

Daphne Jackson Trust

# annual report 2011



Another year...

Returning **scientists, engineers and  
technologists** back to their careers

# welcome

to the Daphne Jackson Trust

*'If anyone is wondering about whether to apply for a fellowship, I would say that you should do it, it's a rare opportunity and you will rediscover your real self in the process'*

## annual report 2011

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## 2011 was a time of change and development

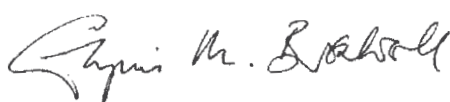
**The Trust welcomed a new Chief Executive, seven new Trustees and four new Awards Committee members. Improvements were made to the structure of the Trust and the application process that will lead to improved efficiency of the Trust and effectiveness of the small and very dedicated team of staff.**

The fellowships are now competitive for the first time, yet the applicants will still benefit from the one to one support, guidance and advice which makes Daphne Jackson Fellowships unique. The informative website has helped to produce a record number of applications for fellowships.

Dr Katie Perry, the new Chief Executive, has embraced the role with vigour and enthusiasm. Having worked with the Trust for eight years and known Daphne Jackson, Katie is ideally placed to take on this position. The new Trustees all come with a wealth of experience and expertise and will be able to offer input from a range of different perspectives. In line with the new competitive process for fellowships, the new Awards Committee has an excellent range of experience to draw upon to ensure that the fellowships are awarded to the best applicants, whilst preserving the integrity of the scheme according to Daphne Jackson's vision.

It is always a pleasure to welcome new sponsors to the Trust; this year we obtained sponsorship from a number of organisations and trust funds for the first time. We are also delighted to have worked with a record number of new organisations. I would like to thank all the current sponsors and donors who have supported fellowships and the Trust during 2011. We are particularly grateful to the research councils who continue to support several fellowships each year. The memorandum of understanding with the research councils was renewed during 2011 ensuring that this sponsorship will continue. While the challenging global economic climate persisted during 2011, the Trust was able to grow its reserve in line with advice given by the Trust's accountants. However, finding further funding remains a priority for the future, particularly due to the increased number of applications.

I would like to thank everyone who has worked so hard during 2011 to move the Trust forward into the modern, streamlined organisation that it now is. The dedication and time given by all those who work for and support the Trust, especially on a voluntary basis, is very much appreciated. The Trust goes forward into 2012 a stronger and leaner organisation, fit for the next 20 years, and able to remain the UK's leading body dedicated to returning talented scientists, engineers and technologists to careers. 2012 sees the 20th anniversary of the formation of the Trust and I look forward to the events planned to celebrate this milestone.



**PROFESSOR DAME GLYNIS BREAKWELL DBE DL**  
PhD DSc LLD(Hon) CPsychol FBPSS HonFBPSS FRSA AcSS  
**Chair of the Daphne Jackson Trust**



## for the Daphne Jackson Trust

**I was delighted to become acting Chief Executive in January 2011. Having known Daphne Jackson personally it somehow seems fitting for me to be taking the Trust forward and working with all the many stakeholders that have helped to make the Trust so successful in returning scientists, engineers and technologists to fulfilling careers.**

It has been a year with many changes and improvements to the structure and operation of the organisation. These changes have given us a firm foundation on which to plan ahead. Throughout the year the Trust remained focused on its goal of returning more and more talented scientists, engineers and technologists to their careers. We have increased the number of fellowships awarded, we have new sponsors and host organisations and a number of new Trustees and Awards Committee members. As we have welcomed new faces to the Trust we have also bid farewell to some who have worked very hard for the Trust over a number of years.

The Trust has been represented at many conferences and events throughout the year. It continues to be recognised as an accredited source of experience and knowledge about returners, the barriers they face, the business case for employing them, and the benefits of engaging with this untapped pool of talent. Fellowships are individually sponsored by organisations with an interest in both the research being undertaken and helping return a valuable scientist to the workplace. The list of sponsors spans the public and private sector and includes research councils, universities, charities and companies. The Trust also benefits hugely from donations of varying amounts from those with an interest in helping see scientists return to careers and make a valuable contribution to the economy once again. Daphne Jackson Fellows attended the four training courses organised by the Trust, Presentation Skills, Work Life Balance, Professional Skills and Media Skills. These are now run in Guildford, York and Edinburgh and fellows always comment on how useful it is to network with one another as well as learning the very valuable skills offered by all of the courses.



▲ Course facilitator Helen Roome

Having now taken on the role of Chief Executive permanently, I have some key goals in mind and am determined to see returners moving up the agenda. I am often asked what I would like for the Trust, and after the flippant response of a few million pounds, an extra day in the working week and the ability to clone myself comes the very serious response of the engagement of each and every university in the UK. Personally I don't think it is an unreasonable request. It would take very little input and effort from each one and it is my mission to make that happen.



**DR KATIE PERRY**  
**Chief Executive of the Daphne Jackson Trust**



## Meet the new Trustees

**During the year the Trust welcomed seven new Trustees who bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the management of the Trust.**

This is an exciting time for the Trust, celebrating the 20th anniversary of the formation of the Trust in 2012 and looking forward to the next 20 years. The Trustees will play a pivotal role in ensuring that the Trust continues to flourish in the years to come.

### **Professor Rob Eason**

Deputy Head of School, Optoelectronics Research Centre, University of Southampton

I volunteered to be a Trustee as I was happy to give up some time to help an excellent cause, and at the same time to engage in an activity that was research-related, but very different from my everyday research environment. I also felt that my years spent in university research would put me in a good position to make informed judgments about the merits of individual proposals.

### **Ms Wendy Harle**

Director of the Research Office, Durham University

I have been aware of the Daphne Jackson Trust for some time, having worked in university research administration for a number of years. Durham University has hosted fellows and I was personally and professionally delighted to have an opportunity to become a Trustee last year, at a time when the Trust is moving forward in such a positive and dynamic way.

The success rate of the Trust is a testament to the quality of the fellows, their desire to progress, and the support that the Trust administration and hosts offer returners particularly in training and mentoring. I am delighted to be able to help the Trust continue to deliver and develop its mission at a time when scrutiny and pressure on research investment is critical and so many are struggling to achieve a work life balance. The Trust is fulfilling an essential and increasing need, and it is important for me personally to be able to promote the work of the Trust and for all to build on the vision and success of Britain's first female professor of physics.

### **Professor Nigel Mason**

Professor of Molecular Physics at The Open University

I am delighted to have been invited to be a Trustee. Today we are losing too many highly talented scientists due to the strains and stresses of family life conflicting with the demands of establishing a research career. The aims and ethos of the Trust, in seeking to establish a pathway back into research for those who have had to take a break in their career, is unique and I feel privileged to be part of a body that has the capacity to radically change the lives of a few of our most promising scientists.

### **Dr Mary Phillips**

Director of Research Planning, UCL

As a scientist and mother of three, I have always been acutely aware of the problems faced by women trying to combine family with a research career. During my time at the Wellcome Trust in the 1990s I was in part responsible for the efforts they made to accommodate the needs of women scientists, including a returners scheme, for which the Daphne Jackson Trust was an excellent model. Although the situation has improved over the last twenty years, the difficulties remain. I am therefore really pleased to be able to contribute once again in this important area as a Trustee of the Daphne Jackson Trust.

