

Wow, Time Flies!



It seems only five minutes ago that I was writing the words for our last bulletin and already so much has happened.

Since our last bulletin we've been adding new faces to our teams in both the Bowburn and Wilton Centre laboratories, we've hosted a visit from the Royal Society of Chemistry during Apprentice Week and I've been flying around the globe including a very interesting visit to China.

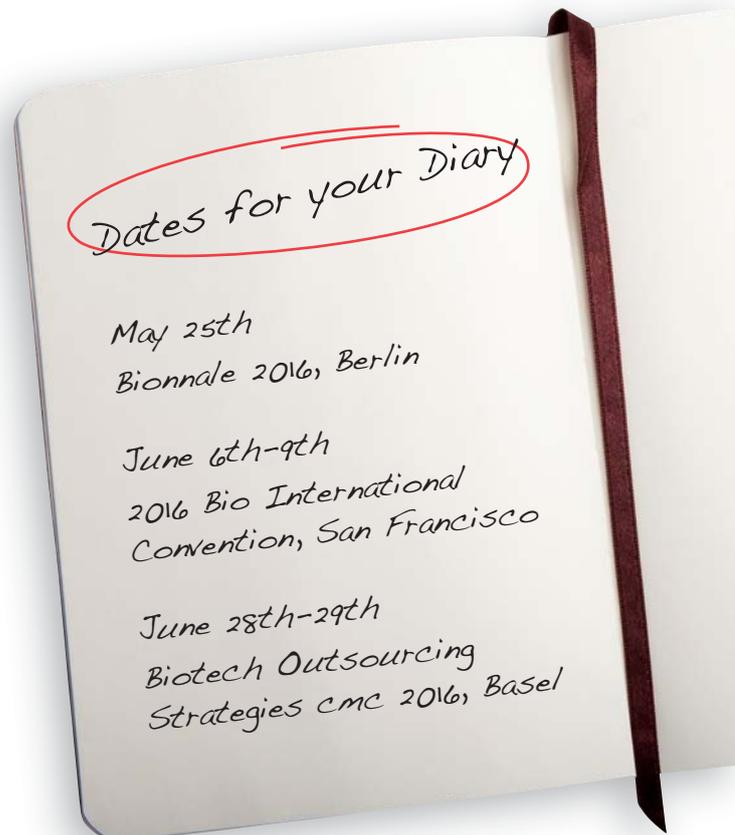
I can say honestly that I've never known a time in our industry so full of opportunity and confidence. There is a 'can do' attitude out there and we are very proud to be playing a leading role across a wide range of sectors. I hope that you feel the same and if I can be of any assistance please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Stella

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Get back in the lab

High Force Research Ltd invited Royal Society of Chemistry director Clare Viney, to spend the day as an apprentice in its Durham based laboratory highlighting the importance of apprenticeships and alternative career routes into science.

Former research associate, Viney, who is the Royal Society of Chemistry's director of membership and external affairs, returned to the laboratory environment for the first time in 15 years alongside High Force Research apprentice Megan Jones. The pair took part in tasks, including filling a Nuclear Magnetic Resonance vessel (NMR) with liquid nitrogen.

Clare Viney said, "Apprenticeships help so many people to grow, from the apprentices themselves to their employers



Royal Society of Chemistry director, Clare Viney, spends day as apprentice to celebrate National Apprenticeship Week

and ultimately our economy."

High Force Research director, Stuart Penny, said: "Appointing an apprentice is another way of finding and developing home grown talent. We have strong relationships with the universities and usually appoint graduates but the benefit of working with apprentices is that we are able to teach practical laboratory skills from day one.

"Megan has been working in our laboratories with highly experienced chemists four of

five days a week and this combined with her academic studies will make her a very skilled employee in the years to come."

Megan said: "This is a great opportunity to progress my career in chemistry as I will be learning practical skills in a laboratory and working alongside experienced chemists.

"I am getting valuable hands-on experience and will also have a degree at the end of five years."

Chop Chop!

Dr Stella James recently visited China's Jiangsu Province one of China's strongest performing economies to develop commercial opportunities with the life sciences industry in that part of the world.

As a guest of the Provincial Government of Jiangsu and Municipal Governments of Nanjing and Changzou, Stella presented to a 200 strong delegation of Chinese biotech and chemicals companies.

Stella said, "The science and biotech parks in China are a real eye opener - they are the size of small cities and demonstrate the vision and investment China has for the life sciences industry."

