

RDM Quarterly Newsletter

June 2017

Dear colleagues,

Welcome to the latest edition of the RDM Quarterly Newsletter, where we have news and highlights of achievements from across the department. I enjoy this opportunity to learn about all your successes.

As summer approaches, our presence at science festivals increases. It is wonderful to see so many of you get involved in opportunities to engage the public with your research – an important part of our work. You can find out more about just some of the activities we are taking part in as a department on page 13.

Thank you to all of you who have contributed to the RDM website redevelopment. This large project would not be possible without your help and we aim to launch the new website by the end of August. We will be seeking volunteers to user-test the new site and I would be grateful if you could lend your support to the RDM Strategic Team as they work to make the website as accessible as possible.

I would like to encourage you all to read the RDM Weekly Bulletin, which is published every Thursday. This email is intended for all staff and students and is the primary channel by which you will receive important information, including on career development and training opportunities amongst other things. Please do read the Bulletin weekly to avoid missing out on opportunities. If you have any feedback about the bulletin, please get in touch with Emma O'Brien, our Public Engagement and Communications Officer.

As always, if you have any stories or opportunities you would like to feature in the Quarterly Newsletter, please contact [Emma O'Brien](#).

Best wishes,

Prof Hugh Watkins

Head of Department

In the News

Prof Hugh Watkins elected Fellow of the Royal Society

We're delighted to announce that our Head of Department, Prof Hugh Watkins, has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. This is a very prestigious honour and one that recognises Hugh's pioneering heart disease work and commitment to scientific research.

The Fellowship of the Royal Society is made up of the most eminent scientists, engineers and technologists from or living and working in the UK and the Commonwealth. Hugh joins an impressive roster of researchers past and present.

Congratulations to Hugh on this well-deserved achievement.

You can read more about this year's elected Fellows on the [Royal Society website](#).

Prof Sir David Weatherall awarded highest title in Queen's Birthday Honours

We are delighted to announce that Prof Sir David Weatherall has been awarded a GBE, making him a Knight of the Grand Cross. This is the highest rank in the Order of the British Empire and the honour has only been bestowed 16 times since 2000. Prof Sir Weatherall was recognised for his services for medicine and it is wonderful that his pioneering work and commitment to molecular medicine have been recognised in this way.

David Weatherall is a haematologist and clinical researcher whose research has focused on the genetics of blood disorders affecting haemoglobin, particularly thalassaemia. He was the first to describe thalassaemia outside the Mediterranean and his work has led to the eradication of the disease in some parts of the world.

Through his work on thalassaemia, David demonstrated for the first time that a gene deletion could cause a human disease. He developed new methods for analysing haemoglobin and measuring the synthesis of alpha- and beta-haemoglobin chains. This provided the first clear evidence of how thalassaemia arises. In addition, David's work made possible the detection of thalassaemia early in pregnancy, enabling antenatal diagnosis. His characterisation of the mutations causing thalassaemia led to numerous families being offered genetic counselling.

In 1989, David established the Oxford Institute of Molecular Medicine, which is now named in his honour. He was knighted in 1987. In 2010, he won the Lasker Award, a prestigious US medical research prize, and was the only scientist from outside the United States to win that year.

Five more years of transforming care through research

An exciting new chapter in NHS medical research in Oxford began at the start of April, with the £113.7m renewal of the [NIHR Oxford Biomedical Research Centre](#) (BRC).

The BRC is a partnership between Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and the University of Oxford to fund medical research that can transform NHS care.

The BRC was established in 2007 with a competitively awarded grant of £57m from the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), funded by the Department of Health to improve the health and wealth of the nation through research.

A further grant of £95.5m was awarded from 2012 to 2017 and in September 2016 it was announced the BRC would receive a further increase, £113.7m for 2017 to 2022.

This renewal will expand the number of research themes from 14 to 20 in areas such as cancer, genetics, diabetes, vaccines and stroke, and new areas such as obesity and respiratory medicine. Principal Investigators from the Radcliffe Department of Medicine lead five of the research themes, helping to drive innovation with the ultimate goal of improving patients' lives: Prof Barbara Casadei (Cardiovascular Theme), Prof Anna Gloyn (Diabetes and Metabolism Theme), Prof Stefan Neubauer (Imaging Theme), Prof Doug Higgs and Prof Paresh Vyas (Haematology and Stem Cells Theme) and Prof Hugh Watkins (Genomic Medicine Theme).

