

RSC NEWS

MARCH 2011 www.rsc.org

IYC 2011 launched at Westminster

DAVID WILLETTS LAUNCHED THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR
OF CHEMISTRY WITH A BANG



International Year of
CHEMISTRY
2011

RSC | Advancing the
Chemical Sciences

**RICHARD
PIKE LEAVES
THE RSC**

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**THE FUTURE
OF UK
PHARMA**

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◀ A joint initiative between the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre and RSC South Africa North section is the Emasondosondo Chemistry bus (pictured left). The bus, operated by personnel from the Sci-Bono centre in cooperation with the Department of Basic Education, forms an innovative way to bring hands-on chemistry to high school students in Soweto. Suzanne Finney, secretary for the RSC local section, arranged for the bus to visit the 40th South African Chemical Institute (SACI) Convention in January. This formed an excellent opportunity for delegates, including RSC President David Phillips, to see the bus and talk to the instructors. The 40th SACI Convention was held at Witwatersrand University, Johannesburg, and was opened by David Phillips. In his opening speech, he described the RSC's long-term commitment to Africa and highlighted the increasing influence of the Pan Africa Chemistry Network (PACN) amongst UN agencies (see page 12). The convention was followed by the 3rd meeting of the Federation of African Societies of Chemistry (FASC). The FASC meeting formed the last day of the conference and was devoted to green chemistry; this symposium was fully supported by the PACN.



▲ Top of the Bench (TOTB) is a national competition run by the RSC for 14-16 year-old students. Recently, RSC Local Sections have been holding their regional heats where schools compete to win the opportunity to represent their region at the UK TOTB final.

On 8 January, ten schools went to the University of Derby for the East Midland regional final (pictured right). The contest consisted of two elements – a chemistry quiz and a challenging chemistry practical. After a competitive day, students from Nottingham High School were deservedly crowned East Midlands Champions.

In the South East of England the regional final (pictured left) was held at London South Bank University. The winning team was from

King's School, Canterbury. Amanda Hardy from the South East Education Division committee commented on "the teams' good use of knowledge and logical deduction to work out the answers to problems".

The final of TOTB will be held on 2 April at Imperial College, London, where 26 teams from each RSC Local Section will further demonstrate their chemistry knowledge and practical skills. Prizes are given for the best overall school performance and the five runners up. The Jacqui Clee Award is given for an outstanding individual contribution to the day.

www.rsc.org/Education/SchoolStudents/totb.asp

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Cover image: The Right Honourable David Willetts MP demonstrates the chemiluminescence of oxalate esters at the UK launch of the International Year of Chemistry



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REGULARS

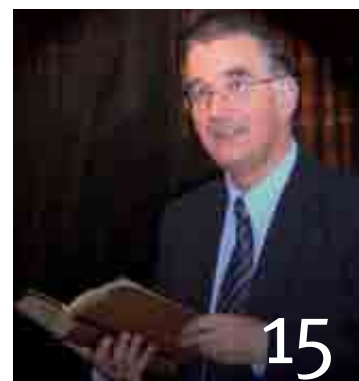
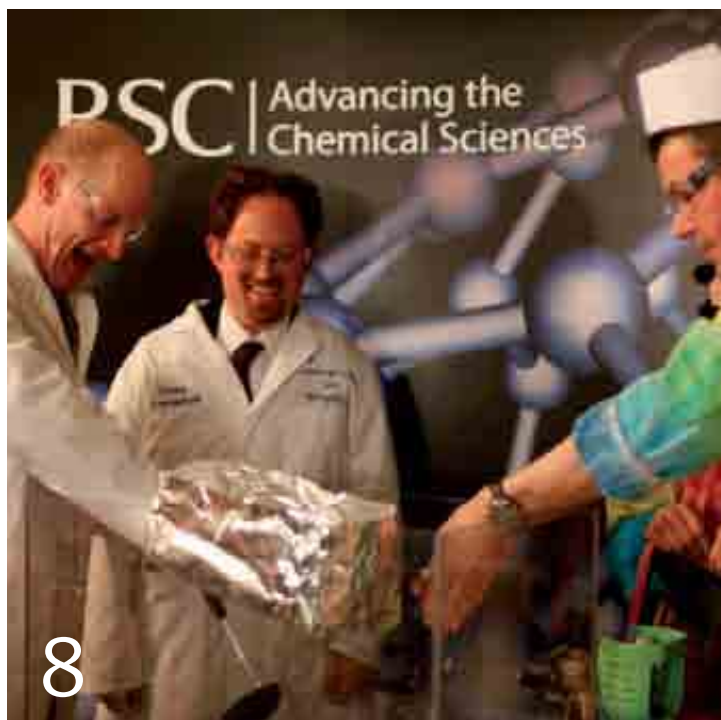
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snapshot

A look at the latest news from around the world

Richard Pike leaves the RSC in a strong position



Richard takes part in the Chemistry the Next Generation project in 2007

After five years, Richard Pike resigns as Chief Executive and wishes the RSC the best for its future

We regret to announce that after five years as Chief Executive, Richard Pike has decided to leave the RSC.

Richard joined the RSC in 2006, and the Society has made considerable steps forward during this time.

Membership is at a record high with more than 47,500 members worldwide. The RSC's publishing division is expanding – ten new journal titles have been launched in the last five years, with more to come.

The RSC opened several new international offices in the last few years – India, the United States and two in China; an office in Japan will open very soon.

The RSC's new Chemistry Centre at Burlington House officially opened last year and hosts many popular public events and lectures throughout the year.

Richard has personally championed a number of high-profile education initiatives to raise awareness of issues in science examination standards.

The RSC's media profile is

now particularly prominent and, combined with its parliamentary activities, the Society is a significant voice in science and education, acknowledged for its robust defence and worldwide promotion of the chemical sciences.

David Phillips, President of the RSC, said: "The Royal Society of Chemistry wishes to pay tribute to the tireless effort Richard Pike brought to his role as CEO, to his great success in reforming the management of the Society and for the considerable enhancement of the RSC's international role. We wish him well in his future employment."

Commenting on his resignation, Richard said: "I am extremely proud of the number of achievements we have accomplished as a learned society since I joined in 2006. But, after five years as Chief Executive, I felt it was the right time to move on. I'd like to take this opportunity to wish the RSC the very best in the future and for it to continue to excel in the ongoing, challenging work it is engaged in at many levels."

IN BRIEF

WOMEN IN SCIENCE

Applications for the 2011 L'Oréal-UNESCO UK and Ireland Women in Science Fellowships are now open.

This is for women scientists at postdoctoral level to enable and facilitate promising scientific research in the life or physical sciences. The fellowships, each worth £15,000, are tenable at any UK or Irish university or institute. The closing date is 6 April.

www.womenscience.co.uk

CHEMICAL INDUSTRY AWARDS 2011

The Chemical Industries Association awards highlight and promote excellent performance at the company, site or individual level. The Awards Ceremony will take place at The Great Hall, University of Birmingham, on Thursday 23 June 2011.

Closing date for nominations for all awards is 25 March. www.ciaawards.co.uk



Pfizer shuts Sandwich R&D

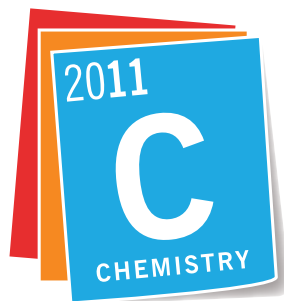
On 1 February, the news broke that Pfizer will shut down its R&D operation in Sandwich, Kent, with the loss of around 2,000 jobs.

The RSC was quick to respond to this news; Richard Pike and RSC President David Phillips both gave several high-profile interviews in the days that followed – commenting on the situation in Sandwich and the wider implications for chemistry in the UK. The *Today* programme hosted Science Minister David Willetts and Richard Pike as they discussed what the closure means for the UK's science policy. David Phillips appeared on the BBC's *South East Today*, highlighting the essential role of chemical industries to the UK economy, and on ITV's *Meridian East* where he stressed the importance of attracting new science companies to the area.

On 4 February, the Commons Select Committee for Science and Technology announced it would be holding an oral evidence session on Pfizer's decision, and the Committee have contacted the RSC with regards to giving evidence.

The RSC is looking at all the ways it can contribute both with dealing with the immediate issue of the Pfizer announcement and the broader issues arising for pharmaceutical research in the UK.

For details of the RSC's view on how to support the future of drug discovery in the UK, see page 10. For any members facing redundancy, details of the RSC's *One to One* service, and other support, is given on page 6.



International Year of CHEMISTRY 2011

International Year of CHEMISTRY 2011

www.chemistry2011.org



HISTORIC UK LAUNCH OF IYC 2011

The RSC hosted the UK launch of IYC 2011 at the Palace of Westminster on 24 January. See page 8 for full details of this historic event, featuring **David Willetts**, Cabinet Minister for Universities and Science, helping **Hal Sosabowski** to perform some dramatic demonstrations of chemistry.

IYC 2011 EVENTS



Marie Curie and the History of Radiochemistry

Friday 18 March
The Chemistry Centre,
London

Keynote opening lecture:

Dr Serge Plattard, Science and Technology Counsellor, French Embassy, on 'Marie Curie: a passion for science, action and people'

This one-day meeting will celebrate the history of radiochemistry, including the life of Marie Curie. Other experts in their field will talk on radionuclides in medicine; radioactivity and the atom; Rutherford and nuclear power; radiochemistry at Harwell and the element curium.

Cost: £10; 20 bursaries are available to students and postgraduates.

Further details and registration form are available online. (see also page 15)

www.rsc.org/HistoricalChemistry

Other IYC 2011 events

IYC 2011: Captivating Chemistry

9 March at 09:00, Sheffield Science Learning Centre workshop for teachers (see page 19)

Elephant's Toothpaste - A chemistry show with a difference

16 March at 18:00, Newcastle
With sign language, British Science Association (see page 19)

Public Lecture: A Little Light Relief

17 March at 17:30, Newcastle
Presented by David Phillips, RSC President (see page 19)

Metals, Peptides and Nuclear Medicine: Radiolabelled Peptides in Medical Imaging and Treatment

4 April at 10:00, London
In association with the RSC Radiochemistry Group (see page 20)

Public turned on and tuned in for drugs talk



Tune In: Psychedelics, Narcotics and Euphorants.

