

Bulletin

Weekly news from the UKAEA's Harwell Laboratory

Senior Appointments

Dr Alan Penn has been appointed Director, Nuclear Reactor Research, HARWELL, with effect from 20 June 1988.

Alan Penn graduated from Bristol University with a BSc (Physics) in 1956, and obtained a PhD by publication in 1969.

From 1956 to 1962 he worked as a Research Physicist for AEI Central Research Laboratories and moved to Frigistor Laboratories as Chief Physicist from 1962 to 1967 – 7 months of which was spent in Canada.

Alan came to HARWELL as an SSO in 1967, and became Division Head of Instrumentation & Applied Physics Division in 1980. He holds the record for the shortest tenure in a Division Head's post, because when designated Division Head of Computer Science & Systems Division he was then promoted before taking up the appointment.

He joined the Reading Bench as a Justice of the Peace in 1983.

Dr Penn succeeds Dr Tony Hughes in his role as Director, Nuclear Reactor Research. Dr Hughes has been appointed as Director Laboratories of the Science & Engineering Research Council. Dr Hughes will be responsible for the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, the Daresbury Laboratory, the Royal Observatory at Edinburgh and the Royal Greenwich Observatory (which moves to Cambridge in 1990).

Note: The merger of Nuclear Physics Division and Instrumentation and Applied Physics Division, and the transfer of the Material Instrumentation Group of Instrumentation and Applied Physics Division to Materials Physics and Metallurgy Division will take place on 20 June 1988.



Dr Michael Norgett (pictured below) has been appointed Acting Head of Computer Science and Systems Division with effect from 20 June, in succession to Dr A E Taylor who is retiring.



Dr Norgett obtained a degree in Chemistry at Oxford in 1965 and was awarded his D.Phil there in 1968. He then joined HARWELL's Theoretical Physics Division, working in the Radiation Damage Group, becoming a member of the Institute of Physics in 1971. In 1972 he was promoted to SSO and worked in Solid State and Quantum Physics Group. From 1977 to 1979 Michael worked in Marketing and Sales Department's Future Developments Group. In 1979 on promotion to PSO he re-joined Theoretical Physics Division and worked in the Theory of Fluids Group. Dr Norgett is currently Group Leader of the Theory of Fluids Group.

Note: Dr Keith Winters has accepted the invitation to serve as Leader of Theory of Fluids Group, as from Monday 20 June. He will continue as acting Group Leader of Statistical Physics Group until Dr Peter Schofield returns in the Autumn from his years' sabbatical in the Department of Theoretical Physics, University of Oxford.

Director's Midsummer Talks

Junior Staff
09.00 Tuesday 21 June
14.00hrs Wednesday 22 June

Senior Staff
09.00hrs Friday 24 June

The talks will be held in the Cockcroft Hall and on each occasion the Cockcroft Hall gate will be open and passes need to be shown on entry to the lecture hall.

Tickets have been issued to DAO's. Any difficulties in obtaining a ticket should be referred to Mr Chris Barlow, Site Manager's Branch, ext. 2156.

China's Environmental Viewers

A delegation of Director's from China's National Environmental Protection Agency visited HARWELL to view the work of our Environmental Safety Centre.

Invited to Britain as guests of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office the delegation were welcomed to HARWELL by Dr Vic Crocker, Director of Environmental and Underlying Research (pictured centre).

The visitors heard about pollution control policy and practice; landfill gas utilisation, and watched a demonstration of computer programme HARBINGER, the waste management model.



Efficiency Probe

The efficiency of the UKAEA is to be investigated by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission as part of the continuing programme of nationalised industry audits.

The audit will be carried out under section 11 of the 1980 Competition Act to determine whether or not nationalised industries and other public sector bodies are carrying out their activities in an efficient manner and are not abusing their monopoly power.

Sea Dumping of Nuclear Waste ends

The Government will not resume the dumping of radioactive waste at sea, Energy Secretary Mr Cecil Parkinson has disclosed.

