

**Institute of Physics**  
**Merseyside Branch Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday 22 March 2001**

**Oliver Lodge Laboratory, Department of Physics, University of Liverpool**

Present: N Marks (Chairman), S D Barrett (Secretary and Treasurer), M F Bode, E Gabathuler, A Marks, R A P Smith

Apologies: D Banks, E Boyse, A G Buckley, G R Court, A Fesmer, M Joyce, P J Nolan

**1. Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of 1 February 2001 were accepted.

**2. Matters arising**

3(ii) Awaiting Branch initiatives.

3(iv) Arrangements for the Industrial Forum to follow after Sir Peter Williams' talk on 29 March are well in hand.

**3. (i) Recent Meetings of Current Programme**

*X-rays, Synchrotrons and DIAMOND* by Vic Suller (Feb) The talk was excellent, delivered at the right level to lead the audience through the basic physics to accelerator design and synchrotron radiation applications. Attendance ~ 40.

*Paperclip Physics* The regional final for Merseyside and Manchester Branches was held at DL on 2 March 2001. Helen Southworth MP, Prof Erwin Gabathuler (UoL) and Heather Rix (a teacher from Manchester) judged the work of four teams. The standard was thought to be excellent.

**Forthcoming Meetings of Current Programme**

*The Physics of Entrepreneurship* by Peter Williams (Mar) Arrangements are in hand for an Industrial Forum to follow the talk, in which the role of the IoP supporting industrialists will be discussed.

*Rethinking the History of British Physics...* by Jeff Hughes (Apr) – no action required at this time.

*Visit to Clatterbridge Centre for Oncology* (May) – no action required at this time.

**4. Financial Report**

SDB reported no significant changes to the Branch finances since the previous committee meeting. The outstanding bills from last year, covering newsletter distribution and University catering, have yet to be paid.

**5. Preparation for AGM**

A meeting between NM, SDB and AGB was held on 21 March to discuss the details

of the mailshot required for next month's AGM. The mailshot will comprise the announcement of the AGM and an agenda – all other documents will be made available on the Branch web pages.

- Agenda:
1. Minutes of the last AGM – **Action SDB**
  2. Chairman's report – **Action NM**
  3. Treasurer's report for 2000 – **Action SDB**
  4. Tabling and acceptance of the new Branch Constitution
  5. Election of officers: Chair/Vice-Chair/Secretary/Treasurer
  6. Election of 10 committee members
  7. Presentation from Simon Prendiville (Director of Finance, IoP HQ)

#### 6. Preparation of Programme for 2001/2

Some suggestions for talks and visits were discussed, some of which were taken from the list of 'Fantastic Physics Talks' supplied by IoP HQ.

*Talks:*

Mobile Phone Radiation	Alan Preece	<b>Action SDB</b>
CASIM	Peter Weightman	<b>Action SDB</b>
Unusual Career Paths	?	<b>Action AM</b>
Hubble Space Telescope	Nial Tanvier	<b>Action MFB</b>
High Tc Superconductors	Colin Cough	<b>Action NM</b>
Supermassive Black Holes	Carole Mundell	<b>Action MFB</b>
Signal Processing	Prof in Elec. Eng.?	<b>Action EG</b>
Local Heroes	Adam Hart-Davis	<b>Action NM</b>
History of Science	?	<b>Action SDB</b>

*Visits:*

Fords Jaguar Plant	<b>Action AM</b>
BAe Chester?	
Pilkingtons?	

#### 7. Any Other Business

- (i) Documentation has been received for the IoP 2001/2 Awards.
- (ii) Peter Cooper emailed NM with news of the death of a member of the Branch. It was not considered appropriate to take any action.

#### 8. Date of Next Meeting

Provisionally set for Thursday 3 May 2001 at 5.30pm at the University of Liverpool.

S D Barrett Honorary Secretary  
Merseyside Branch  
Institute of Physics  
26 March 2001

Copies to:

NM, SDB, DB, MFB, EB, AGB, AF,  
EG, MJ, AM, MM, PJN, RAPS  
and Leah Goldson (IoP HQ)