

British Branch Meeting, Edinburgh 30 August–1 September 2022

Following two years of online hosting of the IGS British Branch meeting by the Universities of Edinburgh and Liverpool respectively, 2022 provided the University of Edinburgh with the chance to host our first in person meeting (with virtual participation options) at the Edinburgh Climate Change Institute.

The meeting was preceded by a meet up for the IGS-EGG (Early-career Glaciologists Group) members, who climbed Arthur's Seat and had a valuable chance to meet other early-career glaciologists in person after so many virtual conferences.

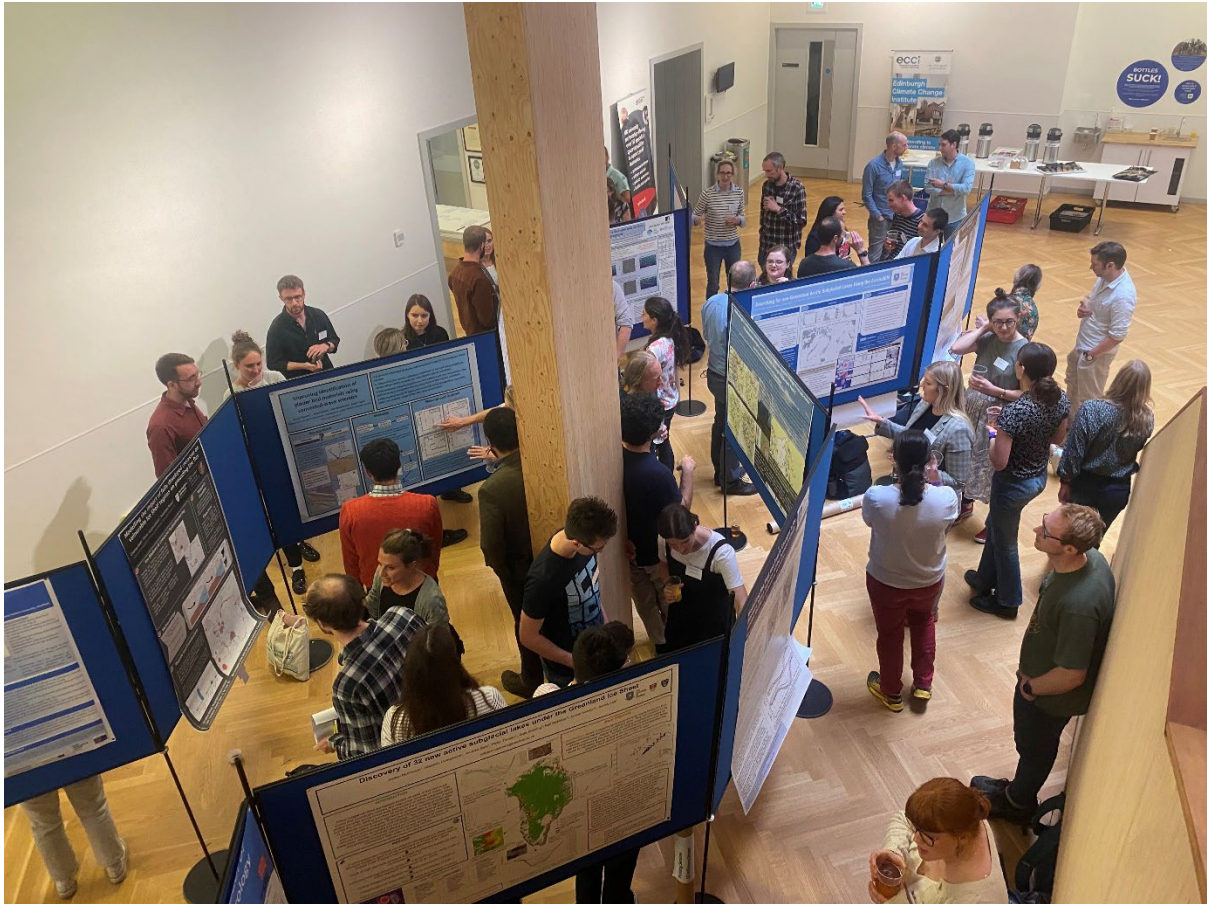


IGS-EGG warmed up for the conference by climbing Arthur's Seat (Photo: Dylan Beard)

The full meeting kicked off on Tuesday 30 August, with Bertie Miles (University of Edinburgh) demonstrating 50 years of pinpointing changes across Antarctic ice shelves and the morning culminating with Karla Boxall (SPRI) telling us about her work on seasonal variability of the flow of the Peninsula's land ice. Talks were also broadcast over Zoom, and questions came from both in-person and virtual attendees.

After lunch participants were treated to some ice rise modelling from Clara Henry (Max Plank Institute for Meteorology) and our first virtual talk was given by Emma Pearce from the University of Strasbourg – both showing that, while we may be the British Branch, the meeting was still very much international.

We were then introduced to IGS EGG and their activities by EGG members Lauren Rawlins, Nathaniel Baurly and Rebecca Schlegel, before moving to a very active poster session. Early career scientists then took part in some EGG-organized activities (it seems that there are connections between glaciology and yoga but you will have to ask them more about this) while many of the more senior participants moved to a local establishment for some less strenuous activities.



A very active poster session at the end of day 1 (Photo: Rachel Carr)

The day was completed with a hugely successful conference meal at a local Italian restaurant, culminating with an after dinner speech during which Doug Mair (University of Liverpool) regaled us with stories from glaciological times past.

A full day of talks on the second day took us all the way from Antarctic grounding lines (Bryony Freer, BAS) to Arctic ice-ocean-atmosphere interactions (Morag Fotheringham, University of Edinburgh). The British Branch AGM was held at lunchtime, and the day ended with the traditional presentation of the John Glen awards for best student poster and oral presentations. Congratulations to Ethan Lee (Newcastle University), Rebecca Sanderson (Newcastle University), and Sian Thorpe (University of Sheffield) for their poster presentation awards and to Trystan Surawy-Stepney from the University of Leeds for the oral presentation award.



One of the John Glen prize judges, Anna Hogg, congratulates one of the awardees, Rebecca Sanderson.

Thursday morning provided an opportunity for a joint session with the UK Antarctic Sciences Conference, which immediately followed the British Branch meeting, where talks relevant to both meetings were given. Rebecca Dell (SPRI) and Peter Tuckett (University of Sheffield) provided updates on the latest observational techniques for surface hydrology and Beatriz Recinos (University of Edinburgh) took us to West Antarctica to model some ice streams.

Last but definitely not least, the UK's Diversity in Polar Science Initiative (DIPSI) hosted a session where inclusive culture, Antarctic place names and many other important topics were openly discussed.

The meeting featured a wealth of high quality oral and poster presentations that have only not been detailed here due to lack of space – thank you to everyone for a very informative meeting. The main thanks however must go to the University of Edinburgh's glaciologists for hosting us so well, especially given they had already worked hard to host us virtually in 2020. The organizing committee, consisting of Rob Bingham (Chair), Milo Bischof, Anna Crawford, Morag Fotheringham, Dan Goldberg, Andy Hein, Nick Homer, Bertie Miles, Pete Nienow, Helen Ockenden, Bea Recinos and Donald Slater, did a truly excellent job.

We look forward to welcoming the British Branch to Cardiff in 2023.

Sammie Buzzard