Instead, waste will eventually be placed in a deep facility for low and intermediate level wastes, which the Nuclear Industry and Radioactive Waste Executive has been asked to develop.

In a Commons written reply, Mr Parkinson said the Government was in no doubt that sea dumping was good sense for some categories of waste. The option would remain open for large items resulting from decommissioning operations.

Until 1982, the UK regularly disposed of drummed radioactive waste at sea. Since 1983, when the non-binding moratorium on sea disposal was introduced, Britain has consistently made it clear that it has no immediate plans to resume sea disposal.

A spokesman for UK NIREX Ltd said the company was looking for suitable disposal sites around the country.

Recommendation on sites would be made to the Government after comments from local authorities and interested parties had been discussed.



Professor Terence Lee, of Surrey University, (Bulletin 16/88, May 20) has missed the vital point which would probably end his perplexity over what people see as risks. Unfortunately, so have many in the nuclear industry itself.

The public who fear nuclear power "readily support ... sporting activities which ... are highly dangerous", he says. But the sporting activities are all voluntary. No-one is forced to go mountaineering, to play rugby or to ride a horse. The chances of sports hurting an innocent bystander, although not nil, are very small. And most bystanders - spectators at a motor-racing circuit, perhaps - are there voluntarily, too.

The problem with nuclear power and chemical plants is that an accident stands a perceptible chance of hurting people many miles away - people who feel totally unconnected with the plants.

That is probably the main reason why the statistical arguments favoured by logical-thinking scientists have failed to convince people that their fears are groundless.

Derek G Gomer
Information Services Branch, CHQ



Film Badge Notice

2 Weekly Films

Period 25F (Colour Stripe BLACK)

4 Weekly Films: Period 07M (Colour Stripe RED)

Commencing Monday 13 June

Please ensure that you change your films promptly and immediately return old ones for processing using the envelope provided.

May's Weather

Max temp 21.0°C (14th)

Min temp 2.6°C (20th)

Wettest Day 8.9mm (1st)

Monthly rainfall 44.1mm

[Average rainfall for May from 34 years of records, 54.69mm]

Accidents in May

Lost time accidents

No. in May	1
Total no. in 1988	14
No. reported to HSE in May	1
Total No. reported to HSE	7
Total days lost in 1988	104+

Minor Accidents not involving loss of time

No. in May	54
Total no. in 1988	255
Number reported on H1053 in May	31
Number not reported on H1053 in May	23

Protection against Ionising Radiations in Medical and Dental Practice

Guidance notes* for people whose work concerns radiation protection in medical or dental practice have been prepared by the National Radiological Protection Board (NRPB), the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and government health departments.

The notes are a guide to good radiation protection practice consistent with the principal regulatory requirements and advice, which are the Ionising Radiations Regulations 1985 (IRR 1985) and the related Approved Code of Practice (ACOP). The notes do not provide a full account of the legal requirements, however, or provide legal interpretation of any of them. They do, though, give additional information related to some of the requirements of the regulations.

The guidance notes were published by NRPB in draft form in 1983 and given wide circulation. Some 1500 comments were received from 60 organisations and individuals. The final version takes these comments into account along with later comments by representatives of medical establishments.

As well as reflecting the IRR 1985 and ACOP, the final version takes account of the recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection, relevant directives of the Council of the European Community and the proposed Ionising Radiations (Protection of Persons Undergoing Medical Examination or Treatment) Regulations.

These notes replace the Code of Practice for the Protection of Persons Against Ionising Radiations from Medical and Dental Use, first published in 1957 and last revised in 1972.

The main topics of the guidance notes are:

- setting up a radiological protection system in a given establishment
- guidance for those with clinical responsibility for people who need or request radiation treatment
- warning and quality control systems for radiology departments
- dental radiology
- radiographic equipment
- radiation beam therapy and equipment
- brachytherapy (definition)
- the use and control of both sealed and unsealed radioactive substances in diagnosis and therapy

- arrangements for patients leaving hospital after treatment with radioactive substances
- precautions after the death of a patient treated with radioactive substances
- the storage, movement and disposal of radioactive substances
- contingency planning and emergency procedures.

