Having been a member of the Society since student days, I thought I was aware of most of what it did, but over the past year I have begun to realise that this was not the case and I have been impressed by the enormous range of activities, as well as the energy and enthusiasm of the Society’s staff.

A mainstay of the Society over many years has been publishing, and our journals continue to thrive thanks to the unstinting work of the Editors, members of Editorial Boards and reviewers. An exciting new development is the launch of the Society’s Geoscience Data Journal (GDJ). This is an open access, peer-reviewed electronic journal which publishes short papers presenting and citing datasets that have been deposited in approved data centres. I am delighted to see the launch of this activity, in which the Society is leading the way internationally.

In June the Society co-organised the UK’s first Weather, Arts and Music Festival (WAMFest) in central Reading. The festival hosted over 150 events across the weekend and included contributions from local community artists and musicians together with a science programme involving a number of meteorological institutions. A gala performance included the debut performance of a piece composed for the festival. The festival attracted over 1,000 people, double the expected numbers, and was a very positive start to what I hope will be a longer running festival programme.

The Society is joining the Institute of Physics’ (IoP) initiative with a call for donations to support African Education centres. The aim is to both improve the facilities to teach science and to foster a new generation of meteorologists in developing countries, with a focus on agriculture, water resources and aviation needs. By using the existing IoP centres, all the funds raised will be able to go directly towards meteorological teaching resources. Members are being asked for donations to provide these centres with meteorological equipment for education and training. I hope you will consider supporting this excellent cause.

July saw the launch of the Society’s new website. Having tested it I can confirm that the new layout provides much clearer access to all services for members, events and journal publishing, while also addressing the wider public interest in weather and climate with a range of information and updated news. Try it out!

In September we lost our Chief Executive Paul Hardaker, who moved to the Institute of Physics. Paul’s contributions to the Society have been many and marvellous and he is a hard act to follow, so it is a great pleasure to welcome Chris Holcroft into the post. He will be bringing his expertise from the Association for Geographic Information and I am sure he can count on your support while he gets familiarised with our meteorological practices and procedures.
Weather and climate control our lives, they affect our food, habitation, health, travel and economic activity. From influencing the outcome of a “nice day out” to providing one of the principal areas of scientific interest and challenges facing modern global society, weather and climate are all pervasive.

The Royal Meteorological Society is one of the most distinguished and long established meteorological membership bodies in the world. It is a home not only for scientists and professional practitioners engaged in the field, but also a welcoming and encouraging place for a large body of enthusiastic hobbyists and members of the public with a keen interest in the weather.

We are rightly proud of our history and heritage. The Society maintains its role in advancing the understanding of weather and climate, the science and its applications for the benefit of all. In doing so the Society is there for all ages and levels of interest. The Society is not old fashioned, elitist or exclusive. Its rich range of events and published works illustrate how, on the one hand, we can be promoting the highest levels of scientific endeavour, and on the other, delivering fascinating general interest areas such as the impact of weather on sporting performance, or great historical weather events that have become part of local history. Our website, e-shop, educational resources and charitable activities complete the wider picture of what we do.

I am new to the Society, a professional geographer for most of my career, in recent years I have become specialised in running membership organisations. Coming onboard gives me the privilege of joining a body focussed on a lively subject that we all ‘know’ and have an opinion on, whatever our level of understanding. My colleagues working here in headquarters offer all the services and facilities needed to support the Society and its members. Our work is focussed on ensuring it remains at the forefront of all meteorological matters and provides relevant member services in an efficient, modern and forward looking manner.

So, if you are a long-standing member of our community, or new to the Society, you can be assured of our dedication to all matters related to weather and climate and to providing a welcome place that you can call a ‘home’ for your interests.

Chris Holcroft FRGS, CGeog (GIS)
Chief Executive
CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY PROGRAMME

As part of the Strategic Plan the Society committed to reducing its carbon emissions by 20% by 2012. In actual fact, through a range of measures, the Society managed to reduce its emissions by a fantastic 56%. These measures included:

- improving the insulation of the building (including renovating the windows and installing new secondary double glazing);
- installing solar panels;
- moving to a green energy supplier and installing an energy meter;
- installing energy-efficient lighting and water heating;
- introducing a waste recycling scheme;
- removing the office water coolers;
- introducing a Green Travel Plan (including a ban on flights within the UK for all Society staff);
- moving the production of Weather from Singapore to the UK.

AWARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prize</th>
<th>Winner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mason Gold Medal</td>
<td>Prof Peter J Webster FRMetS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buchan Prize</td>
<td>Prof James Haywood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The FitzRoy Prize</td>
<td>Prof Roy Harrison OBE, FRMetS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L F Richardson Prize</td>
<td>Dr Helen Wells FRMetS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adrian Gill Prize</td>
<td>Prof David Stephenson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Gordon Manley Weather Prize</td>
<td>George Anderson FRMetS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QJ Editor’s Award</td>
<td>Dr Margaret Hendry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Paton Memorial Prize</td>
<td>Richard Tabony</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Conferences 2013**

13th EMS Annual Meeting & 11th European Conference on Applications of Meteorology (ECAM)
9 – 13 September 2013 at the University of Reading

The theme of the conference is expected to be “High impact weather: working in partnerships to reduce risk”.