The audience heard how the great witch-hunts in Europe often stemmed from women extracting and ingesting herbal medicines, then hallucinating and believing they could fly.

They also learnt about the first man-made LSD – an accidental discovery by Albert Hoffmann in 1943 while trying to make a better, synthetic vasoconstrictive drug than ergometrin. Hoffman sampled his own product and experienced a host of hallucinations – good and bad. To hear his experiences in graphic detail, along with many other historic stories of how humans have dabbled in drugs, watch John Mann's full lecture online.

www.thereaction.net/events/y2011/turn_on_tune_in.aspx

At the most recent RSC public lecture at the Chemistry Centre, participants learnt how humans have been interacting with mind-expanding substances for hundreds or even thousands of years.

John Mann, RSC author and scientist, gave a fascinating talk based on his book, *Turn On and*

Women celebrate IYC 2011 in West India

In February, the RSC West India International Section organised a one-day event for IYC 2011, 'Celebrating Chemistry in the International Year of Chemistry 2011'. This was in association with Sophia College for Women, Mumbai, and attracted over 150 women students and teachers.

The day began with talks to celebrate IYC 2011, including a talk by Gauri Ambika on Madame Curie as an inspiration to female scientists. This was the ideal introduction to the main attraction – the Women Scientists Symposium – with guest lectures by female specialists from a range of chemistry fields. In addition, students celebrated the life history of Marie Curie by holding a special poster session.

Ramaswamy Gopalan, who coordinated the event, described how immensely beneficial these events are to the student and teaching community.



BBC celebrates IYC 2011 with a piece on Ramsay

See a BBC *Today* programme piece on the International Year of Chemistry and the work of Sir William Ramsay

www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-12402481

onetoone

Take advantage of a wide range of member services

Being made redundant brings a number of challenges all at once. As well as the issues of looking for another job, there can also be emotional and financial concerns.

The RSC One to One team is available to help any members who are affected.

In February, the news that Pfizer will shut its R&D operation in Sandwich, Kent, sent shockwaves through scientific, political and business communities.

During the last 12 months around 6,000 jobs from the chemical sciences have been made redundant in the UK. The RSC careers team is available to help any RSC members affected by redundancy through consultations, workshops, webinars and networking evenings throughout 2011.

■ Emotional support

People often compare the process of being made redundant to that of bereavement. If you are affected by redundancy it is common during this time to go through a cycle of emotions such as anxiety, confusion, anger and betrayal before beginning to accept the situation.

Everyone affected by redundancy will react

differently to the news and it is important to remember that this is perfectly normal. Some phases of emotion will last longer than others and some colleagues will move through them at a completely different pace to you. It is essential that you recognise that you need to work at your own speed.

Moving on from redundancy depends on a variety of factors but some people find that talking about it can help work through the issues. Friends, colleagues and family are a good place to start, but if you would like to talk to someone independent and in confidence then the *One to One* team can support you. You may also find help through your company outplacement support system.

■ Financial information

Aside from the emotional issues you may have financial concerns. You may need to review any mortgages, loans or credit cards you might

have, as well as any planned expenditure, such as holidays.

Free, confidential and independent money advice is available from organisations such as Citizens Advice (www.adviceguide.org.uk), National Debtline (www.nationaldebtline.co.uk) and Payplan (www.payplan.com).

If you are trying to maximise your income then its worth finding out if you are entitled to any state benefits.

A good starting point is the website www.turn2us.org.uk which provides free and confidential advice on what benefits you are entitled to claim.

■ Finding advice

As with any employment law matter, understanding your rights and the process that is involved is important. Although the RSC is unable to give legal advice under the terms of its royal charter, both the TUC and Citizens Advice have free information at www.worksmart.org.uk and www.adviceguide.org.uk or you could drop into your local Citizens Advice Bureau.

■ Next steps

Finally, when you start to look for another job:

- Focus on positive aspects of your last role and remember that the decision wasn't personal; it was nothing that you did wrong.
- Consider all your options

including new ones.

Redundancy can be a positive experience, allowing you to take a change of direction if you wish to.

- Finding a new job can take time, so consider volunteering to help stay active, positive and focused on the future.
- Use any outplacement support provided by your company to help you take the next step.

You can find a wealth of information on the careers pages on MyRSC including a webinar on coping with redundancy as well as practical advice on searching for jobs, improving your CV and changing direction.

<http://my.rsc.org/careers>

Remember, if you need any information, advice or guidance regarding redundancy, money issues or job seeking then you can always contact the *One to One* team for free and confidential support, whatever your circumstances may be.

Tel: **01223 432 432**

or email oneotone@rsc.org

► MORE INFORMATION

For more information go to www.rsc.org/onetoone

telephone

01223 43 2231

or email

careers@rsc.org

Retirement Planning Seminar

14 June 2011

If you are about to retire or are starting to think about your retirement then this workshop will be helpful in looking at some of the issues around retirement, including financial considerations, employment, health and relationships, as well as staying involved with the RSC in retirement.

Delegate fees (includes the cost of lunch and a resource pack):

£45 for members

£90 for a member and their partner

Bursaries are available for those members whose financial situation would otherwise prevent them attending. Please contact the One to One team to discuss your situation in confidence.

profile

A closer look at our members and their interests

60
seconds
with...

Helen Neville

A passion for innovation



HELEN NEVILLE
FRSC

Helen Neville is Vice-President, R&D Packaging Development Capability and Western Europe Innovation Centres, at Procter & Gamble (P&G).

She joined P&G after completing her PhD at the University of Southampton in 1987 and has built a distinguished career in R&D. Helen has three children and is active in P&G's women's R&D support programme.

"We truly compete on a global stage, so it will be critically important to produce world-class innovations"

Q What made you choose a career in industry rather than academic chemistry?

A I was always focused on research in industry rather than academia and my career decisions were between different types of industry. As a teenager I wanted to do research in the pharmaceutical industry and that was why I chose my PhD in organic chemistry. Half-way through my PhD I decided to work in consumer products rather than pharmaceuticals.

Q Which chemical innovations at P&G have really impressed you?

A Some of our innovations have changed the fundamental chemistry that's been in place for decades.

Laundry granules have always contained builders which remove calcium and magnesium from the wash solution. In our fabric care business we developed a surfactant polymer system that reduces the effects of calcium so it can stay in the wash solution. This helps the enzyme performance so the product performs better. It also enables us to compact the product so we use less packaging and less fuel to transport it.

In our hair care business we developed an alternative to conventional hydrogen peroxide systems, using ammonium carbonate as the bleach engine. We knew this would give better bleaching, but it also generated a lot of free radicals that would damage the hair. We used a glycine radical scavenger to prevent the damage.

Q How do you see the future for technology and innovation in Europe?

A We truly compete on a global stage, so it will be critically important to produce world-class innovations and be clear about where we focus. At P&G we know that a lot of our future growth will come from Asia, so we need to build our R&D presence there. We're also going to maintain a strong presence in Europe and we've clearly defined the focus areas for innovation work here.

Q How do you find juggling family life with a Vice-President role?

A I feel very fortunate because I have a wonderful family and I really enjoy my career. It's a very busy life, but it never occurred to me that I wouldn't be able to do it. Planning is very important: I plan my whole year in advance to make sure work and family commitments are all taken into account.

Q What would you say to young women considering a career in chemistry?

A We spend so many of our waking hours working, it's important that we find it interesting and satisfying. With chemistry, you can work for government, a university or in a huge range of industries. An increasing amount of research and innovation is done in teams, and women often bring a unique skill set to that – so if you find chemistry fascinating, go for it!

THE RSC AND P&G WORKING TOGETHER

Forming strategic partnerships with industrial organisations is central to the RSC's commitment to support chemistry in industry. The RSC currently works with P&G in a number of areas. P&G support RSC educational projects such as providing demonstration talks at RSC 'Chemistry@Work' events and supporting teacher training. P&G are also working with the RSC on 'Faces of Chemistry', a series of educational videos being created for the International Year of Chemistry. In addition to this, two P&G employees have already given public lectures at the Chemistry Centre and P&G sponsors the RSC Environment Prize. The RSC is now in discussions with P&G to explore further how the organisations can work together.

If your organisation is interested in working with the RSC, please contact the RSC Development Team. development@rsc.org



LAUNCHED WITH A BANG

The RSC hosted the UK launch of the **International Year of Chemistry** at the Palace of Westminster

Policy makers and scientists saw history in the making on 24 January as they watched explosive chemistry experiments conducted live in the Commons Terrace Marquee at the Palace of Westminster. This event was the UK launch of the UN International Year of Chemistry (IYC), hosted by the RSC. The occasion was also the venue's first ever live webcast, and hundreds of RSC members across the world watched the event online.

Within political and scientific circles, the RSC has a very strong reputation for successfully engaging with parliament on the importance of the chemical sciences in the UK. Its success in this respect was continued at the launch event, which was standing room only. The RSC's co-hosts were Mark Lancaster TD MP, Andrew Miller MP and Julian Huppert MP. The Right Honourable David Willets MP, Cabinet Minister for Universities and Science, officially launched the IYC before handing over to Hal Sosabowski, from the University of Brighton, for the live experiments.

Giant test tubes filled with nitrous oxide and carbon disulphide were set alight to produce an exothermic 'barking dog' reaction

About IYC

The IYC officially recognises the global significance of chemistry and marks 100 years since the founding of the International Association of Chemical Societies and of Marie Curie's award of the Nobel Prize for chemistry. Its goals include increasing public appreciation of chemistry's role in helping to meet world needs, encouraging interest in chemistry among young people, and celebrating the contributions of women to science.