### **Mrs Janet Purnell**

Former Senior Civil Servant

I have had a varied career that included two spells of maths teaching, working in the computer industry in both London and Paris, and twelve years as a civil servant. As I juggled all of this with being a trailing spouse and mother of two, I've often described it as my own version of Snakes and Ladders, and it has given me an insight into the challenges that our fellows face as they try to get back to a full-time career.

### **Professor Sibel Roller**

Formerly Head of Graduate School, University of West London

I first heard of the Daphne Jackson Trust about fifteen years ago when I was recruiting a postdoctoral scientist to work on a European Commission project in my research group. One of the candidates for the job was a former Daphne Jackson Fellow. The candidate performed brilliantly at interview, was hired, and became one of the most productive members of my research team. It struck me at the time that the Trust was providing a unique and immensely valuable service to science and scientists. So when the Trust was looking for new volunteers, I jumped at the opportunity to help other scientists return to research after a career break.

### **Professor Edward Smith**

Consulting Engineer and Honorary Professor at University of Central Lancashire

I have always been passionate about helping women return to work after a career break. Daphne Jackson Trust does an excellent job at this - finding research positions and sponsorship, and providing an all-important mentoring scheme. I was delighted to be invited on to the Board and hope I can help the Trust expand its work with engineers.

▼ Professor Rob Eason



▼ Professor Nigel Mason



▼ Dr Mary Phillips



▼ Professor Sibel Roller



▼ Professor Edward Smith







## Turning Kew Gardens Green

In these days of rising energy costs we are all interested in finding ways to reduce our energy use and carbon footprint. For many institutions, however, energy is critical to their operation and it can be difficult to find ways to reduce usage while still providing an adequate service.

**The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew is an internationally renowned botanical research and education institute as well as a World Heritage Site. It contains a range of different and large biomes to house and preserve plants from all over the world.**

In addition, Kew has museums and art galleries, and laboratories for botanical research, which require varying, intensive and strict environmental controls. In all, there are over 50 buildings within the Kew

Gardens complex, many of which are of historic importance, recognized by the English Heritage Grade I and II listing. Finding ways to reduce the carbon footprint of such a varied and historic site is a challenge, but Daphne Jackson Fellow, Rebecca Ward, has taken on the venture.

Rebecca started her fellowship in April 2011, working for the Department of Engineering at the University of Cambridge but using data from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Her first task was to decide upon the cluster of buildings at Kew to investigate. She identified that the Jodrell cluster, which includes the Princess of Wales Conservatory, used most gas and electricity and this seemed the natural place to start. Rebecca has now developed computer simulations of these buildings and modified an existing analytical model of the greenhouse. The analytical model is a set of numerical equations which together simulate the heat flow through the greenhouse. It is a complex model because plants interact with their environment, altering the internal temperature and humidity of the greenhouse and this can have a significant effect on the energy required to maintain the temperature. Rebecca is now validating the model by comparing it to the metered utility consumption.

*'I'm thoroughly enjoying the work and the fellowship. It's hard work and very rewarding'*



Rebecca works partly at the University of Cambridge, partly at Kew Gardens and partly from home. "Kew Gardens is an amazing place to work", says Rebecca. "It's such a great environment, and I feel invigorated every time I cycle through the gardens to the office. There's a great mix of scientific and artistic interests and activities. There's always something happening - a constantly changing programme of events throughout the year. Cambridge University is also a very exciting place to be. There's a good support network for postgraduates and there seem to be lots of opportunities to get involved with activities within the department and through the university. I've found everyone to be very interested in what I'm doing and in the Daphne Jackson Fellowship and people are very supportive."

Rebecca's project will move on to use the simulations to help identify improvements to operation strategies and possible building modifications, which may result in the reduction of energy use. In particular, it is hoped to harness heat lost from specific locations for use elsewhere, improving efficiency. Finally, her project will look at whether alternative energy generation methods might be sympathetically employed, taking into account the unique heritage of the site.

"I'm thoroughly enjoying the work and the fellowship", says Rebecca. "It's hard work, but very rewarding and it's fantastic to be able to work on something I'm really interested in. It's given me a great confidence boost as I can really see a positive future ahead. I'm amazed at how quickly the time is going, though. I'm 9 months into the fellowship and it feels like a few weeks!"



Picture source: [www.CGPGrey.com](http://www.CGPGrey.com)



# Mycological Taxonomy (Cataloguing Fungi)

*'It is an honour to work somewhere where some of the great names in mycology and botany have studied'*

Over 1.5 million fungal species on earth - only 100,000 catalogued - Daphne Jackson Fellow and Mycological Taxonomist, Joanne Taylor, has a plentiful supply of new and interesting things to study.

**Fungi are of immense importance to humans, used as food products (mushrooms, Quorn), to produce medicines (penicillin), as biocontrol agents against insects and plants, and enzymes from fungi are used in the production of detergents. However, fungi can also be problematic, causing numerous diseases on crop plants, and infections in animals and humans.**



With an estimated 1.5 million fungal species on earth and only 100,000 catalogued, humans are still to unlock the secrets and potential uses of the majority of fungi. It is an area where a lot more research is required but the number of scientists working in this area is in decline - only 9 active scientists are cataloguing fungi in the UK today.

Dr Joanne Taylor is a Daphne Jackson Fellow who has decided to contribute to the study of fungi by investigating specimens of *Diaporthe* - a genus (or group) of microfungi widely found in the UK. She is working at the Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh (RBGE), at the Herbarium.

*"It is always exciting to peer down the microscope at a specimen mounted on a slide and see what is there", says Joanne. "I like the work I am doing as it involves working with the fungi associated with a host plant that I have not studied before, the Scots Pine. Currently I am collecting plant material taken from living and decomposing Scots Pine needles, cones, etc. and identifying and isolating fungi from it onto media. The cultures are then recorded, and DNA is extracted and stored for later. I am coming across fungal genera and species that I have not encountered previously and it is enabling me to sharpen my skills in finding the fungi, identifying and isolating them."*

The fungi of the British Isles are quite well documented, especially for an important host species like Scots Pine. However, few of the microfungi associated with Scots Pine or native to the British Isles have ever been DNA sequenced. Therefore, Joanne is combining identification with molecular data for the first time for many of these fungi.



This is important as fungi are very difficult to identify, and as a result there are many misidentified fungi in DNA sequence databases such as Genbank.

*"I am really enjoying the fellowship. It is good to be able to apply the skills I have, and also to learn new techniques. In addition, I really feel that I am getting more up to date with the literature in my field. Working at the gardens is a pleasure. It has the facilities I need, including a really well run molecular lab and a well-resourced library. I have a great deal of support from the staff here. It is an honour to work somewhere where some of the great names in mycology and botany have studied. It is also a lovely environment in which to work. I am grateful that the Daphne Jackson Trust awarded me a fellowship to undertake this study. It is good to see mycological taxonomy being supported in the UK."*

**Taxonomy is the science of identifying and classifying organisms according to their relationships with other species.**

Each species belongs to a genus, each genus to a family, etc. through order, class, division, and kingdom. Today, taxonomists can use DNA sequence data to classify samples, enabling specimens to be identified easily and accurately.

