



# **AGM Seminar & Exhibition**

Blackpool Hilton, Blackpool 2006

**Official Programme**



## Message from the Mayor of Blackpool

I was delighted to hear that the Association of Electoral Administrators had chosen to bring the 2006 Seminar to Blackpool once again.

This will be the fifth time that Blackpool will be hosting the Seminar and it gives me great pleasure, on behalf of the Council and the people of Blackpool, to extend a warm welcome to delegates and exhibitors.

I wish you a very successful Seminar and I hope you will enjoy Blackpool's hospitality once again and that we may have the opportunity of hosting the Seminar again in the future.

The Mayoress and I look forward to seeing you all in February.

Councillor Philip Dunne

Mayor of Blackpool



## Chairman's Welcome

I am very pleased to be able to welcome you all to the Association's 19th Annual Seminar. We have had several successful Seminars in Blackpool and I am sure that this one will be from the same mould. The excellent facilities at the Hilton Hotel are well known to us and the large number of delegates to this Seminar will hopefully enjoy their visit to the North West, leaving here with some better idea of the exciting challenges that lie ahead for the profession.

As usual, the Seminar Working Party under the careful leadership of James Stevens has worked extremely hard behind the scenes in making the arrangements for this Seminar. The members of the

team know that they have much to live up to yet somehow manage to improve year on year. Whilst making the arrangements for Seminar 2006 here in Blackpool, they have also been planning for future Seminars, particularly against the backdrop of having to find venues to cope with our ever increasing numbers. I suspect that those not directly involved would be extremely surprised how much detail goes into putting together the Seminar programme and making the many and varied arrangements which represent the very professional way in which the Association's Seminar is now presented.

The comprehensive programme put together by the Working Party looks to have something for everybody and should enable all delegates to leave Blackpool better informed and able to contribute to the many changes that will be faced in the registration of electors and the conduct of elections in the not too distant future. We are greatly indebted to all those who have been involved in making all of these arrangements for this Seminar and for the skills and time which they have so freely contributed to ensure its success. On a wider note, I would also wish to place on record our thanks to all those whose work for the Association throughout the year, which so benefits the wider membership.

Our thanks are also due to our commercial colleagues who support us by taking exhibition space and providing sponsorship of various events and activities. The exhibition provides an interesting focal point in parallel to the working sessions at Seminar. It is a measure of the interest in our activities that we have sold a very high number of exhibition spaces this year. Please take time to support our exhibitors by visiting the many and varied stands within the exhibition.



I am particularly delighted that Baroness Joyce Gould, Chair of the H.S. Chapman Society and a leading and respected expert on electoral matters within the House of Lords, has agreed to attend Seminar to deliver the keynote speech. She will no doubt wish to outline her views on the Electoral Administration Bill which is shortly to be considered in the upper chamber.

Blackpool Borough Council has been extremely helpful to the Association in persuading us to return to the town and our thanks are due to the Council and its staff for their help and efforts in making our arrangements for this year's event. Equally, the management and staff at the Hilton hotel have been as co-operative and supportive as ever in our planning for the event.

The Association has had a challenging year, full details of which are set out in the Annual Report. There is much to do as an organisation. Equally, the challenges facing the profession as a whole and our members individually are probably as radical and far-reaching as any since the introduction of the Ballot Act in the 1870s. We will continue to engage with Government, the Electoral Commission and other stakeholders to ensure that the provision and delivery of electoral services in this country are of the highest quality and that they provide a level of confidence that the public should expect and deserve.

I sincerely hope that you will enjoy this Seminar and your visit to Blackpool. I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible and would be delighted to hear any ideas you might have on what the Association should be pursuing as we look to consolidate the progress we have made over the past 19 years. I also hope that what you take away from this Seminar will assist our work towards greater professionalism and excellence within electoral administration in this country.

John Turner, Chairman  
January 2006

### **A Note for your diary**

The AEA will be holding a one day National Conference & Exhibition on Thursday 7th September 2006 at the Hilton Hotel, Coventry. Watch out for more information on the AEA's website.



## Seminar Programme 2006

### Sunday 19 February 2006

- 3.30pm Registration – Lobby, Royal Foyer, Hilton Hotel
- 4.30pm Opening of Exhibition – Entrance Hall, Hilton Hotel: Keith Porter will introduce The Worshipful, the Mayor of Blackpool, Cllr Philip Dunne
- 6.00pm Annual General Meeting – Royal Suite, Hilton Hotel
- 7.00pm Presentation of Qualification Awards: John Turner/Sam Younger
- 7.30pm Supper – Promenade Restaurant and Neville/Mortimer Rooms

### Monday 20 February 2006

- 8.45am Visit Exhibition Stands – Queen's/Trafalgar Suites & Entrance Hall
- 9.30am Parliamentary Election 2005 – what went right & what went wrong? – Royal Suite – Session Leader: Andrew Scallan
- 10.15am Coffee – Exhibition areas
- 10.45am Keynote Speech – Royal Suite – Baroness Joyce Gould
- 11.15am Electoral administration – the future – Royal Suite – Session Leader: John Turner
- 12.00pm Electoral Commission Update – Royal Suite – Session Leader: Malcolm Dumper
- 1.00pm Lunch – Promenade Restaurant and Lounge Area
- 2.00pm Workshops – Hilton and Imperial Hotels
- 3.15pm Tea – Exhibition areas, Hilton Hotel and Washington Suite, Imperial Hotel
- 3.45pm Workshops – Hilton and Imperial Hotels
- 5.00pm Close
- 7.15pm Wine Reception – Royal Foyer, Hilton Hotel
- 8.00pm Annual Dinner including entertainment – Royal Suite, Hilton Hotel

### Tuesday 21 February 2006

- 8.45am Visit Exhibition Stands – Queen's/Trafalgar Suites & Entrance Hall
- 9.30am Risk Management & the Electoral Process – Royal Suite – Session Leader: Alan Winchcombe
- 10.30am Coffee – Exhibition areas
- 11.00am Modernisation Agenda – Royal Suite – Session Leader: Alan Winchcombe
- 12.00pm Other Voting Systems – Royal Suite – Session Leader: William Pollock
- 1.00pm Lunch – Promenade Restaurant and Lounge Area
- 2.00pm Workshops – Hilton and Imperial Hotels
- 3.15pm Tea – Exhibition areas, Hilton Hotel and Washington Suite, Imperial Hotel
- 3.45pm Workshops – Hilton and Imperial Hotels
- 5.00pm Close

### Wednesday 22 February 2006

- 8.45am Visit Exhibition Stands – Queen's/Trafalgar Suites & Entrance Hall
- 9.30am The next canvass – How will we be doing it? – Royal Suite – Session Leader: Norman McLeod
- 10.30am Coffee – Exhibition areas
- 11.00am Royal Mail – your questions answered – Royal Suite – Session Leader: Keith Porter
- 11.45am Close of Seminar – Royal Suite – Session Leader: James Stevens, Seminar Organiser
- 12.00pm Lunch – Promenade Restaurant and Lounge Area



## Plenary Sessions

### 1. **Parliamentary election 2005 – what went right and what went wrong?**

Most electoral administrators came through the last election relatively unscathed. However, there is always room for improvement and this session will look back at the last UK Parliamentary elections and what to expect in the future!

