

KIMBERLEY BIRKETT

Mullard Space Science Laboratory, Holmbury St. Mary, Dorking, Surrey. RH5 6NT.
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EDUCATION AND TRAINING

2012-Present **Mullard Space Science Laboratory, University College London**

- **PhD Cometary Physics** (Expected Completion: 2015)

2008-2012 **Imperial College London**

- **MSci Physics (1st class) and Associate of the Royal College of Science**
- **Completed 'Focus on Management' Course** (March 2009).

January 2009 **Umeå University, Sweden**

- **Arctic Science Course** (Passed with Distinction)

2006-2008 **Bury College**

- **A Levels:** Physics [A], Mathematics [A], Further Mathematics [A], Chemistry [A].

2001-2006 **Castlebrook High School**

- **GCSE's:** 3 As, 5 A*s.
- **GNVQ ICT:** Distinction.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2012-Present **Mullard Space Science Laboratory, University College London**

- **PhD Project:** The Effect of Cometary Activity on Tail Structures.

2011-2012 **Imperial College London**

- **MSci Project:** Rosetta and the Plasma Environment of Comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko.

18/07/2011-26/08/2011 **Space Magnetometer Laboratory, Imperial College London**

- **Research Placement:** Calibration of the Anisotropic Magneto-Resistance Magnetometer for the CINEMA-MAGIC spacecraft flight model.

FUNDING

December 2013 **Royal Astronomical Society Travel Grant**

- Awarded to allow attendance at the American Geophysical Union's Fall Meeting.

2008-2012 **Undergraduate Scholarship**

- Awarded by the Ogden Trust.

SKILLS

- Proficient in IDL, Linux, Matlab, C++, Assembler.
- Full, clean UK driving license.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

29/01/2013-15/04/2013 **Mullard Space Science Laboratory, University College London**

- **Script Assessment for Planetary Atmosphere's Course**

06/06/2012-20/07/2012 **Physics Undergraduate Laboratory, Manchester University**

- **Teaching Placement:** Developed physics undergraduate laboratory scripts and new demonstration experiments.

27/06/2011-15/07/2011 **Elthorne Park High School, London**

- **Student Associate Scheme Teaching Placement:** Worked as part of a team to produce and deliver a lesson in addition to motivating and engaging pupils with science education.

ATTENDANCE AT CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

09/12/2013-13/12/2013 **American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting** Modelling Cometary Sodium Tails (Poster)

09/09/2013-13/09/2013 **European Planetary Science Congress** Modelling Cometary Sodium Tails (Presentation, Conference Assistant)

01/08/2013-02/08/2013 **Comet ISON Pre-Encounter Workshop** New, Comprehensive Model of Atomic Sodium Tails (Presentation via WebEx)

24/06/2013 **Centre for Planetary Sciences Meeting, University College London/Birkbeck.** Modelling Cometary Sodium Tails (Presentation)

08/03/2013 **RAS Meeting: Comets' Interactions with Other Solar System Bodies** Modelling the Sodium Tails of near-Sun Comets (Presentation)

OUTREACH

09/11/2013 **The Observatory Science Center Herstmonceux**

- **Comets and Curry Public Evening:** invited speaker.

18/07/2013 **Foredown Tower Astronomers**

- **Comets- Past, Present and Future:** invited speaker.

02/07/2013-07/07/2013 **Royal Society Summer Exhibition: Ice Worlds**

- **Volunteer:** engaged with visitors on the subject of planetary science and organized volunteer rota.

2013-Present **Ogden Trust Blogden Project**

- **Blogger:** won competition to write a Blog about my life as a Physics PhD student, engaging varied audiences with the realities of research and science education.

2011-Present **STEM Ambassador**

- **Volunteer at the Big Bang Fair (March 2013):** promoted Science, Mathematics and Engineering to schools, teachers and members of the general public.

2008-2009 **100 Women 100 Visions Project**

- **Volunteer:** Assisting in promoting opportunities available to women in science.

POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY

23/03/2010-24/03/2010 **Planetarium Guide at UK Space Conference**

- Independently ran and organized shows inside the planetarium.
- Enjoyed working with the school groups that attended and discussing the possibilities of working in the science sector with professionals attending and organizing the conference.

20/07/2009-10/09/2009 **BT Tour Guide at Goonhilly Visitor's Centre**

- Ran tours of the inflatable planetarium and grade 2* listed antenna, Goonhilly 1.
- Enhanced my creativity and allowed me to convey my passion for science to the public.
- Learnt to aim my talk at a level suitable for my audience.
- Trained other members of staff to run the planetarium.
- Learnt to adapt and modify the tour I had written to keep both the staff and audience interested.