

Positive Spin – Newsletter #1

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Message from the Chair

Welcome to the inaugural newsletter of the British Chapter of ISMRM. Everyone involved hopes you find it interesting and a useful resource over the years to come.

The British Chapter of ISMRM represent the scientists and clinicians who work in MR research in the UK and Ireland. We aim to build a sense of community, and disseminate research and enhance training by organising conferences. We also represent the community nationally and lobby on your behalf on issues such as safety legislation and the reporting of incidental findings. To do this, we need to be able to clearly say who we represent. Therefore, we need to update the BC-ISMRM membership list regularly – so please see below to see how you can renew your membership.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank David Gadian, who has just stepped down after chairing the BC-ISMRM very wisely for a number of years. He's still willing to help out, which is great news for me! I would also like to thank Mary McLean and Tom Roberts for co-editing this newsletter.



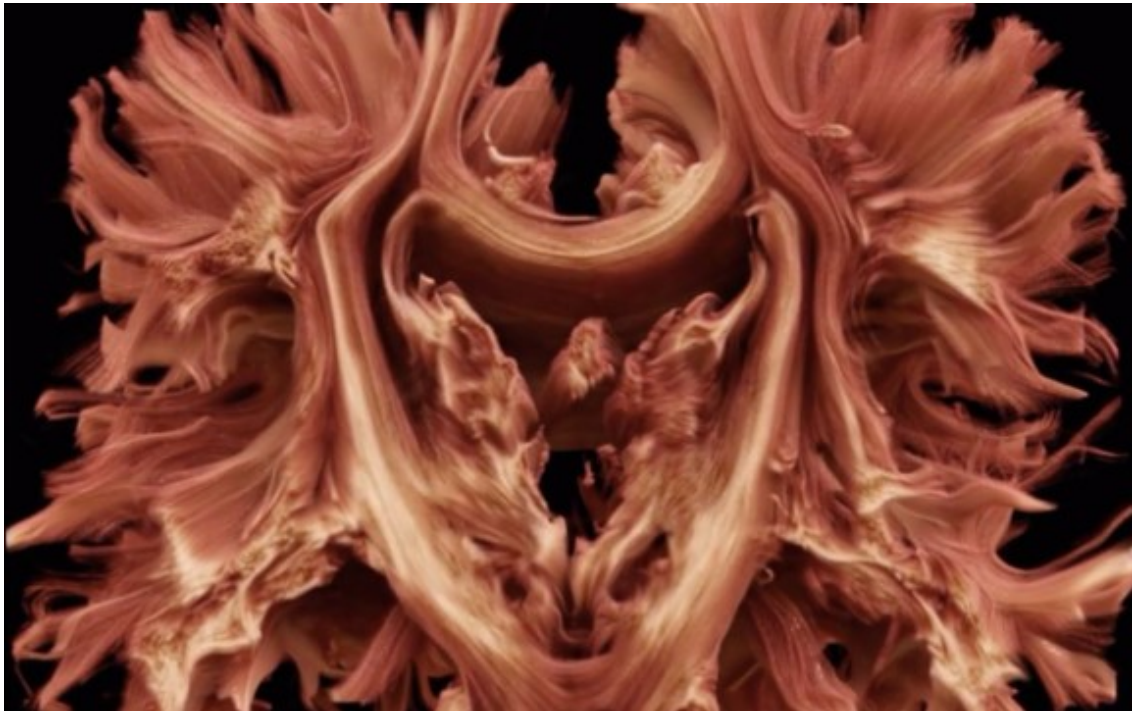
Finally, I would like to thank all the committee members for their work to ensure the BC-ISMRM is at the centre of our community, and thanks to all of you for doing the top quality work that gives British MR its strong international reputation.

Penny Gowland

University of Nottingham

Upcoming Meetings

Save the dates now – in 2017 the British Chapter community is hosting not one, not two, but three meetings, including a brand new, unmissable diffusion meeting hosted in Cardiff at the new National Microstructure Imaging Centre. Details below...



