

## Annual Review 2015/16



-  The Salters' Company
-  Chemistry Camps
-  Chemistry Club
-  Festivals of Chemistry

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The Salters' Institute is the flagship charity of the Salters' Company which ranks ninth in the order of the Twelve Great Livery Companies in London.

The **SALTERS'**  
*Institute*

It has been another successful year for the Salters' Institute with a noteworthy 49 Festivals of Chemistry taking place again this year at Universities and Colleges all over the UK. In 2018, we will be celebrating our Centenary and in preparation for this historic milestone, as well as the expansion of our existing Festival programme, we are developing exciting new projects such as a Technician Education Initiative with the FE Sector with an industrial focus; Centenary Awards for 2nd year postgraduate students in chemistry and chemical engineering and the development of an alumni programme.

To facilitate these developments, it was decided to end the highly successful Chemistry Camps programme following the 2015 Camps. The Salters' Chemistry Camps in the UK had been running for an impressive 18 years with a total of 185 Camps taking place, hosted by 15 different Universities across all parts of the UK. The success of the Camps was down to everyone involved over the years, which includes University staff, Teacher Mentors and not least the 9,500 students who participated. The Chemistry Camps continue in India – see below.

# SALTERS' Festivals of Chemistry

in partnership with



In 2016, a total of 49 Salters' Festivals of Chemistry were held at 38 Universities and Colleges throughout the UK and Ireland between March and June. The Festivals were again run in partnership with the **Royal Society of Chemistry**. Please [click here](#) for a list of the **2016 Salters' Festivals of Chemistry** dates and locations.

Students participated in two Practical Challenges during the day. In the morning they tackled **The Salters' Challenge, "Murder comes to Salterstown"**, which was a forensic practical activity involving chromatography, test tube reactions and code breakers and during the afternoon, they embarked on the **University Challenge** which was chosen by each University.

At most Festivals, the challenges were followed by a fun "chemical magic" demonstration which preceded the Prize Giving Ceremony during which prizes were presented to the top 3 schools in both challenges, and fun prizes and certificates were given to all participants.

We were delighted to have received over **925 entries** from schools to attend the Festivals of Chemistry this year. Although we continue to work hard in forming partnerships with new host Universities, unfortunately 7% of schools were not allocated a place due to oversubscription in certain areas. Just over **140 schools cancelled** their place this year, many at the last minute, giving us little time to offer the place to a reserve school. Nonetheless a noteworthy **703 schools** (of which 79 schools were new to the Festivals) actually participated in the Festivals this year, with over **2800 students enthused by their love of Chemistry**.



The following quotes from students and teachers give a flavour of the Salters' Festivals of Chemistry:

*"Thank you so much for the very educational, enjoyable, and worthwhile Chemistry Salters' day...All my students loved it, felt challenged and inspired."*

*"I just wanted to say a big thank you to you and your team for such a wonderful day...Our students gained so much from the day especially in terms of team work and supporting one another. The Science was amazing as well. We cannot wait for the next one!"*

*"I knew I would enjoy the day but I didn't think I would have enjoyed it so much...I really, really like Chemistry!"*

*"Great presentation, information and funny in parts."* Teacher CPD Session

## Enhanced programme for teachers

A teacher programme is held in parallel with the student programme at each Festival and at a number of Festivals this year, we were delighted to pilot a more substantial programme for teachers. With funding from the **Merchant Adventurers from the City of York**, the **Centre for Industry Education and Collaboration (CIEC)** based at the University of York hosted two practical sessions at the Festivals at the University of York and the University of Sheffield. The problem based activity demonstrated applied science and the role of scientists in industry, linking directly to the curriculum and giving teachers the opportunity to discuss the advantages of teaching science in context.

In addition, with funding from the **Worshipful Company of Armourers and Brasiers**, Diane Aston from the **Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining** delivered an interactive presentation to teachers at the University of Nottingham and two Festivals at the University of Manchester. These sessions gave teachers an opportunity to explore cutting edge materials to add context to some of the often abstract concepts in the school science curriculum.

Teachers thoroughly enjoyed the sessions and said they would use elements from the sessions in their own lessons. We plan to develop the teacher programme to enhance the experience for teachers at the Festivals in the coming years.

**Entries for the Salters' Festivals of Chemistry 2017 open on:**

**Tuesday 29 November 2016**

To enter a team for the Salters' Festivals of Chemistry from the date above or for further information please visit:

[www.festivalsofchemistry.co.uk](http://www.festivalsofchemistry.co.uk)

## Festivals for Year 9 students

In looking to expand our existing Festival programme, with funding from the **Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851**, we are excited to announce that the University of Bath hosted in June the first pilot Festival for students in Year 9 (14 year olds). Local schools were approached to nominate students to attend the Festival, who were not accompanied by teachers, and this provided a more independent learning experience. The students tackled a more in depth, applied chemistry practical, which was followed by a fun and interesting chemistry lecture and they were given an opportunity to explore the University campus and interact with University students.

