



ALL CHANGE AT THE BWPDA AGM



From left to right, Howard Marsh, Immediate Past President of the BWPDA, Dr Chris Coggins, outgoing Director and BWPDA President, and Les Meikle, Deputy President

This year's BWPDA AGM heralded a new era for the Association as members voted to accept the proposed changes to the Articles of Association, thus formally dividing the BWPDA into two new trade associations: the Property Care Association and the Wood Protection Association.

The two new associations have been in existence for the past three years as divisions of the BWPDA. However they will now exist as fully independent associations.

The AGM also saw Dr Christopher Coggins, BWPDA Director since 1990, retire and hand over the reins to Yasmin Chopin, who will also be Director of the Property Care Association. Dr Coggins will still play an important role within the association. He will oversee the establishment of the Wood Protection Association and was elected President of the BWPDA. Howard Marsh now takes up the post of Immediate Past President and Les Meikle, Managing Director of Wise Property Care, was elected to the post of Deputy President.

Dr Coggins became Director of BWPDA in 1993 having served the association for upwards of 15 years as a committee member, committee chairman, a Vice President and Deputy President. On his election to the Presidency, Chris said, "I have enjoyed serving as Director and hope I leave the association better placed to face the challenges ahead. Following the approval today of the changes to the association's constitution the way is clear for the two daughter associations – The Property Care Association and the Wood Protection Association – to take centre stage and take the lead in supporting and promoting members in these two important areas. I look forward to serving the membership as their President and to working with Deputy President Les Meikle over the next couple of years.

"I would like to welcome Yasmin Chopin, in whom the Council and I have every confidence, as the new Director of BWPDA and the Property Care Association. The focus of activity for most members will now shift to the Property Care Association under Yasmin's direction and I will be playing a part in helping to establish the Wood Protection Association supporting the pre-treatment industry over the next couple of years or so.

"I would also like to pay tribute to Immediate Past President Howard Marsh for his period of service to the association. Howard has a long and distinguished record of service, over more than 20 years, to the British Chemical Dampcourse Association, the British Wood Preserving Association, BWPDA (formed from the merger in 1989 of BCDA and BWPA), the Property Care Association as a division of our association and as a trustee of the Institute of Wood Preserving and Damp-proofing. Howard has been the sort of hands-on President that all Directors hope for or fear – depending on their point of view. His most tangible legacy is of course the famous 10 year plan and that is a framework for my successor to work with."

For further information and a copy of the .jpeg contact

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