

**New ESA science chief**  
The European Space Agency has appointed Professor David Southwood, a space physicist from Imperial College in London, as its next director of science for the next four years. Professor Southwood, who is 55, will replace the current director, Professor Roger Bonnet, next May. He has many connections with ESA and is currently Principal Investigator for the Cassini Saturn Orbiter Magnetometer. He is also involved in the management of the agency's Earth observation programme and has played an active role on many space science committees.

**New ESA web**  
ESA has launched their new 'web portal' - gateway to Europe's space presence'. It is geared towards the general public and the media, and readers will get the latest news on European space activities. Information is organised into five topics:

- Life in space
  - expanding frontiers
  - improving daily life
  - protecting the environment
  - benefits for Europe
- Check it out at <http://www.esa.int>

**New Government Chief Scientific Adviser announced**  
Professor David King ScD, FRS, will succeed Sir Robert May as the Government's Chief Scientific Adviser. Announcing the appointment the Prime Minister said, "The Chief Scientific Adviser plays a vital role providing high quality scientific advice within government. Professor King's eminent career makes him admirably suited to his new role. He is a first rate scientist who is highly regarded internationally. I look forward to working with him closely."

Professor David King, who is 61, was born in South Africa. After an early career at the University of Witwatersrand, Imperial College and the University of East Anglia he became Head of Chemistry at Liverpool University before moving to Cambridge University in 1920. Professor of Chemistry in 1988. He subsequently became Head of the Chemistry Department (1993) and Master of Downing College (1995).

The Chief Scientific Adviser is responsible for the quality of scientific advice within Government and for providing personal advice to them on any aspect of the Government's policy on Science and Technology. Professor King succeeds Sir Robert May who is to be President of the Royal Society from December.

**Winning ways**  
Lynn Withers was the lucky winner in the 'guess the name of the bear' competition. The game raised £51 for the National Blind Children's Society (helping blind and partially sighted children) so a big thank you to everyone who took part. Lynn's prize was the lovely soft teddy, whose name was Clarence.



(00RC4587)



**Daphne Jackson Fellowships**  
Daphne Jackson Fellowships help people return to science, engineering and IT after a substantial career break. They can be held in any UK university or research laboratory, and in any area of science or engineering (including information technology) and last half-time for 2 years.

In London, there are special fellowships offered by Imperial College, University College London, Royal Holloway and South Bank.

In addition, there are special Daphne Jackson Fellowships linked to particular universities or laboratories, or to particular subject areas including:

- BBSRC (Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council)
- NERC (The Natural Sciences Research Council)
- EPSRC (Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council)
- PPARC (The Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council).

All four Councils are sponsoring Daphne Jackson Fellowships at any university in subjects which fall within their own remit.

For more information, please see the website at <http://www.DaphneJackson.org>

**Accommodation**

Professional non-smoker (male or female) required to rent a double room in Grappenhall. Use of all facilities (kitchen, washing machine, TV, telephone, etc).

Off road parking. Available from end of November. £225 per month (plus bills). Contact Su on 01925 269530 [PET@theorange.com](mailto:PET@theorange.com)

**Articles, ideas and letters are very welcome!**

Articles to the Editor or Correspondent by 15th of the month.

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Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Chilton, DIDCOT, Oxon OX11 0QX  
Tel: (01235) 464841 Fax: (01235) 46665  
Daresbury Laboratory, Warrington, Cheshire WA4 6AD  
Tel: (01925) 863233 Fax: (01925) 863195

Editor: Natalie Reeling (Tel: 01235 464841, email: [n.reeling@rutherford.ac.uk](mailto:n.reeling@rutherford.ac.uk))  
Correspondent: Jane Wilborn (Tel: DL, ext: 225, email: [jane.wilborn@rutherford.ac.uk](mailto:jane.wilborn@rutherford.ac.uk))

# LAB NEWS

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## Making MAPS of magnetism

First results from the new ISIS spectrometer

The neutron scattering community was treated to a taste of the future of measurements of excitations in single crystals recently when some of the first results from MAPS were revealed to them at the Neutron and Muon users meeting at the end of September.

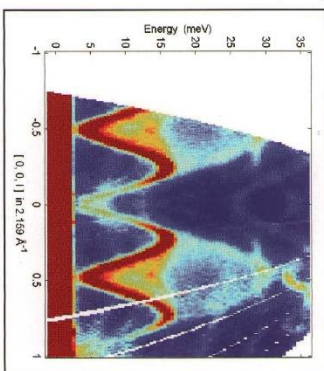
MAPS is a new state-of-the-art neutron scattering instrument on ISIS designed to investigate single crystal samples. After its first cycle of scientific commissioning it is already promising to break new ground in the field of magnetism.



Chris Frost in front of the east 16 m MAPS position sensitive detector array

The audience saw some stunningly beautiful data from the first few weeks of operation, demonstrating the full power of the MAPS position sensitive detector array that divides a 16 m<sup>2</sup> area into some 150,000 individual pixels. The 500MB of data that is collected per measurement is analysed by powerful visualisation and analysis software that gives experimenters unprecedented freedom to group individual pixels together to optimise the instrument's resolution for their particular experiment. It is almost as though they are reconstructing the instrument for every new measurement and, furthermore, they can continue to do this, doing new experiments with the data, even after the actual data collection has ceased.

In its first period of operation MAPS revealed new excitations in a previously well studied material demonstrating that novel instrumentation almost always opens up leads to new scientific avenues and opportunities.



