



March 2017

Dear Member

Final Notice: 2017 Annual Conference 7-9 April, Royal Holloway College, Egham

If you've not already got your application in for this year's Annual Conference, then now's the time to do it. The programme, and fees, are available at <http://www.m-a.org.uk/annual-conference>, together with support for getting funded by your school or college. Primary Special Day 8 April; Further Maths Day 9 April; Teaching and Learning with Technology strand throughout; build your teaching for the new curricula 5-18. Join us for this lively and inspiring conference, with its good company, civilised surroundings and hands-on mathematical recharging! Discounts available for beginner teachers, for groups of 4 or more booking together (they don't have to be from the same school/college), for personal members early in their career or new to conference.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of The Mathematical Association will be held at 6.45 pm on Friday 7th April in the Windsor Building, Royal Holloway University of London, Egham. Reports will be received from the Chair of Council, Peter Ransom, and the Treasurer, Bill Richardson.

Council is still seeking to co-opt members to the Chair of Membership and the Chair of Publicity and Media: please consider if you would like to contribute to the Association in such a way.

Should any member of the Association have an item for discussion under AOB, this should be sent by email to this year's AGM Chair, Dr. Jennie Golding at j.golding@ucl.ac.uk and to senioradministrator@m-a.org.uk by noon on Tuesday, 4th April 2017.

Electing Honorary Members

From now on Council intends to seek nominations for Honorary Members on an annual basis. Such nominees should be outstanding contributors to mathematics, its learning and teaching or its communication to the public. Please send the name and a short justification for your nomination to Headquarters in Leicester by 15 May, marking the outside of the envelope, 'Honorary Members'.

Accessing MA journals via JSTOR

Two of the Association's journals, *Mathematical Gazette* and *Mathematics in School*, are now available online to members. Simply 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. Give that registration process a couple of hours to filter through the JSTOR and MA computers, then click on **Login** (adjacent to the Register tab) to gain access. Note that there is a 5-year moving wall, so that all issues are available to the end of 2011 at this point. The 2012 issues will become available at the end of this year, and so on.

Latest issue of EQUALS now available

EQUALS is the MA's online journal for teachers who are working to support our weaker children in mathematics. The latest edition is now online at www.m-a.org.uk/resources/Equals-22.1.pdf. Its focus is enjoyment in maths and it has articles on how to increase motivation, for example through the use of games, as well as a piece on working with the visually impaired.

The 1729 Group

In 2010, the MA received a legacy of £1729. The number was chosen because of the fame bestowed upon it by the celebrated tale of Hardy's taxi. This gave rise to the notion of **The 1729 Group**. Membership is open to anyone making a donation to the Association of a sum which is mathematically significant. (Incidentally, 1729 is the smallest positive integer which can be expressed as the sum of two cubes in two distinct ways.) Learn more about the group at www.m-a.org.uk/The-1729-Group.

Accessing the MA's holdings at Leicester University Library

The David Wilson Library at Leicester University houses two collections belonging to The Mathematical Association — the Mathematical Association Collection and the John Hersee Collection. Following a recent change to the service level agreement, MA members can now borrow up to 10 items free of

charge. There is also a postal book service which is free except for the cost of return postage. Further access details from Mike Price, the MA Librarian, via mhprice3@googlemail.com.

'Victorian Schooldays' exhibition at Leicester University Library (Mon-Sat, 9.30-5.00; Sun, 12.30-5.30 until 7 July)

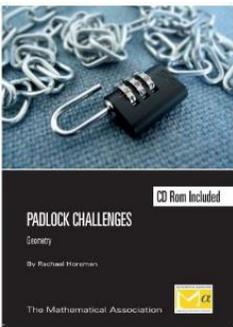
An exhibition exploring the life of school pupils in Victorian (and Edwardian) times and changes to the school system throughout the period is currently being held at the David Wilson Library. It uses books and archives from Special Collections, including those belonging to the Mathematical Association (see above).

MA Yorkshire Branch Event

Leeds University, 29 March, 2.15pm for 2.30pm
Dr Vicky Neale – How to Solve Equations

Further details on the MA website.

New Book: *Padlock Challenges — Geometry*



This exciting book, the third in the series, by Rachael Horsman is coming soon. *Padlock Challenges* is a motivating, innovative and practical way to enable students (Key stage 3 and 4) to engage with geometry. It is a comprehensive set of worksheets from which teachers can construct their own pupil booklets or classroom posters containing a selected set of challenges. Each challenge is carefully constructed to enable students to

gain confidence and skills. The conclusion of each challenge is a number determined by their answers. Collectively these lead to the combination for a padlock and the route to opening a designated treasure box secured with a chain and combination lock. Find the combination and gain the treasure within.

More primary teachers sought to take forward teaching for mastery

The NCETM has announced details of the recruitment of a third wave of teachers to become specialists in mastery approaches to teaching primary mathematics. 140 primary teachers will be selected to join the Mastery Specialists training programme, run by the NCETM in conjunction with Maths Hubs. Each Maths Hub will select four teachers to take part in the development phase of the programme during 2017-18, following in the footsteps of the same number recruited in the previous two years. The closing date for returning applications is 19 April. Details are at www.ncetm.org.uk/news/50046.

The Cambridge Mathematics 'Essentials at 14' survey

How well do we prepare our students for the mathematics they will need in the 'real world'? Do you agree that 'essential numeracy' at age 14 for example, is the same as it is for an adult? Cambridge Mathematics, a collaborative partnership between Cambridge Assessment, Cambridge University Press, and the Faculties of Mathematics and Education at the University of Cambridge, has teamed up with National Numeracy to put together a short and informal survey to find out what your opinions are. If you have a spare minute please complete the survey via: www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Essentialsat14.

Compiled by Chris Pritchard, MA Secretary