, please contact [maria@mma.co.uk](mailto:maria@mma.co.uk) for more information.



## MMTA Christmas Lunch



The MMTA's Christmas Lunch 2011 is the perfect way to end the year and catch up with friends and colleagues in the minor metals industry. Due to the great feedback of last year's event, the lunch will take place in the Crypt and Old Hall at Lincoln's Inn in central London, between Holborn and Chancery Lane underground stations. Full details are available from the MMTA executive office.



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