The Parliamentary and Scientific Committee

An Associate Parliamentary Group

Annual Report

2013

The Parliamentary and Scientific Committee

An Associate Parliamentary Group

Office-holders 2013

President
The Rt Hon the Lord Jenkin of Roding

Past Presidents
The Rt Hon Lord Waldegrave of North Hill
The Earl of Selborne KBE FRS
HRH The Duke of Edinburgh KG KT FRS
The Lord Soulsby of Swaffham Prior

Vice-Presidents
Mr Paul Ridout
Mr Philip Greenish CBE
Mr John Slater
Dr Stephen Benn
Mr Atti Emecz
Professor Ian Haines
Dr Guy Hembury
Professor Colin Seabrook MBE

Hon Treasurer
The Lord Willis of Knaresborough

Hon Secretary
Mr Stephen Mosley MP

Chairman
Mr Andrew Miller MP

Deputy Chairman
Mr Tom Blenkinsop MP

Advisory Panel
Mr David Youdan
Dr Stuart Taylor
Dr David Dent

Secretariat
Professor Alan Malcolm
Mrs Annabel Lloyd
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Council

At the end of 2013 the following were members of the Council:

Dr Stephen Benn
Professor John Bleby
Mr Tom Blenkinsop MP
Dr David Dent
Mr Atti Emecz
Mr Robert Freer
Mr Philip Greenish
Professor Ian Haines
Dr Guy Hembury
The Baroness Hilton of Eggardon
Dr T D Inch
Mr Paul Jackson
The Rt Hon Lord Jenkin of Roding
Professor H Peter Jost
Mr Andrew Miller MP
Mr Stephen Mosley MP
Dr Douglas Naysmith
The Lord Oxburgh
Professor Jane Plant
Mr Paul Ridout
Professor Colin Seabrook MBE
The Earl of Selborne
Mr R G Sell
Mr John Slater
The Lord Soulsby of Swaffham Prior
Mr Ian Taylor
Dr Stuart Taylor
Dr Desmond Turner
Lord Willis of Knaresborough
Dr Richard Worswick
Mr David Youdan

Foreword by the President

The Rt Hon the Lord Jenkin of Roding

After six years as President of the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee, this report is my 'valete'. Though it has been a great honour to be your President, I have decided that it is time for someone else to take over.

I owe it to Sir David Price, who sadly died recently, that I joined the P&SC shortly after being elected to Parliament in 1964 – almost 50 years ago.

It has been a very rewarding experience. As a non scientist who occupied several ministerial posts which depended on science, I was always very appreciative of the help and advice which was provided by many scientists. They even managed to explain things in language which a layman could understand. I cannot but think that this was a useful learning experience for them too. It certainly helped me when, in 1998/99, I chaired a House of Lords Select Committee Inquiry into "Science and Society". The ripples from our seminal Report continue to spread across the world, even today. I am, too, amazed how often the many widely different topics we discuss at our P&SC meetings evolve into issues of public engagement and about the understanding and acceptance of risk.

It was a particular treat to listen to the new Chief Scientific Adviser, Sir Mark Walport, address our Annual Lunch last November on the distinction between Hazard and Risk.

Some issues simply do not go away. Indeed, after so many years, I must admit to the occasional "déjà vu" and wonder if we have progressed at all. The search for new antibiotics continues to be depressingly slow, as is our ability to control resistance to those which we have already. Last year's P&SC discussion on this topic helped to clarify the problems.

However, the topic of GM crops now finally seems to be heading out of the dark valley of unreasoning prejudice into the more promising light of a plausible code of practice.

This year, we have had meetings on several subjects of really topical interest. One which attracted rather more Parliamentarians than usual was the session on "Ash

Leaf Die-Back". Indeed, I was asked by one otherwise well-informed Peer who it was who had organised such an interesting and valuable meeting. When I told him that it was the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee, his response was "Who?" He had never even heard of us!

And thereby hangs a very real problem. Yes, we have a fascinating programme of discussion meetings, with many notable speakers; and yes, we attract good audiences of scientists and others who are involved in many of the professional and business organisations which we are fortunate to count among our loyal supporters.

But I am not alone in being depressed by how few Parliamentarians attend our meetings regularly. Of course, we have been living in a period of rapid change. When we started in 1939, we were the first and only All-Party Group in Parliament. Today, there are no fewer than 610 such Groups – and there is no doubt that they attract many of the MPs and Peers with specialised interests who might otherwise come to our meetings.

Yet, despite this challenge, I feel I am leaving on a high note, and feel confident in handing over to my successor.

I am writing this Report just after the most successful "SET for Britain" exhibition and awards event which attracted the active interest of many of the MPs who had constituents taking part.

We have launched a new website, and have just produced our first issue of *Science in Parliament* with colour throughout. Our finances seem to be more robust than in recent years.

2014 is our 75th Anniversary, and it will be for my successor to preside over the planned events to celebrate this milestone.

He or she will be elected at the AGM on 17th June and I take this opportunity to hope that (s)he will get as much interest and stimulation from the P&SC as I have had.

I end by expressing my warm thanks to all the speakers we have listened to during my six years; my admiration for the excellent leadership I have experienced from the several Chairmen and officers, not least the current Chairman, Andrew Miller MP; my sincere acknowledgement of all the support we get from Council members and others; and my very real gratitude for the splendid service we had had from our staff, Professor Alan Malcolm and Annabel Lloyd.

I wish them all, and my successor, the very best of success in the future.

Membership 2013

Parliamentary Membership

Any member of either House of Parliament including those hereditary peers in membership of the Committee on 8th November 1999 or British Member of the European Parliament shall be eligible to be a member of The Committee.

