THE LONDON MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

No. 307

September 2002

COUNCIL DIARY 21 June 2002

Members of Council continue to worry about the threats of closure of mathematics departments, and other negative effects of the current fashion for restructuring. The positions of some departments are being weakened by the loss of service teaching, and there was much discussion of this topic at the June Council meeting. The reasons for this loss seem to be largely financial; it is hard to find an academic rationale. It was felt that the removal of mathematics service teaching from mathematicians must lead to a drop in standards. In the real world, mathematics is centre stage; it plays an increasing role in engineering and in biology, for example. This is recognised by major international industrial players, and we need it also to be reflected in our degree courses. It seems that national needs are being overlooked as each vice-chancellor seeks to act in the best interest of his or her own University. Some serious lobbying is planned.

As always at the June meeting, the Treasurer presented the annual budget for approval. The next year will be one of high spending, with some major publications ventures being started (such as the LMS' new deal to publish Compositio Mathematica) which require serious investment at the outset (although the long-term benefits, both financial and otherwise, are very clear), and a generous allocation of funds to the Programme Committee to keep apace with high demand for its various schemes. The acceptance of the budget was accompanied by some discussion of investment strategy, necessary at a time when there has been a major change in the market. In fact, this is a topic which has been high on the agenda for some time. The Society has decided to follow the advice of its investment managers and move its UK equities into a collective investment in

which funds are placed with a range of fund managers, whose performance is then rigorously monitored; the key words are 'risk diversification', and we shall continue to review our investment strategy.

This was the last Council meeting for both John Pym as Council and General Secretary and Ben Garling as Executive Secretary, and they were warmly thanked by the President for their substantial contributions. John Pym had joined Council as a member-at-large, had been Journal editor and Publications Secretary for four years and Council and General Secretary for the last six. Ben Garling had been the editor of book reviews and Meetings and Membership Secretary before becoming Executive Secretary, when that post was created. John and Ben together had been a formidable team, a very valuable source of advice to successive presidents. We welcomed the new team, of Norman Biggs (as General Secretary) and Peter Cooper, who will be taking up his post as the new Executive Secretary during the summer.

Sarah Rees

NEWS FROM DE MORGAN HOUSE

Helen Woodward joined the staff of De Morgan House in 1999. During her lunch breaks, her door was firmly shut, as she worked for an Open University degree. She obtained first class honours in Mathematics in October 2001. Regrettably for the Society, but happily for Helen, she has now moved on, taking up a post in Operations Research in the Civil Service.

Frances Spoor, who joined the staff at De Morgan House in January 2001, has been promoted to Helen's post as Administrative Officer. We welcome Isabelle Robinson to take Frances' post of Secretary.

LAURENT SCHWARTZ

Laurent Schwartz, the distinguished French mathematician, died on 4 July 2002, aged 87.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Ben Garling was appointed as the Society's Executive Secretary from October 1998, shortly after the move to De Morgan House, and he along with Susan Oakes set up the Society's new headquarters, and the way it was run, to enable the Society to expand its activities. After four years, Ben is returning to Cambridge, where he will continue to teach; he is succeeded by Peter Cooper, who joins the Society from the Institute of Physics, having previously worked for many years at the Royal Society. Best wishes to Peter in his new post.

THE NEWSLETTER

The *Newsletter* has been edited from De Morgan House for the past four years by Ben Garling and Susan Oakes: this is their last *Newsletter*.

From October, the *Newsletter* will be edited by an Editorial Board: David Chillingworth (Southampton) will be the General Editor, Stephen Huggett (Plymouth), Programme Secretary, will be the Reports Editor, and it is intended to appoint a Reviews Editor and Regional Editors in due course. Susan Oakes, who always does all the work, will continue as Administrative Editor.

LMS PUBLICATIONS CATALOGUE

Our latest publication catalogue is included with this September issue of the *Newsletter*. You will find details of subscription prices for members on the periodicals and details of new and forthcoming book titles and an announcement of our new venture for 2004: publication of the journal *Compositio Mathematica*.

The Society membership includes a substantial number of research mathematicians and we encourage members to publish with the Society. To that end we have included new information on submitting papers to the periodicals and book proposals to the Society's series.

> Susan Hezlet Publisher

2002 HANDBOOK AND LIST OF MEMBERS

The 2002 Handbook and List of Members should accompany this Newsletter. My thanks to all members who returned their forms. As far as possible each individual member's entry contains precisely the information supplied by the member. Some alterations have, however, been necessary to achieve the consistent format agreed by Council, and others have been forced by space limitations. If any member finds an error in their entry which is not attributable to these causes. or if there are any subsequent changes to the particulars (such as extra degrees gained, or change of address) please inform the office, as soon as possible, either in writing, or by e-mail: (member ship@lms.ac.uk).

> Susan Oakes Administrator

BIGGER PERIODICALS!

For a long time, the Society has received more strongly recommended papers than it has space to publish. Authors have been disappointed that their papers have had to be rejected purely because of the pressure on space.

To remedy this situation, Council has decided that as from January 2003, each issue of the *Proceedings, Journal* and *Bulletin* should be 16 pages longer than at present. An increase of a further 16 pages per issue is planned for 2004. We hope that this will encourage authors to submit articles to the LMS rather than to expensive commercially published periodicals.

The centralised submissions procedure has led to a reduction in refereeing times, and all three periodicals are now appearing on schedule. The increase in page extent will mean that good papers stand an even better chance of prompt publication. Please think in terms of the LMS periodicals when considering where to submit your best work!

> Christopher Lance Publications Secretary

SCHEME 7 MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE SMALL GRANTS

New Scheme 7 Mathematics and Computer Science Small Grants have recently been established. The aim of this Scheme is to provide small grants to individual LMS members within the United Kingdom to help support a visit for collaborative research at the interface of mathematics and computer science, either by the grantee to another institution within the UK or abroad, or by a named computer scientist or mathematician from within the UK or abroad to the home base of the grantee. The time available for joint research arising from the grant is expected to be several working days. The maximum sum available is £500 and, where necessary, grantees will have to cover further costs from other sources. The intention is to provide sufficient funds so that the call on other sources is held within manageable bounds.

