

**MEMBER COUNTRY:** United Kingdom  
**National Report to SCAR** For year : 2019

| Activity                                              | Contact Name                      | Address                                                                          | Telephone       | Fax             | Email                    | web site                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| <b>National SCAR Committee</b>                        |                                   |                                                                                  |                 |                 |                          |                                        |
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| <b>SCAR Delegates</b>                                 |                                   |                                                                                  |                 |                 |                          |                                        |
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| <b>2) Alternate Delegate</b>                          | Prof. Mike Bentley (Chair)        | Department of Geography, Durham University<br>South Rd, Durham, DH1 3LE          | +44 191 3341859 | +44 191 3341801 | m.j.bentley@durham.ac.uk | www.dur.ac.uk/geography/               |
| <b>Standing Scientific Groups</b>                     |                                   |                                                                                  |                 |                 |                          |                                        |
| <b>Life Sciences</b>                                  |                                   |                                                                                  |                 |                 |                          |                                        |
| <b>1)</b>                                             | Prof. Pete Convey (Voting rights) | British Antarctic Survey, High Cross, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0ET          | +44 1223 221588 | +44 1223 362616 | pcon@bas.ac.uk           | www.bas.ac.uk                          |
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| <b>Physical Sciences</b> |                                      |                                                                               |                 |                 |               |               |
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| <b>Scientific Research Program</b> |                                                      |                                                                                         |                 |                 |                            |                              |
| <b>AAA</b>                         | No UK members                                        |                                                                                         |                 |                 |                            |                              |
| <b>AntEco</b>                      |                                                      |                                                                                         |                 |                 |                            |                              |
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| 2)                                 | Prof. Pete Convey (Deputy co-chair)                  | British Antarctic Survey<br>High Cross<br>Madingley Road<br>Cambridge CB3 0ET           | +44 1223 221588 | +44 1223 362616 | pcon@bas.ac.uk             | www.bas.ac.uk                |
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| <b>AnT-ERA</b>                     |                                                      |                                                                                         |                 |                 |                            |                              |
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| 3)                                 | Prof. Eugene Murphy<br>(Liaison to ICED)             | British Antarctic Survey<br>High Cross<br>Madingley Road<br>Cambridge CB3 0ET           | +44 1223 221614 | +44 1223 362616 | ejmu@bas.ac.uk             | www.bas.ac.uk                |
| <b>AntClim21</b>                   |                                                      |                                                                                         |                 |                 |                            |                              |
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| <b>PAIS</b>                        |                                                      |                                                                                         |                 |                 |                            |                              |
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| 3) | (Steering Committee)                       | Geography, Durham University<br>South Rd, Durham, DH1 3LE                                               |                  |                 |                               |                            |
|    | Dr Stewart Jamieson                        | Durham University<br>Department of Geography<br>Science Laboratories,<br>South Road,<br>Durham, DH1 3LE | +44 191 334 1990 | +44 191 3341801 | stewart.jamieson@durham.ac.uk | www.dur.ac.uk/geography/uk |
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| 1) | <b>SERCE</b>                               |                                                                                                         |                  |                 |                               |                            |
|    | Dr. Pippa Whitehouse (Co-Chair)            | Durham University<br>Department of Geography<br>Science Laboratories,<br>South Road,<br>Durham, DH1 3LE | +44 191 3341877  | +44 191 3341801 | pippa.whitehouse@durham.ac.uk | www.dur.ac.uk/geography/uk |
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| Activity                                                              | Contact Name                                     | Address                                                                                             | Telephone       | Fax             | Email                  | web site                                   |
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| <b>Standing Committees</b>                                            |                                                  |                                                                                                     |                 |                 |                        |                                            |
| <b>SCADM (Standing Committee on Antarctic Data Management)</b>        |                                                  |                                                                                                     |                 |                 |                        |                                            |
| 1)                                                                    | Dr Helen Peat                                    | British Antarctic Survey<br>High Cross<br>Madingley Road<br>Cambridge CB3 0ET                       | +44 1223 221569 | +44 1223 362616 | hjpe@bas.ac.uk         | www.bas.ac.uk                              |
| <b>SCAGI (Standing Committee on Antarctic Geographic Information)</b> |                                                  |                                                                                                     |                 |                 |                        |                                            |
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| <b>SCATS (Standing Committee on the Antarctic Treaty System)</b>      |                                                  |                                                                                                     |                 |                 |                        |                                            |
| 1)                                                                    | Dr Thomas Bracegirdle<br>(SSG-PS representative) | British Antarctic Survey<br>High Cross<br>Madingley Road<br>Cambridge CB3 0ET                       | +44 1223 221571 | +44 1223 362616 | tjbra@bas.ac.uk        | www.bas.ac.uk                              |
| <b>Other Groups (optional)</b>                                        |                                                  |                                                                                                     |                 |                 |                        |                                            |
| <b>SOOS (Southern Ocean Observing System)</b>                         |                                                  |                                                                                                     |                 |                 |                        |                                            |
| 1)                                                                    | Dr Kate Hendry                                   | School of Earth Sciences<br>University of Bristol<br>Bristol BS8 1RJ                                | +44 117 9545379 |                 | k.hendry@bristol.ac.uk | http://www.bristol.ac.uk/<br>earthsciences |
| 2)                                                                    | Dr. Alberto Naveira<br>Garabato                  | Ocean and Earth Science<br>National Oceanography<br>Centre<br>University of<br>Southampton SO14 3ZH |                 | +44 2380 592680 | acng@noc.soton.ac.uk   | http://www.noc.soton.ac<br>.uk/soes        |
| <b>Expert Group ABI (Antarctic Biodiversity Informatics)</b>          |                                                  |                                                                                                     |                 |                 |                        |                                            |
| 1)                                                                    | Dr Huw Griffiths                                 | British Antarctic Survey<br>High Cross<br>Madingley Road<br>Cambridge CB3 0ET                       | +44 1223 362616 | +44 1223 362616 | hig@bas.ac.uk          | www.bas.ac.uk                              |