House of Lords

Baroness Andrews
Lord Armstrong
Lord Boswell of Aynho
Lord Broers
Lord Brooke of Sutton Mandeville
Lord Chorley
Lord Clement-Jones
Lord Craig of Radley
Lord Davies of Coity
Baroness Dean
Lord Deben
Lord Framlingham
Baroness Gibson of Market Rasen
Baroness Gould of Potternewton
Baroness Greenfield
Baroness Hamwee
Lord Haskel
Lord Hennessy of Nympsfield
Baroness Hilton of Eggardon
Lord Howe of Aberavon
Lord Howie of Troon
Lord Hoyle
Lord Hunt of Chesterton
Lord Hunt of Wirral
Lord Jenkin of Roding
Lord Jopling
Lord Judd
Lord Kakkar
Lord Krebs
Lord Lewis of Newnham
Baroness Lockwood
Lord Mackenzie of Culkein
Lord McColl of Dulwich
The Countess of Mar
Lord Mason
Lord Methuen
Lord May of Oxford
Viscount Montgomery of Alamein
Baroness Neville-Rolfe
Baroness Nicholson of Winterbourne
Baroness Northover
Lord Oxburgh
Lord Patel of Dunkeld
Lord Patten
Baroness Perry of Southwark
Baroness Platt of Writtle
Lord Rea
Lord Rees of Ludlow
Lord Ribeiro
Viscount Ridley
Lord Roberts of Conwy
Lord Rooker
Lord Sainsbury of Turville
The Earl of Selborne
Baroness Sharp of Guildford
Lord Sheldon
Viscount Simon
Viscount Slim
Lord Soulsby of Swaffham Prior
Lord Stevenson of Coddenham
Lord Stoddart of Swindon
Lord Stone of Blackheath
Lord Taverne
Lord Thomas of Macclesfield
Baroness Thornton
Lord Tombs of Brailes
Lord Trees of the Ross
Lord Trefgarne
Lord Turnberg
Baroness Turner of Camden
Lord Vinson of Roddam Dene
Lord Wade of Chorlton
Lord Waldegrave of North Hill
Baroness Walmsley
Lord Walton of Detchant
Baroness Warwick of Undercliffe
Lord Willis of Knaresborough
Lord Winston

House of Commons

Adam Afriyie
Ian Austin
Bob Blackman
Tom Blenkinsop
Sir Peter Bottomley
Andrew Bridgen
Dr Therese Coffey
Oliver Colvile
Michael Connarty
Nic Dakin
David Davies
The Rt Hon David Davis
Nigel Evans
Robert Flello
Rt Hon Caroline Flint
Paul Flynn
George Freeman
Mark Garnier
Mrs Helen Goodman
Robert Goodwill
Stephen Hammond

Charles Hendry
Julie Hilling
Kelvin Hopkins
Dr Julian Huppert
Hon Bernard Jenkin
David Jones
Andrew Love
Ms Ann McKechin
Esther McVey
Andrew Miller
Austin Mitchell
Stephen Mosley
David Mowat
Brooks Newmark
Chi Onwurah
Richard Ottaway
Rt Hon Dawn Primarolo
Sir James Paice
Alok Sharma
Alec Shelbrooke
Graham Stringer
Ian Swales
Mike Thornton
Ed Vaizey
Ben Wallace
Tom Watson
Stephen Williams
Dr Sarah Wollaston

Members of the European Parliament

Stuart Agnew
Richard Ashworth
Rt Hon Sir Robert Atkins
Giles Chichester
Andrew Duff
James Elles
Ashley Fox
Julie Girling
Malcolm Harbour
Timothy Kirkhope
Ms Jean Lambert
Marina Yannakoudakis

Hereditary Peers

Lord Birdwood
Earl of Cranbrook
Lord Hacking
Lord Ironside
Lord Kirkwood
Lord Monkswell
Lord Renwick
Viscount Weir

Honorary Members

The Committee may appoint honorary members who by virtue of their standing or their office may appropriately engage in the Committee's activities.

HRH The Duke of Edinburgh
The President, The Royal Society
The President, The Royal Academy of Engineering

Government Chief Scientific Adviser (Professor Sir Mark Walport FRS)
Director-General for Knowledge and Innovation (Sir John O'Reilly)
Chief Scientific Adviser, Ministry of Defence (Professor Vernon Gibson FRS)
Chief Scientific Adviser, Department for Energy and Climate Change (Professor David Mackay)
Chief Scientific Adviser, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Professor Ian Boyd FRSE)
Chief Scientific Adviser, Department of Health (Professor Dame Sally Davies)
Chief Scientific Adviser, Home Office (Professor Bernard Silverman)
Chief Scientific Adviser, Department for Transport (Professor Rod Smith)
Chief Scientific Adviser, Department for Communities and Local Government
Chief Scientific Adviser, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (Professor Robin Grimes)
Chief Scientific Adviser, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (Professor John Perkins CBE FREng)
Deputy Chief Scientific Adviser, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (Amanda Dickins)

Life Members

The Committee may also elect up to a maximum of twenty-five life members who, on retirement from Parliament or their institution, will qualify by having served The Committee either as officers or in some other capacity and given valuable service to it. It will be the responsibility of the Council to recommend such former members for this category.

Arthur Butler
Tam Dalyell
Dr Brian Iddon
Dr Tom Inch
Dr Ian Gibson
Professor H Peter Jost
Dr Douglas Naysmith
Richard Page
Sir David Price (dec'd Jan 2014)
Reg Sell
Lord Spicer of Cropthorne
Ian Taylor
Dr Desmond Turner
Dr Peter Warren

Individual Members

The Committee may also elect individual members who, on retirement from Parliament or their institution, wish to remain actively engaged in the Committee's activities. Individual membership shall have a term of five years, which shall be renewable. It will be the responsibility of the Council to recommend individuals for this category.

Sir Frederick Crawford
Dr John Dudeney
Professor Michael Elves
Robert Freer
Sir John Kingman
Dr Robert Kirby-Harris
Professor Robert Pickard
Professor Jane Plant
Dr Keith Winters
Dr Richard Worswick

Scientific and Technical Organisations

An organisation or society shall be eligible for election to The Committee as a Scientific and Technical Organisation if the Council is satisfied that it is either:

(i) A National Institution or Association for qualifying scientists, engineers or technologists; or

(ii) A Research Organisation which is not of a profit-making character, or part of an individual commercial or profit-making undertaking, and which is either directly engaged in natural or social science, pure or applied, or both providing funds for research to be conducted by other bodies and also taking a direct part in determination of the programmes of such research, or

(iii) A body, the contribution of which to the scientific life of the country makes its membership, in the opinion of the Council, desirable in order to advance the agreed objects of The Committee.

In reaching a decision with regard to eligibility regard shall be had to the extent to which the branch of science, engineering or technology represented by the applicant organisation is already adequately represented on The Committee.