Applications should be in the form of a letter setting out the proposed academic case for the visit, including a description of a specific project, an explanation of how the proposed research lies at the interface of mathematics and computer science, the standing of the collaborator and an estimate of costs. Whilst a reasonable level of detail is desirable, an application should not be excessively long, and the documentation should run to at most three A4 pages. Applicants should bear in mind that the purpose of the Scheme is to support specific projects with named collaborators and not, for example, simply to contribute to the costs of a sabbatical visit. A brief report on the use of the grant is expected: this should describe the academic outcome of the visit, together with very brief financial details.

Grants will be awarded three times annually, in October, February and June, with respective deadlines for applications of 30 September, 31 January and 31 May. Awards will be restricted to one award in any given academic year (September to August) and in the event of over subscription in any particular round, applicants who received an award in the previous academic year will not be considered. Unlike other Society grants, Scheme 7 grants will be administered by the Society's Computer Science Committee. Further details can be found on the Society's web pages.

> Iain Stewart, Chair Computer Science Committee

YORKSHIRE DIFFERENTIAL GEOMETRY DAY

A Yorkshire Differential Geometry Day will be held on Monday 23 September from 10.30 to 17.30 in the School of Mathematics at the University of Leeds. This is a joint meeting organized by the geometry groups at the Universities of Hull. Leeds and York and forms part of a series which has received support from a LMS Scheme 3 grant. Speakers will include Martin Kilian (Bath) and David Wraith (Maynooth). For the full programme and further information. contact John C. Wood, School of Mathematics, University of Leeds LS2 9JT (tel: 0113 2335106, e-mail: J.C.Wood@leeds.ac.uk) or visit the website (http://www.amsta. leeds.ac.uk/pure/geometry/dgday.html).

SECANTS

SECANTS (South of England Computational and Algorithmic Number Theory Seminars) will hold its eighteenth meeting at Royal Holloway, Egham, Surrey on Saturday 14 September. The speakers will include Richard Booth (Cheltenham), John Malone-Lee (Bristol) and Tom Womack (Nottingham). For more details of the programme and venue, as well as general information about SECANTS, and how to be put on the email mailing list, visit the website (http://www.maths.nott.ac.uk/personal /jec/secants/secants18.html). SECANTS is funded by an LMS Scheme 3 grant.

NEWS FROM EPSRC

Environmental Mathematics and Statistics

This is a joint scheme run by NERC and EPSRC to "enhance the quality and quantity of collaborations between the mathematical/statistical and life/environmental science communities". Applications are invited for providing workshops and short training courses. Deadlines are 31 October 2002 and 28 February 2003 respectively. More details can be found at: www.nerc. ac.uk/funding/interdisciplinary

Discipline hopping awards

Short-term support to pump-prime new collaborations between Engineers and Physical Scientists (this includes Mathematicians) and Life Scientists. More details can be found at: www.mrc.ac.uk/index/funding/funding-specific_schemes/funding-specific_grant_schemes/funding-discipline_hop pers.htm

EUROPOEAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY COUNCIL

At its Council meeting in Oslo, the European Mathematical Society elected Sir John Kingman FRS as President and Helge Holden (Trondheim) as Secretary. Council elected Pavel Exner (Prague) as member of the Executive Committee. The following were re-elected: Luc Lemaire (Bruxelles) as Vice-President, Olli Martio (Helsinki) as Treasurer and Doina Cioranescu (Paris) as member of Executive Committee. Terms of office are 4 years, starting January 2003. Council also voted to increase both corporate and individual membership fees.

From 2003, the annual fee for a member of the LMS will be 20 Euro. (Individual membership fees have not risen for a good while. The present fee of 15 Euro barely covers the cost of postage and the EMS Newsletter.)

David Salinger

LONDON MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS

Joint Meeting

THE FOUR-COLOUR PROBLEM

Wednesday 23 October 2002, London

Preliminary Announcement

Robin Wilson: *The four-colour problem: 1852-1940* [from Augustus De Morgan's letter to Henri Lebesgue's paper of 1940]

Kenneth Appel and **Wolfgang Haken**: Solving the four-colour problem [from Heesch's contributions to the mathematical and computational aspects of the Appel-Haken solution]

Dan Archdeacon: From the Heawood conjecture to topological graph theory [from the Ringel-Youngs solution of the Heawood conjecture to current developments in topological graph theory]

Robin Thomas: The four-colour theorem and beyond [the Robertson-Seymour-Sanders-Thomas proof, recent progress on some generalisations, and equivalent formulations inside and outside graph theory]

A reception and dinner will be held after the meeting.

There are limited funds available to contribute in part to the expenses of members of the Society or research students to attend the meeting. Requests for support may be addressed to the Programme Secretary, London Mathematical Society, De Morgan House, 57-58 Russell Square, London WC1B 4HS (e-mail: grants@lms.ac.uk). Requests should include an estimate of expenses and a very brief *curriculum vitae*; research students should include brief letters of endorsement from their supervisors.

Enquiries may be addressed to Susan Oakes (tel: 020 7637 3686, e-mail: oakes@lms.ac.uk)

LONDON MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY REGIONAL MEETING - WALES 2002

CYFARFOD RHANBARTHOL CYMDEITHAS MATHEMATEGOL LLUNDAIN - CYMRU 2002

A workshop on contemporary aspects of Mathematical Physics will be held at Gregynog Hall from 22 to 25 November, and will be followed by a Society regional meeting whose speakers will include Sir Michael Atiyah (Edinburgh) and Vaughan Jones (Berkeley) on Monday afternoon 25 November. Full details of the Society regional meeting will be given in due course.

