



IOP | Institute of Physics
In Scotland

Grampian And Northern Isles Network NEWS

Issue 7

August 2008

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Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to another session and I hope this reaches you well rested after the summer break.

Overleaf are details and a booking form for the meeting I am organising on Saturday, 4 October 2008 to support the Advanced Higher Physics Investigation. It is timed so that information shared and gained at the meeting will enable you to influence the selection of investigation ideas by your pupils and the support you are then able to give during the session. Last year I visited PT meetings in most local authorities in the North and the demand for this type of meeting was high wherever I went.

As you will see many people with a lot of experience teaching and assessing the AH Investigation have agreed to have inputs to the day. The very best advice will be available. In addition, at Robert Gordon's College we regularly present around 30 pupils at AH, and with the assistance of Graham Sangster, David Stewart - our very helpful Technician - and others, I will be setting up or displaying the apparatus used by many of our pupils in recent years, some more successfully than others but we did teach the top scoring pupil in Advanced Higher Physics in both 2006 and 2007. As part of the delegate pack there will be a DVD containing many of the publications and resources referred to on the day along with supporting documentation for the experiments on display.

I am conscious, however, that those who have already agreed to contribute are not the fonts of all knowledge and if anyone has a good investigation idea, a good experiment or piece of kit they would like to share please get in touch and we will fit you into the day.

There will also be an extensive exhibition of apparatus and other resources running throughout the day and there will be a good chance to talk to others and share ideas over coffee and lunch.

Please, please, if you intend to come to the meeting book your place to ensure you get a delegate pack, lunch and I know how many people to fit into workshop groups etc. Even before the booking form being

circulated I already had bookings for the day, so don't delay, it looks like it will be busy.

There are other dates for your diaries too:

15 Nov 2008, Robert Gordon's College, Aberdeen
ASE Grampian: Promoting Excellence in Science Teaching with keynote talk by Bob Kibble and workshops by The Optoelectronics College, IOP and SSERC.

8 Dec 2008, Milnes High School, Fochabers
Moray Physics Teachers' Meeting.

And a bit further afield:

9 Oct 2008, Glasgow Science Centre
IOP Network Meeting with variety of talks, workshops and exhibitions.

6-7 March 2009, Dunblane Hydro
The Scottish Science Education Conference. The ASE Scotland Annual Conference organised with the support of SSERC and with an extensive strand of workshops and talks organised or sponsored by IOP.

To support a Curriculum for Excellence, LTS and HMIe are organising a "Science Good Practice Conference" on 14 Nov 2008. All local authorities will be invited to send delegates so look out for information.

The next stage of curriculum consultation is also underway; "A consultation on the next generation of national qualifications in Scotland". The deadline for responses is 31 Oct 2008 and the papers and questionnaire can be downloaded from: www.scotland.gov.uk/consultations. There are still many of the big questions about curriculum structure, course choice and assessment structures and methods to be answered but I would encourage you to make a response to this important consultation.

I look forward to seeing many of you during the session.

Stuart Farmer
IOP Teacher Network Co-ordinator

Advanced Higher Physics Support for the Investigation

Saturday, 4 October 2008

10:00-15:00

refreshments from 09:30

Robert Gordon's College, Aberdeen

A range of talks and workshops:

- lots of investigation ideas and experiments to look at and try
- advice on SQA requirements

Contributors include:

- Tom Balanowski, PA for Advanced Higher Physics and IOP Teacher Network Co-ordinator
- Gordon Doig, Ellon Academy and Examiner for Advanced Higher Physics
- Ronna Montgomery, Bearsden Academy and IOP Teacher Network Co-ordinator
- Peter Law, University of Glasgow
- Jim Jamieson, SSERC
- Stuart Farmer, Robert Gordon's College and IOP Teacher Network Co-ordinator

An exhibition of resources and equipment including:

Timstar, Scientific and Chemical Supplies, djb microtech, Flash Learning, JJM Electronics, Feedback Instruments/PASCO, Data Harvest, Perfect Papers, Association for Science Education, Counting Thoughts, Philip Harris/Unilab, Anderson Scientific, Newton Resources, IDS

This event is free, totally sponsored by IOP. However, to ensure sufficient resource packs and lunch and refreshments are available please book your place in advance. Return the reply slip below, or email stuart.farmer@yahoo.co.uk by Wednesday 1 Oct 2008 to ensure you get your resource pack and lunch.

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Education *Supporting Teachers*

Advanced Higher Physics: Supporting the Investigation, Robert Gordon's College, Aberdeen, 4 Oct 2008
Return by 1 Oct 2008 to: Stuart Farmer, 27 Deeside Crescent, Aberdeen, AB15 7PT

Name _____

School _____

Address for correspondence _____

Email _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____