

Chemistry & Chemical Engineering Newsletter

Spring/Summer 2026

Inside your Newsletter:

- 1 Welcome and Farewell from Julie
- 2 Graduation and Awards
UG contributions to research papers
- 3 Celebrations and Congratulations
- 6 International Women's Day 2026
- 7 Outreach Spring update
- 8 Safety Matters
- 9 CChES Industry Day
- 10 CChES collaboration with LECO
Pioneering the use of Electronic Lab Notebook
- 11 Wellbeing
- 12 Pets of the School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering
- 14 Beyond Chemistry
- 15 Student Resources and Wellbeing
- 17 Code of Conduct

Welcome and Farewell from Julie

Welcome to our Spring newsletter and thank you to everyone who has contributed and shared their stories. Although this will be my final contribution, it has been a pleasure to discover and celebrate the many successes across our School community over the past nine years. I would like to offer particular thanks to Dawn Dunlop, whose dedication and persistence have ensured the newsletter is published twice a year. We continue to receive positive feedback from visitors who say the newsletter reflects the strong sense of community within the School.



Important Dates

2025/26 Term Dates:

Summer Term:

Mon 20 April - Sat 13 June 2026

Semester 2 Exams:

Mon 18 May - Fri 6 June 2026

Graduation: 22nd July 2026

2026/27 Term Dates:

Semester 1:

Mon 21st Sept 2026 - Sat 23rd Jan 2027

Autumn Term:

Mon 21st Sept to Sat 12th Dec 2026

Semester 1 Exams:

Mon 4th Jan - Fri 16th Jan 2027

University Closure days/Public

Holidays:

Thur 24th Dec 2026 - Fri 1st Jan 2027

Fri 26th March - Wed 31st March 2027

Mon 3rd May 2027

Mon 31st May 2027

This year we have also said farewell to several long serving colleagues through the voluntary severance scheme. Professors Andrea Russell and David Harrowven have retired from their full-time posts but will remain with us as Emeritus Professors in recognition of their scholarship and long-standing service. Alan Glass and Paul Frampton have stepped down from their roles in the workshop, creating a significant gap in our infrastructure support team. In addition, Ron Swart has chosen to retire from his position as Knowledge Transfer Manager from mid May.

As we look ahead, we are keen to involve more colleagues in the production of future newsletters. If you would like to learn more, please contact Dawn or Julie (before the end of June).

Julie Herniman



2023 Silver Award
Chemistry at University of Southampton

Do you have an article you wish to contribute to a future edition?

Please email Julie Herniman J.M.Herniman@soton.ac.uk or Dawn Dunlop D.Dunlop@soton.ac.uk

Graduations and Awards

Congratulations to the following students on their PhD Awards since our last newsletter:

James Bramley - *Enhancing Crystal Structure Prediction Methods for Flexible Small Molecule Pharmaceuticals*

Joshua Dickman - *Assessing synthetic difficulty in computational materials discovery*

Liam Kemp - *Doped Scandium-Based Layered Oxychalcogenides*

Jennifer Martin - *Machine-Learning Methods for Analysis of Organic Molecular Crystal Structure Prediction Landscapes*

Amber Watson - *Reproducibility and Alternative Electrochemical Methods for Testing ORR/OER Electrocatalysts*

Dhanushk Weerakoon - *Direct and indirect impacts of polymyxin B1 on Gram-negative bacteria and their membranes: a computational study*

Laura Reyes Fraile - *Towards the development of next-generation MergoTM - a nucleic acid-based delivery platform*

Monica Lopes - *Development of Methods for Large Scale Manufacturing of ON Constructs*

Lewis Mitchell - *Discovery and Target Identification of SICLOPPS-Derived Antibacterial Cyclic Peptides*

Oliver Tearle - *An Automated Approach to Financial Fraud Management*

Uluk Rasulov - *Optimal Control, Quantification and Machine Learning in Spin Dynamics*

Chemistry Publications: UG contributions to research papers

Important research outcomes are the result of work undertaken by undergraduate project students and summer placement students. Recent examples include:

Grace E. Beaver, Katherine E. Marris, Daniel J. Ryder Mahoney, Dimitrios-Ioannis Tzaras, Ryan A. Bragg, Charles S. Elmore and Gregory J. P. Perry
Carbon isotope exchange and transfer reactions involving CO₂

Org. Chem. Front., 2026, Advance Article

<https://doi.org/10.1039/D6QO00133E>

UG Grace E. Beaver

Poster Day 19th March 2026

Congratulations to the following Undergraduate students who were awarded a prize for their poster:

Felix Pease, Suan Yeap, Jazmine Thorne, Victor Perlov, Amy Clough, Rebecca Collins, Arwen Jones, Wei Bo Ng, Grace Beaver and Georgia Godding.