Read more: <https://oxfordbrc.nihr.ac.uk/five-more-years-of-transforming-care-through-research/>



Congratulations!

RDM Pump Priming

We received six applications for RDM Pump Priming funding and made two awards:

Prof Tatjana Sauka-Spengler, Associate Professor of Genome Biology, (WIMM, NDCLS) and **Prof Christian Eggeling** (HIU, WIMM, IMD) were awarded funding for their project entitled “*Super-Resolution Imaging of Transcriptional Activation in the Neural Crest Nuclei of Zebrafish Embryos*”

Dr Betty Raman (CVM) and **Dr George Harston** (IMD) were awarded funding for their project entitled “*Exploring the relationship between cardiac and neurological dysfunction in mitochondrial disease using magnetic resonance imaging*”. Betty is a clinical DPhil student in CVM and George is a Clinical Lecturer in Geratology and Stroke (IMD). The co-applicants on this project are Professor Stefan Neubauer (CVM), Dr Matt Daniels (CVM), Professor Hugh Watkins (CVM) and Professor James Kennedy, Associate Professor of Geratology & Stroke (IMD).

New qualifications

Congratulations to the following students, who have all passed their DPhil vivas in the last few months. We wish you every success in your future career paths.

Christina Aye (CVM) successfully defended her thesis entitled ‘The influence of pregnancy complications on fetal and neonatal cardiovascular development’ and was supervised by Prof Paul Leeson.

Menon Muralee (NDCLS) successfully defended her thesis entitled ‘Addressing unwarranted variation in clinical cancer practice’ and was supervised by Prof David Kerr.

Natasha Ng (OCDEM) successfully defended her thesis entitled ‘The Role of Glucose-6-Phosphatase Catalytic Domain in Glucose Homeostasis’ and was supervised by Prof Patrik Rorsman and Prof Anna Gloyn.

Pramila Rijal (WIMM-IMD) successfully defended her thesis entitled ‘A Study of Human Monoclonal Antibodies to Influenza and Ebola Viruses’ and was supervised by Prof Alain Townsend.

Christina Rode (WIMM- NDCLS) successfully defended her thesis entitled ‘Cell type-specific Runx1 enhancer reporter mouse lines to study hemogenic endothelium’ and was supervised by Prof Marella De Bruijn, Associate Prof of Developmental Haemopoiesis.

Bruno Steinkraus (WIMM-IMD) successfully defended his thesis entitled ‘Deciphering cis/trans RNA regulatory interactions *in vivo*’ and was supervised by Prof Vincenzo Cerundolo and Prof Tudor Fulga, Associate Professor of Genome Biology.

Internal funding success

John Fell Fund

We had two successful applications in the latest John Fell Fund round. Congratulations to:

Prof Marella de Bruijn, Associate Prof of Developmental Haemopoiesis (Molecular Haematology Unit, WIMM-NDCLS), who was awarded pump priming funding to study the ‘Developmental origin of hemogenic endothelium, the embryonic source of blood stem cells’.

Prof Adam Mead, Associate Professor of Haematology (Molecular Haematology Unit, WIMM-NDCLS), who received pump priming funding to study 'Genome and transcriptome analysis of patients with rare stem cell and myeloid disorders'.

Wellcome Trust ISSF

Dr Marco Fritzsche (Human Immunology Unit, WIMM-IMD), with Prof Christian Eggeling and Prof Michael Dustin as co-applicants, was awarded funding for his project entitled 'Measuring three-dimensional high-speed nanoscale forces during T-cell activation' in the category Individual Career Support: Early Career Researcher.

Please note that [Dr Ruth McCaffrey](#) and [Dr Serena Briant](#) coordinate all applications for internal funding that are submitted by researchers in RDM. This includes a review panel to ensure that applications are as strong as possible before submission. Please keep an eye out for internal deadlines for these grant rounds in the [RDM Funding Bulletin](#).

External funding success

Congratulations to all our researchers who have secured external funding over the last few months. I am particularly pleased to announce that the Oxford Biomedical Research Centre renewal was successful to the tune of £113.7million. Researchers in RDM lead five of the BRC themes.

Dr Mohsin Badat (Molecular Haematology Unit, WIMM-NDCLS) has been awarded an MRC Clinical Research Training Fellowship for the 'Development of a novel therapy for Beta-Thalassaemia using CRISPR/Cas9 to edit the major alpha globin enhancer'. **Prof Barbara Casadei** (CVM) has received funding from the BHF for a Clinical Research Fellow Studentship. Dr Parag Gajendragadkar will investigate the 'role of NOS1AP on myocardial repolarization: insights from NOS1-mediated regulation of action potential duration in mice and men'.

