

HISTORY GROUP NEWSLETTER - update



News, views and a miscellany published by the Royal Meteorological Society's
Special Interest Group for the History of Meteorology and Physical Oceanography

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Christmas 2020

News Julian Mayes, Secretary / Newsletter editor

This second newsletter of 2020 is simply a brief update on current news and developments. The most important one is that I am delighted to announce that we have a new Chairman, Vladimir Jankovic - details below.

Obviously, 2021 will be a new start in many ways – so it will be for the Group; a new Chairman and an opportunity to reschedule our postponed meetings. It will also be an opportunity to re-launch the Group's activities and membership. The committee has continued to meet by virtual means through the pandemic, although meeting plans have obviously had to remain on-hold. We look forward renewed activity next year.

May I, on behalf of the committee, wish everyone a peaceful Christmas and a happy and healthy 2021.

A new Chairman for the Group

Dr. Vladimir Jankovic, University of Manchester

Vladimir is Reader in History of Science and Atmospheric Humanities at the University of Manchester Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine. He gained an MSc in cloud physics and then moved into the study of the history of meteorology at the University of Notre Dame in the USA. Vladimir returned to the UK in 2000, researching the areas of climate and health and the history of urban climatology. He is a recent past-President of the *International Commission for the History of Meteorology*, is widely published in the field of historical meteorology, and edits their e-journal *History of Meteorology*.

<http://meteohistory.org/scholarship/history-of-meteorology/>

.....and our sincere thanks go to our outgoing Chairman, Norman Lynagh, for his leadership of the Group over recent years.

New additions to the Occasional Papers on the history of meteorology series

Members will be aware that the History Group runs a long-established series of Occasional Papers. Two submissions have recently been received and accepted:

1. Joan M. Kenworthy *How Europeans experienced and observed the climate of the Kenya highlands before the establishment of the British East African Meteorological Service in 1929.*
(currently published at <https://www.rmets.org/occasional-papers-meteorological-history>)
2. Brian J. Booth. *None but the brave: the story of the men of the wartime weather ships.* (accepted and soon to be added to the above list).

Thanks to Dr Howard Oliver for editing submissions to the series. Enquiries about possible future submissions should be made to the Group or via RMets.

Research grant announcement

SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS SOCIETY: Research Grants 2021

The Scientific Instrument Society (SIS) awards small grants, of up to £750 each, for research on the history of scientific instruments. Applications for the 2021 SIS Grants Scheme are now open; the deadline for applications is 1200 GMT on 8 January 2021.

To learn more of the Society, or to join, visit <http://www.scientificinstrumentsociety.org/>

The short application form may be found at <http://www.scientificinstrumentsociety.org/grant-application-form>

Applicants do not need to have any institutional affiliation and applications that are for less than the maximum grant are just as welcome — a properly costed proposal with a clear relevance to the Society's interests in historic scientific instruments, a realistic timetable and a clear tangible result or question to be answered are the most important factors that the committee will be considering.

Successful grant holders will have 18 months from the date of award to complete their research and claim the funds.

Grants are open to applicants from any country, and both members and non-members of the Scientific Instrument Society may apply. Previous applicants are also welcome to apply, provided that an article based on their first research grant has already been submitted to the SIS Bulletin.

Please note that the grant awarded will be paid against actual receipted expenditure and funds cannot be paid in advance. The grant is intended to cover items such as travel, accommodation (excluding meals) and photocopying costs. We are unable to fund attendance at or travel to conferences, or contribute to the cost of outreach projects such as events and exhibitions.

Further information on what the Society can support and the terms and conditions of the award can be found at <http://www.scientificinstrumentsociety.org/grants/>

Examples of previously successful applicants may be found at <http://www.scientificinstrumentsociety.org/previously-supported-projects/>
Questions? For any queries regarding SIS grants, please e-mail grants@sis.org.uk

My thanks to Stephen Burt for this notification

Translation of Bergeron (1928)

Prof. David Schultz of the University of Manchester has recently completed - with colleagues - a translation into English of T. Bergeron (1928) *Three-dimensionally combining synoptic analysis*. The following paper in *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society* describes the process and gives an insight into Bergeron's paper and work.

Defender and Expositor of the Bergen Methods of Synoptic Analysis: Significance, History, and Translation of Bergeron's (1928) "Three-Dimensionally Combining Synoptic Analysis".
<https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/bams/101/12/BAMS-D-20-0021.1.xml>

The actual translation may be found at the 'Supplementary Materials' link in the above URL.

Source: ICHM mailing

Future meetings

Dates for these meetings will be notified as soon as arranged.

The history of climate science ideas and their applications RMetS National meeting arranged by the RMetS SIG on Climate Change with reference to the History Group. The programme can be found at <https://www.rmets.org/event/history-climate-science-ideas-and-their-applications>

Historic Scottish weather observations and how to access them A joint meeting with the Scottish Centre of the RMetS. Originally planned to take place in Edinburgh, September 2020.

The weather, measur'd: 400 years of meteorological instrument technology A joint meeting between the Worshipful Company of Scientific Instrument Makers, the Scientific Instrument Society and the Meteorological Observing Systems SIG of the RMetS. The programme and full details can be seen at: <http://www.scientificinstrumentsociety.org/news/2020/3/2/sis-agm-and-history-of-meteorology-symposium-13-june-2020>

If you are interested in attending, you can register your interest there (rather than at the RMetS website, please) and you will be sent further information in due course once the new date is known.

Submissions for the History Group newsletter and enquiries about the Group can be made to Julian Mayes (Hon. Sec. / newsletter editor) at jcmwx515@gmail.com