**The work carried out by taxonomists is crucial for understanding biodiversity and for future conservation.**

# Fellows in Post 2011

## Fellows that commenced in 2011

	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Nahla Omer Ahmed El Tai</b> <b>May 2011</b> <b>Microbiology</b> <b>University of the West of England, Bristol</b> <b>University of the West of England, Bristol</b>	<p>It is really a great honour for me to be awarded this prestigious fellowship. Without the Daphne Jackson Fellowship I wouldn't have been able to return to a career in science after a long break of approximately 8 years. I am really enjoying this opportunity, obtaining promising results and learning new techniques as I have changed my subject to microbiology. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the University of the West of the England for sponsoring this fellowship.</p>
	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Sarah Buckland</b> <b>July 2011</b> <b>Plant Genetics</b> <b>University of Sheffield</b> <b>NERC</b>	<p>I am extremely pleased to be able to formally re-enter the research community through a Daphne Jackson Fellowship. I feel hugely fortunate to have this opportunity to gain expertise in molecular ecology and to capitalize on the enormous investment that is involved in running a large field experiment, based at Buxton Climate Change Impacts Laboratory, on which my current research is based. I hope I will develop skills that can be applied to other species and take the study of genetic diversity further towards a greater understanding of plant community shifts emerging in response to climate change.</p>
	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Jackie Ferguson</b> <b>January 2011</b> <b>Biochemistry</b> <b>National Institute for Biological Standards and Control</b> <b>BBSRC</b>	<p>I have thoroughly enjoyed the first year of my fellowship. I have been able both to update my skills in cell and molecular biology and to be involved in the development of international reference standards which ensure the safety of biological medicines. My project aims to develop molecular methods to measure neutralising antibodies to erythropoietin (EPO), a rare adverse reaction in patients receiving therapeutic recombinant EPO for anaemia. Last year, I presented posters at the BBSRC Fellows' Conference and at Health Protection 2011. With the support of the Trust, BBSRC and the Biotherapeutics Department at NIBSC, 2011 has been a successful year for me and I look forward to publishing my research in the second year of my fellowship and identifying future opportunities.</p>
	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Mrs Janet Harwood</b> <b>August 2011</b> <b>Bioinformatics</b> <b>Cardiff University</b> <b>BBSRC</b>	<p>Latterly before my career break, I worked in bioinformatics. I am interested in the mechanisms involved in the regulation of chromatin structure and I am developing computational tools for the analysis of sequencing data from the genome of the budding yeast, <i>Scerevisiae</i>.</p> <p>The Daphne Jackson Fellowship has allowed me to return to the area of science that I am most interested in and to specialise further in the skills needed in bioinformatics today. Returning to work in science after a break has been a challenge, but it has been very stimulating and I am really glad to be back!</p>
	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Modupeola Jimoh</b> <b>September 2011</b> <b>Sound and Vibration</b> <b>Loughborough University</b> <b>Loughborough University/ EPSRC</b>	<p>I started my fellowship working on the mass spectrometric analysis of volatile organic compounds in exhaled human breath. Having a supportive and experienced supervisor made it easier to face the challenges of retraining and working after a long career break. Now, just a few months into the fellowship, I feel an incredible leap in self-esteem / consciousness and academic vigor. I would also recommend the work-life balance training course offered by the Daphne Jackson Trust; it helped me find a balance between research and family commitments. Long live the Daphne Jackson Trust!</p>

	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Tzanka Kokalova</b> <b>April 2011</b> <b>Nuclear Physics</b> <b>University of Birmingham</b> <b>STFC</b>	<p>Being back at the University is a real blessing for me. My colleagues and supervisor are great and the support from the University is excellent. I have my own office and laptop and I have already done some data analysis. My retraining programme is going well and in spring we will be performing the experiment for my project. I have also been involved in one of the group's experiments in France, where I spent four amazing days having hands-on experience in nuclear instrumentation and being surrounded by an international collaboration of physicists, among whom were an inspiring group of young female researchers. I was very proud that many of them saw in me a potential motivation (walking example) for having a family and still being able to go back to research afterwards. All in all I have been enjoying and using this unique opportunity both professionally and personally to retrain back to science and to be myself again.</p>
	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Morag Maskey</b> <b>November 2011</b> <b>Psychology</b> <b>University of Newcastle</b> <b>University of Newcastle</b>	<p>I have been in position for three months and it has been both a busy and rewarding time. In my first few months in post, I have completed and submitted an ethics application for my project which is trialling the use of virtual reality environments as part of an anxiety treatment programme for young people with autism. I have also taken advantage of the retraining opportunities that the Daphne Jackson Trust Fellowship offers me as I switch disciplines from engineering to neuroscience. I have a steep learning curve ahead of me but I am looking forward to the challenge.</p>
	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Debra Frederickson Matika</b> <b>September 2011</b> <b>Molecular Plant Pathology</b> <b>University of Edinburgh</b> <b>University of Edinburgh</b>	<p>I started my fellowship in September and of course it felt a little nerve-racking at first to be back in a very large and dynamic research group after so long away. However, it is also exhilarating to be learning and doing something new and wonderful in science again. I feel totally alive! Opportunities are plentiful, and go beyond the actual research project. My hours are very flexible, so I have been able to vary my days to attend lectures for courses to help bring my knowledge up to date and to fit around sick children.</p>
	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Josephine Mmojieje</b> <b>November 2011</b> <b>Engineering</b> <b>Aston University</b> <b>Aston University</b>	<p>The Fellowship is a valuable opportunity for me as I am expanding and developing new skills, and building confidence. It has opened doors for me both professionally and personally.</p>
	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Allen Yvon Mswaka</b> <b>July 2011</b> <b>Biological Sciences</b> <b>Queen's University of Belfast</b> <b>BBSRC</b>	<p>I am carrying out research on chaotrope and kosmotrope induced stress mechanisms and responses in microbes, where the first phase of my research has been to carry out cellulase enzyme assays using a spectrophotometric method. I have written and submitted a grant as the PI and sole author to the Bill and Melissa Gates Foundation and working on two manuscripts with the Stress Biology Group, one of which is to be submitted to the Journal of Environmental Microbiology. I have had teaching experience by writing and giving lectures. I attended the BBSRC Fellows' Conference in Manchester (September 2011) where I presented a poster and held discussions with scientists in my field. I have also made a collaborative visit to meet Mairead Kilpatrick, Mushroom &amp; Composting Unit, Agri Food &amp; Biosciences Institute, Loughgall.</p>
	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Beate Nurnberger</b> <b>September 2011</b> <b>Bioinformatics</b> <b>University of Edinburgh</b> <b>NERC</b>	<p>My childcare break fell into the middle part of my career and involved a move to Britain from abroad. This meant that, for one reason or another, I was not eligible for any of the career re entry fellowships that I looked into. I had pretty much given up hope, when a friend told me about the Daphne Jackson Fellowships. Now, two years later, I am in the midst of an intensive training programme in bioinformatics and have resumed work on a long term study system of mine, all of which is preparing me for my next career move. I very much value this tailor-made plan of work and the flexible, part time hours. For being able to do science again, I am quite simply a happier person.</p>



