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Editorial

The Fourth Annual *Mathematical Gazette* Writing Awards

I am delighted to say that readers have responded to the *Fourth Annual Mathematical Gazette Writing Awards* in greater numbers than ever before. Once again, almost every article and note received some support, reflecting the wide range of tastes among *Gazette* readers.

Voting was very close in both categories. The leading Article received just over 9% of the votes and the leading Note received just over 8% of the votes. The Articles and Notes receiving 5% or more of the votes were as follows:

1998 Article of the Year

1	Robert M. Young	Probability, pi, and the primes
2	Mark J. Cooker	An extension of Holditch's theorem
3	Alan F. Beardon	Sums of squares of digits
4=	Michael A. B. Deakin & Hans Lausch	The Bible and pi
4=	Chris Pritchard	P. G. Tait and the promotion of quaternions
4=	Ian Tweddle	The prickly genius – Colin MacLaurin
6	Tony Gardiner	A partial comparison between O level & GCSE

1998 Note of the Year

1	Robert J. Clarke	82.48	The quadratic equation formula
2	Chris Jagger	82.54	The independence game
3=	Mark Harvey	82.52	Ever decreasing circles and inversion
3=	Alan H. Rapoport	82.23	Birthday problems – a search for elementary solutions

I congratulate all the authors listed above, especially Robert M. Young and Robert J. Clarke, to whom I have sent prizes and certificates. I also thank all readers who voted.

The prize draw winner was Barry Martin of Aston University, who will receive the book *Mathematics of the Nineteenth Century*, edited by A. N. Kolmogorov and A. P. Yushkevich.

STEVE ABBOTT