Note. No organisation which had been elected to membership by The Committee prior to January 1963, shall, however, be rendered ineligible for membership under this sub-clause.

AIRTO
Alzheimer's Research UK
Association for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine
Professor Richard Brook OBE FREng
Dr Matt Norton
Joe O'Meara

Scientific and Technical Organisations (continued)

Association for Science Education	Annette Smith
Association of Consulting Scientists	The Chairman, Dr Chris Chatfield
Association of Management & Professional Staffs	Michael Cocks, Tony Harding, Marijke Smith
The Babraham Institute	Professor Michael Wakelam
Biochemical Society	Kate Baillie
Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council	Dr Alf Game
BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT	Karen Tuck
BMT Ltd	Peter French
British Antarctic Survey	Professor Jane Francis
British Council	Dr Claire McNulty, Dr Yasemin Koc
British Ecological Society	Dr Dan Osborn, Ceri Margerison
British Fluid Power Association	Ian Morris CEng
British Geological Survey	Professor John Ludden
British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums	Dr Kirsten Pullen
The British Institute of Radiology	Ms Carole Cross
British Measurement & Testing Assn	Peter Russell
British Nutrition Foundation	Professor Judy Buttriss
British Pharmacological Society	Jonathan Brüün
British Psychological Society	Mike Laffan, Tanja Siggs
British Science Association	Professor Dame Julia Goodfellow, Imran Khan
British Society for Antimicrobial Chemotherapy	Mrs Tracey Guise
British Society for Immunology	Professor Adrian Hayday, Ms Judith Willetts
British Society of Soil Science	Dr Kathryn Allton
British Trust for Ornithology	Dr Andy Clements
British Veterinary Association	Carl Padgett
CABI	Dr Joan Kelley
Campden BRI	Dr Steven Walker
Cavendish Laboratory	The Secretary
Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science	Mike Waldock
Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys	Dr Julian M Potter, R P Jackson, T W Roberts
Clifton Scientific Trust Ltd	Dr Eric Albone
Comino Foundation	John Slater
Diabetes UK	Dr Alasdair Rankin
Dstl	Jonathan Lyle
Economic and Social Research Council	Professor Paul Boyle, Ms Susie Watts
Energy Institute	Mrs Louise Kingham, Sarah Beacock
Engineering & Physical Sciences Research Council	Atti Emecz, Jenny Aranha
Engineering Professors' Council	Susan Kay
EngineeringUK	Paul Jackson
Food and Environment Research Agency	Professor Robert Edwards, Rob Chilton
Forest Research	Dr P H Freer-Smith

Scientific and Technical Organisations (continued)

Foundation for Science and Technology	Dr Dougal J Goodman
Foundation for Science, Technology and Civilization	Professor Salim T S Al-Hassan, Dr Anne-Maria Brennan
GAMBICA Association	Dr Graeme Philp
Gatsby Technical Education Projects	Dr John Williams
The Geological Society	Edmund Nickless
The Ground Forum	Rodney Chartres, Keith Gabriel, Ms Dianne Jennings
Hazards Forum	Brian Neale
Health and Safety Executive	David Bench
Higher Education Funding Council for England	Professor Madeleine Atkins CBE
Institute of Acoustics	Allan Chesney
Institute of Biomedical Science	N S Kirk, Ms Jill Rodney
Institute of Corrosion	Dr Douglas Mills
Institute of Ergonomics and Human Factors	David O'Neill
Institute of Food Research	Dr Keith Waldron
Institute of Food Science and Technology	Jon Poole
The Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology	Dr Bev MacKenzie
Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining	Dr B A Rickinson, Dr G J M Woodrow
Institute of Mathematics & Its Applications	David Youdan, Professor John R Whiteman
Institute of Measurement and Control	David Kent, Peter Martindale
Institute of Metal Finishing	Dr Peter Farr
Institute of Physics	Professor Paul Hardaker, Professor Peter Main, Dr Beth Taylor
Institute of Physics and Engineering in Medicine	Dr Chris Gibson, Dr Peter Jarritt, Dr Stephen Keevil
Institution of Chemical Engineers	Dr David Brown, Andrew Furlong, Miles Seaman
Institution of Civil Engineers	Andrew Crudgington, Joanna Gonet
Institution of Engineering Designers	Ms Elizabeth Brodhurst
Institution of Engineering and Technology	Dr Tony Whitehead, Paul Davies, Darren Gladwin, FL Pitt
Institution of Mechanical Engineers	Stephen Tetlow
John Innes Centre	Dr Dee Rawsthorne
Licensing Executives Society	Mrs Christi Mitchell, Dr John Roe
Linnean Society of London	Dr Elizabeth Rollinson
London Mathematical Society	Prof P T Saunders, Fiona Nixon, Dr John Johnston
Marine Biological Association	Professor Colin Brownlee, Dr Matthew Frost
Materials UK	Professor Colin Seabrook
Medical Research Council	Sophie Broster-James
The Met Office	John Hirst, John Harmer
Mineralogical Society	Kevin Murphy
Nesta	Simon Morrison
National Oceanography Centre, Southampton	Professor Edward Hill
National Physical Laboratory	Dr Kamal Hossain, Professor John Pethica

Scientific and Technical Organisations (continued)

