

Analytical Matters

Issue 23 – Winter Edition 2022/23

Welcome to the twenty-third issue of Analytical Matters, the e-newsletter of the Analytical Science Community of the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC). Analytical Matters aims to showcase the wide range of analytical science activities being run across the Royal Society of Chemistry Analytical Science Community as well as linking with parts of the UK analytical community beyond our membership.

Happy new year to one and all. This is a great time of year to look back on all of the changes and successes of 2022 and forward to our 2023 events. There were a lot of big changes within the RSC in 2022, most prominently for us was the transition to subject communities and the change in name from the Analytical Division to the Analytical Science Community. Of course, this didn't happen overnight, but involved a lot of meetings, discussions and hard work by RSC staff, AD council members and members of other committees, it was on every ADC agenda for several years! I would like to take the opportunity to thank all of those involved in developing our new, more inclusive community which already has started to take shape in the latter part of 2022. Working on collaborations, we have expanded engagement with interest groups and have representatives from associated interest groups joining an ASCC meeting a year; our first indoor air quality workshop was held in November jointly hosted by the Analytical Sciences, the Environment, Sustainability and Energy, and the Faraday Communities, bringing together experts from academia, industry, funding bodies and government departments to discuss this important topic – we hope to further these discussions in 2023. One of our big topics for 2022 was sustainability and I'm pleased to report on the progress that has been made in this area with the publication of the RSC report on Sustainable Laboratories and the launch of the resources hub. I would like to thank the RSC staff's work on this and also that of Dr Vicky Hilborne, who chaired the Analytical Science sustainability working group. 2022 has been a tough year, recovering from the COVID pandemic to be faced with the cost of living crisis. The RSC has a range of funding and support services, including the Chemists' Community Fund, a summary can be found in this newsletter.

Looking forward to 2023, please consider nominating a friend or colleague for an Analytical Sciences or RSC prize, the deadline is 18 January! Working on the success of the 2022 competition, registration for the 2023 School Analyst Competition is now open, with a closing date of the 24 February. Our annual Analytical Research Forum is to be held on the 8 June, with the oral abstract submission deadline of the 9 March. ASC is supporting the interest group Solutions in Science (SinS) conference, taking place on 4-6 July in Cardiff, abstract deadline is 31 January. Further details of all of these events and more can be found in this newsletter.

The start of the year is always a good time to think about continuing professional development (CPD). The RSC has a range of resources to help you with this and the Analytical Methods Committee Technical Briefs, of which there are more than 100, cover many different areas of analytical science and are also a great resource. Please take the time to visit the new web pages about the analytical science community and if you would like to become more involved, please consider standing for election to the council, further details in this newsletter.

Please send your feedback and any content for the next issue by [emailing the Editor](#)

With my very best wishes,

President, RSC Analytical Science Community

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The [Analytical Methods Committee](#) (AMC) continues to produce [Technical Briefs](#) (TBs), papers and reports through its Expert Working Groups (EWGs).

Recent outputs include:

TB 111 - A periodic table for liquid chromatography separation modes. , 2022, , 3033.

TB112 Comparing measurement uncertainty values. , 2022, , 4025.
Part XXV of the Application of Gas-Liquid Chromatography to the Analysis of Essential Oils has been submitted to .

A tutorial review of hand-held XRF was published in , 2022, , 1928.

The work of the AMC is funded by the Analytical Methods Trust. The and Award is awarded to someone who has made significant contribution to analytical chemistry in an area of interest to the work of the Analytical Methods Committee and is funded by the Trust. The 2020 lecture was delivered by Prof Tom Fearn on 14 July 2022 at Burlington House and via a live stream. The winner of the 2022 Theobald Lectureship and Award is Prof Phil Potts (Open University) and delivery of the lecture will be announced shortly.

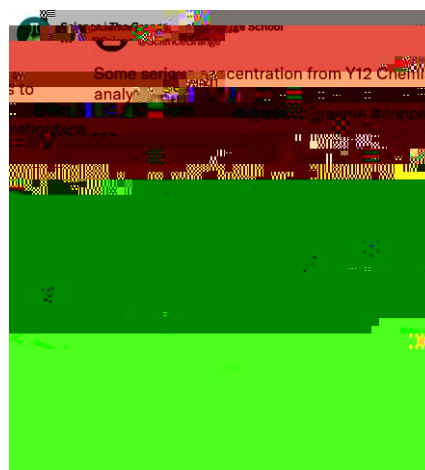
AMC also provides a representative on Eurachem. AMC members can get the Eurachem e-news mailings by subscribing at <https://eurachem.org/subscribe>.



Teachers across the UK and Ireland are invited to apply for the chance to receive one of 300 kits for their students to compete in this practical analytical competition in your own schools. Aimed at students in Year 12 in England and Wales, Y13 in Northern Ireland, S5 in Scotland or 5th Year in Republic of Ireland, the boxes will provide samples and equipment for up to twenty-five teams of three to participate in a flexible challenge that fits around your school timetable. Teams must work together to solve the problems, answer tough questions, and submit their answers for marking. Each school will be informed of their winning team after the closing date, but winners will also be entered into a second round against school winners in their region for the chance to be crowned regional champions!

[More details and a link to register.](#)

Registration .



The Analytical Chemistry Trust Fund (ACTF) is a charity established for the purposes of promoting, assisting and extending the science and study of Analytical Chemistry and of all questions relating to the analysis, nature and composition of natural and manufactured materials for the benefit of the public.

The ACTF supports strategic Analytical Science Community activities. ACTF also funds the Community for Analytical Measurement Science (CAMS) secretariat, lectureships and postdocs.