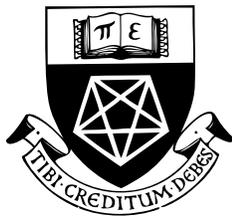


# The Mathematical Association

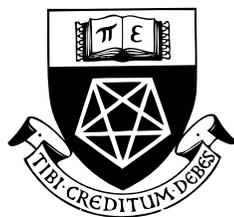


*The* **M**athematical  
Association

**Introduction**

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# The Mathematical Association



The Mathematical Association - as the Association for the Improvement of Geometrical Teaching - was, in 1871, the first of the subject teaching associations to be formed in England. The first of its journals, *The Mathematical Gazette*, celebrated its centenary year in 1994.

In his Presidential Address in 1893, Richard Wormell said:

‘To bring about a better understanding between the high and the low, the few and the many, is, in my opinion, the mission of this Association. There is still work for it to do; it has to make the extremes meet. It has to bring the higher knowledge to the multitude.’

In 1989, Geoffrey Howson, President, said:

‘It is essential that the voice of the professionals should be heard. If it is not, then our claim to be professionals will cease - the Association's motto, “I hold every man a debtor to his profession”, will have become outdated.’

The Latin inscription on the Mathematical Association's coat of arms is *Tibi creditum debes*; in translation this becomes: *What has been entrusted to you, you owe.*

The objects of the Mathematical Association are:

To effect improvements in the teaching of mathematics and its applications and to provide means of communication among students and teachers of mathematics.

Over the years, the Association has produced reports into the teaching of mathematics and it has represented teachers of mathematics on working groups and government committees. Working with other mathematical bodies, it has put the ideas and concerns of those working in mathematics education to those taking national decisions. The past presidents of the Association include many of the most respected mathematicians in the UK. The Association has also encouraged discussion and communication among teachers of mathematics, allowing development of the best practice. *Mathematics for the Multitude* by Michael H Price (1994, The Mathematical Association, Leicester, UK) is a history of The Mathematical Association and contains much information about the early years, the major reports into the teaching of mathematics, 'modern maths' and more recent developments.

Recently, the Council of the Association has agreed goals to support the aims. The Association is creating a development plan which will steer it through the next few years.

**Library** The Association has a library containing some rare works. It is housed in the University Library, at the University of Leicester.

**Journals** Journals currently produced are:

*The Mathematical Gazette*  
*Mathematics in School*  
*Primary Mathematics Journal*  
*Equals*  
*Symmetry Plus*  
*Mathematical Pie*  
*MA News*

**Publications** See the Publications Booklet for books and materials currently on sale.

**Annual Conference** Conference 2000 took place in Exeter; Conference 2001 is in Lancaster on 8<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> April 2001.

**Courses** Details of courses are available from the Office Manager in Leicester.

**Branches** There are branches of the Association in many parts of the UK. Details from the Office Manager in Leicester.

**Primary Mathematics Challenge** Information about this challenge for pupils in primary schools (aged between 9 and 11) can be obtained from the Office Manager, Leicester.

**Website** Much of the information on the above (and more) can be found on the Association website [www.m-a.org.uk](http://www.m-a.org.uk). Membership details and how to apply are available on the website.

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When you touch the Greek letter playing cards with your cursor you will find sample pages of publications of The Mathematical Association or associated bodies. Acrobat Reader is supplied on this CD. You will also need Internet Explorer as your browser. Our full list of publications appears on our web site.

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