



Stephen Metcalfe MP,  
Chairman, Parliamentary and  
Scientific Committee

Welcome to my first editorial as the new Chair of the P&SC. I am looking forward to this new role enormously.

I have two thanks to give.

First to my predecessor, Andrew Miller, who did such a superb job in running it for five years. I am sure he is now enjoying the peace and quiet after the hurly burly of Westminster.

Second to our President, Ron Oxburgh, for providing the continuity (and the last Editorial) during the odd inter regnum which occurs between parliaments.

Parliament may have vanished for a few weeks, but the world of science never sleeps.

It was great to see the launch of the MRC Innovation Fund – an initiative of my colleague, George Freeman. We shall be commissioning contributions to SiP from some of the winners in due course.

Some topics which have been covered either in Discussion Meetings or in these pages will not lie down. We have recently witnessed renewed controversy about neonicotinoids and GM insects.

It is excellent that MPs have had a chance to quiz some of the top scientists in these fields.

Our programme for the Autumn commences with "Patient Safety" in October.

I am looking forward to seeing new faces in the audience.



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*The Parliamentary and Scientific Committee is an All-Party Parliamentary Group of members of both Houses of Parliament and British members of the European Parliament, representatives of scientific and technical institutions, industrial organisations and universities.*



Science in Parliament has two main objectives:

1. to inform the scientific and industrial communities of activities within Parliament of a scientific nature and of the progress of relevant legislation;
2. to keep Members of Parliament abreast of scientific affairs.

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