Julian Huppert MP watches in dismay as the Right Honourable David Willetts MP sinks his model HMS Ark Royal by scooping in sulphur hexafluoride

Andrew Miller MP, Chair of the Select Committee on Science and Technology, thanked the RSC for its role in promoting the importance of chemistry: "My thanks go to the RSC who, as one of the learned societies, do such a stunning job in helping to improve not just public understanding of science, but politicians' understanding of science".

Vital understanding

The launch marked the beginning of a year of celebrations, and highlighted the crucial role that chemistry has to play in the planet's future. "Chemistry is central to everything," said RSC President David Phillips. "We live in a molecular world, and therefore we have to understand that molecular world. It's vital because we need to increase the amount of food we produce by 50% over the next 20 years, we still have a billion people on the planet who have no access to clean water, we need to reduce the carbon dioxide emitted by our vehicles, and we need the scientists who are going to solve those problems."

Those scientists, said Phillips, will come from the next generation. "It's no accident that much of our activity in the IYC is focused on activating young people to study our science," he explained. "It's a top priority for all of us, and we've devised many attention-grabbing, thought-provoking activities and events for schoolchildren, their parents and

others to engage with in 2011." Phillips drew particular attention to the Global Chemistry Experiment on 22 June, which will see children experimenting with the properties and qualities of water.

The audience also heard from Temechegn Engida, President of the Federation of African Societies of Chemistry (FASC) which submitted the request to UNESCO to make 2011 the International Year of Chemistry. He acknowledged the key support of the RSC in helping to bring many chemical societies into FASC when it was formed in 2006, and thanked the Pan Africa Chemistry Network for its support of African chemistry (see page 12).

Barking test tubes and exploding eggs

Introducing the evening's experiments, the Rt Hon David Willetts MP emphasised the importance of practical experimentation. "Science is not simply a theoretical subject," he said. "It's also a practical subject and it's very important that we celebrate not just the extraordinary theoretical advances of science but the way they often depend on practical experiment, practical mastery of procedures in the lab, and a willingness to experiment."

That willingness was soon put to the test as a spectacular set of experiments was duly delivered by Hal Sosabowski – also known as

'Dr Hal' – who made sure that Members of the House got first-hand experience of the results.

Resplendent in a rainbow-coloured lab coat, Dr Hal encouraged Willetts to 'solve the energy crisis' by demonstrating the chemiluminescence of oxalate esters. Julian Huppert, MP for Cambridge, launched a model HMS Ark Royal on sulphur hexafluoride, only to see it sink when the gas was scooped into the vessel.

Throughout the two sessions, Dr Hal explained the learning outcomes of each experiment and showed how inspiring science can be, creating clouds through the sublimation of carbon dioxide, a phosphorous sun and a liquid nitrogen shower. Giant test tubes filled with nitrous oxide and carbon disulphide were set alight to produce an exothermic 'barking dog' reaction and hydrogen-filled ostrich eggs exploded to make sure the evening literally went with a bang.

The words of David Willetts summed up the evening: "If we're to celebrate this year of chemistry, it's very important to do something distinctive and special," he said. "What a brilliant idea to have some real live experiments."

Find out more about the IYC, and experience the experiments and the speeches online. www.rsc.org/iyc For more information about the IYC email: iyc@rsc.org

MAINTAINING STRENGTH IN UK DRUG DISCOVERY

The RSC has been working with industry experts to supplement its existing position on securing the future of medicinal chemistry and drug discovery in the UK



The RSC is treating the recent announcement that Pfizer will shut its R&D function in Sandwich, Kent, as an urgent issue, both in terms of the workforce affected (see page 6) and the wider implications for pharmaceutical research (see page 4). The RSC has been working with

industry experts to supplement its existing position on the future of medicinal chemistry and drug discovery in the UK (see *RSC News*, July 2010).

Healthcare is one of the key sectors where the UK has proven global competitive strengths. UK training in organic and medicinal chemistry research is held in high

esteem by international scientists,¹ and UK trained scientists are named inventors of one-sixth of the most popular prescription drugs. In 2009, the pharmaceutical industry contributed £4.4bn in R&D² and this sector generated a positive trade balance of £7bn. No other sector contributed more to the UK economy in terms of trade balance

and investment in R&D.³

So when Pfizer announced its closure of a world-leading R&D centre for pharmaceuticals in the UK, 'as part of a global reorganisation of its research and development capacity', it sent an alarming warning to business, political and scientific communities.

The medical demand for cost-effective new drugs is high. However, pressure on healthcare budgets and expiring patents, coupled with increased regulatory and safety demands, have forced downsizing in UK pharmaceutical R&D. This seriously threatens the UK's position as a leader in healthcare innovation. It is also a threat to the discovery of new medicines, economic growth and productive employment of world class scientists. As the effects cascade, academic and biotech sectors in the UK are also vulnerable to widespread negative impacts.

The RSC has been examining how the UK can best reconfigure its world-class science base in existing and new facilities, to support future world-leading innovations.

The scale of the research investment gap as a result of pharmaceutical downsizing cannot simply be filled by academia, public private partnerships and charities, nor by the biotech sector, without a major prioritisation of new funding from the Government.

Supporting innovation

The RSC stresses that access to excellence in academic chemistry research is a fundamental enabler for a knowledge-based economy and provides an important stimulus for continued inward investment.

The Government must continue to support the basic chemistry and other sciences that underpin drug discovery through funding councils – the Medical Research Council (MRC), the Biotechnology and Biological Science Research Council (BBSRC) and the Engineering and Physical Science Research Council (EPSRC) – to ensure that there is a strong supply of science graduates and a foundation of stimulating basic research.

The RSC also suggests 'pump prime' funding from

the Government, charitable organisations and private sector to re-establish the UK's pre-eminent role in healthcare innovation through focused and nimble drug discovery units.

To achieve this, the RSC believes that the UK needs to establish a range of professional drug discovery units (which would cost approximately £1bn over ten years). These should address specific disease areas (examples include, but are not limited to, Alzheimer's, obesity and infectious diseases); they would also develop medical technologies (such as diagnostics and personalised medicines). There is significant opportunity to choose locations that capitalise on existing state-of-the-art facilities or pools of talent.

A positive business environment

Such a high density of industry, academia and healthcare provides the UK with a distinct collaborative advantage.

However, the RSC believes that a more positive business environment must be created to place the UK as the ideal location for discovering, developing and trialling new medicines.

Pharmaceutical research would benefit greatly from a strengthened position within initiatives that foster knowledge transfer and collaboration, such as those of the UK's Technology Strategy Board and Knowledge Transfer Networks. The RSC also believes that more investment is needed to support the small and medium enterprises (SMEs) that operate in the pharmaceutical sector – for new enterprises to be established and for successful businesses to grow.

One excellent example of how the Government can support innovation is the Patent Box. This incentive scheme offers preferential corporate tax rates for profits arising from intellectual property in the UK. The RSC is keen for a range of mutually stimulating incentives to be created to ensure the UK maintains a globally competitive environment.

There are also opportunities for the healthcare community in the UK to take a strategic review



of drug discovery, in terms of looking at what is currently being done globally and identifying gaps. Industry experts believe there are great opportunities for prioritising research areas which are tailored to national medical needs as well as the specialised research skills currently enjoyed in the UK.

Finally, it is vital to realise that it is at a European level that many decisions on regulation and research funding are made. The UK Government must show leadership at this level to influence and support a predictable economic and regulatory climate for discovering, developing and trialling new medicines in the UK.

The RSC will continue to treat this issue with urgency and will work with partners and policy makers on how to maintain strength in UK pharmaceutical research. For more information contact Ellen Friel.

frielle@rsc.org

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BUILDING CAPACITY IN AFRICA



Three years on, the **Pan Africa Chemistry Network** has grown in breadth of activity and influence

Scientists from Sub-Saharan African countries are being trained to maintain and use new mass spectrometers installed at universities in Kenya and Ethiopia

It has been three years since the RSC launched the Pan Africa Chemistry Network (PACN) in partnership with Syngenta. In that time an active network has developed that is based on collaboration between individuals and organisations within Africa and around the world.

PACN has grown significantly in the breadth of its activity and its influence. It is organising educational activities to encourage talented young students into science. It is supporting early-career researchers with workshops, networking opportunities and training. And it is bringing together experts, influential policy makers and the media from around the world to discuss and

communicate the most pressing scientific issues relevant to African society.

As well as organising international meetings, PACN also operates on a regional level through hubs in Kenya, Ethiopia and South Africa. These allow PACN to cater for the diversity and specific requirements of local communities.

Challenges and opportunities

Africa faces significant challenges in the areas of water, food, energy, sustainability and health. Scientific advances in these areas can only be achieved through a robust, innovative and dedicated research environment, underpinned by

knowledge transfer and sustainable science and technology.

In 2009, PACN gathered experts and policy makers to consider the challenges of water quality in Africa. The PACN meeting allowed scientists from around the world to share their knowledge of successful water testing and treatment techniques suitable for local communities. The PACN launched the resulting report, *Africa's Water Quality: a Chemical Science Perspective*, at the World Water Day in March 2010 at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) headquarters in Nairobi; this brought the issues of water quality to the forefront of political, scientific and media discussions (see *RSC News* May 2010).

Then in 2010, PACN brought together leading experts in the field of green chemistry and sustainability. They discussed how to grow and develop the concept of green science and technology, which is still in its infancy in many African countries. The findings of this congress will be presented in a report to be launched at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) Committee on Development Information, Science and Technology meeting (CODIST 2) in May 2011.

Throughout 2011, PACN will focus its activities on the issues of agricultural productivity and the key role of the chemical sciences.

Centres of excellence

A critical step towards fostering innovation is ensuring that African universities have access to specialised instrumentation. However, many laboratories in Sub-Saharan Africa lack modern analytical equipment and there is little training or technical support for existing installations.

