

Welcome to this issue of our Alumni newsletter. As we report below, the Trust has maintained its regular activities but also continues to plan for an ambitious future. We have just opened the annual competition for applications for the next round of Fellowships and we are currently scheduling more of our Science Days for Year 6 schoolchildren, for which we are now also advertising for sponsorship. As our [website](#) suggests, £2,500 can support a day in which state primary schools can bring their Year 6 pupils to hear 3 very different and highly engaging 20-minute presentations from past Lindemann Fellows. We welcome offers of new speakers – our Science Days are huge fun and the response of the young audience is always inspiring and uplifting.

To support the expansion of our work the Trustees have also created three committees, the Fellowship Committee to oversee the annual Fellowship competition and the selection of Lindemann Fellows; a Finance and Development Committee chaired by Dr Martin Grossel, with co-opted members to monitor income and expenditure and give fresh thought to fundraising and additional investment; and an Outreach and Education Committee, also with co-opted members and chaired by Dr Karen Mooney. The website continues to expand with news of past and current events. It now also hosts, thanks to the dedicated work of Dr Mooney, a full report prepared on our Women in Science Forum. We warmly invite comments and views on all of these. Our recent alumni lunch – now a regular September fixture – proved not only a welcome get-together for past and present Fellows but a very productive forum for new ideas and suggestions. Please do get in touch with us about any of our activities; we so welcome your comments and views. Among questions the Trustees are continuing to debate, for example, are whether it is better to use future new resources to extend the tenure of a Fellowship from two to three years or to increase the overall number of two-year Fellowships, how best to extend our outreach activities and notably our school science days, and how best to launch mentoring for both early career postdocs and those who ask us about how best to engage children in science. In all of this, thank you again for your continuing and very much appreciated interest and support.

Alumni Lunch

On Saturday 21st October, we were delighted to welcome alumni to another lunch, at the In and Out Club in London. With guests spanning the years of the Fellowships, from those who had been amongst the very first cohort to travel to the US, to those who have only just been selected, Storm Babet could not dampen our spirits! We were honoured to hear a short speech from Professor Themis Prodromakis, Regius Chair of Engineering at the University of Edinburgh and Director of the Centre for Electronics Frontiers. Professor Prodromakis completed his Fellowship at Berkeley in 2011 and it was wonderful to hear how informative his Fellowship was, and how instrumental it has been in shaping his future career. We were delighted by the willingness and enthusiasm of our alumni network to support the continuation of our work, through the development of both Fellowships and outreach work, inspiring and facilitating a new generation of scientists.

*Alumni gathered at the In and Out Club,
London*



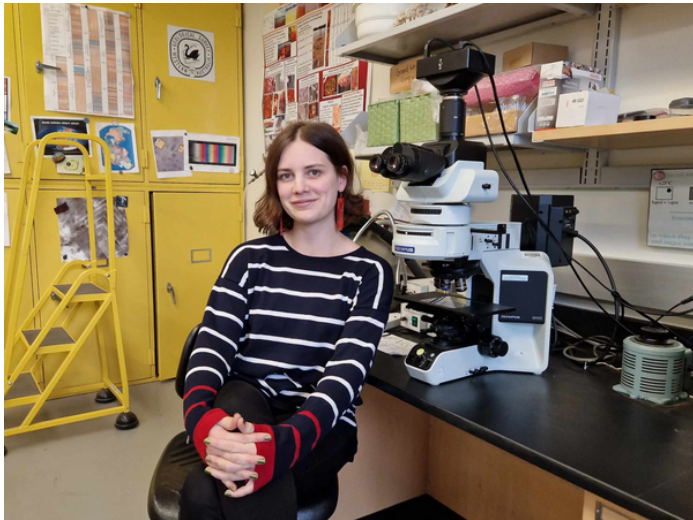
Applications now open!

We are now open for applications for 2024-26 Fellowships. Please spread the word in your departments and research groups! Fellowships last for 2 years and are now worth an increased amount of \$130,000. Deadline: Monday 5th February 2024.

Fellows' updates - Martha Gibson, 2022 - 2024 cohort

Department of Geology and Geography, West Virginia University

Martha has been researching fossils trapped inside of salt minerals to help inform the search for life on Mars. She has been studying ancient salt from across 830 million years of geologic time, and modern salt minerals collected from Western Australia, to show how salt minerals can preserve microfossils of pollen and fungi, microbes such as bacteria, Archaea, algae, and organic compounds. This suggests that salt minerals on the surface of Mars have a high potential for preserving biosignatures. She is excited to continue focused study of organic material trapped inside 270-million-year-old salt from Kansas, USA.



Martha Gibson undertaking her Fellowship at West Virginia University

Upcoming Events

- **Introduction to Science** - outreach event for Year 6, Friday 8th March 2024, Cambridge. If you would be interested in presenting, please let us know.
- **Alumni Lunch:** Autumn 2024; details to follow.