

**JANUARY  
2011**

**YBMA News**

**Vol 20  
No 2**

The Newsletter of the Yorkshire Branch of the Mathematical Association

## **Editorial**

Throughout my fifty years involvement in teaching mathematics there has always been a shortage of teachers, and this problem seems to have become more acute with each passing year. How might we in Britain produce more new mathematics teachers? Our own enthusiasm is clearly important, so that we convey our passion for the subject to our students. Such continuous commitment to a cause benefits from support - but where does this come from nowadays? Are inexpensive answers to professional questions now available only on the internet? No. Cheap CPD is available through the YBMA. You only have to tell us what you want and we'll try to provide it. And please also spread the word, so that we increase the active membership of the YBMA. Together we can surely make a significant impact in tackling any issue of maths teaching.

### **W P Milne 6<sup>th</sup> Form Lecture**

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2011 at 2.30 pm  
in the Roger Stevens Lecture Theatre 22  
University of Leeds

**David Spiegelhalter**

*Winton Professor of the Public Understanding of Risk  
University of Cambridge*

### **'Living with Risk and Uncertainty'**

*Past experience and probability theory can be used to check the odds of your football team winning or to judge risk. There is more of a problem when we don't fully understand what is going on, as with climate change. Find out how we can use probability and statistics to measure how ignorant we are.*

To book places please email Karen at  
[karen.kitchener@ntlworld.com](mailto:karen.kitchener@ntlworld.com)

### **NOTE: Your subscription for 2011 is now due.**

You may pay at a meeting or send your cheque for £5 payable to the YBMA to the Treasurer, Tim Devereux, Woodview House, 37 Hough Top, Leeds, LS13 4QW.

#### **YBMA CONTACT DETAILS**

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## **FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2011  
at 7.00 for 7.30 pm  
in MALL 1, School of Mathematics, Univ of Leeds

### **'The Fascination of Mathematics'**

**Jean and Tony Orton**

**YBMA**

*Those who enjoy all things mathematical know that the subject is littered with interesting and fascinating extensions, curriculum illustrations and, school applications. A few of these relating to both simple number work and to geometry will be discussed.*

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2011

at 1.30 for 2.00 pm

### **Annual Study Session**

in MALL 1, School of Mathematics, Univ of Leeds

### **'Looking Forward to the History of Mathematics in our Classrooms'**

**Chris Pritchard**

*McLaren High School, Callander*

*Moves towards ensuring that students have a better feel for the historical development of mathematics are being made across Britain. This session will consider the question, "Why introduce the history of mathematics in our classrooms?"*

### **Followed at 4.00 pm by the YBMA AGM**

Summer Meeting - Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June  
at 2.00 for 2.30 pm  
at Gateways School, Harewood, LS17 9LE

### **'Dynamics of the Planets'**

**Professor Chris Jones**

*University of Leeds*

*Space exploration discovers the conditions on the surface of planets, such as weather and magnetic fields. This leads to the construction of mathematical models which can help to inform us about what we might find both in our own solar system and on extra-solar planets.*



# Leeds University Pop Maths Quiz

Saturday 19th March 2011

11:00-13:00 Royal Armouries Museum, Leeds

The Pop Maths Quiz is a fun quiz with mathematical questions suitable for Year 7 and 8. Teams can have up to 6 pupils from Year 7 or 8.

For more information and a booking form look at:  
<http://www.maths.leeds.ac.uk/popmaths>  
or e-mail Jane West: [janevest@furthermaths.org.uk](mailto:janevest@furthermaths.org.uk)

**Followed by the chance to have a go at**

**'Discover the Maths around You'**

A maths trail that will take you all around the Royal Armouries Museum.

The trail is optional and lasts circa 1 hour.  
All submitted trails will be entered into a prize draw.

*This is the 3<sup>d</sup> Pop Maths Quiz to be held by the University of Leeds.*

*In 2010 the quizzers commented:*

*"I liked it. Made me think a lot", "It was fun and I enjoyed it",  
"It was challenging and I learnt a lot", "It was a bit tricky but it helped us  
work as a team", "Gave my brain a real work out"*