# AGM 2020

Challenger Society for Marine Science September 28, 2020



# Agenda

1. Approval of minutes of AGM of September 2018

- 2. Matters arising from minutes of AGM 2018
- 3. President's Report
- 4. Portfolio reports
- 5. Treasurer's report and accounts
- 6. Appointment of auditors for Independent Financial Review
- 7. Election of new Council Members
- 8. AOB

# Approval of minutes of previous the AGM September 10, 2019, in Edinburgh



#### **Proposer: Al Tagliabue**

#### Seconder: Ros Rickarby

# 2. Matters Arising

# **Council Members**

#### **Officers of Council**

- President (past) Rob Goddard  $\bullet$
- President (elect) **Ros Rickaby**  $\bullet$
- Ed Mawji Treasurer  $\bullet$
- Mattias Green Secretary

#### Council members

- John Allen
- John Bacon
- Angela Colling
- Lidia Carracedo
- Stephen Dye
- Rob Hall
- Kerry Howell igodol
- **Terry Hughes**  $\bullet$
- $\bullet$
- **Rachel Mills**  $\bullet$
- Nick Owens  $\bullet$
- Katie StJohn Glew  $\bullet$
- Al Tagliabue
- David Thomas
- Judith Wolf
- Sophie Wilmes

- Challenger Wave editor Webpage
- Ocean Challenge editor
- ECR and diversity
- Chair OC editorial board Membership
- Challenger 150
- Industry liaison
- Richard Herrington 2022 conference chair
  - Challenger 150 coordinator
  - 2021 conference chair
  - Media and communications SCOR/SIGs
  - Chair of NOC-A

Membership

SIGs

- Outreach and Education
- Travel awards and stepping stones bursaries
- Stephanie Allen  $\bullet$
- Chelsey baker igodol

3. President's Report -AGM 2020 Rob Upstill-Goddard

## Covid-19: Disruption to major Society Activity

Challenger Society 2020 Conference SAMS, Oban: www.sams.ac.uk

Postponed until 6th-10th September 2021

For Registration and Abstract submission see the conference website: https://challenger2020.co.uk

Anyone already registered for 2020 will be contacted by the organizers to confirm alternative arrangements



Challenger 150: Celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the Challenger Expedition. 1872-1876



2022 Challenger Conference: 5-9 September 2022

Natural History Museum, London

Showcasing the HMS Challenger expedition

Organization:

Kerry Howell :University of Plymouth Richard Herrington: Natural History Museum

Further information: Rachel Mills Rachel.Mills@soton.ac.uk)

HE CHALLENGER.

LORD GEORGE CAMPRELL.



#### National Marine Facilities Roadmap

Marine Facilities Advisory Board: Chair Carol Robinson (UEA)

National Marine Facilities Roadmap:

https://www.noc.ac.uk/files/documents/about/ispo/NMF\_Technology\_Roadmap\_\_\_\_1920\_V3.pdfMFSS

Largely Technology-Driven

Aim: to develop and coordinate scientific strategy to inform the Roadmap

Potential interdisciplinary town hall meeting to address this

Possibly via reinstated "Challenger Prospectus Meetings" in Conference interim years (2021?)

MFAB to discuss in October

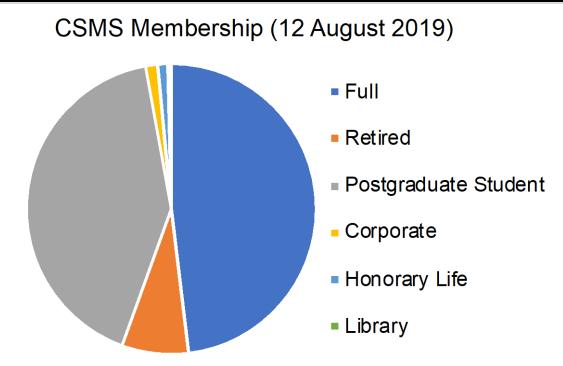
Watch out for announcements

4. Portfolio reports -AGM 2020

#### Membership and Data Protection Rob Hall

- Total membership up 18% since 2018 AGM!
- Efforts are being made to ensure that all members are the correct type (full, retired, postgraduate student) correct fees
- CSMS Data Protection Policy available online

