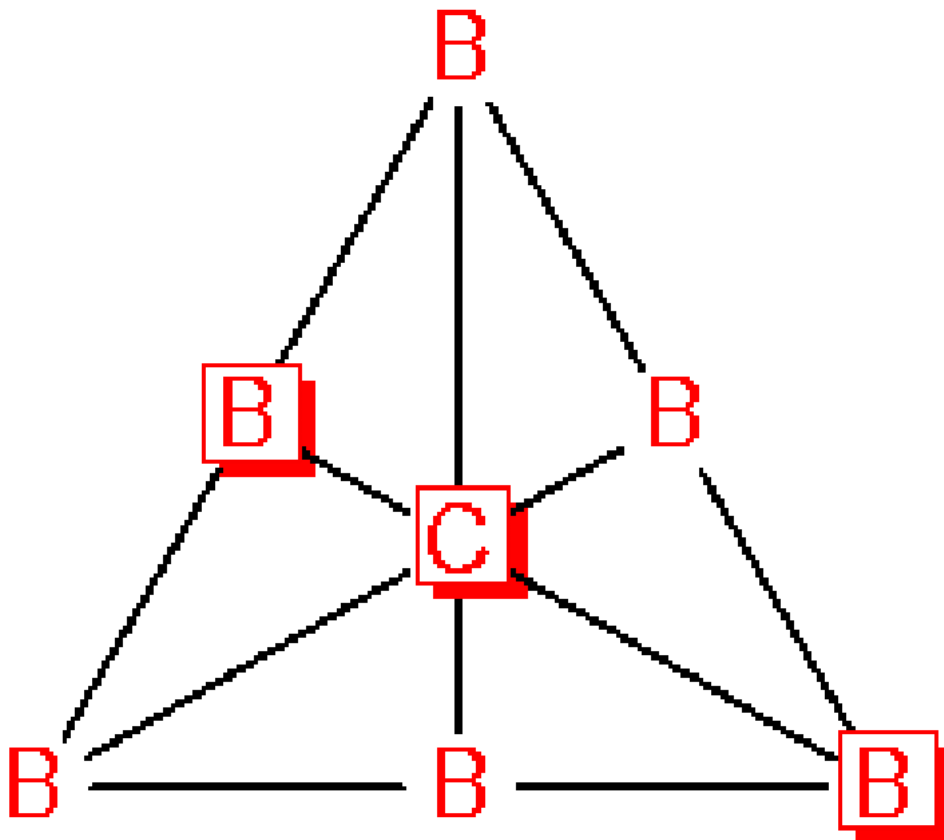


British Combinatorial Bulletin 2004



BRITISH COMBINATORIAL BULLETIN 2004

Editorial

You have in your hands (or, more likely, on your screen) the 2004 British Combinatorial Bulletin. I think it's about as late as it usually is, and I apologise for that.

As ever, the Bulletin has three main sections.

List A is claimed, with some justification, to be a list of combinatorial mathematicians based in Britain. One of our hard-working representatives tried to use the email addresses in it earlier this year, and reported 25 error messages, some relating to more than one person. It certainly includes a number of people who moved on some time ago. But I hope you find it useful. And, if you spot any mistakes and tell me about them, I will correct them.

I've just had a thorough overhaul of List B, visiting Departmental webpages and taking data from them, and I reckon this List is reasonably accurate at present. No doubt I have removed some people who should have been left on, and included some people who would rather have been left off: apologies again. Do please send me any corrections, updates, or suggestions for future development: I'm keen that the webpage is found to be a useful resource.

List C contains those papers for which I have been sent details. If you want to see your papers included in future, please contact your institutional representative. Alternatively, why not volunteer to become the representative for your institution?

As ever, I would like to thank everyone who sent in information, and also Jackie Everid for her work in preparing the Bulletin.

Graham Brightwell
Editor

The BCB webpage is: <http://www.cdam.lse.ac.uk/BCB/>

Email should be addressed to: bcb@maths.lse.ac.uk

British Combinatorial Committee

The Committee is: Peter Cameron (Chairman), Peter Rowlinson (Secretary), Keith Edwards (Treasurer), Robert Bailey (Postgraduate representative) Graham Brightwell (Bulletin Ed), James Hirschfeld, Mark Jerrum, Nigel Martin, Stephanie Perkins, Bridget Webb (Archivist).

News

The British Combinatorial Committee has a limited sum of money available to support approved meeting on combinatorial topics in the UK. Any institution requesting support will be expected to meet part of the total cost from its own funds or elsewhere. Proposals for consideration by the Committee, including outline plans and an outline budget, should be sent to the Secretary,

Professor Peter Rowlinson
p.rowlinson@stirling.ac.uk.

