

Positive Spin – Newsletter #8

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The newsletter of: **ISMRM | British & Irish**

CHAPTER

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New Chapter in Our History - and Help Wanted!

As you see from our new logo, we have changed our name to the **British and Irish Chapter of the ISMRM**. Members from Ireland have always been a welcome part of our Chapter, but now our name better reflects their inclusion. **Science has no border down the Irish Sea.** Join us in recruiting members from Northern Ireland and the Republic – we are particularly keen to have them represented on the Committee.

The Committee, which met at the Sheffield conference in September, is undergoing some notable changes. **Penny Gowland will be stepping down** as Chair in December after 3 years of service, but we are pleased to announce that **Po-Wah So will replace her**.

We are delighted to announce that we also have **a new Secretary**: thank you to **Harish Poptani** for taking on this role.

Mary McLean is also due to step down in December as Newsletter Editor. **We need lively people to volunteer to join the Chapter committee.** We would probably expect people joining the committee to be full members of ISMRM or SMRT with more than 15 years of postgrad experience in science, and we need

people who are happy to take on specific roles (with related responsibilities) within the committee.

Other topics discussed at the Committee meeting include Environmental Sustainability and other topics below.

Mansfield Research Innovation Awards

Got an abstract submitted for Sydney 2020? If so, then you might be eligible to apply for a **Mansfield Research Innovation Award**.

These awards, generously funded by Siemens, aim to help enable travel to the conference for people who are too senior to qualify as trainees but who do not yet have their own grants. If you fall into this category, then send a copy of your abstract to po-wah.so@kcl.ac.uk. Decisions will be made on funding soon after the abstract acceptances are sent out by the parent society. Congratulations to the winners of the Mansfield Research Innovation awards for Montreal 2019:



Aurelien Bustin, KCL

Lars Mueller, Cardiff

Marco Battiston, UCL (runner up)

Kanishka Sharma, Leeds (runner up)

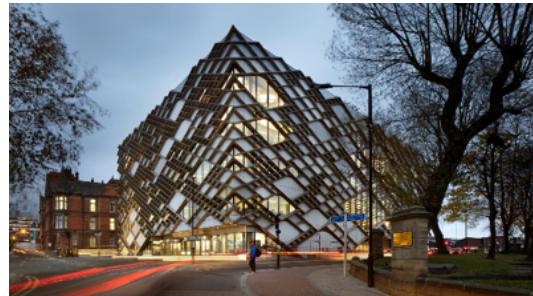
Maryam Afzali, Cardiff (runner up)

Nur Hayati Jasmin, UCL (runner up)

Sheffield Silver - British Chapter 25th Annual Meeting, September 2019, University of Sheffield



The
University
Of
Sheffield.



Our 25th Annual Meeting had 192 attendees and had something for everyone, including a **spoon of Sheffield steel** to take away as a memento. One workshop focused on every aspect of hyperpolarized gases, and another on High Field. Historians got a great overview of the 25-year life of the Chapter from co-founder John Griffiths. Our **conference dinner at Kelham Island** satisfied the steam punk in all of us, with a demonstration of the world's largest functioning steam engine, and it satisfied the punk punk in us too with a cracking concert from **MR musicians Blackhill Barrow Boys**.

Send over your photos from Sheffield and past conferences to Po (po-wah.so@kcl.ac.uk) and she will make them available on the website!

Special congratulations to the University of Sheffield organising committee for putting on a great show, and to award winners:

Barbara Dymerska, UCL (Mansfield Prize for Best Oral Presentation)

Christopher Philip, University of Nottingham (Griffiths Prize for Best Pre-Clinical Presentation)

Michael Berks, University of Manchester (Power Pitch Winner)

Stephen Bawden, University of Nottingham (Power Pitch Runner Up)

Olivier Mougin, University of Nottingham (Poster Winner)

Jennifer Lewis, University of York (Poster Runner Up)



Tech Spot

The SMRT are establishing a British and Irish Division to partner with our Chapter. A **working group of MR Radiographers** - Adam Scotson, Rhys Slough, Jon Campbell and Ben Statton, organised an inaugural satellite meeting held in Sheffield during the British Chapter Annual Meeting. **Ben Statton was selected as the acting SMRT British and Irish Division Representative** until the formal executive committee is elected.

This SMRT working group, with assistance from Peter Hobden at Cardiff University, are working hard to organise a full day meeting to run alongside the

BIC-ISMRM meeting in Cardiff in September 2020.

If you work with or know any MR radiographers please encourage them to sign up to the SMRT British Division mailing list here:

<http://eepurl.com/gGsL7n> or even better, become a member of the SMRT here:

<https://www.ismrm.org/smrt/membership/>

Upcoming meetings

Postgrad Meeting 2020 - UCL Institute of Child Health, London, UK

Mark your calendars for our popular free annual Postgrad Meeting on **6th April 2020**. The hosts at UCL's CABI have booked the Kennedy Lecture Theatre and the Winter Garden social space! If you want to help out with the organization, contact c.perera@ucl.ac.uk. The call for submissions and registration will go out early in the New Year.



