

New Year MBE for Derek Raine



Congratulations to RAS Fellow Dr Derek Raine who became a Member of the Order of the British Empire in the 2012 New Year Honours list. Dr Raine, who is Director of the Physics Innovations Centre for Excellence in Teaching at the University of Leicester, receives the MBE in recognition of his services to science education.

New Saturday Library dates

The London Olympics and the Queen's Golden Jubilee have led the Society to change planned Saturday openings of the RAS Library in Burlington House.

These major events will bring extra visitors to the capital, with the possibility of transport difficulties, so the Library will now not be open on any Saturday during August, and the June opening will be on 9 June.

The dates for Saturday openings during 2012 are: 4 February, 3 March, 7 April, 5 May, 9 June, 7 July, 1 September, 6 October, 3 November, 1 December.

The Saturday openings are opportunities for those who cannot visit in the week. Groups and societies are also welcome. Any visitors wishing to see specific items should contact the Librarian in advance, because parts of the collection are stored in other buildings.

<http://www.ras.org.uk/library>



The background to this photo from 1862 may be fake, but it records an adventurous team who nearly lost their lives in the interests of science when they ascended to 37000 feet without oxygen to measure cloud profiles. James Glaisher (right) was a pioneer meteorologist, while the pilot was Henry Coxwell. The photograph is from the RAS picture archive.

NEWS IN BRIEF

New way to pay fees

Fellows who normally pay their RAS membership fees by credit or debit card can now use a secure online payment system that is both quicker and easier to use. Fellows who usually use cards to pay their fees have been sent an email with details of the new payment system. There is no change for Fellows who pay by direct debit. All Fellows have also been sent a renewal letter by post. Membership of the RAS can cost just £1 (for registered students) and brings benefits such as discounted books, reduced rates for subscriptions to the Society's journals and free access to Specialist Discussion Meetings. Contact the RAS Membership Secretary Fern Storey for details or see the website.

<http://www.ras.org.uk/membership>

NEW FELLOWS

The following were elected Fellows of the Society on 9 December 2011:

Christopher Aldred, Sutton, Surrey.
David Ashmore, School of Geosciences, University of Aberdeen.
Nicholas Attree, School of Mathematical Sciences, Queen Mary University of London.
Dr Robert Bingham, School of Geosciences, University of Aberdeen.
Prof. Eric Blackman, Dept of Physics & Astronomy, University of Rochester, Rochester NY, USA.
Shannon Bohle, St Edmund's College, University of Cambridge.
Angela Burden, Institute of Cosmology & Gravitation, Portsmouth University.
Rosemary Cave, School of Mathematical Sciences, Queen Mary University of London.
John Chapman-Smith, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire.
Dr Geoffrey Cottrell, Oxford.
Grace Cox, Leeds.
Nathan Dickinson, Leicester.
Amy Dobson, Newcastle-Under-Lyme, Staffordshire.
Dr Alexander Dunford, Brighton.
Jon Emery, Southsea, Hampshire.
Lauren Fletcher, Oriel College, Oxford.
Pasquale Galianni, School of Physics & Astronomy, University of St Andrews.
Gordon Gibb, Mathematical Institute, University of St Andrews.
Dr Neale Gibson, Dept of Physics (Astrophysics), University of Oxford.
Edward Gillen, Oriel College,

University of Oxford.

Daniel Grant, Harlow, Essex.

Dr James Hammond, London.

Raphaëlle Haywood, School of Physics and Astronomy, University of St Andrews.

Dr Wynn Ho, School of Mathematics, University of Southampton.

Hsiang-Fu Huang, University College London.

Matthew Hull, Hove, Sussex.

Dr Ian Huston, School of Physics and Astronomy, Queen Mary University of London.

Dr Jessica Irving, Cambridge.

Dr Aiyub Khan, Dept of Mathematics & Statistics, Jai Narain Vyas University, Jodhpur, India.

Dr Marcus Lohr, Dept of Physical Sciences, The Open University, Milton Keynes.

Kira Lorber, University College London.

William Lucas, School of Physics and Astronomy, University of St Andrews.

Gleb Lukicov, London.

Karen Lythgoe, Bullard Labs, University of Cambridge.

David Mackie, Walthamstow, London.

Dr Kate Maguire, Dept of Physics (Astrophysics), University of Oxford.

John Mallett, Lydney, Gloucestershire.

Dr Ilya Mandel, School of Physics & Astronomy, University of Birmingham.

Gabriel Marinello, Preston, Lancashire.

Lynton McLain, Chiswick, London.

Dr Paul McMillan, Rudolf Peierls Centre for Theoretical Physics, University of Oxford.

Mohit Melwani Daswani, Milton Keynes.

Calum Meredith, Dept Physics & Astronomy, University of Leicester.
Ayan Mitra, Brighton.

Kirthika Narasimhan, Mullard Space Science Laboratory, Surrey.

Andreas Nilsson, Liverpool.

Lyndsay Old, Nottingham.

Jack O'Malley-James, St Andrews, Fife.
Elvis Onovughe, Dept of Earth & Ocean Sciences, University of Liverpool.

Osman Orhun Ozsan, London.

Andreas Papadopoulos, Portsmouth.

Richard Passmore, Atmospheric, Oceanic & Planetary Physics, University of Oxford.

Dr David Pinfield, Centre for Astrophysics Research, University of Hertfordshire.

Prof. Frederic Pont, University of Exeter.

T G Priya, Kodaikanal Observatory, Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Tamilnadu State, India.

Nowreen Priyanka, London.

Dr Julian Rose, Dept Electronic & Electrical Eng., University of Bath.

Prof. Maurizio Salaris, Astrophysics Research Institute, Liverpool John Moores University.

Dr Klara Schure, Clarendon Laboratory, University of Oxford.

Aarran Shaw, Leeds.

Shravan Shetty, Hertford College, Oxford.

Adam Stevens, Robert Hooke Building, Open University, Milton Keynes.

Krzysztof Suberlak, St Hugh's College, Oxford.

Aleksi Suutarinen, Glasgow.

Christopher Taylor, Banbury, Oxon.

Simon Thomas, Reading.

Graham Thompson, Letchworth Garden City, Hertfordshire.

Benjamin Thompson, Barnoldswick, Lancashire.

Isabel Thomson, Cumbernauld, Glasgow.

Yuan Sen Ting, Research School of Astrophysics, and Astronomy, Mount Stromlo Observatory, Canberra, Australia.

Jonathan Tottle, South Ealing, London.

Dr Aline Vidotto, School of Physics & Astronomy, University of St Andrews.

Will Vouden, Selly Oak, Birmingham.
Anthony Ward, Rudgwick, West Sussex.

Jonathan Ward, Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland.

Louise Ward, London.

Prof. Anthony Watts, Dept of Earth Sciences, University of Oxford.

Jim Webb, Barnet, Hertfordshire.

Sarah White, Oxford.

David Wilkinson, Institute of Cosmology & Gravitation, University of Portsmouth.

Rebecca Wolsey, Milton Keynes.

Zenghua Zhang, Centre for Astrophysics Research, University of Hertfordshire.