

## ICT in Science

### ■ National Conference – a first from the ASE/Becta Project

This significant event will take place at King Edward VI School, Chelmsford, Essex on Saturday 20th March 2004. It will bring together teachers, organisations, publishers and equipment providers, with several strands of session relevant to all those involved with science education, whatever their level of ICT expertise. This will be run in conjunction with the ASE Chelmsford Regional Meeting.

For further details and a copy of the programme, see [www.ase.org.uk](http://www.ase.org.uk) or contact the ASE Conferences Team at [conferences@ase.org.uk](mailto:conferences@ase.org.uk) or telephone on 01707-283000.

### ■ Online INSET

During the month of March an Online INSET programme will be taking place, providing a free opportunity to focus on your use of ICT in science. Online INSET will enable you to develop your understanding and use of ICT in science through a number of sessions posted on the website. Teachers will be able to work their way through the Online information and resources, before considering how they could develop them for their own teaching needs. Teachers will be able to interact with the tutor and other participants, asking questions and sharing ideas. Visit [www.ictadvice.org.uk/index.php?section=il&cat=006](http://www.ictadvice.org.uk/index.php?section=il&cat=006) for details about the plans for science in March.

■ **ICT in Science Newsletter**  
This newsletter is free to subscribers and features all the latest developments, web reviews, events, competitions and much more. To see previous editions and to

register as a subscriber visit [www.ictadvice.org.uk/index.php?section=il&cat=008003](http://www.ictadvice.org.uk/index.php?section=il&cat=008003)

These ICT in Science developments follow on from the Needs Analysis and 'Ask an Expert' events, which took place in January. For further information and to provide feedback, please contact Adrian Fenton at ASE Headquarters, e-mail: [adrianfenton@ase.org.uk](mailto:adrianfenton@ase.org.uk)

## Making science inclusive

In November, over 25 participants came along to a day of ideas and inspiration, addressing inclusive science and special educational needs. The event, entitled Science in Action – Making Science Inclusive, was organised by NASEN in collaboration with the ASE and enabled an effective continuation of the Inclusive Science project. The speakers, Adrian Fenton and Liz Singleton, covered a variety of issues and approaches including assessment, the pre-level 1 scales, multi-sensory approaches and barriers to learning. ASE Chief Executive, Dr Derek Bell, added to the event providing a useful practical overview of Inclusion in Science. Feedback on the event was very positive.

Following on from this, Adrian Fenton will be speaking on Inclusion in Science at the Education Show in Birmingham next month.

Resources and ideas from the Inclusive Science project can be accessed on the ISSEN website at [www.issen.org.uk](http://www.issen.org.uk) and the CD-ROM can now be purchased from ASE Booksales. Please contact [adrianfenton@ase.org.uk](mailto:adrianfenton@ase.org.uk) for further information or with your comments.

## ASE website update

### ■ Online bookings

In addition to being able to buy ASE publications and join ASE online, we have recently extended this facility to include bookings for ASE conferences. This was first made available for the Annual Meeting in Reading and is now available for other ASE conferences. You will still be able to complete forms and post or fax them as previously, but this new facility represents a step forward in our online services to members.

### ■ Secure online payments

ASE protects its customers making online payments by subscribing to a Thawte Digital Certificate for our website. When making payments you will see the Thawte logo with the words 'Thawte Authentic Site protected by SSL' and, consequently, you can feel confident that all online payments are secure.

### ■ Search facility

We have recently upgraded the search facility on the ASE site and it now offers more options, thus ensuring that you can more easily find what you are looking for.

### ■ Laboratory design for teaching and learning forum

There is now a forum for the Laboratory Design for Teaching and Learning project, which was launched at the Annual Meeting in Reading. Copies of the software will be sent to secondary schools this month. ASE members will receive their personal copy with the March issue of *SSR*. This forum is for ASE members only and available once you have logged onto the site with your name and membership number.

### ■ Journals online

We have recently added another benefit for members only to our website. For several months, members have been able to access articles from *SSR*, *EiS* and *PSR* on the members' only area of the site. The articles are in pdf format and over time they will build up into a really valuable resource for members. The search facility is being upgraded, so making searches for articles much easier. This facility will not replace hard copies of our journals, either now or in the future. For members wanting to access articles online or for research purposes, this is a valuable addition to our services.

At present, only current (and future) issues will be available. We hope to offer a retrospective service for past issues some time in the future.

### ■ ATSE/ASE science tutors website

An exciting new section is being added to the ASE website, following a successful bid to the Teacher Training Agency (TTA) to develop support materials for tutors who are new to science teacher education. ASE has been working with the Association of Tutors in Science Education (ATSE) to develop the site and the intention is that over the coming years it will support all involved in science teacher education, not just the new colleagues. A new forum for ITT tutors is also being set up. See *Science Teacher Education*, December 2003 for full details.

### ■ ASE electronic newsletter

You may be one of the many members who have subscribed to the electronic newsletter on the ASE home page. We hope you are finding this useful and welcome any feedback. If you would like to make any comments, please contact [johnlawrence@ase.org.uk](mailto:johnlawrence@ase.org.uk)

## New Honorary Members

At the 2004 Annual Business Meeting at the University of Reading, the following were received as Honorary Members of the Association.