Thank you to all who came along.



Congratulations LinkedIn Poster Day Winners!

Thanks to all who participated in the LinkedIn Poster Day, it was great to see all of the great posters up there representing Southampton so well. We also had some great discussions with participants as part of the ChemSoc Live Podcast episode, which was released 12th May 2026.

Delighted to announce we have our winners!

The winner of the **Poster Prize** is **Niamh Yates** for her poster on ammonium detection using MOFs.

In the end the judges couldn't split the top two for the **Student Engagement prize**, so we have two winners - **Mabel Whiting** and **Natalia Witkowska**.

Congratulations to all who participated and we look forward to seeing you at the next event.

Sam Perry

Celebrations and Congratulations

Monika Papayova – Global Young Scientists Summit 2026

I was honoured to be nominated by the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences and the Department of Chemistry to attend the Global Young Scientists Summit (GYSS) 2026 in Singapore.



This was an inspiring week bringing together early-career researchers from around the world, and it was fantastic to meet so many talented young scientists and exchange ideas, experiences, and perspectives.

The scientific programme was excellent. David Baker's opening lecture on AlphaFold offered a fascinating look at the future of protein structure prediction. I particularly enjoyed the panel discussions on AI in science and diversity in STEM.

I also had the privilege of hearing talks from Sir David Klenerman and Sir Tim Hunt,

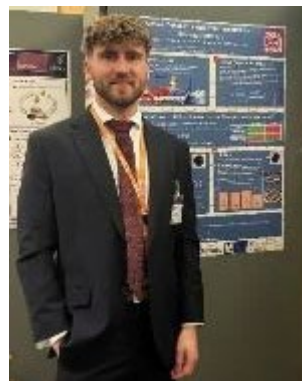


and I met Sir Venki Ramakrishnan during a Fireside Chat and at the networking dinner - a wonderful opportunity to ask questions and learn about his scientific journey.

As part of the programme, I visited the A*STAR Genome Institute, where I learned about the SG10K health initiative and discussed sequencing work with researchers, which closely aligns with my own research interests. I also toured the Singapore University of Technology and Design, exploring their drone research facility and their innovative work on 3D-printed biomaterials for medical devices.

Singapore itself was both scientifically enriching and personally memorable. The summit concluded with a visit to the Singapore Zoo Night Safari, offering a unique perspective on wildlife conservation. I'm grateful to the Global Young Scientists Summit (GYSS) and the National Research Foundation Singapore for organising such a valuable event. I would also like to thank the Chemistry Department for supporting my GYSS attendance, especially Prof Andrew Hector, Prof Ali Tavassoli, Prof Seung Lee, Janice Sumner, Ros Mizen, and Sarah Morss.

Rob Clarke – STEM for Britain



On Tuesday 17 March, I attended the Houses of Parliament for the annual STEM for Britain poster exhibition, presenting in the chemistry category.

I was selected from hundreds of applicants to take part in the event's final stage.

I presented a poster summarising my PhD research, focused on the synthesis and characterisation of thermoelectric Metal–Organic Frameworks. The exhibition was attended by MPs, Peers, and industry leaders, providing a valuable opportunity to discuss my work and its relevance to the UK's future in energy security, sustainability, and advanced materials.

I was particularly pleased to speak with my local MP, Satvir Kaur, about my research and its broader impact. It was a fantastic day overall, and I greatly enjoyed engaging with fellow researchers and learning about the diverse and exciting work being carried out across the country.

Congratulations to Juanjuan Li and Kat Swindells-Ridley, who have both been awarded associate fellowship of AdvanceHE. For this recognition they needed to evidence their effectiveness in teaching and supporting learning through development of a portfolio. We all knew of course, but it is nice to see it recognised externally!

Congratulations to the Level 4 and 5 Teaching Laboratories in the School of Chemistry & Chemical Engineering who have been awarded a Silver LEAF award.



This achievement reflects the hard work and commitment of our technical staff, academic colleagues, and students in driving forward more sustainable laboratory practices.