Natural Environment Research Council	Professor Duncan Wingham, Parliamentary Liaison Officer
Natural History Museum	Dr Michael Dixon
New Engineering Foundation	Professor Sa'ad Medhat
Nuffield Council on Bioethics	Hugh Whittall, Catherine Joynson
Operational Research Society	Gavin Blackett, Dr Roger Forder
The Physiological Society	Dr Philip Wright
Plymouth Marine Laboratory	Professor Stephen de Mora
Prospect	Sue Ferns, Nigel Titchen
Public Health England	Dr David Heymann, Professor Virginia Murray
Rothamsted Research	Stephen James
Royal Academy of Engineering	Philip Greenish, Dr A M Neville, Professor Michael Wood, Barry Haseltine, Dr William 'Stan' Jones
Royal Aeronautical Society	Paul Bailey
Royal Astronomical Society	Pamela Mortimer, Professor Andy Fabian
Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew	Professor Monique Simmonds
Royal College of Physicians	Andrew McCracken
Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons	The President, Professor Sheila Crispin
Royal Institute of Navigation	Peter Chapman-Andrews
The Royal Institution	Dr Gail Cardew
Royal Pharmaceutical Society	The President, Ms Jayne Lawrence
Royal Society	Dr Julie Maxton, Dr Peter Cotgreave, Dr Stuart Taylor
The Royal Society of Chemistry	Dr Robert Parker, Dr Matthew Brown
The Royal Society of Edinburgh	Sir John Arbuthnott, Dr William Duncan
Royal Statistical Society	Hetan Shah, Dr Christl Donnelly, Andrew Garratt
SCI	Dr Juliet Corbett
The Science Council	Ms Diana Garnham
Science & Technology Facilities Council	Professor John Womersley, Mark Foster
Science Museum	Ian Blatchford
SEMTA	Sarah Sillars
Society for Applied Microbiology	Professor Peter Silley, Professor Geoff Hanlon, Philip Wheat
Society for Endocrinology	Dr Kate Bowman, Leon Heward-Mills, Rachel Evans
Society for General Microbiology	Dariel Burdass
Society of Biology	Dr Mark Downs, Dr Stephen Benn
Society of Cosmetic Scientists	The President
Society of Dyers and Colourists	Dr Graham Clayton
Society of Operations Engineers	Peter Walsh
STEMNET	Claire Scotter
TWI Ltd	Christoph Wiesner, John Wintle
UK Deans of Science	Professor Ian Haines
Understanding Animal Research	Barbara Davies
Universities Federation for Animal Welfare	Dr Robert Hubrecht

Scientific and Technical Organisations (continued)

The Wellcome Trust	Dr David Lynn
The Worshipful Company of Engineers	Wing Commander Tony Willenbruch

Industrial Members

The Council may also elect to The Committee up to a maximum of 100 Industrial Members, such maximum being subject to modification at any subsequent Annual General Meeting. Such members shall be Industrial Companies registered in the UK or UK nationalised Undertakings or organisations representing a sector of industry. In electing an Industrial Member, the Council shall have regard to the desirability of ensuring that the Industrial Membership as a whole is representative of as wide a range as possible of activities involving Science, Engineering and Technology. In reaching a decision as to eligibility regard shall be had to the extent to which the applicant is engaged in scientific, engineering or technological research.

Abbeyvet Export LLP	Dr Iain MacKellar
AGC Chemicals Europe Ltd	Tony E Wade
Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry	Dr Louise Leong
AstraZeneca PLC	Nicola Marchant
Autonnic Research Ltd	Dr Chris Shelton
Azotic Technologies Ltd	Dr David Dent
BASF Plc	Andrew Mayer
BP plc	Dr Ellen Williams
British In Vitro Diagnostics Association	Ms Doris-Ann Williams
Brompton Bicycle Ltd	Will Butler-Adams
Chemical Industries Association	Simon Marsh
R S Clare & Co Ltd	Roy Coldwell, Ian Meadows
Ecotricity Group Limited	Dale Vince
Eli Lilly & Company Limited	Dr David Bowman
Energy Technologies Institute	Peter Dodd
Geomatrix Earth Science Ltd	Tom Nicols
Glass and Glazing Federation	Nigel Rees
Helius Energy Plc	Dr Adrian Bowles
Industry Capital Ltd	Isaac Livne
Johnson Matthey Plc	Ms Sally Jones
LGC Ltd	Dr Derek Craston
L'Oreal UK Ltd	Katriona Methven, Kristen Dodd, Katy Gandon
Mylnefield Research Services	Dr Nigel W Kerby
Pfizer Limited	Annette Doherty, Dr Devyn Smith, Alan Maine, Dr Adam Heathfield
PHARMAQ Ltd	Dr Benjamin P North
Principle Healthcare International	Miss Clare Campbell
Ricardo Plc	Mark Garrett
Rolls-Royce	Helen Kennett
Sheffield Forgemasters International	Dr Martin G Kearney
Society of Maritime Industries	Paul Ridout, John Murray

Industrial Members (continued)

Trident Sensors Ltd	Dr W R Simpson
Varley Systems Engineering Limited	David Slater
Wiley-Blackwell	Robert Campbell
Yakult UK Ltd	Dr Linda Thomas

Universities

Universities of the UK, Institutions in Scotland and Northern Ireland equivalent to schools and colleges of individual universities where appropriate shall be eligible for election by the Council. In reaching a decision as to eligibility regard shall be had to the extent to which the applicant is engaged in scientific, engineering or technological research.

Anglia Ruskin University	Professor M Thorne
University of Bath	Professor Dame Glynis Breakwell, Professor Fred Eastham
University of Birmingham	Professor David Eastwood
University of Bolton	Professor Elias Siores
Bournemouth University	Professor John Vinney
University of Brighton	Professor Andrew Lloyd
University of Bristol	Professor Eric Thomas
Brunel University	Professor Julia Buckingham
University of Cambridge	Dr Nick Gray
University of Central Lancashire	Robert Wallace
City University London	Professor Paul Curran
Cranfield University	Professor Sir Peter Gregson, Professor Clifford Friend
University of Dundee	Professor Stephen Decent
University of East Anglia	Professor Phil Gilmartin
University of Edinburgh	Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea
University of Exeter	Professor Sir Steve Smith
University of Gloucestershire	Professor Adam Hart
University of Greenwich	Dr Liz Bacon
Harper Adams University College	Dr David Llewellyn
Heriot-Watt University	Ms Ann Marie Dalton
University of Huddersfield	Ms Tracy Turner
University of Hull	Dr Guy Hembury
Imperial College London	Sir Keith O'Nions, John Neilson
Keele University	Professor Patrick Bailey
Kings College London	Chris Mottershead
University of Leicester	Professor Sir Robert Burgess
University of Liverpool	Sir Howard Newby
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine	Professor Baron Peter Piot
London South Bank University	Professor Rao Bhamidimarri
University of Loughborough	Professor Chris Linton
University of Manchester	Dr John Roberts
Napier University	Professor Joan K Stringer

Universities (continued)

