

# NEWS FROM ATM

## From the Publications Task Group

At the time of writing, the publications group is being kept very busy with publications that we hope to have ready for the Easter conference. This is an ideal time to launch new publications so members can browse and evaluate the products. Although publications can be ordered online, one cannot see what is in the book and decide how useful it might be. Maybe this will soon change, because looking at an online catalogue recently, it was possible to turn pages by clicking on the corner of a page.

A new venture for publications group this year is a set of *Getting Started with Interactive Geometry* program guides. The first of these A5 booklets is intended to help new users of *Geometer's Sketchpad* become familiar with the program and its tools through interesting mathematical activities. The second book uses the same activities with *Cabri Geometry II Plus*; this will be followed by *GeoGebra* and *C.a.R.*, which are free downloadable programs, and also *Cabri 3D*. If these are successful, we will consider *Getting Started with Derive and Autograph*. These powerful programs are very valuable in the classroom, but teachers are extremely busy and it can be hard to find time to explore the potential of open-ended software. These books can also be given to students to get them started with the basics.

Best-sellers in recent years have been *We Can Work It Out*, which contains collaborative group activities for KS2/3, and *Thinkers* for the secondary classroom. However, in many primary classrooms there is a strong emphasis on the development of thinking skills, with children working alone, in pairs or in collaborative groups, so it seemed sensible to commission a primary version of both books. We hope to publish *Thinking for Ourselves* and *It Makes you Think* in the very near future. Both books contain shorter and longer activities which require pupils to use and apply their subject knowledge in interesting contexts.

It seems ages ago we advised members that '*L*' – a mathematical adventure computer program – was to be re-written. '*L*' was extremely popular

with pupils and adults when it was launched for BBC computers but programming it for modern machines has proved to be very challenging, hence the delay. However, we are keeping our fingers crossed for later in 2007.

We have moved into a new phase with *Grid Algebra/Grid Number* by commissioning a programmer to write the software. Again, this software was originally written for an earlier computer platform. This very popular program enables pupils to explore number patterns in both number and algebra. It will come with a number of ideas for learners to explore.

*Surrounded* is another short program written by Derek Ball. Shapes are made on a grid of squares and the user explores the number patterns which arise when the shape is surrounded. It is possible to use the software at three levels to make it accessible for a wider range of ability levels. A booklet of ideas comes with the software.

The group is always interested in hearing from members if they have ideas for publications. Initial contact is usually through the office. We have some very talented members who have exciting ideas for teaching mathematics, and the publications group would like to encourage writers, both established and new.

---

Diana Cobden and Jean Carnall, Publications Task Group: [council@atm.org.uk](mailto:council@atm.org.uk)

## Conference 2008

ATM has a small amount of money left in memoriam on behalf of Geoff Giles. This money is to be used for pay for conference fees for two, or possibly three, people who run workshops using Geoff Giles' materials, in memory of Geoff, at the 2008 Joint ATM-MA conference at Liverpool Hope University. If you may be interested in becoming involved, please contact Karen Kirkley at the ATM office: 01332 346599 or email: [KarenKirkley@atm.org.uk](mailto:KarenKirkley@atm.org.uk)

The attached document has been downloaded or otherwise acquired from the website of the Association of Teachers of Mathematics (ATM) at [www.atm.org.uk](http://www.atm.org.uk)

Legitimate uses of this document include printing of one copy for personal use, reasonable duplication for academic and educational purposes. It may not be used for any other purpose in any way that may be deleterious to the work, aims, principles or ends of ATM.

Neither the original electronic or digital version nor this paper version, no matter by whom or in what form it is reproduced, may be re-published, transmitted electronically or digitally, projected or otherwise used outside the above standard copyright permissions. The electronic or digital version may not be uploaded to a website or other server. In addition to the evident watermark the files are digitally watermarked such that they can be found on the Internet wherever they may be posted.

Any copies of this document MUST be accompanied by a copy of this page in its entirety.

If you want to reproduce this document beyond the restricted permissions here, then application MUST be made for EXPRESS permission to [copyright@atm.org.uk](mailto:copyright@atm.org.uk)

*This is the usual  
copyright stuff -  
but it's as well to  
check it out...*



The work that went into the research, production and preparation of this document has to be supported somehow.

ATM receives its financing from only two principle sources: membership subscriptions and sales of books, software and other resources.

### Membership of the ATM will help you through

*Now, this bit is  
important - you  
must read this*

- Six issues per year of a professional journal, which focus on the learning and teaching of maths. Ideas for the classroom, personal experiences and shared thoughts about developing learners' understanding.
- Professional development courses tailored to your needs. Agree the content with us and we do the rest.
- Easter conference, which brings together teachers interested in learning and teaching mathematics, with excellent speakers and workshops and seminars led by experienced facilitators.
- Regular e-newsletters keeping you up to date with developments in the learning and teaching of mathematics.
- Generous discounts on a wide range of publications and software.
- A network of mathematics educators around the United Kingdom to share good practice or ask advice.
- Active campaigning. The ATM campaigns at all levels towards: encouraging increased understanding and enjoyment of mathematics; encouraging increased understanding of how people learn mathematics; encouraging the sharing and evaluation of teaching and learning strategies and practices; promoting the exploration of new ideas and possibilities and initiating and contributing to discussion of and developments in mathematics education at all levels.
- Representation on national bodies helping to formulate policy in mathematics education.
- Software demonstrations by arrangement.

### Personal members get the following additional benefits:

- Access to a members only part of the popular ATM website giving you access to sample materials and up to date information.
- Advice on resources, curriculum development and current research relating to mathematics education.
- Optional membership of a working group being inspired by working with other colleagues on a specific project.
- Special rates at the annual conference
- Information about current legislation relating to your job.
- Tax deductible personal subscription, making it even better value

### Additional benefits

The ATM is constantly looking to improve the benefits for members. Please visit [www.atm.org.uk](http://www.atm.org.uk) regularly for new details.

LINK: [www.atm.org.uk/join/index.html](http://www.atm.org.uk/join/index.html)