

NEW KITS !

New kits are now available for KS 1 & 2 Materials, KS 2 Rocks & Soils, Secondary Microscopes with interchangeable lenses (up to x40) and a recently developed kit to illustrate the effects of smoking accompanied by some graphic illustrations of the effects of smoking upon lung tissue.



Full kit information available at www.tsn.org.uk, under Support, or contact tsn.kits@bbsrc.ac.uk or telephone Sheila McCarter on 01603 450619

NEW SUGGESTIONS for KITS IDEAS ALWAYS WELCOME

Dates for your diary

- 9-16th Mar - TSN & JIC & Hairy Frog National Science Week event
- 14th Mar - Public performance of NSW event at JIC
- 18th Jun - Open Day at the Science Learning Centre, Bayfordbury, Herts
- 21st Oct - Closing date for partnership grant applications (Royal Society)

4-8th Sept 2006 - BA Festival of Science, Norwich

At least one new Primary Science Workshop will run after NSW

Teacher Scientist Network

Coordinator: Dr. Phil Smith

Chairman: Prof. Keith Roberts

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New Members - Welcome

Teachers

- Mrs. Gillian Horner, Bawdeswell Primary School
- Miss Fiona Muir, Norwich Rd. First & Middle School
- Mrs. Ruth Quackenbush, Hellesdon High School
- Dr. Charlotte Belshaw, Sir John Leman High School
- Dr. Musa Said, Hellesdon High School
- Mrs. Maria Doyle, Kinsale First School
- Mrs. Tracey Woods, West Earham First School
- Miss Amanda Hampton, Acle High School
- Ms. Jo Goulds, Browick Road First School
- Mrs. Angela Davison, Flegg High School
- Mrs. Jackie Horner, Amberfield School
- Miss Victoria Bryant, Brooke Primary School
- Mr. Edward Pearson-Shaul, South Harford Middle School
- Dr. Pascale Harvey, Hewett High School
- Mr. Mark Lawrenson, Bungay High School
- Mrs. Joanna Edwards, Salhouse Primary School
- Mrs. Debra Turner, Firsides Middle School
- Ms. Kate Ogden, Reepham High School
- Mr. Keith Wright, Barford Primary School
- Mrs. Susan Bing, Preston Primary School
- Mrs. Miriam Elston, Hempsall First School
- Mrs. Mairi Simpson, Newton Flotman Primary School
- Miss Tiffany Lacey, Ditchingham Primary School
- Dr. David Horsley, Gresham's School
- Mrs. Angela Blanchard, Norwich High School
- Ms. Tracy Roofoe, Kirkley High School
- Mr. John Kelly, Old Buckenham Primary School

Scientists

- Dr. Stephen Ashworth, CHEM, UEA
- Miss Janet Cross, BIO, UEA
- Mr. Graham Fraser, John Innes Centre
- Miss Jade Johnstone, ENV, UEA
- Mr. John Crosby, British Sugar plc
- Dr. Amanda Francis, John Innes Centre
- Mr. David Stokes, John Innes Centre
- Dr. Vicky Just, John Innes Centre
- Ms. Clare Stevenson, John Innes Centre
- Mr. Richard Green, Bayer Crop Science
- Dr. Jimmy Choo, John Innes Centre
- Ms. Andrea Gouveia, John Innes Centre

The Solar System Model & the Nativity

We have just received pictures and sound clips of Thompson Primary School's nativity which incorporated the TSN Solar System model. More details in the next TSNews. Sounds like a great idea even though I can't remember the wise men following the rings of Saturn in my school nativity! Thank You!

PLEASE SEND US STORIES OF YOUR SESSIONS, PREFERABLY WITH PHOTOS!

