

# Royal Society of Chemistry Electrochemistry Group

## Annual Report for the year 2008/2009

### MEMBERSHIP

According to the RSC, the group has 400 members.

### MEMBERSHIP OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dr. Peter Birkin, **Treasurer (2006-2011)**, Southampton University.

Dr. Alison J. Davenport, ECS rep., University of Birmingham.

Dr Darryl Dawson, Industry rep., Alphasense.

Dr Robert Dryfe, ISE rep., organiser of Electrochem 2009, UMIST.

Dr. Anthony Kucernak, Academic rep., Imperial College London.

Dr. Frank Marken, **Secretary (2006-2011)**, University of Bath.

Dr. Andy Mount, **Chairman (2008-2011)**, Edinburgh University.

Dr. Chris Slevin, Industry rep., Stirling Medical

Dr. Ed Wright, Industry rep., Johnson Matthey.

Dr. Jay Wadhawan, **Editor of the Newsletter (2007-2012)**, University of Hull

Dr. David Fermin, academic rep., University of Bristol

Dr. Katherine Holt, academic rep., UCL

### ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN 2008/2009

#### *Annual general meeting*

The last General Assembly was held during the Electrochem 2008 conference at University of Liverpool (15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> September 2008).

#### *Committee meetings*

The Executive Committee met on a regular basis: three Executive Committee Meetings took place during the year (16<sup>th</sup> September 2008 in Liverpool, 8<sup>th</sup> January 2009 in London, 16<sup>th</sup> April 2009 in Manchester). As in previous years, at every meeting the Executive Committee also had joint committee meetings with the SCI Electrochemical Technology Group (co-organisers of the Electrochem conference and contributors to the Newsletter) at all of these meetings.

#### *Conferences*

Since 1994 the Group has been organising (in partnership with the SCI Electrochemical Technology Group and RSC Electroanalytical Group) the annual meeting of the UK electrochemical community known as the Electrochem conference. The event usually held in late August early September, lasts for two and a half days and is attended by around two hundred delegates and exhibitors from academia and industry. Most attendees come from the UK but every year the conference is also welcoming many foreign and overseas electrochemists. The Group strongly supports and encourages the involvement of postgraduate students and in order to select appropriate high quality presentation, regional meetings are held. As an incentive for the regional meetings, free participation is given to the two best-presentation winners at the regional meetings.

Electrochem 2004 took place at the University of Leicester, Electrochem 2005 at the University of Northumbria at Newcastle, Electrochem 2006 at Heriot-Watt University Edinburgh merged with the ISE meeting, Electrochem 2007 with a strong bio-electrochemical theme was held at

Imperial College London, and Electrochem 2008 was successfully held at the University of Liverpool. This year the Electrochem 2009 will be held together with the 50<sup>th</sup> Corrosion Science Symposium at the University of Liverpool (16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> September 2009) with a focus on electroplating from nano- to macro-scale and many invited international and national speakers. Symposium titles are

- Clean Energy incorporating Fuel Cells and Semiconductor photo-electro-chemistry/exitonic solar cells
- Electroanalysis & Sensors
- Electrochemistry under Non-conventional Conditions
- Electrodeposition from the nano to macro scale
- Environmental Electrochemistry
- Materials Degradation INCORPORATING the 50th Corrosion Science Symposium
- Organic Materials in Electrochemistry

### ***Regional meetings***

The Electrochemistry Group supports and sponsors one-day regional graduate meetings in various regions of the UK. This year meetings have been organised and held in Nottingham, Hull, and Bath. From each of these meetings winning student presentations have been awarded free registration and a presentation slot at the Electrochem 2009 in Manchester.

