

Positive Spin – Newsletter #6

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Postgraduate BC-ISMRM 2019 in Birmingham!



Preparations are in hand for our ever-popular free Annual Postgrad Meeting, which will be held in Birmingham on April 5th 2019. New features include **How to Be a Kind Scientist: A Workshop**.

We will also be selecting your next **Student Observer** at the event, please contact bcismrm@gmail.com if you would like to nominate yourself, including why you think you would be best suited for the role. Nominees will then present a 2-3 minute talk at the postgrad event to win your votes!

Abstracts submission is now open, please email a 1-page document in word or PDF format to pgbcismrm2019@gmail.com by **8th February 2019**. This

should include the authors and their affiliations, an introduction, methods, results, discussion and conclusions, with one or two figures.

The Sheffield Silver - BC-ISMIRM's 25th Anniversary!

Our celebratory **25th Annual Meeting** will be based in the Diamond building at the University of Sheffield, Sept 16-18, 2019. Mark your calendars for what promises to be a special anniversary. Highlights are planned to include a '**steamy**' **banquet dinner** at the Kelham Island Museum, and a **half-day workshop** on how-to-do human hyperpolarised (especially lung) imaging.



The **abstract deadline will be in the summer** – more detailed information will be coming in the new year.

Stage Ambitions?

Another initiative for our **silver anniversary year** will be a spot at the **Cheltenham Science Festival in June 2020**. If you have an interest in community outreach, science communication, or just hamming it up in front of an audience, why not **join a team showcasing MRI and BC-ISMIRM?**



You can email an expression of interest to bcismrm@gmail.com, and/or discuss it in person at the

Postgrad meeting in April. A decision on the project and team to put forward will be announced in summer 2019.

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](#).

A Trip Down Memory Lane... in Oxford

We had another successful annual meeting in Oxford in September: many thanks to the local organizing team led by **Damian Tyler**. The Bill Moore Lecture was given by Joseph Ackerman, from Washington University in St Louis, with memories of his time in the UK. The Half-Day workshop on molecular imaging featured up-close demos of hyperpolarized ^{13}C and CEST.

The Mansfield award went to **Mary Neal** and the Griffiths award to **Jack Wells**, with honourable mentions for orals to **Tobias Wood**, **Amy Howard** and **Liam Young**. The prizes for best power pitch went to **Istvan Huszar** (runner up **Tony Zhou**) and for best poster to **Kanishka Sharma** (runner up **Manal Alosaimi**). Social highlights included a Murder Mystery Tour organized by **Kerstin Timm** and won by the team of **Pete Thelwall**, **Mary Neal**, **Samantha Paterson** and **Sam Keaveney**.



Tribute to Jim Hutchinson

by **Tom Redpath**, University of Aberdeen

Professor **James “Jim” Hutchinson**, one of the **true pioneers of MRI**, passed away on 4th September at the age of 77. In 1973, as a researcher at University of Aberdeen working with Prof John Mallard, Jim built a small-scale NMR imaging device, using a **0.06T permanent magnet**, and produced images of a dead mouse – a considerable achievement at the time.

With funding from the MRC, work then began on **construction of a whole-body “NMR imaging” system**, the Aberdeen Mark-1. Jim designed the magnet, which was built by Oxford Instruments, and he designed and built most of the electronics. Images were poor until, in 1979, Jim and **his American post-doc Bill Edelstein** invented the **“spin-warp” technique** (phase encoding), which improved image quality dramatically and greatly reduced the time needed to form an image.



Good images through the human abdomen were obtained in August 1980, and the **Aberdeen Mark-1 became the world's first modern whole-body MRI scanner.**

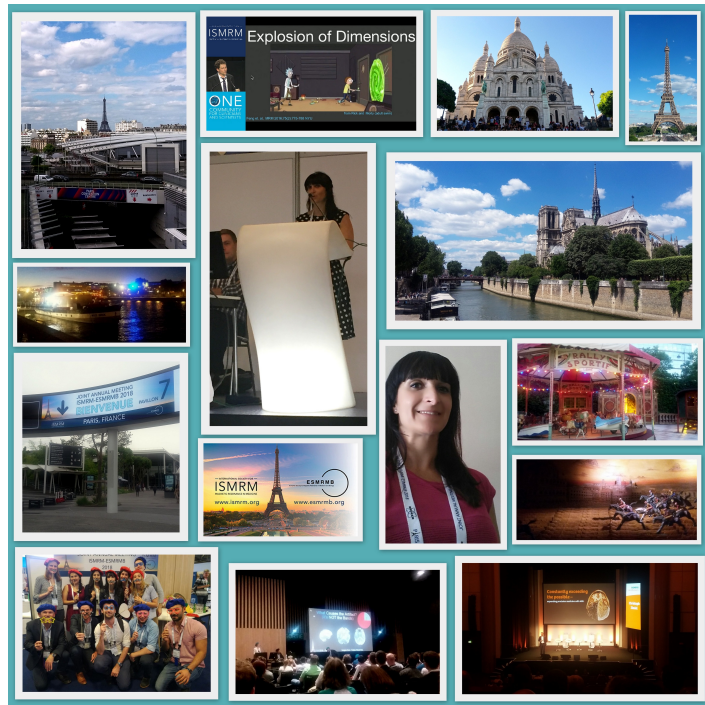
Jim was my PhD supervisor and I couldn't have asked for a better one. **He was a dedicated and brilliant scientist** and is, and will continue to be, greatly missed by his family, friends, colleagues and by his many former PhD students.

