



❖ About WES

Executive Committee

The current committee is as follows. Contact details can be obtained either from the WES website or from Eunice Waddell at the ICE.

Chairman	Roger Hoxey
Vice Chairman	Paul Freathy
Hon. Sec/Treasurer	John Wills
Chairman, Research Ctte	Brian Lee
Chairman, Strategy Ctte	Paul Freathy

Members	Chris Baker Dick Barnard Gordon Breeze Roger Gawthorpe Brian Smith
Co-opted members	Andrew Allsop Ian Castro
Structures & Building Board representative	Tom Wyatt

ICE Support

Our contact at the Institution for all administrative support is Eunice Waddell. She can be contacted at

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WES website www.ukwes.org

❖ Forthcoming WES Meetings

5 February 2003, evening meeting at University of Birmingham on Vehicle Aerodynamics. Details will follow shortly.

7 May 2003, AGM and evening meeting at ICE on Urban Wind.

10 September 2003, University Day, an afternoon meeting at ICE with student presentations which are reviewed and a prize awarded.

7 November 2003, 8th Scruton Lecture at ICE. Details to be announced shortly.

In early 2004 we are planning a meeting to discuss 'high intensity winds'. These range from tornadoes to hurricanes as well as the more complicated downburst or microburst. If you have a contribution you would like to make to this topic please contact me

❖ Other Forthcoming Conferences

2004

5th Bluff Body Aerodynamics Symposium
Ottawa, Canada

8th International conference on Flow-Induced
Vibrations, Paris, France 5 – 9 July.
www.ladhyx.polytechnique.fr/fiv2004

❖ Contact Point

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Please help to fill this space by contributing news clippings, people news, details of key projects or facilities that might interest others or notices of new books and meetings. **In the next newsletter we would like to include services offered by our corporate members.**



monographs / guides to best practice etc, that will start appearing over the next few months.

Because of a funding hiatus within the EU, the next meeting of the Action will be delayed to the summer of 2003 (possibly in Iceland), but before that members of the action will be presenting some of the work at a special session of the International Conference on Wind engineering in Lubbock in June.

More information can be found at the web site (www.costc14.bham.ac.uk) or from Chris Baker (address in list of committee members).

❖ Some recent papers by WES members

Listed here are just some of the papers with an author who is a member of the Wind Engineering Society published in the last 3 years. If you have written a paper that is not included, please send me a copy or tittle details. I intend to include a few more abstracts in the future when the list is shorter.

A.D. Quinn, M. Wilson, A.M. Reynolds, S.B. Couling, R.P. Hoxey
Modelling the dispersion of a tracer gas in the wake of an isolated low-rise building. *Wind and Structures* Vol 4, No.1, 2001

J.A.B. Wills, B.E. Lee, T.A. Wyatt
A review of tropical cyclone wind field models. *Wind and Structures* Vol.3, No. 2, 2000 133-142
Abstract. Engineered structures such as buildings in certain regions of the world need to be designed to withstand tropical cyclone winds, otherwise known as typhoons or hurricanes. In order to carry out this design, it is necessary to be able to estimate the maximum wind speeds likely to be encountered by the structure over its expected lifetime, say 100 years. Estimation of the maximum wind involves not only the overall strength of the tropical cyclone, but the variation of wind speed with radius from the centre, circumferential position, and with height above the ground surface. In addition, not only the mean wind speed, but also the gust factor must usually be estimated as well. This paper investigates a number of recent mathematical models of tropical cyclone structure and comments on their suitability for these purposes in a variety of scenarios.

Key words: tropical cyclone; wind structure; mathematical model.

C.J. Baker

Aspects of the use of proper orthogonal decomposition of surface pressure fields. *Wind and Structures* Vol 3, No.2, 2000

A.P. Robertson, R.P. Hoxey, J.L. Short, L.R. Burgess, B.W. Smith, R.H.Y. Ko
Wind-induced fatigue loading of tubular steel lighting columns. *Wind and Structures* Vol 4, No. 2, 2001

C.E. Fothergill, P.T. Robers, A.R. Packwood
Flow and dispersion around storage tanks. A comparison between numerical and wind tunnel simulations. *Wind and Structures* Vol. 5, No. 2-4, 2002

J. Thielen, A. Gadian, S. Vosper, S. Mobbs
Airflow modelling studies over the Isle of Arran, Scotland. *Wind and Structures* Vol 5, No. 2-4, 2002

R.P. Hoxey, P.J. Richards, J.L. Short
A 6 m cube in an atmospheric boundary layer flow. Part 1. Full-scale and wind-tunnel results. *Wind and Structures* Vol 5, No. 2-4, 2002.