### 2. **Electoral administration – the future**

We will be making some significant changes to our electoral system. John Sills, Head of the Electoral Policy Division of the DCA, will outline the effects of new legislation and what it holds for electoral administrators and their suppliers.

### 3. **Electoral Commission update**

Presented by Sam Younger, Chairman of the Electoral Commission, this is always a popular session to keep you up to date with the latest changes in the electoral field and what the future holds for us as administrators and the electoral process itself.

### 4. **Risk Management and the electoral process**

We can no longer bury our heads in the sand and ignore the need for thorough risk assessment of our practices and procedures. This session will deal directly with risk management relating to the electoral process.

### 5. **Modernisation agenda**

The best-kept secret... what is the shape of things to come? Speakers for this session are keen to take on board changes that will revolutionise our democracy.

### 6. **Other voting systems**

An exciting panel of people giving us their views on how other voting systems work and why they think theirs is the best.

### 7. **The next canvass - How will we be doing it?**

Will there be some form of individual registration? How will it impact on the electoral administrator? Do we have the resources? How will it work and why do we need it? You are about to find out.

### 8. **Royal Mail – your questions answered**

We all use the service in one way or another, so now is your chance to come along and hear what is next in store for us and take the opportunity of asking those questions that need answering. This promises to be a lively session.

## Workshops

### 1. **Electoral Commission**

Implementation of the Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2006 practical session/Democracy Cookbook

This workshop will provide you with information on the guidance and training available from the Commission to support the local government elections in England 2006. Along with practical exercises concerning the implementation of the amendment regulations to the RPR 2001 and outreach activities from the Democracy Cookbook. All attendees will receive a copy of the Democracy Cookbook.

### 2. **Training and Presentation skills with Joe Bradley**

Back by popular demand - Joe presents this session in an informative and interesting way. Use this session to pick up hints and tips on the delivery of training sessions (including the briefing of polling staff) and presentations.

### 3. **Nominations**

How often do we assume we are doing everything right, but as time goes on we can all fall into bad habits that could have potential disastrous effects? Come and learn the 'do's and don'ts' of the nomination process.

### 4. **Practical Postal Voting**

How will you deal with postal voting in future? With the ever-increasing number of postal votes, the demands placed on the Returning Officer and staff are much greater. Added to this the media spotlight has now fallen on the postal voting process. These factors have brought into sharper focus the need for meticulous planning and preparation.

In this workshop, we will take a practical approach to consider the risks associated with retaining the postal voting process in-house and with the varying degrees of outsourcing. In addition we will look at the impact that the (proposed) 2006 regulations will have on the process.



## Seminar Speakers



### **Andrew Scallan**

Andrew Scallan is a Deputy Returning Officer at Manchester City Council. He has worked in elections since 1983 and is an honorary member of the AEA, having served as Honorary Secretary and Vice Chairman. Andrew is a former joint editor of Schofield's Election Law and has been a trainer and consultant on elections in this country and in emerging Democracies.



### **Tom Hawthorne**

Tom Hawthorne manages the Electoral Commission's Electoral Modernisation Team which advises the Commission on issues relating to the use of new technologies in the administration of elections, including the CORE project. Tom's team is also responsible for the Commission's electoral pilot scheme evaluation activities.

Tom has worked with the Commission in its policy directorate since it was established in 2001. Previously, Tom worked at the Local Government Commission for England, now the Boundary Committee for England.



### **Baroness Joyce Gould**

Baroness Joyce Gould was created a life peer in 1993. She joined the staff of the Labour party in 1969 and acted as an Assistant regional organiser until 1975. In that year, she was appointed Assistant national agent and chief women's officer, positions which she held until 1985 when she became Director of Organisation, a post which she held until 1993 when she entered the House of Lords. She served as a member of the Jenkins Commission during 1997-98 and has been Chair of the Independent Advisory Group on Sexual Health since 2003. Joyce has always had a keen interest in electoral matters and, amongst other interests, is a member of the Hansard Society and is Chair of the H.S. Chapman Society.



### **John Sills**

John Sills is Head of the Electoral Policy Division in the Department of Constitutional Affairs (DCA). Current priorities include the electoral administration bill; security measures for the 2006 local elections; the electoral modernisation programme; and work on democratic engagement between elections. Between 1999 and 2002 he was Head of civil and family modernisation in the Court Service. John joined the civil service in 1992, having worked for British Petroleum for most of the 1980s. He worked in the Cabinet Office until 1995, when he took a 15 month career

break to look after his son, Kieran. He joined the Lord Chancellor's Department (now DCA) in 1997 and worked on the comprehensive spending review and then legal aid reform before joining the Court Service. John is married with a ten year old son (Kieran) and twin daughters aged six (Isabelle and Rebecca). In what remains of his time, his main interests are music and football.



### **Malcolm Dumper**

Malcolm has been involved in the organisation of elections since 1976, He currently works as Democratic Services Manager for Southampton City Council and is the Deputy Returning Officer for Southampton's Parliamentary Constituencies. He has held various positions within the AEA & is currently the Executive Director for Policy & External Affairs.

Malcolm has been closely involved with Officers from The Department for Constitutional Affairs and Electoral Commission ensuring the views and opinions of electoral administrators are taken into account and that the practical implications of the electoral modernisation agenda are fully considered.



