

# ASE in action

## New colleague at Headquarters



Cally Oldershaw has recently joined ASE as Curriculum Development Manager. She is responsible for curriculum development activities and the initiation and management of projects, including the development of new resources to support science teaching and learning. She will be based at ASE Headquarters, working with the Primary and 11–19 Committees, supporting the upd8 and primary upd8 teams, developing the new SATIS (Science and Technology in Society) resources for science teachers and supporting teachers and technicians through curriculum changes.

Cally has more than 20 years' experience in science education and science communication, working with museums, schools, universities, employers and others. An experienced teacher (from nursery to adult education and teacher CPD) and author of 15 books, Cally has an international reputation as a geologist and gemmologist. She was the gemmologist for the Natural History Museum and retains a position as an honorary Research Fellow.

Former Education and Parliamentary Officer for the Geological Society and continuing freelance earth science education consultant, her work includes: development and delivery of teacher CPD, Earth Science Education Unit (ESEU); editing *Teaching Earth Sciences*, Earth Science Teachers' Association (ESTA); curriculum development for QCA and others; Executive Secretary, Earth Science

Education Forum (England and Wales); and technical editor and consultant for the KS3 Science Strategy resource, *Strengthening Teaching and Learning of Geological Changes in Key Stage 3 Science*.

## It's official – your subject association IS important!

As a member of ASE, you will already appreciate the tangible benefits of belonging to a subject association. However, these benefits do not merely include the journals, the conferences or the discounts on resources, as important as these are. As Bob Kibble reminded us in our Annual Report for 2005–2006 (circulated with November EIS), there are also enormous advantages in being a member of the wider subject community. You may therefore be interested to know that you are not alone in recognising the value of being a member of one of these vital organisations.

Along with the other subject associations, ASE has over the last two years been putting pressure on the DfES to follow up the work started by the former Secretary of State for Education, Charles Clarke, in which he acknowledged the importance of subject specialisms in the curriculum. The DfES has responded positively and, far from simply saying that subject associations are important, has been working with us to explore ways of promoting and supporting the work that we all do.

This collaboration started with a firm commitment to subject associations in the White Paper: *Higher Standards, Better Schools for All* (October 2005), and the first public outcome of this is now taking place, in the form of a campaign funded by the Department to promote membership of your subject association. You may already have seen the posters that have been circulated to all schools, but you can also visit the website [www.subjectassociation.org.uk](http://www.subjectassociation.org.uk) which, as well as promoting membership, acts as a gateway to the websites of all subject associations.

This DfES support is welcome and further developments are under discussion. However, we all need to play our part. ASE is working on ways to encourage recruitment

of new colleagues and to improve the service and benefits available to you, our existing members. You too can help by encouraging your colleagues to join, so why not bring them along to the next ASE event or ask us to send them some information?

Contact the ASE Membership Team on [membership@ase.org.uk](mailto:membership@ase.org.uk) or Telephone: 01707 283000.

## UPD8 addresses Key Stage 4 'How Science Works'. Think beyond the UPD8 activity...think SciQ

To equip pupils with 'How Science Works' skills, we have developed teaching sequences, *SciQs*, based around the principles of constructivism, active learning and the 5Es model – to Engage, Explore, Explain, Extend and Examine. Our *SciQ* activities and teaching strategies fit into this model as follows:

- **Engage**  
Starters to hook pupils' interest lead to the 'SciQ question'.
- **Explore**  
Fun activities to provide first-hand experience of the concepts.
- **Explain**  
Teaching strategies to help pupils reflect and get across the concept and terminology.
- **Extend**  
Topical activities to reinforce and extend understanding through problem solving.
- **Examine**  
An authentic task to examine pupils' understanding and provide an answer to the 'SciQ question'.

If you are not already one of the thousands signed up for these weekly science-in-the-news *SciQs*, visit [www.upd8.org.uk](http://www.upd8.org.uk)

*SciQ* UPD8 is developed and managed by ASE and the Centre for Science Education, Sheffield Hallam University, with support from DfES.



## SATIS Revisited

Responding to popular demand and with funding from DfES, we are adapting, updating and revitalising key SATIS (Science and Technology in Society) units from the 1980s and 90s, which support 'How Science Works' at Key Stage 4. Providing a wide range of teaching and learning strategies and covering the programme of study for 'How Science Works', these editable units are available on ASE's resource website, [www.schoolscience.co.uk](http://www.schoolscience.co.uk) from late spring 2007. Look out for your old favourites, such as *Living with Kidney Failure*, *Ashton Island: a problem in renewable energy* or *The Limestone Enquiry*, with their very different, new look! And, if you are too young to know what we are talking about, these new units are certainly worth checking out.

