



ASTME

Commonwealth Association of Science, Technology and Mathematics Educators

e-Newsletter

Number 19



September 2022

www.castme.online

Delivering a Common Future:
Connecting, Innovating, Transforming

Editor: Rachel Morgan

Her Late Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, Head of the Commonwealth

The Commonwealth Association for Science Technology and Maths Educators (CASTME) is deeply saddened by the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

CASTME mourns the loss of the Head of the Commonwealth. We are proud to be members of the Commonwealth, of which she was so supportive. CASTME extends sincere condolences to the Royal Family



Royal Memories and tributes from CASTME members

I was in school the day the King died – for some reason I think it was a Thursday. I must have been about 9 and I can see our teacher now standing in front of the class wearing a flowery dress, telling us, and saying that we needed to go home. The following day the newspapers had black edges and I clearly recall the picture of Her Majesty the new Queen arriving home by plane. She looked such a tiny figure in black.

The Coronation was an historical event from many angles. Television was piped to rural Dorset for the occasion. One family in our village had a TV set, and we were invited to see part of the ceremony. The picture was grainy grey with pouring rain, but we could make out the coach and horses. Our village had a fancy dress parade, and a tea for us children in a large barn, where we were given our Coronation mugs – which I still have today.

I met both Her Majesty and Prince Philip during their Golden Jubilee Celebrations in 2002 at Ardingly Show Ground in Sussex on a dreadful day in June. The rain came



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down in bucketsful and we had to stand on the wet grass where horse carriages had been parading. I was representing SATRO, an education charity, and had taken two infant children from a school in Cobham and their teacher. We had taken a working lighthouse and breecher's boy to demonstrate part of the Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch story, but had to set it up on the wet grass. The Queen came to speak to us and asked the children to demonstrate the lighthouse and breecher's boy. She was wearing wellington boots and a raincoat but still had a pretty hat on, and she crouched down to be at the children's level to talk to them. Fantastic! Her Majesty's approach was amazing showing total understanding of young children, and my memory is very clear.

Denise Balmer, UK

Queen Elizabeth II who passed on September 8, 2022 is remembered for the role she played as the British monarch in the independence of Ghana, Nigeria and other countries in the British Commonwealth. I recall being among the host of school children on October 1, 1960, lining up the route in Lagos, waving the Nigerian flag to welcome her.

May her soul rest in perfect peace. We wish King Charles III a successful reign.

Prof. Peter A. Okebukola, Nigeria

Queen Elizabeth, a devoted supporter of the Commonwealth was, seeing its growth from a few members to a worldwide organisation of fifty-six members. She regularly attended CHOGM, Commonwealth functions and travelled widely across the constituent countries. Interest in the Commonwealth was one of the cornerstones of her reign.

We have valued the dedication and unique qualities of Queen Elizabeth, who for seventy years carried out her promise to serve her people. She is one of the greatest monarchs

The many tributes from senior figures across the world bear witness to the respect and affection in which she was held. We shall not see her like again.

We wish King Charles a long and fulfilled reign, particular.as he takes on his mother's role as Head of the Commonwealth.

Margaret Lenton, UK



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We had the Bangladeshi flag and Union Jack at half-mast and had a 1-minute silence in assembly.

Pat Kerr, Overseas Director, Sreepur Village, Bangladesh

In the **February of 1952 the King died**, I was few weeks short of my 6th Birthday. When I arrived home from infant school, I must have been told so no Children's Hour on the TV. The television (a very small screen, 9 "screen, black and white, and in a wooden case) on which there was only one programme because there was only one channel. There was a black screen with very solemn music and the words. 'In memoriam King George VI' and his dates in white print on it. My younger brother and I made up a dance on a Persian mat with a square pattern.

In the run up to the Coronation my infants class, in the Parish rooms as the school in the town (Bakewell in Derbyshire) had no room - we were the immediate post World War II bulge, we had to learn the various songs, Lands of and Glory, Rule Britannia and the National Anthem. We acted out the coronation procession. Of course, we were all presented with a Coronation Mug. I recall watching with many other people in our sitting room the Coronation televised on the television.

I met the Queen a number of times over the years. Particularly memorable was at a reception In St James Palace when I and the Vice Chair Awards were invited to a reception for High Commissioners. We were presented to the Queen, as we lined up an adjunct took our name and association badges (We were representing The Commonwealth Association for Science Technology and Maths Educators). We were announced, the official passing our badges behind the Queen to another official who then announced us to Prince Charles. Prince Charles was very interested, asking us a few questions and telling us we should go and visit Birkhall and see the science playground he had built for children. He did relate enthusiastically with what we explained. I've been privileged to attend the State Opening of Parliament a number of times and seen her wearing the crown.