PACN has facilitated the installation of Gas Chromatograph-Mass Spectrometer instruments, first at Jomo Kenyatta University of Technology and Agriculture in Nairobi, Kenya, in 2009, and then at Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia, in 2010. Local scientists, as well as scientists from neighbouring countries, are being trained to use and maintain this equipment. This is building vital collaborations between researchers across Africa, whilst providing a framework to develop their analytical skills (see *RSC News* October, page 7).

PACN is also working to improve

access to educational materials; in the last two years over 19,000 textbooks have been distributed across universities in 12 African countries and in 2011, PACN plans to assist in the reconstruction of the University of Liberia, by supporting the development of its library.

Supporting education

A solid and dependable education system at all levels is integral to producing future generations of high-calibre African scientists. One way that PACN is helping to establish high quality teaching practices is through its teacher training workshops, which have so far been held in Uganda, Rwanda and Ethiopia. Through these, teachers are developing key skills in practical chemistry and are learning how to carry out and demonstrate experiments on a modest budget.

PACN also continues to work with the Kenyan Ministry of Education by supporting the annual National Schools' Science Competition, which encourages students to develop their scientific, creative and communication skills.

International influence

The societal challenges of water quality, agricultural productivity and sustainability are global issues, and they underscore the need for international collaboration. Claude Ndom, Senior Lecturer at University of Douala, Cameroon, describes how the network is reaching beyond Africa: "At first glance, the PACN may seem to be limited just to Africa, but in my experience, PACN is not only networking African chemists but chemists all over the world – I have now established a long-term



collaboration with Brazilian scientists".

Through PACN's active engagement in meetings such as UNEP World Water Day and UNECA Science with Africa, the network is helping to focus the attention of world policy experts towards the central role that the chemical sciences will play in securing Africa's future.

For more information on the Pan Africa Chemistry Network, visit the website.

www.rsc.org/PACN

World Water Day provided a platform to bring the issues of Africa's water quality into the media spotlight

Working with partners all over the world is integral to the success of the Pan Africa Chemistry Network

FUNDAMENTAL AIMS OF THE NETWORK

- Enhance collaboration between governments, universities, industry and communities
- Support the establishment of a sustainable science base across the continent, which attracts students to scientific careers and promotes public appreciation of the role of chemical science in Africa's future
- Disseminate information to researchers and entrepreneurs
- about available funding opportunities
- Coordinate support for education at all levels, from low-cost practical school teaching to training researchers in the use of modern analytical instruments
- Encourage the development of centres of excellence through the installation of modern analytical technologies and coordinated training.



opinion



It's been an interesting month for chemistry in the UK. In one breath we are celebrating the launch of the International Year of Chemistry at the Palace

of Westminster and the crucial role that chemistry must play in our future. And in the next breath we are reeling at the loss of yet more chemical science R&D in the UK, with the recent announcement from Pfizer.

Professor Islam expresses in his letter opposite that with funding cuts and rising tuition fees in higher education, there could be more challenging times for chemical industries in years to come.

The RSC is a significant voice in science and education and it will continue represent its members to promote the vital importance of chemistry to the economy and society. It is fitting here for *RSC News* to pay tribute to Richard Pike's contribution to the RSC during his time as Chief Executive; his efforts have helped foster the influential position that the RSC now enjoys and the RSC will be building on this as we face the challenges ahead.

Sheena Elliott

Sheena Elliott

RSCNews@rsc.org

Backward steps for UK higher education

I strongly agree with David Parkin (February *RSC News*) that the trebling of university tuition fees to £9,000 per year, leading to the highest public university fees in the industrialised world, will put off young people from poor backgrounds and leave graduates with tens of thousands of pounds of debt.

At the same time, up to 80% from the Higher Education teaching budget has been cut. The UK is now going backwards in terms of investment in universities and in science when other major industrialised economies are investing more to promote growth and high-skilled jobs.

These changes rest on the idea that higher education is of value only to the individual and is of no value to society or the economy. I think that these steep fee rises will not promote fairness, social mobility or the graduate workforce that are important for the long-term future of the chemical industries and the UK economy.

Professor Saiful Islam CChem FRSC
Department of Chemistry, University of Bath

A hunt for mercury

May I, through your columns, ask for advice on where I can buy relatively small quantities of mercury. In my retirement I am helping my son who is a qualified horologist with a speciality in antique barometer repair and restoration. These instruments frequently require a full charge or top-up of mercury. In the past we obtained supplies from a dealer in Clerkenwell but this is now no longer possible.

I have, so far, been unable to find a UK supplier but we do need to establish a new source before we use all our reserves.

We would be looking for the very occasional purchase and would be pleased to receive advice.

David Fussell CChem FRSC, by email

Editor: *If you are able to advise Mr Fussell on this matter, please send your response to RSC News, and we will be happy to pass it on.*



RSC News welcomes letters, which should be concise (normally less than 300 words) and timely. Those selected for publication are subject to editing for clarity and length. Letters should be marked 'for publication'; letters are not routinely acknowledged. rscnews@rsc.org



International Year of
CHEMISTRY
2011

Celebrating historical gems in science

Two RSC interest groups join to mark the achievements and legacy of Marie Curie

One of the beauties of looking at the history of science is seeing how previous events or discoveries have shaped our modern lives. But I find what can sometimes be even more fascinating are those more personal glimpses into a great historical scientist's life, and seeing how the views they held and problems they faced compare with those of our own today.

Our next meeting is on 18 March and is part of the RSC's celebrations to mark 2011 as the International Year of Chemistry. In conjunction with the Radiochemistry Group we decided to mark the achievements

and legacy of Marie Curie (1867-1934) (see page 5). Appropriately, this is the centenary of the award of her second Nobel Prize, this time for chemistry. Her first (the physics prize, awarded in 1903) was shared with her husband, Pierre, and Henri Becquerel.

Her chemistry prize was a sole award and was made 'in recognition of her services to the advancement of chemistry by the discovery of the elements radium and polonium, by the isolation of radium and the study of the nature and compounds of this remarkable element'. At the time radium compounds were much



**Alan Dronsfield is
Chair of the RSC
Historical Group**

used as alternatives to x-rays to 'burn out' both superficial and deep-seated cancers. In fact radium treatment persisted in some hospitals until the early 1980s. Many, many lives were saved as a result of her discovery.

At the present time, when research funding only seems likely if it will ultimately yield financial reward, it is useful to reflect on Marie Curie's view of her own research. At a speech given in Vassar College, New York, she said "But we must not forget that when radium was discovered no one knew that it would prove useful in hospitals. The work was one of pure science. And this is a proof that scientific work must not be considered from the point of view of the direct usefulness of it. It must be done for itself, for the beauty of science, and then there is always the chance that a scientific discovery may become like the radium a benefit for humanity".

Delving into history can provide scientists with so much. Not least, it can arm us with examples of historic gems where pursuing science for the sake of science has been a huge and unexpected benefit to society.

See page 5 for details of the meeting, 'Marie Curie and the History of Radiochemistry'.

GET INVOLVED WITH RSC INTEREST GROUPS

The Historical Group exists to encourage an interest in the history of chemistry amongst RSC members and others. Members include industrial chemists, teachers of chemistry at all levels, professional historians of science, and those in retirement with an interest in the history of chemistry.

Members come not only from a wide variety of chemical backgrounds, but their interest in the history of chemistry varies from the hobbyist to the researcher producing scholarly articles and books.

The Group holds two whole-day meetings a year at Burlington House at a minimal cost - currently £10. The group's membership numbers have recently risen by over 150 to 460 members with the new scheme whereby RSC members can join up to three subject groups at no extra cost. The group welcomes any members who want to get involved.

If you are interested in joining the historical group, the Radiochemistry Group, or any other RSC interest group, email the membership team with your membership number. membership@rsc.org

www.rsc.org/historicalchemistry

www.rsc.org/radiochemistry

diary

YOUR GUIDE TO
ALL IMPORTANT EVENTS

► in the diary

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FURTHER INFORMATION

The RSC News Diary this month lists RSC events from March to April 2011 that are held on the RSC conference database. Further details on any of these meetings can be obtained from the named contact or from the conference website at www.rsc.org/ConferencesAndEvents/conference

Type in the specific ID number for each event in the search box. You can also browse events by type, organiser or region.

Major conferences

22nd International Symposium: Synthesis in Organic Chemistry

11–14 July 2011
Churchill College,
University of Cambridge, UK

Registration now open
Call for poster abstracts deadline –
14 March



The Synthesis in Organic Chemistry conference is the flagship event of the RSC's Organic Division. This symposium traditionally provides an international showcase for the core area of organic chemistry – synthesis – covering all aspects of contemporary organic synthesis and providing a forum for the ever more exciting methodologies and strategies that continue to emerge.

This symposium will be a high point in the year for academics, postdoctoral researchers and students in universities, as well as those involved in research and development and discovery chemists in industry.

www.rsc.org/os11

6th International Symposium on Macrocyclic and Supramolecular Chemistry

3–7 July 2011
University of Sussex,
Brighton, UK
and University of Kent,
Canterbury, UK

Registration now open
Call for poster abstracts deadline –
29 April



The 6th International Symposium on Macrocyclic and Supramolecular Chemistry (6-ISMSC) will cover all aspects of macrocyclic and supramolecular chemistry. It will bridge the traditional core areas of chemistry and interface with biological, nanotechnological and materials arenas.