Members' News – MRI Award Winner

by **Teresa Correia**,
King's College London

Thanks to the British

Chapter and the **Mansfield Research Innovation Award**, I had the opportunity to attend and present my work at the ISMRM-ESMRMB 2018 meeting in Paris. This meeting presents a unique opportunity to showcase research, network with other ISMRM members and learn what's new in MR.



There were a lot of interesting sessions during the meeting. I particularly enjoyed the educational sessions, the member-initiated symposium on the “Future of Cardiac MRI”, the educational “MRI Artefacts Game show” and Miki Lustig’s NIBIB New Horizons Lecture (and cartoon impersonations of Rick and Morty).

It was also fantastic to talk to everyone that seemed to have enjoyed the work I presented in a scientific session and power pitch session. In the evening, there were lots of excellent opportunities for spotting “MR celebrities” and networking, such as Corporate members’ seminars and meetings, the amazing closing party at Pavillons de Bercy and MRM highlights boat party.

Finally, I could not leave Paris without seeing some of the most notable monuments, like the Eiffel Tower and Notre-dame cathedral. I look forward to meeting new and old friends next year in Montréal!

Peter Mansfield on Beer Mats – and on the Money?

Not only can you now **drink a pint of Peter Mansfield**, but in the future you may even be able to use him to pay for the round of drinks itself! He is one of the British scientists nominated to be **featured on the**

upcoming renewed [£50 note](#).

However, he faces stiff competition from the likes of Stephen Hawking and Dorothy Hodgkin. The final decision will be made by a committee at the Bank of England.

Food as well as drink has been developed in his honour, as viewers of the [Great British Menu](#) found out in September – go to 10:40.



News from your Committee

The committee met in London on 29 Nov. **Geoff Parker** is stepping down as Treasurer after many years of service, and **David Buckley** has been selected to replace him in this role. **Harish Poptani** has agreed to serve as our Ethnic Diversity and Inclusion Officer, and **Jack Miller** was welcomed as our new postdoc representative.

When we circulated the by-laws some eagle-eyed members noticed that we represent people from both Britain and Ireland. We are clearly not representing Ireland very well and so we are now also now seeking a committee member from Eire. We're also planning to include a radiographer representative: nominations (including self-nominations) are welcome for these positions, as well as for other new members of the committee. Email bcismrm@gmail.com.

The HMRC has now recognized ISMRM as a Learned Society, so if you file a UK tax return you can claim an exemption on your membership payments. Thanks to postdoctoral representative **Jack Miller** for sorting this out!

At our meeting we reviewed past conferences and discussed plans for the future, including options for improving sustainability and expanding involvement from more sectors of the community. Watch this space!

Finally, now that our Chapter is about to become an official antique, we're looking for someone to catalogue (and dust?) the antiquities. Volunteers to take on the role of **Archivist** email bcismrm@gmail.com. Also, if anyone has abstract books from the early meetings of the British Chapter and would be willing to donate them to the general archive contact bcismrm@gmail.com

Facebook, Twitter and redesigning our website

Search for **British Chapter of the ISMRM**, join in, and post any news items, pictures, or other bits of gossip you think might interest us.

You can also spread the word on Twitter using the hashtag **#bcismrm**. Additionally, plans are afoot to update our website (www.ismrm.org.uk), and **volunteers would be greatly welcome!** This would look great on a CV!

We also now have a **Slack channel** under **#bcismrm**, which has subgroups for each field and a group for postgraduates to relay their requests to the Student Observer. We will send around a link to join around the time of Postgrad BC-ISMRM.

Jobs & More

[2-year postdoc on image-guided therapy](#) and image analysis at the Institute of Cancer Research, Sutton. Deadline 15 Dec, enquiries to Prof N. deSouza, 0208 661 3119.

[PhD studentship](#) on human applications of hyperpolarized ¹³C at Cambridge University starting Oct 2019. Deadline 17 Dec 2018. For informal enquiries about this studentship or upcoming postdoc positions in the group, contact Ferdia Gallagher, fag1000@cam.ac.uk

[2-year postdoc](#) on multi-modality image processing at the University of Westminster, London, deadline 22 Dec 2018. Enquiries to Prof Jimmy Bell, j.bell@westminster.ac.uk

2 PhD studentships in preclinical cardiovascular imaging at University of Liverpool starting Oct 2019. For informal enquiries contact Harish Poptani, harish.poptani@liverpool.ac.uk. Link to studentships descriptions are [here](#) and [here](#).

One of us... One of us... Join the British 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)

Tom Roberts (KCL)

Photo credits: Birmingham University – Wikipedia, Sheffield peaks - Iain Wilkinson, Cheltenham Festival - UK FameLab (Flickr), Jim Hutchinson - University of Aberdeen via Tom Redpath, BC-ISMRM 2018 - Jack Miller, ISMRM montage - Teresa Correia , Beer mat - Matthew Clemence

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