Professor Reid secures major EPSRC award



**Engineering and
Physical Sciences
Research Council**

A research team led by Professor Gill Reid has just secured a major EPSRC award to transform semiconductor material growth. The team has been awarded significant (£10.4M) EPSRC funding for EXPRESS, a five-year programme exploring new ways to grow transition metal dichalcogenides (TMDCs), semiconductors with exciting potential for ultra-low power electronics, neuromorphic computing, photonic circuits and quantum technologies.



The project will use electrodeposition, guided by custom molecules designed to help control how these materials begin to assemble and grow. This approach allows the team to integrate the materials directly into 3D fabricated electrode structures, avoiding complex transfer steps and enabling more reliable evaluation of their properties towards future applications.

Gill said “There is huge international interest in these materials, but current methods can’t always produce them consistently. Our early work showed that electrodeposition could offer an alternative simple and more controllable way forward. It opens the door to growing high quality materials exactly where we need them.”

The programme brings together chemists, physicists and engineers at Southampton and Warwick, strengthening the UK’s semiconductor capability and offering major opportunities for early career researchers.

Congratulations to Professor John Langley named as Fellow of the Learned Society of Wales

The Learned Society of Wales has named Professor John Langley, Professor Emeritus, University of Southampton, amongst its new Fellows.

John said “I am truly honoured and immensely proud to have been elected a Fellow of the Learned Society of Wales. It is a wonderful recognition, and I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the work of this fantastic Society.”



The announcement of the 44 new Fellows, with John Langley amongst them, is an opportunity to celebrate the depth and breadth of Welsh research, innovation, leadership and creativity.

Over half (52%) of the new Fellows are women. The Learned Society of Wales actively works towards a Fellowship that reflects Wales's diversity and is delighted to reach the milestone of electing the highest proportion of women in its history.



“Welcoming our new Fellows to the Society is always one of the highlights of the Society’s year,” said Professor Hywel Thomas, President of the Learned Society of Wales.

“I congratulate them on this recognition of the excellence the importance of their work and contributions to life in Wales and beyond. We look forward to bringing their experience and knowledge to our work on policy and researcher development.

The new Fellows come from across the arts, humanities and sciences, and this year reflect the importance to Welsh society of a vibrant cultural life.

George Williams – Slow Burn, high impact

Featured in the [Spring Reaction Magazine](#) (full article)

Targeting pancreatic cancer George's PhD designing sensors and drug delivery systems for antimicrobial applications sparked the idea, which he began to explore during his first postdoctoral position. But Southampton's Anniversary Fellowship, along with a Pancreatic Cancer Care Foundation Fellowship which he held concurrently, gave him the opportunity to fully investigate its potential.



The Anniversary Fellowship concluded in late 2025, but the research is ongoing. The fellowship's focus was the development of 'boronic acid smart hydrogels.' "Our primary target is pancreatic cancer, because it's so hard to treat," said George. "Specifically, we're developing a new polymer-based drug delivery system that promotes the uptake and retention of boronic acid-based prodrugs in tumours, so they have time to activate before being excreted."

George credits his PhD supervisor with instilling the importance of interdisciplinary research. "He told us, 'You have the solutions to problems you don't know exist. Only by talking to other people do you find out what they are.'" Involving clinicians early is also vital, he said, especially when applying for medical research funding. Their perspective ensures that ideas that make sense in a chemistry lab also make sense in the clinic and can help identify applications beyond those initially envisaged. "It's important to make sure I haven't overlooked something that is fundamentally obvious to them," he added.

George emphasises that he "wouldn't be able to do most of this work without collaborators," including Chemistry's Dr Matt Baud, who hosted him in his lab when he first arrived. Collaboration is, he said, what he has enjoyed most about the Anniversary Fellowship.

Building a team Reflecting on his fellowship, George said it gave him protected time, visibility across the University, and a pathway into a permanent lectureship. "That protected time to start carving out a research niche was the biggest benefit for me." The opportunity, along with his determination to stay at Southampton, has helped him build a research group that now includes six "fantastic" PhD students across engineering, oceanography, biosciences and medicine, with two more joining soon. He recently secured an EPSRC New Investigator Award and is preparing to welcome a new postdoctoral researcher. "It'd be a real pain to get rid of me now," he joked. Slow burn George's vision is long-term. "This has been my slow-burn project," he said. "I want it to go somewhere high impact, if it works." With a thriving group, productive collaborations, and platform chemistry that could transform cancer drug delivery, George is laying the foundations for work with the potential to make a real clinical difference.

