

Singing in the rain ...

Mae'n bwrw glaw ...

Provisional statistics from the [Met Office](#) have today shown that June has been the wettest since records began in 1914. The UK-wide average figure of 134.5 mm has beaten the previous highest June total of 121.2 mm in 1980. I hope that none of our members has been affected by all the rain we've had lately.

Apologies for the delay to this e-bulletin but this bulletin will have to suffice for July and August as I will be at the National Eisteddfod in August with some kind members who have volunteered to help.

If you have any comments or want to offer your assistance in the Eisteddfod then please e-mail me: Angharad.Thomas@iop.org

Best wishes for the summer – Dymuniadau gorau am yr haf

Angharad

News in Brief

Newyddion yn Fyr

The new [Department of Innovation, Universities and Skills](#) (DIUS) integrates the science and innovation responsibilities formerly held by DTI, with the development, funding and performance management of higher education (both in teaching and research) and the government's wider skills agenda from the former Department for Education and Skills (DfES). The DIUS will also contain the Office of the Chief Scientific Adviser.

Ian Pearson is to be the [new UK science minister](#) in Gordon Brown's government. He takes up the post in the newly created Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS).

[Universities as generators of income](#) continue to boost Wales's economy and communities, new figures show.

Apparently, [it all started with a bounce and not a bang!](#) Physicists believe they have proved that there was life, or at least matter, before the Big Bang.

A [great ape has been shown to use water as a tool for the first time](#), in the latest demonstration of their remarkable problem-solving skills.

A new scientific study concludes that changes in [the Sun's output cannot be causing modern-day climate change](#).

Institute of Physics in Wales

Sefydliad Ffiseg yng Nghymru

The Institute of Physics in Wales is at the [National Eisteddfod of Wales](#) this year! We will have some exhibits from *Lab in a Lorry* and an Institute stand with some small demos. If any members would like to help out during the week (4-11 August), anything from half a day to the whole week, then I'd be very grateful.

[Mobile Careers 2007](#) – members of the Institute are entitled to use the careers service regardless of their employment status. A careers adviser can provide advice on a range of topics including: changing careers; redundancy; taking a career break; retiring and updating your CV. The careers advisor will be at Swansea on 10 October and in Cardiff on 11 October. For more details and to register, click [here](#).

Institute of Physics

Sefydliad Ffiseg

The Institute has a new range of professional development and training services, designed exclusively for IOP members. These include:

- [MyCPD](#) – a free online tool which allows you to identify your development needs and plan and record new learning.
- [Learning Online](#) – a range of transferable skills courses you can undertake at your own pace and in your own time.

There are a number of other new member services – keep an eye on www.iop.org/careers for further developments.

[Forthcoming Institute Conferences](#)

[What's on in Physics](#)

physicsweb events listing which lists [all physics related events](#).

Useful Links

Cysylltiadau Defnyddiol

[EPSRC](#) – Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council

[STFC](#) – Science and Technology Facilities Council

[HEFCW](#) – Higher Education Funding Council for Wales / Cyngor Cyllido Addysg Uwch Cymru

[bbc.co.uk/wales](#) / [bbc.co.uk/cymru](#) – BBC Wales / BBC Cymru website

[The National Assembly for Wales](#) / [Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru](#)

[The Welsh Assembly Government](#) / [Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru](#)

[European Commission – Research](#)