Magnetic scattering from CaCo<sub>2</sub>. An unknown additional band of scattering is revealed between 25 and 35 MeV by this unique detector array

The meeting buzzed with excitement at the prospect that the new generation of instruments, like MAPS, demonstrates that the performance of instruments is no longer necessarily defined by the quantity of neutrons but also by the progress in the technology incorporated in their designs. Technological advances are driving neutron instrumentation forward, allowing the collection, manipulation and visualisation of the data produced by such instruments in ever more imaginative and complex ways.

## North West Science review

Daresbury Laboratory will benefit from some £9 M to work in partnership with other north west institutions in projects worth around £22 M of the total £26 M recently awarded by the North West Science Review.

A major bid for an accelerator science, imaging and medicine centre to be based at Daresbury was also recommended strongly as an excellent project by the Review group. However, they regarded it to be of a scale too large to be considered by them and it was forwarded for consideration by the NW Science and Daresbury Development Group (see page 4).

### North West Science Award winners

1. University of Liverpool/University of Manchester/UMIST/University of Salford will receive £4.2 M to construct a world leading analytical microscope facility in the NW (superSTEM initiative). The microscope will be useful for a very wide range of applications; particularly exciting are the applications to nano-engineered materials. (Facility to be located at DL).
2. The North West Consortium for Post-Genomics Science will receive £9.6M. The consortium consists of four teams with programmes of different but complementary aspects of post-genome science.
  - University of Liverpool/University of Manchester will receive £2.39 M for a North West Centre for BioArray Innovation, bringing together life sciences, nanoscale science, chemistry, surface science and micro-fabrication skills and providing focus and drive for collaborative interactions between life scientists and physical scientists.
  - University of Manchester will receive £3 M for Integrated Genomic and Medical Research. This clinically driven proposal in genomics focuses on patients and disease, concentrating on both how common diseases develop in individuals and populations and what goes wrong in disease, identifying ways to put it right.
  - UMIST/University of Manchester/University of Liverpool will receive £2.01 M for 'Third Generation Proteomics to advance and develop novel proteomic techniques and apply them to studies of protein-protein interactions, discovering novel targets and identifying the structure and function of protein-protein interactions involved in molecular disease.
  - UMIST/University of Manchester/University of Liverpool and Daresbury Laboratory will receive £2.14 M for a Microfluidic Analytical and Screening Technology Centre. The proposed programme will enable major advances in high throughput screening and genomic analysis, supporting developments in the pharmaceutical and related health care sectors which require major developments in speed and throughput.
3. Daresbury Laboratory/UMIST/University of Liverpool/University of Manchester/Astra Zeneca and Liverpool John Moores University will receive £2.6 M for a North West Structure Genomics Centre. The high throughput crystallographic structure determination facility at DL will comprise a protein production factory, mass screening of crystallisation conditions and a world competitive MAD (Multiple wavelength Anomalous Dispersion) beamline.
4. University of Salford/UMIST/University of Manchester and University of Lancaster will receive £1.7 M for a North West Research Centre for Advanced Virtual Prototyping. The Centre will promote the concurrent engineering philosophy of considering all the product life cycle issues.
5. The Institute for Functional and Molecular Imaging in the North West will receive £5.7 M, comprising two consortia. The consortia will target important programmes of research and development utilising diagnostic imaging and therapeutic techniques, which will be dependent on multi-disciplinary collaboration from accelerator physicists through to clinical science.
  - University of Manchester/Salford Royal Hospitals Trust/Christie Hospital Trust/Paterston Institute for Cancer Research/UMIST for an Institute for Functional and Molecular Imaging.
  - University of Liverpool/University of Manchester/University of Lancaster/University of Salford/UMIST/Daresbury Laboratory for a Centre for Accelerator Science, Imaging Medicine.
6. UMIST/University of Liverpool/University of Manchester will receive £2.19 M for an Integrated Centre for Molecular Materials Chemistry and Processing in the North West, building on the experience, reputation and strength of universities and the chemical industry in the North West.

Howard Price welcomed the report by the North West Science Review

chaired by Dr Bruce Smith. "The report recognises the potential of the staff and facilities at Daresbury Laboratory to make a major impact on science, and particularly NW science, into the new millennium," said Dr Price. "I am delighted that Daresbury Laboratory is involved in several successful submissions and welcome the investment, totalling some £9M, being recommended by this Review - a tangible vote of confidence in the Laboratory's future," he added. Smith review panel member Bob Cernik was very positive about the signal these awards sent out. "These

awards are good news for the North West and mark a new beginning for Daresbury," he said. "This seed corn funding has the potential to punch significantly above its weight, attracting new investment from other sources".

CCIRC is determined to build on these successes to secure a proper role for Daresbury Laboratory and its staff, both regionally and nationally. It will continue to work with national and local Government, with colleagues in NW universities, the NMDA and the NW Science and Daresbury Development Group to ensure that Daresbury plays a full part in the regeneration of activity in the North West.

## Apprentice prize giving evening

On 18 October Neville Snodgrass, head of project engineering division, welcomed 12 RAL apprentices and their families to an event at The Cosensers House.

In the seven years that the RAL apprentice training scheme has been running, about 30 young people have qualified as engineers through the scheme. Gordon Walker and his wife were in attendance and, after meeting all the new entrants to the scheme and those who had just completed their first year, Gordon stressed the importance of the scheme to the work of the Laboratory.