To find out more about SATIS Revisited, contact the ASE Curriculum Development Manager, Cally Oldershaw, on [callyoldershaw@ase.org.uk](mailto:callyoldershaw@ase.org.uk)

## Outdoor Science

In November 2006, ASE was pleased to support the launch of the DfES Learning Outside the Classroom manifesto.

As a contribution to the success of the manifesto, our Outdoor Science Working Group is particularly keen to develop the following areas:

### ■ Making a case for Outdoor Science

We need hard facts to support the teaching of science outside the classroom. Please send us your evidence of the impact of your own outdoor teaching.

### ■ Training and professional development in Outdoor Science

We believe that the quality and availability of training needs to be improved. We are working with providers and developers, offering workshops and presentations, and publishing guidelines and standards. Can you support our training, by working with local colleagues, for example?

### ■ Supporting the development and use of high-quality Outdoor Science resources

We are looking for ideas and resources, which show how the outdoor experience can progress and be developed over different age ranges, between locations and across science disciplines. Outdoor Science is for chemists and physicists as well as biologists! Contact us with your own ideas and suggested resources.

For further details on the ASE Outdoor Science Working Group and the manifesto, see [www.ase.org.uk/html/teacher\\_zone/outdoor\\_science](http://www.ase.org.uk/html/teacher_zone/outdoor_science)

To get involved with our work, contact [mariannecutler@ase.org.uk](mailto:mariannecutler@ase.org.uk)

### New Honorary Members

The ASE is delighted to welcome the following as Honorary Members of the Association:

- Duncan Alexander
- Jane Giffould
- Roger McCune
- Malcolm Oakes
- Ray Vincent
- Professor Dame Julia Higgins

More details can be found on page 31.

## Association of Tutors in Science Education (ATSE) Spring Conference 2007

The Association of Tutors in Science Education (ATSE) Annual Day Conference takes place at the Institute of Physics, London W1B 1NT on Friday 16th March 2007, on the theme of *'The development of science subject knowledge within the new TDA standards'*.

The new standards will be published in early 2007 but essentially in draft form, especially for QTS. This Spring Conference will be the first opportunity for ATSE members to discuss their impact. Science subject knowledge is a key concern for those in the ITE community, and it is fitting that the Institute of Physics, which commissions much work in this area, is hosting this one-day event.

To reserve a place, log on to [www.ase.org.uk/html/conferences/atse/atse\\_venues\\_dates.php](http://www.ase.org.uk/html/conferences/atse/atse_venues_dates.php)

## ASE Annual Conference Liverpool 2008

If you are interested in providing a session at next year's Annual Conference at the University of Liverpool, from 3rd to 5th January 2008, please contact us now. You can e-mail Barbara at [barbaramahmoudi@ase.org.uk](mailto:barbaramahmoudi@ase.org.uk) or call her on 01707 283008.

Details of events as they are planned will appear on the ASE website during 2007 ([www.ase.org.uk](http://www.ase.org.uk)).

If you have any further feedback on the 2007 Annual Conference at the University of Birmingham, please do not hesitate to contact the ASE Conference Office.

## AstraZeneca Science Teaching Trust/The Times Educational Supplement

# PRIMARY SCIENCE TEACHING AWARDS 2006

This is the 13th year of these prestigious awards, which were established to recognise and celebrate good practice in science teaching in primary schools.

Five inspirational primary teachers received Awards which comprised Certificates, £750 for themselves and £750 for their school to support and develop science.

### The 2006 Award Winners were:

**Hayley Collins** Abbey Park First and Nursery School, Pershore  
**Michele Grimshaw** Marsden Community Primary School, Nelson  
**Mary Watkins** Gaer Junior School, Newport  
**Sue Southam** Guilsfield Community Primary School, Welshpool  
**Carol Brunner** Nomansland & Hampworth School, Salisbury

### The AstraZeneca Science Teaching Trust Trustee Award went to:

**Ciaran Kinney** St. Anne's Primary School, Ballymena

The presentations were made by Michael Rosen at the 2007 ASE Annual Conference in Birmingham. The Awards are sponsored by AstraZeneca Science Teaching Trust and *The Times Educational Supplement*.