### **Sam Younger**

Sam Younger joined The Electoral Commission as its first Chairman after a career spanning twenty years at the BBC, most recently as Managing Director of the BBC World Service from 1994 to 98. From 1999 to 2001 he was Chief Executive of the British Red Cross, responsible for its work in the UK and around the world. His other interests include the University of Sussex, whose governing body he chairs, and the Commonwealth Institute, of which he is a governor.

While having no personal history of party affiliation, politics runs in the family. His father was a Labour MP and Minister in the Labour Government of 1945-51, while more recently his cousin was a Cabinet Minister during Margaret Thatcher's Conservative administration.



### **Alan Winchcombe**

Alan Winchcombe is the Electoral and E Democracy Manager at Swindon Borough Council where, amongst other duties, he fulfils the role of Deputy Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer and has been the Executive Director (Education and Training) of the AEA for the last two years.

Alan started his local government career in 1963. He did his first poll clerk duty at a parliamentary by-election in 1964 and hasn't missed being involved with an election wherever he has been working in the 40+ years since that time. Alan has managed the delivery of electoral services in a number of local authorities since 1974 including the delivery of 4 successful electoral pilot schemes between 2000 and 2004 and hopes to manage another successful scheme this year.



### **Paul Docker**

Paul Docker has worked within the legislative, courts and policy areas of central Government for over 15 years. He has worked directly on electronic innovations for issue of court proceedings and legislative information portals before moving to the Electoral Policy Division in August 2003. Paul led the work on the June 2004 all-postal pilots before taking on the overall Electoral Modernisation Programme in April 2005.



### **John Ellis**

John Ellis MBA MSc MBCS is the Managing Director of Demsoft Limited. John is a PRINCE 2 practitioner with considerable experience of delivering projects for both local and central government and has been involved in the electoral modernisation programme since 2002. Previously he was a serving military officer where he also worked on a number of time critical projects in hostile environments.



## **William Pollock**

William Pollock is Chairman of the Scotland Branch (which covers both Scotland and Northern Ireland). He is one of the Scotland representatives on the AEA Council and a member of the Qualifications Board and the Examination Board. Previously he was Education and Training Officer for Scotland. He is Administration Manager and Depute Returning Officer for South Ayrshire Council, based at its headquarters in Ayr, as well as Depute Clerk to the Ayrshire Valuation Joint Board and Chairman of the Ayrshire Archives Management Committee. He was among the first in Scotland to gain the AEA Diploma. He also represents Scotland on The Electoral Commission's Training Strategy Advisory Group. He is the AEA representative on the Scottish Executive's Steering Group for the Local Government Election in 2007 when the STV system will be introduced.



## **Ken Ritchie**

Ken Ritchie has been Chief Executive of the Electoral Reform Society since 1997, a period which has seen considerable growth in the Society's work. He is a board member of the Make Votes Count coalition, was instrumental in establishing the Fairshare campaign for STV in Scotland, and was a member of the Scottish Executive's STV Working Group. He is also a board member of the Centre for Voting and Democracy in the US.

Originally a mathematician, he was awarded a PhD for work with War on Want in Africa and much of his career has been in the field of international development and human rights. Positions he has held include Executive Director of Healthlink Worldwide, Deputy Director of the Refugee Council and UK Director of Intermediate Technology. He has combined his work with a keen interest in politics: he has fought three general elections and many local ones, successfully losing them all.



## **Denis Stanley**

Denis Stanley is Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland, a post which encompasses the registration of 1.2 million electors and the running of all elections and referendums in the Province. He took up post in September 2000 and has overseen the modernisation of the Electoral Office including the implementation of a CORE compatible computerised registration system in 2001 and in 2002 the introduction of individual registration and extensive electoral anti-fraud legislation. As well as running major elections most years, Denis and his team have devised a system of continuous registration

for Northern Ireland which was accepted by the Government in 2004 and is expected to become law later in 2006. Denis is to retire from the Electoral Office at the end of March 2006 and has recently moved to the country where he and his wife Anne plan to enjoy the tranquillity of one of the most beautiful parts of rural County Down. He has one son of 25 who now lives and works in Dublin.



### **Norman McLeod**

Born and brought up in Glasgow Norman moved to London in 1971. Norman first got involved in electoral administration during the canvass in 1984 and having caught the bug moved into the profession full time in May 1985 working for the London Borough of Haringey. Apart from organising all elections in Haringey since then, Norman has also supervised elections in Namibia, Lesotho, Bosnia and Kosovo. Norman first won the Document Technology award for innovation in electoral administration for telephone registration.



### **Chris Quigley**

Chris is Managing Director of e-participation company Delib, and one of the UK's leading e-democracy consultants, helping local, national and European governments to engage with their citizens using new technologies.

Chris has been at the forefront of the introduction of e-democracy in the UK, having worked on the UK's first e-voting pilots in 2002 and 2003, advising six Local Authorities on their e-engagement strategies. In 2004/5 Chris worked on the National Local e-democracy project developing "Demgames", a suite of computer games designed to engage young people in local democracy which are now used by over 100 Local Authorities across the UK. Most recently Chris is leading the Delib team in developing "Election Alarm Clock" with the London Borough of Lambeth and the Electoral Commission, a project designed to increase electoral registration amongst transient young people using SMS/email technologies.



### **John Owen**

John Owen is Elections Officer at Birmingham City Council. He is responsible for the annual canvass (and ongoing "rolling" maintenance) of approximately 720,000 electors. Birmingham has 40 Wards and 11 Parliamentary Constituencies that require over 500 polling stations. He has 30 years experience of electoral administration at 5 local authorities, including smaller rural districts and large metropolitan cities. He was the Editor and lead writer of the AEA/Solace guidance book on the 2001 Regulations. At the European elections in 2004 he was the Regional Elections Officer for the West Midlands. Currently he is a member of the DCA's Local Elections Advisory Group and the Electoral Commission's Training Strategy Advisory Group as well as an AEA approved trainer.



### **Keith Porter**

Keith is the Executive Director (Commercial) of the AEA and is responsible for the commercial activities of the Association. Prior to this he was Public Relations Officer, Members Services Officer and Commercial Manager and is the longest serving officer within the AEA. For 18 years Keith was also Chairman of the NW London Branch of the Association.

Keith retired from the London Borough of Barnet last year having spent 40 years working within Elections/Electoral Registration departments within Local Government and has worked for a wide range of authorities from small Rural District Councils to large London Boroughs and has been responsible for all aspects of elections work.

Keith was also part of the British team that the Foreign & Commonwealth Office sent to assist with the organisation of the first free elections in Cambodia.



