Management Group Newsletter—February 2016

Dear Members

You will find below, another issue of our Newsletter with some short articles on:-

- Interest Groups and Communications.
- Marketing Group programme for 2016.
- Committee member profiles.
- RSC call for volunteer Assessor.

I have also used MyRSC to post this Newsletter and would welcome any comments on using this new communication option.

As usual, we hope you find this Newsletter interesting and welcome any feedback that you might have (to Alank@Biofuelstechnology.com).

Best Wishes,

The Management Group Committee.

1. Interest Groups and Communications

A couple of years ago, I chaired an Interest Group Review on behalf of the RSC Council which focused on recommending fit for purpose funding of the Interest Groups as well as updating the Governance Rules. These recommendations have been successfully implemented without any fuss or concerns.

Although not part of our brief, we also looked at communications within the Society as far as the Interest Groups are concerned. Food and rations as well as governance issues are provided by Fiona McMillan and her team and this works fine. However, interactions between Interest Groups and the rest of the Society are very patchy and to a certain extent dependent on the goodwill of the Divisional Councils to involve Interest Groups and their Members in the decision making processes and to facilitate marketing of activities. Dalton Division are excellent at this, but in other parts of the Society, Interest Groups really have little contact outside of their own members.

The Management Group has worked very closely with the Marketing Group over the past couple of years, supporting each other and publicising events. More recently we have started discussions with the Law Group and at the end of the month myself and our Treasurer, Allan Malcolm will be attending a Committee Meeting of the Speciality Chemicals Group. All of these Groups have something to offer members in industry and in the first instance we are looking to publicise each other's events to our combined membership; perhaps hold joint events, and also act as a stronger voice within the Society on industrial matters.

What we are obviously keen to do is to make sure that you are not overloaded with information or notification of meetings, so please let us know if it seems to be getting too heavy. That is not the intent.

Mike Green Chairman
2. Lecture Series 2015 – A brief summary of last year’s lectures.

March = The pitfalls of new raw material product development. What is needed to introduce new raw material products to the market?

Dr. Raouf Kattan gave an informative insight to problems encountered by raw material suppliers and developers in trying to sell product to coating companies involved in the marine coatings business.

June = From Macro-Trend to Macromolecule.

Dr. Robert Watson from Nuplex Resins looked at examples in the coatings industries and the role that chemistry plays, in particular polymer chemistry, from the perspective of coatings and ultimately show the relationship between macro-trend and macromolecule.

September = Fossil and renewable sources of liquid fuels: Prices & Resources. What are the long term prospects for supply of liquid transport fuels?

Dr. Mark Howard’s talk reviewed global sources of liquid transport fuels in the context of the long term prospects for fossil and renewable resources, including the future implications for greenhouse gas emissions.

November 12th = Venture Capital in Chemicals- Structure, Risk & Reward

Paul Smith presented a personal view of the role of private investment capital in the chemicals sector based on considerable experience in advising and leading venture capital backed businesses. The lecture described the structure and sources of funds, including the growing role and development of corporate venturing.

Programme for 2016 (lectures are in Burlington House, start at 6.30 and are at no cost).

We plan to run another 4 evening lectures on the following dates:-

March 10th, Dr. Robin Harrison, Technical Manager of Synthomer who will speak on “Innovation in a fast-paced industry; The evolution of medical gloves”.

June 16th, Dr. Richard Willoughby, Patent Landscape in Europe and the US.

Sept. 22nd, Dr. Victoria Hillborne, The contamination of water with drugs and their metabolites.

November 10th or 17th, Chemistry Regulations, speaker to be confirmed.