Full	252 (48.1%)
Retired	39 (7.4%)
Postgraduate Student	218 (41.6%)
Corporate	7 (1.3%)
Honorary Life	6 (1.1%)
Library	2 (0.4%)
Total	524



## Website Development

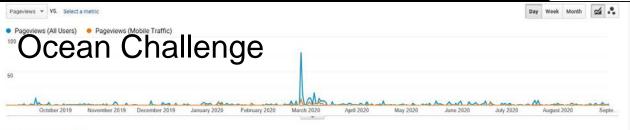
#### John Bacon

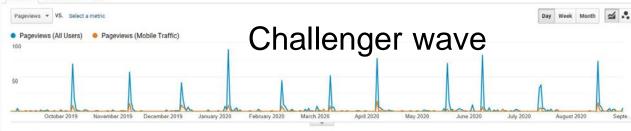
- 2019 Features
- Moved to a supported hosting and development service improved security, reliability and information – Google Analytics
- SIG area improvement
- Gift Aid claims linked to the website databases

Audience Overview 🥏						SAVE 🚽	j EXPORT < SHARE 🏾 🗭 INSIGHTS
All Users 100.00% Users		+ Add Segment					Aug 1, 2019 - Aug 29, 2019 🔻
Overview							
Users 👻 VS. Select a metric			Турі	cal usage  - 2	0-25 users per	<sup>r</sup> day.	Hourly Day Week Month
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Users 494	New Users 484	Sessions 581	Number of Sessions per User	Pageviews 1,379	Pages / Session 2.37		10.9%
Avg. Session Duration 00:01:34	Bounce Rate 64.37%						89.1%

#### Website Analytics

	Page ?	Pageviews ?	V Unique Pageviews (?)	Avg. Time on Page	Entrances ?	Bounce Rate ?	% Exit ?	Page Value
	All Users	<b>23,198</b> % of Total: 100.00% (23,198)	<b>18,611</b> % of Total: 100.00% (18,611)	<b>00:01:10</b> Avg for View: 00:01:10 (0.00%)	<b>10,489</b> % of Total: 100.00% (10,489)	69.84% Avg for View: 69.84% (0.00%)	45.22% Avg for View: 45.22% (0.00%)	<b>\$0.00</b> % of Total: 0.00% (\$0.00)
	Mobile Traffic	<b>3,583</b> % of Total: 15.45% (23,198)	<b>2,917</b> % of Total: 15.67% (18,611)	00:01:06 Avg for View: 00:01:10 (-6.14%)	<b>2,120</b> % of Total: 20.21% (10,489)	80.38% Avg for View: 69.84% (15.08%)	59.17% Avg for View: 45.22% (30.86%)	<b>\$0.00</b> % of Total: 0.00% (\$0.00)
hits	. / Ø							
	All Users	<b>3,533</b> (15.23%)	2,993 (16.08%)	00:00:58	<b>2,887</b> (27.52%)	50.64%	48.17%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
	Mobile Traffic	<b>850</b> (23.72%)	751 (25.75%)	00:01:36	740 (34.91%)	79.73%	76.47%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
2	/History_of_the_Challenger_Expeditio n							
	All Users	<b>2,475</b> (10.67%)	2,142 (11.51%)	00:03:50	<b>2,071</b> (19.74%)	84.16%	81.21%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
	Mobile Traffic	454 (12.67%)	<b>396</b> (13.58%)	00:04:09	384 (18.11%)	85.94%	83.48%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
3	. /Members 🖉							
	All Users	<b>1,631</b> (7.03%)	852 (4.58%)	00:01:37	313 (2.98%)	58.79%	29.86%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
	Mobile Traffic	143 (3.99%)	107 (3.67%)	00:01:36	<b>68</b> (3.21%)	72.06%	55.94%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
4	. /Challenger_Wave							
	All Users	<b>1,101</b> (4.75%)	<b>1,015</b> (5.45%)	00:03:02	944 (9.00%)	91.00%	85.74%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
	Mobile Traffic	<b>145</b> (4.05%)	<b>120</b> (4.11%)	00:01:27	<b>112</b> (5.28%)	83.93%	74.48%	<b>\$0.00</b> (0.00%)
5	. /Travel_awards							
	All Users	<b>885</b> (3.81%)	775 (4.16%)	00:02:06	496 (4.73%)	73.59%	60.79%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
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Secondary dimension  Sort Type: Default  Page 7	Pageviews 7	Unique Pageviews	Avg. Time on Page	Q, adva	Nexit
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Mobile Traffic	98 (100.00%)	74 (100.00%)	00:02:22	73.33%	59.189