P.J. Richards, A.D. Quinn, S. Parker
A 6 m cube in an atmospheric boundary layer flow. Part 2. Computational solutions Vol 5, No. 2-4, 2002.

I. Taylor, M. Vezza
Aeroelastic stability analysis of a bridge deck with added vanes using a discrete vortex method. *Wind and Structures* Vol 5, No. 2-4, 2002.

T. Prevezer, J. Holding, A. Gaylard, R. Palin.
Bluff body asymmetric flow phenomenon – real effect or solver artefact? *Wind and Structures* Vol 5, No. 2-4, 2002.

A.P. Robertson, P. Roux, J. Gratraud, G. Scarascia, S. Castellano, M.D. de Virel, P. Palier
Wind pressures on permeably and impermeably-clad structures. *JWE&IA* Vol 90, May 2002.

J.A.B. Wills, B.E. Lee, T.A. Wyatt
A model of wind-borne debris damage. *JWE&IA* Vol 90, May 2002.

N.J. Cook, P. Chan, D. Wu, M.A. Holder
Towards quantitative visualisation of transient surface flow on building models using infrared thermography. *Journal of Wind Engineering and Industrial Aerodynamics* Vol 90, 2002.



Some statistics of the event are:

Attendees:	42	full-time registrations of which 30 UK, 5 Europe, 2 New Zealand, 5 North America (<i>although I would call 2 of them Australian. Ed.</i>)
	8	student registrations
	12	part-time registrations
	48	attended the conference dinner
Papers:	37	full papers
	9	poster papers
Registrations:	67%	of all bookings were prior to 10% discount deadline, 73% by value of invoice.

The Conference has made a profit for WES which will be shown in our accounts.

Editors note

I would like to thank Paul Freathy and all at Anemos for their organisation of the Conference; a very considerable effort is required to make these events run smoothly and on behalf of the Committee I would like to express our appreciation.

Next UK WES Conference in 2004, full details should be released mid 2003.

❖ UKWES WEB SITE

Reminder: To make it easier to contact the Wind Engineering Society we now have a domain name of ukwes.org so you can get to our web site through www.ukwes.org or you can email the society by putting a name in front of @ukwes.org. At the present time all emails will come to Roger Hoxey to be forwarded or dealt with.

❖ IAWE News

The 11th International Conference on Wind Engineering will be held in Lubbock, Texas from 2nd – 5th June 2003. This is the main event of the International Association of Wind Engineers and is held once every four years. The 10th ICWE was held in Copenhagen in 1999. Details of the 11th ICWE can be found on the Texas Tech website www.icwe.ttu.edu.

And from Kishor Mehta an announcement that he is standing down as Director of Texas Tech WISE Center and the search for a replacement is in progress (anyone interested contact Texas Tech).

‘Just for your information I am stepping down as director and retiring from teaching duties. I plan to continue in the research/service arena as well as take care of NSF IGERT project that is coming on line. Texas Tech WISE Center is a national asset and it has a potential of doing a lot of good for the U.S. wind engineering community. I am not on the search committee so you should feel free to ask me any question.’

Kishor Mehta

❖ Editor Required, 2nd advertisement

The Wind Engineering Society requires an Editor for the newsletter. We would like to produce four editions per year to appear two weeks before Society meetings.

Each edition is expected to be of 6 to 10 sides of A4 with most of the material provided by WES members who often require editorial pressure to obtain timely contributions.

The Editor is required to prepare the document and submit it as an MS Word file for production.

The Executive Committee has agreed that a fee will be paid to cover preparation costs. In replying to this request please indicate the fee required for each edition.

The Committee will consider replies at their meeting on the 5th February 2003.

