

# Bulletin – April 2022

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## Committee Contact Details

### Chairman

Bill Edwards

### Secretary

Dermot Hanna

### Treasurer

Michael Roberts

### Other Committee Members

Katie Anderson

Keith Earnshaw

Bruce Green

Hooshang Zavareh

### Linked-in page:

Royal Society of Chemistry Consultancy Group

### RSC

<https://my.rsc.org/groups/home/157>

## The Consultancy Group

The Group is one of the Royal Society of Chemistry's many Interest Groups. The Interest Groups are member-driven groups which exist to benefit RSC members, and the wider chemical science community, in line with the RSC's strategy and charter.

The Group provides a forum for RSC members who are consultants. Members may be self-employed, in partnerships or employed by commercial organisations or academia. Many of the members of the Consultancy Group also act as Expert Witnesses in criminal and/or civil litigation.

The Group arranges meetings and workshops to provide networking opportunities and training in aspects of setting up and running a consultancy business.

We also give members access to some of the material that has been presented at meetings of the Group.

## Annual General Meeting

The AGM is to be held at Royal Society of Chemistry, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W1J 0BA on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May.

### Agenda

10.30 Arrivals

11.00 Global Warming – An alternative view – Marcus Gibson. *Marcus is editor of the Gibson Index and is a former FT Journalist, an Oxford Blue and a Gold Medal Olympian.*

12.00 AGM

12.30 Lunch

1.30 Chocolate – Food of the gods - Bill Edwards - A talk covering the history and origins of chocolate illustrated with plentiful tastings of milk and plain chocolates! Bill is an experienced confectionary expert and Chair of the Consultancy Group.

2.30 Concluding remarks

## T Levels in Education

The UK is rolling out a 16-19+ qualification in England that is intended to provide a greater link between students, educators and industry by including in it a significant proportion of placement within a relevant industry sector.

These T Levels cover a range of subjects including Construction and Health and Science. Colleges are rolling these out in waves so not all courses will be offered by all colleges at once.

The following presentation provides a useful summary on the course, intended for universities:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/t-level-resources-for-universities>

The government has also issued documents to provide guidance to student placement providers. These have been updated reasonably frequently so if this is of interest to you, signing up for the updates is worthwhile as the course information develops:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/t-level-industry-placements-delivery-guidance>

## Upcoming Events

Events can be found on the database or via the RSC webpage.

Royal Society of Chemistry,  
Tel: +44 (0) 1223 432509  
Fax: +44 (0) 1223 423623  
Email: [eventsdatabase@rsc.org](mailto:eventsdatabase@rsc.org)

### To be arranged

Joint meeting with Management Group

### Member suggestions

Do you have an idea for an event that you think would be of interest to members of the Consultancy Interest Group? If so, please contact the secretary via the RSC Consultancy Group page:

<https://www.rsc.org/membership-and-community/connect-with-others/through-interests/interest-groups/consultancy/>

## Consultant Profile

### *How I became a consultant*



Figure 1 – Bill Edwards of Bardfield Consultants

I was working for an organisation that provided contract R&D. The organisation had strange approaches to customer service and its human

resources. Possibly because of these things it no longer exists.

One day they hired me out as a consultant for a day. An old-fashioned confectionery firm had a problem with drying sweets. I went out to inspect the drying equipment. The drying stoves, as they are known, were fitted with a large fan which was driven by a leather belt from a rotating shaft. The fan looked like an aeroplane propeller of first world war vintage. The fan was not rotating as the leather belt had broken. The most senior of my hosts assured me that a repair request had been submitted for this fan. His more junior colleague informed me that the request for a repair had been outstanding for eighteen months.

After I returned to base and submitted my report I had to prepare the invoice. This revealed to me that I was being charged out at £376 per day. I was not paid anything like that amount of money so I became a self-employed consultant which not only enabled me to increase my income but also to develop my career as I chose.

## Directory of Consultants

The Royal Society of Chemistry has a list of consultants that are registered with them. It can be found at:

<https://www.rsc.org/membership-and-community/directory-of-consultants/>

The Directory is a service provided by the Royal Society of Chemistry to members, professionals and the public. The information supplied in this directory, and the services offered and delivered, are entirely the responsibility of the consultants themselves, and not the Royal Society of Chemistry.

The consulting experts listed in this directory are all full members of the Royal Society of Chemistry and are bound by the RSC [code of conduct](#).

The Royal Society of Chemistry is not responsible for the content of external websites.

The consultants' profiles are organised into separate pages by area of expertise;

[Manufacturing; Marketing & business development; People development; Regulation; Health & safety; Science; Engineering & technology; Strategy & policy; Legal & expert witness services.](#)

If you wish to be added to the Directory, please complete the application forms found on the RSC webpage above.