

Institute of Physics

Merseyside Branch Committee Meeting

9th March 2004

Room 315, Oliver Lodge Building, University of Liverpool.

Present: A Marks (Chair), D S Martin (Secretary and Treasurer), S D Barrett, N Heritage, N Marks, N R Clitherow, A Newsam, S L Bennett, M Chartier.

1. Apologies R McGrath, Mike Bode, Andrea Fesmer

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 29 Jan 2004 were accepted and signed.

3. Matters arising not appearing in any item below

Actions completed. SDB has produced flyers of talks at <http://www.liv.ac.uk/~iop/Flyers>

4. Reports on Meetings held since the last committee meeting.

- John Inglesfield 5th Feb. Attendance ~50. Interesting physics that was well illustrated with photographs. Feedback has been very positive.

- Physicists and Primary School afternoon 25th Feb. Attendance ~25. Highlighted the importance of making available links between primary school teachers (non-specialist in physics) with physicists. Overall a successful afternoon with a good atmosphere. Feedback forms indicated Physicists had been encouraged to visit primary schools and links established.

- Paperclip Physics 3rd March. A large number of teams that had registered dropped out to leave seven teams to compete. The quality was very good and the event was enjoyed by all. However, a strategy for preventing teams from dropping out and requiring more commitment from schools is required.

5. Forthcoming meetings

Joint meeting with LMI, 18th Mar. Everything finalised apart from numbers for buffet. The speaker should be contacted to email a backup of his talk. **Action AM**

Fun Physics, 1st April. In preparation. AM has some ideas for demonstrations. Relocated to Chadwick Lab. Need re-direction sign posting on the day. **Action DSM**

Allan Chapman, 30th April. Email societies a reminder. **Action AN**
Finalise details with LAS **Action AM**
Check accommodation for speaker **Action DSM**

Reactor Economics, 13th May. Find out more details. **Action AM**

Visit- Pilkington's, 20th May. Email to members registering for the visit about the information on suitable clothing to wear. **Action DSM**

6. Newsletter

The print quality of the newsletter was poor in some aspects, especially dark photographs and dark grey backgrounds for some text. Extra copies have arrived and are with DSM.

7. AGM

Undergrad, postgrad, postdoc representation on the committee would be most welcome. Some ideas for suitable people were discussed and these are to be followed up. **Action MC**

Nominations for committee **Action All**

SDB was willing to act as vice-chair

8. Branch support officer

The committee agreed that forging better links with industrial members is a good area for the branch support officer.

9. Blue Plaques

Horrocks: SDB reported that there is already a plaque commemorating Horrocks. The committee expressed approval of the recognition already in place.

10. Education

24th March - Schools' Lecture- two sittings are about full.

Teachers' Conference 1st July.

J Fry was suggested as a speaker.

Action SDB

History of physics talk was suggested. Need to confirm speaker.

Action AM

Solar telescope will be available

Action AN

Demonstrations/'hands-on' activities needed

Action AM/NH

'Brains Trust'

Action DSM/SDB

11. Teacher Network

Twilight session at SFX has been held, next will be on Wirral

Non-specialists day 15th June- The programme is progressing. A large attendance is hoped for.

Liverpool telescope and liquid nitrogen talk were suggested for inclusion.

12. CERN visit.

The eight places for teachers have been filled. Flights are booked for seven so far. Health insurance should be considered. Last visits' arrangements would be passed on to NH

Action NM/NH

The tour of CERN is booked.

Hostel booked.

Peter Butler to be contacted regarding itinerary

Action AM/NH/SDB

13. Programme

Possibilities include:

Particle Physics (M Houlden) for Schools lecture –March **SDB**

Laura Grant Schools' Christmas lecture **AM**

Nuclear Science – Rodi Herzberg (Freshers' lecture?) **SDB/DSM**

Richard Stephenson- Historical records in modern astronomy **MB**

Jim Al-Khalili family/public lecture **MC**

Mars Lander/space lecture (at Daresbury?) **AM/AN**

Astronomy J Porter **SDB/AN**

Nanotoxicology **SLB**

IoP Education- Peter Main **AM**

Industry talk **AM/DSM**

Joint LMI talk **NC**

Physics and Archaeology **NM**

Alternative energy talk ? **AM**

Visit – BAE **DF**

Alternative visits Williamson tunnels, Shell

Reserves Ian Stewart Chaos theory

Moriarty - Notts **SDB**

ITER fusion **MC**

Forensic medicine **NH**

We are aiming for about 12 talks for the programme + 2 schools talks

Einstein Yr activities? **NH**

14. Capital of Culture.

The nuclear physics IoP conference for 2008 will be held in Liverpool (around Easter)

15. Media A new representative may be required for next session.

16. **A.O.B.** None.

17. **Date of next meeting** – Tuesday 20th April 2004, 17:30.

Suggested dates for meetings 2004-5

'Freshers' talk - 23/24 Sept

Oct 7th

Oct 21st

Nov 4th

Nov 25th

Week Dec 13-17 Schools' Christmas lecture

Jan 13th

Feb 3rd

Feb 24th

March ? Schools' lecture

Mar 17th

Apr 14th

May 5th

The week of May 16th for the 'visit'?