Appendices include a summary of the records that must be kept under the IRR 1985 or other legislation or which are recommended in the text, and an account of derived limits for surface contamination.

*Guidance notes for the protection of persons against ionising radiations arising from medical and dental use, HMSO, price £9.00 (ISBN 0-85951-299-1).

Superconductor Research Centre Director Named

Dr Peter Duncumb, FRS, a physicist, has been appointed director of the new high-temperature superconductivity research centre in Cambridge.

The £5.3 million centre is the first of several to be established at universities throughout the country, and will be opened by Mr Baker, Education Secretary, on June 21.

The development of superconductors, which work at relatively high temperatures, is seen as crucial to the future of science and engineering, and could be as important as the discovery of the transistor.

Open House at your Laboratory

The advert below will appear in the Oxford Times, Herald, Star, Journal, and South Oxfordshire Guardian on 9 and 16 June.

Visit Harwell this Summer



HARWELL
UKAEA

Join us for a 2-hour tour and see how Harwell Laboratory is pioneering research for nuclear power and industry in general.

Including:

- ▶ Nuclear Power exhibition
- ▶ Europe's first experimental nuclear reactor
- ▶ Advanced robotics demonstrations
- ▶ Work for the Offshore Industry

.. and much more!

If you would like to visit Harwell, please fill in the coupon and we will make all the arrangements. (Sorry, no children under 14 years of age).

VIDEO SHOWS ★ COMPLIMENTARY REFRESHMENTS ★ FREE PARKING

TO: Alison Stones, Publicity & PR Group, Harwell Laboratory, Oxfordshire OX11 0RA.

Yes, I would like to visit Harwell.

My first choice is (date) Arrival Time

My second choice is (date) Arrival Time

Please state an arrival time between 9.30am and 1.30pm.

Name: Mr / Mrs / Miss

Address

We will accept copied coupons from family and friends.

Sat 25 June
 Sun 26 June
 Sat 2 July
 Sun 3 July
 Sat 9 July
 Sun 10 July



Diary

JUNE
14

13.45hrs *Physics Department, Leicester University*
Electron states in GaAs/AlAs superlattices – Seminar
Mr T Gilbert *University of Leicester*

Lecture Room A
Department of Physics
University of Leicester
University Road
Leicester LE1 7RH

14.00hrs *HARWELL Theoretical Physics Division*
Boundary element modelling for eddy current Non-Destructive evaluation – Seminar
Dr R E Beissner Southwest Research Institute, San Antonio, Texas.

TPD Conference Room
B424. HARWELL

15

09.30am–
16.30pm **A review meeting of the Authority's Underlying Research Programme on Neutron Beam Studies**

Conference Room
B551 HARWELL

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14.30hrs *HARWELL Computer Science and Systems Division*
Localised patterns and chaos in a two phase flow
V S Manoranjan *Surrey University*

Oxford University Computing
Laboratory
8–11 Keble Road
Oxford

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14.00hrs *HARWELL Theoretical Physics Division*
Fundamentals of atomic transport in solids
Dr A B Lidiard *TPD*

TPD Conference Room
B424.4 HARWELL

09.00hrs *HARWELL Chemistry Division*
Corporate business development in the AEA – Colloquium
Dr S J Curl *Corporate Business Development Group*

Large Conference Room
B220.24, HARWELL

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13.45hrs *Physics Department, University of Leicester*
Density of states of a random matrix and applications – Seminar
Mr G Dhesi *University of Leicester*

Lecture Room A
Department of Physics
University of Leicester
University Road
Leicester LE1 7RH

JULY
11-15

– *Second IEE/British Computer Society Conference*
"Software Engineering"

University of Liverpool
For further details tel:
01-240 1871, ext. 222.

13-15

– *IEE*
3rd International Conference on Power Electronics and Variable Speed Drives

London
For full programme tel:
Joanne Sutcliffe
Conference Services, IEE
01-240 1871, ext. 218)