



BLCS 2026

The British Liquid Crystal Society

The 2026 BLCS Annual Meeting

DAY 1: TUESDAY 14 APRIL @ THE PHYSICS LECTURE THEATRE (PLT)

9:30-10:00	Welcome coffee
10:00-11:00	Plenary: Nematic, Smectic and Cholesteric Liquid Crystal Droplets - Exotic Defects, Lunes and Focal Conic Domains for New-Age Applications. Prof Apala Majumdar, FRSE, FIMA, <i>University of Manchester, UK</i>
11:00-11:40	coffee break
11:40-12:00	Self-Assembly and Charge Transport of a Low-Symmetry Discotic Dwaipayan Chakrabarti, <i>University of Birmingham, UK</i>
12:00-12:20	The Homogenised Energies for Suspensions of Colloidal Nanoparticles in Nematic/Cholesteric Liquid Crystals Fatimah Almutari, <i>University of Strathclyde, UK</i>
12:20-12:40	Subcritical Flow Transitions in Active Nematics Alexander Houston, <i>University of Glasgow, UK</i>
12:40-12:50	Nigel Balmforth, Taylor and Francis
13:00-14:00	Lunch, Radcliffe
14:00-14:20	Structuring Liquid Crystals under Confinement Conditions by Neutron Scattering Oleksandr Tomchuk, <i>ISIS Neutron and Muon Source, UKRI, UK</i>
14:20-14:40	Measurements of the Air/LC Interface Tilt Angle in Unusual Nematic Liquid Crystal Systems Abigail Bond, <i>University of Leeds, UK</i>
14:40-15:00	Thermal resolution limit for thermochromic liquid crystals sensors for sensing ultrasound Martha Turvey, <i>University of Warwick, UK</i>
15:00-15:40	coffee break
15:40-16:20	poster flash talks
16:20-18:00	Poster Presentations and welcome reception Science Concourse



Taylor & Francis
Taylor & Francis Group





DAY 2: WEDNESDAY 15 APRIL @THE PHYSICS LECTURE THEATRE (PLT)

10:00-11:00	Plenary: Exploring Colloidal Liquid Crystals Through Filamentous Phage Model Systems Eric Grelet, <i>Centre de Recherche Paul-Pascal, CNRS & University of Bordeaux, France</i>
11:00-11:40	coffee break
11:40-12:00	Full vectorial-field sensing based on inkjet-printed LC droplets Jinge Guo, <i>University of Oxford, UK</i>
12:00-12:20	Blue Phases on PCB: Unlocking fast phase modulation Oana Niculescu, <i>University of Cambridge, UK</i>
12:20-12:40	Electrically Switchable vari-focal Continuous Phase Liquid Crystal Fresnel Zone Plate Zhiyu Xu, <i>University of Oxford, UK</i>
12:40-13:00	Adaptive Coherence Control for Holographic Measurement Systems using a Liquid Crystal Coherence Modulator Tianxin Wang, <i>University of Oxford, UK</i>
13:00-14:00	Lunch, Radcliffe
14:00-15:20	Prize giving and Young Scientist lecture
15:20-16:00	coffee break
16:00-16:20	Design Principles of Fluid Molecular Ferroelectrics Calum J. Gibb, <i>University of Leeds, UK</i>
16:20-16:40	Modulated Anti-Ferroelectric Smectic Phases with Orthogonal and Tilted Structures Jordan Hobbs, <i>University of Leeds, UK</i>
16:40-17:00	Computational approach for rapid screening for ferroelectric order in nematogens Mark Wilson, <i>Durham University, UK</i>
17:00-17:20	Dipoles, boundary conditions, and the ferroelectric nematic phase Saud Al-Qabandi, <i>University of Manchester, UK</i>
17:20-18:00	AGM
19:00-21:30	Conference 40th dinner and Hilsum medal talk



DAY 3: THURSDAY 16 APRIL @ THE PHYSICS LECTURE THEATRE (PLT)

10:00-10:40	Invited Speaker: Frustrated Smectic Liquid Crystal Elastomers as Multifunctional Mechanical Metamaterials Stuart Berrow, <i>University of Leeds, UK</i>
10:40-11:00	Mechanically reconfigurable auxetic metamaterials based on shape memory effect Zhenming Wang, <i>University of Leeds, UK</i>
11:00-11:40	coffee break
11:40-12:00	Diverse helical structures made of achiral mesogenic dimers Abigail Pearson, <i>University of Aberdeen, UK</i>
12:00-12:20	Synthesis and characterisation of liquid crystals bearing a sustainable novel uracil derived headgroup William Ogle, <i>University of Leeds, UK</i>
12:20-12:40	Structure-Property Relationships of Polar Mesogens Containing Sulfur Ewan Cruickshank, <i>Robert Gordon University, UK</i>
12:40-13:00	student prizes and closing remarks
13:00-13:20	Lunch, packed
13:20-14:00	BLCS committee meeting



LIST OF POSTERS: TUESDAY 14 APRIL (16:20 - 18:00)

Poster No.	Presenter	Organisation	Title
P1	Cameron Smith	<i>University of Warwick, UK</i>	Chevron Instabilities in Active Smectic Liquid Crystals
P2	Sarangi Krishna	<i>Sheffield Hallam University, UK</i>	Towards the mesoscopic simulations of Liquid Crystal Elastomers
P3	Thuriya Al Hinai	<i>University of Strathclyde, UK</i>	Stability of Nematic Equilibria in Isosceles Triangular Domains
P4	Sam Bainbridge	<i>University of Manchester, UK</i>	Nematic Liquid Crystal Configurations in Triangular Confinement
P5	Harry J. Godden	<i>University of Leeds, UK</i>	Control of a Dual-Frequency Liquid Crystal Variable Attenuator for the Power Stabilisation of a Terahertz Quantum-Cascade Laser
P6	Aleksandra Symanovic	<i>Ruđer Bošković Institute, Croatia</i>	From BPIII To Helix Inversion: Mesomorphic Behaviour And Chirality Transfer In Chiral Mesogenic Dimers
P7	Zhenming Wang	<i>University of Leeds, UK</i>	Multidimensional Multilevel Information Storage and Encryption in Auxetic Liquid Crystal Elastomers
P8	Shona Ramsay	<i>University of Aberdeen, UK</i>	Synthesis and Characterisation of Fluorinated Ferroelectric Nematogens
P9	Martha Turvey	<i>University of Warwick, UK</i>	Acoustic control of soft matter-based composites