### **Rachel Winham**

Rachel joined Royal Mail in 1986 starting her career in Post Office Counters.

Rachel's background has seen her take up various roles, with most of these since 1992 being senior level client based. These clients have included such household names as Bt and Centrica and Telecoms to Supermarkets and Local authorities.

Rachel took over the mantra of Royal Mail Partnership Director within central government nearly four years ago now and has been responsible for Developing strategy and Product innovation since taking on this role within the local government arena that she operates within.

Rachel leads a team of central personnel to help deliver your requirements on a local basis and states she really enjoys her current role working with local authorities and the varied daily challenges this brings.



### **James Stevens**

James has been involved in electoral registration and elections since joining Brentwood Borough Council in 1986 and is directly responsible for the management of European, Parliamentary, County, Borough and Parish elections, as well as working at the sharp end at polling stations.

He joined the AEA in 1987 and has served on the Management Board as the Education & Training Officer and subsequently the Executive Director (Commercial), as well as being Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Eastern Branch. He also serves on the Association's Qualifications and Examining Boards. As the Association's Seminar Organiser, he leads a dedicated team of members on the Seminar Working Party.



## Sponsors

Blackpool Borough Council	Annual Dinner Wine Reception
C Bradbury Ltd	Raffle Prizes
Document Technology	Annual Dinner, Printing Menus & Quiz Prizes
DRS Ltd	Delegate Bags
Electoral Reform Services	Delegate Pens & Note Pads
Opt2Vote	Annual Dinner Branding, Lanyards & Delegate Name Badges
Northgate Information Solutions	Wine Reception Opening of Exhibition
Pakflatt	Annual Dinner Branding, Plenary & Workshop Signage
Shaw & Sons	Annual Dinner Place Cards
Smith & Ouzman Ltd	Bingo Prizes
Strand Business Systems Ltd	Annual Dinner Branding

## Social Programme 2006

### Sunday 19 February 2006

4.30pm	Wine Reception – Opening of Exhibition
7.30pm	Supper - Promenade Restaurant and Neville/Mortimer Rooms
9.30pm	'The Last 12 Bars' Blues band – Springs Nightclub

### Monday 20 February 2006

7.15pm	Wine Reception – Royal Foyer, Hilton Hotel
8.00pm	Annual Dinner – Royal Suite – Lounge Suit or Black Tie
10.30pm	Disco – Springs Nightclub

### Tuesday 21 February 2006

7.00pm	Social Evening – Royal Suite – Annual Quiz
9.00pm	Presentation of Prizes – Keith Porter, followed by MoonDance Ceilidh Band
11.00pm	Disco – Springs Nightclub

## Annual Seminar and Exhibition 2007

In 2007 the Annual Seminar and Exhibition will be held at Hilton Metropole, Brighton.  
Further information will be available at the AEA's website

# Entertainment

## **MoonDance**

MoonDance is a well established ceilidh band featuring a dynamic front line of fiddle, guitar, sax/keys, one of the best rhythm sections in the business and a top caller. The band was mentioned recently on the BBC Radio Folk Awards website as one of the high profile UK dance bands and includes players from such ground breaking groups as 'The Cluster of Nuts Band', Nightwatch and Jellied Reels and special guests. With MoonDance you can be assured of the very best in danceable music.



The band is a long-standing stalwart of the burgeoning 'e-ceilidh' movement, a mix of English & Celtic social dance where the 'dancing' is more important than getting it 'right' and the purpose is to party - truly harmony in motion.

The music for the dances range from modern arrangements of traditional tunes from the British Isles and Europe, with a smattering of eclectic contemporary material and 'fun' numbers. The band can also provide incidental music to provide a complete night's entertainment. They can also provide music for "non-barn dances" from a waltz to a jive as well as material from our extensive concert set either as background music or as a musical interlude.

The band works with some of the UK's finest dance callers and can thus ensure that the audience will be in the best possible hands, an essential element if everyone is going to have a good time. The caller is well versed in running an enjoyable evening and will select dances to suit the ability of the audience.

## **The Last 12 Bars**

The Last 12 Bars - five guys, a girl and a whole lot of blues. A Midlands based band, who have been together for three years playing blues and rock, and even feature one of our own AEA members in the line up.





# Exhibitor Details

## Stand No: Exhibition Details

### 1&2 Strand Business Systems Ltd

Strand are the leading supplier of Windows based Election Systems in the UK, with 25% of the country using our products. Strand have also been heavily involved in electronic voting pilots as one of the Government's approved suppliers.

New for this year is an automated signature checking package, which will be piloted next May and can be seen on the stand.

### 3&4 Document Technology Ltd

Document Technology Limited continues to develop and supply innovative solutions to the changing electoral environment. In addition to our unique stationery kits, we now offer a complete loading service for on demand postal votes. Our internet registration service now accepts changes to the register as well as "no change" registrations.

### 5&6 Election Systems & Software (ES&S)

Election Systems & Software (ES&S) is the world's largest and most experienced provider of election management solutions including touch-screen/kiosk systems, e-counting solutions, voter registration software and multi-channel (internet, telephone, postal and text message) voting platforms. Unisys is a world leader in the design, delivery and implementation of secure IT solutions globally, with more than 50 years delivering secure technology to governments worldwide.

Together, the ES&S/Unisys partnership offers UK authorities unrivalled experience and expertise, with a choice of secure, proven and dependable election innovations.



**7**

## **DSI Billing Services**

DSI billing are the leading provider of document printing, personalisation and mailing services to Local Authorities via our production centres in the south east and north east of England.

- Canvass forms and Reminders
- Poll Cards
- Postal Ballots

We invite you to our stand to discuss our solution to all your printing and mailing needs.

**8**

## **PJR Print Systems**

'You want to Discover Why Councils Across the UK Exclusively Use the PJR One Piece Voting Mailer

You can increase the number of votes that will be put forward for counting, enjoy faster issuing and counting times, improve security with new water and tear resistant paper, get better security and privacy with a new stronger glue which is 12½ times stronger than other glues and reduce labour due to a unique innovative process just introduced this year.

Time is running short for ordering your One Piece Voting Mailer – visit the PJR stand and look up the website [www.postalvotingmailers.co.uk](http://www.postalvotingmailers.co.uk) for important news on deadlines as well as more information. It is the best postal voting product and service there has ever been.'