In-Utero MRI 2020 workshop - St. Anne's College, Oxford, UK

This 2.5-day program will cover all aspects of In-Utero MRI from technical challenges to clinical studies with a great group of international speakers. Registration:

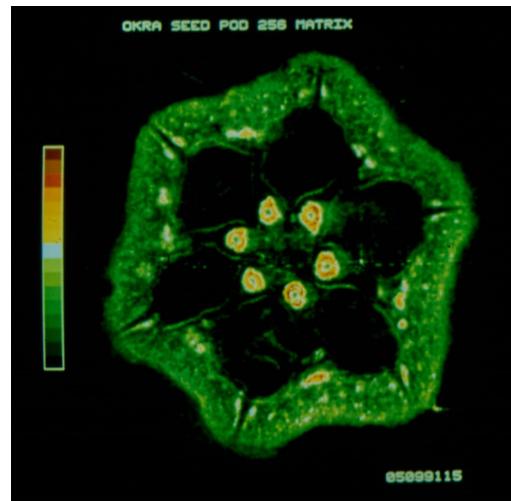
<https://estore.kcl.ac.uk/conferences-and-events/academic-faculties/faculty-of-life-sciences-medicine/school-of-biomedical-engineering-and-imaging-sciences/inutero-mri-workshop-2020>

Opening up the MRI archive collections at the University of Nottingham

Manuscripts and Special Collections at the University of Nottingham have recently completed a Wellcome funded project to catalogue and



selectively digitise the papers of Professor Sir Peter Mansfield, along with other scientists involved in the development of MRI at Nottingham. Come to a workshop which will introduce the collections to researchers and encourage discussion of potential research projects, Thursday 9 January 2019, King's Meadow Campus, University of Nottingham.



Booking by
Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/opening-up-the-mri-archive-research-workshop-tickets-79507391749>

Members' News

We're sorry to report the death of Ian Young, a pioneer in clinical MRI, on 27th September.

Ian's group was the first to image the brain of patients with multiple sclerosis and to demonstrate a decisive clinical advantage for MRI over state-of-the-art CT, in 1981. When MR contrast agents became available for clinical use in 1984, they were the first group to describe applications.



They pioneered the use of many sequences used today, such as FLAIR and susceptibility weighted imaging. A full obituary can be found on the Chapter website (at the bottom of the Society information page on the BIC-ISMRM website)

New Initiative and Public Engagement Fund

Got an idea for a workshop, training course or study group? Send us a

proposal, and we might agree to provide up to £2000 towards the costs. For more details, go **here** (link to <http://www.ismrm.org/chapters/british-chapter/british-chapter-society-information/>)

Make Your Claim!

As part of submitting abstracts to ISMRM you may well have just paid out to re-join the international society. If you personally are liable for this, you can reclaim it as an "allowable professional expense" from HMRC as ISMRM and BIC-ISMRM are recognised professional bodies. This lets you get the value of it added to your personal tax allowance, i.e. money back in kind. To do so, you need to either (a) claim online (link <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-income-tax-relief-for-your-employment-expenses-p87>) or (b) write a letter to HMRC with form P87, a letter stating that you are a professional person wishing to claim back membership of the British Chapter of the ISMRM and a receipt. As they say, every little helps!

Jobs & More

Postdoc MR Physicist/Image Analyst at the Hammersmith campus of Imperial College London. The post-holder will use new 1.5T Siemens Aera and 3T Siemens Prisma systems in a diverse portfolio of studies including MR fingerprinting, oxygen-enhanced MRI, 31P spectroscopy, 4D flow, exercise CMR, 3D ASL, as well as task and resting state fMRI studies. Deadline 5 Jan. <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/jobs/description/MED01584/mr-physicist-medical-image-analyst>

We have a post-doc position available to expand our work on computational simulations of **diffusion MR in the heart at Imperial College and the Royal Brompton Hospital, London.** The post is funded by the British Heart Foundation for 2.5 years and the holder will work between Aeronautics (Professor Denis Doorly) and the CMR Unit/National Heart and Lung Institute at the Royal Brompton (Scott, Firmin, Nielles-Vallespin, Ferreira, Pennell). For more information, contact Dr. Scott (a.scott07@imperial.ac.uk) and/or Professor Doorly (d.doorly@imperial.ac.uk) for more information. Deadline 26 Jan. <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/jobs/description/ENG01090/research-assistant-associate-computational-modelling-cardiac-diffusion-tensor-imaging/>.

One of us... One of us... Join the British and Irish Chapter

Our community is growing, but we are still short of the total number of ISMRM members with work addresses in the UK. If you aren't already a member of the Chapter, **please join** now (it's free!):

<https://goo.gl/forms/VH5Lavy49QCCp38m2>

And finally... from the Editors

Thanks again for reading! And, massive thanks to everyone who contributed to this issue's newsletter.

If you want to be featured in the newsletter, or you've got news for us, send us an email:

newsletter@ismrm.org.uk

Mary McLean (University of Cambridge)

Nikou Damestani (KCL)

Charith Perera (UCL)

Photo credits: Sir Peter Mansfield - nobelprize.org, University of Sheffield logo and buildings - sheffield.ac.uk, 25th Anniversary Spoon - courtesy of Prof. Jim Wild, UCL - ucl.ac.uk, MRI archive images - blogs.nottingham.ac.uk, Ian Young - courtesy of Graeme Bidder

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