

Member News



Updates on friends and colleagues in the materials community

In Memoriam

TMS offers its condolences to the families, friends, and colleagues of several esteemed members who passed away recently. They will be missed by the TMS family and the materials science and engineering profession that they all served so well.

David R. Gaskell

An exceptionally involved member in the TMS Extraction & Processing Division (EPD), David R. Gaskell passed away on April 7 at the age of 73 in West Lafayette, Indiana. At the time of his death, he was a professor of Metallurgical Engineering at Purdue University, where he had served as a faculty member since 1982. Born in Glasgow, Scotland, Gaskell attended The Royal College of Science and Technology, receiving First Class Honors in Metallurgy and Technical Chemistry for his B.Sc. He then immigrated to Hamilton, Ont., Canada, to pursue his graduate stud-



David R. Gaskell

John S. Kirkaldy

John S. Kirkaldy, named a TMS Fellow in 1990, passed away on April 17 after a long illness. Born in Terrace, British Columbia in 1927, “Jack,” as he was commonly known, went on to pursue a distinguished career as a university professor and scientific researcher. After completing his undergraduate degree in Engineering Physics and a master’s degree in Nuclear Physics at the University of British Columbia, he earned a doctorate in Nuclear Physics at McGill University. He served as a faculty member in the Metallurgy Department at McGill until 1957, when he moved to McMaster University, where he became a founding member of the Department of Metallurgy and Metallurgical Engineering and, later, the Department of Engineering Physics. He held the Steel Company of Canada Chair of Metallurgy from 1966 to 1969. In

ies at McMaster University. His first faculty position was at the University of Pennsylvania, where he taught until he was recruited to Purdue University. He served as the thesis advisor for numerous master’s and Ph.D. degree students, as well as the faculty mentor for dozens of undergraduate student projects.

Gaskell published extensively and his contributions to the field include the textbooks, *Introduction to Metallurgical Thermodynamics*, *An Introduction to the Thermodynamics of Materials*, and *An Introduction to Transport Phenomena in Materials Engineering*. A member of TMS since 1965, he participated on numerous technical and administrative committees, including serving as chair of the EPD Congress in 1990 and 1991.

1967, he was elected president of the Ontario Confederation of Faculty Associations, and from 1969 to 1971, he served on the Wright Commission for post-secondary education in Ontario. During a career spanning more than 40 years, Kirkaldy published more than 250 peer-reviewed academic papers and was recognized by numerous lectureships, medals and other awards, including three honorary doctorates. In addition to being named a Fellow of TMS, Kirkaldy was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, the Canadian Academy of Engineering, the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers, and the American Society for Metals. He was also an honorary member of the Société Française de Métallurgie et de Matériaux.

—Contributed by Jeffrey J. Hoyt,
McMaster University

Kent D. Peaslee

Kent D. Peaslee, the F. Kenneth Iverson Chair of Steelmaking Technology and Curators’ Teaching Professor of Metallurgical Engineering at Missouri University of Science and Technology (Missouri S&T), died unexpectedly on May 17 at the age of 56. Peaslee joined the Missouri S&T faculty as an assistant professor in 1994. Prior to that, he worked in the steel industry for 13 years and was general manager of technical services for Bayou Steel (now ArcelorMittal La-Place). He received his Ph.D. in metallurgical engineering from Missouri S&T, and earned his B.S. in metallurgical engineering from the Colorado School of Mines. Among his many professional contributions, he was the 2012–2013 president of the Association for Iron & Steel Technology.



Kent D. Peaslee

George A. Roberts

George A. Roberts passed away on February 15 at the age of 93 in Dallas, Texas. A 1967 TMS Fellow, he was also a member of the TMS Legion of Honor, recognizing his more than 50 years of active involvement with the society. Earning his B.S., M.S., and D.Sc. degrees from the Carnegie Institute of Technology (now Carnegie Mellon University), Roberts began his career as a metallurgist for Vanadium Alloys Steel, eventually working his way up to president. When the company merged with Teledyne, Inc. in 1966, he was named president and chief executive officer, serving in that capacity until his retirement. He was also a major supporter of science and engineering education and outreach.



George A. Roberts



TMS Member Profiles

Meet a Member: Louise Ramsden-Hare Jumps at the Chance to Skydive

By Lynne Robinson

One of the few things that Louise Ramsden-Hare recalls about her first parachute jump is that she couldn't wait to do it again.

"I think, due to sensory overload, I don't remember too much about actually exiting the plane," she recounts. "I was more excited than nervous, and I laughed with relief to see that my parachute opened just fine. Once I landed, I was hooked."

Since that day, Ramsden-Hare has made more than 300 jumps, saying, "It's my time to myself and just one skydive restores my ability to take on the world." Her world is a very busy one, between working as a product metallurgist at TIMET UK, Waunarlwydd, Wales, and raising twin preschool daughters with her husband, Tom, who also shares her love of skydiving. "I have a strong work/life balance ethic," she said. "If I'm to work hard, I need to play hard, as it helps maintain my focus."

Ramsden-Hare also credits skydiving with shaping her career choices. "I took up skydiving while I was earning

my master's degree, and then throughout my Ph.D. studies. My time spent around planes got me interested in the aerospace industry as a possible career path," she said. "Titanium and its alloys are also very interesting. So when the opportunity at TIMET came up for me—and as a high proportion of the products we make supply the aerospace industry—I felt like I was heading to where I wanted to go."

While many people choose a tandem jump for their first skydiving experience—an instructor is harnessed to you throughout the descent and controls the landing—Ramsden-Hare went for a static line course "so I would be able to continue training if I found out that I really liked it." In a static line jump, the beginner parachutist is trained to manage his or her own landing, but is secured to a line designed to automatically open the parachute upon exit from the aircraft. Ramsden-Hare has since developed her skydiving skills through the Ram Air Progression System of parachute

training, gradually learning the maneuvers necessary to qualify for unassisted free fall jumps. Her current skydiving goals are to "get better at free flying with others, because these are the most fun jumps to do." She eventually looks to become proficient in the maneuvers necessary for flying "head down" so that she can achieve her Freeflying Grade 2 (FF2) qualification from the British Parachute Association. "Each discipline within the sport requires precise and controlled movements," she said. "Such skills can take a while to master, so I keep on going because I'm still progressing and I still feel like there's a lot for me to learn."

A source of inspiration for Ramsden-Hare's skydiving ambitions is Dilys Price, the world's oldest female skydiver, according to the *Guinness Book of World Records*. Ramsden-Hare met Price, now 81, at the skydiving center that they both frequent in Swansea, Wales. "Skydiving is a male-dominated sport so it's refreshing and inspiring for me to meet a woman who doesn't see age as a barrier or a reason to slow down," said Ramsden-Hare. "I've made the resolve that if I've still got my health, then I will also be carrying on skydiving for as long as I can."

While hurtling through the air from 13,000 feet is the epitome of fun for Ramsden-Hare, she notes that it's also important to respect the physical and mental rigors of the sport. "My first time was exciting, but once I knew what I was in for, the fright kicked in—and still makes an appearance every now and then," she said. "I believe this keeps me from being complacent. And, it has also taught me to overcome and control fear."

Each month, *JOM* profiles a TMS member and his or her activities both in and out of the realm of materials science and engineering. To suggest a candidate for this feature, contact Lynne Robinson at lrobinson@tms.org.



(Above Right): Ramsden-Hare and her husband, Tom, in the plane before a jump. (Bottom Left): The Ramsden-Hares in the air. (Above Left, Foreground): Louise Ramsden-Hare comes in for a landing.