Accreditation News!

On the 5th December 2025, we heard that our Chemistry degrees have had their accreditation renewed by RSC until 2031.

The committee produced a long list of commendations for our practices, which shows contributions from many people across the School. However the process itself also required a lot of work by specific people, so I would like to thank the following:

- Russell Minns, Paul Duckmanton, Janice Sumner, Thomas Logothetis, Sam Perry, Sam Thompson and Julie Herniman
- Lucy Dalton, Maia Sarll and others in the student office and CQA
- William Harper, Siya Patel, Matthew Bucknell, Katie Sampson, Hayley Davies, Arwen Jones, Aaron Gulotta, George Rutt, Niamh Yates and Keziah Langdon

On the 26th February 2026, our Chemical Engineering degrees reached an important milestone when the undergraduate and MSc programmes were accredited by the Institution of Chemical Engineers.

As well as providing an assurance of the quality of the programmes by benchmarking against international standards, this provides our graduates with routes to chartered status.

Special mention must go to Mohamed Hassan-Sayed for leading the accreditation work so effectively, but this has been a group effort by the chemical engineering team, Paul Duckmanton, the student office and CQA team, and indeed those involved in earlier development of the programmes. Hence on behalf of the School I would like to thank anyone that has contributed.

Andrew Hector

Congratulations to Eleanor Keil who won an award for her first conference talk.



"I was awarded the Early Crystallographer Oral Prize, sponsored by Rigaku, for my talk about my PhD project, titled 'Developing Devices and Approaches for Comparing Gas Absorption across Laboratory X-ray and Electron Diffraction Techniques'. This was at the Early Career Meeting of the British Crystallographic Association (BCA) Spring Meeting 30th March - 1st April and attended by members of Prof Simon Coles' and Prof Graeme Days' groups".



Congratulations to Jeremy Frey:

In 2026 Jeremy will take up the role of President of IUPAC Division I (International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, Physical and Bio-Physical Chemistry), at an interesting and challenging time as IUPAC is undergoing a major restructuring.

Jeremy also chairs the RSC-IUPAC committee, as being an elected Trustee of the RSC saying "it is great to be able to report that we have RSC members on all the IUPAC committees."

And in other news, significantly the Digital Representation of Units of Measure (DRUM) Task Group (which Jeremy chairs, was renewed for the next biennium (until end of 2027).

International Women's Day Symposium 11th March 2026

This year the School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering celebrated International Women's Day by hosting a symposium featuring three women who shared their inspirational, yet quite different and personal journeys with us. The event began with a networking lunch, followed by a group photograph alongside a painting of Dr Ishbel Campbell, the first woman lecturer/reader in Chemistry at University of Southampton, from 1938 until her retirement in 1971.



Professor Gill Reid reflected on the key influences that shaped her career as she moved through various stages of her life, including the impact of an inspirational Chemistry teacher and her experiences in leadership roles as Head of School and president of the Royal Society of Chemistry.

Professor Nicola Symonds spoke about how she had to Boldy Go where few women had been before on her path to becoming an international recognised investigative failure engineer. She described her work on the helicopter crash at Leicester City Football Club highlighting the rigorous and detailed work required to determine the cause of the accident.

Dr Sarah Bennett from the University of Warwick described her progression as research technical professional explaining how each new role she undertook helped further develop her skills to become a strategic technical leader.

All those who attended had plenty to reflect on, having heard three compelling and different stories that illustrated the motivations, experiences, and challenges that shaped each speaker's professional journey.



CCE Outreach Spring update

I want to start my article by celebrating a pretty outstanding SOTSEF. If you didn't make it along then you missed a truly great year! We got glowing feedback via our fancy terminals and so many positive comments throughout the day about all the activities we ran. None of this would have been possible without the incredible commitment of our CCE community. A massive thank you to the ~90 volunteers from across the School who gave their time, energy and enthusiasm. I would particularly like to single out Rob and Vicki, who did an exceptional job bringing everything together. Their organisation, calm (outwardly 😊) leadership and attention to detail made the ever complex SOTSEF event run smoothly.



We also have some wonderful outreach achievements to celebrate. Huge congratulations to Owen Hewitt and Eleanor Keil who have been awarded an RSC Outreach grant for Spectroscopy in a Suitcase. They have been exceptionally busy, travelling across the south to showcase CCE spectroscopy and inspire students and teachers alike. The grant will go a long way to helping to continue and expand this fantastic programme.