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All Users	<b>1,101</b> % of Total: 4.75% (23,198)	1,015 % of Total: 5.45% (18,611)	00:03:02 Avg for View: 00:01:10 (159:30%)	944 % of Total: 9.00% (10,489)	91.00% Avg for View: 69.84% (30.28%)	85.74% Avg for View: 45.22% (89.63%)	\$0.00 % of Total: 0.00% (\$0.00)
Mobile Traffic	145 % of Total: 0.69% (23,198)	120 % of Total: 0.64% (18,611)	00:01:27 Avg for View: 00:01:10 (23.75%)	112 % of Total: 1.07% (10,489)	83.93% Avg for View: 69.84% (20.16%)	74.48% Avg for View: 45.22% (64.73%)	\$0.00 % of Total: 0.00% (\$0.00)
1. /Challenger_Wave							
All Users	1,101 (100.00%)	1,015 (100.00%)	00:03:02	944 (100.00%)	91.00%	85.74%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
Mobile Traffic	145 (100.00%)	120 (100.00%)	00:01:27	112 (100.00%)	83.93%	74.48%	\$0.00 (0.00%)

Challenger Wave John Allen

- 12 issues published this year emails to active members download function.
- Articles can be submitted at any time to John Allen (john@vectisenvironmental.com)
- Especially news from research cruises, links to blogs, and job opportunities)

# Special Interest Groups

- SIG meetings in 2019:
  - Ambio IX held successfully at UEA, celebrated the career of Prof Tim Jickells
  - Associated article in Ocean Challenge
  - Sea Ice and Coastal Ocean Processes SIG met in Sept 2019
  - Others held off meetings to coincide with the (postponed) 2020 Biennial Meeting
- Website updates and information gathering complete for virtually all groups
  - Facilitated by a generic proforma
  - More harmonised web presence
  - Clearer information on how to get involved
- Call for new SIG activity distributed (new groups or one off activity) to CSMS members
- New incoming SIG representative on council will be Stephanie Allen (UK Hydrographic Office)







Challenger Society for Marine Science

News Events Special Interest Groups Membership Publications The Society Awards n and Outreach SCOR Blog ECR Network

#### Deep-Sea Ecosystems

Technological advances and increasing demand for resources are ushering in a new era of human exploitation of the deep-sea that will impact life in the deep oceans in various ways. It is therefore imperative to increase our understanding of deep-sea ecosystems in line with these anthropogenic and climatic impacts. While there are a number of international fora that allow deep-sea scientists to meet and discuss research, there is no such national body. The Deep-Sea Ecosystems SIG provides a platform for deep-sea researchers in the UK to meet every year and discuss national issues in relation to deep-sea science. Ultimately the SIG gives a voice to the UK deep-sea biological sciences

community.

Updated 14/10/2019

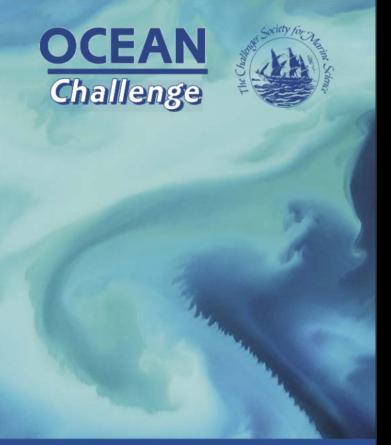


How can you get involved in the SIG?

