WELCOME

• to Dr Temury Zaqarashvili who joins the Solar and Magnetospheric Theory Group for a year long visit. Temury comes from the Abastumani Astrophysical Observatory, Tbilisi, Georgia, where he is scientist-researcher. He holds a Royal Society/Nato Fellowship to work on magnetohydrodynamic waves in the solar atmosphere and will be collaborating with Bernard Roberts and other members of the group. Temury will share office space with Dan Brown (room 218).

• to Catherine Brown, who has just joined CREEM as a part-time secretary. Following a degree in chemistry with biology in Canada, Catherine worked as a translator, language teacher and sales assistant, before joining the Science Photo Library in London. She then spent the year 2000 travelling the world, and now says that she is ready for the quiet life in St Andrews!

• to Dr Charles Paxton who started work with RUWPA in April. Charles obtained his doctorate from Oxford and comes to us from the Lake District where he has been studying the population ecology of perch and pike.

• to Francois-Xavier Bocquet from Brussels who joins the Solar Theory Group as a PLATON Network PhD student. Francois-Xavier has done his first degree in Applied Physics at the Universite Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium. Francois-Xavier has spent his last undergraduate year in Florence on an ERASMUS fellowship and he took a number of courses on astrophysics there. He will be working on catastrophe models of flares.
CONGRATULATIONS

• to Keith Bennett, Daniel Brown, Peter Campbell, Catherine Gerrard, Duncan Mackay, Mairi McRobbie, Chris Mellor, Clare Parnell, Zaharernia Romeou and Richard Ryan, who all passed their Social Dance Award Examinations (Ballroom, Latin and Club)! Well Done!

NEWS

• Allan Gordon visited the University of Naples ‘Federico II’ from 12 - 15 March, presenting a short course of lectures on classification to research students and giving several seminars. As this was his first visit to Naples, he extended his stay by several days in order to do some sightseeing.

• Alex Craik gave a seminar to the Applied Mathematics group at Edinburgh University, on 30 April. His title was “Forced rotation of rigid and fluid bodies: an autonomous system with unbounded ‘bending’ solutions”.

TO LET

• Cottage in Denhead (4 miles from St Andrews town centre) available for rent from early June, for up to six months. Three bedrooms. Non-smokers only. Rent negotiable. Please contact sharon.hedley@noaa.gov or clare@mcs.st-and.ac.uk for further details.

SEMINARS

• Statistics L.T. D - 4pm)
  – Monday 14th May  Dr Colin AITKEN (University of Edinburgh)  “Two applications of statistics in the evaluation of evidence”

NEXT ISSUE

• Please send any material for the next newsletter to mcsnews@mcs by 12pm Thursday 14th June.