The workshop speakers preceding the regional meeting will include: Sir Michael Berry (Bristol), Robbert Dijkgraaf* (Amsterdam), Franco Flandoli (Pisa), Juerg Frohlich* (Zurich), Masatoshi Fukushima (Osaka), Gary Gibbons* (Cambridge), Uffe Haagerup (Odense), Lou Kauffman (Chicago), Gus Lehrer* (Sydney), Terry Lyons (Oxford), Tetsuji Miwa (Kyoto), Leonid Pastur (Paris), John Roberts* (Rome), Vladimir Turaev (Strasbourg), Wendelin Werner (Paris) and Jean-Bernard Zuber (Saclay). (*to be confirmed)

Part of the workshop will celebrate the 87th birthday of Emeritus Professor Neville Temperley and his contributions to Mathematical Physics. Professor Temperley was head of the Applied Mathematics Department at Swansea for 17 years until his retirement in 1982. He received the Rumford Medal from the Royal Society in 1992.

The workshop will start around 11.30 on the morning of Friday 22 November and end at lunch time on 25 November. It is intended that participants will stay at Gregynog Hall for c. £49.50 per night including meals, c. £19.80 for students. The conference dinner will be on the Sunday evening, 24 November. The extra cost for this will be c. £10 for those staying at Gregynog and c. £22.50 for those staying elsewhere. If Gregynog becomes full, we expect that accommodation will be available in Newtown, which is about five miles from Gregynog.

For further information regarding accommodation or to request a reservation for accommodation, contact Dr Edwin Beggs (Swansea) E.J.Beggs@swansea. ac.uk before 1 October. It will be possible for members of the Society to apply for help with their travel costs.

More information about the programme can be obtained from the scientific organisers:

• Professor David E. Evans (Cardiff) EvansDE@cardiff.ac.uk

• Professor Aubrey Truman (Swansea) A.Truman@swansea.ac.uk

or http://www.cf.ac.uk/maths/opalg/lmsmeeting-e.html

There will be the possibility of submitting short talks and posters. We welcome posters from graduate students and hope to award a prize to the best poster submitted by a student.

There are limited funds available to contribute in part to the expenses of members of the Society or research students attending the Society Meeting on Monday 25 November. Requests for support may be addressed to the Programme Secretary, London Mathematical Society, De Morgan House, 57-58 Russell Square, London WC1B 4HS (email: grants@lms.ac.uk). Requests should include an estimate of expenses and a very brief *curriculum vitae*; research students should include brief letters of endorsement from their supervisors.

The SUMS



J. Haigh

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RECORDS OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETINGS

REGIONAL ORDINARY MEETING

held on *Wednesday 5 June 2002* at the University of Liverpool. The meeting began at 3.00 pm, with Professor J.T. STUART, FRS, President, in the Chair. At least 53 members and visitors were present for all or part of the meeting.

Eighteen people was elected to Ordinary Membership: V. Abrashkin, A.S. Al-Hussein, D. Barkley, A.C.R. Belton, P.R. Bending, R.K. Bullough, D.A. Chalcraft, P. Croxson, I.S. Duff, T. Grava, R.B. Hoyle, A. Lloyd-Philipps, J. Manoharmayum, C.W. Parker, D.S. Shieff, D.K.L. Shiu, F. Theil, B. Zilber; two were elected to Associate Membership: S.M. Goodwin, M.Y. Mo; and one was elected to Reciprocity Membership: T. Hempfling (Amer. Math, Soc., Deutsche Math.-Verein.).

The Records of the Proceedings at the Society Meeting held on 15 February 2002 were signed as a correct record.

Professor H.R MORTON introduced a lecture given by Professor L. Kauffman on 'Classifying and applying rational tangles and knots'.

After tea, four members signed the book and were admitted to the Society.

Professor H.R Morton introduced a lecture given by Professor J. Kollár on 'What are the simplest algebraic varieties?'.

In the evening a reception and dinner was held in Staff House, University of Liverpool.

NORTHERN REGIONAL MEETING

The second Northern Regional Meeting of the London Mathematical Society took place in Liverpool on Wednesday 5 June, starting at 3.00 pm, and was attended by about 55 people.

The first talk, by Professor L.H. Kauffman of the University of Illinois at Chicago, was entitled 'Classifying and applying rational tangles and knots'. Professor Kauffman gave a very accessible account of John Conway's 'rational tangles'. These are recursively generated pieces of knot diagram in a ball made from two strands of rope which connect four points on the boundary of the ball. Professor Kauffman led us through some simple integer colouring rules and showed how to use them in classifying these geometric objects by rational numbers. He finished by describing the extent of the ambiguity among those tangles which can be closed off in a standard way to arrive at the same knot.

After tea Professor J. Kollár of Princeton University gave the second talk, entitled 'What are the simplest algebraic varieties?' The answer is evidently

still a matter for discussion. Professor Kollár motivated his lecture by classical examples of the finiteness of integrals. due to Abel. He described some of the natural candidates for simple varieties, for example those related to standard projective spaces by rational maps in both directions. These, however, leave out too many examples which are widely regarded as being particularly simple. We were then introduced to unirational varieties and 'rationally connected' varieties, which contain 'many' rational curves, and are one of the favoured candidates for simple algebraic varieties. However, there are still many unresolved questions about these.

The evening concluded with a reception and dinner in Staff House, which also acted as a prelude to the following two and a half day workshop attended by about 30 people.

The workshop was organised by Peter Giblin, Hugh Morton and Peter Newstead to continue the themes of algebraic geometry and knot theory. It was based on two mini-courses, one by Stavros Garoufalidis of Warwick University on knots with trivial Alexander polynomial and the other by Andrei Tyurin of the Steklov Institute in Moscow, on graphs, knots and vector bundles on algebraic curves.

There were further contributions by both speakers from the meeting and another six invited speakers, along with some shorter talks and posters. The workshop ended after lunch on Saturday 8 June.

H.R. Morton

CAN YOU SPARE BOOKS?

(An article from the Newsletter of the European Mathematical Society)

Some of you may be sitting on books or some of your books may be sitting on shelves, although you may not need them anymore. So, these books collect dust. At the same time, many universities in developing countries (DCs) are in dire need of scientific literature - from undergraduate texts to graduate texts to journals.

The Committee for Developing Countries (CDC) of the European Mathematical Society (EMS) therefore considers the collecting of books from you and their shipment to various universities in DCs as one of CDC's central activities. However, although being a committee of the EMS, CDC not only turns to European colleagues, but takes this opportunity to call upon colleagues in any developed country to join us in our efforts. We are looking mainly for scientific literature published in English or French.

