



© 1997–2009, Millennium Mathematics Project, University of Cambridge.

Permission is granted to print and copy this page on paper for non-commercial use. For other uses, including electronic redistribution, please contact us.

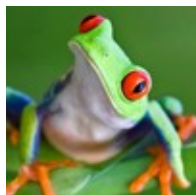
---

June 2009  
Issue 51

We are proud to present the winners of the *Plus* New Writers Award 2009. The winners were chosen by our three judges: David Spiegelhalter, Winton Professor for the Public Understanding of Risk at the University of Cambridge, Geoffrey Carr, Science Editor of *The Economist*, and Julian Havil, mathematics author and retired mathematics teacher.

### Secondary school category

#### Winner



#### Beauty in mathematics

**Surein Aziz** explores one of the most beautiful equations in mathematics

#### Runner-up



#### The expression that (nearly) explained the Universe

**Sophie Butchart** finds mysterious patterns in the solar system

### University category

#### Winner



#### How maths killed Lehman Brothers

**Horatio Boedihardjo** explains the credit crunch

#### Runner-up



#### Thinking outside the box

**Sonia Buckley** travels through higher dimensions

General public category

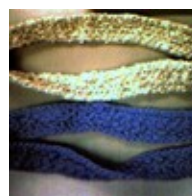
**Winner**



The Carol syndrome

**José-Manuel Rey** unveils the curse of attractiveness

**Runner-up**



Knitting by numbers

**Lucinda Mathews** visualises tricky surfaces



*Plus* would like to thank the Maths, Stats and Operational Research Network and the journal Nature for their kind support of this competition.

[Back to issue 51 contents](#)

---



*Plus* is part of the family of activities in the Millennium Mathematics Project, which also includes the NRICH and MOTIVATE sites.