Bridget Webb now holds the archive at the Open University. If you have any items for inclusion or would like to see any items please contact Bridget Webb B.S.Webb@open.ac.uk

Peter Owens

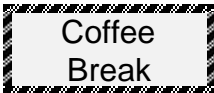
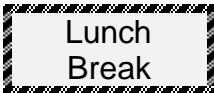

We are sorry to report the death of Dr Peter Owens on 30th December 2003, as a result of lung infection immediately following heart surgery. Peter spent almost all of his career at the University of Surrey; he will be best remembered for his work in graph theory and Latin squares.

Meetings in Combinatorics

ONE-DAY COMBINATORICS COLLOQUIUM

WEDNESDAY 12th MAY 2004

A One-Day Combinatorics Colloquium will be held at the University of Reading on Wednesday 12th May, starting at 10.30 a.m. Everyone interested is welcome. Lectures will take place in Rooms 113, 314 of the Mathematics Building and the Larger (Ditchburn) Lecture Theatre in the Physics Building (indicated by M113, M314, Ph D respectively in the list below). Self-service tea and coffee will be available for most of the day in Room 112 of the Mathematics Building. Lunch can be purchased in the Blue Room, the Buttery (Cedar Room) or elsewhere. The list of speakers is below. The titles are on the back of this notice.

10.30 - 11.10 a.m.	M. Grannell	(Open)	(M113)
			
11.30 - 12.10 p.m.	P. Russell G. Gutin	(Cambridge) (RHUL)	(M113) (M314)
12.15 - 12.55 p.m.	R. Johnson R.A. Bailey	(LSE) (QMUL)	(M113) (M314)
			
2.05 - 2.45 p.m.	P. Cameron	(QMUL)	(Ph D)
2.50 - 3.30 p.m.	V. Zverovich	(West of England)	(Ph D)
			
3.55 - 4.35 p.m.	I. Anderson	(Glasgow)	(Ph D)
4.40 - 5.20 p.m.	D.R. Woodall	(Nottingham)	(Ph D)

Financial support from the LMS, the British Combinatorics Committee, and the University of Reading Department of Mathematics is gratefully acknowledged.

A.J.W. HILTON

SPEAKERS AND TITLES

(in alphabetical order of speakers)

Dr. I. Anderson (Glasgow)

Primitive roots in the construction of designs.

Prof. R.A. Bailey (QMUL)

Designs on association schemes.

Prof. P. Cameron (QMUL)

The random graph and the Urysohn metric space.

Prof. M. Grannell (Open)

Recent results on 4-cycle systems.

Prof. G. Gutin (RHUL)

Lower bounds for the competitive ratio in batched bin packing.

Dr. R. Johnson (LSE)

Long cycles in the middle two layers of the discrete cube.

Mr. P. Russell (Cambridge)

Independence of partition regular equations.

Dr. D.R. Woodall (Nottingham)

Paradoxes of preferential voting.

Dr. V. Zverovich (West of England)

Graph-theoretic problems and Computer System Graph-Lab.

15th Postgraduate Combinatorial Conference

20th - 22nd April 2004
Queen Mary, University of London

Organiser: Robert Bailey

Invited Speakers:

Andrew Thomason (University of Cambridge)
Pseudo-random graphs and graph minors

John Truss (University of Leeds)
Representing words in automorphism groups

Bridget Webb (Open University)
Infinite designs

Further information can be found at the conference website:
<http://www.maths.qmul.ac.uk/~rfb/pcc2004/>

20th British Combinatorial Conference

Sunday 10 July - Friday 15 July, 2005
University of Durham

Organisers: Nigel Martin (Durham), Mike Grannell and others (Open University)

Invited speakers:

Ben Green (Cambridge)

Oliver King (Newcastle)

Patric Ostergard (Helsinki)

Tim Penttila (Western Australia)

Alex Scott (UCL)

Oriol Serra (Catalunya)

Paul Seymour (Princeton)

Alan Sokal (New York)

Angelika Steger (Zurich)

Further details, including titles and draft abstracts of the talks of the invited speakers, can be found at <http://mcs.open.ac.uk/bcc2005/>

BRITISH COMBINATORIAL COMMITTEE (Scottish Charity Number SC019723)

Income and expenditure account for the period
1 October 2002 to 30 September 2003

Income	£
Interest	150.96
Royalties from Cambridge University Press	89.20
Interim surplus from 19th BCC, University of Wales, Bangor, June/July 2003	7000.00
Surplus from 2002 Postgraduate conference	256.64
Surplus from 2003 Postgraduate conference	112.03
	<u>7608.83</u>
Expenditure	
Support for One-day conferences	1109.90
Support for "Combinatorics Cambridge", August 2003	400.00
Committee expenses	65.30
British Combinatorial Bulletin (2002)	182.29
Discrete Maths (Postage)	21.06
	<u>1778.55</u>
Accumulated Income	
Balance at 30 September 2002	2434.20
Excess of income over expenditure	5830.28
Balance at 30 September 2003	<u>18264.48</u>
Represented by	
Bank of Scotland Treasurer's Account	8239.67
Scottish Widows Bank Treasury Tracker Account	10024.81
	<u>18264.48</u>