As experience shows the problem is not to find books for donations to such universities, nor the identification of universities in DCs which are interested in receiving such donations. The problem lies in the shipping expenses and in the logistics. With some cooperation by the various players in this (truly international) action, the CDC will be in a position to fulfil this task.

The CDC plans to liaise with the International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) at Trieste. Italy, to organize a book donation scheme. We shall try to identify recipients for donated books and journals. We know, for example, that the University of Zimbabwe not only would gladly accept such donations (it has done so in the past in a different framework), but is also prepared to act as a centre for distribution of donated books to universities in the SADC region (which comprises countries as diverse as South Africa, Zambia, Malawi, Tanzania, Angola, Mozambique - to name some of the SADC member states).

In order to take care of the shipping of donations to the respective places, CDC will apply to the Book Donation Scheme which the ICTP runs, which will pay for the transport subject to their regulations. We or the donors, respectively, might also try various National Commissions for UNESCO to help with shipping costs.

A minimum of 40-50 books would constitute a reasonable consignment. We hope that some of you will not only give away some of your own books, but will involve vourselves more actively in that you collect books/journals from other colleagues in your respective department as well. Maybe some European colleagues know of colleagues in the USA, or Canada, or Australia, etc., who would be prepared to donate books within this scheme. And maybe, you can get your university to pay for the transportation costs of the books you collected. Again, experience in a different framework shows that some universities (or maybe private donors) may have funds available for such purposes.

So, if you have books or journals (in mathematics and related disciplines, such as Computer Science) that you wish to donate to a developing country, please let us know, with a short description of the material available. Contact the EMS Committee for Developing Countries: either Tsou Sheung Tsun (tsou@ maths.ox.ac.uk) or Herbert Fleischner (fleischner@oeaw.ac.at).



UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN

TRINITY COLLEGE

Department of Pure and Applied Mathematics

Trinity College Dublin, founded in 1592, has a long tradition in the study of mathematics and its Department of Pure and Applied Mathematics currently has two full-time Chairs. The College is now seeking outstanding candidates for one of these chairs, which is currently vacant.

Erasmus Smith's Chair of Mathematics (1762)

Candidates should have a distinguished internationally recognised record of achievement in research in any area of pure mathematics, a strong commitment to teaching and a demonstrated capacity for leadership. In addition, they should have a capacity to promote the further development of Mathematics in the College, in cooperation with the holder of the other Chair in the Department, the University Chair of Natural Philosophy (1847). The person appointed will serve periods as Head of Department.

The appointment, which will be tenable from 1 June 2003 (or as soon as possible thereafter), will be made at the appropriate point on the professorial salary scale, which for new entrants is currently $\in 83,726 - \in 107,734$.

Information about the Department and further particulars of the appointment, including details of salary and other benefits may be obtained from:

Michael Gleeson, Secretary to the College Trinity College, Dublin 2, Ireland Tel: +353-1-608 1722/1123 / Fax: +353-1-671 0037 Email: moya.thompson@tcd.ie

to whom formal application should be sent to arrive by the preferred closing date of **Friday**, **1st November**, **2002**.

Further details regarding the Department may be obtained on the website: http://www.maths.tcd.ie

Trinity College Dublin is an equal opportunities employer

MIDLANDS REGIONAL MEETING

Report on the LMS regional meeting 27 February and the meeting on Model Theory, 28 February to 2 March 2002, in Birmingham.

The second Midlands Regional Meeting of the Society took place in Birmingham on Wednesday 27 February 2002. The meeting was again well-attended, and the highlights of the afternoon were three excellent lectures.

The first of these was given by Peter Neumann from Oxford University, who gave a presentation on "Infinite Jordan Groups". Starting from the notion of a permutation group, Peter Neumann explained the idea of a Jordan set and a Jordan group, and outlined the beautiful connections between Jordan groups and the "geometric" structure they preserve on the underlying set. The lecture was full of examples, and the highlight was the description of the classification of infinite Jordan groups due to himself, Adeleke and Macpherson. Neumann ended his lecture with an outline of some of the further areas of research in this area, in particular hinting at the rich connection the subject has with model theory.

The second lecture of the day was given by Tony Gardiner of Birmingham University, who spoke on "Why should the mathematical community care about olympiads?" As anyone who has heard Tony Gardiner speak will expect, his talk was full of interesting and entertaining mathematical problems and anecdotes, including accounts of some of his own personal experiences and opinions on the olympiads. But the subject of the talk was much broader and more important than just this, and Gardiner raised important and difficult issues for everyone involved in the education of mathematics students as the effects of Curriculum 2000 begin to make themselves be felt.

The last of the three talks of the afternoon was a tour-de-force presented by Angus Macintyre of Edinburgh University entitled "Prospects for model theory". Ranging over the history of model theory from its beginnings in the mid-20th century, and over the wide range of pure mathematics that it has touched upon during this time. Macintyre's lecture highlighted the strengths (and some weaknesses) of model theory as a discipline. His main aim in this talk was to illustrate some of the striking successes of the theory in recent years and speculate of the theory's prospects in relation to pure mathematics in general as it develops further through the "increasing geometrization" that has been witnessed in recent years - a trend which, Macintyre expects, will continue to be seen, with profit, for some time to come.

Macintyre's lecture was of considerable general interest for the pure mathematics community as a whole, but was particularly inspiring to the group of specialist model theorists that had assembled in Birmingham that week for a short conference that was to follow the regional meeting. This conference was also supported by the LMS, and proved to be a very intense but highly successful few days, featuring seventeen one-hour talks given in only three days by invited participants from Britain, the rest of Europe, the USA and Canada, to an audience of around 40 participants, including many postgraduate students. A full list of the talks and abstracts is maintained at http://www.mat.bham.ac.uk/R.W.Kaye/ models2002/ and a conference proceedings volume is planned.