Royal Meteorological Society Student Conference 2013
6 – 9 September 2013 at the University of Reading

**Conferences 2012**

The 2012 Student Conference took place in July at Leeds University. We had the biggest attendance ever, with over 90 PhD students attending. This included delegates from all over the world, including Africa, Bhutan and the USA. There was an engaging speaker programme and also a series of social events that delegates enjoyed greatly. Below, Prof Carl Wunsch gives a keynote talk and above, a group photo of the students.

All Student Conference photos (including front page): © Wagner Nogueira Neto

**Donations at Meetings**

In October 2012 the Society introduced a new system for non-members to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost of refreshments at Society meetings. We are very proud of the inclusive nature of our meeting programmes and the fact that we make as many Society meetings as possible free for all to attend. However, with the increasing costs of providing tea and coffee at meetings, the Society has decided to ask non-members to make a voluntary contribution of their choosing towards these costs.
Council is responsible for all of the accounts of the Society and all employees, as well as for making sure that Society accounts are audited on a yearly basis. They also agree and oversee our programmes of work and new initiatives.

Interestingly, Council is also responsible, through the Honorary Librarian appointed by Council, for the Society’s collection of books, pamphlets, slides and other material, which is held in the National Meteorological Library and Archives at the Met Office in Exeter on permanent loan. This material can be seen at the Met Office Library in Exeter during office hours, although it is not available for loan.

The average age of Council members has dropped significantly in recent years, due to the inclusion of many younger members.

Below: One of the social events at the 2012 Student Conference. We actively encourage our student members to consider joining Council.
The Society’s Local Centres have a packed programme of events and meetings which are of great interest to members all around the country.

**LocaL Center Locations**

The Society’s Local Centres have a packed programme of events and meetings which are of great interest to members all around the country.

**LocaL Center Contacts**

Scottish Centre - Richard Tabony
rtabony@btinternet.com

North East Centre - Dennis Wheeler
denniswheeler1948@msn.com

North West Centre - Grant Allen
grant.allen@manchester.ac.uk

West Midlands Centre - Ian Phillips
i.d.phillips@bham.ac.uk

East Midlands Centre - Ernie Pepperdine
ernie.pepperdine@ntlworld.com

East Anglia Centre - Chris Bell
chrisbell12@gmail.com

South East Centre - Stephen Burt
and John Pears
rmets.se@gmail.com

South West Centre - Colin Clark
colin4hrs@hotmail.com

Yorkshire Centre - Lindsay Bennett
lj.bennett@leeds.ac.uk

**LocaL Center Meetings**

Meetings already in the diary up until the end of January 2013 (see website for more)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Local Centre</th>
<th>Meeting Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22 Nov 2012</td>
<td>North East</td>
<td>Gordon Manley Lecture 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Dec 2012</td>
<td>North West</td>
<td>Lighting the Fire Within</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Dec 2012</td>
<td>East Anglia</td>
<td>Dan Harris speaks about his experiences as a Forecaster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Dec 2012</td>
<td>South East</td>
<td>Some Postgraduate studies from the University of Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Dec 2012</td>
<td>Scottish</td>
<td>Joint with IoP and Royal Society of Edinburgh on C T R Wilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Dec 2012</td>
<td>Scottish</td>
<td>Renewable Energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Dec 2012</td>
<td>North East</td>
<td>Weather Forecasting for Winter Road Maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Jan 2013</td>
<td>South East</td>
<td>Long Hot Summers Revisited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Jan 2013</td>
<td>Scottish</td>
<td>Graduate Evening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Jan 2013</td>
<td>West Midlands</td>
<td>How safe is the air in the cabins of passenger aircraft?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Jan 2013</td>
<td>Yorkshire</td>
<td>UK’s Climatological Observers Link (COL). 1970 to date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 Jan 2013</td>
<td>West Midlands</td>
<td>Weather and Painting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Full details for all groups can be found at www.rmets.org
The Society has a number of Special Interest Groups and the contact details are below. Please check the web site for meetings.

**Special Interest Groups**

- **Association of British Climatologists**
  - chief.exec@rmets.org

- **Atmospheric Chemistry - Paul Young**
  - paul.j.young@lancaster.ac.uk

- **Aviation Meteorology - Jacob Kollegger**
  - jacob.kollegger@hotmail.com

- **Data Assimilation - Bruce Ingleby**
  - bruce.ingleby@metoffice.gov.uk

- **Dynamical Problems - Martin Juckes**
  - martin.juckes@stfc.ac.uk

- **History Group - Martin Kidds**
  - metsochistorygroup@gmail.com

- **Meteorological Observing Systems**
  - Suzy Bingham - suzy.bingham@metoffice.gov.uk