**9&10**

## **eXpress Software Solutions**

eXpress software is a complete electoral services package enabled through Microsoft Technology. eXpress provides an integrated solution which effortlessly compiles the electoral register and runs all types of elections and referendums. eXpress also boasts superb functionality in terms of its count package, comprehensive accounting and reporting features. Visit our stand and see for yourself.



## **11&12 Electoral Reform Services**

The leading supplier of electoral services for local authorities within the UK. ERS has unrivalled experience in conducting and managing elections, ballots and referenda, including production of postal ballot materials for local and parliamentary elections. ERS are also the leading provider of telephone and internet electoral registration services.

## **13 Royal Mail**

Royal Mail have over the last couple of years been developing a unique product offering to meet the ever changing needs of electoral officers, working with both central government departments and local authorities alike to ensure the elections are made a success for all. The times are continually changing within the elections arena and with this in mind Royal Mail have been looking at a number of innovative ways using the latest technology to support electoral officers during next years elections and beyond, so to find out the latest on what we have to offer come and visit us on Stand 13.

## **14&15 Opt2Vote**

OPT2VOTE is a leader in multi channel election software, systems and processes. Since the company was established in 2002, it has already undertaken successful all-postal, internet, digital television and telephone voting pilots, working with Councils large and small.

In May 2005, OPT2VOTE provided election products and services to over 40 local authorities throughout the UK for the combined Parliamentary Election and Local Elections. OPT2VOTE partnered with four of the five largest Metropolitan Councils in the UK. These included Manchester City Council; Sheffield City Council; Bradford Metropolitan District Council; Birmingham City Council, the largest local authority in Europe with a total electorate in excess of 900,000.

## **16 Department for Constitutional Affairs (DCA)**

DCA has responsibility for the legislative framework for UK Parliamentary elections, European Parliamentary elections and national referendums, including the franchise, their conduct and funding. Since April 2005, DCA also has responsibility for policy on the conduct of local government elections and mayoral and local referendums. This means all elections policy and responsibility for developing new methods of voting and enhancing security now rests with DCA.



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## **NPM Ltd**

With more than 13 years experience in providing document management solutions to Local Government, NPM Ltd are the ideal partner for your Poll Card, Postal Vote and Registration Forms production and distribution requirements. We have an enviable reputation for delivery of top quality innovative document services to exacting timescales, providing a 'one stop' comprehensive service from design, printing and laser personalisation, through to mailing.

From our new purpose built premises on Pride Park in Derby, we can provide you with specialised account management, highly efficient production facilities and first class service levels.

Please visit our exhibition stand or contact Martin Robinson on 07976 401043 or Justin Jones on 07815 134033

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## **Indra**

For over twenty eight years Indra has designed, developed and implemented high-quality, innovative election solutions to meet the most demanding expectations of our clients worldwide.

For the AEA 2006 Conference, Indra will be displaying our Electronic Counting system, an innovative solution which allows for automatic reading of ballot papers and assignment of votes to the corresponding candidates while providing full visibility of the processing status of every ballot during the counting process.

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## **Jetmarine Ltd**

Specialists in the design and manufacture of lightweight portable access ramps. Jetmarine are Home office approved and have supplied ramps to the election offices for over a decade. With the introduction of the Disability Discrimination Act it is now more relevant than ever that wheelchair access to polling stations is considered.

**20**

## **Print.uk.com**

Print.uk.com offers full security and commercial printing solutions for both National and Local Elections. We can assist you with all the printing and Direct Mail elements of your election, providing: Registration Forms, Polling Cards, Information Leaflets, One Piece Mailers and Ballot Books. Our unique One Piece Mailer meets all DCA requirements and conforms to all Royal Mail guidelines. Visit us on Stand 20 for a sample...



## 21 **The Electoral Commission**

We are an independent body that was set up by the UK Parliament. Our mission is to foster public confidence and participation by promoting integrity, involvement and effectiveness in the democratic process.

## 22 **POSTAL VOTE SOLUTIONS Ltd**

Postal Vote Solutions are specialists in providing a dedicated service to organisations requiring time critical ballot solutions, individually planned, whilst adhering to stringent codes of conduct. From the initial design through to print production you can be assured that we will provide a comprehensive and watertight service with all the required technical and handling facilities under one roof.

Visit our stand to arrange a free consultation on how your organisation can benefit from our experience.

## 23 **Shaw & Sons Ltd**

Shaws have for many years been the leaders in the field of electoral services forms, publications and training.

Also well known as the publishers of the "bible" of Election Law & Practice "Schofield" – now on CD as well as hard copy.

## 24 **Halarose Ltd**

Halarose continues to innovate and we look forward to demonstrating the new features of EROS-II, the most powerful and versatile of the Electoral Registration and Elections Management systems on the market. Now used in parts of Scotland, EROS-II remains one of the leading systems available.

Visit our stand and let us demonstrate why none of our customers has ever turned back from EROS-II

## 25 **DEMOSOFT**



## **26&27 Aero Vote & C Bradbury Ltd, Partners in Elections**

Aero Vote and C Bradbury Limited have been supplying election materials to local authorities and International countries for over 25 years. Both companies are direct manufacturers of products hence total control on service and quality and ability to be competitive in any market. No quantity too small and no volume too large for us! Please visit us on our stand for further information on all your election requirements.

## **28 Northgate Information Solutions**

As the leading supplier of electoral administration software, Northgate Information Solutions works with councils with electors ranging from a few thousand to over half a million. 17 million electors are registered via Northgate's Pickwick system - approximately 40% of the UK electorate.

## **29 FCS Laser-Mail Ltd**

FCS Laser-Mail are QMP (quality standard for mail production) and ISO9002 registered, and have an enviable reputation for quality and service.

Capable of producing in excess of 1.5 million A4 images per DAY and machine enclose, with or without selective intelligence, in excess of 1 million items per DAY. FCS Laser-Mail can accommodate all your election production and mailing requirements, large or small.

## **30&31 Pakflatt Group**

Innovative product design and intelligent engineering for the elections industry.

For almost 20 years Pakflatt have been supplying products and services to Professional Election Administrators throughout the United Kingdom, Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland and numerous emerging democracies.

With the aim of enhancing the visibility, accessibility and professionalism of polling stations we continue to work closely with you and your colleagues to identify opportunities for continual improvement.



