#### Fmail:



# Welcome to the MA monthly newsletter

The Mathematical Association 259 London Road Leicester LE2 3BE Email: office@m-a.org.uk



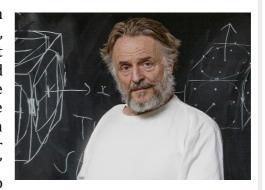
July 2017

Dear Member

## **New Honorary Members**

The MA is pleased to announce that John Conway and Hugh Burkhardt have become the latest Honorary Members of the Association.

John Conway came to prominence as a charismatic lecturer at Cambridge, where he worked on group theory, knot theory, game theory, sphere packing and surreal numbers. For the last 30 years he has been at Princeton, in which time he has been described as a 'cross between Archimedes, Mick Jagger and Salvador Dali'. The inventor of 'The Game of Life' and 'Sprouts', John continues to contribute to *The Mathematical Gazette*.





Hugh Burkhardt lectured in mathematical physics at Birmingham, Columbia and Caltech before becoming professor of mathematics education in Nottingham. Here he headed up the Shell Centre and CRME, which have given birth to significant developments in mathematics pedagogy, including the promotion of mathematical modelling in the classroom. In recent years Hugh has received numerous prizes from the international community of mathematics educators.

# Quality CPD for teachers in Scotland MA Secondary Mathematics Conference at Stirling University



12th Annual One Day

Secondary Education Mathematics
Conference

Saturday 30 September 2017

Pathfoot building, University of Stirling

Opening Plenary
Tom Roper

MA President 2017-18

The MA's stimulating one-day conference for secondary maths teachers returns to Stirling University on Saturday, 30 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.

#### Jo Morgan's blog

Have you tried the blog of 'resourceaholic', Jo Morgan? Here she writes about the MA: www.resourceaholic.com/2017/07/strength-in-numbers.html . Also follow her on Twitter @mathsjem.

## Primary Mathematics Challenge 2017/18

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



#### Join the Primary Maths Problem Team

The PMC Problem Team are looking to recruit some new members. If you would be interested in becoming part of our team, email pmc@m-a.org.uk for more information. Please have at least three questions ready to go!

#### Post-16 Maths

#### Adrian Smith's review of post-16 maths

Adrian Smith's review of *mathematics* education for 16-18 year olds in England was published on 20 July and can be downloaded from www.gov.uk/government/publications/smith-review-of-post-16-maths-report-and-government-response. A shortage of maths teachers means that increasing participation and improving maths education is to be a medium-term goal. See the *TES* article at www.tes.com/news/school-news/breaking-news/smith-report-maths-18-unrealistic-owing-teacher-shortages.

# Additional funding for post-16 maths

The Government is to channel £16 million over 2 years into mathematics education for 16-19 year olds. See the BBC article at www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-40672228.

#### The MA President's comments on the review and Nick Gibb's letter

The Mathematical Association President, Tom Roper, has written to Nick Gibb, Minister of State for School Standards, welcoming the recommendations of Adrian Smith's review of post-16 mathematics and making some further observations. Find it at <a href="https://www.m-a.org.uk/resources/2017-Jul-MA-to-Nick-Gibb-re-Smith-P16-Review.pdf">www.m-a.org.uk/resources/2017-Jul-MA-to-Nick-Gibb-re-Smith-P16-Review.pdf</a>.

#### Crisis in A Level Maths and Further Maths revealed by MA survey

A survey of maths teachers conducted by the MA has revealed a downturn in the number of students opting to study A Level Mathematics and a massive drop in the number opting for Further Mathematics. If this is realized in the new term, much of the recent gains will be reversed overnight. See the *TES* article at: www.tes.com/news/school-news/breaking-news/exclusive-maths-disaster-schools-report-alarming-decline-post-16-take.

# Maryam Mirzakhani (1977-2017)

The Iranian-born mathematician, Maryam Mirzakhani, has died of breast cancer at the age of forty. In 2014 she became the first woman to win the Fields Medal. A professor at Stanford University in California, Mirzakhani described doing mathematics as like 'connecting the dots in a detective case'. The *Telegraph* has the story at:

www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/07/15/sorrow-death-ofmaryam-mirzakhani-pioneering-iranian-mathematician/.



# 3-6 April 2018, University of Warwick Celebrating Mathematics Education

The BCME Programme Committee is currently seeking contributions to the 9th British Congress of Mathematics Education (BCME 9) to be held at the University of Warwick, 3-6 April 2018. When you complete the submission form at www.bcme.org.uk/Invitation-to-Contribute-, please indicate which participating society you are linked to: scroll down to The Mathematical Association towards the bottom. Completed applications must be received by 31st July 2017. If you have any queries or wish to discuss a possible contribution, please contact programme@bcme.org.uk.

### **Primary Mathematics Professional Development Day: Advance notice**

# Primary Mathematics

Professional Development Day
Problem Solving and Reasoning

Saturday, 11 November 2017

Wycombe High School High Wycombe Keynote

Debbie Morgan

rimary Director NCETM



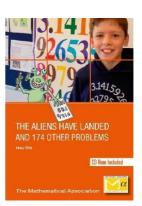
The next Primary Mathematics Professional Development Day will be held in Wycombe High School in November. Bookings opening soon via: <a href="http://www.m-a.org.uk/one-day-events">http://www.m-a.org.uk/one-day-events</a>

#### Our book of the month

# **The Aliens Have Landed and 174 Other Problems** by Mary Ellis

... is a collection of illustrated maths problems aimed at pupils in secondary schools from Year 7 upwards, although many of the questions are accessible to bright ten year olds and to anyone who likes problem solving.

£7.59 to Members, £9.99 to Non-Members. Shop now at http://members.m-a.org.uk/Shop/product/1115



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