The winner of the inaugural Cram Lehn Pedersen Prize 2011, Professor Amar Flood, will deliver his prize lecture as one of the four plenary lectures at 6-ISMSC (see page 23).

www.ISMSC2011.org

DATES AND DEADLINES

EICC-1: First EuCheMS Inorganic Chemistry Conference

11–14 April 2011
University of Manchester, UK
Registration – deadline
4 March
www.rsc.org/eicc1

Reaction Monitoring using NMR and Vibrational Spectroscopy: Current Industrial Perspectives

22 March 2011
Sandwich, Kent, UK
Registration – deadline
14 March
www.rsc.org/reactionmonitoring

Hydrogen Storage Materials: Faraday Discussion 151

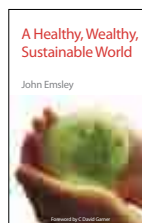
18–20 April 2011
Rutherford Appleton
Laboratory, Oxfordshire, UK
Registration – deadline
18 March
www.rsc.org/fd151

Challenges in Organic Materials & Supramolecular Chemistry (ISACS6)

2–5 September 2011
Beijing, China
Oral abstracts – deadline
18 March
www.rsc.org/isacs6

MORE INFORMATION

To find out more about any event on this page, see www.rsc.org/events Call 01223 43 2254/2380 or email events@rsc.org



A Healthy Wealthy Sustainable World
See listings below

Events

SCOTLAND

Mid-Scotland Section

Molecules of Murder

18 March at 14:00
ID=106979

Forth Valley College, Falkirk
• Dr John Emsley

An intriguing look at some high-profile poison cases, homing in on the chemicals used, their effect on the human body and how forensic science uncovered the perpetrators.

Contact Mark Dennis
t 07859 027868
e mark1_dennis@hotmail.com

A Healthy, Wealthy, Sustainable World

18 March at 19:30
ID=106977

Ineos Exhibition Centre, Grangemouth

• Dr John Emsley
A look at the things we regard as essential to a modern lifestyle: a secure food supply, clean water, transport fuel, medical treatment, a comfortable home – and even sports equipment.

Contact Mark Dennis
t 07859 027868
e mark1_dennis@hotmail.com

Tayside Section

Public Lecture: After Climate – Where Do We Go Now?

18 March at 20:00
ID=107626

University of St Andrews

• Andrew Montford
In association with St Andrews Open Association
Contact Nigel Botting
t 01334 463856
e npb@st-andrews.ac.uk

Other Events

Analytical Division Analytical Chemistry Awards Symposium

30 March at 13:30
ID=107092

University of Strathclyde Symposium featuring 2010 Prize and Award winners: Paul Bohn, Theophilus Redwood Award, Gary Hieftje, Robert Boyle Prize for Analytical Science, and Nathan Scott Lawrence, Harrison-Meldola Memorial Prize.

Contact Alison Nordon
e alison.nordon@strath.ac.uk

Analytical Division – Scottish AD Scottish Region Annual General Meeting

15 March at 17:00
ID=107696

Royal Overseas League, Edinburgh

• Dr Perdita Barran
AGM at 17:30 will be followed by a presentation by Dr Perdita Barran entitled 'Ion Mobility Mass Spectrometry – Switches and Twists'.

Contact Christine Davidson
e c.m.davidson@strath.ac.uk

WALES

Mid Wales Section

Science and Energy – Demonstration Lectures for Schoolchildren

2-3 March
ID=107605

Theatr Hafren, Ceredigion
• AJS Williams MBE, Schools Liaison Officer, Aberystwyth University
A series of demonstration lectures for schoolchildren where all of the experiments are carried out by the children.

Contact AJS Williams
t 01970 624677

South Wales West Section

Beer and Health: 7,000 Years of History

27 April at 19:30
ID=106278

Science Cafe Wales, Swansea

• Prof David R Williams, Cardiff University
Contact Bill George
t 01792 406994
e wogeorge@glam.ac.uk

Other Events

Faraday Division Surface Reactivity and Catalysis Group Rideal Conference

18-21 April
ID=105159

Cardiff University Invitation only meeting

Contact Graham Hutchings
t 029 20874059
e hutch@cf.ac.uk

MIDLANDS

Birmingham and West Midlands Section

Education Division – Midlands Fireworks

1 March at 19:00
ID=107266

The Chemistry Department, University of Birmingham

• Dr Tom Smith, Davas Limited, Kimbolton
A lecture/demonstration for sixth-form students. In association with West Midlands Chemistry Teachers' Centre

Contact Penelope Robotham
e drprobotham@yahoo.co.uk

Education Division – Midlands

AQA A2 Chemistry Revision Topic: Making a Success of Module 5

29 March at 19:00
ID=107268

The Chemistry Department, University of Birmingham

A lecture for sixth-form, Year 13, students. In association with West Midlands Chemistry Teachers' Centre

Contact Penelope Robotham
e drprobotham@yahoo.co.uk

Annual General Meeting

6 April at 19:30
ID=107809

Novotel Hotel, Birmingham
The local section invites all members in the Birmingham and West Midlands region to attend the 2011 AGM. Come along and meet the committee.

Refreshments and a buffet will be provided.

Contact Daniel Payne
t 07775 334332
e DXP854@bham.ac.uk

Senior Members' Luncheon

15 April at 12:00
ID=107619

The Granary Hotel and Restaurant, Kidderminster
No speaker involved. Get together occasion for retired members.

Contact Leslie Whitfield
t 01562 634440
e elwhitfield28@yahoo.co.uk

East Midlands Section

Annual General Meeting

10 March at 18:00
ID=107280

E.ON Technology Centre, Nottingham
• Dr Will Quick, Technical Head of Fuel Technology, E.ON

In association with E.ON
Contact Chris Satterley
e chris.satterley@eon.com

Other Events

Applied Materials Chemistry Group Ionic Liquids – Material Processing

14 April at 09:00
ID=107497

University of Leicester
This meeting will have talks by Andrew Abbott, Frank Endres, Richard Compton, Jan Fransaer and Peter Knockerman.

Contact Craig Williams
t 01902 322159
e C.Williams@wl.ac.uk

Materials Chemistry Division**Materials Chemistry Awards Symposium****2 March at 13:30****ID=107090**

University of Warwick Symposium featuring 2010 Prize and Award winners: Richard Tilley, Easterfield Award, Simon Clarke, Gibson Fawcett Award, Euan Brechin, Corday-Morgan Prize, and Andrew Goodwin, Harrison Meldola Memorial Prize.
Contact Richard Walton
e r.i.walton@warwick.ac.uk

Education Division – Midlands**ASE Spring****Conference: Creativity, Communication and Change: STEM for all****12 March at 09:30****ID=107270**

RAF Cosford, Shropshire
 In association with the Association for Science Education
Contact Susan Howarth
e s.howarth@worc.ac.uk

Education Division – Midlands**Chemistry Quiz: The Finals****22 March at 18:15****ID=107272**

King Edward VI High School for Girls, Birmingham
 The final rounds of the knock-out chemistry quiz. The winner of this contest for year 11/12 students will go on to represent the RSC local section in the National Top of the Bench challenge.
 In association with West Midlands Chemistry Teachers' Centre
Contact John Crossley
e crossley@docdi.freeserve.co.uk

Organic Division Organic Chemistry Awards Symposium**30 March at 13:30****ID=107091**

Loughborough University
 Featuring Prize and Award winners: Jonathan Ellman, Pedler Award, Darren Dixon, Catalysis in Organic Chemistry Award, and F Dean Toste, Merck Award.
Contact Ray Jones
e r.c.f.jones@lboro.ac.uk

EASTERN**East Anglia Section****Harrison-Meldola Award****Lecture: Metal-Organic Calixarene Assemblies****2 March at 16:00****ID=106815**

University of East Anglia
 • Dr Scott Delgarno, Heriot Watt University
Contact Greg Wildgoose
t 01603 592033
e G.Wildgoose@uea.ac.uk

Jeremy Knowles Award Lecture**9 March at 16:00****ID=106817**

University of East Anglia
 • Prof Wilfred A van der Donk, University of Illinois
Contact Greg Wildgoose
t 01603 592033
e G.Wildgoose@uea.ac.uk

Tilden Lecture**30 March at 16:00****ID=106900**

University of East Anglia
 • Prof Christopher Hunter, University of Sheffield
Contact Greg Wildgoose
t 01603 592033
e G.Wildgoose@uea.ac.uk

Retired Members' Lunch**15 April****ID=106825**

The Randolph Hotel, Reydon, Suffolk
Contact John Beckett
t 01502 675705
e jv-beckett@tiscali.co.uk

Essex Section**Annual General Meeting****3 March at 19:00****ID=107205**

Brentwood School
 The meeting will include a talk entitled 'The Magic of Bubbles' to be given by Dr Cyril Isenberg, University of Kent.

Contact John Seaman
e JSeaman@brentwood.essex.sch.uk

Lecture: Fragment Based Drug Design**3 March at 13:00****ID=107829**

University of Essex
 • Dr Ian Wall, GSK
Contact Jody Mason
e jmason@essex.ac.uk

Celebration Lecture**10 March at 13:00****ID=107830**

University of Essex
 • Prof Jon Dilworth, Fellow, St Ann's College, Oxford
 The development of new PET and SECT imaging agents for cancer research.
Contact Jody Mason
e jmason@essex.ac.uk

Lecture: The End is Nigh: Repair of DNA Double Strand Breaks in Bacteria**17 March at 13:00****ID=107831**

University of Essex
 • Dr Richard Bowater, UEA School of Biological Sciences
Contact Jody Mason
e jmason@essex.ac.uk

Essex School Lecture – Fun with Chemistry**7 April at 14:00****ID=107206**

University of Essex
 A schools lecture demonstrating various aspects of chemistry with dramatic effects.

Contact Alan Osborne
t 02085 902021

Analytical Division – East Anglia**Foods, Myths and Realities – a Lunchtime Event****13 April at 12:30****ID=107025**

Galleywood Heritage Centre, Chelmsford
 • Dr Roger Wood
 The meeting will commence with a buffet lunch, including a glass of wine, at a cost of £10 per person. Please register by 1 April 2011.

Contact Margaret Shears
e marg.shears@blueyonder.co.uk.