If you are interested in applying for your own outreach or engagement grant, please do get in touch. I am very happy to help with ideas, applications, and navigating the ever-changing funding landscape.

Looking ahead, preparations are well underway for the British Science Festival activities that will take place here in Chemistry on the 16th and 17th of September. We are really looking forward to welcoming the public into our spaces and sharing the exciting science that happens here every day. This will be a major opportunity to engage new audiences, and we will need as many volunteers as we can get so look out for emails!

We are also delighted to be welcoming back the Teacher Conference at the start of July. This event is an excellent opportunity to strengthen relationships with schools, share good practice, and highlight how the School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering can support teaching and learning in schools. I am particularly keen to grow our network of teachers and schools, enabling us to offer meaningful support through lab visits, classroom activities, guest talks, and collaborative projects. If you know of a school that might be interested in working with us, please pass on their details so I can get in touch.

Finally, I want to make a plea to help us collect better information about outreach. If you are giving school talks, hosting visits, running demonstrations, working with community groups, or doing any form of outreach at all, please let me know. As a School, we need to do a much better job of documenting and promoting the brilliant work that is already happening. There are so many people contributing their time and creativity, and too often this work goes uncelebrated and unseen. By sharing what you are doing, we can celebrate successes, build best practice, and make it easier for others to get involved.

Dr Matthew Partridge
Director of Outreach and Schools Liaison



Safety Matters – Article 1

Welcome to the first of a regular contribution from the Health & Safety Team. We aim to use this space to bring you news, reminders of best practice, links to new resources and highlight lessons learnt from recent incidents.

Firstly, can we take this opportunity to encourage people to bring any safety questions or concerns directly to one of the Safety Team (Mansoor D'Lavari, Mark Light, Bobbie McVey & Julian Vaughan-Spickers), we do also have a dedicated email address chemsafe@soton.ac.uk. Discussing issues or flagging things before they arise is the best way to prevent problems down the line.

To quote the excellent CCE Safety Booklet "Safety is the concern of everyone." – so the best way to develop a safe space to work, is always take time to think how our activities impact us as individuals, as well as those around us. We, as your H&S Team are here to provide guidance and information to assist you in this.

Here are a few reminders

REMINDER I:

It is now mandatory for all new Risk Assessments and COSH documents to be stored in the Electronic Lab Notebook (ELN). This enables us to comply with UoS policy. Links to resources (and help) and the login for the portal are below.



<https://soton.signalsresearch.revitycloud.eu/portal/>

REMINDER II:

The main remit for the CCE H&S Team is to make sure we provide a safe environment to in which to work by complying with the UoS policies and systems of work. In this respect it is worth highlighting that the UoS H&S policy-organisation places the duty of care for H&S directly with line managers. This means the core relationship for enabling safe working is that between the individual researcher and their supervisor and we strongly encourage regular discussion of H&S matters at group meetings. WR



<https://sotonac.sharepoint.com/teams/HealthSafetyRisk>

Where to find additional information:



Please refer to the CCE H&S SharePoint site for links, documentation, policies and guidance: <https://sotonac.sharepoint.com/teams/ChemistryHealthSafety>

Mark, Mansoor & Bobbie



CChES Industry Day

What a fantastic day at the CChES Industry Day.

The Hartley Suite was at capacity, with industry partners joining us for a packed and engaging programme. There was a real buzz throughout the day, with conversations, ideas and new connections happening at every turn.



A huge thank you to Ron Swart, Sally Dady, Janice Sumner and Sumeet Mahajan for organising such a successful event. The day really highlighted the School's focus on advancing knowledge exchange and enterprise through CChES, bringing together expertise to support discovery and innovation across UK industry.



It was great to see such strong engagement, with many of our industry colleagues keen to continue the conversations beyond the day itself. If you're interested in working with us, we'd love to hear from you.



New Dimensions in advanced chemical analysis at the University of Southampton.

CChES is part of a new five-year collaboration with LECO Instruments UK Ltd, bringing enhanced gas chromatography mass spectrometry capabilities to our Chromatography & Mass Spectrometry Facility.

This strategic partnership strengthens our ability to gain deeper insight into complex samples, supporting both academic research and real-world commercial applications and includes partial sponsorship of the laboratory, a LECO Pegasus BTX instrument and a joint EPSRC DLA Collaboration Award PhD studentship, to start in October 2026.

