Biographies | Understanding the Weather of 2018

Saturday 2 February 2019

Ross Reynolds
University of Reading, the Royal Meteorological Society's South East Local Centre

Has been retired since September 2016 as an Associate Professor in the Reading Department of Meteorology, having joined it in 1973. He spent an early year of his career at the Met Office working on GATE (GARP Atlantic Tropical Experiment) data.

He has made wide-ranging contributions to the Department including directing and developing undergraduates and taught postgraduate programmes including the 4 year MMet with a year at the University of Oklahoma and a WMO-sponsored unique MSc that includes compulsory management modules at the Henley Business School on campus. He acted as School Director of Teaching and Learning and worked on the developing link with Nanjing University of Information Science and Technology.

He taught mainly 'applied' modules and established residential field trips for both BSc and MSc programmes. He also enjoyed acting as personal tutor to many score students over the years. External work included producing the first set of guides to all aspects of the Meteosat Programme and being involved in the GCSE Meteorology Panel - including teaching it to a patient in Broadmoor! He also enjoyed occasional spells teaching Summer School at the University of Oklahoma as part of the student, and also now, research link between the departments.

He joined the RMetS as first year student at Lancaster in December 1967 and has served on Council, Weather Board, Education Committee, Accreditation Panel and for the last 5 years or so, chaired the South-East Centre.

Dr. Freja Vamborg
ECMWF

Freja Vamborg is a senior scientist at the Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S), which is implemented by the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) on behalf of the European Union. At C3S, she leads the monthly climate bulletins and the annual European State of Climate report, as well as communicates on C3S-related climate science to users and stakeholders.

Joanne Camp
Met Office

Joanne Camp has been a member of the Monthly to Decadal Prediction group in the Met Office Hadley Centre since 2008 after graduating with a first class honours degree in Meteorology from the University of Reading. Her work focuses on the use of dynamical climate prediction models for long-range (seasonal) predictions of tropical cyclone activity for the public and business communities. In particular, Joanne develops seasonal forecasts of the number of tropical cyclones, hurricanes and accumulated cyclone energy (ACE) index for the North Atlantic, as well as the rest of the globe, using ensemble predictions from the Met Office dynamical prediction system, GloSea5.

Dr. Arathy Menon
University of Reading

Dr. Arathy Menon is a research scientist at the Department of Meteorology, University of Reading since October 2015. Currently, she works on the high-resolution modelling of the Indian monsoon and its physical and dynamical processes. She works in close collaboration with the Met Office. As a part of her current project INCOMPASS, a joint work between the UK Natural Environment Research Council and India's Ministry of Earth Sciences, Dr. Menon participated in an aircraft field campaign taking the scientific lead of several research flights. She did her PhD at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, Germany, during which she worked on the future variability of Indian monsoon under global warming using the IPCC AR5 models. Before her PhD, she did an advanced masters in atmospheric and oceanic sciences from the Indian Institute of Science, India following a physics degree.

Dr Ian Simpson
Met Office

Dr Ian Simpson is a Climate Data Scientist at the Met Office, part of the National Climate Information Centre. He completed his PhD in precipitation variability across the UK at the University of East Anglia Climatic Research Unit in 2011. His research interests include climatology and extreme weather events with a focus on the UK. Ian is a long-standing Associate Fellow of the Royal Meteorological Society and has contributed personal meteorological records to the Climatological Observer's Link since July 2011.

Dr Roger Brugge FRMetS
University of Reading

Roger Brugge has been interested in weather since his school days, when he first began running his own weather station – a hobby he has maintained to the present day. He obtained a PhD at Imperial College and has since made a career of using and developing computer models that simulate the workings of both the atmosphere and ocean.A Fellow of the Royal Meteorological Society, Roger was formerly Editor of the Society's popular Weather magazine. Roger has helped run local official weather stations over the years and currently oversees the processing and archiving of data from the University of Reading's manual and automatic weather stations; he has devised several of the webpages portraying weather at the University.

In his spare time Roger is Editor of the monthly bulletin of the Climatological Observers Link - a national organisation for those interested in observing the weather – and his interest in 'current weather' led to the development of his long-running weather web pages covering the UK's weather. As one of the University's STEM ambassadors, he also frequently visits schools to give talks about weather observing and forecasting and he also runs the Met-Jobs mailing list for meteorological jobseekers**.**

Carsten Skjoth
University of Worcester

Dr Carsten Ambelas Skjøth joined the University of Worcester in 2013 as a senior lecturer after successful post doc positions at Aarhus University (Denmark) and Lund University (Sweden) and was in 2017 granted a professorship in atmospheric sciences. Carsten has worked with aeroallergens and agricultural air quality for more than 20 years. The main scientific questions are related to the exchange between atmosphere and the vegetation/surface and how meteorology affects this exchange and later the concentration of the species in the atmosphere. The studies species includes pollen (e.g. birch, grasses, ragweed) fungal spores (e.g. Alternaria and Cladosporium), pathogens (e.g. Hymenoscyphus fraxineus) and air pollutants, such as particles and ammonia. The research is typically carried out by combining ground based observations with mathematical models and data obtained through remote sensing. Carsten is teaching meteorology, climate and the application of air quality models at university of Worcester where he is also supervising PhD students and Post Docs.

He leads the aerobiological group at Worcester, which since 2013 has received support from FP7, Horizon2020, BBSRC and NERC. The group is collaboration with leading UK universities, FERA and the UK Met Office in order to carry out research on pollen and fungal spores with the ultimate goal to improve forecasting methods for the UK.

Lucy Barker
Centre for Ecology & Hydrology

Lucy Barker is a Hydrological Analyst at the Centre for Ecology & Hydrology in Wallingford. She works on a range of national and international research projects with a focus on drought monitoring and early warning and the understanding of drought event characteristics and propagation. She also contributes to operational projects including the National Hydrological Monitoring Programme (NHMP). The NHMP provides an authoritative voice on the hydrological conditions in the UK, works to identify and interpret long-term hydrological change and variability, produces a monthly Hydrological Summary and also reports on extreme events like floods and droughts.

Prof Sir Brian Hoskins CBE Hon FRMetS
Grantham Institute, Imperial College & University of Reading

Brian joined the University of Reading in 1971, became a Professor in 1981 and was Head of Department from 1990 to 1996.

In addition, in 2008, he became the first Director of the Grantham Institute at Imperial College and although semi-retired in 2014 he still works at the University of Reading Department and is the Chairman of the Grantham Institute.