One of the facilities that an apprentice might get to work on during his or her training is ISIS. Philip King was there to explain the importance of ISIS and how it can be used to study the three dimensional structure of materials. Philip brought a selection of household items with him and explained how ISIS could be used to examine the materials within them. Seeing an ISIS scientist with a bottle of washing up liquid is a rare sight, I'm sure!

Gordon then presented indentures to the apprentices that had successfully completed their training - Robin Buddel, Ben Eltham, Ian Pearson and Kenny Rodgers (who also received the John Wilkins prize for best apprentice).

Joe Hoskins, apprentice training manager said, "These young men have spent four years of their lives undergoing training. Their hard work and final achievement is a tribute to them, and the young prospective engineers of today. All of the staff who have been associated with them and their training wish them well in their future career paths. Well done".

Tracey Wilkinson



The old boys - Kenny Rodgers, Ian Pearson, Ben Eltham and Robin Buddel with Gordon Walker (00RC4818)



The new boys - Kevin Gray, Sean Keen, Alan Mann and Wayne Robbins with Gordon Walker (00RC4817)

# Development

The north-west Science and Daresbury Development Group met at Daresbury Laboratory in September.

The group is charged with the analysis of the science base in the north-west and at Daresbury and to find ways in which this could be used in order to stimulate economic growth within the region. The findings are due to be reported to the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry at the end of December.

The group will benefit from the findings of the Smith review (see page 2) which, over the course of the summer, has evaluated science bids which have come from the region. The scope of the review is very ambitious and aims to address a long standing problem in British science: the accessibility of knowledge in the science base to industry.



The development group from left to right: Keith Barnes (regional director Government Office for the north-west), Sir Martin Harris (vice chairman, University of Manchester), Tony McDermott (leader, Halton Borough Council), Bob Gerrit (DL), Derek Tings (MP (Halton)), John Burrows OBE (director, Business Development NWD), David Higham (Director, Business & Europe Group Government Office for the north-west), Alan Manning (north-west regional secretary, Trades Union Congress), Charles B Boulton (Arthur D Little Ltd), Helen Southworth MP (Warrington South), David Brown (Arthur D Little Ltd) and James Kaiton (chairman, Campus Ventures NV). The other members of the review team are Mike Shields (chairman NWD), Joan Humble MP (Blackpool North), Dave Watts MP (St Helens), Lord Smith of Leigh and Martin Emmerker (OST) (DL00/89/2)



Silvie Hooge, Hilary Bradlow, Helen Hinks, Melanie Poole, Sarah Hill and Claire White (008RC926)

The Little Stars Nursery looked a scary place to be on Halloween as these pictures show...

Hannah Clancy, Niamh Moyna, Niamh Hooper, Laura Field and Jessa Conyer (008RC923)

# diamond update

The diamond Science Advisory Committee (SAC) and the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met at RAL on 25 and 26 October.

The TAC is chaired by Albin Wurlich who is the Director of the Swiss Light Source under construction at the Paul Scherrer Institute near Zurich. The meeting was opened by a welcoming address from John Taylor, the Director General of the Research Councils. Presentations of the current conceptual design status were given by DL staff and discussions concentrated on aspects of beam lifetime, the type of

injection to be adopted for diamond and the lattice design, particularly with regard to introducing superconducting RF systems.

Richard Henderson of the MRC Molecular Biology Laboratory in Cambridge chairs the SAC. The SAC meeting gave time to a consideration of beamline priorities and the range of beam parameters to be available early in the operational period. The importance of output in the infrared was also considered. Finally, the impact of building design on the working environment for the future users was discussed. The SAC stressed that a

permanent structure is needed urgently and a Technical Director should be appointed as soon as possible. The Board of Directors for the diamond synchrotron project has agreed that the machine will comprise a 24-cell storage ring with an energy of 3 GeV with seven working beamlines on 'day one'. Realistic budget figures will now be set and the appointment of a Technical Director will proceed.

Reports from the committees are being posted on the diamond web site at [www.diamond.ac.uk](http://www.diamond.ac.uk)

Taylor Edwards

## Technical Advisory Committee

Dr P Elleaume	ESRF	Grenoble, France
Dr J Filhol	ESRF	Grenoble, France
Dr O Gobner	CERN	Geneva, Switzerland
Dr I Haastings	SLS	New York, USA
Dr S Hunt	SLS	Villingen, Switzerland
Dr D Kraemer	BESSY	Berlin, Germany
Dr S Krinsky	SLS	New York, USA
Dr J Magnien	ESRF	Grenoble, France
Dr A Mosnier	CEA	Gif-sur-Yvette, France
Dr R Walker	Elettra	Trieste, Italy
Dr A Wurlich	SLS	Villingen, Switzerland
(chairman)		

## Science Advisory Committee

Professor M Altarelli	Elettra	Trieste, Italy
Professor C Brando	Karlsruhe Institute	Stockholm, Sweden
Professor S Barley	Rockefeller Uni.	New York, USA
Dr J Gaulton	Southampton Uni.	Southampton, UK
Dr J Hastings	ESRF	Grenoble, France
Dr R Henderson	SLS	New York, USA
(chairman)	MRC	Cambridge, UK
Dr K Hodgson	Stanford Uni.	California, USA
Dr D Moraes	ICBMC	Illkreh, France
Professor R Nelmes	Edinburgh Uni.	Edinburgh, UK
Dr I Nenner	CEA/Saclay	Gif-sur-Yvette, France
Professor S Radford	Leeds Uni.	Leeds, UK
Dr D Raoux	CNRS	Sheffield, UK
Professor A Ryan	Sheffield Uni.	Sheffield, UK
Dr D Stuart	Oxford Uni.	Oxford, UK
Professor P Woodruff	Warwick Uni.	Warwick, UK



(007RC4525)



(007RC4529)

## Forestry event

I lay awake one dark October morning and listened to the pouring rain with a heavy heart. No matter – the day, and indeed the rest of the week, had to be faced. By the time I reached DL the rain had slackened but the skies were still very black. One sunny July day (yes, there were a few in July!) it had seemed a great idea to play host to 280 thirteen to fifteen year olds who were to visit Daresbury Firs for 'Timber' – a sustainable forestry education event.