You can automatically subscribe to the Deep-Sea Ecosystems email list by sending an email: To: listserv@jiscmail.ac.uk Subject: BLANK Message: SUBSCRIBE DEEPSEAUK Firstname Lastname

Then follow the confirmation instructions. This list is used by members for topical discussion and to update on SIG activities with minimal snamming

#### Ocean Challenge Angela Colling (Editor), Stephen Dye (Chair, Editorial Board)



Monitoring the freshwater cycle in the Southern Ocean • Why the Atlantic is in a CLASS of its own • Fisheries and Brexit • The beauty of equations • When personal protective equipment is a liability Vol. 23, No. 2

Vol 23 No. 2, 2019 - Published Spring 2019

Editorial Board

- Phil Goodwin and Laura Grange joined the Editorial Board.
- Katrien Van Landeghem and Bee Berx kindly agreed to stay on for an extra year.
- A huge thankyou as Grant Bigg retired from Editorial Board Chair after 6 years.

#### Search facility

As past issues can now be searched for content, we are hoping that the archive will be increasingly used as an educational resource. Please let us have ideas for how to promote this.

New material is always welcome! If you have an idea for an article or an opinion piece, please contact the Editor, AngelaMColling@gmail.com

### Stepping Stones Early Career Bursary Sophie-Berenice Wilmes

- Supports career development of members of marine science community.
- Up to £1000 per grant for activities enhancing career prospects: eg. collaborative visits, laboratory or field work.
- Open to PhD candidates (PhD thesis submitted) or post doctoral researchers.
- For researchers seeking employment post-qualification, and those between fixed term contracts.
- Up to four awards per year.

Award	ees to o	late :

Activity     Conference attendance     Conference attendance     Conference attendance		February 2019	April 2019	July 2019	October 2019
Activity     Conference attendance     Conference attendance     Conference attendance	Applications	1	0	0	2
attendance research on iron	Awarded to		No applicants	No applicants	Laura Hepburn
	Activity				research on iron

# Outreach and Education Judith Wolf

- "Education": activities involving schools and universities
- "outreach": activities encouraging wider public interest in marine science
- We aim to encourage and support Challenger Society members to:
  - engage with schools and universities to increase the uptake of marine science degrees, training the marine scientists of the future
  - participate in outreach activities such as science festivals, exhibitions and conferences as Challenger Ambassadors, to inform other scientists, government, environmental managers and the general public about the issues we are tackling in marine science

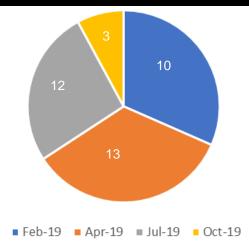
We can provide flyers showing the benefits of becoming a Challenger Society member and we have gathered some ideas for marine science demonstration on our web page. Needless to say, this year has been difficult for everyone to engage in face-to-face events due to Covid19

- We are keen to explore ways in which the Challenger Society can work with you, the marine science community, to help you deliver outreach and/or deliver it on your behalf. We would like information on what resources and activities have already been developed in the community, and what further support is needed, so please do contact us with any information and/or ideas you would like to follow up (see contact below).
- We are also particularly interested in promoting diversity within marine science, including gender and ethnic diversity
- We are involved in discussions around planning events for the celebration of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Challenger Expedition, which departed from England in December 1872 and returned in May 1876. On its 68,890 nautical mile journey, circumnavigating the globe, 492 deep sea soundings, 133 bottom dredges, 151 open water trawls and 263 serial water temperature observations were taken. About 4,700 new species of marine life were discovered. We are still discovering things about climate change from their results
- Another important date coming soon is the start of United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030), see <a href="https://en.unesco.org/ocean-decade">https://en.unesco.org/ocean-decade</a> for details
- If you are keen to get involved in Outreach and Education with the Challenger Society, please do let us know!