Prof Christian Eggeling (Human Immunology Unit, WIMM-IMD) has been awarded a grant from the German Research Foundation to study the 'Dynamics of peroxisomal protein transport'. Christian, along with **Dr Dominic Waithe**, has also received funding from the BBSRC for work on 'Active Microscopy: Machine learning optimization of cell-based imaging microscopy'.

Dr Caroline Gorvin and **Dr Kate Lines** (OCDEM) were successful in their application to the Society for Endocrinology for an early Career Grant to study the 'Epigenetic regulation of CaSR in pituitary tumorigenesis: a potential novel treatment'.

Dr Asger Jokbsen will be supported through the CRUK Oxford Centre to pursue a Clinical Research Training Fellowship. They will be supervised by Paresh Vyas, Doug Higgs and Lynn Quek.

Prof Fredrik Karpe (OCDEM) received a five year BHF Programme Grant for the 'Identification and functional evaluation of genetic and epigenetic determinants of human fat distribution; investigations to understand the cardio-protective effect of lower body adiposity'.

Dr Ahmad Moola, Novo Nordisk Clinical Research Training Fellow, (OCDEM) received funding from the Bioscientifica for his project 'Computational Analysis of the Urinary Steroid Metabolome as a Novel Non-invasive Tool to Stage Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease'.

Dr Beth Psaila (Molecular Haematology Unit, WIMM-NDCLS) has been awarded one of the highly competitive L'Oreal UNESCO For Women Science Awards for her project 'Visualizing

how gene activity is disrupted in megakaryocytes in Myelofibrosis, a severe bone marrow disorder’.

Dr Bilyana Stoilova and **Prof Paresh Vyas** (Molecular Haematology Unit, WIMM-NDCLS) also received an award from the CRUK Oxford Centre Development Fund for the project ‘Determining the heterogeneity of progenitor phenotypes in human Acute Myeloid Leukaemia.’

Prof Alain Townsend (WIMM-IMD) has received funding from the MRC for his collaboration with the Francis Crick Institute to investigate ‘The use of human monoclonal antibodies to inform and enhance influenza vaccine virus selection’.

Success at conferences

Well done to all our early career researchers who have won awards at both national and international conferences.

Mike Barnkob and **Andreas Hadjinicolaou** (Cerundolo lab, WIMM-IMD) were both awarded Ralph Steinman Memorial Outstanding Poster Awards at the 12th Annual ENII Summer School in Sardinia.

Dr Caroline Gorvin (Thakker group, OCDEM) was awarded the Presidential Poster Prize in the Bone and Calcium section of the American Endocrine Society in Orlando.



Mike and Andreas with their certificates.

Dr Vibe Nylander and **Dr Lindford Briant** won prizes for their posters at the 2nd Joint Meeting of the EASD Islet Group and Beta Cell Workshop in Dresden.

Awards

2017 Translational Research Training in Hematology Program

Congratulations to **Dr Alice Giustacchini** (WIMM-NDCLS, Mead/Jacobsen Group) and **Dr Lynn Quek** (WIMM-NDCLS, Vyas Group), who have been awarded training posts from the [American Society of Hematology and the European Hematology Association](#).

Hakan Ahlman Award

Congratulations to [Prof Raj Thakker](#) who has been awarded Hakan Ahlman Award, for publications of excellence, at the annual [European Neuroendocrine Tumour Society](#) conference in Barcelona. Prof Thakker received the award for his publication in the journal *Endocrinology* – [Pasireotide Therapy of Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia Type 1-Associated Neuroendocrine Tumors in Female Mice Deleted for an Men1 Allele Improves Survival and Reduces Tumor Progression](#). The work was judged to have made a significant contribution to translational research.

British Society for Investigative Dermatology Young Investigator Award

Congratulations to Dr Danuta Gutowska-Owsiak (WIMM-IMD, Ogg Group) has won a Young Investigator Award for her substantial contribution to dermatology research. Danuta was presented with the award at the British Society for Investigative Dermatology meeting in Manchester in April. Danuta will give a Young Investigator Award Lecture at the 'Best of BSID' during the British Association of Dermatologists conference in June, and received a £1,500 cheque.



