Email:

Welcome to the MA monthly newsletter

The Mathematical Association
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May 2017

Dear Member

MA Secondary Mathematics Conference
Stirling University, 30 September 2017

The MA's stimulating one-day conference for secondary Maths teachers returns to Stirling University in September. Come and hear Tom Roper on mathematics subject knowledge, Rachael Horsman on developing geometrical thinking, Stuart Welsh on blended learning, Charlie Gilderdale on NRICH and of course, the irrepressible Adam McBride. Details and booking portal at www.m-a.org.uk/secondary-events.

60-second Survey: Uptake of A level Maths & Further Maths

If your institution offers A level mathematics, we invite you to complete our latest short survey … and please urge others to do so too!
https://drive.google.com/open?id=1MaX2PlTOdRPxxJbk7t7bYPaCGlOX5vqcVcsCelHBd48
The outcomes of these surveys are often reported in the education press and do have an impact, so sign up to take part and add to that impact.

Primary Mathematics Challenge 2017/18: Time to enter!

Orders open for the 2017/18 Primary Mathematics Challenge. Order your packs today via http://entrants.primarymathschallenge.org.uk/PMC-Registration

MA BRANCH EVENTS www.m-a.org.uk/branch-events

Birmingham MA/ATM Branch, Room 422 (4th floor), School of Education, University of Birmingham, Thursday 15 June, 7 pm for 7.15 – 8.45.

Gary Setchell and Ben Orlin will lead a session on 'My favourite lesson' (primary & secondary). Come prepared to share your favourite lesson too. Please let Lindsay Francome (L.Francome@Bishopullathorne.co.uk) know if you intend being there, so refreshments can be organised.

Cambridge MA/ATM Branch Event, Centre for Mathematical Sciences, Wilberforce Road, Cambridge CB4 0WA, Thursday 15 June, 5 – 6.30

A local TeachMeet for anyone who teaches maths at primary, secondary or post-16, led by Sue Gifford and Jenni Black. Drinks/nibbles from 4.30, parking available. If you are planning to attend, please contact Lynne McClure (Lm409@cam.ac.uk) to let her know.

Exeter MA/ATM Branch Event, Exeter Maths School, Rougemont House, Castle St., Exeter EX4 3PU, Wednesday 21 June, 6.30 for a 7 pm start

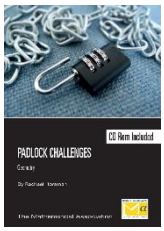
'Praying souls out of purgatory: ratio and proportion in the mathematical classroom'. With a title like that, you just have to go! Some history, measuring instruments and some good old-fashioned geometry, all care of Peter Ransom.

Yorkshire Branch, MALL 1, School of Mathematics, University of Leeds LS2 9JT, Saturday 10 June, 2 pm for 2.30 – 4.00.

Chris Pritchard with 'More ideas for teaching area'; Pick's theorem, sangaku, algebraic identities, strange tangrams … and the elusive Archimedes' elephant.

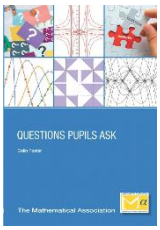
Two new books from our store

***Padlock Challenges — Geometry* by Rachael Horsman**



Innovative and motivating geometry challenges and activities for KS3/4 students which lead them to the combination to the padlock to the treasure box. Members' Price £7.59
http://members.m-a.org.uk/Shop/product/1112

***Questions Pupils Ask*, by Colin Foster**



If two minuses make a plus, why don't two pluses make a minus? What is the formula for factorial? And why isn't π a whole number? In this collection of over 40 articles from MA journals, Colin Foster tackles the tricky Questions Pupils Ask about mathematics, with links to puzzles, tasks and applications to daily life. Members' Price £13.45
http://members.m-a.org.uk/Shop/product/1114

Don't miss out! A reminder that *The Mathematical Gazette* and *Mathematics in School* are now available online to members. Go to the website (www.m-a.org.uk) and click on **Register** on the upper right hand side of the home page (unless you have already registered) for which your email address and membership number are required. Then about 2 hours later you'll be able to click on **Login** (adjacent to the Register tab) to gain access.

Free course on teaching A Level Maths at UCL

UCL Institute of Education are running FREE 3-day courses (developed with funding from FMSP), focusing on learning to teach A Level Mathematics, 25-27 July 2017 or 22-24 August 2017, at UCL in London. For more details see www.ucl.ac.uk/lifelearning/courses/advanced-mathematics-teaching-early-career.

Jo Walters Trust

The Jo Walters Trust is offering a grant of up to £1000 to support projects which help and inspire pupils to engage with maths.
http://jowalterstrust.org.uk/grant-awards/2016-grant-awards/157-2016-maths-grant.html

NFER Report: Maths teacher recruitment and retention levels too low

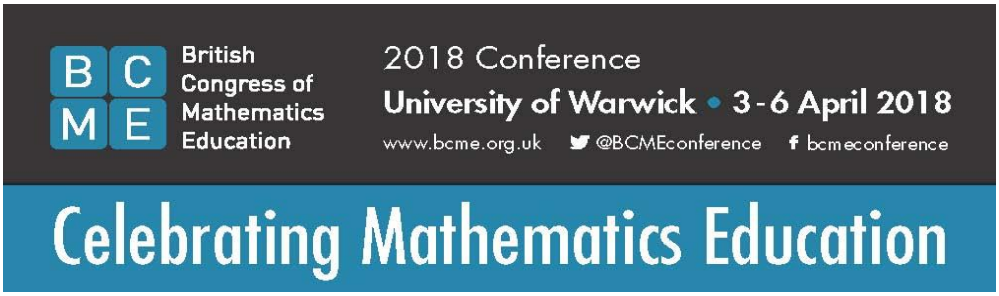
A report from NFER confirms that the recruitment and retention levels of mathematics teachers in England are too low. Find it at:
www.nfer.ac.uk/publications/NUFS01/NUFS01.pdf
This is the first report from an NFER project which aims to gain a deeper understanding of the dynamics within the teacher workforce in England. Given the shortage of teachers of mathematics, highlighted in the report, colleagues may be interested in keeping abreast of the project by registering your interest and receiving updates and reports.

Seven deadly sins of statistical misinterpretation

There is a positive correlation between the number of people who die by falling into a swimming pool each year and the number of films featuring Nicholas Cage. If that leads you to some dodgy statistical reasoning then check out this article from PHYS.ORG:
https://phys.org/news/2017-03-deadly-statistical-misinterpretation.html

Practitioner Research in Mathematics Education (PRiME) Day
London Mathematical Society, 17 June 2017, 10.00 am – 4.00 pm

Recent national initiatives, such as the Maths Hubs, are promoting teacher research in mathematics education across sectors (in addition to established routes for post-graduate and doctoral practitioner research). The event will provide a forum for practitioner researchers to share their projects with a focus on broadening research skills to support systematic approaches. The day is organised by BERA Special Interest Groups on Mathematics Education, in collaboration with BSRLM. More information and registration at www.bera.ac.uk/event/practitioner-research-in-mathematics-education-prime



Next April there will be no MA Annual Conference because BCME-9 is taking place in Warwick. It will cover every phase (early years through to university) and aspect (teaching through to research, policy and public engagement) and have high profile plenary speakers. Details at www.bcme.org.uk .

Join us!
If you don't already follow the MA on Twitter, join us here and help stay up to date with our events and news.

Compiled by Chris Pritchard, Tom Roper & Lucy Rycroft-Smith