### Travel awards Sophie-Berenice Wilmes

- £6500 awarded (-£1000 in comparison to 2018)
- All 13 awards for International Travel
- 0 awards for UK travel

Applications per round in 2019



- 2016 50 applications 22 awards
- 2017 49 applications 15 awards
- 2018 47 applications 15 awards
- 2019 38 applications 13 awards

Budget of ~£6k – UK £250 International £500



## Comms – social media and blog Katie St John Glew

<u>Twitter</u>

@ChallengerSoc:

- In 2019 there were
- 453 new followers
- 2342 profile views

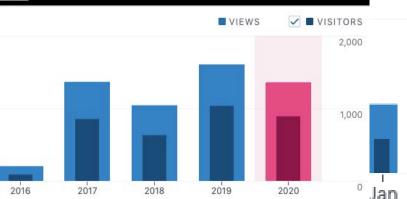


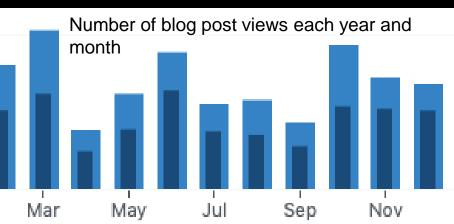
Blog

- Aim for blog posts once a month on https://challengercaptainsblog.wordpress.com/blog/
- 13 posts in 2019
- Always on the look out for content project overview, new papers, field work experience, personal opinions, career advice...



Distribution of Twitter followers globally and within the UK





#### Industry Liaison and Technology Terry Sloane

- Liaison with industry to provide access to news, research opportunities, commercial opportunities and employment opportunities from within the ocean business community
- Liaison with MSTG (Marine Science & Technology Group) trade association, The Society for Underwater Technology & IMarEST to provide a conduit for government organisations and policy makers from a lobbying, economic and business perspective and with the international oceanographic, hydrographic and meteorological instrument manufacturers and suppliers *www.maritimeindustries.org www.imarest.org www.SUT.org*
- To strengthen the relationship between the organisations to provide a coherent business and science contact point to government and the media as well as early career members .
- To provide the council and membership with information on developing technologies, "horizon scanning" sponsorship opportunities, industry support for research bids and technology search capabilities and to respond to requests for technical information
- To provide industry with a view of the future requirements of the marine science community and to brief instrument manufacturers
- To facilitate introductions between membership with respect to joint venture and licensing opportunities
- To raise sponsorship in support of our conferences and events, 2020 conference at SAMS to be held over until 2021.
- To facilitate space at UK based exhibitions and reciprocal marketing activities

# Early Career and Diversity in Marine Science Lidia Carracedo

- New funding opportunity announced: the 'Chris Daniels Early Career Grant'
  - £1000 for ECR events or workshops. The grant announced was delayed and will now take place early 2021 and awarded at the conference.
- Other opportunities for funding
  - 'Stepping Stones Early Career Bursary scheme' (£1000 per grant) for ECR activities enhancing career prospects
  - ECR Challenger Fellowships (bursary of up to £1000), to recognise and honour ECR's
- Presentation by L. Carracedo as Challenger ECR Portfolio representative at the NOC Association 10th Annual Meeting
  was postponed from Jun 2020 to early 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Diversity in Marine Science (DiMS) round-table event was held at the National Oceanography Centre in Southampton in October 2019.
  - Led jointly by the Challenger Society (Lidia Carracedo) and Women in Coastal Geoscience and Engineering Network, WICGE (Siddhi Joshi)
  - Covered topics on gender diversity in marine science, unconscious bias, etc.
  - More info: <u>http://womenincoastal.org/making-waves-a-roundtable-seminar-at-the-national-oceanography-centre-</u> southampton/
- An updated and more interactive ERC & Diversity at Challenger site is being designed and developed, with new ECR resources, partnerships, events and opportunities. Its release to be advertised via Twitter and Challenger Website.