Mid-Anglia Section**Images from the Dawn of Science – Observing the Origins of Modern Microscopy****10 March at 19:00****ID=107276**

University of Cambridge
 • Brian Ford, President of the Cambridge Society for the Application of Research
 Videomicrographs will recreate exactly what was observed in the 17th century by scientists Leeuwenhoek. The results offer a radically different view of how microscopy began compared to the standard accounts.
 In association with SCI Cambridge, Great Eastern Region and Cambridge University ChemSoc
Contact John O'Toole
t 01223 894174
e john.otoole9@btopenworld.com

Other Events**Biological and Medicinal Chemistry Sector Fragments III****7-8 March****ID=106777**

GlaxoSmithKline, Stevenage
 This 3rd RSC-BMCS

fragment-based drug discovery meeting will continue the focus on case studies that have delivered compounds to late-stage medicinal chemistry, preclinical or clinical programmes. These will include successful examples from all types of fragment-based approaches, including high concentration, NMR, SPR and X-ray screening.

Contact Maggi Churchouse
t 01359 221004
e maggi@maggichurchousevents.co.uk

NORTH EAST**Central Yorkshire Section****Sex, Flies and Smelly Sticky Tape****15 March at 18:00****ID=107478**

University of York
 • Dr Graham R Jones, Keele University
 A lecture at York Festival of Science and Technology: 'Sex, flies and smelly sticky tape'. How do you chat up a moth? Do Bees only say 'Buzz'? Parlez vous ant-speak? If you have ever wanted to talk to insects then this is your chance to learn their lingo. Plus can pheromones get you out of that awkward 'asking her out' moment? Come prepared for the nasal experience of a lifetime.
 In association with Science City York
Contact Terry Goody
t 01904 455912
e terry.goody@hse.gsi.gov.uk

Huddersfield Section**Retired Members' Luncheon****9 March at 12:00****ID=107816**

Bradleys Restaurant, Huddersfield
Contact Steve Turner

t 01484 422383
e steve@turners7.
freeserve.co.uk

Atmospheric Chemistry – Myths and Facts

16 March at 15:15
ID=107817
University of Huddersfield
• Prof Richard Tuckett,
University of Birmingham
Contact Steve Turner
t 01484 422383
e steve@turners7.
freeserve.co.uk

Annual General Meeting and Dinner

24 March at 19:00
ID=107818
Meltham Golf Club,
Huddersfield
Contact Steve Turner
t 01484 422383
e steve@turners7.
freeserve.co.uk

Hull and East Yorkshire Section

On the Pill: How Chemicals from Sewage are Affecting Aquatic Organisms

30 March at 19:30
ID=107634
Costa Coffee, Beverley
• Prof Jeanette Rotchell
This is a Café Scientifique event – a place where, for the price of a cup of coffee, anyone can come to explore the latest ideas in science and technology. In association with University of Hull
Contact Mark Lorch
e science.cafe.beverley@gmail.com

From Sheep Wool Grease to Polymer Slip Additives plus local section AGM

31 March at 18:30
ID=107703 and 107704
University of Hull
A concise history of Croda, to be followed by AGM starting at 19:45.
Contact Chris Casey
e chris@cdc Casey.karoo.co.uk

Newcastle upon Tyne and North East Section

Adventures in Catalysis: From Molecules to Machines

1 March at 16:15
ID=107784
Newcastle University
• Dr King Kuck (Mimi) Hii,
Imperial College, London
Contact Ian Edwards
t 0191 488 1969
e Ian.Edwards@ncl.ac.uk

The Chemistry of Beer

10 March at 18:00
ID=107665
University of Sunderland
Come along to our informal mixer to find out a little more about the chemistry of beer and meet members from your local section.
Contact Graeme Turnbull
t 07545 959 092
e g.turnbull@northumbria.ac.uk

Public Lecture: A Little Light Relief

17 March at 17:30
ID=107785
Newcastle University
• Prof David Phillips,
Imperial College and
President of the Royal
Society of Chemistry
Contact Ian Edwards
t 0191 488 1969
e Ian.Edwards@ncl.ac.uk

Heterocyclic Chemistry at the Edge of Biology and Medicine

22 March at 16:15
ID=107786
Newcastle University
• Prof Colin Suckling,
Strathclyde University
Contact Ian Edwards
t 0191 488 1969
e Ian.Edwards@ncl.ac.uk

Supramolecular Chemistry Award: Molecular Organisation: Working with Molecules on the Nanoscale

29 March at 16:15
ID=107787
Newcastle University

• Prof Neil Champness,
University of Nottingham
Contact Ian Edwards
t 0191 488 1969
e Ian.Edwards@ncl.ac.uk

Organic Division Heterocyclic and Synthesis Group Organic Division Northeast Region Symposium

13 April at 10:00
ID=107021
University of Northumbria
Regional speakers to be announced.
A one-day series of regional lecturers and two plenary lectures supported by a postgraduate poster session.
Contact Stephen Stanforth
t 0191 227 4784
e steven.stanforth@northumbria.ac.uk

Sheffield and District Section

5th Annual Pub Quiz

24 March at 19:30
ID=107644
The Dam House, Sheffield
For you, your friends and colleagues, each team should have no more than six people. £3 per person including food.
Contact Jackie Morton
e jackie.morton@hsl.gov.uk

Retired Members' Springtime Social

27 April at 12:30
ID=107645
University of Sheffield
• Prof Robert Forrest
Social meeting with invited lecture on the subject of 'Operation Paget – the investigation of Diana's and Dodi's death'. Followed by a buffet.
Contact Nathan Patmore
t 0114 222 9418
e n.patmore@sheffield.ac.uk

Southumbria Section

Thai Social

4 March at 19:00
ID=107080
Thai Silk, Louth
Contact Carol Torne
t 01472 870196
e carol.torne@franklin.ac.uk

Annual General Meeting

14 April at 19:00
ID=107076
Willy's Wine Bar,
Cleethorpes
The local section AGM. Committee member Mike Pearce will share his talk on Bruges (that he has also presented to the local area photographic society).
Contact Luke Francis
e Luke.Francis@crystalglobal.com

Teesside Section

Annual General Meeting

4 March at 18:45
ID=107651
The Parkmore Hotel,
Stockon-on-Tees
• Prof Mike Green, Head of School of Chemistry, University of Newcastle, and RSC Council Member
The AGM for the Teesside Local section will be accompanied by a short talk by Professor Mike Green: 'Chemistry and the RSC in South Africa'. A buffet will also be provided.
Contact Jeff Franks
t 01642 435784
e jeff.franks@intertek.com

Other Events

ICYC2011: Captivating Chemistry

9 March at 09:00
ID=107706
Sheffield Hallam University
A workshop for KS2 and KS3 teachers to develop classroom activities to

inspire and enthuse their pupils in IYC 2011. In association with the Science Learning Centre Yorkshire and the Humber
Contact Emily Perry
t 0114 2254891
e e.perry@shu.ac.uk

Elephant's Toothpaste – A chemistry show with a difference

16 March at 18:00
ID=107853
Newcastle University
A Chemistry Demonstration Show with a difference – all the experiments will be interpreted using British sign language. In association with the British Science Association.
Contact Ross Harrington
e r.w.harrington@ncl.ac.uk

Applied Catalysis Group Applied Catalyst Deactivation

23 March at 09:30
ID=107652
Johnson Matthey Catalysts,
Billingham
This one-day symposium will also include a tour of JM Catalysts laboratories at the Chilton R&D Centre in Billingham, for a limited number of delegates.
Contact Mike Wood
t 01642 853809
e Mike.Wood@davyprotech.com

Chemical Nanoscience and Nanotechnology Group

Chemical Nanoscience
30 March at 10:30
ID=107793
University of Newcastle
Contact Jon Preece
e j.a.preece@bham.ac.uk

NORTH WEST

Cumbria Section

The Big Squeeze – Putting Materials under Pressure!

11 April at 19:00
ID=107457

Westlakes Science & Park,
Whitehaven
• Dr Jenny Rodgers and Prof
Colin Pulham
A demonstration talk.
Contact Mark Gibson
t 019467 77345
e mag7@sellafieldsites.com

Lancaster and District Section

AGM Followed by Wine Tasting

15 March at 19:00
ID=107625

Preston College, Fulwood Campus, Preston
The AGM will be conducted by our Chairman Mrs Angela Holden, the wine tasting will be hosted by our Hon Treasurer Prof John Hepworth.
Contact Harry Clarke
t 01995 640003
e hclarke906@btinternet.com

Liverpool Section

Retired Members' Luncheon

31 March at 12:00
ID=107767

Buckleys Restaurant, Warrington
• Bob Coote, Retired Head of Dog Section, Merseyside Police
A 3-course lunch followed by a presentation on 'The Work of Police Dogs'. Open to members and guests.
Contact Bob Lee
t 0151 334 7875
e drboblee@msn.com

Manchester and District Section

Dalton Division EICC-1: First EuCheMS Inorganic Chemistry Conference

11-14 April
ID=105891

University of Manchester
Contact Ruth Bircham, RSC
t 01223 432254

Other Events

Analytical Division Molecular Spectroscopy Group

Data to Knowledge
29-30 March
ID=106635

AstraZeneca, Cheshire
This will cover topics including automated data processing, the use of historical data, predictive tools, peak deconvolution and Principal Component Analysis.

In association with the British Mass Spectrometry Society
Contact Steve Coombes
e steven.coombes@astrazeneca.com

SOUTH EAST

Kent Section

Brogdale Farm Visit
21 April at 11:00
ID=107825

National Fruit Collections, Faversham
Blossom Walk and buffet lunch at the National Fruit Collections. Our family-friendly visit is timed to take place when many of the fruit trees will be in blossom. There will also be a nature trail for the youngsters led by staff from the Kent and Medway Biological Records Office.
Contact Mark Botting
e mark@bottingm.freereserve.co.uk

Thames Valley Section

AGM and Mixer Meeting
15 March at 19:00
ID=107833

University of Reading
Contact Victoria Smith
t 07795 060165
e vicky_s1878@hotmail.co.uk

Other Events

Environment, Sustainability and Energy Division Environmental Chemistry Group

The Nitrogen Cycle – In a Fix?