- **Physical Processes - John Edwards**
  - john.m.edwards@metoffice.gov.uk

- **Satellite Meteorology - David Woolf**
  - david.woolf@thurso.uhi.ac.uk

- **Weather Service Providers**
  - chief.exec@rmets.org

- **Weather, Arts and Music - Pierrette Thomet**
  - pierrette.thomet@gmail.com

**National Meetings**

We have a full programme of National Meetings planned, on subjects as diverse and engaging as urban meteorology, climate and environments, and the weather of 2012.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Meeting Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 Dec 2012</td>
<td>London</td>
<td>Quantifying Uncertainties in Climate Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Jan 2013</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>To be confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Feb 2013</td>
<td>Manchester</td>
<td>Understanding the Weather of 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Feb 2013</td>
<td>London</td>
<td>Climate &amp; Environments from the Cretaceous to the Anthropocene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Mar 2013</td>
<td>London</td>
<td>The Long-range Forecasting Problem: Mythology, Science &amp; Progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Mar 2013</td>
<td>London</td>
<td>Are we entering a new Golden Age of Radar Meteorology in the UK?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Apr 2013</td>
<td>London</td>
<td>Should Weather &amp; Climate Prediction be Deterministic or Stochastic?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 May 2013</td>
<td>London</td>
<td>Society Annual General Meeting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Below: The ice-breaker session at the 2012 Student Conference
The Society’s education work focuses on its website – www.Metlink.org, a portal for weather and climate related resources for schools. This continues to develop, with new and updated resources being added continuously. Some of the newest resources are videos showing weather and climate related experiments and demonstrations, filmed in collaboration with the Met Office.

The Society has continued to give weather specific training to geography PGCE students, and over 18 UK universities will be visited in the current academic year. Continuing Professional Development sessions have also been delivered to practising teachers through events organised by the Geographical Association, the Association for Science Education, the Institute of Physics and the Education Show, and also through providing INSET training to primary schools.

The Society is engaging with the current National Curriculum and A level Reviews both individually and through its partner organisations.

We have also been working with a software development company to produce 3D learning resources, covering many weather basics and including weather systems and hurricanes. These fantastic interactive resources should support a very visual way of learning about weather.

We will continue to support the OPAL weather roadshow for the coming year, as it visits events targeted at schools, scouts, and the general public. Our instrument loans scheme has now been supplemented by fieldwork packs, with lesson plans and resources for teachers.

The Society has worked together with the Met Office, the Geographical Association, the Royal Geographical Society, Institute of Physics, OPAL, the Science Council, the Science Learning Centres and the London Grid for Learning, amongst others.

The Society is now active on Twitter, the online networking service. If you want to keep up to date with our news and events, career opportunities and programmes of work within the Society, then follow us on Twitter @RMetS. We currently have over 650 followers.
**Geoscience Data Journal (GDJ)**

We are now publishing Geoscience Data Journal (GDJ). Edited by Dr Rob Allan, GDJ is an online only, open-access, peer-reviewed publication. The journal publishes short-data papers cross-linked to, and citing, datasets that have been deposited in approved data centres and awarded DOIs (similar to ISBNs). GDJ will accept contributions in the areas of Weather and Climate; Oceanography; Atmospheric and Ocean Chemistry; Cryosphere; Biosphere and Land Surface and Geology.

**WIREs Climate Change**

WIREs Climate Change has recently compiled two collections, each of which draws together articles within a specific topic.

*Climate Change: Planet Under Pressure*

The Planet Under Pressure collection, published earlier this year, contains articles specially selected for delegates at Planet Under Pressure 2012. The collection presents content that will help researchers meet the world’s needs in food, energy, water and other ecosystem services.

*China National Climate Change Programme*

China’s National Climate Change Program published in 2007 lays out five areas around which national policy development should occur: greenhouse gas emissions reduction; climate change adaptation; climate change science and technology; public awareness of climate change; and institutions and mechanisms. In this Special Collection of articles from WIREs Climate Change we gather together 15 of the more significant review articles the journal has published since 2010.

Members can access both journals at www.rmets.org

**THE NEW WEB SITE**

The Society website has been completely redeveloped, bringing several separate applications into one integrated system. Included are a new series of Climate Science articles by renowned climate scientists, regular news and updates, events listings, journal access for members and much more. At the core of the new system is a new membership renewal system, which streamlines the joining and renewal processes.

A copy of the 3-year Strategic Plan summary is now available for download from the Society’s website at http://www.rmets.org/about-us/corporate-documents. The Plan identifies our aims and priorities for the next three years, and as part of this establishes two new groups focusing on developing membership and communicating climate science.

The Membership Development Project is already underway and is developing benefits across all of our membership community, with a focus particularly on corporate members and amateurs in this next phase. A new Climate Science Communications Group has been formed and held its first meeting in October 2012. The group is putting together a series of climate science communication initiatives.

Furthermore, the Society is starting to investigate the development of a set of CPD tools, to enable members to record and manage their continuing professional development online.
The RMetS Calendar 2013

Royal Meteorological Society

2013 CALENDAR

A4 size
Full 2013 calendar data
Space to write
UK climatological data

Available now online at www.rmets.org or by phone
(0118 956 8500)

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