Lady Sue Tunnicliffe, UK



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Our heartfelt Condolences from Mauritius on the passing away of the Queen who was also Head of Commonwealth. As a member of CASTME Dr Lady Sue Dale Tunnicliffe and I attended a function at Marlborough House on Commonwealth Day back in 2010. The Queen together with Prince Philip, Prince Charles and his wife Camilla were present. Prince Philip addressed us and asked us about CASTME and STEM

education. I said that I was from Mauritius. Lady Camilla then showed an interest and stated that she has been to Mauritius twice. Incidentally Sue and I were dressed in saree just to attract the interest of the Queen and Royal family.

The flags on public buildings were flown at half-mast on Monday 19th September as a sign of respect for the Queen. May her soul Rest in Peace

Jayantee Naugah, Mauritius

2022 Findel CASTME Awards

Send entries for 2022 Findel CASTME Awards. to kathnugent1@gmail.com
Closing Date 31/10/2022

1 The Findel CASTME Education Award

Presented to the entry that displays an innovative approach to increasing STEM awareness. The awardee will receive a £300 voucher to spend on Philip Harris science equipment or resources as well as an international membership of the ASE for one year

2 The Findel CASTME Protect Our Planet Award

Presented to a STEM project which focuses on the Sustainable Development Goals such as Climate Change, Responsible Consumption and Clean Water. The awardee will receive a £100 voucher from Findel International

3 The Findel CASTME Community Award

Presented to a community project focused on mothers, fathers, carers and children and/or on raising awareness of STEM in the community. The awardee will receive a £50 voucher from Findel International

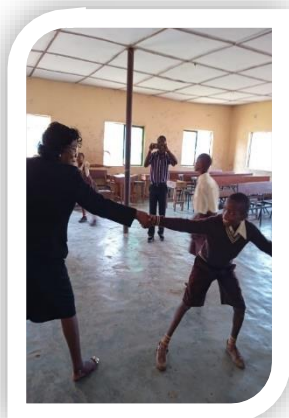


Outreach Workshop On Stem-E Using STEM Play cycle

Based on report from IBIYINKA OGUNLADE, Director of Children-in-science and Technology

In continuation of the impact of the Resource materials donated by FINDEL with respect to CASTME Award, an Outreach programme was organised for a group of Children within Ikere-Ekiti Community

- ⦿ Comprising 41 girls and 42 boys.
- ⦿ Three STEM related activities were held using STEM play cycle approach
- ⦿ By being asked to narrate their observations while blowing up balloons Children were able to conclude that air has weight and occupies space.
- ⦿ This was also used to explain the concept of respiration as well as body organs such as lungs.
- ⦿ The concept of force was explained to the children using the method they engage in while playing without knowing they are doing Science.
- ⦿ They were instructed to pull each other and observe. The child with the greater force pulled the other. In cases where they exerted equal forces, they were both at equilibrium





The People's Charter for an Eco-Social World

The People's Global Summit was initiated by 26 diverse global organisations representing hundreds of millions of people, including Commonwealth Secretariat, Commonwealth Organisation for Social Work, UNICEF, UNESCO, UNRISD and many others.

Representing different faiths, philosophies, rights movements, workforces, generations, traditions and cultures they have gathered people from across the world, bridging movements for justice, to create new ways to work together for sustainability and quality of life for all.

The People's Charter for an Eco-Social World comes from the People's Global Summit, 'Co-Building a New Eco-Social World: Leaving No One Behind', held online on 29 June – 2 July 2022.

The Charter is a living document and reference point that will grow as the world's populations share their solutions to our joint challenges, so all people can live with confidence, security, and peace in a sustainable world. The People's Global Summit will continue to promote and support local and global action to unlock the means to co-design and co-build a new eco-social world. Together, we will bring our local and global expertise from working in communities and populations where transformative change has taken place.

The charter can be accessed here <https://newecosocialworld.com/the-peoples-charter-for-an-eco-social-world/>

The Charter is initially submitted as an invitation and call to action to the world's leaders at the United Nations High-Level Political Forum and General Assembly.

Other organisations and communities are invited to associate with the People's Charter.