9 March at 12:00
ID=107137

The Chemistry Centre, RSC London
A one-day symposium organised by the RSC's Environmental Chemistry Group (ECG) and the Environment, Sustainability and Energy Division of the RSC, incorporating the 2011 ECG Distinguished Guest Lecture to be given by Prof James Galloway, University of Virginia.
Contact William Bloss
t 0121 414 2558
e w.j.bloss@bham.ac.uk

Protein and Peptide Science Group Peptide Arrays as Tools for Study of Protein Interactions

15-16 March
ID=107243

Charles Darwin House, London
A two-day international meeting in associate with the European Peptide Society.
Contact Stephen Hoare
t 01949 839586
e shoare@innov-8.co.uk

Joint Pharmaceutical Analysis Group BIOMARKERS 2011: Analytical Challenges in the Qualification and Validation of Pharmacodynamic Biomarkers

15 March at 10:00
ID=107503

The Chemistry Centre, RSC London
Current concepts in the qualification and validation of biomarker assays. For scientists engaged in preclinical and clinical development

of drugs and vaccines, or in the development and validation of bio-analytical or biomarker method.

Contact Gabriella Highfield
t 0207 572 2640
e events@rpharms.com

Biological and Medicinal Chemistry Sector Antimalarial Drugs: Chemistry Development and Future Challenges

15-16 March
ID=106325

Royal College of Physicians, London
This meeting is relevant to basic and translational scientists with an interest in medicinal chemistry, chemotherapy, pharmacology and infectious disease biology. It should be of particular value to younger scientists wishing to develop their careers in this medically important area.
In association with AntiMal.
Contact Tracy Seddon
e Tracy.Seddon@liverpool.ac.uk

Historical Chemistry Group, Radiochemistry Group

Marie Curie and Aspects of the History of Radiochemistry
18 March at 10:00
ID=106521

The Chemistry Centre, RSC London

The speakers are experts in their fields: the keynote lecture on Marie Curie will be given by Dr Serge Plattard, the Counsellor for Science and Technology at the French Embassy, himself a noted nuclear physicist. His talk will be chaired by Richard Pike, CEO of the RSC, and the last session will be chaired by the RSC President David Phillips.

Contact Nick Evans
t 01509 222564
e n.d.m.evans@lboro.ac.uk

Marketing Group The Science and Marketing of Cosmetics

21 March at 18:00
ID=107498

The Chemistry Centre, RSC London
• Dr Maria Labeledzka, Course Leader, Cosmetic Science, London College of Fashion
The science behind cosmetics and how marketing can make people feel good about themselves when they use cosmetics they can rely on. Just a promise or do cosmetic products deliver?
Contact Mark Scudamore
t 01282 419080
e markscudamore@blueyonder.co.uk

Joint Pharmaceutical Analysis Group Counterfeit Medicines: the Regulatory and Industry Challenges

24 March at 10:00
ID=107504

Royal Pharmaceutical Society, London
This symposium will provide a strategic overview of how industry and regulatory authorities in Europe and the US are addressing the rapidly growing counterfeiting challenge.

In association with Royal Pharmaceutical Society
Contact Gabriella Highfield
t 0207 572 2640
e events@rpharms.com

Faraday Division Physical Chemistry Awards Symposium

1 April at 13:30
ID=107093

University College London
Symposium featuring 2010 Prize and Award winners: David Clary, Liversedge Award, Alexei Kornyshev, Interdisciplinary Prize and Daan Frenkel, Soft Matter and Biophysical Chemistry Award.
Contact Stephen Price
e s.d.price@ucl.ac.uk

Radiochemistry Group
Metals, Peptides and Nuclear Medicine: Radiolabelled Peptides in Medical Imaging and Treatment
4 April at 10:00
ID=107707
 St Thomas' Hospital, London

This one-day symposium will celebrate the lifetime achievements of Prof Helmut Maecke who will be presented with the RSC Bequerel Medal. It will also celebrate the centenary of Marie Curie being awarded the Nobel Prize for Chemistry. Hear from leading experts in the field and network with peers and colleagues.

Contact Sheila Foolheea
t 0207 188 8366
e rsc@kcl.ac.uk

Bioorganic Group, Carbohydrate Group Carbohydrate and Bioorganic Interest Groups Joint Meeting
5 April at 09:30
ID=107649

King's College London
 The meeting will feature six invited lectures and a poster session, for which abstracts are invited. The meeting will also feature the award of the 2011 Haworth Medal to Prof Pierre Sinay, Paris, who will present a plenary lecture.

Contact Gerd Wagner
t 0207848 4747
e gerd.wagner@kcl.ac.uk

Faraday Division Physical Chemistry Awards Symposium
6 April at 13:30
ID=107094
 University of Oxford
 Symposium featuring 2010 Prize and Award winners: John Polyani, Faraday Lecturship Prize, Michael Thomas Bowers, Bourke Award, and Gus Hancock, Chemical Dynamics Award.
Contact Stuart Mackenzie
e stuart.mackenzie@chem.ox.ac.uk

Faraday Division Industrial Physical Chemistry Group
Dr Sheelagh Campbell Memorial Symposium on Interdisciplinary Electrochemistry
8 April at 11:00
ID=107464
 The Chemistry Centre, RSC London

This will cover contemporary aspects of electrochemistry including emerging science and innovative technology.

Contact Matthew Baker
e matthew.j.baker@hotmail.com

Colloid and Interface Science Group
Rideal Lecture 2011
15 April at 09:30
ID=107527

Society of Chemical Industry, London
 The Rideal lecture is an annual award lecture. Colloid science principles have been successfully applied in a wide range of industries involving manufacture, processing and formulating many materials as aqueous dispersions.

In association with the SCI's Colloid and Surface Chemistry Group
Contact Laura Grimsley
e conferences@soci.org

Bioorganic Group RSC Bioorganic Chemistry Group Postgraduate Meeting
15 April at 10:00
ID=107663

The Chemistry Centre, RSC London
 Talks will be given from postgraduate students at this annual meeting, which is a flagship event for developing the careers of young researchers at the chemistry/biology interface.

Contact Edward Tate
e e.tate@imperial.ac.uk

Faraday Division Faraday Discussion 151: Hydrogen Storage Materials
18-20 April
ID=105642
 Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Didcot
Contact RSC Events
t 01223 432380

SOUTH WEST

Bristol and District Section

Family Evening Lecture: Copies, Fakes & Forgeries – Analysis in the Study of Art and Antiques

10 March at 17:00
ID=106691

University of West of England, Bristol
 • Dr Andrew Shortland, Cranfield University
 In association with SCI, British Science Association
Contact Hilary Kitchen
t 0117 939 2563
e papahil@blueyonder.co.uk

Watts New with Clean Energy Materials: Batteries Included

16 March at 19:00
ID=107613

Bath Royal Literary & Scientific Institution
 • Prof Saiful Islam, University of Bath
 In association with the Institute of Physics
Contact Alex Narduzzo
t 01225 385395
e A.Narduzzo@bath.ac.uk

Chemical Communication in Social Insects

24 March at 19:00
ID=106685

University of Gloucestershire
 • Dr Adam Hart, University of Gloucestershire
 In association with SCI, British Science Association, University of Gloucestershire
Contact Colin Chapman
t 01453 547531
e crcc@lochin.fsnet.co.uk

Your Food, Environment and Consumer Goods – How Safe are They?
14 April at 19:00
ID=107610

University of Bristol
 In association with SCI
Contact Hilary Kitchen
t 0117 939 2563
e papahil@blueyonder.co.uk

Peninsula Section

Analytical Division – Western RSC Lecture: ICP-MS – Breaking New Ground in Bio-Science

2 March at 16:00
ID=106931

University of Plymouth
 • Prof Barry Sharp, Loughborough University
 Recent work at Loughborough relating to three principal areas: Pt-based chemotherapy; tagging labelling of bio-molecules for enhanced detection and quantitation; and bio-imaging.

In association with Analytical Division – Western Region
Contact Hywel Evans
t 01752 584573
e hevans@plymouth.ac.uk

Analytical Division – Western RSC Lecture: Retrieving the Black Box; Where do Organics Fit in the Nitrogen Cycle?

16 March at 16:00
ID=106932

University of Plymouth
 • Dr Mark Fitzsimons, University of Plymouth
 In association with Analytical Division – Western Region
Contact Hywel Evans
t 01752 584573
e hevans@plymouth.ac.uk

Analytical Division – Western Schools Analyst Competition: Western Region Heat 1

30 March at 09:45
ID=106933

University of Bristol
 The Schools' Analyst Competition is a national competition run by the RSC's Analytical Division for first-year sixth-form or equivalent.

Contact Tim Harrison
t 44 0117 928 8663
e T.G.Harrison@bristol.ac.uk

Analytical Division – Western Schools Analyst Competition: Western Region Heat 2

30 March at 09:45
ID=106935

University of Plymouth
 See listing above.
Contact Hywel Evans
t 01752 584573
e hevans@plymouth.ac.uk

IRELAND

Other Events

RSC Education Easing the School-to-University Transition: Improving and Enhancing the Undergraduate Experience

30 March at 12:00
ID=107815

Queens University Belfast
Contact HE STEM Programme Team, RSC
t 01223 432221
e hestem@rsc.org

Thermal Methods Group Thermal Analysis Conference

19-20 April
ID=106706

Queen's University of Belfast
 A major opportunity for researchers to discuss the latest commercial developments with exhibitors from the leading

▶ PEOPLE

thermal equipment manufacturing companies. There will also be a one-day pre-conference course that can be attended separately.

Contact Vicky Kett
e v.kett@qub.ac.uk

INTERNATIONAL

BELGIUM

Lecture on Alzheimer's Disease

1 March at 20:00

ID=107598

British School of Brussels
• Prof Octave, President of the Institute of Neurosciences of the Université Catholique de Louvain, Louvain-le-Neuve, Belgium

A presentation on the progress being made to understand and prevent the onset of Alzheimer's disease.

