



## Analytical Matters - Issue 3

### *The e-newsletter of the Analytical Division of the Royal Society of Chemistry. June 2016*

Welcome to the third issue of Analytical Matters, which will continue to feature items from relevant analytical interest groups, AD regions, the Analytical Methods Committee, other groups and individual members as well as AD Council as appropriate. We aim to showcase the wide range of analytical science activities being run across the Royal Society of Chemistry by the various analytical member groups as well as linking with parts of the UK analytical community beyond our membership. Please send your feedback and any content for the next issue by the end of July by emailing the Editor David Perrett [here](#).

With my very best wishes,

Melissa Hanna-Brown FRSC  
President of the Analytical Division

## Table of Contents

### 1. Digested News items

Advances in Chemical Analysis of Food, 29th April 2016.

International activities – Africa

6th EuCheMS Chemistry Congress, Seville 2016

ARF, 8th July 2016, Bursary Deadline 1st July 2016

Bright Spark Symposium 12th September 2016

Contamination of Water with Drugs and their Metabolites - London 22nd September 2016

Analytical Methods Committee update

### 2. Awards

Analytical award at Faraday Discussion

Award for John Chalmers at Pittcon

Gordon F. Kirkbright Bursary Award - 2017

### 3. Extended News Items

8th Scottish Environmental Analytical Chemistry Symposium, History of Analytical Chemistry in the British Isles and mainland Europe

## 1. Digested News items

### **Advances in Chemical Analysis of Food, Burlington House 29th April 2016.**

The food industry is the largest manufacturing sector in the UK and is key to a successful UK economy. The analytical sciences, in particular separation science, play an important role in

understanding the chemical composition of food – ensuring food is safe, authentic, nutritious and enjoyable. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss, share and celebrate the application of separation sciences to food. This meeting was jointly arranged by the food and separation science interest groups. Please [visit the website](#) for more information.

#### **International activities – Africa**

Bonding over a “love of fine beer and a shared enthusiasm for science”, Steve Lancaster and Anthony Gachanja have come a long way since they met 28 years ago as PhD students, studying analytical chemistry at the University of Hull. Back then they were both the first in their families to attend university. Now, they are teaching scientists in Africa how to use analytical skills to solve global challenges. Find out more [here](#)

**6th EuCheMS Chemistry Congress**, 11 – 15 September, Seville, Poster deadline, 30th June 2016 Find out more information [here](#)

#### **ARF, 8th July 2016, Bursary deadline 1st July 2016**

The Analytical Research Forum ([ARF](#)) provides a high impact scientific meeting for the UK analytical community with both high profile speakers and opportunities for younger researchers to present their work. Our one day format includes keynotes and invited talks plus additional oral papers selected by the Scientific Committee from the submitted abstracts.

The flash poster session enables yet more participants to share their work in this exciting interdisciplinary meeting for the analytical science community. In addition to opportunities during lunch and refreshment breaks to view the posters and exhibition, additional networking will be possible during an extended evening event which will include a buffet and wine reception visit our [website](#) for more information.

**The Analytical Science Network's Bright Spark Symposium 12th September 2016, University of Warwick**



#### **Call for oral and poster presentations**

Building on the success of our annual Emerging Analytical Professionals conference, the Bright Spark Symposium is a one day conference that provides opportunities for early career analytical scientists to present their work in a low pressure, friendly environment. Talks are welcome on all aspects of analytical science, including but not limited to: environmental

science, standards, pharmaceuticals, forensic science, sport science, as well as safety and security. The event also provides a great opportunity to network with like-minded individuals from both industry and academia.

Deadlines - Oral Abstract (1 A4 page) - 30th June 2016, Poster abstract (title and topic) - 31st July 2016. The event is free to attend, but spaces are limited.

For further information, or to submit a talk/poster abstract, please contact Zoe Ayres (Conference Chair) at [asnenquiries@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:asnenquiries@hotmail.co.uk)

**RSC Management Group's lecture - Burlington House, London W1J 0BA  
22nd September 2016 (6 pm for 6.30 pm start)  
Contamination of Water with Drugs and their Metabolites**

Dr Victoria Hilborne, a specialist in analytical chemistry for forensic, biosciences and chemical engineering at London South Bank University, will discuss current issues on the contamination of aquatic environments with drugs and their metabolites. Concerns for ecotoxicology and secondary human exposure from tap water and the ability to track levels of illegal drug consumption in prisons, towns and cities using contamination data are included, along with uncertainties in measurement and transport prediction models.

The talk is FREE to attend, will last about an hour and will be followed by wine and networking. Online [booking](#) is required.

