

IOP | Institute of Physics

Education Supporting Teachers

Teachers Network NORTH EAST ENGLAND (and a bit of CUMBRIA)

Spring 2009 Newsletter for anyone teaching physics!

Please pass this round all those teaching physics in your school/college
(and remember the non-specialists!!)

Have you passed this round? ___□ ___□ ___□ ___□ ___□ ___□ ___□ ___□ ___□ ___□

WELCOME to our latest Newsletter of what's going on in the REAL NORTH of England...Northumberland, Tyneside, Durham Teesside and Cumbria .We'd be interested to know whether this newsletter is useful to you.

Physics Update Courses for Teachers

**highly recommended and excellent value for money(DF)*

As part of its active involvement in supporting physics teaching in schools and colleges, the Institute of Physics arranges courses throughout the year for practising teachers of physics and science. The courses are designed to give participants the opportunity to encounter new ideas in teaching and provide a view of the latest frontiers in science.

.April 3rd -5th

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

Further Information

Leila Solomon

Institute of Physics

Email: leila.solomon@iop.org

IOP Institute of Physics

Is YOUR school affiliated to the IoP? IOP SCHOOLS AFFILIATION is a bargain, and you'll get a copies of the PHYSICS EDUCATION journal, PHYSICS WORLD magazine, the CLASSROOM PHYSICS NEWSLETTER. Free posters, careers information and lots more! (including discounts on some physics events) It only costs £40 and you get at least £200 in value.

IOP Institute of Physics

Details on the website

www.iop.org

IOP | Institute of Physics **Education** Supporting Teachers

IOP TEACHER NETWORK WORKSHOPS

Can be arranged in your school , (and they are free to you!)

Get together with some others in your area and contact your nearest coordinator.

If you would like to host such an event for your school or area please get in touch with either David or Ruth.

CONTACTS

The main IOP Website giving details of all activities, (including pictures of us!) and what we should be doing is <http://teachingphysics.iop.org/> and that has details of all sorts of things you will find useful

The North East is served by two coordinators:

DAVID FEATONBY for the North of the area

featonby@onetel.com

and

RUTH WILTHER for the South of the area

ruth.wiltsher@physics.org

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday JUNE 24th 2009

IOP Institute of Physics **A**

DAY FOR EVERYONE TEACHING PHYSICS

*at Durham University
arranged by teachers for teachers,
sponsored by IOP, SLC and Durham
University*

*A day of talks, workshops and displays
which you will find useful and
exciting.*

Meet colleagues.

Book via the SLC NE website

www.slcn.org.uk/course/physicsday
or tel 0191-3706200

*Cost £5 to cover administration , the
rest including food , free to
participants*

IOP NORTH EAST FREE TWIGLIGHT SESSION

“An introduction to the Virtual Physics Lab”

*FREE access to over 200
interactive simulations written by
Dr John Nunn of the National
Physics Laborator, which can be
downloaded to your school
network*

February 4th 4.30pm - 6.00pm

St Cuthbert's School,

West Road,

Newcastle.

**Space limited so email David at
featonby@onetel.com
to be sure of a seat and biscuit.**

THE ALNWICK GARDEN Teachers' weekend

March 7th , 8th .

Free entry for teachers and up to 4 children

Just turn up with proof that you are a teacher or teaching assistant.

(Bags under your eyes and a tired look will not do, but school id cards, etc will)

Several displays and activities

Why not consider a school visit later in the year?

There is lots of physics to see in the fountains, and supportive materials, workshops can be arranged. Contact Alison Hamer at the garden.

PHYSICS BUSKING 2009 ???

Several opportunities arise over the year to present the excitement of physics to the general public.

Busking in Eldon Square , March , 7th 8th and other venues. If you'd like to help on this or other occasions contact Alex Brabbs alex.brabbs@iop.org or Alasdair Wilson awilson.craw@blueyonder.co.uk

CERN 2009

2009 will be an exciting year!!

(We hope)

For the latest information on LHC and more visit

www.cern.ch

See good background video@

www.collidingparticles.com

www.labreporter.com

www.particlephysics.ac.uk

Get students to try the LHC game

@ <http://microcosm.web.cern.ch>

Or arrange a student visit to CERN itself. Many from our area have already done just that.

STOP PRESS

Places are still available on the

CERN TEACHERS WEEKEND,

which will take place from

Thursday evening 26th to Sunday

lunchtime 29th March at CERN,

Geneva, Switzerland.

The programme consists of lectures

and guided tours, organised and

presented in English. It is designed

to provide an overview of, and

update on, contemporary particle

physics and has been rated as a very

valuable experience by past

participants. Because participation is

open to applications from all CERN

member states it is also a unique

opportunity to meet physics teacher

colleagues from other countries.

To find out more about the

programme and how to apply please

follow this link –

<http://education.web.cern.ch/education/Chapter1/Page1a.html>

Please note that due to the ongoing repair of the LHC, it may be possible to visit underground experimental facilities that would normally not have been accessible at this time.

Those who have been on this

weekend in the past have found it

most informative and worthwhile.

SCICASTERS

Could your students make a movie of an experiment?

Go to www.planet-scicast.com

To see what others have done and then submit your own.

2009 entries now being accepted

Institute of Physics

**LOCAL NETWORK
MEETINGS
CAN BE ARRANGED FOR
YOU**

ROCKET LAUNCHERS

Make a compressed air rocket launcher from assorted copper pipe and fittings, then get your students to design their own card rockets and launch them.

Vary pressure, angle, fins, rockets etc

Fires over 100m

David also offers "What happens next?" a workshop that he took to the recent Science on Stage festival in Berlin. See article in Science in Schools.

<http://www.scienceinschool.org/2007/issue7/whathappens>

Other workshops are also possible

IDEAS FOR AN EASTER

“EASTER

EGGSTRAVAGANZA!”

is not a workshop but a list as published in April 2008 Classroom Physics

David has a word file with several interesting little physics experiments that you can do with eggs, (raw and otherwise). If you would like a copy please email him marking your email IOP Eggs

CALLING CUMBRIA

At the moment I have no venue to organise a workshop over with you.

If a school would like to host a workshop and invite others please contact David, featonby@onetel.com 01661853552

The “FUN FLY STICK” is without doubt the find of 2008. This mini van de Graaff generator can help demonstrate very interesting electrostatic effects. It is totally portable and safe and only costs around £20. See January Physics Education for a full review or try one out on February 4th.

Get it in UK from

www.grand-illusions.com

ONLINE RESOURCES

A selection of some of the best resources for Physics and Science teaching online. If you come across a web site that you think the rest of us should take a look at please email me at featonby@onetel.com so it can be included in the next newsletter.

PHYSICS APPLETS

See Physics Education (January 09) for over 200 physics applets, or go to www.iop.org,

click [Schools and Colleges](#),

click [Physics Teacher Network](#)

click [Norfolk & Suffolk](#)

THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR
OF ASTRONOMY
is NOW

The Universe Yours to Discover

www.astonomy2009.co.uk

Starlight Magazine

www.starlight-news.co.uk

National Schools Observatory

www.schoolobservatory.org.uk

IOP Institute of Physics
LOCAL BRANCH

(not just teachers)

Meets regularly around the region

Wednesday February 18th

“The hunt for the Higgs Boson”
Northumbria University

7.00pm Rm A003 Ellison Bld.

Tuesday 10th March

“so were these floods caused by global warming”

7.00pm Discovery Museum

Details

awilson.craw@bluevonder.co.uk