### SCOR Al Tagliabue

- UK continues to play a key role in SCOR
  - UK scientists continue to lead working groups and participate in research projects (e.g. GEOTRACES, IMBER)
  - Peter Burkill played leading role in co-ordinating Second International Indian Ocean Expedition
- Challenger Society covers 51% of SCOR subscriptions and council is the UK SCOR committee
  - A. Tagliabue chairs and also participates in Royal Society Global Environment Research Committee (GERC)
  - New process at Royal Society to recover 49% of subscription costs has ben navigated
  - Partnership is working well
- UK SCOR review of Working Group applications completed, new groups decided at SCOR AGM
- Capacity Development Opportunities
  - Visiting Scholar Programme
- SCOR Annual General Meeting forthcoming in October (virtual)
- A new constitution will be approved



Personnel changes at SCOR:

- New President is Sinjae Yoo (South Korea), first Asian president
- Patricia Miloslavich has taken over as Exec Director from Ed Urban
- New incoming early career scientist to join SCOR Exec committee

5. Treasurer's report and accounts

## **2019 Accounts**

As of April 2019 the CSMS will host the finances of the UKPN. All number presented will indicate if the UKPN restricted funds are included.

• The Society's total income for 2019 was £46,682 an increase on 2018 (£26,951). However if we remove the UKPN funds for 2019 (£21,587) there was a decrease on 2018 to £25,587.

• Total expenditure during 2019 was £33,683, comparable to 2018 (£ 38,926), (£1834 by the UKPN).

#### UKPN funds removed from table for 2019

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Administration and website	1409	1680	1450	1975	4641	659	2849	792	0
Publicity	0	577	327	0	300	0	324	384	87
Ocean Challenge	5887	5656	3029	3569	3644	2165	3811	6298	5679
Awards and prizes	2943	2820	4250	9041	4540	11784	7996	11957	9166
Accountants	2400	2340	2400	1323	1164	960	1375	1563	1308
Council and SCOR travel	2241	2010	2714	2732	1148	2333	2195	4243	2448
SIGs	531	1156	2053	2291	1716	1152	400	497	680
Local networking	10787		9872	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subscriptions	2937	4612	6578	7896	8681	9290	11095	10726	11231
Equipment dep	436	326	245	184	138	103	78		0
Sundry	34	31	33	0	0	0	1850	2466	43
UKPN									
<u>Total Exp</u>	29984	21642	36383	33659	29493	31909	31973	38926	31849
Subscriptions + gift aid	12362	15256	10656	7626	7661	11501	13829	18226	11833
Grants	4000	4000	4000	5650	3000	9000	10534	7000	5000
Sponsorship CW	500	0	500	1350	1185	0	0	0	0
Profits conference	10700	0	18973	0	20961	0	15841	0	6503.4
Interest from investments	1508	1520	1821	1578	1137	1533	1651	1725	1759
<u>Total Inc</u>	41980	20776	37189	16435	33944	22034	41855	26951	25095
Operating profit	11996	-866	806	-17224	4451	-9875	<b>9882</b>	-11975	-6754
Investment holding	32090	35072	39280	41130	41640	45627	49734	48363	57,020
Total Funds carried	112286	<b>114402</b>	119416	104042	109003	103115	117104	<b>103758</b>	105485

# Questions on 2019 accounts ?

**Proposer: Terry Sloane** 

Seconder: Rob Hall

# **Reserves** policy

The Society's reserves policy has been prepared through consultation with the Charities Commission guidance on reserves policies for small charities and has previously been agreed by council.

1) £15k would be placed in reserve to cover unforeseen emergencies

- 2) £30k (3 x £10k) would be placed in reserve to offset any potential future uncertainties in income (effectively the difference between annual subscriptions (£15k) and total income=expenditure ~£25k)
- A contingency fund of £20k (equivalent to one year average annual expenditure over past decade) be held in reserve to meet unforeseen needs including unexpected opportunities which might arise for the society to further its objectives.

The reserved policy to be kept under review by council and presented for acceptance by the membership annually at the AGM

In summary:

Council proposes a £65k reserve to be kept under annual review.