The event had been arranged by Louise Tanner and Dave Potts of Mersey Valley Partnership with the help of rangers from Warrington and Halton Borough Councils. Louise and Dave's enthusiasm was catching and on that sunny day we soon had enough ideas for a series of classroom activities that would not only reinforce the message of the event but would also highlight the work of the SRS in looking at the 'classic stiffness' of wood.

The event had eight aims that included the awareness that trees could be planted as crops, that forestry could be sustainable and that many products were made from wood.

Amazingly, by the time the first school arrived the skies had cleared and the students went off to visit Daresbury Firs, the small, mainly coniferous, plantation behind the Tower owned by Halton Borough Council. The plantation is twenty years old and ready for its first thinning. During the visit the students were guided on an interpretative walk in the woodland and viewed forestry operations.

Once back at the Tower there was the chance to look at samples of wood under the microscope and hear how the SRS is helping the forestry industry in New Zealand grow trees that are better able to withstand earthquakes. Students were also able to test the strengths of various types of wood and wood fibre materials and match the product with the material. They also had to guess which everyday items



(01200/9711)



(01200/97110)

had started life as part of a tree. The visit ended with a quiz based on the morning's activities, with a prize of a £20 voucher for the winner from each school or group participating. In all eight groups from five schools took part in the very successful and rewarding event.

Many thanks to Nick Terrill and Paul Moir-Riches for their help in organising the classroom activities.

Anne Humphreys

## Super scientists

Both Laboratories hosted winners of the annual School Science Prizes recently. The prize is awarded to one pupil from each local secondary school in the Daresbury, RAL and Chilton areas. The science teacher at each school is invited to nominate one Year 9 student who most deserves recognition for his or her achievements in science for the last year.

The format for the evening is similar at each site. The prizewinning pupils arrive with their teachers for a tour of the facilities, returning to the lecture theatre to receive their prizes. Here, they are joined by their parents for the prizegiving ceremony. The prize is a choice of books up to the value of £30 for each pupil.

At DL, 28 keen young scientists received their books from Dr Hywel Price. As each youngster stood still for the obligatory photo, PR staff became convinced that Stuart Eyles, DL's nimble photographer, can now change his roll of film faster than the team of mechanics can fuel up a Formula One car during the Grand Prix!

At RAL there were 35 winners (which included pupils from the Chilton schools). This year the prizes were presented by Professor Ron Lawes. Coincidentally, two of the winners, Laura Coddard and Michael Wallace have fathers working at RAL (RCRU's John Coddard and SSTD's Pat Wallace).

After the prizegiving the winners, parents and teachers enjoyed a buffet supper. The feedback from everyone who came was very encouraging. Marg Jacks from Press and Public Relations said, "These prize evenings are always a lovely occasion and hopefully some students will be inspired to become scientists themselves in the future".

Thanks to everyone, at both sites, who helped make the events run so smoothly.



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(01200/9077)

# Wheely good work experience at RAL

Working at RAL was indeed an experience which I will never forget. When I arrived on site the first thing that struck me was the size of the place - it seemed enormous. Especially to me, as I'm a wheelchair user. But over the two weeks of my placement, it became less and less daunting as I became familiar with the layout and so was able to navigate myself successfully.

Being a keen journalist (and you could say a little nosy), I suggested that I was well placed to test Rutherford's claim that it is an equal opportunity employer by making a note of any problems I faced around site and how I thought they could be improved. This suggestion was taken up, RAL being keen to ensure that it does all it can in this area.

My first port of call was R71. The fact that it is a relatively new building meant that there were no major accessibility problems. It was however the little things which caused the most problems, many of which would probably be overlooked by the average able-bodied person.

When entering R71 the first set of obstacles were the extremely heavy doors at the entrance which I found to be nearly impossible to overcome independently. The first time I attempted to manoeuvre myself through this particular set of doors my already slow progress was hampered further by the fact that I could not get the doors to stay open and I found myself sandwiched between them. In my opinion this problem could be easily overcome if somebody near the doors made sure that they were kept open for at least the majority of the working day. *(Or maybe a bell on the outside wall could help - Ed.)*



(00RC33660)

When travelling from A to B another problem I encountered was the many high curbs. For wheelchair users like me who do not have much strength in their arms high curbs are impossible to negotiate when your chair has stabilisers, as these only enable the chair to tip to a certain degree. On one occasion I was left with no choice but to ask a passer by if they could possibly lift me down from the curb. Minor structural alterations could, in my opinion, easily solve this particular problem.

Finally, to a problem which is extremely common in the outside world as well as at RAL - the misuse of disabled facilities, mainly toilets. Over my two weeks I have seen toilets which appear to be regarded by most as extra storage spaces and once, after a fifteen minute wait to use the facilities in K3, I discovered to my utter disgust that the person I had waited for wasn't disabled at all.