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| <b>ACCE (Advisory Group on Antarctic Climate Change and the Environment)</b>      |                                               |                                                                                                        |                 |                 |                                 |                    |
| 1)                                                                                | Prof. John Turner<br>(Chair)                  | British Antarctic Survey<br>High Cross<br>Madingley Road<br>Cambridge CB3 0ET                          | +44 1223 221485 | +44 1223 362616 | jtu@bas.ac.uk                   | www.bas.ac.uk      |
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| <b>ADMAP (Antarctic Digital Magnetic Anomaly Project) Expert Group</b>            |                                               |                                                                                                        |                 |                 |                                 |                    |
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| <b>ANTOS (Antarctic Near-shore and Terrestrial Observing System) Action Group</b> |                                               |                                                                                                        |                 |                 |                                 |                    |
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|                                                                      |                                         |                                                                                                           |                 |                 |                                      |                                                                                                                                     |
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| <b>ASPECT (Antarctic Sea-ice processes and climate) Expert Group</b> |                                         |                                                                                                           |                 |                 |                                      |                                                                                                                                     |
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| <b>CGG (Connecting Geophysics with Geology Action Group)</b>         |                                         |                                                                                                           |                 |                 |                                      |                                                                                                                                     |
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| <b>CPR (Continuous Plankton Recorder Research) Expert Group</b>      |                                         |                                                                                                           |                 |                 |                                      |                                                                                                                                     |
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| <b>EGBAMM (Expert Group on Birds and Marine Mammals)</b>             |                                         |                                                                                                           |                 |                 |                                      |                                                                                                                                     |
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| <b>FRISP (Forum for Research into Ice-Shelf Processes)</b>           |                                         |                                                                                                           |                 |                 |                                      |                                                                                                                                     |
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|                                                                                   |                                |                                                                                                                                            |                                      |                   |                                |                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| <b>Geological Mapping Update of Antarctica (GEOMAP)</b>                           |                                |                                                                                                                                            |                                      |                   |                                |                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| <b>Action group on Geological Heritage and Geoconservation</b>                    |                                |                                                                                                                                            |                                      |                   |                                |                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| <b>GRAPE (GNSS Research and Application for Polar Environment) Expert Group</b>   |                                |                                                                                                                                            |                                      |                   |                                |                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| <b>IBSCO (International Bathymetric Chart of the Southern Ocean) Expert Group</b> |                                |                                                                                                                                            |                                      |                   |                                |                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| <b>ICED (Co-sponsored group on Integrating Climate and Ecosystem Dynamics in the Southern Ocean)</b> |                                           |                                                                                                                                   |                  |                  |                               |                            |
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| <b>IPICS (International Partnership in Ice Core Sciences) Expert Group</b>                           |                                           |                                                                                                                                   |                  |                  |                               |                            |
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| <b>ISMASS (Ice Sheet Mass Balance and Sea Level) Expert Group</b>                                    |                                           |                                                                                                                                   |                  |                  |                               |                            |
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| 3)                                                                                                   | Prof. Edward Hanna                        | University of Lincoln,<br>University of Lincoln<br>Brayford Pool<br>Lincoln<br>LN6 7TS                                            | +44 1522 83 5382 |                  | ehanna@lincoln.ac.uk          | https://www.lincoln.ac.uk  |
| <b>ISSA (Integrated Science for the Sub-Antarctic) Action Group</b>                                  |                                           |                                                                                                                                   |                  |                  |                               |                            |
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| 2)                                                                                                   | Prof. Dominic Hodgson                     | British Antarctic Survey<br>High Cross<br>Madingley Road<br>Cambridge CB3 0ET                                                     | +44 1223 362616  | +44 1223 362616  | daho@bas.ac.uk                | www.bas.ac.uk              |

