

# MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS

# NEWSLETTER

September 2000

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## NEW POST

- An extra Scientific Officer post has been created this year. This position has been filled by Susie Buhler who will start at the beginning of October. Her duties will be primarily to assist Tricia. This will include helping with the system administration and running of the School's vast assortment of computers and printers, and also helping members of the School with their computing problems.
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## CONGRATULATIONS

- to George Phillips whose book entitled "Two Millennia of Mathematics: From Archimedes to Gauss", it is to be published soon by Springer, New York. George started working on his book soon after he stopped teaching two years ago. He has taken some pains in the Preface to head off complaints that the book does not cover the whole topic defined by its title.

By a happy coincidence, George and Rona's sons Donald and James also have books coming out this year, in the areas of German politics and economic history, respectively.

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## WELCOME

- to Stephen Brooks who is the Solar Groups new Scientific Officer. Stephen joins us from Newcastle where he has just completed his PhD.
- back to Michael Ruderman who is visiting the Solar Group for a few weeks from Sheffield where he now holds a lectureship.

- to Dr Paul Rajaguru, from the Indian Institute of Astrophysics in Bangalore and Dr Yan Yihua from China who are visiting the Solar Group.
  - to Dr St.-M. Heinemann from the University Clausthal in Germany who is visiting B.O.Stratmann during September and October to complete joint work on the geometry and dynamics of harmonic measures on conformal repellers.
  - to Istvan Ballai, who is visiting the Solar Group before starting as a new postdoc in October. Istvan is doing his PhD on mhd waves, with Marcel Goossens in Leuven.
  - to Dr. Katsuya Hirata, Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering, Doshisha University, Kyoto, Japan. Dr. Hirata is visiting for one year, together with his wife and two young daughters. His work in fluid mechanics involves analytical, numerical and experimental methods.
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## NEWS

- B.O. Stratmann visited the University of Goettingen (Germany), Clausthal (Germany), Warwick (England) and Torun (Poland) during the summer where he gave various talks.
- Colin Campbell attended the Second Germany-Korea Mathematics Workshop on Algebra and Topology. Following a late change of venue, the meeting was held at Pusan National University. Colin gave an invited lecture at the Workshop which was held from 13 August to 26 August.
- Alex Craik took part in the Sir George Gabriel Stokes Millennium Summer School, Skreen, Co. Sligo, Ireland, during 6-9 August. Skreen, a rural parish on the west coast of Ireland, was Stokes's birthplace. The meeting was held in the parish hall, formerly a primary school which Stokes (probably) attended. The theme of this year's summer school was fluid mechanics, and particularly the Navier-Stokes equations. Alex gave a historical lecture, 'Stokes and his precursors on water-wave theory'.
- Clare Parnell, Danielle Bewsher and Eric Priest all attended the International Astronomical Union's 24th General Assembly at Manchester from the 7th-11th August. Clare gave a talk with co-authors Danielle, Richard Harrison (RAL) and Alan Hood and Eric gave an invited lecture.

- From 28th to the 31st August, Ineke De Moortel visited the Royal Observatory in Brussels, Belgium, to collaborate with Stefaan Poedts and Eva Robbrecht from the Catholic University Leuven and Erwin Verwichte, who was a former PhD student at the Solar Group. The work involved analysis of EIT data, an imaging instrument onboard SOHO.
- Cath, Gordon, Zacharenia, Ineke and Danielle from the Solar Theory group attended a PPARC advanced summer school at MSSL from the 3rd to the 8th of September. While there they met the new first year Solar Theory PhD students, Chris, Colin and Mairi. The five old hands all presented posters and gave 2 minute talks about their posters. Danielle won the competition for the best poster.

Eric Priest, Clare Parnell and ex-Solar group member Robert Walsh all gave a series of lectures at the summer school. A good time was had by all.

- Bernard Roberts gave 4 lectures at the PPARC Introductory Postgraduate Course in Solar-Terrestrial Physics, held each year in Wales (in Aberystwyth this year). His lectures covered: aspects of solar activity; magneto-hydrodynamic waves in a uniform medium; waves in a magnetic flux tube; and helioseismology. About 20 students from UK and European universities attended the course, which extends over one week and has 10 lecturers; its aim is to give students about to embark on their PhD programme a wide introduction to the field. Colin Beveridge, Mairi McRobbie and Chris Mellow who are all new students due to start with the solar group in October attended from St Andrews.

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## SEMINAR

- The first statistics seminar of the semester is:-  
‘What can we learn about marine mammal surveys from wooden stakes?’  
Dr Jeff LAAKE (National Marine Fisheries Service, Seattle) MONDAY 9 OCTOBER, 4 p.m., Maths Lecture Theatre B.
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## **REMINDER**

- Stamps (with borders) are collected by the Secretaries for charity. If anyone is interested in helping, please pass on your stamps to Valerie.
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## **NEXT ISSUE**

- Please send any material for the next newsletter to [mcsnews@mcs](mailto:mcsnews@mcs) by 12pm Thursday 12th October.