## **32**      **Print Image Network Ltd**

From data to mail – Print Image Network supply a seamless stream of production services for electoral registration, poll cards, ballot papers, postal voting and by-elections. Visit us on stand 32 to see the award winning postal vote solution “Easi-Vote” and see how the print management company of the year can help you.

## **33&34**      **DRS Data Services Ltd**

DRS design and manufacture sophisticated e-Counting technology designed to streamline processes, improve accuracy, improve security and deliver results – fast.

With an in-house design studio, print division and experienced Bureau service, DRS can be relied upon to manage the entire election count process, from the design and production of ballot papers, through to the processing, counting and recording of complex elections.

## **35&36**      **Smith & Ouzman Ltd**

Smith & Ouzman has a reputation for quality, service and integrity which is trusted world-wide. We print and supply Post & Vote postal ballots, conventional ballot papers, poll cards, registration forms and all items required for elections. Our complete in-house production capability includes design, printing, personalising and mailing. Please contact our sales office for further details on a confidential and secure service.

## **37**      **RnB Direct Mail Solutions Ltd**

Expert project management of complex mailing campaigns. A unique offer – a transparent approach to pricing, unrivalled expertise in mass communication production, and a commitment to personal service.

Like our competitors, we deliver cost benefits, but we also believe we are the most agile and flexible print and mailing service in the UK.

If you are responsible for a complex and varied range of direct marketing campaigns, and “time to market” matters to your organisation, you should be talking to Liaison Print & RnB Mailing Solutions



**38**

## **Experian Ltd**

Experian handles more than one million credit report requests each year, with many people checking their reports regularly to help manage their finances and prevent ID fraud. As requested by AEA members last year, our new fact sheet answers common questions about applying for credit and the electoral roll. Visit our stand for further details and copies of all our free guides.

**39**

## **Elect2print Ltd**

Following the successful re-brand of BPL Direct in December 2004, and with 10 years dedicated experience in the provision of electoral print and fulfilment services, Elect2Print is the UK's leading developer of unique and innovative electoral solutions delivering faultless accuracy and unparalleled efficiencies to make your budgets work harder.

**40**

## **ITW Envopak**

ITW Envopak manufactures the Envoballot®, a collapsible and lightweight ballot box that offers tamper evident security. The unique design reduces storage space by up to 90% and has carrying handles to aid transportation. The heavy duty construction has a highly visible aperture to aid the partially sighted and has no sharp metal corners or rusty edges.

ITW Envopak also manufactures a range of security seals under the Envoseal brand. The Pull Secure – an easy to use plastic pull up seal, the Postgrip – a maximum-security plastic seal and the Aria® – a keyless padlock secured with a consumable seal, are all used to secure traditional ballot boxes.

**41**

## **Econo-Mailer Ltd**

Econo-Mailer, as the market leader in the manufacture and supply of pressure seal forms and machinery, are proud to be exhibiting our total solution for the processing and distribution of Register of Electors forms. This solution ensures a quick and efficient operation with minimal manual intervention. Please visit our stand for further information.