Graduate students, both from Britain and abroad, had been very much encouraged to attend the regional meeting of the Society and the conference on model theory that followed, and there was plenty of time available during the tea break and during a wine reception after the end of official business to view the display of posters by these students. A prize of £100 was offered for the best one. In the event the judges, Angus Macintyre, Peter Neumann and Trevor Stuart, awarded the prize jointly to John Allsup and Richard Barraclough, who received £50 each. Their prize was awarded by Trevor Stuart at an extremely pleasant conference dinner that evening.

Richard Kaye

THE HISTORY OF MODERN MATHEMATICS

A joint meeting of the Open University Centre for the History of the Mathematical Sciences and the British Society for the History of Mathematics on 'The History of Modern Mathematics' will be held from Friday 20 - Sunday 22 September at Kents Hill Park Conference Centre, Kents Hill Park, Milton Keynes MK7 6TT. The speakers are:

Friday 20 September

- Elena Marchisotto (California State University) Mario Pieri and Italian geometry
- Moritz Epple (Stuttgart) Space forms
- Jeremy Gray (Open University) Macaulay and algebraic geometry
- John McCleary (Vassar) t.b.a.

Saturday 21 September

- Umberto Bottazzini (Palermo) Italian geometry around 1900
- Elena Marchisotto (California State University) The life, work, and importance of Mario Pieri
- Tilman Sauer (Cal Tech) Metamathematics and unity of science
- Erhard Scholz (Wuppertal) Group representations and physics

Sunday 22 September

- June Barrow-Green (Open University) Birkhoff and celestial mechanics
- Tony Crilly (Middlesex) Cayley
- Karen Parshall (Virginia) Sylvester

For further information contact Chris Weeks, BSHM Membership & Publicity Officer (chrisweeks@eurobell.co.uk) or visit the BSHM website (www.dcs.war wick.ac.uk/bshm/).

3RD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON APPLIED MATHEMATICS

The 3rd International Conference on Applied Mathematics (ICAM 3) will be held from 10-13 October 2002 at Baia Mare and Borsa, Romania. The organisers are the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, North University of Baia Mare and Maramures Branch of Romanian Mathematical Society. At this stage educators and researchers interested in attending the conference (either presenting a paper or not) should send a message to the organizing committee containing their name, address, fax number and e-mail. Further details and announcements will be sent to those responding to this call.

The main focus of ICAM3 is recent developments in pure and applied mathematics as well as computer science. It is planned to have plenary lectures (40 minutes), invited section lectures (30 minutes) and regular lectures (15 minutes).

The conference fee consists of 100 Euros which will cover all expenses (registration fee, conference materials, publications, accommodation, meals, and excursion). The participants from Romania and former socialistic countries will pay a reduced 50% conference fee due to some sponsorships. For accompanying persons a 10% discount will operate.

A refereed proceedings of the conference will be published in the journal Bul. Stiint., Univ. Baia Mare Ser. B, Mat-Inf. (reviewed "cover to cover" by both MR and Zbl). The authors are invited to send manuscripts of their papers in TEX (preferably in LATEX) on a diskette or by e-mail, accompanied by a paper copy.

For further information contact: Professor Dr Vasile Berinde, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, Faculty of Sciences, North University of Baia Mare, Victoriei 76, RO-4800 Baia Mare, Romania (tel: +40-262-427466, fax: +40-262-275368: e-mail: icam@ univer.ubm.ro). Department of Mathematics

KING'S COLLEGE LONDON



University of La

Lectureship in Financial Mathematics

Applications are invited for a newly established Lectureship in Financial Mathematics at King's College London, to be taken up with effect from 1 January 2003 or as soon as possible thereafter.

Candidates should have an established track record of research at a level of international excellence in some area of financial mathematics. Applications are particularly encouraged from candidates with a background in stochastic analysis, or some other area of analysis. The appointee to this permanent post in the Department of Mathematics will be expected to maintain an active programme of research, and to play a significant role in all aspects of the organisation and teaching of financial mathematics. The Department of Mathematics has a long and distinguished history, and is advantageously located in the heart of London, between the West End and the financial district of the City of London.

The appointment will be made at the appropriate point on the Lecturer A or Lecturer B scale. Further particulars of the post and information about the application procedure may be obtained from the departmental web pages at: www.mth.kcl.ac.uk/vacancies/. Alternatively, contact: Personnel Office, King's College London, Strand, London WC2R 2LS (fax: 020 7848 1352; e-mail: strand-recruitment@kcl.ac.uk).

Please quote reference number A1/CCM/43/02 on all correspondence.

The closing date for the receipt of completed applications is 30th September 2002.

Equality of opportunity is College policy.

ISAAC NEWTON INSTITUTE CORRESPONDENTS

The Isaac Newton Institute has established a list of UK University correspondents who act as a channel of communication between the Newton Institute and the mathematical sciences community of the Universities concerned. Correspondents are regularly informed about activities of the Institute, disseminate this to the relevant University Departments, and provide feedback to the Institute. Further information about the Institute can be found at the website (http://www.newton@cam.ac.uk).

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York University	Professor E.F. Corrigan	ec9@york.ac.uk

SEMINAR ORGANISERS

The web page http://www.newton.cam. ac.uk/programmes/Speakers.html lists those overseas participants at the Isaac Newton Institute during the remainder of 2002 who are willing to travel to UK Universities and other institutions during their stay in order to give seminars. The Newton Institute will fully cover the travel costs (but not accommodation, etc) for such visits on request, provided that a formal invitation has been received by the participant. It is hoped that this scheme will enable seminar organizers around the UK to find out easily who is at the Newton Institute in their fields and to arrange for them to visit.

Note that the dates listed against each name are the dates of their visit to the Newton Institute. Participants will usually be happiest to visit other Universities at either the start or the end of this period, and may well be prepared to extend it slightly in either direction. The e-mail address for each participant can be obtained by clicking on his or her name.

LEVERHULME TRUST

Seven Royal Society Leverhulme Trust Research Fellows, including two LMS members, have been appointed thanks to funding from the Leverhulme Trust. The fellowships offer an opportunity for recipients to be relieved of all teaching and administrative duties in order to undertake full-time research for a period of up to one year.