January 18th = Rubber products, Applications and Markets. Dr Alexander Celik.
July 4th = Visit to the Royal Society of Medicine.
Sept. 6th = Visit to the Culham Centre for Fusion Energy.
October 13th = Addicted to Carbon, UK lifestyles, etc. Angela Druckman.
Dec. 8th = The New Gin Distiller for London, Oliver Kitson of Sipsmith.
4. Committee Member Profiles

Linda Gunnell

Linda Gunnell has been a member of the RSC for over 40 years. She has had a varied career as a chemist in the food, oil and brewing industries, specialising in analytical chemistry (MSc in Analytical Chemistry). She has worked in research, quality assurance and in management roles. She also studied microbiology for her work in the oil and brewing industries. While working in brewing at Grand Metropolitan (now Diageo) Linda was sponsored to take an MBA. This led to her developing interests in management and she then worked in a consultancy group at the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea attached to the economic development unit.

She was an Associate Lecturer for the Open University Business School on the MBA programme, teaching for 20 years; this included membership of the team introducing the OU MBA to Romania in 1997. Linda commuted between London and Bucharest running tutorials for over 40 students, all senior managers with science degrees.

She joined the Management Interest Group committee in the 1990s, organising symposia. She also introduced and edited the original paper edition of the Management Group Newsletter.

Linda completed both a PG Certificate in teaching Higher Education and an MA in HR Strategy and then worked as a senior lecturer, first at Guildhall and then at London Metropolitan University Business School, teaching postgraduate courses. She has recently completed a post graduate diploma in Career Coaching at the University of East London.

John Maine

John has been a long term member of the Management Group, having joined in 1988.

He was always really interested in chemistry as a boy and it was inevitable that he would pursue a career in this area. He started work in 1962 as a laboratory assistant doing pharmaceutical research at Ashburton Chemicals (later became Ciba Geigy) in Trafford Park. He then moved in 1964 to work for the CEGB at Barton Power Station doing analytical chemistry. At the same time he completed his ARIC at the Salford Royal College of Advanced Technology. He then moved to UMIST where he worked on fluoro-chemicals in the department of Professor Haseldine. After 2 years, he decided he wanted a career change and managed to get a sales job with Kraft Chemicals in Trafford Park.

This was a brand new venture where they were processing fatty acids from the edible oil production into cationic chemicals like quats and fatty amines. Having served 3 years, John then joined Hoechst UK in 1974 as a senior sales representative selling a wide range of the chemicals. Various opportunities came and went until in 1984 he was seconded, with his family, to the Hoechst AG headquarters in Frankfurt for 2 years to train as a Product Manager for the UK selling Aromatic Intermediates.

In 1996, he took over the position of Head of Speciality Chemicals at Hoechst UK and in 1998, when Hoechst sold its business to Clariant, he joined them as the Head of Speciality Chemicals for Northern Europe and was a member of the UK Management Committee. In 2005, part of this business, based mainly on mono-chloracetic acid was then bought out by a venture capital company and became the German company CABB.

In 2008 John retired after 46 years in the chemical industry. John lives in Wokingham and enjoys travel, gardening, genealogy and is a keen musician, playing the guitar.
5. **RSC Call for volunteer assessors.**

We are now recruiting for new assessors to assess the professional awards of Registered Scientist (RSci) and Registered Science Technician (RSciTech). We offer several programmes, all of which endeavor to offer the RSci/RSciTech awards in some way, *e.g.*, the students who successfully complete a recognised Access to HE programme are assessed for the RSciTech award. We are looking for experienced individuals who are willing to volunteer their time to assess applications across the various different programmes.

The professional awards, Registered Scientist and Registered Science Technician are relatively new awards which are aimed at technicians and people who are in the early stages of their careers; they are seen as a benchmark for achieving Chartered Status. Registered Science Technician applicants should typically hold or be working at a Level 3 qualification, *e.g.*, A-Level, BTEC, NVQ Level 3. Registered Scientist applicants should typically hold or be working at a Level 5 qualification, *e.g.*, HNC, HND or BSc.

This is a great opportunity to work with the Royal Society of Chemistry, for maintaining your own continuing professional development and for meeting other like-minded people.

To register your interest or for further information, please contact registers@rsc.org.

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