Newcastle University	Professor Nick Wright
State University of New York	Professor Alexander Orlov
University of Northampton	Professor Nick Petford
University of Nottingham	Professor David Greenaway
The Open University	Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research and Enterprise)
Queen Mary, University of London	Professor Jeremy Kilburn
University of Reading	Sir David Bell, Professor Derek J Clements-Croome
Royal Holloway, University of London	Professor Paul Hogg
University of Salford	Professor Nigel Mellors
The University of Sheffield	Professor Anthony Ryan
University of Southampton	Gavin Costigan
University of Strathclyde	Professor Sir Jim McDonald
University of Surrey	Professor Michael Kearney
University College London	Professor Michael Arthur, Professor K M Spyer, Dr Francesca Medda, Professor David Walker
Warwick University	Professor Stuart Palmer
University of Wolverhampton	Professor Geoff Layer, Professor Nduka Ekere, Professor Derek Walton

Associate Members

The Council may elect to The Committee as Associate Members the following:
Bodies which, although not engaged in scientific research, represent the interests of those who are significantly affected by science and which, in the opinion of the Council, are in a position to contribute positively to the work of the Committee.

Manches LLP	Christopher Shelley
Passerieu Consulting	Ms Katherine Passerieu

Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held at 4.30pm on Tuesday 11th June 2013 in the IPU Room, Westminster Hall.

Election of Officers, Vice-Presidents and Advisory Panel for 2013

On behalf of members of the Committee, the President (Lord Jenkin) thanked the retiring office-holders for their support during their period of office:

Vice-Presidents:	Dr David Dent Professor Peter Saunders Mr Robert Freer Dr Douglas Naysmith Dr Desmond Turner
Special Adviser:	Dr Stephen Benn

Lord Jenkin then proposed the election of the following individuals, standing for election to fill the vacancies created by the retirements:

Vice-Presidents:	Dr Stephen Benn, Society of Biology Mr Atti Emecz, Engineering & Physical Sciences Research Council Professor Ian Haines, UK Deans of Science Dr Guy Hembury, University of Hull Professor Colin Seabrook, Materials UK
Advisory Panel:	Dr David Dent, Azotic Technologies Ltd

The resolution was seconded by Lord Oxburgh and approved by the meeting.

Andrew Miller MP proposed the re-election of Lord Jenkin as President, which was seconded by Dr Stephen Benn.

Lord Jenkin proposed the re-election of the following office-holders:

Chairman:	Mr Andrew Miller MP
Deputy Chairman:	Mr Tom Blenkinsop MP
Hon Treasurer:	The Lord Willis of Knaresborough
Hon Secretary:	Mr Stephen Mosley MP
Vice-Presidents:	Mr Paul Ridout Mr Philip Greenish CBE Mr John Slater
Advisory Panel:	Dr Stuart Taylor Mr David Youdan

The resolution to re-elect all remaining office-holders was seconded by Dr Stephen Benn and approved by the meeting.

Lord Jenkin said that he felt it was time he handed over the Presidency to someone else and asked that the Committee should give the matter some thought with a view to a change of President at the next AGM.

To Receive the Annual Report for 2012

Lord Jenkin commented that he found it interesting to draft the Foreword and expressed satisfaction over the range of meetings on a wide spectrum of subjects outlined in the Annual Report. He drew attention to the meeting on Ash Tree Dieback which had been very well attended and had produced an interesting discussion arranged at short notice.

The motion to receive the Annual Report for 2012 was seconded by Mr John Lowe and approved by the meeting.

To Receive the Financial Statement for 2012
Estimates for Income and Expenditure for 2013

Lord Jenkin presented apologies for Lord Willis of Knaresborough, Hon Treasurer, who was in hospital.

He said that the Financial Statement for 2012 showed a surplus for the year of £984 – the first surplus since 2008. The financial position was being turned round by heavy recruiting.

The Estimates for Income and Expenditure for 2013, as approved by the Council, included a further modest increase in membership, figures for donations, recompense for services rendered to external bodies, and some support for meetings and dinners. The expenditure budget included realistic estimates of increases in postage, printing etc and a modest increase in staff costs. Overall a surplus for the year of £481 was anticipated.

The Financial Statement for 2012 and the Estimates for Income and Expenditure for 2013 were approved by the meeting.

Lord Jenkin observed that the Committee was very grateful to its "paying" members, without whose contribution the Committee would not survive.

Subscription Rates for 2014

It was agreed that Subscription Rates for 2014 should remain at the same level as for 2013.

Report from the Council

A written report from the Council had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The Chairman of the Committee, Andrew Miller MP, added the following point:

All-Party Groups

He had been instructed to attend a hearing of the Committee on Standards, which was holding an enquiry into the conduct of all-party groups. Dr Mark Downs (Society of Biology) would also attend to give evidence and Philip Greenish (Royal Academy of Engineering) would submit written evidence. He thought that as a result of the enquiry some All-Party Groups would be found to be too closely associated with particular interest groups but he did not anticipate that any changes would be made which would impinge on the P&SC's activities.

A summary of the written report follows.

Membership

Two Peers, Lord Framlingham and Lord Trees of the Ross had joined the Committee.

During 2012 the Council had been pleased to welcome the following as new members four Scientific and Technical Organisations, eleven Industrial Members and seven Universities.

Recruitment had continued successfully in 2013, when they had welcomed the following:

Scientific and Technical Organisations: The British Institute of Radiology; British Measurement & Testing Association; British Society of Soil Science; Diabetes UK; Mineralogical Society; and Society of Chemical Industry.

Industrial Members: Ecotricity Group Limited; Energy Technologies Institute; Glass and Glazing Federation; Sheffield Forgemasters International; and Weir Group Plc

Universities: Anglia Ruskin University; and University of Hertfordshire, and an application had been received from Brunel University.

During 2012 thirteen members (4 Scientific and Technical Organisations, 5 Industrial members, 3 Universities and an Associate member), and in 2013 eight members (5 Scientific and Technical Organisations, 2 Industrial members and 1 University) had decided not to renew.

Members were asked to contact the secretariat with suggestions for expanding the membership.

Programme

The Committee's future programme of meetings would include:

Tuesday 9th July:	Bees and other insects beneficial to Humans
Tuesday 22nd October:	Smart Buildings
Tuesday 5th November:	Annual Lunch – Sir Mark Walport FRS
Tuesday 19th November:	A Good Immigration Policy for Science
Tuesday 10th December:	Deep Sea Mining to include Protection of the Seabed

Science in Parliament

The Summer issue of *Science in Parliament* would be published before the summer recess, starting on 18th July.

