

# NEWS FROM ATM

It would be good to hear from members who might have done similar work in the classroom and wish to contribute ideas via email that we can incorporate. They can contact the group via [margaretjones@atm.org.uk](mailto:margaretjones@atm.org.uk)

## Work in progress – Geometry and quilting

A group of seven ATM members met at the beginning of September to consider the geometry that might arise in the classroom using the stimulus of patchwork quilting. A small grant had been obtained from the Clothworkers' Guild to enable the group to pursue this interest.

It was decided that the materials produced would be presented on the ATM website as a set of files in a number of different formats: pdf, *Geogebra*, and *Word*.

Within this brief there were a number of links that we explored – mathematics, quilting, patchwork, tiling, design technology, multi-cultural, etc. The materials would be available to a number of end-users, namely teachers (primary and secondary), quilters, home-educators and for a number of purposes such as artist in residence weeks, cross-curricular days/weeks with design technology departments, and as stand-alone activities for individual children. It was decided that those wishing to use the materials would be given a choice of pathways through the materials that would fit with the profile of the teachers/pupils using them.

The group worked initially on a number of ideas around a particular quilt that had been photographed at an exhibition. The main motif was a square patchwork, using six pieces stitched together. There were 12 variations on the theme and these had been sewn together to make a quilt.

Two members of the group worked on developing *Word* files to accompany the quilt and two others worked using *Geogebra*, putting instructions on screen to make the software user-friendly so that it could be used to design squares. Yet another group worked on beginning with physical resources, such as card, material or pencil, compass and ruler, and the final member of the group worked on the development of some activities to trial in a primary school.

Throughout the time spent working, the group came together and shared work in progress and at the end of the Sunday they shared the tasks that were to be carried out by the group and developed or trialled by the end of November.

The group proposes meeting again at the end of February to continue producing the set of files. We are extremely grateful to the Clothworkers' Guild for providing the funding for this group to meet.

Margaret Jones is secretary of ATM.



## JOINT CONFERENCE 2008 – 'Joined up mathematics'

at Keele University from Wednesday 2 April to Saturday 5 April 2008

The 2008 conference is a joint event being organised by ATM and the MA; supported by AMET (Association of Mathematics Education Teachers) and NANAMIC (National Association for Numeracy and Mathematics in Colleges).

Choosing the best timing for the 2008 conference has proved complex due to shifting patterns of Easter holidays around the country. Approximately 60% of schools should be on holiday at the time of conference and we are looking into the possibility of sources of funding for mathematics teachers who will not be on holiday.

We have some fantastic sessions on offer, such as making good use of ICT,

problem solving with various resources, the role of collaboration in learning mathematics and 'people maths'. In addition, the conference will also offer:

- The legendary ATM workshop.
- A special event, Wednesday evening (2nd April): 'Mathematics and music' led by David Cain. Something collaborative, participative and musical for everyone.
- Publishers exhibition – a chance to look at the ATM and MA bookstalls.
- A conference dinner on Thursday evening (3rd April), with after-dinner speaker, Mike Askew.
- Evening entertainment – everyone welcome – will include:

- Musical evening (bring along your instrument and join in)
- Ceilidh on Friday evening (4th April).
- Quiz after the conference dinner.

Our opening and closing speakers for 2008 are: Dr Anne Watson, Reader in Mathematics Education at the University of Oxford, and John Mason, Professor of Mathematics Education at the Open University.

For information on past ATM conferences go to [www.atm.org.uk/conferences](http://www.atm.org.uk/conferences).

For a place at conference 2008 go to [www.atm.org.uk/buyonline/products/cnf071.html](http://www.atm.org.uk/buyonline/products/cnf071.html).

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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)