



IOP | Institute of Physics
In Scotland

Grampian And Northern Isles Network NEWS

Issue 8

April 2009

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Dear Colleagues,

It is hard to believe that another session is almost over. I hope you have managed to get all your AH Investigation Reports collected in on time and do not have too much hassle mopping up NAB resits, day books and the like.

There are a few Physics CPD events coming up. Firstly, after a few teachers in the north-east contacted me about running another of the now famous IOP Rocket Launcher workshops, I have organised this for Thursday 14 May at Robert Gordon's College. Refreshments will be available from 16:00 and I hope to get the session underway by about 16:45. Every school represented at the session will receive a complete set of parts to make your own rocket launcher and a DVD of instructions and other rocket related files. Hopefully it will be a nice evening and we can have a competition to see if we can fire rockets the length of the RGC Quad. Tom Clark is also coming up and will run his workshop on teaching forces. There will then be a chance for anyone wishing to stay on to go for a meal and a further chat. Please email me at the address below to book a place and to make sure I have enough launcher parts.

After that my next event will be in Elgin Academy on Tuesday 16 June, again refreshments from 16:00 and a start by about 16:45. It is one of the few remaining opportunities for schools to obtain a "Solar Cells in Action" class set of apparatus and teaching materials as part of the pilot of the Optoelectronics College. This will be a repeat of the session held as part of the ASE Grampian day conference in Aberdeen on 15 Nov 2008 and those held more recently at the ASE Scotland Annual Conference and at SSERC in March. The funding for these kits is limited and this is likely to be the last opportunity for schools to obtain a kit at a workshop in the north-east. One further workshop will be held in the north in Fortrose Academy on Saturday 19 September. It is therefore **ESSENTIAL** you email me and book a place at this workshop to ensure I have a kit for schools which have not already got one. More than one member of staff from any school can attend and also staff from schools which have already got a kit from a previous workshop. Everyone attending will be

eligible to become members of the Optoelectronics College.

The later parts of the Optoelectronics College pilot on "Colour and Vision" and "Illumination and Communication" are currently being written and the kit designed and prototyped. CPD sessions, again with free kits, are planned for November 2009 onwards.

The IOP Schools and Colleges Lecture is again coming to Aberdeen for 2009. As it is the International Year of Astronomy the lecture is "How to Explore the Universe: A tale of telescopes, time travel and extra-terrestrials" and will be given by Dr Andrew Newsam at Robert Gordon's College, Schoolhill, Aberdeen at 11:45 on 3 Sept 2009. Places are limited to 350, so again please email me at the address below to book places. They will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Here are other selected dates for your diaries too:

3 June 2009, IOP Stirling Meeting

17 Sept 2009, RGC, Aberdeen. A workshop on how to make best use of Teltron Tubes.

14 Nov 2009, Robert Gordon's College, Aberdeen ASE Grampian CfE Day Conference with input from the Optoelectronics College.

5-6 March 2010, Dunblane Hydro
The Scottish Science Education Conference: "Sustaining Science". 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. Let your CPD Co-ordinator know now and book your time and funding early.

I look forward to seeing many of you during the next few months. And remember, if you have any needs with which you think the IOP Teacher Network can help, please get in touch.

Stuart Farmer
IOP Teacher Network Co-ordinator

Institute of Physics in Scotland Teacher Network

Rockets and Teaching Forces: fun activities and free kit

Robert Gordon's College, Aberdeen
16:45, Thursday, 14 May 2009

Stuart Farmer and Tom Clark, IOP Teacher Network
Co-ordinators

Please email stuart.farmer@yahoo.co.uk to book a place and ensure we have a set of rocket launcher parts for you to take away.

The Optoelectronics College: Solar Cells in Action

Investigative activities for S1/2 to support CfE

Elgin Academy
16:45, Tuesday, 16 June 2009

It is **essential** to email stuart.farmer@yahoo.co.uk to book a place and ensure we have a free school kit of solar buggies for you to take away.

IOP Stirling Meeting: Bridging the Gap

Wednesday, 3 June 2009

Talks include:

Deciding to play CfE - Bob Kibble
The role of physics in GPS - Tom Bramald
School physics beyond 2012 - Paul Chambers
The Optoelectronics College - Nick Hood and Michael Walker
The Large Hadron Collider - Tony Doyle

Booking form and programme available at:

http://www.iop.org/Conferences/Forthcoming_Institute_Conferences/35_Stirling/index.html

IOP members and staff at IOP Affiliated Schools: £35 Non-members: £40

2009 IOP Schools and Colleges Lecture

How to Explore the Universe: a tale of telescopes, time travel and extra-terrestrials

Robert Gordon's College, Aberdeen, 11:45, Thursday, 3 September 2009

Places limited. Email stuart.farmer@yahoo.co.uk to book places.

Making the most of Teltron Tubes

Robert Gordon's College, Aberdeen
Thursday, 17 September 2009

3b Scientific have improved and relaunched their range of Teltron tubes. Working with Peter Campbell of www.practicalphysics.org they have developed a hands-on workshop and new support materials.

If you have old Teltron tubes gathering dust in a cupboard and you are not sure how best to use them then this is your chance to find out. You could even bring your old tubes along and get them given a service.

Supporting Physics in the North

Fortrose Academy, Saturday, 19 September 2009

A day meeting similar to that held in Aberdeen last Oct.

Sessions will include:

SQA AH Physics Arrangements
Supporting the AH Physics Investigation
Making the most of Teltron Tubes
The Optoelectronics College: Solar Cells in Action
Blogs, wikis and all that
IOP Rocket Launcher
and a range of exhibitions