The Editorial board thanked all those who support *Science in Parliament* by sponsoring covers and taking entries in the Directory – and to those who contribute articles and write up their talks for publication. Any member organisation which might be interested in celebrating a significant anniversary or a particular achievement by taking a cover in a future issue of the journal should get in touch with the secretariat.

SET for Britain

SET for Britain, the annual poster competition and exhibition for early-stage researchers, held on 18th March had attracted over 70 Parliamentarians from both Houses of Parliament during the course of the day. The exhibition was divided into three separate sections of 60 posters, selected from a field of over 500 high quality entries.

Report from Chairman

Andrew Miller MP

During 2013 the P&SC built on success.

We ran discussion meetings on topics as varied as:

Space Weather (in the light of public ignorance about potential effects on power supply and telecommunications)

Protecting the Public (in the aftermath of the horsemeat issue)

Antibiotics (with the realization that the commercial sector is disinclined to look for new ones)

Bees (in the light of public concern over insecticide utilization)

Smart Buildings

Immigration Policies (to meditate on the benefit to UK science of immigration – both temporary and longer term)

Skills (to address the constant furore about the imbalance between the output of the English educational system and the demands of the commercial sector)

Deep Sea Mining (in the absence of public concern about damage to the seabed, and its effect on biodiversity).

A full list is elsewhere in this Annual Report, and an account of the meetings is available in *Science in Parliament*, and on our Website.

SET for Britain, established 12 years ago by the late Eric Wharton, and now organized under the auspices of the P&SC, grows from strength to strength. Each year a record number of entries is achieved, severely taxing the judges to whom we are enormously grateful. We are also greatly indebted to our sponsors both for their financial support, but also for their presence to present the medals.

Parliamentary Links Day is now an established part of the political year, and provides an opportunity for sound bites from across the scientific spectrum to be made available to Parliamentarians in a concise format.

Similarly, Voice of the Future is a comparative innovation where MPs, Ministers and Shadow Ministers as well as the Government Chief Scientist are cross examined a la Select Committee by young scientists. It is an invigorating experience for all of us MPs involved.

Both of these initiatives are led by the Society of Biology together with other learned societies, and both have enjoyed strong support from the Speaker, John Bercow, who usually opens the events.

Our contribution to National Science and Engineering Week in 2013 was to host a morning seminar on "Speed" The quality of presentations was exemplary and we enjoyed "Fast Cars" by the ex-Minister, Lord Drayson (including a hair-raising video), "Fast Horses", "Fast Computers", "How to Measure Speed", and "Why do Genes Migrate Slowly?".

In October, we heard that Peter Higgs had been awarded the Nobel Prize, and were reminded that last year's Guest of Honour at our Annual Lunch, John Womersley, had described the UK investment in the Large Hadron Collider, which had provided the proof of the existence of the particle.

We were fortunate to secure Sir Mark Walport as our Guest of Honour at our Annual Lunch in November. He described his reactions to his first six months as Chief Scientific Adviser, and paid particular attention to the difference between Hazard and Risk.

Twenty-five new member organizations have been recruited during the year, and we have been delighted to welcome them.

We have stopped running financial deficits, and this has provided some flexibility in our output.

Our journal, *Science in Parliament*, is under constant review. We will introduce full colour in 2014. This will make it an even more attractive read.

At the turn of the year we launched our new Website, and we are enormously grateful to an anonymous donor for support in this. Do please access it and let us know your thoughts. We are now more easily able to modify content on a regular basis.

Finally, as many will know, this is my penultimate Chairman's Report, as I shall not be seeking re-election at the 2015 General Election. The hunt for my successor is under way, and should be shorter than that for the Higg's Boson!

Addresses and Discussions 2013

Full reports are published in Science in Parliament, see www.scienceinparliament.org.uk for further information.

22nd January 2013
Report in SiP Whitsun issue 2013

Commercialisation of Research

Steven Tait, Business Manager, MRC Technology
Research provides insights into potential new products. The UK remains at the forefront of efforts to commercialise academic research.

Dr Bina Rawal, Director of Research, Medical and Innovation, Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry (ABPI)
The research and development of new medicines is a long, complex and risky process that takes on average 10–15 years, and costs £1billion per medicine. Industry funds much of this and bears the risks. This underlies some of the key barriers to commercialisation of research.

Professor Stephen Caddick, Vice-Provost (Enterprise), University College London
Universities need to do more to foster a culture of entrepreneurship with their academic and student communities. This means re-examination of their policies, promotion criteria and reward structures, and the provision of time to pursue innovation.

26th February 2013
Report in SiP Whitsun issue 2013

Space Weather

Professor Paul Cannon FREng, Senior Fellow, Radio Science and Systems, QinetiQ
As environmental changes resulting from rare solar superstorms can cause detrimental effects to, among others, the electricity grid, satellites, avionics and mobile telephones, such storms have been identified as a risk to society and the world economy. The Royal Academy of Engineering recommends that a UK Space Weather Board be set up with responsibilities across government departments to ensure a space weather resilient infrastructure.

David Wade, Space Underwriter, Atrium Space Insurance Consortium
Whilst satellites have demonstrated their resilience to space weather, they have not yet been tested by an extreme space weather. An extreme event could result in a temporary outage of possibly as many as one hundred satellites or 10% of the in-orbit fleet, with a much smaller number permanently disabled. We need to continue

to monitor the space environment, learn how to forecast and incorporate these models into the design process to ensure we are prepared for the next extreme event.

Chris Train, Network Operations Director, National Grid
National Grid takes the threat of disruption from severe space weather very seriously and works closely with government, industry, academia and others to understand and combat it. Research suggests that widespread damage resulting in decade-long disruption to power supplies is unrealistic; a 1 in 100 year space weather event could cause damage and some short term disruption, but National Grid's operational procedures would minimise the impact.

13th March 2013
Report in SiP Summer issue 2013

How much Food testing do we need?

