

Correspondence

DEAR EDITOR,

Peter Garside's student is certainly in good company with his approximate construction of a regular heptagon in the July 2002 *Gazette* (p. 337). Dan Pedoe in [1, p. 68] notes that it was given by Albrecht Dürer in his treatise on descriptive geometry – published in 1525!

Reference

1. Dan Pedoe, *Geometry and the liberal arts*, Penguin (1976).

Yours sincerely,

NICK LORD

Tonbridge School, Kent TN9 1JP

DEAR EDITOR,

The latest issue of the *Gazette* contained some fascinating items relating to IMOs. However, I am concerned that readers who know little about the history of the MA's involvement in IMO teams may get a distorted impression of what the MA and one or two members did in the early years. Finance was very tight and teams were assembled 'on a shoe string' and their only training was by post. Leaders often paid their own expenses and fares . . .

I am not asking for a history to be published, but simply a brief acknowledgement of the sterling work done by a few members during the years 1963 onwards. Without their efforts, there would be no UK teams in the later years and we would not hold a prominent position in the IMO organisation.

It should not be difficult to assemble data of each year's results and thus give a little more background to UK participation.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN HERSEE

76 Pembroke Road, Bristol BS8 3EG

Editor's note: There is certainly scope for an enterprising author to write a history of this country's involvement in the IMO from an MA perspective. Are there any volunteers out there? Meanwhile, a valuable resource which already exists is the website <http://www.srcf.ucam.org/~jsm28/imo-register> which contains the results of an ongoing project to develop a comprehensive register of UK leaders, deputies and participants in the IMO.