❖ EU Cost C14

The EU COST (Co-operation in Science and Technology) Action C14 on wind effects in urban areas continues its work. Recent meetings have been held in Braunschweig in November 2001, in Florence in April 2002, in Nantes in June 2002 (an open workshop), and in Como in Italy in November 2002. The activities centre around the work of four working groups. Working Group 1 is looking at the collection of wind damage statistics and the various criteria that are used in the assessment of pedestrian comfort. Working Group 2 is considering the use of CFD in wind engineering, and Working Group 3 is looking at full-scale measurement techniques and the use of large-scale wind-tunnel facilities. Working Group 4 is considering the application of a number of analytical techniques within the wind engineering field. The outcome of all these discussions will be a series of



Measurement of spray drift distribution around windbreaks Richardson, Walklate, Baker – Silsoe Research Inst

Unsteady wind effects on natural ventilation stacks – theory and experiment *Chiu, Etheridge – Univ of Nottingham*

A pragmatic method of estimating turbulence length scales *Breeze - BRE*

Eurocode EC1-4 – Calibration for use with industrial chimneys *Freathy – Anemos Associates*

Eurocode EC1-4 – Calibration for use with buildings *Breeze – Building Research Establishmnet*

Pressure fluctuations and vortical structures in the atmospheric surface layer *Worthington, Morrison, Quinn, Hoxey – Imperial College, Silsoe Research Inst*

Full scale measurement of gas concentration from a point source release *Bradley, Hoxey – Silsoe Research Institute*

FRIDAY 6 SEPTEMBER

Session 7 – Bluff Bodies/Buildings

An investigation of velocity field around a 2D square cylinder and a 3D cube with various numerical simulations *Hu, Li, Wang – Heriot-Watt University*

Peak pressures on the side of a 6m cube *Richards, Hoxey – Univ of Auckland, Silsoe Research Inst*

Pressures on front and back faces of bluff bodies *Robertson, Hoxey – Silsoe Research Inst*

Unstructured-grid CFD modelling of natural ventilation in a full-scale cube *Yang, Wright, Etheridge, Quinn – Univ of Nottingham, Silsoe Research Inst*

A once in 50-year wind speed map for the United Kingdom derived from mean sea level pressure measurements *Miller – Risk Management Solutions*

Assessing CFD as a tool for practical wind engineering applications *Miles, Westbury – BRE*

Codification of internal pressures *Blackmore – BRE*

Theoretical and physical modelling of unsteady wind effects on time-averaged natural ventilation *Etheridge – Univ of Nottingham*

Measurement of extreme aerodynamic interference forces on building models in several boundary layers using a piezoelectric balance *Krönke, Sockel – Technical Univ of Vienna*

Full-scale wind pressures on a permeable roof of a low-rise building *Parmentier – Belgian Building Research Inst*

A comparison of recursive filter and spectral methods for digital correction of pressure measurements distorted by tubing response *Huang, Flay – Univ of Auckland*

.... a few personal views of the non-session part of the conference

Abiding memories of 5th UK WES Conference (6 of the best)

1. The colourful chunky 11th ICWE biros that Chris Letchford was determined to distribute to all and sundry to avoid having to lug any back to Texas. I still keep encountering them in the office, at home, in the car, even on other people's desks and tables. I'm looking at one now so can remind you that 11th ICWE is on 2-5 June 2003 – soon now.
2. The very warm accommodation bedrooms, and those who had gone to the lengths of removing the fuse in the wall as the seemingly only method of turning-off the bathroom radiator.
3. The copious amounts of good food consumed in the distinctive hall dining-room which reminded me so much of the dining-room of my own undergraduate days that I wondered if they were designed and built to some common formula.
4. Chatting on the way back from the Conference Dinner with Nick Cook and others about comedy programmes we have known and loved (including for me Fawley Towers) and musing on certain similarities that seem to me to exist between Nick and Basil?
5. The hall bar not being open when we got back from the Conference Dinner – this did not remind me of my own undergraduate days.
6. Of course – the Magician.

And a view from the Conference Secretary

Overall I felt the conference went very well and that the general quality of the papers was as high as we have had in recent years. The location worked well, being all in one site on the Nottingham campus.

Numbers were a little disappointing, especially from the UK but, overall, the costs were kept under control as the likely numbers became clear and the event made a clear profit.

The entertainer suggested by Brian Lee was a success, rounding off a good conference dinner in rather nice surroundings.



my assistant Kathie Lally and the support staff at the Institution of Civil Engineers whose help with distributing the conference information has been invaluable. Last but not least, on behalf of the Wind Engineering Society, my thanks go to all delegates and authors who have contributed to making these conferences such a success.

Paul Freathy
Conference Organiser
& Editor

Conference Programme 4 - 6 Sept.

WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

Session 1 – Keynote Introductions

Flow and dispersion in urban and industrial areas
Britter – Univ of Cambridge
Hurricane risks: communicating hurricane damage potential; preventing hurricane damage *Saffir – Herbert S Saffir Consulting Engineers*
Eurocode 1, Part 4 Wind loads – an update *Blackmore – BRE*

Session 2– Extreme Winds

Gust exceedance probabilities for transport systems
Deaves, Bradbury, Hebden – WS Atkins
Extreme wind predictions in mixed climates *Holmes – JDH Consulting*
Extreme wind speeds in mixed climates revisited
Cook, Harris, Whiting – Anemos Associates, Univ of Bristol
Simulating thunderstorm downburst winds *Letchford – Texas Tech Univ*
Extreme gust factors in wind turbine design *Whiting, Cook – Univ of Bristol, Anemos Associates*

THURSDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

Session 3 – Dynamics

Drag instability and the response of lighting columns to wind loading *Owen – Univ of Nottingham*
Fatigue life of a large flag pole in the Middle East
Breeze - BRE
Dynamic loading of cereal crops *Sterling, Baker et al – Univ of Birmingham et al*
Maize leaf azimuth on wind-induced, mid-season stalk breakage *Elmore, Hoffmeister Jr, Klein, Marx – Univ of Nebraska*

Session 4 – Wind Characteristics

Turbulence over urban roughness: some wind tunnel measurements *Castro, Cheng – Univ of Southampton, Univ of Surrey*

Hydraulic flume measurements of mean flow and turbulence in a scale model array of 4:1 aspect ratio obstacles *Macdonald, Ejim – Univ of Waterloo*

Wind and vehicle induced turbulence very close to a road surface *Huggins, Baker, Kinnersley – Univ of Birmingham*

CFD modelling of the Askervein Hill *Stangroom, Wright – Univ of Nottingham*

Wind tunnel investigations of flow dynamics within and around a valley *Garvey, Wiggs, Castro, Bullard – Univ of Sheffield et al*

Session 5 – Street Level Wind

A critical review of Irwin probe versus hotwire for pedestrian level wind environment assessments

Obasaju – BMT Fluid Mechanics

Wind tunnel experiments on pedestrian comfort and validation of CFD ‘virtual wind tunnel’ model *van Uffelen, Wijnia – Peutz & Associates*

Large eddy simulation of turbulent flow within an urban street canyon *Cui, Cai, Baker – Univ of Birmingham*

Computational analysis of wind flow and pollutant dispersion in an urban street canyon *Wong, Chan, So – Univ of Hong Kong*

DAPPLE – dispersion of air pollutants and their penetration into the local environment *Robins, Belcher et al – Univ of Surrey et al*

Session 6 – Bridges

Calculation of lateral flutter derivatives using a discrete vortex method *Taylor, Vezza – Univ of Strathclyde, Univ of Glasgow*

Direct coupling of force measurements on bridge sections in a water tunnel with numerical structure dynamics *Bergmann, Kaiser, Wagner – Univ of Stuttgart*

Commercial computational wind engineering: contributions of DIVEX to recent design projects *Taylor, Vezza, Withycombe – Univ of Strathclyde et al*
Wind shielding of the M4 at Neath *McKenzie, Morgenthal, McRobie – Flint & Neill, Univ of Cambridge*

POSTER SESSION

The performance of a wind and stack driven ventilation device *Shea, Hoxey, Levermore – Silsoe Research Inst, UMIST*

CFD simulation of plume dispersion within clusters of buildings *Wang, McNamara – National University of Ireland*



years of the latest DAV within any group of codes packaged for application.

Dr. Blackmore is one of the half-dozen members of the project team TC250/SC1/PT3, and gave a clear summary of the many similarities, but also significant differences, between the Eurocode and BS6399 Part 2. The Eurocode wind speed evaluation starts with the 10-minute mean value for an open terrain having the same qualitative description as that for our familiar V_b , although it is assigned a different nominal roughness length. Factors are ambitiously given for four other terrain categories, but no allowance is made for fetch length over the selected terrain. The most animated discussion of the evening subsequently focused on the paradox that the map proposed for the UK is the same as BS6399, despite the expectation that the 10-minute average would be substantially higher than the hourly mean. The formulation for pressures (q) taking account of gusts (intensity I) is based on the familiar statistical model, but applied directly to pressure rather than first to define an effective wind speed as in BS6399, i.e. $q=(1+3.5 \times 2I)^{1/2} V_m^2$, rather than $q=(1+3.44I)^2 \frac{1}{2} V_m^2$ (inserting $g_1=3.44$ for a minimum loaded area in the BS model). In conjunction with a simple logarithmic profile, this gives rise to considerable discrepancies from BS6399 values, in many cases in a non-conservative sense, which are the cause of ongoing concern. The Eurocode also offers procedures for more detailed consideration of size and of dynamic augmentation, but specific guidance is given only within severe limitations on structural parameters.