The partnership was formally launched at an event in the School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, with Prof Leon Barron (Imperial College and Chair of the Royal Society of Chemistry Separation Science Interest Group) as Guest of Honour.



Pioneering the use of electronic lab notebooks

The roll-out of an electronic lab notebook (ELN) system has put the University of Southampton's School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering at the forefront of university research data digitisation.

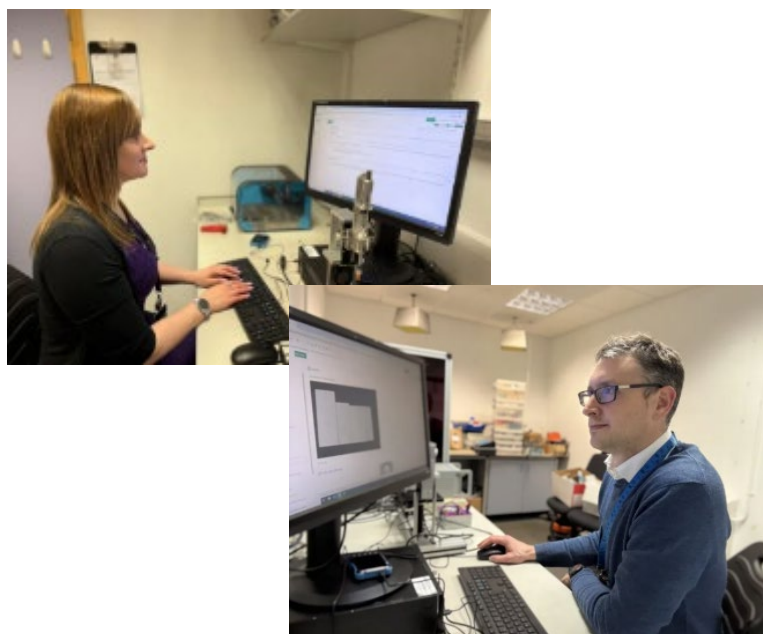
Through centralised, better-quality data and streamlined processes, the new system will further enhance the School's, and CChES's, world-leading research.

In addition, the implementation process has generated invaluable insights that can help other institutions and companies transition from paper notebooks to ELNs.

Dr Samantha Pearman-Kanza, Principal Enterprise Fellow, is the initiative's co-lead with Senior Enterprise Fellow Dr Matthew Partridge. They are building on the School's long history of work towards better data capture, for example through the Physical Sciences Data Infrastructure (PSDI) group.

The ELN was trialled from January to October 2025, with impressive results. "Before the trial, 75% of users were only using paper records; now all the participants are capturing data electronically, with lots of positive feedback about the resulting improvements."

The benefits of moving from paper to electronic lab notebooks. "People like writing on paper because it's more personal and they can do it their own way," says Samantha. "But paper notebooks are more difficult to share and search, and hard to back up. The ELN encourages people to capture information in a more consistent and structured way and supports more efficient ways of working."



You can read more about ELN in the CChES release here: <https://cches.co.uk/electronic-lab-notebooks/>

And in the article on the Scientific Computing World website: <https://www.scientific-computing.com/article/digitising-lab-how-university-southampton-transformed-research-electronic-lab-notebooks>

Wellbeing Cafe

In February, the Wellbeing team were here in the Common Room for a Wellbeing Café. An opportunity to gather with colleagues and friends for a chat, to participate in arts and crafts, and have free hot drinks and snacks. Here are a couple of photos taken with permission of some of the attendees.



You can find out more about what support the Wellbeing team can offer here:

<https://sotonac.sharepoint.com/teams/HealthWellbeing>

For details of upcoming events and training for staff, including Workplace Stress assessments, you can find out more and here:

<https://sotonac.sharepoint.com/teams/HealthWellbeing/SitePages/Wellbeing-Events.aspx>

Infrastructure support team changes

At the end of March, the Infrastructure support team said goodbye to Alan Glass and Paul Frampton, leaving the school of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering after many years of valued service.

Mansoor took them for a goodbye lunch, joined by Hayden, Mark and Sally, to thank them for all their hard work on the team.



Pets of the School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering

Another wonderful response to our call for pictures for our “Pets corner” section of the newsletter!