**42**

**TBC**

**43**

**TBC**

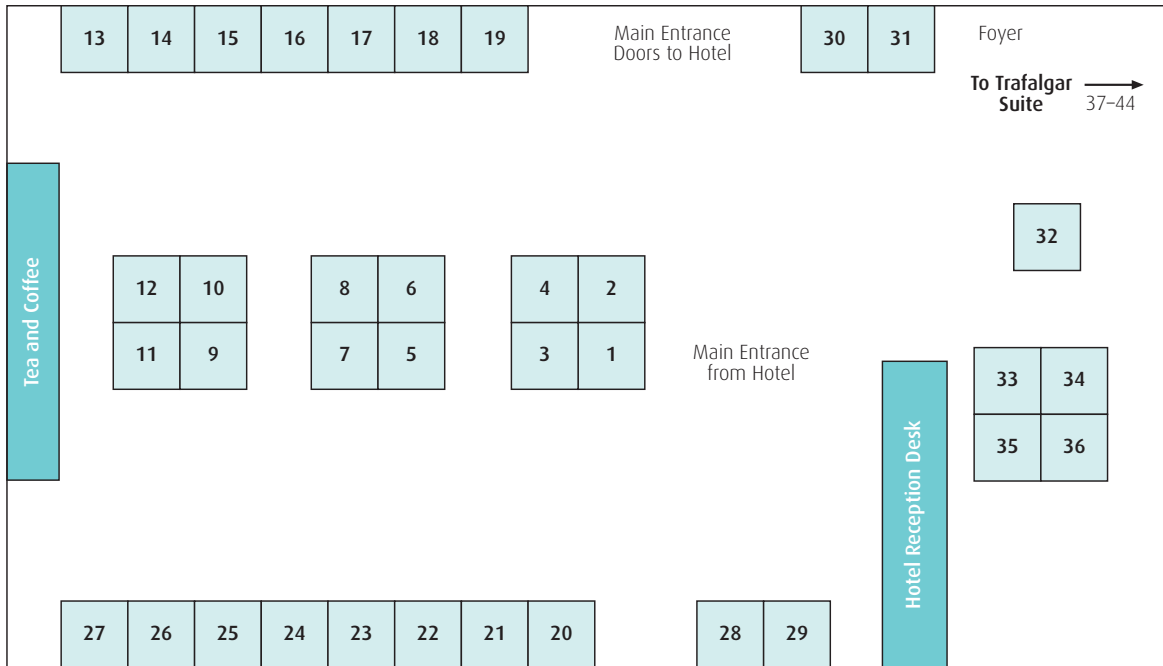


# Hilton Hotel

## Exhibition Stands – Queen’s Suite, 1-36

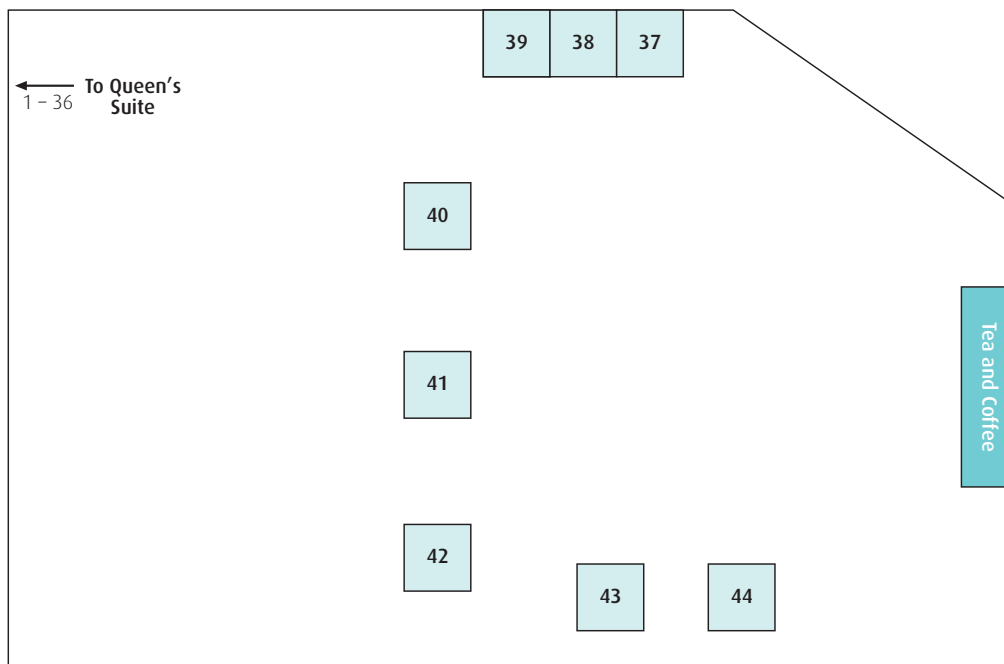
Not to scale

Unloading Bay prior to exhibition



## Exhibition Stands – Trafalgar Suite, 37-44

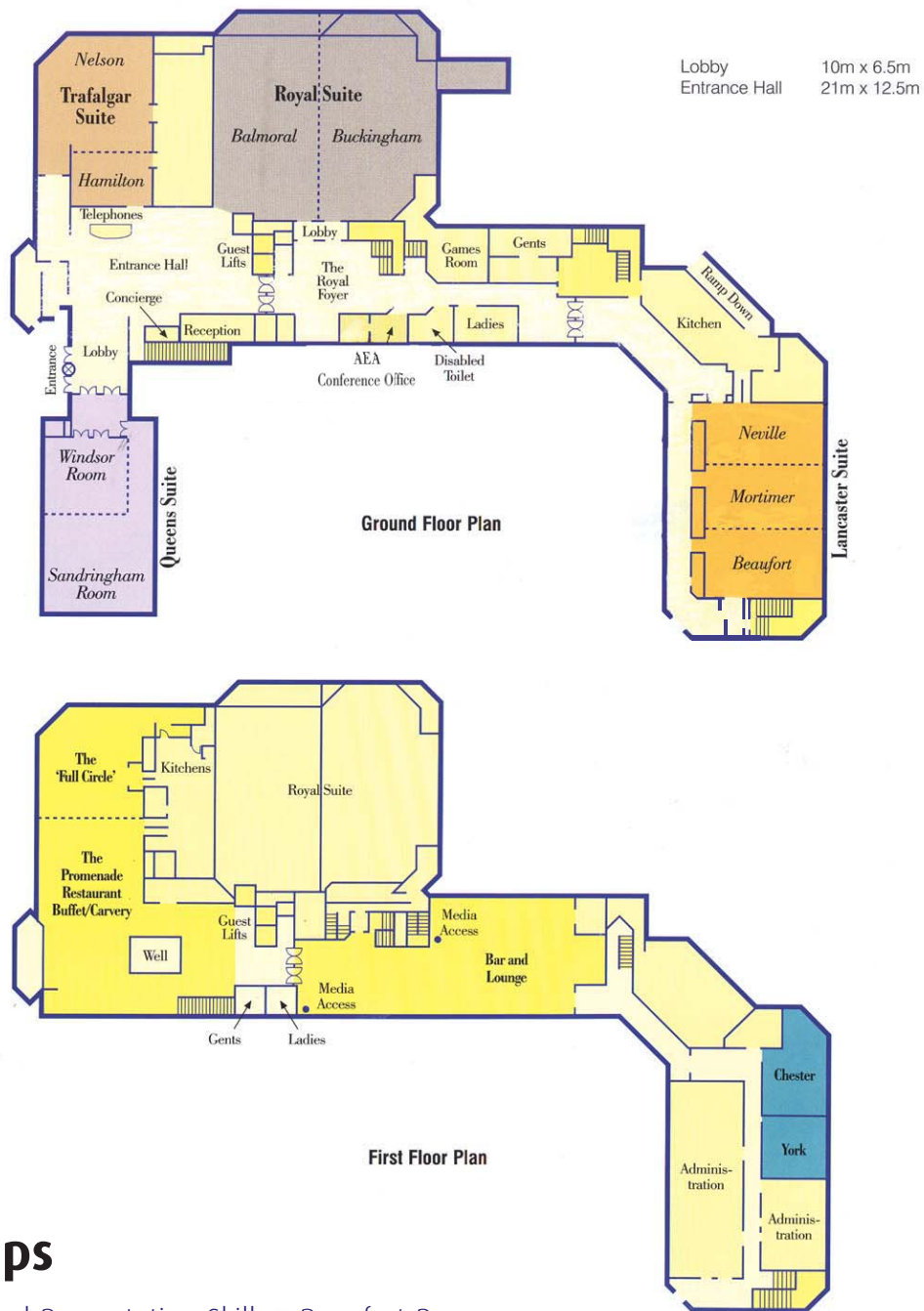
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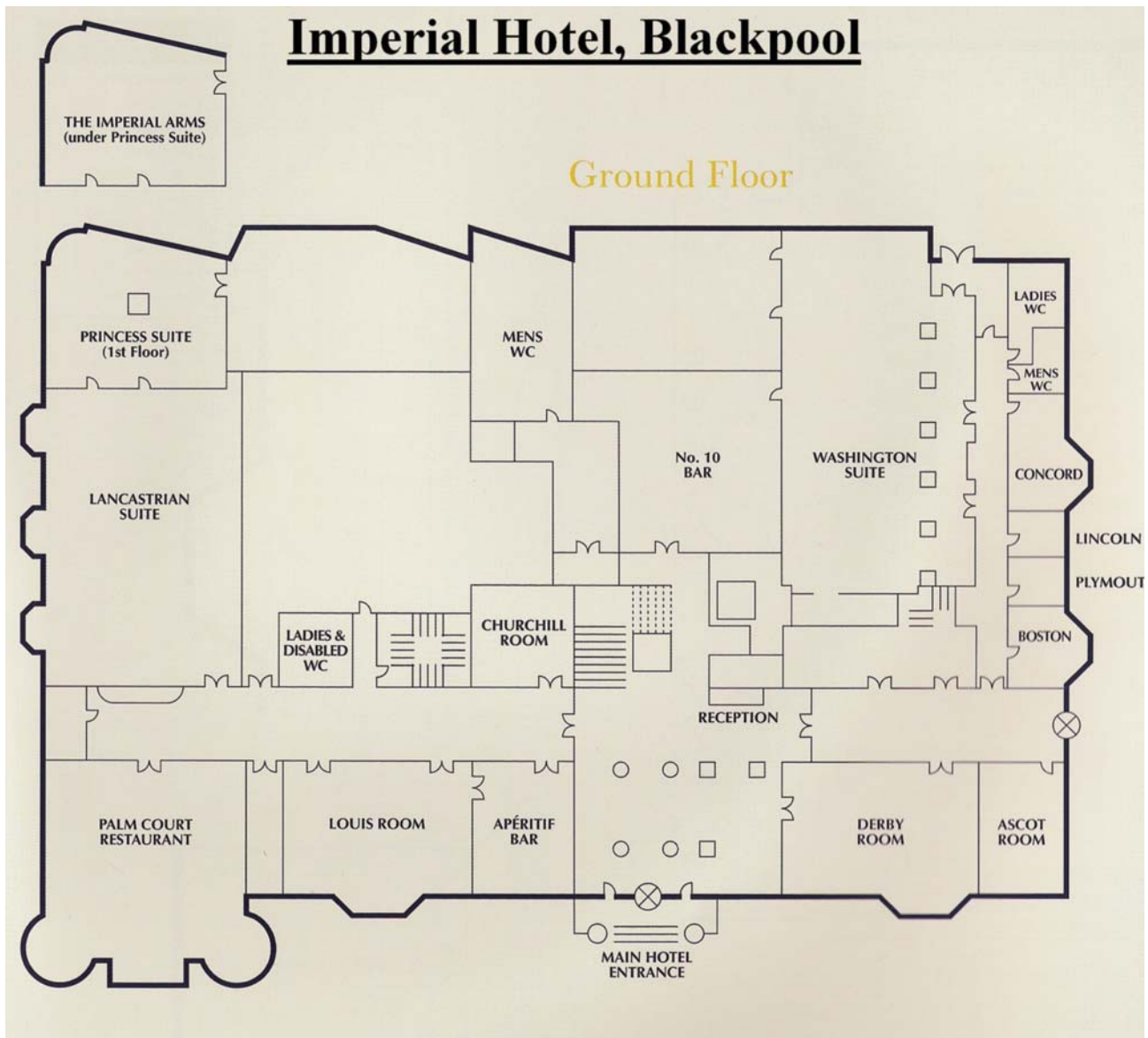
# Hilton Hotel