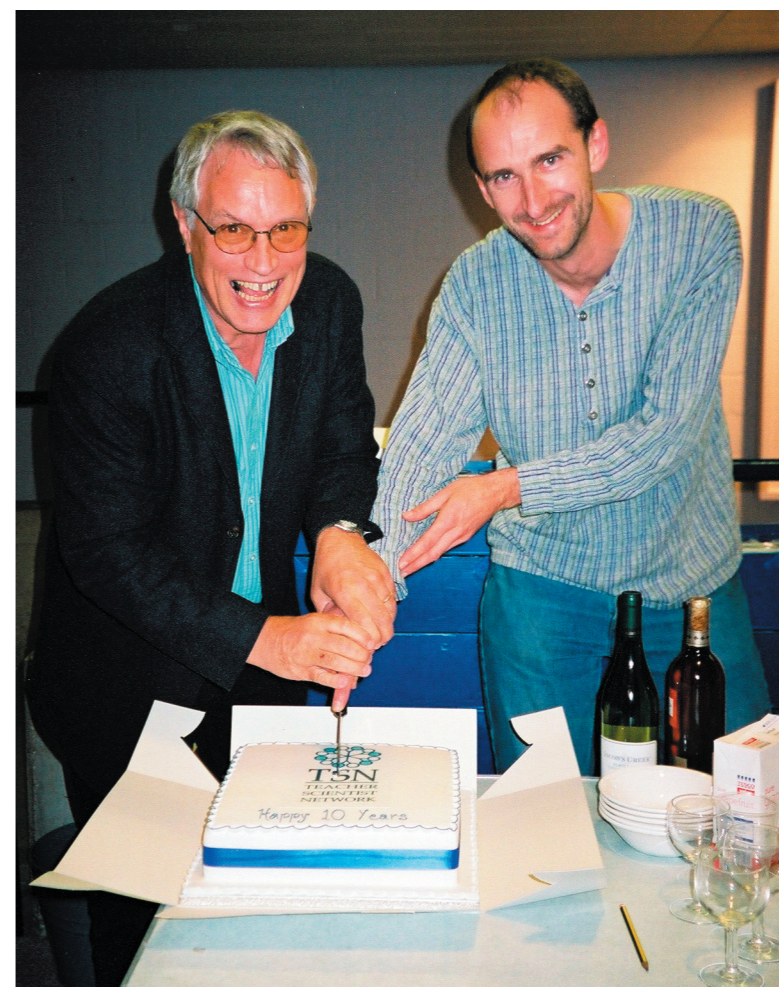


National Kit Club

TSN is proud to announce that we have won a grant of £85,000 from the Department for Education and Skills (DfES) to spread best practice from TSN activity to a wider (National) audience. The idea is to initiate Kit Club activity at 3 centres across the country. Science Learning Centres have been invited by DfES to bid to host these satellite Kit Clubs. After the first round of bidding, satellite Kit Clubs to be based at the East of England SLC in Hertfordshire and the North-East SLC (together with Redcar & Cleveland) have been allocated. We hope to announce the final satellite later this term. Our work doesn't stop there however, as these centres will have duplicates of a number of our existing kits both assembled and supplied by TSN.



Annual Meeting 2004



The Happy Couple! TSN chairman, Keith Roberts, and Coordinator, Phil Smith, in celebratory mood at the 2004 Annual Meeting

Reverend Ron Lancaster lit up this year's Annual Meeting with a humorous and fascinating account of the founding of Kimbolton Fireworks - now a world leader in pyrotechnics. All this combined with a teaching tip - to get the attention of your class, set off some firecrackers in a large steel dustbin!

This year's meeting was held at the University of East Anglia in our continued efforts to attract new scientists to the scheme. The talk was combined with a bumper glassware giveaway whilst a load of refreshments were washed down with a slab of birthday cake. Importantly for us, you gave us 4 pages of feedback, which we really appreciate, and some of these questions and suggestions are addressed inside this edition of TSNews.

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Scientist's Round Table

We plan to run an informal gathering of our scientist members during the summer holidays. We hope it will be a chance to share ideas and we may also attract new members to the scheme when they hear about existing partnership activity. This will probably take place in the summer, further details nearer the time (by email).

Science Week

At the time of going to press, we are in the final stages of planning for this year's National Science Week event which will be held at the John Innes Centre between the 9th and 16th March.



The number of applications for tickets this year was exceptional, with requests from almost 100 schools, and the 3200 places were filled twice over less than 4 hours after the first application was received. 'Water, Water Everywhere' is the fifth in our biennial National Science Week events - the Secrets of Science and Survival - run in conjunction with the John Innes Centre and Mike Linley now of Hairy Frog productions. This year we are also working with Anglian Water, the British Antarctic Survey, the Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CEFAS), the Institute of Food Research, Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital, the University of East Anglia and Water Aid.



Take your partner out, and we'll pay the bill!! (well almost!)

Lost touch with your partner? Struggling to find enough planning time? Just fancy a catch-up with them? Go down to the pub or share chocolate cake whilst post-morteming the afternoon's activities ... whatever! I once heard it said that all science grant applications should include a red wine budget to help the ideas flow - well we are not going that far but we wanted to encourage our partners to get together this year, over food or drink (or both!). The scheme is open to all partnerships; an application form is enclosed with this newsletter - get the signatures of both partners on your 'night out' and attach the bill and TSN will reimburse you up to £20. Only one application per partnership per academic year. - depending on uptake and subject to funding, this idea may only run for 1 year. Scientists, remember you can claim mileage for your trips to school (an application form is also included with this addition of TSNNews).

Freethorpe Fun!