Contact Ian Carson
t 0032 497 69 18 83
e rsobelgium@gmail.com

CHINA

Environment, Sustainability and Energy Division 1st International Conference on Clean Energy

10-13 April

ID=106645

Convention Centre, Dalian, China

In association with: Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics and Chinese Academy of Sciences

Contact Sarah Thomas, RSC
e thomass@rsc.org

SWEDEN

Biological and Medicinal Chemistry Sector 5th Anglo-Swedish Medicinal Chemistry Symposium ASMC 2011

20-23 March

ID=106324

Hotel Diplomat Aregarden, Sweden

This symposium will showcase the very best medicinal chemistry in a stimulating environment. There will be an evening poster session and we welcome abstracts for consideration.

In association with LÅ kemedelsakademin, Swedish Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences
Contact Agneta Larhed
e Agneta.Larhed@lakemedelsakademin.se

SWITZERLAND

Industry and Technology Division Biological and Medicinal Chemistry Sector

Proteinase 2011 – From Molecules to Medicine 11-12 April

ID=106832

Novartis Pharma AG, Basel, Switzerland
7th SCI-RSC symposium on Proteinase Inhibitor Design. This symposium will cover progress in the design and synthesis of aspartic, serine, cysteine and metallo protease inhibitors for a diverse range of target indications, while also covering a range of drug discovery activity: from 'Molecules to Medicines'.

In association with SCI Biotechnology Group

Contact Maggi Churchouse
t 01359 221004
e maggi@maggichurchousevents.co.uk

People

Election of members of Council and other bodies

Members who have provided a valid email address to the RSC will be able to vote electronically in any contested election. Members who wish to update their email address should contact RSC membership by 21 March.

membership@rsc.org

Voting papers will be posted to members who have not provided a valid email address. Where nominations exceed vacancies, the Electoral Reform Services will manage the contested election and report the results to the RSC.

The Materials Chemistry Division Council nominee for President Elect of the Division is Professor Howard Colquhoun MA PhD CChem FRSC, University of Reading.

Further information on elections and vacancies can be found online.

www.rsc.org/electionsandvacancies

Long service honoured

Claire Stacey retired from the committee of the Water Science Forum (WSF) on 27 January.

Claire had been a member of the WSF committee since late 1993 and had been Honorary Secretary since 2007, her second stint in the role. Aside from her work with the RSC, Claire had been Deputy Chief Inspector at the Drinking Water Inspectorate until her retirement a couple of years ago. She now works as an independent consultant.

In recognition of Claire's many years of hard work and dedication she was presented with a Long Service Award by Martyn Jones, WSF Chairman. Martyn said: "Claire has been instrumental in many of the conferences and events that have made the WSF so successful. As a committee member she has played her part in full. And as the Honorary Secretary, I can personally vouch for the fact that she has been absolutely brilliant. We are most definitely going to miss her."

Claire will continue to be involved in RSC Water Science Forum issues but in a much less active capacity.



Cram Lehn Pedersen Prize 2011 winner announced



Professor Amar Flood, from Indiana University, USA, has won the inaugural Cram Lehn Pedersen prize.

The prize, sponsored by RSC journal *Chemical Communications* and named in honour of the winners of the 1987 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, recognises significant, original and independent work in supramolecular chemistry by emerging investigators. Researchers within ten years of receiving their PhD on 31 December 2010 were eligible for the 2011 award.

The prize is awarded to Flood for his pioneering work in macrocyclic and supramolecular chemistry and, in

particular, for his development of receptors that employ pure CH hydrogen bonding to bind anionic guest species.

Flood will receive £2,000 and will present his award lecture at the 6th International Symposium on Macrocyclic and Supramolecular Chemistry (6-ISMSC) in Brighton in July (see page 16).

Professor Phil Gale, Chair of the Scientific Committee for 6-ISMSC said: "I'm really delighted that Amar has been selected by the International Committee to be the first recipient of the Cram Lehn Pedersen Prize. I'm already looking forward to hearing his latest results in Brighton in July."

RSC News will shortly announce when nominations for the 2012 award open; this will be presented at 7-ISMSC in New Zealand.

ExxonMobil Chemical European Science & Engineering Award 2011

This biennial award supports research in the field of structure-property relationships and applications of olefin-based polymers. It is open to European researchers up to the age of 40 working in a laboratory in Europe. The prize amounts to €40,000 for the host organisation of the winner.

Deadline for submissions – 30 June 2011

For more information see the website.

www.exxonmobileurope.com/Europe-English/community_activities_esep.aspx

Deaths

Mr Barry Peter Abell CChem MRSC Retired senior technologist, BP Oil Kent Refinery Ltd. Died 13 January 2011, aged 85

Dr Frederick Horace Allen CChem FRSC Retired, University of Hong Kong. Died April 2010, aged 72

Mr Stewart William Brigstock CChem FRSC Retired technical manager, Advanced Tapes Ltd. Died 22 December 2010, aged 82

Professor Chuni Lal Chakrabarti CChem FRSC Formerly distinguished research professor, department of chemistry, Carleton University, Canada. Date of death not supplied

Professor Kuang Lu Cheng MRSC Formerly professor emeritus, University of Missouri, USA. Date of death not supplied

Mr Howard William Cramer MRSC Formerly analyst/programmer, GlaxoSmithKline. Died 1 January 2011, aged 59

Mr Stuart Gregory Cross MRSC Formerly consultant, Safety Practitioner Solutions.

Died 14 November 2010, aged 50

Mr John Doran CChem FRSC Retired general manager, Windscale works, British Nuclear Fuels plc. Date of death not supplied

Mr Michael John Wallace Downes MRSC Retired bitumen manager, Shell International Ltd. Died 24 December 2010, aged 78

Mr James Maving Dunn MRSC Retired unit manager, Winthrop Labs. Died 15 January 2011, aged 82

Mr Eric Charles Eaton CChem FRSC Retired technical advisor, AEP Industries. Died 20 December 2010, aged 75

Dr Joginder Singh Ghotra CChem FRSC Retired project director, Kingston University. Died 31 December 2010, aged 74

Mr John Francis Hodgson CChem FRSC Retired manager, process research and development, May & Baker Ltd. Died December 2010, aged 92

Dr Ulfert Hornemann MRSC Formerly University

of Wisconsin, USA. Died 16 December 2010, aged 71

Mr John Kenneth Hughes CChem MRSC Formerly project manager GlaxoSmithKline plc. Died 6 December 2010, aged 58

Mr Abraham Arnold Jacobs CChem FRSC Retired technical liaison manager, Beecham Pharmaceuticals. Died 2 July 2010, aged 92

Mr Edwin Kenneth George James CChem FRSC Retired chairman, P.A.G. Power Ltd. Died 30 December 2010, aged 94

Mr Noel Jones MRSC Retired principal consultant, H.E.L.P. Consultants Ltd. Died 18 November 2010, aged 85

Emeritus Professor Ronald Burger Kelly MRSC Formerly professor emeritus of chemistry, University of New Brunswick, Canada. Date of death not supplied

Dr Thomas Joseph Kucera MRSC Formerly consultant, USA. Date of death not supplied

Dr Hans Karl Lutwak CChem MRSC Retired. Date of death not supplied

Mr Ivor Brian Charles Mainwaring MRSC Retired works chemical and effluent treatment manager, South West Metal Finishing Ltd. Died 3 January 2011, aged 73

Dr Prahlad Dev Malhotra CChem MRSC Retired deputy director general, Geology Survey of India. Died May 2010, aged 84

Professor William Kenneth Rogerson Musgrave MRSC Retired acting vice chancellor, University of Durham. Died December 2010, aged 92

Mr David Naden CChem FRSC Retired business manager UK, PuroLite International Ltd. Died 18 December 2010, aged 73

Dr Judit Maria Nagy MRSC Formerly protein analysis core facility manager, Imperial College London. Date of death not supplied

Mr Mark Norris CChem MRSC Formerly materials testing manager WRC-NSF Ltd. Died 6 December 2010, aged 55

Professor Yeshayau Pocker MRSC Formerly University

of Washington, USA. Date of death not supplied

Mr Peter William Maurice Reed CChem FRSC Retired short course organiser, department of chemistry, University of Essex. Died 23 December 2010, aged 81

Dr Amy Pauline Ridges CChem MRSC Formerly self-employed research bio-chemist. Died 12 January 2011, aged 80

Mr Aldo Roffi MRSC Retired laboratory chemist, BP Chemicals Ltd. Died 31 December 2010, aged 72

Dr Bertram Irwin Rowland MRSC Formerly self-employed, USA. Date of death not supplied

Mr Michael David Street CChem MRSC Retired president, MMP Consulting Ltd and general manager, Brunswick Mining and Smelting Corporation, Canada. Died April 2010, aged 75

Dr Malcolm Thompson CChem FRSC Retired teacher placement organiser, Humberside County Council. Died 1 January 2011, aged 81

MyRSC – Online Community

A professional network for the chemical sciences, hosted by the RSC

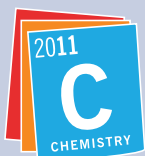
MyRSC has enabled chemical scientists across the globe to come together and host discussions in an online environment and has also become a key tool for members to get more from the RSC and their membership.

Connect, engage and interact with MyRSC

- Discuss the science that matters to you by joining in debates on the latest news bulletins and science issues through blogs, forums and group discussions
- Grow your network of people who share common interests through RSC activities, specialist groups and communities based in your field
- Participate in unique events such as ChemCareers, the RSC's online careers fair, and take advantage of the wealth of information in the careers section
- Upload scientific reports and documents which can be shared with chemical scientists across the globe or those in your network
- Get involved with high profile activities such as Chemistry for Tomorrow's World, the RSC's roadmap for the chemical sciences, and the International Year of Chemistry 2011

...and build a dynamic and interactive environment for the future

The continued success of **MyRSC** is dependent on the contributions of its members. If you have not already opened an account join today at <http://my.rsc.org/registration>



International Year of
CHEMISTRY
2011

Join the discussions on MyRSC and find out how you can get involved with the **International Year of Chemistry 2011** activities at <http://my.rsc.org/iyc>