After a week spent researching, with the help of the team at Human Resources, I was eager to find out more about RAL's Equal Opportunities Policy so, when I was given the opportunity to interview the Equal Opportunities Officer, Sue Gill, I jumped at the chance:

**Q.** To what extent has CLRC ensured that they are an equal opportunities employer?

**A.** We like all other organisations, have to comply with the law. We do however like to think that we do more than the basics outlined by Government by keeping up to date with what other organisations are doing and what is recommended. We actively monitor what happens during our selection and promotion processes to check that they are fair and that we employ people on the basis of their skills and abilities. Access to learning and development is also very important. These are some of the topics covered in a detailed Annual Report on Equal Opportunities.

**Q.** What measures have been implemented at Rutherford to combat discrimination?

**A.** There are policies in place, which are given to all staff, namely the Equal Opportunities and Harassment Policies. Any actions out of line with these policies are treated very seriously.

**Q.** How effective do you think the measures already in place are?

**A.** In general I think that the measures in place are reasonably effective. However we are always looking to improve and do so by consulting Trade Unions and staff to obtain suggestions about how things could be improved.

Sue asked me to do a more detailed report about my time at RAL, listing the good and bad points about each of the buildings I visited and said that would help in assessing what improvements to access could be made in the future.

In conclusion, I believe that Rutherford has made good progress so far as access is concerned, but there is still a long way to go, as it seems to be the little things which cause the most problems.

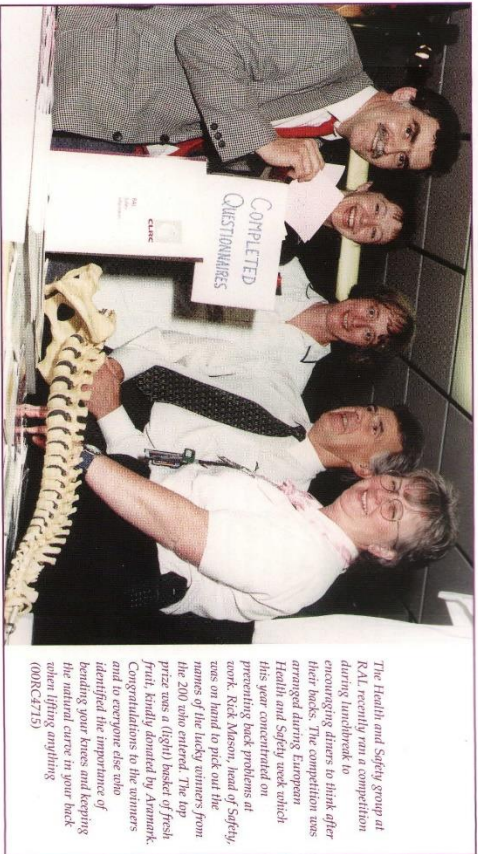
Thanks to everyone at RAL for making my work experience so memorable. My tasks were interesting and varied, and I thoroughly enjoyed my fortnight with you.

When I arrived at RAL, I didn't know what to expect or how I would cope. I learnt that I am capable of succeeding in the work environment and I now have the confidence to realise my dream of becoming a journalist. During my time at RAL I was welcomed into a community which was willing to help its members overcome their difficulties. Seeing this at first hand reassured me that the world of work is not such a big scary place after all.



(00RC33671)

# CSSC crown green bowling



The Health and Safety group at RAL recently ran a competition during lunchbreak to encourage others to think after their backs. The competition was arranged during European Health and Safety week which this year concentrated on preventing back problems at work. Rick Mason, head of Safety, was on hand to pick out the names of the lucky winners from the 200 raffle entries. The top prize was a (light) basket of fresh fruit. Kindly donated by Armark. Congratulations to the winners and to everyone else who identified the importance of bending your knees and keeping the natural curve in your back when lifting anything. (00RC3715)

It's Ken Diworth qualified for the CSSC National Finals at the Waterton, Blackpool on 14 September after qualifying in the north-west regional event at Comberbach. Sixteen successful qualifiers from the four CSSC regions all competed on the day for the honour of being the National Champion for 2000.

Ken defeated S Wilkinson (DSS, Bradford) 21 - 14 and Gordon Owen (MOD, Donnington) 21 - 17, before falling at the semi final stage to Steve Bolton (Inland Revenue, Manchester) 19 - 21. Ian Burgess (DSS Birkenhead) was crowned the new champion when he beat Steve Bolton in the final. This is the second year in succession that Ken has qualified for



the finals and this year he went one round further. Maybe next year, Ken? During the past season, Phil Davlin and Bernard Carroll from Daresbury have also been selected to play for the CSSC National team against Yorkshire and the BCCGTA sides.

Alan Eddle  
Secretary CSSC Crown Green Bowls

# RAL Golf Society - Ken Louch invitational

It really is amazing how this society manages to pick the one fine, sunny day of the week to hold a golf day; the days before would have been unplayable! Hadden Golf Club was very welcoming and accommodating, the course was in good condition and had drained well after the week of rain.

The popularity of Golf has seen our ranks grow each year, with two new members joining us for this event making a total of 23 on the day. As usual, the match was played with good humour and a friendly atmosphere, with colleagues and old friends reunited.

Nearst the pin on the short 120 yard par 3, 7th hole couldn't have been far from a hole in one as it was no more than 6 inches past the hole. Longest drive on the 13th was improved on slightly by the last group of the day finishing approximately 255 yards up the fairway.