Global Health Catalyst Award

Congratulations to [Prof David Kerr](#) (NDCLS) who is the winner of the 2017 Harvard Global Health Catalyst: Distinguished Leader Award. This is in recognition of his many years of leadership in the global health work, including most prominently:

- Serving as President of the European Society of Medical Oncology
- Establishing major international collaborations with India's leading cancer centre
- Establishing AfrOx (Africa Oxford Cancer Foundation), which aims to improve the delivery of cancer care in sub-Saharan Africa

Prof Kerr received his award on 28 April at Harvard Medical School during the [Global Health Catalyst Summit](#).

RDM Symposium poster prize winners

As always, the RDM Symposium Poster Session was full of fascinating science, new techniques and interesting discussion. Congratulations to the following researchers who won our Poster Prizes:

Student Prize

First Place – **Tiong Kit Tan** (Gill group, NDCLS) for his work on the 'Development of recombinant adeno-associated viral vector for passive immunisation against Ebola'.

Joint Second– **Alex Hamilton** (Rorsman group, OCDEM) for his poster on 'Acetylcholine stimulates alpha cells via both muscarinic and nicotinic pathways'

Joint Second – **Julia Truch** (Gibbons group, WIMM-NDCLS) for her work on the 'Characterisation of genes affected by ATRX mutations'



Researcher Prize

First Place – **Dr Kate Lines** (Thakker group, OCDEM), for her poster entitled ‘microRNA miR-3156-5p is downregulated in serum of Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia Type 1 patients, and regulates expression of mortality factor4-like protein 2’

Second place – **Dr Claudia Guida** (Ramracheya group, OCDEM), for her poster entitled ‘PYY modulates pancreatic islet secretory function and acts as a DPP-IV substrate to regulate insulin secretion’



Third place – **Dr Yvonne Couch** (Buchan group, IMD), for her poster entitled ‘Inflammatory stroke extracellular vesicles induce macrophage activation’

WIMM Day prize winners

RDM researchers scooped top prizes at the annual WIMM Day in March.

Ita Askonas Prize

Congratulations to **Mike Barnkob** (WIMM-IMD, Cerundolo group) who won the Ita Askonas Medal and Prize for his work on T cells in the tumour microenvironment. The Ita Askonas Prize is awarded annually to a DPhil student in their third year. Mike’s talk, ‘Inhibiting T cell Movement: A Novel Cancer Immune Escape Mechanism’ detailed his DPhil work on a protein that tumours release to block T cell movement, allowing cancer cells to escape immune destruction.

Sir Andrew McMichael Medal

Congratulations to **Prof Alain Townsend**, who was awarded the Sir Andrew McMichael Medal – a new award to celebrate excellence in DPhil supervision and mentorship. The award is named after Prof Sir Andrew McMichael, who in 2006 received the Nature Lifetime Achievement Award for mentoring in science.

Poster Prizes

First Prize – **Dr Jill Brown** (WIMM-NDCLS, Buckle group) ‘Fine scale three dimensional re-organisation of the murine α -globin chromatin domain during erythroid differentiation’

Second Prize – **Dr Danuta Gutowska-Owsiak** (WIMM-IMD, Ogg group) ‘Coordinated release of filaggrin from actin cages precipitates keratinocyte death during epidermal barrier formation’

Research highlights

Some research highlights from each division include:

Prof Tatjana Sauka-Spengler, Associate Professor of Genome Biology (WIMM-NDCLS) and colleagues have developed a new technique to zero in on gene regulatory logic during development.

Read the blog on The Node: <http://thenode.biologists.com/biotagging-behind-scenes-beyond/resources/>

Read the paper: [Biotagging of Specific Cell Populations in Zebrafish Reveals Gene Regulatory Logic Encoded in the Nuclear Transcriptome](#), LA Trinh *et al*, *Cell Reports*

Prof Raj Thakker, Dr Kate Lines (OCDEM) and colleagues have probed the use of epigenetic pathway inhibitors in the treatment of neuroendocrine tumours.

Read the paper: [Epigenetic pathway inhibitors represent potential drugs for treating pancreatic and bronchial neuroendocrine tumors](#), KE Lines *et al*, *Oncogenesis*

Dr Demin Li, Prof Alison Banham (NDCLS) and colleagues have identified a potential new route for cancer immunotherapy.