A Spin Thro' The History of Restricted Diffusion MR – 31st January-1st February – Cardiff

The National Microstructure Imaging Facility, in CUBRIC, Cardiff is hosting a unique meeting assembling some of the real movers and shakers (pun intended) in the history of the use of MR to study restricted diffusion. Confirmed speakers include:

Day 1: John Tanner, Jörg Kärger, Janez Stepišnik, Yang Xia, Sarah Codd, Yoram Cohen, Denis Le Bihan, Mike Moseley, Peter Basser, Christian Beaulieu.

Day 2: Thomas Witzel, Nikolas Weiskopf, Greg Stanisz, Yaniv Assaf, Gary Zhang, Sune Jespersen, Dmitry Novikov, Els Fieremans, Juergen

Finsterbusch, Noam Shemesh, Mark Does, Ivana Drobnjak, Filip Szczepankiewicz

Attendance will be limited and will be on a first-come, first served basis (details to be announced shortly). However, we have secured 20 guaranteed free places (value £100 each) for Student/Post-doc members of the British Chapter, with a free ticket to the banquet (in Cardiff Castle on 31st January) thrown in (you only pay travel and accommodation).

Interested? **Please email: cubric@cardiff.ac.uk** with the subject 'Diffusion Conference'; your name; a 50-word statement on why you think you should get a place; and a message of support from your supervisor. Deadline: 23rd December 2016.



Post Grad ISMRM 2017 – 24th March – London

PG-BC-ISMRM 2016 was such a hit that we're returning to The Tower at Guy's Hospital for the 2017 edition! The call for abstracts will go out soon. As mentioned below, we are looking for abstract reviewers, so please get in touch if you want to get involved.



BC-ISMRM 2017 – 11-13th September – Liverpool

Two-and-a-half action-packed days of scientific meeting. The half-day will be split between the annual 7T network meeting and an exciting symposium on regenerative medicine. There will also be an unforgettable evening at the world-famous Cavern Club – the birthplace of The Beatles!



Abstract reviewers wanted!

Trainees are now being invited to get involved in the abstract reviewing process for both our annual meetings. You would need to be able to review abstracts at short notice in the spring and summer. Membership of the panel will be for one year. The application deadline is 14th February 2017. **Email Po-Wah (po-wah.so@kcl.ac.uk)** with your name, host institution, stage of training and area(s) of expertise, to ensure we cover all bases. If we have too many, applicants will be selected by lottery!



Membership Renewal!

Please renew your membership with the British Chapter. For the princely sum of £0.00, membership represents amazing value and what else can you get for free in this world? It takes about one minute. Have your ISMRM membership number available (if you have one) and [fill in the form here](#). **Everyone needs to re-register**, but students who joined in 2016 do **not** need to provide a new letter of support from their supervisor.

News from your Committee

The committee of the British Chapter of ISMRM met on 7th December. Many topics were discussed, so we've boiled it down for you:

- We are looking for a **new trainee member to join the committee**. The new member will be chosen at the PG-BC-ISMRM meeting in March (see above). It's a great opportunity to represent your peer-group and influence the direction of the British Chapter. **If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Po-Wah (po-wah.so@kcl.ac.uk)**. The application deadline is 14th March 2017.
- Given the great talent available in our community, changes were proposed to the BC-ISMRM bylaws, limiting the term of committee members to a maximum of 2 consecutive 3-year terms (unless serving as one of the officers). Ratification of these changes will be discussed at the AGM at the September BC-ISMRM meeting in Liverpool.

- Current committee membership includes: Penny Gowland (chair), Andrew Blamire (secretary), Geoff Parker (treasurer), Derek Jones, Mark Lythgoe, Adam Waldman, Ian Marshall, Scott Reid, Kumar Changani, Nicola Sibson, Po-Wah So, Mary McLean (Newsletter coordinator), David Buckley, Harish Poptani, Graham Kemp and Devasuda Anblagan (post. doc. rep.).