Brian Smith highlighted some of the special cases which are reflected in the expansion of the structural Eurocodes to over fifty volumes (codes and sub-codes). In our field, the steel-structure codes for towers and for chimneys, for which he was convenor of the project teams, include specific wind load provisions. Curiously, the specific bridge codes do not follow suit, despite exclusion of major bridges in the specified scope of EN1991-1-4. He also discussed the separate Eurocode for lighting columns, EN40. This generated discussion of the distinction between 'off the shelf' products that must cover locations not explicitly identified to the designer and the more familiar treatment of specifically-located structures. The value of the CE mark in this context was also mentioned. The evening closed, perhaps predictably but none the less cogently, with a reopening of the argument that many who had anticipated greater focus on principles are disappointed to find such complex volumes largely devoted to prescription for applications.

TAW 9.11.02

❖ WES 5th UK Conference

Foreword

The UK Wind Engineering Society has established in its series of conferences a reputation for providing a stimulating and constructive environment for sharing experience and knowledge. Location has been an important element in achieving this. Previous conferences have been held in Cambridge, Warwick, Oxford and Bristol, at two-yearly intervals. As a result of the international conference on Computational Wind Engineering (CWE2000) being hosted by the UK in 2000, this 5th UK Conference on Wind Engineering now takes place after a four year gap at the University of Nottingham. As ever, we have attracted an excellent selection of papers from friends and colleagues, old and new. A total of 34 full papers and 8 poster papers were selected for presentation at the conference and they are all listed in this Newsletter.

For the 3rd Conference we adopted a new approach to the Proceedings; one that has been followed in this latest conference. The authors were asked to prepare short papers of up to 4 pages for inclusion. Our aim is to present a good flavour of the project being presented to keep the reader up to date with ongoing work. Readers are encouraged to follow up on any papers that are of particular interest. By taking this approach, rather than publishing selected papers in a special edition of a Journal, we are able to present a much more complete record of the conference. Some of our authors will undoubtedly go on to publish longer technical papers in the Journals and, by adopting the format that we do, publication here does not interfere with that objective. We hope the series of Proceedings will form a valuable reference showing how technical trends have developed in our subject.

As always, the conference is not just about the papers presented, it is about people. The wind engineering community world-wide is small and we often have the pleasure of meeting our colleagues at meetings such as this. This closeness makes for good co-operation in research and the ability to always find somebody to help with a particular problem. We are very pleased at the strong attendance from UK engineers and researchers; this is, after all, their conference. But we are always delighted to welcome delegates from overseas; this time including Austria, Belgium, Germany, Ireland, Hong Kong, Canada, USA, Australia and New Zealand.

Finally, I should like to acknowledge the assistance I have received from members of the UK Wind Engineering Society Committee, especially from our Chairman, Roger Hoxey. I would also like to thank



➤ **Launch of ICE corporate identity.** In June last year the Institution of Civil Engineers Council supported a proposal to introduce a new corporate identity, which would effectively convey the ICE brand to all audiences. Since then they have been developing the approved design concepts, in consultation with ICE regions' representatives and staff, for the launch on 5 November 2002. The launch celebrates the introduction of the new ICE logo, which define regions and countries, new house fonts and a palette of colours. As agreed by Council, the coats of arms will be used on selective materials and documents to emphasise ICE's heritage and gravitas. The launch will be publicised to key stakeholders (including ICE members), the media and other relevant organisations. All stationary and powerpoint templates, artwork and guidelines will be available on the ICE's shared network. A separate website domain has also been created to enable remote users to access guidelines, templates and artwork (www.ice-brand.org.uk)

❖ Committee Report

This is a regular feature that will keep members up to date with the work of the Executive Committee. If you have strong views on these or any related subjects that the Committee should address please let them know.

The Committee met on the 6th November at ICE. Craig Miller has resigned from the Committee as he is following in Eric Savory's footsteps by taking up an appointment at the University of Western Ontario, Canada, at the beginning of this year. At this stage in the year it was not considered necessary to replace Craig as elections are due in a few months.

Preparations are in hand for the Scruton Lecture to be held at ICE on 5th Nov, 2003. An announcement will be made soon.