## Ground & First Floor Plans



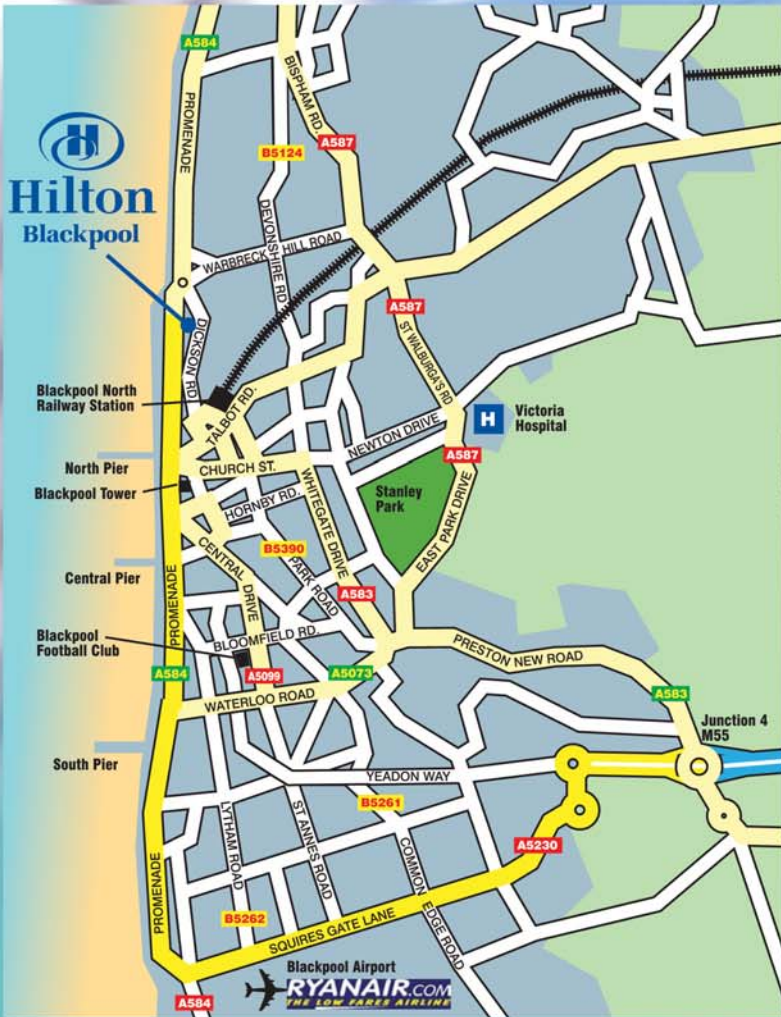
## Workshops

- B Training and Presentation Skills – Beaufort Room
- C Nominations – C1 Neville Room, C2 Mortimer Room



## Workshops

- A Electoral Commission – Washington Suite
- D Postal Voting – D1 Churchill Room, D2 Louis XVI Room



Please note the Hotel has two entrances.

The Promenade Entrance provides easy access to the Hotel's Reception. The Lower Ground Floor Entrance provides easy access to the car park with lift access to Reception which is located on the Upper Ground Floor.

(Please use the telephone located on the Lower Ground Floor Lobby for assistance with luggage).

At junction 32 on the M6 turn west onto the M55, continue to the end of the M55 and turn left onto the A5230, signed for Blackpool Airport. Stay on the A5230 until you reach the seafront, turn right and you will pass the Pleasure Beach then the Tower and the hotel is one mile further along on the right.