Members' News

Prof John Griffiths, the founder and first Chairman (1994-2000) of the British Chapter and a Gold and Silver Medalist of ISMRM, retired in March. After medical training at Bart's Hospital and a DPhil at Oxford with George Radda, he founded the Cancer MR group at St George's Hospital in the early 1980s. John retains an office in the Cancer Research UK Cambridge Institute and continues many activities as a scientist and an editor of NMR in Biomedicine. He and Paul Bottomley have recently co-edited the 1200-page *Handbook of Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy In Vivo*, which will be published during December.



Calling Corporate Sponsors

As usual, we need sponsorship to enable us to keep the trainee meeting totally free for attendees. As a new initiative, we're offering the top 6 contributors the chance to make 5-minute pitches to delegates at PG-BC-ISMRM in March (see above for more details).

Advertise jobs at your company, show-off your products or just boast about how great you are. For you overseas corporations, the post-Brexit slump in the pound means that sponsoring a meeting here has never been better value!

Contact Po-Wah for more information: po-wah.so@kcl.ac.uk.

Job Listings

British Heart Foundation funded PhD Studentship – Cardiac MRI –

Royal Brompton Hospital, London

Closing date: 16th January 2017

[Click here for more information](#)

Want to advertise here? Email us your job listings: newsletter@ismrm.org.uk



Zoom In On...

From Aberdeen to Yeovil... In our next issue, we will begin a series of spots focused on prominent groups in the MR field. If you'd like your group to be profiled, please send a short description (around 200 words) of your group's research interests and highlights (with pictures!) to newsletter@ismrm.org.uk by 1st March 2017. We expect you in droves, but if nobody comes forward, the editors might pick someone and make stuff up.



Twitter, Facebook and ismrm.org.uk

Share fun images, videos, or whatever catches your (loosely work-related) fancy on Twitter with the hashtag **#bcismrm**.

Join our Facebook page
[@ISMRMBritishChapter](https://www.facebook.com/ISMRMBritishChapter).

And don't forget to check our website: www.ismrm.org.uk for news, job postings and meeting updates throughout the year.

PG-BC-ISMRM 2016 Report

On 1st April 2016, 140 members of the community gathered at Guy's Hospital Tower in London for a day of talks, posters and fun. A plethora of MR research was on show: from brain to pelvis, molecules to whole body, fMRI to MRS, ageing to cancer – all presented with a vast array of acronyms!

This year's 1st prize winners were:

- Oral – Greg Parker (Cardiff)
- Poster – Ben Tendler (Nottingham)
- Power Presentation – Mark Graham (University College London)



BC-ISMRM 2016 Report

The 2016 meeting in Leeds was a successful and enjoyable event. 141 people attended the pre-meeting workshops (on PET-MRI image reconstruction and the first UK 7T Network ultra-high field symposium) and 111 delegates joined us at the main meeting. Generous support from our sponsors enabled the award of 27 student stipends. The Bill Moore lecture was given by Richard Bowtell, with invited talks by Karla Miller, Dow-Mu Koh, Robert Muller, Sue Francis, Stefan Neubauer and Mark Lythgoe.

This year's prize winners were

- Sir Peter Mansfield prize – Thomas Okell (FMRIB, Oxford)
- British Chapter prize – Dragana Savic (Oxford).



And finally... from the Editors

If you got this far, thanks for reading! We intend to send Positive Spin 3 to 4 times per year. Our aim is to foster a greater sense of community within the British Chapter. We want you to use this newsletter as a platform for distributing news about your group, publicising an upcoming event you are hosting, or anything else that may be of interest to the UK MR community. To this end, we want your news items, photos and beautiful MR images to make this newsletter even better, as well as any general feedback. We've got some ideas tucked-up our sleeves, but we're keen to get interaction from the wider community. So, drop us email on:

newsletter@ismrm.org.uk

Mary McLean (University of Cambridge)

Tom Roberts (UCL CABI)

Photo credit: Craig Oppenheimer – Abstract reviewers wanted!

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