### ***Student Bursaries***

In 1999, the Group Executive Committee introduced a scheme to offer a limited number of Postgraduate Student Bursaries. The aim of the Student Bursary Scheme is to provide financial support (300£) to a small number of promising postgraduate students to attend a major electrochemistry conference abroad. The student is expected to present work at the conference and to report back to the Newsletter editor. Details of the scheme are advertised in the Newsletter and application forms can be found on the Electrochemistry Group website. In 2008/9 this bursary was awarded to 8 students participating in various conferences in the US, Germany, France, etc. and very interesting reports have appeared in the newsletter.

### ***Links with other societies and RSC subject groups***

The Group has maintained strong links with major overseas Electrochemistry Groups, particularly the ISE (The International Society of Electrochemistry) and ECS (The Electrochemical Society). Both societies now have representatives on the Group Executive Committee, and both now sponsor financially parts of the annual Electrochem meeting. The two representatives publish Newsletter articles to promote the links with ISE and ECS. The Group is also developing closer links with the Institute of Corrosion. The group also has a representative from the RSC Electroanalytical Group co-opted onto the executive committee.

### **FARADAY MEDAL**

The Group has been awarding a Faraday Medal since the early sixties. In 1999 the Executive Committee reviewed and revised the rules for awarding the Medal. Past recipients include 1999 - Dr Philippe Allongue (CNRS, Paris), 2000 – Professor Alan Bond (Australia), 2001 - Professor Michael Grätzel (Switzerland), 2002 - Professor Henry White (USA), 2003 – Professor Dieter Kolb (Germany), 2004 - Daniel Scherson (USA), 2005 - Professor R M Wightman (USA), 2006 - Professor Hubert Girault (Switzerland), 2007 – Professor Christian Amatore (Paris, France), 2008

– Professor Nate Lewis, and in 2009 it will be awarded to Professor Reg Penner (USA) at the Electrochem 2009 meeting in Manchester (16<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> September 2009).

### **NEWSLETTER**

In 2003 Dr Daren Caruana from UCL started his term of office as Newsletter editor and in 2007 he passed on this responsibility to Dr. Jay Wadhawan (University of Hull). The Newsletter is published three times a year and is the main news medium for the Group. Each edition is now available as a PDF document online (RSC Electrochemistry group web site). In the past the paper copy the Newsletter had a circulation greater than one thousand (a significant number of copies were mailed to overseas members) and we are hoping to now further improve the circulation with the new PDF format. The editor of the Newsletter always welcomes unsolicited contributions from members of the Electrochemistry Group (including conference reports, news items, new books, opinions, and new developments).

**Royal Society of Chemistry Group Account**

APPENDIX F

**Receipts and Payments 1 January 2008 - 31 December 2008**

Group Name: \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Key</u>	£	£
Interest: Business Reserve Account	1	0.00	
Interest: Current Account	1	0.00	
Interest: RSC Deposit Account	1	0.00	
Subscriptions	2	754.00	
Grants	3	0.00	
Meetings and Conferences	4	0.00	
Other	5	209.21	
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>£963.21</b>	
<u>Payments</u>			£
Meetings & Conferences	6		2,800.00
Donations	7		0.00
Committee Travel	8		802.20
Stationery/Postage	8		391.14
Committee Lunches at RSC	8		0.00
Audit	8		0.00
Other Expenditure	9		213.52
<b>Total Payments</b>			<b>£4,206.86</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the year</b>	<b>10</b>		<b>-£3,243.65</b>
<u>Balance Sheet</u>			
Balance at 1st January 2008			15,430.33
Surplus (Deficit) for 2008	10		-3,243.65
<b>Balance at 31st December 2008</b>			<b>£12,186.68</b>
<u>Balance Represented by Deposits in the Bank</u>			
Balance in Current Account			0.00
Balance in Business Reserve Account			0.00
Balance in RSC Deposit Account			0.00
<b>Balance as at 31st December 2008</b>			<b>£0.00</b>

Hon.Treasurer	<u>Peter Birkin</u>	_____
Chairman	<u>Andy Mount</u>	_____
Auditor	_____	_____