There was further discussion on Eurocodes and the need for ICE and government to address them seriously, particularly the need to have appropriate specialist input to the National Annexes.

The revision of the WES information leaflet was discussed and amendments made: the leaflet will appear shortly.

The programme of future meetings was discussed and a schedule of meetings produced.

Brian Smith reported on the ICE annual meeting with Associated Society Chairmen. One noticeable observation by other Society Chairmen was the general poor attendance at meetings. This has not been

a problem at WES meetings, we have had some of our best attended meetings recently and I hope this continues. Thanks are due to the efforts of our meeting Chairmen and publicity from ICE organised by Eunice Waddell.

Other routine business has been conducted.

❖ Meeting Report:

Technical meeting; 'Eurocodes'

On 6 November, three speakers combined to give an effective overall situation report on the Eurocodes for wind actions. Professor Naryanan, who spoke first, is Chairman of the British Standards committee (working group) B525/1-WG2, which is responsible both for the maintenance of BS6399 Part 2 and as 'mirror group' for the Eurocode EN1991-1-4. The latter was conceived to cover all wind actions on structures, and thus to have much wider scope than BS6399 Part 2, but in the event some specialised sub-codes have still been found necessary, as was later explained by Brian Smith.

Professor Naryanan highlighted the principal objectives as facilitation of exchange of services between member states, establishment of a unified basis for research, and increasing the competitiveness of European enterprises in operations outside the Union. There is thus a significant political dimension. The Eurocode project is entrusted to CEN, and the structural loading codes come under CEN committee TC250/SC1, with drafting devolved to project teams including PT3 for wind. The draft of EN1991-1-4 has been handed up in English from the PT to SC1 ('stage 34') and is expected shortly to go forward for translation and then for voting, currently scheduled for October 2003 ('stage 49'). Formal publication establishes the 'Date of Availability', DAV, which will thus probably be in the spring of 2004.

This is not, however, sufficient for the Code to achieve formal status as a design document. There is a substantial range of points requiring address in the respective 'National Annex', NA, including a range of 'Nationally Determined Parameters', NDP. Professor Narayanan mentioned country-specific data (functions of climate and target risk levels), selection where the code offers alternative procedures, endorsement (or otherwise) of Annexes denoted 'informative' (by contrast with obligatory 'normative' sections), and possible reference to supplementary advice, provided this does not conflict with provisions in the code. Two years following the DAV is allowed for this, and then national codes must be withdrawn within five

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*The report is on the web at [http://www.
publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm/cmscratch.htm](http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm/cmscratch.htm)*



WIND
ENGINEERING
SOCIETY

Newsletter

❖ Ramblings

I am writing this in the first days of the New Year and I hope we will all have reasons to treat 2003 with some optimism. I would like to wish you all every success in 2003.

We are now told that it is possible to measure time with an accuracy of 1 second in 10 billion years but it takes more than 7 days to find out what happened when cyclone Zoe passed over some of the Solomon Islands. At the time of writing, there is still no news of the fate of several thousand of habitants of Tikopia and Anuta where whole villages appear to have been swept away.

It probably does not come as a surprise that my request for a volunteer editor for the newsletter fell on stony ground, so I will continue in this temporary post a little longer. I have received a number of

contributions for this issue and I would like to thank those who have prepared and submitted them; more contributions are welcome. In particular I would like to thank Tom Wyatt for his prompt report on our technical meeting of the 6th November and to Chris Baker, Paul Freathy and Brian Lee. With help from others I have put together a report on the WES conference of 4-6th September but I have still not succeeded in getting a report of the technical meeting held on 8th May which had the title "Is there evidence that climate change will affect the wind climate of the UK?". I will try again to see if I can get an answer to this question.

One outstanding issue I have not addressed in this newsletter is a description of the activities of our Corporate Members; I would like to cover this in the next newsletter: contributions from Corporate Members welcome.

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❖ Snippets

➤ **Government told to take more learned advice.**
The government should make more use of the expertise in the learned societies according to the House of Commons science committee. There should also be a new fund that societies can bid into for core funding coupled with a more strategic approach from the Office of Science and

Technology on how it allocates money to these bodies.

The report was published last year as the result of a short inquiry by the committee into the government funding of the scientific learned societies. In particular, the committee looked at the £29 million given each year to the Royal Society and the £4.8m allocated to the Royal Academy of Engineering from public funds.