High Force Research has been cultivating relationships within the Chinese pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors with a view to developing strategic partnerships.



Dr Stella James: Chop Chop - China's full of opportunities

She continued, "They have an enormous pool of talented chemists with ambitions to research and develop new products. What they lack is the R&D track record and expertise of a company like High Force Research. They also see that our close relationship with industry in the West can lead to opportunities currently difficult for them to realise in their own country."

Fluorescent Retinoid Sample Test Kit

High Force Research and Durham University have produced a special sample test kit containing three of their Fluorescent Retinoid derivatives.

The synthetic retinoid compounds are both highly stable and highly fluorescent.

Retinoids are very powerful molecules controlling cell proliferation, cell differentiation and cell death. The human body produces and controls extremely small amounts of retinoid at any one time.

Because HFR's retinoid compounds are so fluorescent they can be used as 'visual probes' providing a completely new way of observing drug and biological behaviour without affecting the 'natural way of things'.

If you would like to receive a free Fluorescent Retinoid sample kit please contact Dr Stella James at stellajames@highforceresearch.com

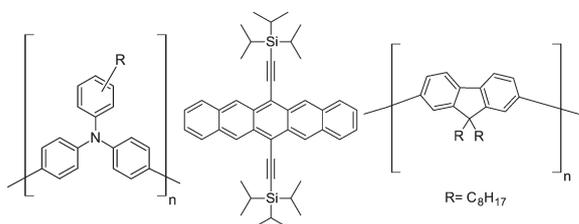


Organic Semiconductors

High Force Research are actively working in the field of organic semiconductor materials.

Over the last few years the company has developed routes to synthesise a wide range of small molecule semiconductor compounds as well as organic semiconducting polymers, all being made to very high purity levels which is very important for materials of this type.

Applications can be found in display backplanes. Organics have many advantages in the thin film transistors (TFT) market including printability, flexibility and CMOS capacity. Applications include: E-paper, LCD or Sensor backplane TFT's from FlexEnable Memory modules from TFE and PARC.



We Love Science

At High Force Research we love science and we want others to love it too.

When we heard about Love Science BOXED we decided this was the sort of thing we could, and should, support. Aimed at encouraging young primary school children to participate in practical science we have donated £1000 to this initiative.

Love Science BOXED provides primary school teachers with exciting, curriculum aligned 'practical' science activities, all fully contained in a box. Teachers no longer have to worry about planning fun and engaging things to do. Furthermore, the risk of missing or broken equipment is removed as everything in the box is new and self-contained.

Says Stella James at High Force Research, "As a mum of two young children myself I can see the value in making science interesting for young people. There are over 25 different box sets with different themes ranging from magnets to matter and light to digestion. The variety of subjects and experiments is fantastic."

For more information see lovescience.co.uk



HFR's New Laboratory Opens

High Force Research has just opened a new 1018sqft laboratory at the Wilton Centre in Redcar, near Middlesbrough.



The Wilton Centre site director, Steve Duffield (L) welcomes High Force Research's Dr Roy Valentine to the Wilton Centre

Located in the heart of the North East chemical industry and sited on a 75-acre world-renowned business and science park, the new fully equipped laboratory features six chemical fume cupboards and advanced research facilities custom designed for chemical development.

There is scope for future expansion at Wilton as the Bowburn facility is at full capacity.

Middlesbrough is home to many chemicals companies including, Huntsman, Chemoxy, Fine Organics and Banner Chemicals Group.

High Force Research's Dr Valentine said, "We will be staffed from day one with full

time chemists based on site, two of whom are newly qualified PhD students from Newcastle University. We are hoping to recruit more chemists in the near future to help with our expansion plans at Wilton.

"The location is great with excellent facilities designed for Chemical Research companies including plentiful parking, a restaurant, gym and open parkland."

He continued, "With around ninety research oriented businesses onsite we feel that the location also provides us with increased networking and collaboration possibilities."

Not too
big...
not too small



HFR specialise in catalytic hydrogenation and we are currently looking at increasing our hydrogenation capabilities in order to provide up to 20L capacity under both non-cGMP and cGMP conditions.

Says director Stuart Penny, "We know many of the bigger chemicals companies operate at very large scales but this is often not appropriate for our clients. We are looking to introduce the new facility shortly and with several expressions of interest expect demand to be high."

High Force Research anticipates strong interest from pharma, biotech and CMO's alike and is encouraging any parties interested in making use of the facility to get in touch.

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