Dr Duncan Campbell, Past President, Association of Public Analysts
As part of their role in enforcing food standards, local authorities take samples for microbiological examination (hygiene) or for chemical analysis (standards), but over recent years there has been a reduction in sampling rates. Many criminal breaches of food law are only detectable by analysis. Under the current system there is an unacceptably wide variation in the level of official controls. There is a need for local delivery but also for central funding and strategic direction.

Ms Liz Moran, President, Association of Public Analysts
Contaminants are chemical substances that have not been intentionally added to food or animal feed; their presence can present a risk to health. Testing of food and feed for contaminants is an important tool to be used alongside traceability and audit procedures and the amount of testing carried out must be adequate to ensure the population is not exposed to grossly contaminated food on a regular basis.

Dr Patrick Miller, Head of Science Strategy and Governance, Food Standards Agency
It is the responsibility of food businesses to ensure that food is safe and what it claims to be. The role of government is to ensure there is effective, proportionate regulation and enforcement that helps businesses comply with their responsibilities, and to ensure there are rigorous, risk-based checks that this is happening in practice, and action where it is not. The Food Standards Agency works in partnership with Local Authorities, Public Analysts; Defra and other Departments, and with other scientists, the food industry and consumers.

18th March 2013
More information can be found at www.setforbritain.org.uk

SET for Britain Exhibition and Competition

The 2013 SET for Britain awards, run by the SET for Britain organising group of the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee, took place in the House of Commons Marquee on Monday 18th March 2013. The host was Andrew Miller MP, Chairman of the P&SC. The day was divided into three separate exhibitions of posters by early-stage research scientists, engineers and technologists:

Physical Sciences (Chemistry and Physics)

Engineering

Biological and Biomedical Science

21st March 2013
Report in SiP Summer issue 2013

National Science and Engineering Week Seminar
Speed

Dr Michael de Podesta MBE, National Physical Laboratory
Things which appear instantaneous to humans are actually just 'very fast', and when measured, tiny differences in ultra-fast speeds can be of profound significance. Similarly processes which are slow enough can appear to be stationary, but precision measurement can reveal even the slowest of motions.

The Lord Drayson
Lord Drayson described the development of an electric racing car at Drayson Racing Technologies.

Dr Andrew Spence, Royal Veterinary College
Understanding how animals move affects our ability to explain the biological world, to treat human and animal disease, and to aid those recovering from injury. The more we know about how biological systems control their movement, and how different organs contribute to locomotion, the better we will be able to treat those with neurological disorders or musculoskeletal injury, and to inspire new technologies, such as legged robots.

Professor Alistair Fitt, Pro Vice-Chancellor Research and Knowledge Transfer, Oxford Brookes University
For many years Moore's law and increased miniaturization have combined to guarantee that computer speed and capacity always increase, and more is constantly possible. However, the days of the improvement via hardware are drawing to a

close. We still need investment in supercomputer hardware and data centres, but now we need investment in research, infrastructure & skills, and software development.

Professor Steve Jones FRS, UCL
Professor Steve Jones spoke on the slow speed at which genes migrate.

23rd April 2013
Reports in SiP Summer and Autumn 2013 issues

Skills

The Bill Twigg, Apprenticeships Director, Semta
Mr Twigg described the work of the Semta Apprenticeship Service.

Diana Garnham, Chief Executive, the Science Council
We need to promote greater diversity in the science workforce by developing and supporting non-graduate pathways into science careers, through apprenticeships, and science-focused applied and vocational qualifications for post-16s. There should be a review of HE provision to ensure that STEM degrees meet the needs of both the primary and secondary science workforce; and the decline in the number of taught specialist masters degrees available in the UK should be addressed.

Dr Julian Braybrook, Head of Measurement Research and Development, LGC Limited
The challenge is to create a sustainable workforce with STEM qualifications critical to our future economic growth. There needs to be greater opportunity for work experience and the development of training and qualifications, especially for technicians. LGC Forensics devised an enriched 18-month lab technician apprenticeship programme, offering training in other areas. Many of the first 20 apprentices outperformed original expectations, leading LGC to develop a new career structure and extend its apprenticeship programme to other Divisions.

14th May 2013
Report in SiP Summer issue 2013

Water Purity

Clive Harward, Head of Water Quality and Environmental Performance, Anglian Water
Overall water quality in the UK is very high. We need joined up policy, and concerted action by all relevant parties, to prevent pollution at its source rather than rely on expensive and unsustainable treatment to remove it. Standards setting the permitted level of chemicals must be based on strong evidence, taking account of the full environmental impact alongside financial and carbon costs. A detailed regulatory impact assessment should be undertaken before the introduction of any new standards.

Kevin Prior, Chair, Royal Society of Chemistry Water Sciences Group
Water Purity means "not harmful." Scientists and technologists cannot impose solutions on citizens which guarantee water purity. Water policies need to be based on sound science and evidence to be successful. Consumers, citizens, politicians and scientists must all work together to achieve success.

Professor Helen Jarvie, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, Wallingford
Eutrophication (enrichment of waters with phosphorus (P) and nitrogen (N), causing excessive growth of aquatic plants), is one of the biggest causes of surface water quality impairment, and is of pressing national and global concern. It can cause reductions in plant biodiversity and toxic algal blooms; loss of dissolved oxygen, resulting in death of fish and invertebrates; increases in costs of water treatment for potable supply; and reduced amenity value of our rivers, lakes and coastal areas.

11th June 2013
Report in SiP Autumn issue 2013

Antibiotics

Professor Dame Sally Davies DBE, Chief Medical Officer, Department of Health
The scale of society's reliance on antimicrobials indicates the size of the threat posed by antimicrobial resistance; the societal costs in the UK are already estimated at around £10billion per year. Antimicrobial resistance requires comprehensive action, combining politics, economics and research. It requires a concerted effort from governments around the world, doctors, vets, scientists, and ordinary citizens.

Dr Nick Brown, President, British Society for Antimicrobial Chemotherapy
The link between antibiotic use and the emergence of resistance is clear. We need new antibiotics to improve clinical outcomes. In order to slow the emergence and spread of resistance infection should be treated appropriately from the outset. Development of better diagnostic tests is important, and we need to consider the repeated introductions of resistant organisms into hospitals and ensure they are not allowed to spread.