# Fellows in Post 2011

## Fellows that commenced in 2011 *Continued...*

	NAME STARTED FELLOWSHIP SUBJECT HOST SPONSOR	Dr Frances Pearl July 2011 Bioinformatics Institute of Cancer Research MRC	I am working with the Computational Biology and Chemogenomics group at the Institute of Cancer Research in Sutton. This group uses informatics tools to aid drug discovery, focusing on cancer. Cancer is a genetic disease, caused by mistakes termed "mutations" in the DNA. My project is to set up a database that helps a researcher assess whether a mutation is harmless, or whether it contributes to disease, either by activating or deactivating a protein. Being able to reliably assess which mutations contribute to disease will help identify possible drug targets and inform clinical practice in the future.
	NAME STARTED FELLOWSHIP SUBJECT HOST SPONSOR	Malarvizhi Ramesh November 2011 Microbiology University of Reading BBSRC	I started my fellowship at the end of November 2011. It is a learning journey for me, gaining new skills and techniques. So far everything is going very well and everyone is very encouraging.
	NAME STARTED FELLOWSHIP SUBJECT HOST SPONSOR	Jo Taylor October 2011 Mycology Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh NERC	I am really enjoying the fellowship. It is good to be able to apply the skills I have, and also to learn new techniques. In addition, I really feel that I am getting more up to date with the literature in my field. Working at the gardens is a pleasure. It has the facilities I need, including a really well run molecular lab and a well-resourced library and I have a lot of support from the staff here.
	NAME STARTED FELLOWSHIP SUBJECT HOST SPONSOR	Dr Patricia Sanchez Baracaldo June 2011 Evolutionary biology and phylogenetics University of Bristol University of Bristol	I have spent the last six months retraining on climate change modelling. I have also spent a significant amount of time getting up to date on phylogenetic methodologies in the School of Biological Sciences. I applied to the Royal Society for a Dorothy Hodgkin Fellowship for which I was successful in 2011. I wouldn't have applied to the Royal Society without the confidence that the Trust gave me. I am extremely grateful to the Daphne Jackson Trust for motivating me and giving me the opportunity to get back to science. I am now working on a project I feel very passionate about.
	NAME STARTED FELLOWSHIP SUBJECT HOST SPONSOR	Dr Miranda Smallwood January 2011 Biomedical Sciences Peninsula Medical School Peninsula Medical School/ MRC	My fellowship has been life changing as I have been able to return to my much loved scientific research. I am looking at the 'eat me' signals that allow dead cells to be removed from the circulation before they cause inflammation, a process called apoptosis. This work is important in systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), as a key feature of this disease is a deficiency in the clearance of apoptotic cells. I am now trained in modern laboratory techniques and in a position to apply for further funding. My young son also wants to be a scientist, so it feels wonderful to have inspired him. I found that computer skills and software linked to analytical machines had moved on the most, but I have been able to do some training and of course ask lots of questions.
	NAME STARTED FELLOWSHIP SUBJECT HOST SPONSOR	Rebecca Ward April 2011 Engineering University of Cambridge Royal Academy of Engineering	The fellowship has provided me with a fantastic opportunity to build on my engineering background and to learn new skills in the field of building physics. This is the first time I've worked in academia and I'm finding I love the challenge and the opportunity to delve more deeply into problems than I was able to in my previous role. The flexible working patterns have played a crucial part in my ability to maintain a viable work life balance. I'm particularly looking forward to attending the 5th International Building Physics conference in Kyoto in May, and am excited about the future and the possibility of a career in academia once the fellowship has finished.
	NAME STARTED FELLOWSHIP SUBJECT HOST SPONSOR	Dr Kim Woodruff November 2011 Neuroscience University of Manchester The Physiological Society/ The Leverhulme Trust	In the middle of November 2011 I began my Daphne Jackson Fellowship, based at the University of Manchester working on dementia. My long awaited return to research has so far exceeded all my expectations. Without The Daphne Jackson Trust I would never have secured a job in my chosen field, and would have felt I had wasted all the hard work I had done previously. Research to me is a vocation, and I consider myself lucky every day, to get paid to do what I love!



## Fellows continuing in 2011

	NAME STARTED FELLOWSHIP SUBJECT HOST SPONSOR	Dr Reyna Al Ashaab May 2010 Environmental Sciences Cranfield University NERC	The last 18 months have been full of excitement and new ventures for me. Thanks to the Daphne Jackson Fellowship and NERC I have brought back to life some of my previous food science and technology expertise and re trained in some aspects of environmental science. While learning and researching within the world of bioaerosols (particles in the air from biological origin) from composting facilities, I have had the opportunity to widen my skills amongst other activities by giving lectures, coordinating monthly seminars and working alongside other organisations in a piece of research for DEFRA and the Environment Agency  In all, my recent experiences have changed my life for the better; they have been invaluable and central in boosting my confidence; I have great colleagues and hope that the 'new me' can support someone else wishing to come back to research life.
	NAME STARTED FELLOWSHIP SUBJECT HOST SPONSOR	Dr David Ayre November 2010 Materials Science Cranfield University EPSRC	Over one year in to my Daphne Jackson Fellowship at Cranfield University Composites Centre and I am reaping the rewards of the support that the fellowship provides. Owning my own project gives me the opportunity to demonstrate to myself and others my abilities and has re-established my position within the department. The first year has incorporated a significant amount of training in analysis and processing techniques associated with composite materials and nanoparticles. These new skills help with my own research activity and I find I am requested to help on other activities because of my new found experience in these areas. I have recently availed myself of two Daphne Jackson Trust training courses and found them entertaining and directly applicable. Also, it was interesting to meet other Daphne Jackson Fellows at these sessions and discuss their work and experiences.
	NAME STARTED FELLOWSHIP SUBJECT HOST SPONSOR	Dr Joanna Brzezczynska October 2010 Molecular Biology University of Edinburgh Leverhulme Trust	I enjoy being back in the lab and doing research in molecular biology as well as in regenerative medicine. The Daphne Jackson Trust Fellowship gave me a splendid opportunity to retrain and expand my skills and knowledge as well as boosting my confidence. I have presented results from my work at two conferences in 2011 and I have two submitted papers and two other papers at the stage of preparation for submission to journals. My confidence and abilities are expanding and my main project is progressing very well. I enjoy every moment of my work and feel very excited to be able to participate in scientific research again. I am very grateful to the Daphne Jackson Trust for my fellowship which allowed me to fully return to science at the very high level, thanks to which I have been recently offered a new job at the Roslin Institute. This new position would not be possible without the support which I received from the Trust in the form of the fellowship.
	NAME STARTED FELLOWSHIP SUBJECT HOST SPONSOR	Dr Pritilata Chivers August 2009 (extension for 6 months) Cancer Molecular Biology University of Surrey MRC	In May 2011 the Trust sponsored my attendance of a conference on cancer epigenetics in London which was very helpful. I have successfully obtained NHS Ethics Committee approval for human sample collection and have developed collaboration with the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford. I submitted four grant applications with one success and am awaiting the outcome of two. My fellowship, which was due to terminate at the end of July 2011, was extended for six months sponsored by the MRC. The credit goes to my research results and the efforts of the Trust.
	NAME STARTED FELLOWSHIP SUBJECT HOST SPONSOR	Dr Rowena Hoare February 2010 Aquaculture University of Stirling University of Stirling	2011 has brought challenges and new learning opportunities. I have gained invaluable training and experience in my field of fish immunology and have recently expanded that training in molecular biology. My project aims to develop a new assay to measure cytokines in fish using Bioplex technology, which would allow researchers to measure a vital component of the immune system of these animals. Due to the invaluable opportunity afforded me by the Daphne Jackson Fellowship, I have been offered more work at the Institute of Aquaculture using the Bioplex technology to detect pathogens in fish.