**Analytical Methods Committee – Technical Brief Number 72 – update from Zoe Ayers**

AMC Technical briefs are designed to bring reliable and up-to-date technical information about aspects of analytical science to members of the Analytical Division and the wider analytical community. Apart from their general application, they can comprise a very useful addition to Continual Professional Development records visit the [website](#)

## **2. Awards**

**Analytical award presentation at Faraday Discussion in Cambridge - March 2016**



The 2015 Sir George Stokes Award winner, Professor Sergei Kazarian from Imperial College (centre RHS), was presented with his award by AD Council President-elect Duncan Graham (Centre LHS) at the Faraday Discussion on Vibrational Spectroscopy for Biomedical Applications in Cambridge on Monday 21st March.

Other people in the picture are the Chair of the Organising Committee for the meeting, Professor Peter Gardner (Far LHS) and RSC Analytical Programme Manager Dr Michael Smith (Far RHS).

Meeting [web page](#)

#### **Award for John Chalmers at Pittcon - March 2016**

John Chalmers, outgoing RSC FACSS (<http://www.facss.org>) representative. At the FACSS governing board meeting at Pittcon earlier this year in March John was awarded the FACSS distinguished service award for his contributions to the organisation. This was also John's final meeting as he now has handed over this role to Prof. Duncan Graham.



“As far as I can recall, I have had the privilege of being RSC AD’s representative to FACSS (since 2008). Attending annually and reporting to RSC AD on FACSS and FACSS-related committee meetings held at both the FACSS/SciX conferences and PittCon. As PittCon 2016 was my “retirement meeting” I would like to thank AD for appointing me as their FACSS representative and for supporting me throughout my term of office. I am sure both AD and FACSS will benefit with my successor Professor Duncan Graham, and I wish him all the best in this role.”

### **Gordon F. Kirkbright Bursary Award, 2017**

The Gordon F. Kirkbright bursary award is a prestigious annual award that enables a promising student/non-tenured young scientist of any nation to attend a recognised scientific meeting or visit a place of learning.

The fund for this bursary was established in 1985 as a memorial to Professor Gordon Kirkbright in recognition of his contributions to analytical spectroscopy and to science in general. Although the fund is administered by the Association of British Spectroscopists (ABS) Trust, the award is not restricted to spectroscopists.

Applications are invited for the 2017 Gordon Kirkbright Bursary. For further information contact John Chalmers at: [vibspeconsult@aol.com](mailto:vibspeconsult@aol.com). The closing date for entries is 31 December 2016.

## **3. Extended News Items**

### **8th Scottish Environmental Analytical Chemistry Symposium, 9th Dec 2015, Joseph Black Building, School of Chemistry, University of Glasgow.**

Dr Gillian MacKinnon from the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre opened the symposium on behalf of the Royal Society of Chemistry Scottish region of the Analytical Division. The programme consisted of 8 oral presentations covering a wide range of environmental analytical methodologies from using LC-MS/MS to determine pharmaceuticals in waste water and river samples to environmental forensic analysis of coal tar using GCxGC-TOF. There were also 15 poster presentations viewed during the lunch and coffee breaks covering relevant areas of environmental analytical chemistry. Just over 40 delegates attended and it was good to see that many of the Scottish universities involved in

environmental analytical research were represented.

Our invited speaker, Dr Margaret Graham from the School of Geosciences at the University of Edinburgh, gave an excellent talk on “21st century analysis – out with the old, in with the new?”, encouraging us all to value the ‘old’ techniques whilst embracing the ‘new’ methodologies and instrumental advances. The prize for best poster presentation was awarded by the Chair of the Scottish Analytical Division, Professor John Marshall (Glasgow Caledonian University) to Michael Muir from the School of Geosciences, University of Edinburgh for his work on the



“Role of natural organic matter in binding uranium and radium and incorporating radiocarbon”. The prize for best oral presentation was awarded to Kiana Kargar, Glasgow Caledonian University for her talk on “Quantitative Analysis of amoxicillin and its degradation products in waste water treatments plants and river samples”.



Delegates of the 8th Scottish Environmental Analytical Chemistry Symposium held on the 9th Dec 2015 at the Joseph Black Building, University of Glasgow.

## The AD – RSC contributions to production of accounts of the history of Analytical Chemistry in the British Isles and in mainland Europe

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Interest of AD members in the historical background of their subject was fostered by Professors Ronald Belcher and Hans Malissa from the early 1970's. Since then the Analytical Division has supported the production of numerous articles that could be used in the preparation of a comprehensive account of the historical development of analytical chemistry in Europe. These items have been published in the UK in the [Proceeding of the Analytical Division of the Chemical Society](#) (Proceedings) and since its demise in the [Journal of the Association of Public Analysts, \(JAPA\)](#) and in the [RSC Historical Group Newsletter](#) and in a variety of outlets for material by members of the Study Group History of DAC – EuCheMS. For a longer version of this item please look [here](#)



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