- Professor I.D. Abrahams (Manchester) will work for one year on elastic, acoustic and electromagnetic wave propagation in inhomogeneous media.
- Professor A.M. Stuart (Warwick) will spend a year working on algorithms for extracting effective macroscopic dynamics: analysis and development.

DYNAMICS, ALGEBRA AND STATISTICS

The Dynamics, Algebra and Statistics Meeting (DAS) will be held from 16-17 September at the Department of Statistics, University of Warwick. The aim of the meeting is to bring together statisticians and algebraists to exchange, discuss and develop novel ideas related to the use of symbolic computation in statistics. Special attention is given to the polynomial algebraic nature of dependence structures, causality and time series.

The use of symbolic computation in statistics and probability has developed substantially in the last years, with research groups in various countries. So far the research focused mainly on the use of polynomial algebra in design of experiment and the foundations of statistics and probability theory and on the use of toric ideals in the analysis of graphical models. New interest is now directed to applications of symbolic computation to the study and analysis of complex dependence structures, independence graphs, dynamic causality, intervention in multivariate time series and probability modelling. Invited participants include:

- Peter Caines (McGill University, Canada)
- Rob Deardon (Warwick University, UK)
- Vanessa Didelez (University College London, UK)
- Michael Eichler (Heidelberg University, Germany)
- Mac McDonald (Southampton University, UK)
- David Mond (Warwick University, UK)
- Giovanni Pistone (Politecnico di Torino, Italy)
- Catriona Queen (Open University, UK)
- Fabio Rapallo (University of Genova, Italy)
- Jim Smith (Warwick University, UK)
- Peter Smith (Southampton University, UK)
- Henry Wynn (Warwick University, UK)

LMS members interested in attending the meeting can contact Eva Riccomagno (emr@stats.warwick.ac.uk) for an invitation. The London Mathematical Society is co-sponsoring the meeting.

SEMIGROUPS AND LANGUAGES

A three-day workshop organized by CAUL (Centro de Algebra da Universidade de Lisboa) is to be held in Lisbon, Portugal from 27 to 29 November 2002. Invited lecturers include:

- J. Almeida (Porto University)
- J. Fountain (University of York)
- J. Howie (University of St Andrews)
- D. McAlister (Northern Illinois University)
- D. Munn (University of Glasgow)
- J.-E. Pin (CNRS, Université Paris 7)
- S. Pride (University of Glasgow)
- N. Ruskuc (University of St Andrews)
- M. Volkov (Ural State University)

Abstracts will be accepted until 30 September 2002. For more information see the website (http://caul.cii.fc.ul.pt/ wsl2002/).

MEROMORPHIC FUNCTIONS

Meromorphic Functions by W.K. Hayman, 209 pages, Clarendon Press, 1975. ISBN 0-19-853510-4, £20. This book studies functions meromorphic in the plane and in the unit disc. The basic tool is the theory of Nevalinna. Later chapters are concerned with developments largely due to A. Edrei, W.H.J. Fuchs, A.A. Goldberg, J.G. Clunie, the author and others. Ahlfors's related theory of covering surfaces is also presented, and there is an appendix of developments up to 1974. Meromorphic Functions is only available from the author. Please send a request for it and a cheque for £20. which includes postage & packing, to: Professor W.K. Hayman, Department of Mathematics, Imperial College, Huxley Building, 180 Queen's Gate, London SW7 2BZ. This book is not available from OUP.

London Mathematical Society Monographs

New books 2001 & 2002

Analytic Theory of Polynomials

Critical Points, Zeros and Extremal Properties

Quazi Ibadur Rahman and Gerhard Schmeisser

This text provides easy to understand proofs some of the most difficult results about polynomials. It encompasses a self-contained account of the properties of polynomials as analytic functions of a special kind. The zeros of compositions of polynomials are also investigated along with their growth. As a result some of these considerations lead to the study of analogous questions for trigonometric polynomials and certain transcendental entire functions. The strength of methods are fully explained and demonstrated by means of applications.

LMS Monographs No. 26 0-19-853493-0 Hardback £85.00 £59.50 720pp March 2002



The Structure of Groups of Prime Power Order

OXFORD

UNIVERSITY PRESS

C.R. Leedham-Green and S.McKay

An important monograph summarising the development of a classification system of finite p-groups.

Throughout the book the authors have used a wide range of algebraic techniques and have developed from first principles, or from basic and well known results, the cohomology of groups, spectral sequences, and representation theory.

This comprehensive and long-awaited survey of the recent and current research on the structure of finite p-groups will be an important reference for all group theorists.

LMS Monographs No. 27 0-19-853548-1 Hardback £60.00 £42.00 324 pp July 2002

The Mysteries of the Real Prime

M.J. Shai Haran

A highly topical and original monograph, introducing the author's work on the Riemann zeta function and it's adelic interpretation of interest to a wide range of mathematicians and physicists.

LMS Monographs No. 25 0-19-850868-9 Hardback £45.00 £31.50 254pp September 2001

Banach Algebras and Autonomic Continuity

H.G. Dales

A substantial account of the algebraic and analytic theory of Banach algebras, and of their homomorphisms and derivations; with many examples considered.

LMS Monographs No. 24 0-19-850013-0 Hardback £110.00 £77.00 912 pp March 2001

HOLGATE LECTURES 2002-03

There is a new group of Holgate Lectures for the coming year. You will recall that the Holgate Lecture scheme is run by the London Mathematical Society to provide help for locally based groups to invite selected high-quality lecturers to give a talk on a mathematical subject, at a level suitable for those in the 15 to 18 age group (and above) who may be considering mathematics for future study.

This year's lecturers and the topics they are offering are:

Dr H.M. Byrne

- Modelling early tumour growth;
- Making more of experiments;
- Mathematics and macrophages: weapons for fighting cancer?;
- Using mathematics to explain experimental results.

Dr H.E. Mason

- Beyond the Rainbow: UV and X-ray Observations of the Sun;
- SOHO: The Solar and Heliospheric Observatory;
- Total Solar Eclipse; Waves and the Sun;
- The Solar Spectrum: Atoms and Ions.

Dr A.B. Slomson

- · How to Play Games with Trees;
- How to Count, Probably: an introduction to combinatorics;
- What computers cannot do;
- Polynomials both simple and quadratic.

