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welcome to the twentieth issue of Analytical Matters, the e-newsletter of the Analytical Division of the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC). Analytical Matters aims to showcase the wide range of analytical science activities being run across the Royal Society of Chemistry Analytical Division as well as linking with parts of the UK analytical community beyond our membership.

We have a lot to celebrate in this edition, but first, I would like to thank our outgoing council members, Duncan Graham, Daren Caruana, Paul O’Nion and Apryll Stalcup who have given so much of their time and energy to the Analytical Division over many years, their input has helped to shape the Analytical Division into what it is today. I would like to welcome our new council members, Ian Ball, Jonathan Jones and Bhavik Patel, I very much look forward to working closely with them over the next three years.

I’m delighted to share the news that the collaborative event we hosted with Cancer Research UK has resulted in two CRUK Early Detection and Diagnosis Primer Awards for our community.

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Next year's ARF will take place on \_\_\_\_\_ at Burlington House, London.

Abstract submissions will open later in the year and if you are interested in sponsoring the event please contact [analyticalmatters@rsc.org](mailto:analyticalmatters@rsc.org).

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Our networking and workshop event, [Measuring Cancer Earlier](#), resulted in two CRUK Early Detection and Diagnosis Primer Awards. Read more about the research and [how early detection research embraces interdisciplinary science](#).

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The Schools' Analyst Competition took a different form in 2021, with 200 schools and colleges from around the UK and Ireland taking on the challenge of identifying the contents of waste barrels found abandoned by a river in the fictional town of Allvale, all from the socially distanced comfort of their own classrooms.

[Read more about the competition and regional winners.](#)

The Analytical Division would like to thank Graeme Turnbull and colleagues at Northumbria University for creating and distributing the kits and the Analytical Chemistry Trust Fund for funding the competition.

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[Technical Briefs](#) published by the Analytical Methods Committee are prepared by experts in the field to highlight recent information on topics of interest to the analytical chemistry community. Members are welcome to suggest topics for TBs to the AMC Secretary or Chair. Recent technical Briefs include:

- 103 [Wax and wax-like materials](#) –

The next round of the [Research Enablement Grant](#) is now open for applications and closes . The grant provides up to £10,000 for chemicals, consumables, and equipment to start new projects and complete those disrupted by COVID-19 and can include a salary contribution for a group member. Two applications can be submitted per department and is available to members in the UK and Republic and Ireland only.

The next round of our [Research Fund](#) is open for applications from . Members anywhere in the world with limited access to research funding (particularly those working in less well-funded institutes, those in developing countries and early career researchers) may apply through this fund for a grant of up to £4,000 for 12 months to enable a new research project by contributing to chemicals, consumables, and equipment costs.

Apply for funding to run a project in Chemistry week 2021, this year to coincide with COP26 the RSC are extending the annual chemistry week to last for the full 12 days of the conference, 1 to 12 November 2021. To celebrate the COP26 and work currently undertaken across the RSC, the theme this year will be on sustainability and support is available through the [Member Grant Scheme](#) or via the [RSC Outreach Fund](#) (available to all).

The Royal Society offer grants to support travel, events, outreach, and research, as well as personal support and