Mothers Talking Everyday Science project in Sreepur

Started in 2010, this project is delivered as part of the Literacy programme and designed to empower mothers by improving their understanding of STEM in their daily activities. They are encouraged to talk with their children and other mothers as they carry out routine tasks everyday to increase understanding and interest in STEM.



Photo above shows Sreepur Village marking a two minute silence for Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

Pat Kerr, Founder and Overseas Director of Sreepur Village, along with over 100 mothers and more than 300 children as well as each and every member of staff paid their respects to Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II during a two minute silence in the village grounds.



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Maisie Southwell, Beloved 'Teacher Maisie', passed 5th September 2022



It was with great sadness that I was informed of the death of the beloved Teacher Maisie. She was both a friend and mentor. She had been part of my life and my teaching, learning and thinking since the early 1980s.

We did a number of workshops together over the years, focused on effectively Literacy, Communication and STEM learning for little ones in the community.

Her wisdom, experience, and passion for children's learning and how we practitioners could help them on their individual learning journey in their early years was unparalleled. Her understanding of how these children learnt was vast and extended to before formal school.

Maisie's influence is alive in Antigua and Barbuda but also in other countries and in the members of the Commonwealth Association for Science Educators which also shares her message.

The Infant Pedagogic Centre which had several homes before its present location is a tremendous memorial to her foresight, dedication and work which is also commemorated by the wall plaque in the entrance to the new Education department.

I sincerely hope that more Early Years initiatives, in her memory, will develop as her living legacy and pray that she looks over us as we seek to carry on her mission. Maisie was an inspiration to us all but, most of all, I have lost a cherished friend. Maisie, a great lady.



May she rest in peace,

(Dr Lady (Sue Dale) Tunncliffe)

**Introduction to Science for young Children****National Council of Women Malta**

For a number of consecutive summers National Council of Women Malta (NCW) has offered free STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics) sessions to young children up to the age of six. These sessions proved a great success amongst children and their parents and guardians.

After the STEM sessions children were able to engage and talk about the activities and also repeated them at home to show their families and friends. These sessions not only introduced the children to the basic scientific concepts and vocabulary but also to the basic science process skills such as observation, communication, classification, measurement, inference and prediction.

NCW Malta is ever grateful to Dr. Lady Sue Dale Tunnicliffe, the Chair of CASTME, Ms. Kathleen Nugent, Vice Chair and NCW Past Hon. General Secretary, Doris Bingley, who is also the European Head of the Commonwealth Women's Network, for introducing and encouraging the National Council of Women Malta to hold these sessions

Due to the huge demand by parents and caregivers to continue holding STEM programmes during the summer months, NCW Malta applied for funding with a project entitled

"Science Tic Tac".

Science Tic Tac Project will be held during July, August and September 2023. Course number 1 will be for duration of 7 weeks, once a week, for ages 2-4 starting in July with the 2nd course starting in mid-August for ages 5-7 ending in September. Sessions will be 1.5 hrs during the morning. The activities will be held at the National Council of Women Learning Centre with the final session being an outdoor activity.

The National Council of Women is very pleased to announce that funding has been approved and our team at NCW looks forward to implement these sessions during 2023

Marie Demicoli

Ass. Hon General Secretary

Doris Bingley

Commonwealth Women's Network



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UPCOMING DATES –

Please Contact Kath Nugent for joining instructions (kathnugent@yahoo.co.uk)

Informal Meeting on Zoom Wednesday 19th October 2.30pm BST – All welcome

Informal Meeting on Zoom Wednesday 16th November 2.30pm GMT – All welcome

Trustees Meeting on Zoom Weds 23rd November 2.00pm GMT – Reports to Secretary 2 weeks prior please

ASE Conference 5th-7th January 2023 Sheffield Hallam (CASTME members attending with stand)

Some Useful Links

CASTME is a member of ICASE, the International Council of Associations for Science Education. Here is a link to their latest newsletter, where you can read about recent activities.

http://www.icasonline.net/newsletter/icas_01_02_2022.pdf

The Royal Commonwealth society newsletter, Commonwealth voices, gives interesting details about the impact of their activities including The Queen's Commonwealth Essay competition.

<https://cts.vresp.com/c/?RoyalCommonwealthSoc/be48e39ea7/d674a4ef1e/d8b4abe093>

CASTME links Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Educators across the Commonwealth

It has a UK-based board of trustees, with regional branches and advisers in the Commonwealth

Editor's Note: For the next edition of this newsletter please send articles to **Rachel Morgan:** rachelmorg@aol.com
by 5th January 2023 CASTME website: <http://www.castme.online>

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