# Fellows in Post 2011

## Fellows **continuing** in 2011 *Continued...*

	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Solveigh Lass Evans</b> June 2010 Geochemistry British Geological Survey NERC	I am now in the second year of my fellowship. I thoroughly enjoy working for the British Geological Survey and it has been a very positive experience. I learned many new skills last year and I am particularly pleased to have been trained in using GIS (Geographical Information System). I am preparing a paper for publication and I will give a talk at a conference in Portugal in July.  Since I started my fellowship, life feels more fulfilling and balanced, and I am very grateful to the Trust and BGS for giving me this opportunity.
	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Jenny Oliver</b> April 2010 Biotechnology University of Kent Rolls-Royce plc	What have I done since I began my interdisciplinary fellowship in April 2010? Apart from the obvious, which is to refresh my skills and learn new ones specifically in the areas of microbiology and maths software - I have enjoyed meeting people from all over the world.  I've learned various techniques such as capillary iso electric focusing, and used software like MATLAB, and I've also begun to explore an innovative method of evaluating sensor design which has scope for further development. In December 2011, I was accepted as a member of the Institution of Engineering and Technology, so now my name has MIET after it, too. These unexpected extra dimensions, which the fellowship has facilitated, have made the time thoroughly worthwhile. Whatever happens from now on, I will always be grateful.
	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Kate O'Neill</b> May 2010 Oncology University of Oxford GlaxoSmithkline	One of my projects at the Childhood Cancer Research Group involves analyzing associations between birth weight and childhood cancers. This has been extremely fruitful, with the publication of one paper, submission of another and I have also been invited to write a review. In a separate project, I have been refining techniques to measure viral DNA and antibodies from dried blood. About 18 months into my fellowship I wrote a grant application, proposing to apply these techniques to paediatric cancer subjects to screen for cancer associated viruses. I am pleased to say that this was successful, and I hope to start soon after completing my fellowship project!  On a personal level, this second year has been a smoother one. I feel much more confident now that I have shown that I can do this even as a part-time working mum. The Daphne Jackson Trust courses and fellowship networking have proved invaluable as reminders that I am not in this alone. Thank you!
	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Ms Dalia Zakaria</b> September 2010 Microbiology University of Bristol University of Bristol	I have been a Daphne Jackson Fellow for over a year and find it a real life changing experience. I had found myself unable to return to research due to my long career break but now I am not only working on research but also learning and gaining new skills. This is one of the main privileges that is only available in the Daphne Jackson Fellowship scheme. All of my previous experience in research was confined to environmental microbiology. Through my Daphne Jackson Fellowship, I have been given the opportunity to work on medical microbiology and immunology. Skills related to these fields are much more desirable in the job market which makes me very optimistic about getting a job on the completion of my project.
	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Gerhard Ziebold</b> January 2010 Organic Chemistry University of Leeds EPSRC	In 2011 the Daphne Jackson Trust was again extremely helpful in supporting my fellowship. I attended very useful training courses in Edinburgh and York and the Daphne Jackson Trust also contributed substantially to me attending the international conference of the Society for the Study of the Origins of Life (ISSOL) in Montpellier, France 2011. I also purchased a netbook from the extraordinary expenses fund, which proved to be highly useful to the progress of my research and the high impact paper that is going to be published, hopefully in 2012.

## Fellows **completed** during 2011

	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Maria Alvarez</b> March 2008 (extension for 1 year) Ecology University of Hull NERC	I have enjoyed my time as a fellow of the Daphne Jackson Trust. I finished my fellowship last February and I am now working at the university as an environmental consultant. The Trust has given me the opportunity of refreshing my skills and meet people in my field . I now feel confident and with a professional horizon in front of me. It has been a very worthy experience. Thank you!
	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Rebecca Carter</b> April 2009 Molecular Biology University of Oxford Medical Research Council	In 2011 I came to the end of my Daphne Jackson Fellowship. The work I had undertaken involved the development of a high throughput assay to screen libraries of anti cancer agents for compounds with radiosensitising potential. By comparing the radiosensitisation of tumour and normal cell lines, we were able to detect compounds that selectively radiosensitised tumour. This information is useful when planning clinical trials of radiation in combination with different therapeutics.  I have been very grateful to everyone involved over the duration of my fellowship; I have really enjoyed the opportunity to combine research with retraining in an interesting scientific environment. For the immediate future; I have been fortunate in obtaining further funding to continue with this research until mid 2012.
	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Stefanie Freitag Pohl</b> June 2009 Biochemistry University of Durham University of Durham / BBSRC	After a career break of more than eight years, I started my Daphne Jackson Fellowship in June 2009 and finished in May 2011. During this time I was working at Durham University on the structure function relationship of plant glutathione transferases and their binding partners. This involved a range of molecular biology (protein overexpression, purification) and biophysical techniques, as well as X ray crystallography. Some of the challenges were the major changes in these fields due to developments towards high throughput technologies. I thoroughly enjoyed learning new techniques and took full advantage of the facilities at Durham University.  Consequently, my research work lead to very good results, and two publications so far. I am currently applying for part-time positions in the Chemistry and Biology Departments.
	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Mrs Sarah Gooding</b> April 2009 Microbiology University of Wales, Swansea EPSRC	Returning to scientific research after a significant career break has been both challenging and rewarding and only made possible through the Daphne Jackson Trust. My fellowship finished in April 2011 and then I was immediately employed by the Microbiology Department, Institute of Life Science, School of Medicine, Swansea University on a grant which runs until the end of June 2015. I will continue to work part-time, retaining the flexibility required to balance work and family commitments. With grateful thanks to the Daphne Jackson Trust for all their encouragement and may many more individuals benefit in the future from Daphne Jackson's vision.
	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Mrs Caroline Graham</b> December 2009 Mechanical Engineering Heriot Watt University Royal Academy of Engineering	The part-time nature of the fellowship was ideal for my family as, due to the age of my children, I would not have been able to take on a full-time position in industry. The individual retraining I have gained through the Daphne Jackson Fellowship has been based around a highly relevant research project. Applying my engineering/materials knowledge to the electronics industry has been a new experience for me, although these skills and knowledge are equally employable in all engineering sectors. In addition to revisiting research techniques and classical engineering knowledge, the work has required me to gain significant experience in the use of several modern software packages including Abaqus and MatLab. I have, by invitation, presented a poster of my work at the Royal Academy of Engineering's annual research forum.  Most importantly the fellowship has given me access to the people who would encourage me to work at this level, and have given the support I needed to identify/gain access to the required training. My host, Heriot Watt University, has secured 2.5 years funding for me to continue contributing to the research team.