Read the paper: [Development of a T Cell Receptor Mimic Antibody against Wild-Type p53 for Cancer Immunotherapy](#), D Li *et al*, *Cancer Research*

An international consortium including **Prof Mark McCarthy, Prof Anna Gloyn and Prof Katherine Owen (OCDEM)** have shed new light on genetics underpinning insulin levels and diabetes risk.

Read the paper: [A Low-Frequency Inactivating Akt2 Variant Enriched in the Finnish Population is Associated With Fasting Insulin Levels and Type 2 Diabetes Risk](#), A Manning *et al*, *Diabetes*

Prof Rupert McShane (IMD) and colleagues have set out principles for responsibly testing innovative treatments for severe depression, based on treating more than 100 patients with approximately 1,000 infusions of ketamine over six years in Oxford.

Read the press release: <http://www.ox.ac.uk/news/2017-04-05-ketamine-shows-positive-results-treating-severe-depression>

Read the paper: [Ketamine treatment for depression: opportunities for clinical innovation and ethical foresight](#), I Singh *et al*, *Lancet Psychiatry*

Prof Charis Antoniades, Associate Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine, **Prof Keith Channon (CVM)** and colleagues have investigated the role of telomere length in predicting outcome after heart attack. First author, Marios Margaritis, presented this story at the RDM Symposium as part of his Graduate Studies Prize Talk.

Read the paper: [Predictive value of telomere length on outcome following acute myocardial infarction: evidence for contrasting effects of vascular vs. blood oxidative stress](#), M Margaritis *et al*, *European Heart Journal*.

Dr Louise Johnson, Prof David Jackson (WIMM-IMD) and colleagues have probed the mechanisms by which dendritic cells enter lymph vessels.

Read the paper: [Dendritic cells enter lymph vessels by hyaluronan-mediated docking to the endothelial receptor LYVE-1](#), LA Johnson *et al*, *Nature Immunology*

Staff matters

2016 Awards for Excellence

All eligible staff were notified early in 2017 of the annual Reward and Recognition Scheme, now in its fourth year, designed to reward those individuals who have made an exceptional contribution to RDM and the University. RDM Divisions held review panels to consider nominations under the scheme, with Lynn Clee, Head of Finance and Administration, attending all meetings to ensure consistency. Summary results for awards made to RDM staff can be found below. Congratulations to everyone who has received an award this year.

Non-recurrent increments

Grade	Number of Awards	Male %	Female %
1 - 5	6		100
6 - 10	15	47	53
E Grade			
Other	6	67	33

Recurrent increments

Grade	Number of Awards	Male %	Female %
1 - 5	5	40	60
6 - 10	10	20	80

Change of Director of Graduate Studies

On 1 May 2017, **Prof Deborah Gill, Associate Professor of Gene Medicine**, stepped down as DGS for RDM. Deborah has been DGS for RDM since the department was formed in 2012 and has done a fantastic job of setting in place structures and processes to help support students across the department. She has also invested a huge amount of her time and energy in supporting and advising individual students over the past five years. Her work has been invaluable and she has both my and the departments gratitude for her hard work. Thank you!

Prof Marella de Bruijn, Associate Professor of Developmental Haemopoiesis, has taken up the position of DGS for RDM. Marella has considerable experience working with students in the WIMM where she has been Graduate Advisor for a number of years. She also plays an active role at MSD in graduate studies, sitting on the Graduate School Committee and chairing the MRC DTP Steering Group. I'm very pleased that she has

agreed to take on the RDM role and am sure that under her leadership graduate studies in RDM will continue to flourish.

New Staff

A warm welcome to all our new staff who have started in RDM over the last few months. We hope you are settling into your teams and roles.

RDM Athena SWAN co-ordinator

Charlotte Smith has joined the RDM Strategic team as Athena SWAN coordinator for the department. Charlotte will coordinate and support Athena SWAN and ongoing initiatives to create a better workplace. Charlotte has experience with Athena SWAN in departments, with the Medical Sciences Division and at a national level as an ECU panellist and chair of assessment panels.



New WIMM Deputy Administrator

Felicity Peachell joins us as Deputy Administrator in the WIMM, supporting Stella Keeble. Felicity comes from a business operations manager role at BD and brings a huge amount of financial and operations experience.



Retirements

We say goodbye to Jan Fennelly, Research Assistant in Simon Davis' lab (WIMM-IMD), at the end of June. Jan has worked at the University for 20 years. We wish her a happy retirement.