Unfortunately a second pilot Festival due to take place at the University of Sussex in July had to be cancelled due to some major plumbing issues at the University but watch this space as we plan to roll out more pilot Year 9 Festivals to more Universities next year!

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**SALTERS'**  
*Chemistry*  
**Camps**

## Chemistry Camps in India



The Salters' Institute is working with the Royal Society of Chemistry on a joint, five year "Inspirational Chemistry Programme", sponsored by Dr Yusuf Hamied, formerly Chairman of Cipla, a leading pharmaceutical company in India. Dr Hamied was a student of Lord Todd, a former Master of the Salters' Company, at the University of Cambridge. The Salters' Institute is applying its expertise with partner institutions in India to adapt the successful Chemistry Camps model to inspire bright students from disadvantaged backgrounds to study chemistry at university by participating in Chemistry Camps at prestigious universities. After 2 successful pilot Camps last year, the programme is being rolled out across India. A further 7 Camps have taken place with more planned for the next 2 years.

To view the photos from the Chemistry Camps in India (and all previous UK Camps!)

[click here to visit the Camps Gallery](#)

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## Salters' National Awards for Science Technicians



The winners of the **SALTERS-CLEAPSS National Awards for Science Technicians 2015** were, as pictured above from left to right, Steven Roantree, Rugby High School; Anjna Vara, Haringey Sixth Form College; Maxine Turner, St Joseph's College and Paul Cook, Ark Burlington Danes Academy.

The aim of these Awards is to acknowledge the immense contribution that science technicians make to the success and well-being of their schools, and in particular, their science departments. These Awards in 2015 were open to science technicians in schools and colleges within the UK who had a total of five or more years experience in schools and colleges (either full or part-time).

**New for 2016**, we are pleased to announce our National Awards for Science Technicians are being run in collaboration with both **CLEAPSS** and **SSERC**, advisory services providing support in science and technology for a consortium of local authorities and their schools. The Awards were launched in early April with the new focus this year highlighting the importance of **technician teams** (although sole technicians are still eligible). The new Technician Awards Committee Chairman, Dr Kay Stephenson, and the rest of the panel now have the challenge to whittle down the technician teams to award £2,000 to the winning team and 4 runners-up £500 each, to spend on professional development. We hope that the Awards will continue to heighten the awareness of the importance of Science Technicians to education in this country.

The Awards continue to be supported by:

**The Association for Science Education**

**The Institute of Physics**

**The Royal Society**

**The Royal Society of Biology**

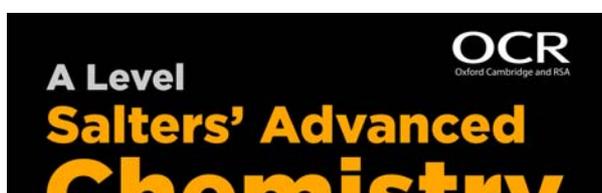
**The Royal Society of Chemistry**

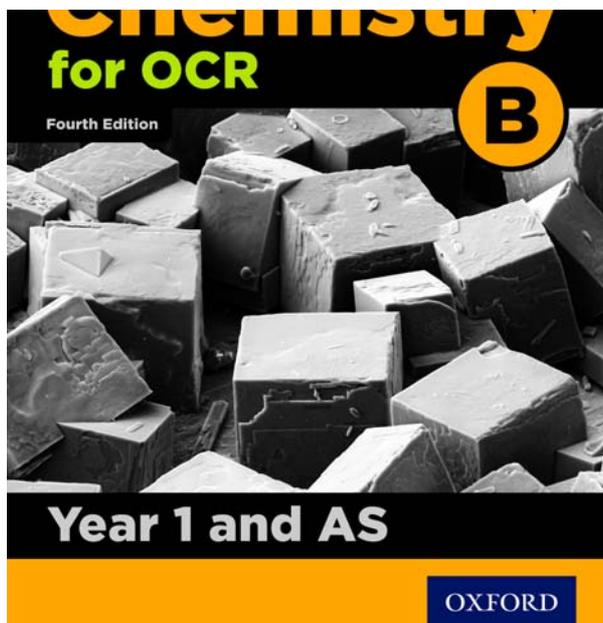
For further information about these Awards please visit our website by clicking on the link below:

**[Salters National Awards for Science Technicians](#)**

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## Curriculum Development





The **University of York Science Education Group (UYSEG)** under the direction of the **Salters' Professor of Science Education, Professor Judith Bennett**, has been focusing on completing the revisions to its current courses and beginning to plan for the new KS3 course, **Best Evidence Science Teaching (BEST)**.