Lottie and Ruby
Simon Coles



Wu
Simon Coles



Jasmine
Kat Swindells-Ridley



Rufus
Ryan Fernandez Medina Hariri



Caesar (and Laval!)
Laval Nicolas



Zoltan
Laval Nicolas



Oscar and Pippin (the black one!) with my grandfather's clock
Martin Grossel



Nala
Aaron Gulotta

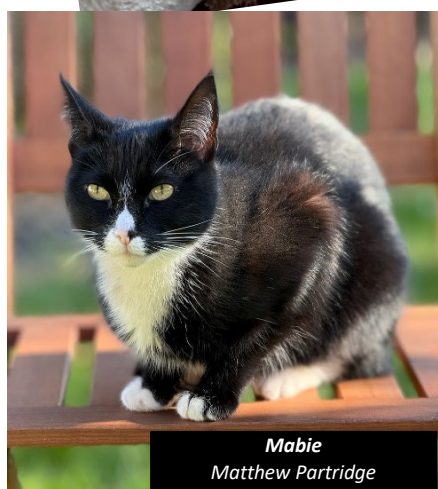
... and there's more!



Johnny Cash
Sally Dady (daughter's dog)



Alvin
Julie Herniman



Mabie
Matthew Partridge



Loki (kitten)
Kiara Noemi Csontos

Artemis
Darren Bradshaw (daughter's Rankins Dragon)



Zabado
Omar Sewidan



Tilly (kitten)
Andrew Hector



If you missed it this time, please do send me your pictures for the next newsletter in Autumn/Winter 2026.

Beyond Chemistry

Mansoor D'lavari – Mindfulness



In the warm, fading light where sea and sky meet, north Cornwall reveals itself as a place shaped as much by feeling as by landscape. Around Bude, the broad sweep of sand and the strength of the surrounding cliffs have long attracted artists and poets searching for something fundamental (the same coastline that inspired Turner's dramatic seascapes, the clear, grounded poetry of Charles Causley, and the evocative writing of Daphne du Maurier).



At Summerleaze Beach, Barrel Rock stands firmly against the Atlantic, reflecting both the town's maritime history and its enduring connection to the sea. As the sun drops below the horizon, colours deepen and soften, making it easy to see why this corner of Cornwall continues to inspire. ***A landscape where creativity feels as natural as the rising and falling tide.***

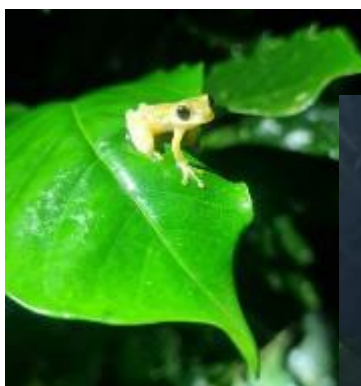


George Williams – Honeymoon in Costa Rica

Me and Kaya went on our honeymoon to Costa Rica in April - we got married back in September but we didn't have chance to head off until now! We spent the first part of the trip on the Pacific coast in a place called Nosara, which is a great surf beach, and scored consistent 4-8 ft waves every day.



We stayed about a 100 m walk from the beach, so it was pretty much on the doorstep! After a week of hanging out on the beach we went inland to a place called La Fortuna which is right next to one of the volcano national parks. Here we saw tons of wildlife (big fan of the Sloths!) and did a really cool night walk in the jungle where we saw a ton of cool frogs, snakes and terrifying bugs.



Whilst we were there, we got to do rafting, a bunch of hiking, some bridge walks, zip lining and plenty of eating and drinking!



Student Resources - Study tips and support for semester two exams and assessments

With the exams and assessments period for semester 2 coming up which we know can be a stressful time, here are some useful resources from the University - sharing tips and practical guidance to help you head into your exams and assessments with confidence.

Optimise your revision with help from the Library

For top tips on how to get ahead this exam season, take some time to discover The Library's Exams website.

<https://library.soton.ac.uk/sash/exams>

From managing your time effectively to getting the most from your reading material, the study skills tab is a great resource for optimising your revision sessions.

Use GenAI responsibly

It's important that you align with our position on using Generative AI (GenAI) to supplement your studies. Check out the University website for guidance on how to use GenAI effectively and responsibly throughout your time here.

Academic Responsibility and Conduct

In addition to aligning with our position on GenAI, it's important that you understand and adhere to The University's Academic Responsibility and Conduct Regulations. They outline policy on topics such as plagiarism, cheating and collusion—breaches of which could negatively impact the outcome of your exam.