Fundraising

MRC Human Immunology Unit take on Town and Gown

Well done to runners from the MRC HIU who took part in Oxford's 10k Town and Gown race in May. The team raised an amazing £410 for Muscular Dystrophy UK.

CVM Kilimanjaro Climbers

Linda Arnold, Lisa Gaughran, Polly Whitworth and her son William (CVM) are heading to Tanzania in an attempt to climb the highest freestanding mountain in the world, Mount Kilimanjaro, in aid of Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY). CRY promotes and develops heart-screening programmes, with the aim of reducing the frequency of young sudden cardiac death (YSCD) in people under the age of 35 years. In turn, CRY funds research, screening and cardiac pathology services at leading UK hospitals. Various members of the Kilimanjaro climbers have lost friends to SCD; therefore, CRY is a charity close to their heart. One member of the team, Linda Arnold performs echocardiography for CRY at various screenings around the country.

The team are in the throes of a fitness-training programme to increase their chances of summit success! At weekends and with any spare time they have, it's a matter of taking the stairs instead of the lift and heading for the hills with a heavy rucksack on their backs. The climb starts at the end of August and will take 10 days to complete, so please look out for the CVM Kilimanjaro Climbers update.



Public Engagement

There have been lots of exciting public engagement activities taking place across the department in the last few months.

British Science Week

As part of British Science Week 2017 (13 to 18 March), scientists from the Gloyn and McCarthy research teams visited Headington Prep school for a series of exciting Diabetes-themed hands-on workshops. Students and post-docs from the research group designed and lead activities to introduce the girls to the concepts of DNA and how our body controls their blood sugar levels. You can read more about the day in the [Oxford Mail](#).

School trip to OCMR

OCMR welcomed sixth form students from Cherwell Tutorial College on 9 May. The students went on a tour of the MRI facilities and heard from Dr Jack Miller and Dr Jenny Rayner about their research.

Pint of Science

RDM were out in force during the Pint of Science Festival (15-19 May). Prof Shoumo Bhattacharya and Associate Prof Leanne Hodson both gave talks on their research and Dr Naveed Akbar (CVM, Choudhury Group) did a fantastic job coordinating the Festival in Oxford. A big thank you to Nav, the speakers and all those who volunteered their time to help organise the week.

Living Well Oxford

Dr George Harston (AVIC, IMD, Kennedy Group) took part in Living Well Oxford's 'Ageing: From Birth to Death' pop-up shop in Templars Square (15-21 May). George was engaging the public with his research on delirium and getting visitors to test out brain games used in the clinic to understand the way the brain works during delirium.

Coming Up....

We're taking part in lots of science festivals over the next few months – join us if you can!

Royal Society Summer Science Exhibition

It's nearly here! We're taking part in one of the biggest science festivals of the year. In 'DNA Origami: How to fold a genome' we will take visitors on a 3D tour of DNA and discuss the importance of DNA folding for human health. The Exhibition runs 3-9 July in London. A massive thank you to the Working Group who have driven this project: Damien Downes, Nicki Grey, Steve Taylor, Matt Gosden, Lea Nessubaum, Steph Hill, Jason Torres, Antje Groetz, Jill Brown, Caroline Scott and Chris Babbs.

MRC Festival

'Science in the Supermarket' returns this year (17-23 June), as we take research from the MRC Molecular Haematology Unit and MRC Human Immunology Unit to shoppers across Oxfordshire. We're focussing on genetic susceptibility to conditions such as eczema and anaemia. Thank you to Zahra Aboukhil, Martin Larke, Caroline Scott, Dannielle Wellington and Loyal Liverpool who have developed the activities for this event.

Oxfordshire Science Festival

Join us in Oxford Town Hall on 17 and 18 June as we showcase research from across the department.

'A scientist and a spoonful of sugar' (OCDEM), 'Affairs of the Heart' (CVM) and 'DNA Origami: How to fold a genome' (WIMM-NDCLS) aim to inform and inspire family audiences about research taking place here in Oxford. And there's an adults only event on Saturday 17 June from 6.30pm if you don't fancy competing with children to have a go on the activities! [Take a look at the full programme online](#). A big thank you to all who have worked hard to make these events a success, including Katrin Nather, Lucy Trelfa, Katherine Owen and the Royal Society Working Group.

If you would like to get involved in public engagement, get in touch with Emma O'Brien. Emma can also help those of you applying to research funding, who need to incorporate public engagement into applications.