

The portrait of a generation

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Your job

Who do you work for and could you describe your job?

I am currently a PhD student at the University of Salford. I am researching the effects of radiation on birds within the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone using bioacoustics.

How did you get into radiation protection?

I got into radiation protection when I started my PhD, it was a completely new subject to me. When I first discovered what radiation protection is I was both excited and apprehensive as I wasn't sure what to expect.

What do you enjoy most at work?

I love going to conferences and workshops because they offer me great opportunities for finding out about the latest ideas and research, and for meeting new people, and catching up with others that I have previously met at conferences (as well as an excuse to travel!).

A professional meeting you still remember today?

My first international conference is a professional meeting I will always remember. I was really nervous as it was my first PhD presentation and it was a fairly big audience. Everyone was so supportive and gave great feedback. I still have connections with these people now.



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Any message you would like to pass to the younger generation about working in RP?

It may seem daunting a first especially if it is a new topic but the support network is amazing and everyone is willing to help. Don't be afraid to ask someone for help/advice.

Radiation Protection Associate Society

How are you involved in your AS?

Committee member for the Rising Generations Group.

How many members in your AS?

1595

Are the young professionals connected (Club)?

Are you performing activities together?

Yes, we have the Rising Generations Group (RGG) with 260 members. Mostly outreach activities, events and competitions.

Your best memory with your AS?

Being asked to join the Rising Generations Group Committee (I'm sure there will be more memories in the next 3 years).

How do you see the future of radiation protection in your country? Is it specific to your country or applicable to other?

I think the future of radiation protection will continue to grow as we learn more about what we can do to ensure any exposure to ionising and non-ionising radiation is as low as possible. Research in areas affected by nuclear accidents (Chernobyl and Fukushima) will help us understand the effects of radiation which as a result will help the future of radiation protection.



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About you

Hobbies and pets?

Reading
Bird Watching
Walking
Shopping (I do too much of this!)

Ernie – cat
Amber – cat
Flash – tortoise
Nala - rabbit

3 things you will bring on a desert island?

Matches
My cats
Sleeping Bag

Favourite dish?

Saag Paneer (I never order anything else when I go for a curry, they even know my order without asking me).

Favourite drink?

Cup of tea. I'm British after all.

Best travel destination recommendation? (including the period of the year)

Amsterdam in Winter. It's cold but that adds to the experience.



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Word to word

What/who would you be if you were ... (and please explain!)

One element from the Periodic Table?

Carbon because people can't live without me and I'm a diamond.

One ionizing radiation (particle included)?

Caesium 137 because I am going to be around for a long time and will have a big impact in my field of research (hopefully!).

One famous scientist?

Marie Curie. She was the first woman to win the Nobel Prize and carried out pioneering research into radioactivity. Her name still lives on now as part of an amazing charity that provides care to terminally ill people.

One radiation protection instrument (laboratory measurement included)?

Geiger counter because I am useful in many different disciplines.