Game analysis, improvement and amihilation continued in the bar and dining room over a few spring waters and a tasty and well-presented dinner.

Neal Griffin

Results	
Ken Louch trophy winner	39 points
John Randall	37 points
Runner up	
John Craig	37 points
Nearst the pin	Paul Holligan
Longest drive	Noal Griffin



(000RC4575)

**Sad news**  
A minute's silence was observed before dinner in respect of Peter Gregory, my predecessor as secretary, and a friend and ex-colleague to many, who had sadly passed away recently. Our sympathy and thoughts are with his family.

# Daresbury Golf Society

As the saying goes, "All good things must come to an end", and on 20 September Daresbury Golf Society held its last event of the season at Oswestry Golf Club in Shropshire.

A good turnout gathered to compete for three trophies, the Team Trophy, the Daresbury Championship and the Captain's v President's Shield. For the first of these, players competed in teams of three and played a special 36 competition over 9 holes.

The team of Brian Blackwell, Paul Hindley and Joe Counsell emerged victorious with a total of 39 points - one point ahead of Billy Owen, Bob Bate and Steve Dobson with the team of Percy Lawtinson, Tony Kerr and Pat Ridley third with a total of 36 points. After lunch the Daresbury

Championship was competed for. This 18-hole Stroke Play event was won by Paul Hindley (24) with a net 71 which was one over par for the course closely followed by Bob Bate (16) with a net 72 and Joe Counsell (21) in third place with a net 76.

After the usual three course dinner the Captain, Jim Clarke, presented the prizes to the winners and thanked everyone for making his year in office a most memorable one. This left just one trophy to be 'played' for - the Captains v Presidents shield. The winner is decided by all the cards from the afternoon round being shuffled up and the President with the Captain drawing cards alternately. The cards are then totalled up to decide the winner. At the end of the draw the



Captain's team were victorious with a total of 610 shots against the President's 613. This was the final event of the season and, after a few libations to lift the spirits over the coming winter months, we all departed wondering "just when does next season start?"

Dave Kinder

# Retirements

Peter Sharp

Peter Sharp, Director of Instrumentation, retired from RAL in October. He had started working at Harwell 40 years previously as an apprentice before taking a post as a Scientific Assistant in High Energy Physics. His first assignment was to help on a particle physics experiment at the Birmingham synchrotron. After spending a few years at Chelsea College and a summer working at Brookhaven Laboratory in the USA, Peter returned to RAL to work on Nimrod.

By 1970 he was off again! This time he divided his time between CERN and RAL, working on experiments on the Intersecting Storage Rings and the CERN proton synchrotron.

Peter's career developed at RAL into technology. He became deputy head of Lithography (now known as the Central Microstructure Facility),

then head of Electronics group and finally, in 1995, Director, Technology (now called Instrumentation). During his time as Director he has seen many other achievements. Recently Peter chaired the technical group which produced the research councils' Long Term Technology Review, which was subtitled Technology for the Future. This is the blueprint for future research council development in basic technology.

Peter won't be retiring just yet. He's off to CERN again, this time to work on the Large Hadron Collider. No doubt, we will hear of further successes.

(000RC4572)



At his leaving presentation Gordon Walker presented Peter with a new camera and lens and his wife, Betty, was presented with a large basket of flowers.

Ray Turner

In his teens Ray was a promising footballer, but decided against a career in football and took his first job as an apprentice aircraft riveter, thereby achieving his boyhood passion for transport (especially aeroplanes) and engines. He progressed through aircraft engineering until he moved to space research in 1970, when he started work at Culham Laboratory on the Skylark rockets.

In 1977 Ray toyed with the idea of becoming an astronaut on ESA's first space laboratory flights, but instead continued working as a space engineer. He played a crucial role in several different projects, including an instrument on the Giotto satellite that intercepted Halley's comet in 1986.

"I've always had the privilege and good fortune to work in successful teams alongside some great people", said Ray at his retirement presentation. "Space science projects are vast, with professionals from science,

engineering and computing working together to a common goal".

Throughout the many space projects Ray has worked on, he has always had close links with many university groups. In 1993, this cooperation was rewarded when he was appointed Visiting Professor of Aerospace Technology at Cranfield University.

At his retirement presentation Ray was presented with, among other presents, a brick! Although he chose not to follow a footballing career, Ray has always been a fan and an ardent supporter of Wolverhampton Wanderers. A contribution from his collection went towards a scheme raising money for a new stadium for his favourite team, and the Billy Wright Upper Stand at Wolverhampton Wanderers now includes a brick with the inscription "Professor Ray Turner, Space Engineer". The

(000RC4248)

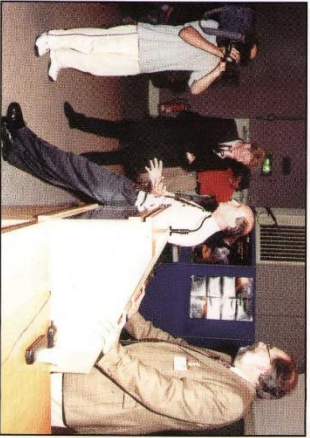


brick presented to Ray was a duplicate of the one in the stadium. "A great present - it certainly beats a clock!" commented Ray. Ray will stay on at the Laboratory, working as a part time consultant, coordinating UK interest and involvement in the International Space Station.