# Fellows in Post 2011

Fellows **completed** during 2011 *Continued...*

	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Liliana Greger</b> <b>October 2008</b> <b>Bioinformatics</b> <b>University of Cambridge</b> <b>MRC</b>	I finished my Daphne Jackson Fellowship in February 2011. During my fellowship I progressively acquired invaluable knowledge in my favourite field of bioinformatics. I was fortunate to find a job as a bioinformatician just before the end of my fellowship. At the moment I am employed at the European Bioinformatics Institute in Cambridge and fully enjoy focusing on an exciting project and being part of a wonderful working environment.
	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Janice Lees</b> <b>September 2009</b> <b>Molecular Biology</b> <b>Wessex Regional Genetics Laboratory</b> <b>MRC</b>	<p>I completed my fellowship in September 2011, following a twelve year career break. The fact that the fellowship is designed to place equal emphasis on re-training and project based research was crucial in allowing me the time to adapt, learn and regain much needed confidence whilst maintaining an appropriate work-life balance. I was delighted to have been awarded £10,000 by the University of Southampton Research Management Committee to support my research project.</p> <p>A Daphne Jackson Fellowship is not simply about re-establishing a career in science and technology; it is about facilitating a return to the workplace and to economic activity. The experience gained over the past two years, coupled with a better understanding of the concept of transferable skills and networking, has afforded me the opportunity to explore alternative employment pathways within the field of science and technology that would not otherwise have been open to me.</p> <p>I am extremely grateful for the invaluable support provided by the Daphne Jackson Trust, my sponsor, supervisor and work colleagues.</p>
	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Judit Molnar</b> <b>September 2008</b> <b>(extension for 6 months)</b> <b>Biochemistry</b> <b>Pfizer Limited</b> <b>Pfizer Limited</b>	I finished my industrial fellowship in February 2011 after being awarded an extension. Unfortunately Pfizer decided to close down the site where I was working. Thanks to the training I received in drug discovery through the Daphne Jackson Trust Fellowship I was able to secure a position with another large pharmaceutical company. I am a lead biologist on a drug discovery program targeting epigenetic modulators.
	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Kimberly Moravec</b> <b>June 2009</b> <b>Computer Science</b> <b>University College London</b> <b>Royal Academy of Engineering</b>	The fellowship has given me the time and space to update my skills, both as a researcher and as a computer programmer, so that I am now more employable. It has allowed me to ease myself and family back into work and childcare routines. Finally, it has given me the space to develop a line of research that I am interested in pursuing. I have recently and unexpectedly moved to the States and my career plans have been on hold until this move was completed. But we now live in the sixth largest urban area in the States and one university is less than a block away, so my job hunting will recommence soon. I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to return to a SET career, and would like to thank the Daphne Jackson Trust and the Royal Academy of Engineering for their support.
	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Morag Prach</b> <b>May 2009</b> <b>Immunology</b> <b>Edinburgh Napier University</b> <b>Edinburgh Napier University</b>	<p>My second year as a Daphne Jackson Research Fellow began and ended well. There were many moments of elation in the lab when the data was flowing, providing that science buzz. These gave me the energy and drive to see through a difficult few months. Winter weather, illness and a disruptive faculty move to a new building brought lab work to a halt. However, difficult as it was I had time to reflect on the change in me from full time mother to productive scientist. My fellowship has done exactly what Daphne Jackson intended for SET returners, given me a promising career!</p> <p>Edinburgh Napier University extended my contract for a further year in the first instance, with the possibility of a second. I am continuing on a part time basis and currently writing a paper.</p>

	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Christine Rogers</b> <b>October 2008</b> <b>(extension for 1 year)</b> <b>Environmental Sciences</b> <b>University of Leeds</b> <b>NERC</b>	<p>Following the success of my research into the behaviour of green rust materials and their use in extracting toxic chromium from chemical waste, my final year has been concerned with preparing my data for publication. The paper is now taking shape and undergoing an internal review before publication. I thank the Water Science Forum of the Royal Society of Chemistry for awarding me an Alan Tetlow Bursary to cover bench fees.</p> <p>The Daphne Jackson Fellowship has been pivotal in raising my profile in the department from part-time technician to post doctoral researcher. Its success has provided me with the opportunity to continue working in this field as a visiting researcher. I am immensely grateful to the Daphne Jackson Trust for supporting me with the retraining I needed to become a competent researcher after a 21 year absence from scientific research.</p>
	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Anne Savage</b> <b>September 2009</b> <b>Computing</b> <b>University of Abertay</b> <b>(Dundee)</b> <b>EPSRC</b>	In September 2011, I completed a Daphne Jackson fellowship sponsored by the Engineering and Physical Sciences research Council and hosted by the University of Abertay, Dundee (UAD). The impact of my fellowship on my employment prospects was immediate as I was offered a permanent post as a teaching fellow in the School of Contemporary Sciences at my host institution. Although this post is part-time (0.6 FTE), I am now working full-time as I was also offered a part-time (0.4PTE) research post at the Centre for Research in Informatics and Systems Pathology (CRISP), also at UAD. The research involves using image analysis to quantify subcellular and morphological changes in breast cancer tumours. In my role as a teaching fellow, I will be presenting courses in pharmacology and toxicology to biological science and forensic science students. Over the next few weeks, I will be submitting two papers and I have just completed my first grant application.
	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Xiaoju Shi</b> <b>August 2009</b> <b>Biomedical Sciences</b> <b>University of Kent</b> <b>Medway School of Pharmacy</b>	<p>Over the past two years, under this fellowship program, I have successfully completed the research project and have obtained important research data which is in the process of being published. In addition to the fellowship, I was invited to teach Microbiology, Environmental Monitoring and Pathogen Identification. I taught five different subjects to both first and third year Pharmacy students.</p> <p>Now that the Daphne Jackson fellowship is finished, I have again been invited to continue teaching. I enjoyed my work which has not only provided me with professional confidence but also fulfilled our school's and students' needs.</p>
	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Farah Siddiqi</b> <b>March 2009</b> <b>Biomedical Sciences</b> <b>University of Cambridge</b> <b>MRC</b>	<p>My Daphne Jackson Trust Fellowship has been a great help not only in getting me back to the bench work but also to change my field from plant genetics to medical genetics.</p> <p>I had the opportunity to have co-authorship of a couple of papers in high impact journals [Nature Cell Biology and Physiological Review] in Professor Rubinsztein's laboratory. Finally, I feel very satisfied with my Daphne Jackson Trust Fellowship it has given me great confidence and a sense of achievement in science. It has increased my morale, as well as increased my employability. As a result, Professor Rubinsztein has kindly extended my stay in his laboratory for another two years.</p>
	<b>NAME</b> <b>STARTED FELLOWSHIP</b> <b>SUBJECT</b> <b>HOST</b> <b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>Dr Judith Slaa</b> <b>August 2009</b> <b>Ecological Entomology</b> <b>University of Leeds</b> <b>NERC</b>	During 2011, I mainly dedicated my time to shaping my results into two papers, the effect of intra colony genetic diversity on task efficiency in ants. I enjoyed this final stage very much and fingers crossed, the papers will be accepted. The highlight was perhaps the second course on Individual Based Modelling which took place during the summer in Bad Schandau, Germany. Now that my fellowship has finished I am looking for a new job, but whatever the future brings, I am immensely grateful for having had the opportunity to work as a Daphne Jackson Fellow, a fellowship scheme unique in Europe!



# What are they doing now?

The Trust asked Past Fellows whether they would like to submit a paragraph to the Annual Report about their life and career achievements since completing their fellowship. **Their stories serve as inspiration to present fellows and highlight why Daphne Jackson Fellowships are so valuable.**

## Dr Jackie Long

START DATE	September 1987
SUBJECT	Electrical Engineering
HOST	Bristol University
SPONSOR	Electricity Council

I completed my fellowship at Bristol University in the department of Electrical Engineering in 1990. I had had the opportunity to update some of my knowledge, carry out research and lecture. This opened the way to obtain a post as a Principal Lecturer in the Faculty of Engineering at the University of the West of England. This was a senior position and during my time there (I am now retired) some of the highlights were that I was elected Faculty Chair, carried out research in a European-funded project, developed a successful new degree in Musical Systems Engineering and was appointed Head of Student support in the Faculty.