Dr N.D. Gilbert

- The Turing Test;
- Only connect;
- Numbers and codes.

Professor D.S. Broomhead

- The Mite's Tale from randomness to chaos:
- The Gambler's Tale randomness, chaos and order;
- The Mathematician's Tale taking the rough with the smooth.

The lecturers will not charge fees for the lectures themselves, an *honorarium* being provided to them by the London Mathematical Society; but the Education Committee expects local organisers to reimburse lecturers' travel expenses and subsistence costs and to cover local costs. If this is not possible without outside help, the LMS Education Committee can provide a number of small grants.

Further information may be obtained from the Society's website

(http://www.lms.ac.uk/activities/education_com/holgate_general.html) or contact Frances Spoor, London Mathematical Society, De Morgan House, 57-58 Russell Square, London WC1B 4HS (tel: 020 7637 3686, fax: 020 7323 3655, e-mail: spoor@ lms.ac.uk).

ONE-DAY FUNCTION THEORY MEETING

A one-day Function Theory Meeting will be held at De Morgan House, London on Monday 16 September from 10.30 am to 5.30 pm. Topics to be covered are:

- Radial growth of univalent functions Walter Hayman (Imperial College)
- Geometric models for composition operators on the little Bloch space Matthew Jones (Middlesex University)
- Functions meromorphic outside a small set: completely invariant domains Patricia Dominguez (Puebla, Mexico)
- Unbounded analytic functions on plane domains
 James Hinchliffe (Nottingham University)
- Interpolation from the disc into the symmetrised bidisc Nicholas Young (Newcastle University)
- Sharp integrability for Brownian motion in regions of parabolic-type Tom Carroll (University College, Cork)

The LMS has provided funding for research students' travel costs, please contact Phil Rippon. All are welcome. For further details contact Phil Rippon (p.j.rippon@open.ac.uk).

MODEL THEORY AND SET THEORY

There will be a one-day meeting on Model Theory and Set Theory on Tuesday 10 September at the LMS Building, De Morgan House, Russell Square, London WC1, as part of the series "Set Theory and its Neighbours". The meeting will start at 11.00 am with the first talk at 11.30 am. The speakers will include:

- Juliette Kennedy (Helsinki)
- Robin Knight (Oxford)

- Katie Thompson (East Anglia)
- Jouko Väänänen (Helsinki)

Further information is available via the website (http://www.ucl.ac.uk/~ucah cjm/stn.html) or from Charles Morgan (charles.morgan@ucl.ac.uk). We hope to keep the meetings fairly relaxed, allowing plenty of opportunity for informal discussion. We welcome and encourage anyone to participate. There may be some financial support for graduate students - contact Charles Morgan for details. We are very grateful to the LMS for allowing us to use De Morgan House as a venue, and to the LMS for its financial support.

SCOTTISH COMPUTATIONAL MATHEMATICS SYMPOSIUM

The Scottish Computational Mathematics Symposium 2002 will be held at the University of Strathclyde on Friday 20 September. The speakers are:

- Mike Christie (Petroleum Engineering, Heriot-Watt) Uncertainty quantification in oil recovery predictions
- Nancy Nichols (Mathematics, Reading) Data assimilation in large scale dynamical models
- John Barrett (Mathematics, Imperial College) Finite element approximation of a void elecromigration model
- Nigel Weatherill (Civil Engineering, UCW, Swansea) Issues of mesh quality in computational engineering
- Will Light (Mathematics, Leicester) The modern context and technology for approximation with radical basic functions

The meeting is supported by the London Mathematical Society. To register (£25, students £15) send a cheque payable to University of Strathclyde by **13 September** and include your address. The fee includes tea, coffee and lunch. Cheques should be sent to Professor D.M. Sloan, Department of Mathematics, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow G1 1XH (d.sloan@strath.ac.uk).

SHORT INSTRUCTIONAL COURSES IN MATHEMATICS

Facilitator

The London Mathematical Society's present contract with EPSRC to run Short Courses comes to an end this year, and the Society has negotiated a new contract with EPSRC to run 15 week-long Short Courses in the period 1 January 2003 to 30 April 2006. The Society intends to appoint a Facilitator for this, to succeed Dr Alan Pears, who has served as Facilitator for the period of the present contract.

The role of the Facilitator shall be to:

- a) consult widely and bring forward suggestions of topics for Courses to the Committee;
- b) recruit Organisers for Courses, advising on the preparation of the scope and syllabus of the course;
- c) oversee the production and dissemination of publicity material and the procedure for applications and registrations of participants;
- d) advise on the budget of each Course, ensuring that the terms of the contract with EPSRC are met;
- e) assist the Course Organiser of a Course in the preparation of the final report and financial statement;
- f) advise and support Course Organisers in matters relating to Courses;
- g) report formally to the Executive Secretary of the London Mathematical Society.

In doing so, the Facilitator will work with the staff of De Morgan House, using procedures set up by Alan Pears, and will work in consultation with, and under the direction of, the Research Meetings Committee and its Chair, Professor A.J. Scholl.

It is expected that the post will be one-fifth time (one day per week), although there may be the possibility of further work on other duties, and will be paid at an appropriate point on the Academic Salary Scale. If you are interested, please consult Professor Scholl in the first instance: he can provide further information.

Professor A.J. Scholl, DPMMS, Centre for Mathematical Sciences, Wilberforce Road, Cambridge CB3 0WB. E-mail: a.j.scholl@dpmms.cam.ac.uk; Tel: 01223 765 889.

LMS PROGRAMME AND CONFERENCE FUND

Programme Committee has recently awarded grants to support the following conferences and meetings. These are open to members. If you wish to attend, or would like more information, please contact the organiser.