The last three months have been rather hectic in the Press Office, so this report is a quick recap over this period.

**Cluster**  
The launch of the Cluster satellites in July provided RAL with extensive TV news coverage. It was a completely new experience to deal with six TV crews, and no other journalists at all; the norm for a press event being a handful of science journalists, and, if we're really lucky, one or two TV crews. This highlights the fact that some stories find themselves to a particular medium. When the first Cluster launch took place four years ago, Lawrence McKinlay (science editor for ITV News) was able to persuade his editor to bring a TV crew to RAL because, as he explained, 'there was an excellent



Cluster in the news (00RC3560)



(00RC3552)

ESA video tape showing computer simulations of the satellites working and anyway, the rocket might explode'. It did, and Lawrence was well placed to get immediate reactions and interviews for ITV news. The launch of the rebuilt satellites this year enticed so many TV crews away from London partly because the earlier disaster had made this story much more 'interesting', and partly because it was a quiet weekend. As far as the Lab was concerned, the events that weekend couldn't have worked out better. We had lots of TV news coverage leading up to the scheduled launch on Saturday, then lots more on Sunday when the Saturday launch was postponed by a day at the last minute. And because the launch went according to plan, all the interviews were positive and upbeat. A brilliant weekend.

**Northern exposure**  
There was another first on 16 October when the science minister, Lord Sainsbury, held a press conference at Daresbury to announce the outcome of the Smith review. TV crews from both BBC and ITV were there, along with radio and newspaper reporters, for what turned into a hectic couple of hours. Events like this are

most often held in central London, so it was something of a coup for Daresbury to host this one and for the minister, DTI and OST staff to journey north for the afternoon to face the press. The national press that didn't send reporters also wanted information, reaction and comment from the minister, the Lab and the unions, meaning that everyone involved had the opportunity to try and make what they were saying sound original, fresh and inspiring when they were in fact repeating it for the fourth or fifth time. The BBC sent a broadcast crew to record an interview with Lord Sainsbury for later use; the interview was conducted outside at the request of the BBC, though they may have chosen another venue had they been aware that it would rain as soon as they started to record. ITV decided they would stay indoors from the science centre in the local evening news. Perhaps it was this that prompted the BBC reporter, Jim Hancock, to stand in the rain and wind outside the Lab long after the event had finished waiting for darkness to fall, so that he could record an 'as live' piece to camera for the 10pm news.

**Media training**  
There was a media course at RAL in September. Those on the course learnt a bit about how the media works, how to write a news release that gets noticed (with a chance to see an impressive pile of rejected news releases from just one morning at the Oxford Mail newsdesk), and each gave two radio interviews.

We hold training days like these at each site when there are sufficient staff interested. If you are working on a project that is likely to become newsworthy over the next few months, do contact us. It really does help if your first interview has been in the comfort (or discomfort) of a course, and not in the earshot of hundreds of thousands of people.

**Radio interviews**  
And talking of radio interviews, Richard Harrison recently gave eight interviews in an hour. Following the bad weather, BBC local radio were interested to follow up a suggestion that the active Sun may be partly to blame, so they wanted a Sun expert. Richard was taken-spooned, and did interviews for local BBC radio stations in

Devon, Gloucester, Merseyside, Southern Counties, Oxford, York, Belfast and Berkshire! All from the comfort of his desk. He thought this was a record, so I made some enquiries. Someone, during the presidential elections in USA some time ago, gave 30 interviews in five hours. This, apparently, is the accepted record but Richard's effort was equally noteworthy.

**Cuttings noticeboard**  
The cuttings noticeboards at Daresbury have always been very popular and, following a break, we're resurfacing the one at RAL. It's situated outside the Library and copies of interesting articles from daily and weekly newspapers will be posted on this board every morning. Don't forget that a summary of any science-related articles we find in the daily and weekly newspapers are posted on the internal web each morning. If you spot an article you want to read, newspapers are kept in the Library at each site.

**Regional BBC TV reorganisation**  
In the past, RAL's 'local' BBC news

came from BBC Newsroom Southeast - based in London, Oxford, right on the outskirts of its catchment area, rarely got a look-in. It's all been changed and we're now part of BBC South, with the first 10 minutes of the programme coming directly from Oxford. This means that our opportunities to get science stories on local TV are high, as both Central (based in Abingdon) and the BBC are clamouring for stories. Indeed the very first ten minutes of the new service included a very positive piece on diamond. News for TV has to have moving images - computer simulations, video footage or, best of all, access to real life moving equipment. Good images will often carry a not-so-big news story onto TV, so do let us know if you have any great graphics - it might be just what the TV news wants!

**News for CLRC's new website**  
And finally, the home page for the new CLRC website has a 'recent news' item, which needs to be updated at least once a week. This is a plea for everyone to let us have your news stories!

## Jeans for Genes Day



Gareth Bailey, Jaime Cleveland, Jan Marsh and Jaime Mason (DL00/9512)

On Friday 6 October, staff at Daresbury Laboratory participated in 'Jeans for Genes Day' by wearing jeans to work and donating £1 to the appeal. Through jeans for Genes many research projects at hospitals and research centres across the UK have been funded and many more are set to benefit this year. The funds are helping to develop new and better treatments for genetic disorders, which could eventually offer thousands of children the chance of leading a healthy life.