I am very grateful for the opportunity that the Daphne Jackson Fellowship afforded me.



▲ Dr Jackie Long



▲ Dr Elizabeth Parvin

## Dr Elizabeth Parvin

START DATE	October 1988
SUBJECT	Physics
HOST	University of Birmingham
SPONSOR	ESF

During my fellowship I worked on high-temperature superconductors at Birmingham University under the wise guidance of Professor Joe Vinen. My plans to proceed to another research job after that did not materialise but I fairly soon ended up doing some work at what was then Coventry Polytechnic. That was one of those jobs that, like Topsy, 'just grew' and before long I had a part-time lectureship in Applied Physics. One day the head of department asked me if I would like to take over the lecture course on medical imaging as the current lecturer was retiring. And so it was that I was launched into the world of medical physics which is where I have been ever since!

From Coventry University (as it became) I moved on to a teaching fellowship at Warwick University, again working in medical physics, both lecturing and supervising student projects in the local hospital. At the same time I was also working for the Open University (as I had done for many years) and in 2004 I moved to a post there. I am now a senior lecturer at the OU and run their MSc in Medical Physics as well as being involved in other teaching and in some outreach work.

While I have not gone back into research after my DJ fellowship, I do feel that the extra confidence and knowledge I obtained from the fellowship has been invaluable and I am sure I would not be where I am now if it had not been for Daphne Jackson.

## Dr Susan Barlow

START DATE	September 1994
SUBJECT	Surface Science
HOST	University of Liverpool
SPONSOR	Leverhulme Trust

Having completed my Daphne Jackson Fellowship in September 1996, I am fortunate to have managed to stay employed continuously in the Department of Chemistry at Liverpool from December 1996, albeit in a wide, ever changing, range of roles.

Initially, I was taken on, and funded from an EPSRC grant, to manage a new part-time programme for industrially-based students. At the same time, I continued with research into the organisation of amino acids at metal surfaces with the current Director of the Surface Science Centre, Professor Rasmita Raval, who has proved a great supporter and friend over the years. We have published a number of original research papers together and in 2003, produced a highly-cited (>311 citations so far) review for Surface Science Reports on 'Complex organic molecules at metal surfaces: bonding, organisation and chirality.' However, it became apparent that my career was not going to develop along a conventional academic path and I became more involved with the provision of postgraduate training involving industry and knowledge transfer enabling the exploitation of EPSRC research.

I am currently the Director of Postgraduate Taught Programmes for the Faculty of Science and Engineering. For the past 18 months, I have been heavily involved with the operation of centralised timetables within chemistry. Partly as a result of my success in this area, it appears that I will finally have a full 'teaching-based' academic position within the School of Physical Sciences later this year - at the advanced age of 58!

I am eternally grateful to The Daphne Jackson Trust - without their fellowship, I would have struggled to have such a fulfilling and varied 'post-career break' life.



▲ Dr Susan Barlow



▲ Dr Susan Stewart

## Dr Susan Stewart

START DATE	November 1995
SUBJECT	Materials Engineering
HOST	University of Plymouth
SPONSOR	Leverhulme Trust

Since receiving the award I have been fully launched back into being an academic. I spent some years lecturing at Sunderland University in biomechanics and sports medicine, then I was head-hunted to lecture at Northumbria University up the road. I am now happily lecturing in anatomy and biomechanics to sports science and medical students, and undertaking some very interesting research projects on orthopaedics in collaboration with NE Hospital Trusts, and with colleagues from the department of Engineering. Life has been good to me since the award.



▼ Dr Janet Humphreys



### Dr Janet Humphreys

START DATE	May 1997
SUBJECT	Polymer Physics
HOST	University of Leeds
SPONSOR	Clothworkers Foundation

I held my Daphne Jackson Fellowship at Leeds University in 1997-8 then took up a part-time Teaching Fellow post in the School of Environment (now the School of Earth and Environment) at the University. The fellowship meant I was in the right place at the right time to apply for a temporary post in what was then a new teaching department. The School of Environment expanded rapidly and I have had a very happy second career there. The temporary post became permanent and, in addition to my teaching and pastoral responsibilities, I became Admissions Tutor in 2000 for a thriving and growing department. After 11 years in this exciting and demanding role, I took early retirement last summer (as part of the University's Voluntary Redundancy Scheme). I am indebted to the Daphne Jackson Trust, and all the people and organisations involved in it, for the opportunity it gave me to restart my career in Higher Education.

### Dr Elizabeth Grayson

START DATE	March 2001
SUBJECT	Chemistry
HOST	Durham University
SPONSOR	Royal Commission for the Exhibition 1851

On completion of my Daphne Jackson fellowship in the Chemistry department at Durham University in 2003 researching oligosaccharide synthesis under the supervision of Dr (now Prof) Ben Davis (now at Oxford University), I was lucky enough to get a Leverhulme research grant to cover the cost of continuing my research for a further two and a half years. During this period I was also teaching organic chemistry in the department at Durham. In 2005 I was given a permanent half time contract as a teaching fellow in the department. I have continued my research voluntarily, kindly funded by Prof Davis and Oxford University. I am more than happy with this arrangement as I love both research and university teaching.

▼ Dr Elizabeth Grayson



▼ Dr Dani Strickland



### Dr Dani Strickland

START DATE	July 2003
SUBJECT	Electrical Engineering
HOST	University of Sheffield
SPONSOR	Rolls-Royce plc

After leaving my Daphne Jackson Fellowship I was employed by Rolls-Royce Fuel Cell Systems as an electrical and control engineer looking into the research and development of the electrical and control systems needed to connect a fuel cell based power plant to the grid system. In 2006 I was made team leader of the electrical power and control group. This meant that I had the responsibility for managing a team of contractors/permanent staff and students along with the health and safety aspects this entailed. At the beginning of 2010, I transferred back to Academia, as a lecturer at Aston University. My time there is currently split between teaching on the Electrical Power Foundation degree and undertaking research activities. The main focus of my research is looking into connecting second life batteries on the smart grid system using advanced power electronic interfaces. I currently hold three grants and have published three papers within the last year. I continue to work on a part time basis (currently 27 hours per week), as this enables me to spend time with my children after school and make sure they get to trampolining lessons on time.

### Dr Janet Higgins

START DATE	September 2004
SUBJECT	Bioinformatics
HOST	John Innes Centre in Norwich
SPONSOR	Gatsby Charitable Foundation

I held a Daphne Jackson Fellowship from 2004 - 2006 at the John Innes Centre in Norwich. This was a great opportunity to move out of the laboratory and retrain in bioinformatics. This has proved to be a good decision as bioinformaticians are in demand at present due to the large amounts of sequence data which is being generated and needs to be analysed. Since my fellowship, I have had two short term contracts at post-doctoral level which has given me valuable experience in a wide range of bioinformatics skills and a good publications record. My research

▼ Dr Janet Higgins



▼ Dr John Mason



▼ Dr Rachel Walcott



▼ Dr Sharon Strawbridge



has been focused on biological networks, initially working on the flowering time pathway in grasses, then moving onto relating pathways and co-expression networks in Brassicas with the aim of finding key regulatory genes in oilseed rape.

I have now secured a permanent job as a computer biologist; this will enable me to focus on my main area of interest which is genome analysis and widen my experience to a range of plants and animals.