### ■ Neil Bonsall

Neil Bonsall joined the Association in 1963. He has been an active member in the East Midlands and within the Region he has served as Chair and Treasurer. He has generously given his time to the Region Committee and fellow members have always appreciated his efficiency, enthusiasm and willingness to support activities. Neil has served on Council as a Region Representative and was Association Treasurer for five years. He deemed it a great honour to escort the Five for Sydney delegates to Australia in 1989. Neil has recently completed

nine years as a Trustee of the Association and in this position he has been diligent in attending to the affairs of the Association, particularly in financial matters. He has been a valued Trustee of ASE and has always acted for the good of its members.

### ■ Paul Craig

Paul's active membership of ASE has included frequent presentations and INSET at Annual and Area Meetings. He was a member of the Liverpool Annual Meeting Committee (1998) and co-ordinated the Members' Exhibition. He was an early member of the National Science Advisory Teacher Group and instrumental in the formation of the science advisers' and inspectors' group, NAIGS.

Paul has been a long-serving member of the Greater Manchester Committee and, since 1988, has worked

alongside the Field Officer in organising the Northern Area Meeting. As an advisory teacher, and then as adviser since 1985, Paul has been in the forefront of curriculum development in science, aiming to make science teaching exciting and relevant to all pupils.

### ■ Caroline McGrath

Caroline McGrath has been an extremely active member of ASE at local, national and international levels. She has been a Region committee member for nearly 20 years, during which time she has held the posts of both Secretary and Treasurer. She has organised the highly successful annual South East Area Meeting and, in addition, has presented workshops at these events. For the past 13 years she has been ASE Field Officer for the South East, a post from which she recently retired.

At national level, Caroline has presented workshops at the Annual Meeting. She has very successfully organised a number of competitions and events for students, such as Science Challenge (see page 14), and has been closely involved with the Health Matters Awards, Nuffield Bursaries, SATIS, CREST, and SETPOINT. She has been involved with Science Week and has given advice and tremendous support to schools in planning their Science Week activities.

Caroline has represented ASE abroad, attending conferences in the USA and Australia and has been involved in the UNESCO Awards.

Over the years, Caroline has worked untiringly to help and support teachers and pupils, in order to encourage and further their enjoyment and success in studying science.

### ■ John Nellist

John was an active member of ASE in the 1970s and 80s and served on several national committees. He was Association Chair in 1986 and in this role he was very active in representing the Association nationally at a time of considerable change in science education. He was also a key figure in the development of the Secondary Science Curriculum Review project.

Originally a science teacher and a science adviser in Sunderland, John became Chief Education Officer in Cumbria, a post from which he has just retired. He was a lead developer in the Least Academically Motivated Pupils Project (LAMP) and produced modules of work on topics such as forensic science and photography. The Science Lessons from Industrial Processes project, SLIP, was started by John in Sunderland and this resulted in other projects aimed at making science interesting and relevant by linking it to important industrial processes.

■ **Sir Peter Williams CBE**  
Association President for 2004, Sir Peter Williams, was also elected to Honorary Membership (see opposite).

*More ASE news can be found on page 30.*

## Highlights of November Council

### Honorary Members

Nominations for Honorary Members were considered. Presentations will be made at the Annual Meeting in Reading (see above).

### Annual Report

The Annual Report will be presented to the Annual Business Meeting in Reading.

### Annual Meeting

**Reading 2004** The number of bookings are up on last year.  
**Future Dates** Council agreed the dates and venues for future Annual Meetings.  
2005 Leeds: 6 – 8 January;  
2006 Reading: 5 – 7 January;  
2007 Birmingham: 5 – 6 January; and  
2008 Liverpool: 3 – 5 January.

### Chair's Business

A very successful Region Secretaries, Treasurers and Committee Chairs Day was held at HQ in October. Topics included the Science Learning Centres, 14–19 and e-learning consultations, the website, the use of e-mail lists and the balance of information between members' and non-members' areas on the web.

### Treasurer's Business

The Treasurer's Annual Report and Statement of Accounts will be presented for endorsement at the Annual Business Meeting in Reading.

### Trustees' Business

A Risk Assessment, which is now a legal requirement made by the Charity Commission, has been completed and a report will be produced.

### Chief Executive's Business

**Science Learning Centres**  
An editorial and lead article on the national and six regional centres appeared in November's *EiS*. Presentations by bidders for the last three regions, South West, West Midlands and North East, will take place in November. The Secretary of State for Education will formally announce the successful applicants during his keynote speech at the Annual Meeting in Reading.  
**Field Officers** A meeting for those Field Officer's based in England took place and issues relating to the Science Learning Centres and Specialist

Science Schools were considered. The main discussion included links between Region committees and Science Learning Centres; communication lines between Science Learning Centres and ASE; use of ASE networks; and contact with Science Specialist Schools to see if help is required to meet their targets, and to ensure there are ASE members in the schools.

### Towards a unified e-learning strategy (Consultation)

It was agreed that ASE would produce a response that moves forward the vision of how ICT can help teaching and learning. ASE also needs to look at the broader implications, i.e. long-term strategies and initiatives relating to change as an opportunity to enhance teachers' skills.

### Nominations for Chair Elect and Committees

Members were reminded that nominations for Chair Elect were due in January. The deadline for nominations for committee vacancies is Council IV, which takes place on 13th March 2004.