



# ASTME

Commonwealth Association of Science, Technology and Mathematics Educators

## e-Newsletter

Number 5

[www.castme.org.uk](http://www.castme.org.uk)

December 2011

### Communication

Communication about CASTME and its activities is always welcome. As well as this Newsletter, CASTME publishes a leaflet, which can be obtained from [ChrisMcLaren@Winchester.ac.uk](mailto:ChrisMcLaren@Winchester.ac.uk). See back page for an extract.

### CASTME Award Scheme

Teachers and officials (advisers, inspectors, etc.) working in primary, secondary and tertiary education are invited to enter for the CASTME Awards. Entries should be educational projects, which address the social or human context of science, technology and mathematics.

Individuals or groups may submit projects. Only one project can be accepted from any one individual or group. Projects previously submitted to for a CASTME Award may not be re-submitted. For further information and entry form, please contact: [ChrisMcLaren@Winchester.ac.uk](mailto:ChrisMcLaren@Winchester.ac.uk) to whom entries should be sent by the end of January 2012

### The Alexander Prize

This award is specifically for women educators working under difficult conditions. The award is named after the Alexander family who worked in science education in many commonwealth countries for over 50 years. It is supported by the ASE, the UK Association for Science Education. The Alexander Prize will be awarded to a woman or group of women who has made a significant contribution to encouraging the scientific, technological or mathematical education of girls or women in a situation of particular difficulty or scarce resources.

A nomination for the Alexander Prize should be made in the form of an essay explaining the reasons for the nomination, and detailing the achievements of the nominee/s over a period of time. Such a nomination may be made by a third party, or by the nominee herself.

**Nominations for the Alexander Prize should be sent by the end of January 2012 to:**

CASTME Awards Co-ordinator,  
c/o Faculty of Education Health & Social Care,  
University of Winchester,  
West Hill,  
Winchester,  
SO22 4NR  
UK

or to Christine McLaren at: [Chris.McLaren@Winchester.ac.uk](mailto:Chris.McLaren@Winchester.ac.uk)

All CASTME award enquiries should be addressed to  
Dr Bridget Egan, CASTME  
Faculty of Education  
University of Winchester  
SO22 4NR  
UK  
[Bridget.Egan@winchester](mailto:Bridget.Egan@winchester)

### CASTME Jamaica

<http://www.jis.gov.jm/news/leads-100/29180>

Sue Dale Tunnicliffe launched CASTME at the Mico University College, Kingston, Jamaica on Friday, November 4 2011.

She can be seen here welcoming Jamaican educational institutions and professionals to CASTME.

With her are (from the left):

- Sharon Wolfe, Director, Alumni Affairs at Mico University College
- Ruel Reid, Principal of Jamaica College, and Adviser to the Ministry of Education
- Dr. Albert Benjamin, Head of the Science Department at Mico University College.



Principal of Jamaica College, and Adviser to the Minister of Education, Ruel Reid (2nd from right) emphasised the importance of science technology and mathematics Education to Mico students.

Here he can be seen with Sue on his left:

- Randy Russel
- Wendy Dayes
- Jermaine Clarke

The President of Jamaica's Science Teachers' Association, Donovan Edwards pledged the full support of his organisation and the hope that Mathematics and Science teachers across the island will seek membership.

Ruel Reid spoke of the timeliness of the development:

"It comes at a time when our country recognises that the solution to the problem of economic development lies within the creation of human and social capital."





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### Antigua to Zambia

– Getting to know your Commonwealth

*A free teaching resource*

Designed for ages 11-18, these resources cover topics such as democracy, diversity and development, details may be downloaded from: [www.thercs.org/youth/413](http://www.thercs.org/youth/413)

### Link Schools Programme

– *Bringing schools together as partners in development*

This programme brings together schools from the UK and Ireland with schools in sub-Saharan Africa to work in partnership and learn from one another to support quality education - as partners in development. It offers an innovative school linking programme, including training, expert staff, materials, and visits. For more information or to become involved, please email [linkschools@lcd.org.uk](mailto:linkschools@lcd.org.uk), phone +44 (0)207 226 9331, or visit [www.linkschools.org](http://www.linkschools.org).

### 2012 Young Commonwealth Competitions

– *Connecting Cultures for the Jubilee*

2012 marks the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and her 60<sup>th</sup> year as Head of the Commonwealth.

To celebrate this very special occasion, for one year only, all competition entries will be added to the world's biggest history project, the Commonwealth Jubilee Time Capsule.

Visit the Royal Commonwealth Society website to find out more about each of the three competitions:

- **Commonwealth Essay Competition** - the world's oldest and largest schools' writing contest. See: [www.thercs.org/youth/essaycompetition](http://www.thercs.org/youth/essaycompetition)
- **Commonwealth Photographic Awards**. See: [www.thercs.org/youth/photoawards](http://www.thercs.org/youth/photoawards)
- **Commonwealth Vision Awards**. See: [www.thercs.org/youth/photoawards](http://www.thercs.org/youth/photoawards)



**Closing Date: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2012**

In 2011 over 2000 young writers, photographers and filmmakers around the world have received an award for their entries.

For all the information, including topics, how to enter, and prizes: [www.thercs.org/youth/competitions](http://www.thercs.org/youth/competitions)

### ICASE World Conference 2013



International Council of Associations for Science Education

Following similar conferences in 2003, 2007 and 2010, the International Council of Associations of Science Education is to hold a World Conference on Science and Technology Education from Sunday 29 September - Thursday 3 October, 2013.