Now my three children are all at university, this is my opportunity to focus on my career and interests while enjoying their achievements and being able to support any budding ambitions for a career in science.

### Dr John Mason

START DATE	January 2005
SUBJECT	Materials Engineering
HOST	University of Wales, Swansea
SPONSOR	Leverhulme Trust

I gained a post as an RA in the Materials Department at Oxford University shortly after completing the fellowship in 2007 and I am still in the same post. I have contracts through to November 2013 and I am reasonably confident of gaining a further contract, probably for 3 years after that. I have not published in the last 4 years, due to the commercial nature of the work but will shortly be publishing some of the less sensitive work. I also have ideas for publications in the medium term.

### Dr Rachel Walcott

START DATE	July 2005
SUBJECT	Geology
HOST	University of Edinburgh
SPONSOR	NERC

It has been nearly 4 years since I finished my Daphne Jackson Fellowship in geomorphology. For two and half years I worked as a full time researcher funded by a Royal Society of Edinburgh/ BP Personal Fellowship. Then ten months ago I became Principal Curator of Earth Systems at National Museums Scotland in Edinburgh doing what has proved to be a fascinating and varied research job. I am still very grateful to the Daphne Jackson Trust for giving me the opportunity to return to research after a six year break.

### Sharon Strawbridge

START DATE	February 2007
SUBJECT	Physics
HOST	University of Exeter
SPONSOR	Leverhulme Trust

At the end of my fellowship I moved to condensed matter physics and I have never looked back since. My main interest is in graphene, I am a member of the Centre for Graphene Science at Exeter, where we study the ultimate 'thin' material, a 2D layer of carbon just one atom thick. This interest in the amazing properties of graphene has inspired me to think about other very thin layer systems with equally interesting properties, including a new class of materials called topological insulators and I hope to get funding for this work.

Along with these research interests is my 'day job', teaching, I love teaching and I was really so proud to have been voted best overall lecturer by the students in medical imaging and physics last year in the Annual Teaching Awards. I think the real interest I have in the material I teach helps make it easier to spark the same interest in students.

One thing I particularly enjoyed doing a couple of years ago was a documentary on graphene science for teachers TV and it's something I would really like to do more of given the opportunity. I am involved in many other aspects of university life in addition to my research and teaching, I now sit on the University Senate and have been directly involved in a number of major changes to institutional policies as well as serving on university academic misconduct panels. I also have responsibilities for radiation protection and deal on a day to day basis with chemical safety.

So you can see, I have a very busy and full life at work, but I do make sure that I can also have time with my family, so weekends are very important to me and I can switch off. As I write this, I am waiting to get a promotion to senior lecturer confirmed and I know that without the initial help and support from the Trust none of my subsequent career would have been possible.

# Organisations that we work with

The Daphne Jackson Trust continues to work with many organisations that show a common objective of returning scientists, engineers and technologists to careers, and then supporting them to ensure that they are successful.

## Research Councils

BBSRC | EPSRC | MRC | NERC | STFC

## Learned Societies/ Professional Institutions

The Association of Medical Research Charities | Biochemical Society | British Computer Society | British Geological Survey | British Philological Society | British Science Association | Institute of Biology | Institute of Physics | Institution of Engineering and Technology | London Mathematical Society | Physiological Society | Royal Academy of Engineering | Royal Astronomical Society | Royal Institution of Great Britain | Royal Meteorological Society | Royal Society of Chemistry | Society for Experimental Biology | Society of Cosmetic Scientists | The Geological Society

## Universities

Aberdeen | Aberystwyth | Bath | Birmingham | Brighton | Bristol | Brunel | Cambridge | Cardiff | Cranfield | Abertay, Dundee | Durham | East Anglia | Edinburgh | Edinburgh Napier | Exeter | Glasgow | Heriot-Watt | Hull | Imperial College, London | Keele | Kent | Lancaster | Leeds | Leicester | Liverpool | London School of Economics | Loughborough | Manchester | Newcastle | Northumbria | Nottingham | Open University | Oxford | Peninsula Medical School | Plymouth | Plymouth | Queen's University, Belfast | Reading | Royal Holloway, London | St Andrews | St Georges Medical School, London | Sheffield | Southampton | Stirling | Strathclyde | Surrey | Sussex | Swansea | University College, London | Warwick | West of England, Bristol | Wrexham | York

## Research Institutes

Freshwater Laboratory Pitlochry | Heart and Lung Institute | Horticulture Research Institute | Institute of Cancer Research | Jodrell Bank | John Innes Centre | MRC Laboratory, Cambridge | Mullard Space Science Laboratory | National Institute for Biological Standards and Control | NERC Centre for Ecology and Hydrology | NERC Institute for Virology and Environmental Biology | Pfizer | Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh | Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew | Rutherford Appleton Laboratory | Thrombosis Research Institute | UK Cochrane Centre | Wessex Regional Genetics

## Charities

Buckee Family Trust | Diabetes UK | Gatsby Charitable Foundation | National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts | National Grid | Transco | Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851 | The Clothworkers Foundation | The Elizabeth Nuffield Educational Fund | The Laura Ashley Foundation | The Leverhulme Trust | The Nuffield Foundation | Thriplow Charitable Trust | Vodafone Group Charitable Trust | JSF Pollitzer Trust | Motorola Solutions Foundation (USA) | Wellcome Trust

## Industry

Advantica Technologies Ltd | AstraZeneca | BICC | BP | British Gas | British Telecom | Cable & Wireless | Eastern Electricity | Electricity Council | Esso | Garfield Weston | GEC | GlaxoSmithKline | HSBC | ICI | ICL | LloydsTSB | L'Oreal | Oxford Instruments | Pfizer Limited | Powergen | Rank Xerox | Rolls Royce | Scotia Pharmaceutical | Shell UK | Smith Industries | Vodafone | Wessex Regional Genetics Laboratory

## Women in SET groups

Athena Swan | British federation of women scientists | Cambridge AWISE | EPWS | MentorSET | UKRC | WES | WISE | Women Like Us

## Other Organisations

Vitae | Equalitec | Environment agency | Cheltenham Science festival | Opportunity Now | Science Council | Goldsmiths' Company | Euroscicon

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### Learned Societies/ Professional Institutions

Institute of Physics  
The Physiological Society  
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The Royal Society of Chemistry  
The Royal Society

### Charities

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Diabetes UK  
Gatsby Charitable Foundation  
National Endowment for Science, Technology & the Arts  
National Grid Transco  
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The Clothworkers Foundation  
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*"I am extremely grateful to the Daphne Jackson Trust for motivating me and giving me the opportunity to get back to Science."*

*'My fellowship has been life changing as I have been able to return to my much loved scientific research'*

*"My long awaited return to research has so far exceeded all my expectations. Without The Daphne Jackson Trust I would never have secured a job in my chosen field, and would have felt I had wasted all the hard work I had done previously. Research to me is a vocation, and I consider myself lucky every day, to get paid to do what I love!"*

*'I feel hugely fortunate to have this opportunity'*

*"My confidence and abilities are expanding and my main project is progressing very well. I enjoy every moment of my work and feel very excited to be able to participate in scientific research again. I am very grateful to the Daphne Jackson Trust for my fellowship which allowed me to fully return to science at the very high level, thanks to which I have been recently offered a new job."*

## For more information

Dr Katie Perry, Chief Executive,  
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email **djmft@surrey.ac.uk**



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produced with the generous support  
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**The  
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