Dr Flore Depeint (IFR) and Mrs Susan Hooper (Freethorpe Primary)

Flore and Susan not only did regular science activities together in the classroom but also represented the school (and TSN) at Acle High School's science fair. Unfortunately Flore has since moved on to pastures new and we wish her every success, (apologies for not using these pictures sooner!) A picture tells a thousand words and here are some of the children hard at work engaged in practical science. More details of their activities will be posted soon on the TSN website, www.tsn.org.uk under Partnerships.



TSN in the News

One of the more unusual requests for a TSN kit came from L'Oreal (shampoo manufacturers) who borrowed the Germs kit back in October to illustrate the importance of hand-washing technique to their staff. They had seen the kit featured in an article in Laboratory News and wanted to use it in a staff training day - we were most disappointed that no freebies were returned with the kit!

Once again, a number of kits spent their summer at Bungay Library helping to increase participation in the summer reading game. Most popular was the ESP kit, originally developed for Science and Survival in 2003, and a fun and different way to explore the idea of a 'fair test'. Readers will be relieved to hear the results of the study indicated that ESP does not exist in Bungay!



TSN Talks Back - feedback on YOUR ideas from the Annual Meeting

In answering these questions remember our existing mission is to support the teachers ability to teach science through novel cpd although we are willing to adapt to the needs of our members. We are keen for feedback throughout the year - thats how TSN works - but wanted to take this opportunity to talk back ...

More competition between schools, we liked Genetic Futures
Not something TSN strives to achieve but we occasionally host such things on behalf of others and are glad to hear you enjoyed the event.

Some Geology & Earth Science for KS3 & 4 - lectures & experiments? *Scientifically, TSN is not strong in this area, although there may be some individuals in the School of Environmental Sciences (UEA) who could offer support, but we have promoted the GIFT workshop for the last 2 years (Geophysical Information for Teachers) - April each year.*

Practical Astronomy in GCSE & A-level
We are planning a Master Class in this area later this year.

More Physical Sciences in Master Classes
The astronomy Master Class will go some way to addressing this, but I am conscious this has been under-represented recently ... and something I intend to rectify.

Could we help to organise a Y12 'taster day' with lectures/pracs and careers forum
Maybe! Outside the original TSN remit, but a number of people are looking for activities direct with their pupils and this may be something we could initiate with NRP colleagues possibly during the BA Festival in 2006.

Support for Psychology
Offers potential for a Master Class and something to ponder on.

Small pupil group visits to working labs
Logistically difficult and I don't want to find myself becoming a JIC Tour Guide! TSN focuses on teachers, not pupils.

Plastic 'Medical' Models, Skeletons & Joints & Seeds for plant growth
There is a skeleton in the Kit Club already and a torso and teeth model, so feel free to borrow them! Our seed kits are available all year round and contain seeds to grow barley, cleaver, oilseed rape, coriander, sugar beet, sunflower, hairy bittercress, dandelion and wild oats. Get growing!

Bp meters, peak flow meters & pulse meters
Heart-rate monitors (2 types) and peak-flow meters are in the Heart Kit!

Walk-in Cell or Life-Lab type ideas
I am keen on these ideas but finding funding for such large projects is difficult. There is potential in incorporating some of these thoughts in the Plants & Us concept (a possible John Innes Centre visitor centre), watch this space.



A rose amongst thorns! ... Phil pictured with Ali Redmore and Jane Turner, respectively director and deputy director of the East of England SLC

Keeping in Touch - www.tsn.org.uk

TSN are keen to use the Internet to keep members updated with events and opportunities in the future. After 12 months strangled by technical problems, the TSN website is now being regularly updated (approximately on a monthly basis). We are aiming to make the **News page** far more useful and up-to-date.

The first item to be added to the site was 'an apology' for its inactivity in the last 12 months, please keep coming back to the site and help the network keep in touch.

The major sections of the website are:

- **About TSN** - background info.
- **News** - past & present events
- **Partnerships** - examples of partnership activity, which needs your input
- **Support** - including information about the Kit Club
- **Newsletters** - all as downloadable pdf files
- **Links** - to other education and science sites (including curriculum info)

Science Learning Centre launches in Norwich

October 2004 marked a busy month for our colleagues at the East of England Science Learning Centre as they launched 6 satellite centres across the region, one in each county. One of these satellites is the John Innes Centre in Norwich and Ian Gibson MP was on hand to speak about the role of Science in Society and how the SLC's could be involved in this. We have run a free train-the-trainer / brainstorming session on the polymerase chain reaction and are looking forward to hosting other courses in the future. These will be listed on the TSN website. TSN retains its independence but is happy to help support the SLC initiative to enhance science teaching in our area.