The revisions to the three A Level projects, *Salters Advanced Chemistry*, *Salters Horners Advanced Physics* and *Salters-Nuffield Advanced Biology* and the GCSE course, *Twenty-First Century Science*, are now complete, with resources published.

Dr Anne Scott and Elizabeth Swinbank have now stepped down from their roles as project directors of *Salters-Nuffield Advanced Biology* and *Salters Horners Advanced Physics* respectively. Both have accepted offers of an Honorary Visiting Fellowship in UYSEG.

The core idea of the new BEST project is to develop a comprehensive new science course for Key Stage 3 (11 – 14 years) students that draws on the best and most up to date research evidence. One important source of this evidence will be the findings of projects carried out at UYSEG; the *Evidence-based Practice in Science Education (EPSE)* project, led by Professor Robin Millar, Salters' Professor 2006 - 2014, and the subsequent *York Science* project, funded by the Institute.

With so much emphasis being given in recent years to the need for science teaching (and teaching in other subjects) to be underpinned by research evidence, now is an ideal time to take on the challenge of how high-quality research evidence can be built effectively into curriculum materials. Such evidence can, for example, help teachers with the challenge of teaching difficult ideas in science, and use strategies that are likely to be most helpful in engaging their students' interest in science. UYSEG has over 30 years of experience of developing highly regarded curriculum materials, and so is very well placed to undertake a major new development that will strengthen links between research and practice, and have a positive impact on the experiences of young people in their science lessons.

For more information, please visit the **University of York Science Education Group** website.

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## Institute News and Events

### Salters' Hall Refurbishment





Following extensive refurbishment of Salters' Hall between 2013 and 2016, The Salters' Company is delighted to have returned back to its home and updated office in the City of London.

The current Salters' Hall (the sixth Hall in existence) was built in 1976, based on an original concept by Sir Basil Spence. At the time the Hall was opened by HRH the Duke of Kent and we were fortunate enough to be able to welcome back HRH to officially re-open the newly refurbished Hall on the 4th July. Salters' Hall is one of the only Livery Halls in the City to have been built in a truly contemporary style and has provided The Salters' Company with a magnificent ash panelled Banqueting Hall, Committee and Court Rooms and office accommodation.

The newly refurbished Hall also now enjoys a brand new exhibition space and archive featuring objects on loan from the [Museum of London](#) and the [Lion Salt Works](#), thanks to a grant awarded from the [Heritage Lottery Fund](#). The Salters' Company, alongside the Salters' Institute and the [London Metropolitan Archives](#) (LMA) have created a fun and engaging learning programme for primary, secondary and further education pupils. The project will also allow for greater access to Salters' heritage online; with the planned development of a digital archive and learning resources.

For more information on the project, please email [outreach@salters.co.uk](mailto:outreach@salters.co.uk) or phone 0207 826 4060.

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## Institute Awards Ceremony 2015

This prestigious annual event celebrates high levels of excellence within the science education sector. Last year, the Ceremony took place once again at **Fishmongers' Hall** on Tuesday 15 December 2015, a venue and occasion very much enjoyed by the 170 guests who attended the Prizegiving Ceremony and lunch reception.

We were delighted that Sir John Holman, the Institute's very own Chairman presented the Awards at the Ceremony which included the **Salters' Graduate Prizes, SALTERS-CLEAPSS National Awards for Science Technicians, Salters-Nuffield Advanced Biology (SNAB) Prizes, Salters Advanced Chemistry (SAC) Prizes, Salters Horners Advanced Physics (SHAP) Prizes and Salters' City and Guilds Prizes**. To view the lists of Prizewinners, please [click here](#) to visit our website.



We look forward to returning to home ground and hosting this years' ceremony in the newly refurbished Salters' Hall on **Friday 9 December 2016**.

The following quotes from Awardwinners and guests give a flavour of the Awards ceremony last year:

***"Thank you for a very enjoyable & memorable day at the Awards ceremony on Tuesday."***

***"My thanks to you, the Salters' Institute and the Salters' Company for another most heartening day celebrating the successes of the A Level candidates, their teachers and technicians. As ever it proved both enjoyable and encouraging that there is such talent and dedication in schools, coupled with the usual high standard of hospitality of the Salters."***

***"It was a huge privilege to attend and be awarded at the ceremony yesterday. I would like to say thank you to everyone involved in making it happen and for the generous prize."***

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If you have any comments or suggestions please contact Stephanie Mearns on tel: **020 7628 5962 ext. 260** or email: [publicity@salters.co.uk](mailto:publicity@salters.co.uk)

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