It is expected that the Conference will be held in the Borneo Convention Centre, Kuching, Sarawak. See: <http://www.icas2013.org/>

In recognition of the support over the years by CASTME members, the organisers are offering CASTME the opportunity to hold its own conference within the World Conference: a room for two days to run our program. This would be available for CASTME special meetings, receptions and events.

It is expected that there will also be CASTME sessions held during the session times in the programme. Also an expectation that other World Conference delegates can come to CASTME sessions, as well as our delegates going to any other sessions at the World Conference that they choose. We will be able to put up banners, advertising and our own touches to the room for the time we would be host.

The advantage of having a Conference within a Conference is that we can develop our own programme and have a lot more control. Our completed programme of speakers and needs will be required early in 2012.

ICASE would also welcome CASTME presentations on the other days of the Conference and these would be within the general World Conference programme. CASTME delegates will have exposure to other international speakers and wide international networking opportunities.

The main advantage for the World Conference is to have many CASTME delegates and to develop collaboration between CASTME and ICASE.

If you or colleagues are interested please contact the editor.



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### Jubilee Time Capsule

- A peoples' history of the last 60 years

**Closing Date: June 2012**

In honour of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee, the Royal Commonwealth Society is building the world's largest online time capsule. See: <http://www.jubileetimecapsule.org/1>

People of all ages are invited to select a date between 6<sup>th</sup> February 1952 and 6<sup>th</sup> June 2012 and tell us about an event that happened on that day. It could be an event that is important to themselves, their family, community, or country. Entries to the Jubilee Time Capsule (JTC) can include photos, films, drawings, poems, interviews or essays. These memories – the untold stories of millions of ordinary and extraordinary lives – are the story of the modern Commonwealth.

Schools, students, parents and teachers are invited to enter the Jubilee Time Capsule. Ideas are available of how you could bring the JTC to your classroom and community on:

[www.jubileetimecapsule.org/info/groups](http://www.jubileetimecapsule.org/info/groups)

Over 60 schools in 28 countries have joined a special team called **SuperSchools**. Each school is committed to contributing to the JTC, and working together to fill the world's biggest online time capsule.

If you would like to help represent your country for the Jubilee, and take advantage of free resources and special prizes, email [jubilee@thercs.org](mailto:jubilee@thercs.org).

*"Thank you so much for the challenge. This has introduced a very heartening situation in terms of family as well as social communication to our young students"*

Fazaia Intermediate College, Pakistan (SuperSchool)

[www.jubileetimecapsule.org/discover/search/submitForm/1?search=fazaia](http://www.jubileetimecapsule.org/discover/search/submitForm/1?search=fazaia)

### See the Capsule:

<http://www.jubileetimecapsule.org/>



### CHOGM 2011

The Commonwealth Heads of Government met in Perth, Australia, in early October 2011.

The Heads reaffirmed their commitment to the values and principles of the Commonwealth and agreed to a series of actions to maintain the Commonwealth's relevance, to ensure its effectiveness in responding to contemporary global challenges and to build resilient societies and economies.

In regard to education, the Heads agreed to:

- Explore options for sharing best practice on resource management and promote initiatives to provide access to monitoring, research, education and training, and technical and policy expertise;
- Build capacity in and share best practice on resource management, and welcomed members' initiatives to provide access to research, education and training, and technical and policy expertise;
- Promote inclusive education and to accelerate efforts to achieve quality universal primary education, in line with the Millenium Development Goals and the Education For All goals.
- Help children attain basic levels of literacy and numeracy by strengthening international mechanisms and cooperation, including through new technologies;
- Create opportunities for skills development and quality secondary and higher education;
- Call for a successful completion of the first replenishment of the Global Partnership for Education in Copenhagen in November 2011;

The Heads proposed a Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust to be funded by private donations and voluntary contributions from governments to focus on areas such as tackling curable diseases, the promotion of all forms of education and culture and other Commonwealth priorities.





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### Zambia – STEM Education Centre



#### Most Recent Activities

In November 2010, the STEM Education Centre organised workshops for high school science teachers on "Creative Science Teaching Using Simple Materials" with resource persons from the Australian National Centre for the Public Awareness of Science of the Australian National University



In February 2011, the STEM Education Centre facilitated a one day "In Service Training Workshop" for science teachers whose schools participated in the Science Fair of the Independent School Association of Zambia. Of the four presentations made, two were by STEM-Z: "The Evolution of Science" and "Spicing Science Lessons with Demonstrations".



#### Motto:

Towards a Science Culture".

#### Values

Recognizing that cultural diversity provides a strong foundation for effective learning and scientific engagement; and

Adknowledging that advancement in science and technology is critical national development.



#### Pilars

Scientific literacy on the part of the populace, policy and decision makers is necessary for them to make judicious evaluation of how their communities will best use and benefit from technological advances; and

Creation of scientific knowledge depends on having qualified scientists and appropriate infrastructure.

#### Contact:

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## Some activities – from the CASTME leaflet



Students and teachers working on a project for the annual CASTME Awards



CASTME organises international seminars and regional conferences and meetings



Delegates from many countries attending the Annual Workshop of CASTME Africa

**Editor's Note:** The next edition of this newsletter will be published in April 2012. Please send requested articles to Jonathan Ling at: [j.g.ling@btinternet.com](mailto:j.g.ling@btinternet.com) by Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2012. CASTME website: <http://www.castme.org.uk>