



Physics Alumni Newsletter



Welcome to the Spring edition of your Physics alumni newsletter. As we rapidly head towards the end of the spring term there's lots to report.

We've been delighted to welcome back Professor Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell FRS (Hon DSc, 1995) to officially open The Marsh Observatory, as well as honour Professor Dame Clare Grey FRS (Hon DSc, 2024) with an honorary degree in our winter graduations.



Author and physicist, Dr Lexie Elliot, whose novels include *The French Girl* and *How to Kill Your Best Friend*, also joined us as a speaker at the Physics Café. Lexie explained to students that physics trains you for almost every career. We would love to hear **your story since graduating**.

**Professor Mark Newton, Head of Physics
Department**

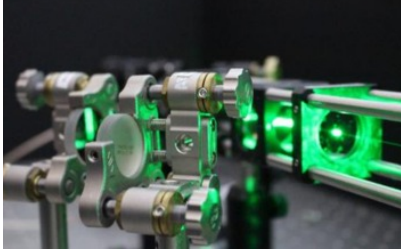
INSIDE NEWS



Acclaimed astronomer opens The Marsh Observatory

Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell visited campus in November to officially open The Marsh Observatory at an evening event hosted by Warwick's Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart Croft. Whilst on campus, Dame Jocelyn also delivered a guest lecture, 'You are made of star stuff – How the atoms in our bodies were created' to over 120 staff and students.

[Is gravity quantum?](#)



Professor Gavin Morley has been named as Principal Investigator on a new project, which aims to explore one of the universe's deepest questions. The test will levitate micro diamonds in a vacuum to examine whether they 'entangle', leading to a better understanding of black holes, the big bang, and the universe.



Professor Dame Clare Grey becomes honorary graduate

In January, Professor Dame Clare Grey joined our newest Physics graduates to receive an honorary degree. The evening before, Dame Clare also hosted a guest lecture where she discussed her research into understanding how batteries function and fail.



Astronomers discover 85 exoplanets

An international study, led by Warwick PhD researcher **Faith Hawthorn**, examined a sample of 1.4 million stars and has discovered 85 exoplanets that have the right temperature zone to potentially sustain life.

ALUMNI COMMUNITY



Meet MPhys alumna Richelle

We caught up with Frontend Developer Richelle Xavier (MPhys Physics, 2021) to find out what inspired her to enter the tech world and how her experience of studying Physics at Warwick has supported her career so far.



Want to share your alumni story?

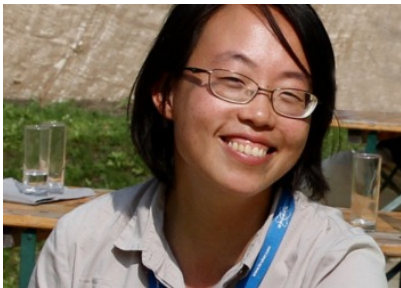
We love to hear from our alumni and find out what you've achieved and what you've been up to since leaving campus. If you'd like to **share your story** with us, we'd love to feature your story on our new **careers webpages**.

DEPARTMENT NEWS



Funding success for research into binary star systems

Assistant Professor [Dr Ingrid Pelisoli](#) has received a £1.2 million grant from the Royal Society for her research into analysing binary star systems. Ingrid will work with collaborators in Sheffield and join the BlackGEM Consortium, which hosts three state-of-the-art telescopes in Chile looking deep into space.



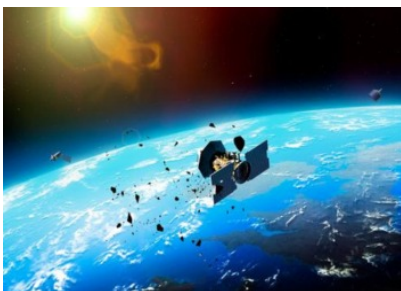
Institute of Physics Award for NMR research

[Dr Wing Ying Chow](#) has been awarded the Institute of Physics Excellent Contribution to Magnetic Resonance Award for her contributions to Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) characterisation of biological systems.



Solar physicist award for understanding of the Sun

[Professor Valery Nakariakov](#) has won the Royal Astronomical Society's Chapman Medal for his work on the behaviour of the Sun's corona. The award recognises investigations of outstanding merit in the science of the Sun, space, and planetary environments.



Fellowship awarded to Physics Research Fellow

[Dr James Blake](#) has been awarded a three-year fellowship through the Science and Technology Facilities Council early-stage research and development scheme. James will look to develop a prototype system for providing early warning of satellites encroaching on astronomical fields of interest.

OUTREACH



[Encouraging young women to pursue a career in STEM](#)

To mark International Day of Women and Girls in Science on 11 February, **[Professor Tom Hase](#)** spoke to us about the **[XMaS \(X-ray Material Science\) Scientist Experience](#)** and how it's helped encourage young women to pursue science as a career.

Other ways to keep in touch



Please quote your alumni number `{{Bio_LOOKUPID}}` in correspondence with us

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