Date/Venue	Title	Organizer/e-mail
4-6 Sept 2002 Oxford	6th Galway Topology Colloquium	R.W. Knight knight@maths.ox.ac.uk
16 Sept 2002	One Day Function Theory	P.J. Rippon
De Morgan House	Meeting	p.j.rippon@open.ac.uk
16-17 Sept 2002	Dynamics, Algebra and Statistics	E. Riccomagno
Warwick	Meeting (DAS)	emr@stats.warwick.ac.uk
20 Sept 2002	Scottish Computational	D. Sloan
Strathclyde	Mathematics Symposium 2002	d.sloan@strath.ac.uk
7 Oct 2002	Multiscale Phenomena in	F. Theil
Warwick	Plasticity	theil@maths.warwick.ac.uk
4-6 Nov 2002 King's College London	4th De Morgan Conference: Combining Probability and Logic	D.M. Gabbay dg@dcs.kcl.ac.uk
7-11 Jul 2003	International Mathematical	P. Ramsden
Imperial College	Symposium 2003	p.ramsden@ic.ac.uk
28 Aug - 5 Sept 2003 Durham	New Horizons in Arithmetic Geometry	M.J. Taylor martin.taylor@umist.ac.uk

GALWAY TOPOLOGY COLLOQUIUM

The 6th Galway Topology Colloquium will be held in Oxford on 4-6 September. The Galway Topology Colloquia are an annual sequence of conferences particularly for topologists from the UK, Eire and nearby countries. The colloquia aim to foster links between topologists working in different centres. The atmosphere is relaxed and informal. They are aimed especially at graduate students, who are particularly encouraged to contribute. Talks need not be about recent research, and expository talks on, for example, a technique, construction or other topic of general interest are welcomed. Ralph Kopperman (City College, CUNY, New York) and Mirna Dzamonja (UEA) have been invited to speak.

The LMS has provided some money to help graduate students with travel and accommodation, which is ordinarily intended to be matched by support from their own department or other funds. For further details contact R.W. Knight (knight@maths.ox.ac.uk). The support of the LMS is gratefully acknowledged.

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F.J. DYSON HONORARY MEMBER 2000

DIARY

The diary lists Society meetings and other events publicized in the Newsletter. Further information can be obtained from the appropriate LMS Newsletter whose number is given in brackets. A fuller list of meetings and events is given in the Society's web site (http://www.lms.ac.uk/meetings/diary.html).

SEPTEMBER 2002

1-6 Real Functions Theory Conference, Slovakia (304)

1-9 Algebraic Hyperstructures and Applications Congress, Samothraki Island, Greece (300) 2-5 Čomputational, Statistical and Mathematical Modelling in Biology Summer School, Glasgow University (306)

2-6 Random Graphs & Structures Workshop. Newton Institute, Cambridge (303)

2-6 Topics in Algebraic Number Theory

LMS/EPSRC Short Course, King's College London (304)

4-6 Sixth Galway Topology Colloquium, Oxford University (307)

5-7 Workshop on Discrete Groups and Analysis, Southampton University (305)

9-13 Designs in Combinatorics and Statistics LMS/EPSRC Short Course, Queen Mary, University of London (304)

9-13 Mathematics in Medicine, Nottingham University (306)

9-20 Axiomatic, Enriched and Motivic Homotopy Theory Conference, Isaac Newton Institute, Cambridge (302)

9-27 Intersection Theory and Moduli, ICTP, Italy (300)

10 Model Theory and Set Theory Meeting, De Morgan House, London (307)

14 SECANTS, Royal Holloway (307)

15-21 Theory and Applications of Imaging CIME Course, Italy (304)

16 Function Theory Meeting, De Morgan House, London (307)

16-17 Dynamics, Algebra and Statistics Meeting, Warwick University (307)

16-19 Domains - VI Workshop, Birmingham University (306)

16-20 Differential Geometry, Homogeneous Spaces and Integrable Systems LMS/EPSRC Short Course, Durham University (304)

20 Scottish Computational Mathematics

Symposium, Strathclyde University (307)

20-22 The History of Modern Mathematics, Open University (307)

23 Yorkshire Differential Geometry Day, Leeds University (307)

26-29 Thompson Fest, Cambridge University (305) 30-4 Oct K-theory and Arithmetic Conference, Isaac Newton Institute, Cambridge (302)

OCTOBER 2002

7 Multiscale Phenomena in Plasticity, Warwick University (307)

10-13 Third International Conference on Applied Mathematics, Romania (307)

23 BSHM/LMS Meeting, The Four-colour Problem, London (306)

NOVEMBER 2002

4-6 Fourth De Morgan Conference: Combining Probability and Logic, King's College, London (307) 16 Functional Analysis Conference, Queen's University Belfast (305)

22 LMS Annual General Meeting, London 22-25 Workshop on Contemporary Aspects of Mathematical Physics, Gregynog Hall (307) 25 LMS South West and South Wales Regional Meeting (307)

27-29 Semigroups and Languages Workshop, Lisbon, Portugal (307)

DECEMBER 2002

9-13 Elliptic Cohomology and Chromatic Phenomena EuroWorkshop, Newton Institute, Cambridge (305)

16-12 Higher Chromatic Phenomena

EuroWorkshop, Newton Institute, Cambridge (305) 17 Recent Advances in Probability and Statistics Workshop, Brunel University of West London (306) JANUARY 2003

20-24 Mathematical Challenges in Scientific and Engineering Computation, Isaac Newton Institute, Cambridge (306)

FEBRUARY 2003

10-14 Permutation Patterns Conference, Otago University, New Zealand (303)

13-14 Computational Challenges in Micromagnetics and Superconductivity, Isaac Newton Institute, Cambridge (306)

APRIL 2003

7-10 BMC 2003, Birmingham University (296) 7-10 BAMC 2003, Southampton University (296) **JULY 2003**

7-11 ICIAM 2003, Industrial and Applied Mathematics, Sydney, Australia (305)

7-11 International Mathematical Symposium, Imperial College, London (307)

27-9 Aug Banach Algebras and their Applications Conference, Edmonton, Alberta (302) AUGUST 2003

28-5 Sept New Horizons in Arithmetic Geometry, Durham University (307)

The Newsletter is published monthly except in August. Items and advertisements for inclusion in the Newsletter should be sent to the Editor, Susan Oakes, by e-mail, fax or post to the LMS office (addresses below), to arrive before the first day of the month prior to publication.

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