Current funds held excluding UKPN (31 December 2019) are £105,485 k

Fixed assets (investment) £57,020 Current assets (Bank Accounts) £48,336

**Proposer: Bee Berx** 

Seconder: Kate Hendry

6. Appointment of auditors for Independent Financial Review In the interests of maintaining complete transparency in all of our affairs, the Challenger Society Council elected to continue to engage the services of an external auditor to perform an Independent Financial Review of the Society's accounts each year.

We have retained the services of:

Argents Chartered Accountants 15 Palace Street NORWICH Norfolk NR3 1RT Proposer: Bee Berx

**Seconder: Kate Hendry** 

7. New and outgoing council members

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## **Council Members Completing their Terms this year**

Thanks to these members who have served on council and complete their terms this year:

Rob Hall - membership Gideon Henderson - SCOR

#### **■**

## **Council Members co-opted in new role**

Members changing post on council Ros Rickaby President elect  $\rightarrow$  President Rob Goddard President  $\rightarrow$  President past Al Tagliabue SIGs  $\rightarrow$  SCOR

Co-opted members Stephen Dye (CEFAS) Nick Owens (SAMS) Nick Herrington (NHM) David Thomas Kerry Howell (PML)

Chair of the OC editorial board Chair of the 2020 organising committee Host for the 2022 conference Chair of NOC-A Challenger 150



## **Election of New Council Members**

Two new members to elect to Council:

Chelsey Baker – Membership Stephanie Allen – SIGs

## Membership Dr Chelsey Baker

Chelsey is a biogeochemical data and model analyst in the Marine Systems Modelling group at the National Oceanography Centre, Southampton, working on the CLASS project which aims to improve our understanding of the North Atlantic Ocean in a changing climate using observations and models. Chelsey's research interests are focused around the functioning and efficiency of the biological carbon pump, with a focus on carbon export and particle fluxes, and wider implications for the global carbon cycle.

Chelsey graduated with a BSc in Ocean Sciences from Bangor University (2014) and went on to study for an MSc in Oceanography at the University of Southampton (2015). Chelsey then completed her PhD at the University of Southampton (2019) on the topic of deep ocean carbon storage in the Subpolar North Atlantic and also undertook a research placement to Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution during this time. She participated in several research cruises collecting biogeochemical samples during her PhD and to date has spent over 120 days at sea on research cruises throughout the Atlantic Ocean.

Chelsey was a volunteer for the UK Polar Network (2016-2020) which focuses on education and outreach and providing support for Polar early career researcher. Chelsey took an active role in providing support and organising training for early career researchers, including interdisciplinary workshops focused on promoting collaboration between UK and Russian researchers.



## Special Interest Groups Dr Stephanie Allen



Stephanie Allen is currently a Senior Marine Biologist at the UK Hydrographic Office, supporting activities across the maritime industry. Stephanie undertook her degree of Marine Biology and Oceanography at Plymouth University and her PhD at the University of Southampton and the National Oceanography Centre. Her PhD examined long-term changes to oceanic plankton under a changing environment specialising in multivariate statistic techniques. She has collaborated internationally with several institutes including Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Scripps Institution of Oceanography and continues to contribute to outreach, as a STEM Ambassador across a variety of audiences.

Proposer: Nick Owens

Seconder: Al Tagliabue

## Passing the Gavel





#### Past President: Rob Upstill-Goddard

President: Ros Rickaby Chair of Geology, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Oxford

# 8. AOB

- 1. Next AGM: during the 2021 conference in Oban
- 2. Questions to the Council?

https://www.challenger-society.org.uk/

#### AGM 2020 - Questions to the Council?

1. Finlo Cottier: With the reduction in travel worldwide, for scientific meetings and events, will the Council be re-allocating funds and finding new ways of supporting members and early career researchers rather than just by issuing Travel Grants?

Rob Upstill-Goddard: Yes – we will be doing this. It will be a feature of the next council meetings – as now it is obvious that travel restrictions are likely to be extended.

2. Bee Berx: The council seems to be underspending on the award of Stepping Stones Bursary.

RUG: The applications are reviewed against a set of criteria which include other funding opportunities and a quality context and the awards this year do reflect those assessments by the Council.