You have a responsibility to act in accordance with these regulations, so it's a good idea to familiarise yourself with them ahead of the next exams and assessments period. You can read our Academic Responsibility and Conduct Regulations on our website here:

<https://tinyurl.com/yk2dc46z>

And remember...You've got this!

Remember to take frequent breaks, get lots of fresh air and plenty of exercise—check out activities from BeActive, on the MySouthampton App to help get you moving. If you need any further support with exam and assessment queries or if you just need someone to chat to The Student Hub is here for you 24/7.

Reach us in person, using the [online chat](#), by emailing studenthub@soton.ac.uk or calling 02380 599 599.

Where to find support

Academic Skills Hub/Drop-in

The Academic Skills Service offers a variety of resources to help you develop your academic and study skills, including guidance on getting smart with online academic integrity.

<https://library.soton.ac.uk/sash>

You can join a writing café or drop-in to an academic skills 1:1 during the times below, or book a 1:1 online appointment at a time that works for you.

<https://library.soton.ac.uk/appointment>

Fridays – Writing Café. Building 38, Lounge Cafe Space, 14:00-16:00

Tuesdays & Thursdays – Academic Skills Drop-in. Academic Skills Hub, Hartley Library, 13:00-16:00.

Wednesdays – Maths and Stats Drop-in. Academic Skills Hub, Hartley Library, 14:00-16:00.

Additional academic support

Your Personal Academic Tutor can provide one-to-one support throughout your time at university and help you to resolve any challenges you may be facing.

You can find out who your Personal Academic Tutor is, and how to get in touch with them, visit the Knowledge Base. Plus, get instant access to other additional support, including guidance on exam arrangements and Special Considerations, if things do not go to plan.

What to expect on the day

If you're sitting an exam or assessment in person, there are a few things you should know before heading into the exam room. We've covered everything, from standard process and what to bring to best practice and top tips, on the Exams and Assessments SharePoint <https://tinyurl.com/42zm7nye>

We'd recommend taking some time to read it over and watch our helpful exams and assessments tips videos before the semester one period starts.

Exams and assessments guidebook – available here:

https://issuu.com/university_of_southampton/docs/exams_and_assessments_guide_for_students

Student Wellbeing Resources

Here are some resources that may help students' find support with their Wellbeing and Mental Health.

Student Hub, Student Wellbeing Sharepoint:

<https://www.southampton.ac.uk/studentservices/support-wellbeing.page>



With Semester 2 exams period approaching, see these guides for managing stress before, during and after your assessments; and a guide to what you need to know about your assessments.

Wellbeing – Before, during and after exams

<https://rb.gy/0r93q6>



Managing Assessments, Study and Wellbeing

<https://tinyurl.com/yszrhwhp>



Exams and assessments: A guide of what you need to know

<https://tinyurl.com/42zm7nye>





Code of Conduct

School of Chemistry

- We are resolute in our commitment to provide a supportive environment in which we value differences, respect diversity and treat each other with equity and respect.
 - We ensure individuals are treated equitably regardless of gender and gender identity/ expression, ethnicity, religion, nationality, sexual orientation, race, physical appearance, age or disability.
 - We do not condone or tolerate intimidating behaviour, including harassment (verbal, non-verbal or physical), bullying or victimisation.
 - We collaboratively preserve a community in which positive working relationships are forged and everyone feels valued, encouraged and supported.
 - We strive to maintain an environment free of inappropriate or offensive language or behaviour, where individuals consider their own behaviour and the impact that this can have on others.
 - We are dedicated to fostering a culture that empowers all members of our community to act promptly to challenge unacceptable behaviour.
 - We provide support to staff, students and visitors who feel they have been subjected to, or have witnessed, harassment, bullying or victimisation.
 - We ensure that allegations of harassment, bullying or victimisation are addressed fairly, with respect for the rights and dignity of all those involved.
 - Every member of the community is committed to playing an active role in creating and maintaining an environment that does not tolerate harassment, bullying and victimisation.
- Together we can continue to ensure Chemistry is an outstanding and inclusive place to work and study.

“The time is always right to do what is right.”

Martin Luther King, Jr

➤ **If you have experienced or witnessed abuse, bullying, or harassment at work or study, the university Harassment Contacts can offer support, and guidance for further action:**
www.southampton.ac.uk/hc

For further information please read the University Dignity and Work and Study policy, Embedding Collegiality and Whistleblower policy.