Hilary Manning and Tim Kenyon (DL00/9519)

# Rutherford Appleton Laboratory Christian Fellowship

Programme: November - Christmas 2000

Date	Title	Location
16 November	Work related issues 3: Shining like stars in the Universe (Phil 2:1-16)	CR1, R3
23 November	Book, film, video, CD-ROM, tape and DVD review	CR2, R1
30 November	Work related issues 4: A Civil Servant's Dilemma (1 Kings 18:1-16)	CR2, R1
7 December	Meeting for worship and prayer	CR9, R27
15 December	Christmas carol service led by Reverend Alistair Brown	LT, R22
21 December	Open meeting	CR1, R1

The meetings are open to any one who would like to attend. For further information, please contact Jonathan Wheeler, R27 (ext. 5189). The series of Bible studies entitled 'Work related issues' will help us apply our faith at work.

## Learning and Development

**Programme of courses**  
Further information, including full course outlines and objectives, are available from the Learning and Development Teams on ext. 5783 or 3720.

### NOVEMBER

**21 Report writing (RAL)**  
A one-day course aimed at helping you to understand English grammar and improve your report writing skills.

**How to identify and manage stress (DL)**  
A one-day course to help us identify stressors and manage stress in ourselves.

**Managing stress - the manager's perspective (DL)**

A one-day course to help line managers recognise the signs and causes of stress, its consequences and how to help staff overcome the effects of stress.

### DECEMBER

**7 Understanding English grammar and report writing skills (DL)**

A one-day course to help you improve your business use of English grammar.

### JANUARY 2001

**17 Customer focus (RAL)**  
One-day workshop led by Sally Hooton to help you provide the best

experience for CLRC customers by sharing good practice in customer care, building on existing strengths of service provided and exploring barriers which prevent customer care.

**24-25 Presentation skills (RAL)**

A one-day course with half a day further coaching. This course will provide you with the confidence and skills to improve your presentation whether one to one, in meetings or in a formal presentation situation.

### FEBRUARY 2001

**13 Time management (RAL)**  
One-day workshop to help you make the most of your time.

### Learning lunches

Learning lunches are two-hour sessions held over lunchtime. Starting at noon, tea, coffee and sandwiches are provided, but feel free to bring along your own lunch if you would prefer. They are open to anyone who feels they may find the topics of interest. The sessions cover aspects of management and are delivered in an informal, interactive way. Sessions are designed to be both informative and enjoyable.

If you would like more information about the learning lunches please contact Marcia Griffith, [admin@clrc.ac.uk](mailto:admin@clrc.ac.uk)

RAL Learning and Development Manager on ext. 5783. If you wish to reserve a place please contact Mary on ext. 6285 or Margaret on ext. 3600.

### NOVEMBER

**30 Continuous improvement (RAL)**

The Projects Group have developed a web-based Project Management training programme which is now available to staff at <http://alhadweb.admin.rl.ac.uk/> net-result.

The programme supports the above courses and is in line with CLRC's corporate methodology. It is intended for people who need to refresh and update the skills and knowledge learned on the courses, or for people who need to gain a basic level understanding of Project Management but are unable to attend a course.

The programme is also available on CD-ROM from the Learning and Development team.

For details of course availability, or to borrow the CD-ROM, please contact Mary Caines on ext. 6285.

### Diploma in Management at Daresbury

Seven managers at DL have recently enrolled on an Institute of

Management Diploma in Management Programme. Company Plus are providing this programme which is open to Daresbury staff, sponsored by their departments, and

employees of other local organisations. The programme is being run on site over a two-year period and involves weekly workshops, work-based assignments and project work.

### Project Management training programme

The following courses are available to help staff to develop the knowledge and skills needed to manage projects in line with the best practice contained in CLRC's Corporate Project Management Handbook. All courses are provided by the Projects Group and are accredited by the Association for Project Management (APM).

#### COURSE DETAILS

**Project Practitioners**  
A three-day workshop based around a generic simulation, which allows participants to run a project from start to finish in a 'safe' environment. Intended for project managers, project team members, and possibly project sponsors. This course can be attended residentially or non residentially. Participants staying overnight will have the opportunity of attending an optional tutorial in the evening.

• To experience involvement in the whole of the project life cycle  
• To be able to use the 'technical' tools of project management such as critical path analysis  
• To acquire a basic understanding of the people skills needed for successful project management  
• To understand how CLRC methodology reflects best practice in project management.

**31 January - 2 February**  
Millon Hill Conference Centre, near RAL (funded by departments). Fees are £1000 non-residential or £1200 residential.

#### Influencing skills for Project Practitioners

A two-day non-residential course. Participants should have attended the Project Practitioners course or be able to demonstrate an equivalent level of knowledge through assessment.

• To ensure that project managers understand how to manage the often complex internal and external stakeholder issues that exist in projects.

Future courses will be arranged subject to demand.

#### APMP examination course

A four-day (2 x two days) residential course. Participants should have attended the Project Practitioners course or be able to demonstrate an equivalent level of knowledge through assessment.

• To enable participants to pass the APMP examination and become members of APMP.

Future courses will be arranged subject to demand.

#### Project Sponsors course

A one-day course for senior managers who sponsor projects and CLRC clients who would like to understand the basic concepts of project management and CLRC's methodology.

• To gain a perspective on project management that will enable delegates to act as project sponsors and liaise with project personnel from a knowledgeable position.  
• To acquire sufficient understanding to appraise the robustness of a project plan and the ongoing progress of a project.  
• To recognise the people issues that can make a project fail and the early signs that a project is getting into difficulty.

Future courses will be arranged subject to demand.