

CHRISTOPHER MICHAEL COPPERWHEAT

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SUMMARY

I am the Liverpool Telescope Astronomer in Charge and a Reader in Time Domain Astrophysics at the Astrophysics Research Institute in Liverpool. I manage day-to-day science operations on the telescope, liaising with science users, funding bodies, and oversight and time allocation committees. I am also the deputy PI for the New Robotic Telescope, a 4-metre facility currently under development. My research interests are based around time resolved observations of compact binaries and exoplanetary systems. A current focus is optical follow-up of electromagnetic counterparts of gravitational wave sources.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

<i>Reader in Time Domain Astrophysics</i> Liverpool John Moores University	Aug 2018 – Present
<i>Liverpool Telescope Astronomer in Charge</i> Liverpool John Moores University	Sep 2015 – Present
<i>New Robotic Telescope Project Scientist</i> Liverpool John Moores University	Sep 2012 – Sep 2015
<i>STFC Postdoctoral Research Assistant</i> University of Warwick	Nov 2006 – Sep 2012

EDUCATION

<i>PhD Astronomy</i> Mullard Space Science Laboratory, UCL	2003 – 2007
Thesis, 'Optical Emission from Ultraluminous X-ray Sources', Supervised by M. Cropper and K.Wu	
<i>MSci Physics with Astrophysics</i> University of Bristol	1999 – 2003
4th year project, 'A Chandra Jet Survey', supervised by D.Worrall. Project selected for special commendation.	

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS, MEMBERSHIPS AND AWARDS

- Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society.
- Member of the International Astronomical Union.
- ILM Level 4 certificate in Leadership and Management (2018)
- Awarded the Vice Chancellor's Medal for Research, Scholarship and Public Engagement (2017).
- Shortlisted for Times Higher Award in the 'Research Project of the Year: STEM' category (2017).
- LSST-UK associate PI status since 2016.
- PRINCE2 Practitioner (2015), Datrix Learning Services Limited.
- Honourary lecturer status, University of Liverpool (since 2015)

TEACHING

Course lecturer for PHYS216: Practical Astrophysics I (2015 to date), as part of the joint astrophysics degree taught via LJMU and the University of Liverpool. Other teaching activities include the field trip to Tiede observatory on Tenerife, and final year project supervision for both the joint undergraduate degree and LJMU's distance learning MSc in astrophysics. I am on the supervisory team for three current PhD students: Tricia Sullivan, Joseph Fernandez and Michael Healy (all from 2017).

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Experienced science communicator. Examples include national TV appearances on BBC, ITV and Sky News; regular contributions to BBC Merseyside's 'Science Friday' slot, invited speaker at 2017 International Astronomy Show. I am a STEM Ambassador, regularly visiting schools and astronomy societies in the Merseyside area and beyond.

National TV appearances

Date	Channel	Subject
23 Feb 2017	ITV News BBC Breakfast Sky News	The TRAPPIST-1 exoplanetary system
14 Apr 2017	BBC Breakfast	CASSINI results: the search for life on Enceladus
25 Jul 2017	BBC Breakfast	Discovery of large quantity of water in the lunar mantle
20 Aug 2017	BBC Breakfast	The Voyager mission
07 Oct 2017	BBC Breakfast	The Draconid meteor shower
02 Apr 2018	BBC Breakfast	The 'RemoveDebris' mission pathfinder
05 May 2018	BBC Breakfast	NASA's InSight Mars lander
24 Jul 2018	BBC Breakfast	Evidence for a historic lunar atmosphere

SERVICE

- Reviewer for MNRAS, ApJ, AJ, AP&SS and PASP. Reviewer and grant panel member for NSF and STFC.

- Local Organising Committees I have served on include the 3rd AM CVn workshop (Warwick, Apr 2012), the LT/LT2 Specialist Discussion Meeting at the Royal Astronomical Society (Nov 2014), the sixth Gaia Science Alerts meeting (Liverpool, 2015) and EWASS (Liverpool, 2018).
- Member of ARI Equality and Diversity committee.

GRANT INCOME

Date	Title	Role	Award
April 2018	Astrophysics Research at Liverpool John Moores University: Consolidated Grant Renewal (2018-2021)	CoI	1.1M
Mar 2018	Newton STFC-NARIT: A telescope control system for the next generation of facilities	PI	185K
Jul 2017	Astronomy for Remote and Island Schools (2017)	CoI	93K
Apr 2017	Liverpool Telescope Operations 2017-2019	CoI	501K
Feb 2017	Newton STFC-NARIT: A telescope control system for the next generation of facilities	PI	83K
Feb 2017	Newton STFC-NARIT; Data Flow and Archiving for Robotic Operations Present and Future	CoI	82K
Oct 2016	Liverpool Telescope Operations 2016-2017	CoI	125K
Apr 2016	Collaborative Capability Building in Astrophysics with Thailand	CoI	45K

PUBLICATIONS

A link to my publications can be found here: <http://www.astro.ljmu.ac.uk/~cmc/pubs.html>