Dr Richard Bax, Senior Partner, TranScrip Partners and Member, BSAC Antibiotic Action Advisory Board
Several radical changes need to occur soon. Streamlining of clinical trials has been proposed, with adequate financing and support during the R&D of new and important antibiotics. A clear and feasible regulatory strategy must be agreed with the authorities in advance of the trial programme. This should be combined with a value of sales which, due to the limited numbers defined in the prescribing information, will result in typical 10-day courses of antibiotics becoming relatively expensive. These will need significant increases in investment and lead to early availability for patients.

9th July 2013
Report in SiP Autumn issue 2013

The Importance of Bees

Mr Tim Lovett, previously President of the British Beekeepers' Association
Both managed and wild pollinators meet similar environmental challenges and man must intervene to ensure the survival of the honey bee. There must be greater interaction between government, regulators, farmers and beekeepers. More research funds must be committed and beekeeper training supported to avoid the decline of bee populations and ensure the security of pollinator activity and dependent food production.

Dr Lynn Dicks, Department of Zoology, University of Cambridge
There are 256 species of wild bee in the UK. Scientific evidence is emerging to imply that wild pollinators, particularly the many species of wild bee, are delivering the majority of the pollination service for most crops. The diversity of wild bees, rather than just their numbers, is important to the pollination service.

Mr Don Pendergrast, National Farmers Union
The European Commission's simplistic and overly precautionary approach to restricting pesticide use does not fit well with the fact that bee and pollinator health is a complex multifactorial problem. The danger of this oversimplification, which fails to take a robust scientific and evidence-based approach to improving bee health, is that we risk taking actions that do nothing to improve bee populations but increase the cost of producing food; this simplistic approach risks taking actions that make the situation worse for bees or have other damaging consequences for the environment.

22nd October 2013
Report in SiP Spring issue 2014

Smart Buildings

Dr Deborah A Pullen Group Research Director, Building Research Establishment
To be smart, buildings must include systems which integrate the operational systems with the building fabric, respond to internal and external changes, and enable communication with the occupiers to allow them to adjust the operation to meet their needs. They should also be resilient to wear and tear and easy to upgrade and, ultimately, to form the building blocks of efficient operational cities of the future. Multidisciplinary teams need to work together with industry to apply their own speciality in developing effective complex systems.

Professor Doug King FREng, Chief Scientific and Engineering Advisor. Building Research Establishment; Principal, Doug King Consulting Ltd, Visiting Professor, University of Bath
Smart building design must account for the desires and capabilities of those who will

use them. In typical UK construction scant attention is paid to human factors, to the design of the product, and to the creation of integrated systems. We need to improve skills and education amongst the designers, constructors and operators. We must put the users at the heart of smart building design and operation.

Dr Martyn Thomas FREng CBE, Vice-President, Royal Academy of Engineering
The security of Building Management Systems and related control systems should be seen as a strategic issue. Many smart buildings will have been constructed by the time the market for secure systems has matured enough to allow architects to specify secure systems, for developers to acquire systems they know to be secure and for building occupants to have effective assurance about the level of protection provided by their building. UK industry should be creating secure building management systems to give UK customers an alternative to those developed in countries that may not have the UK's well-being as a high priority.

5th November 2013
Report in SiP Spring issue 2014

Annual Lunch

Sir Mark Walport FRS, Chief Scientific Adviser to HM Government
There are two things which governments really care about: the health, wellbeing and the resilience of the UK population, and the economy. Our built infrastructure is extraordinarily important to our resilience and wellbeing. This includes energy, buildings, transport, cyber security and waste disposal. Then there is also the natural world which is vital for humans. This natural infrastructure includes weather, climate, biodiversity plants and animals.

These two sets of factors then drive the science and technology agenda. An important part in preserving our health and wellbeing is identifying and managing national risks and emergencies.

19th November 2013
Report in SiP Spring issue 2014

An Immigration Policy for Science

Philip Duffy, Home Office
Science is inherently international. Human mobility is intrinsically linked to Britain's ability to remain at the forefront of science and research. The Government understands this and wants to support British science and research. While it has not shied away from taking tough action on immigration abuse, it has consistently protected and enhanced the treatment of scientists and science in the immigration system, in recognition of the critical role science plays in the economy and wider society.

Professor Ian Haines, UK Deans of Science
The Coalition must reverse the negative impression of its attitude to 'foreigners'. Increased difficulties for students joining FE colleges will impact on universities soon. In STEM subjects a significant percentage of academic staff are not UK nationals and a further fall in international interest in our universities could threaten the viability of STEM departments and courses. University science departments work hard to maintain their international presence, and all government departments should ensure that their policies support them. Science is international and we must keep our STEM borders open to the world.

Ian Robinson, Fragomen
It is clear to me that the UK's immigration system is a lot better than big and small business think. Business leaders tell me it is slow and cumbersome or complicated and uncertain. This perception may be honest but it is not accurate. The system does work.

10th December 2013
Report in SiP Spring issue 2014

Sub-Sea Mining

Mary Vayou, BMT Group Ltd
Deep sea and its sub-sea floor contain a vast reservoir of physical and biological resources that are rapidly gaining scientific and economic interest. Responsible exploitation of this resource requires all interested parties to work together to develop protocols and technologies to mitigate against undue impacts. Environmental Impact Assessment activities must be integrated at all stages to optimise operational efficiency due to the very high costs of equipment and deployment.

Mike Jones, Soil Machine Dynamics Ltd
The Solwara 1 Project is one of the most exciting offshore engineering projects prompting interest from the sub-sea and mining industries and a high level of cross-industry co-operation. It will enable the dawn of a new industry to extract minerals from the sea floor. The UK sub-sea industry is already a world leader in technology for deep water oil and gas exploration and production and is at the forefront of a developing market in sub-sea mining.

Daniel Brutto, Director, Marine Ecological Surveys Ltd
The deep sea mining industry represents an opportunity to gain access to the mineral resources required for economic development. It must ensure that the knowledge of its operating environments is developed through commissioning primary research and disseminating the results to all appropriate stakeholders. This will allow the industry to demonstrate its credentials for responsible development and provide developers with greater certainty of the acceptability of their proposals to decision-makers, increasing the potential for successful investment.

Cover photograph of Victoria Tower from Victoria Tower Gardens, 2008

Science in Parliament

The Journal of the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee

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