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| <b>JEGHBM (Joint Expert Group on Human Biology and Medicine)</b>     |                              |                                                                                              |                                      |                   |                                  |                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| <b>OpMet (Operational Meteorology in the Antarctic) Expert Group</b> |                              |                                                                                              |                                      |                   |                                  |                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 1)                                                                   | Mr. Steve Colwell<br>(Chair) | British Antarctic Survey<br>High Cross<br>Madingley Road<br>Cambridge CB3 0ET                | +44 1223 221483                      | +44 1223 362616   | src@bas.ac.uk                    | <a href="http://www.bas.ac.uk/met/jds/met/SCAR_oma.htm">http://www.bas.ac.uk/met/jds/met/SCAR_oma.htm</a>                                                                   |
| 2)                                                                   | Mr. Jon Shanklin (Emeritus)  | British Antarctic Survey<br>High Cross<br>Madingley Road<br>Cambridge CB3 0ET                | +44 1223 221482                      | +44 1223 362616   | jdsh@bas.ac.uk                   | <a href="http://www.bas.ac.uk/met/jds/met/SCAR_oma.htm">http://www.bas.ac.uk/met/jds/met/SCAR_oma.htm</a>                                                                   |
| <b>Remote Sensing Action Group</b>                                   |                              |                                                                                              |                                      |                   |                                  |                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 1)                                                                   | Dr Peter Fretwell            | British Antarctic Survey<br>High Cross<br>Madingley Road<br>Cambridge CB3 0ET                | +44 1223 221425                      | +44 1223 362616   | ptf@bas.ac.uk                    | www.bas.ac.uk                                                                                                                                                               |
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| <b>SERAnt (Sun Earth Relationships and Antarctica) Action Group</b>  |                              |                                                                                              |                                      |                   |                                  |                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| <b>AntVolc (Expert Group on Antarctic Volcanism)</b>                 |                              |                                                                                              |                                      |                   |                                  |                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 1)                                                                   | Prof John Smellie            | Department of Geology,<br>University of Leicester,<br>University Road,<br>Leicester, LE1 7RH | +44 116 252 3933/<br>+44 1954 232685 | + 44 116 252 3918 | jls55@le.ac.uk                   | <a href="https://www2.le.ac.uk/departments/geology/people/smellie-jl/personal/biography">https://www2.le.ac.uk/departments/geology/people/smellie-jl/personal/biography</a> |
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| <b>HASSEG (Humanities and Social Sciences) Expert Group</b>          |                              |                                                                                              |                                      |                   |                                  |                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                                                                      | No UK members                |                                                                                              |                                      |                   |                                  |                                                                                                                                                                             |

## Scientific highlights of the past year

### SOOS

- The 2018 SOOS Scientific Steering Committee meeting took place in Hangzhou China, hosted by Dake Chen and the Second Institute of Oceanography. A UK scientist attended as committee member of the West Antarctic Peninsula Working Group.
- The West Antarctic Peninsula Working Group has been reconfigured to include the Scotia Arc (now the WAPSA Working Group).
- The SOOS Regional Working Group Consortium meeting was held at Polar2018, Davos. Dr Kate Hendry attended as committee member of the WAPSA Working Group. SOOS also arranged a “datahack” day at Polar2018.

### PAIS

- PAIS had a large presence at Davos Polar 2018 (several sessions)
- At Davos PAIS hosted a workshop with significant UK involvement to develop a future SRP following SCAR 2020. This is being done in close conjunction with SERCE (see below).
- Several cruises are underway this season with UK PAIS participation, including the Thwaites Glacier cruise of Nathaniel B Palmer, and the IODP Expedition 379 to the Amundsen Sea.
- The ANTSCAPE project to understand past Antarctic landscape and topography has made significant progress with multiple publications this year, all led by UK authors.

### SERCE

- A recent paper focusing on the research interests of SERCE was published in Nature Communications (<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-018-08068-y>). The paper titled ‘Solid Earth change and the evolution of the Antarctic Ice Sheet’ has a UK lead author.
- An issue of *Nature* that was published to coincide with the Davos POLAR2018 meeting contained two papers with UK SERCE authors including a new estimate of Antarctic ice sheet mass balance, and a paper providing a range of evidence that parts of the Antarctic Ice Sheet may have retreated smaller than present configurations in the last few thousand years.
- SERCE are organising multiple sessions at ISAES in South Korea, and are advertising a summer school on Glacial Isostatic Adjustment in Gavle, Sweden.

### ISMASS

- A paper recently published in Nature Climate Change (<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-018-0305-8>) is an output of a 2017 ISMASS workshop. The paper titled ‘The Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets under 1.5 C global warming’ has two UK co-authors.

**OpMET**

- The OpMet monitoring page ([https://legacy.bas.ac.uk/met/jds/met/SCAR\\_oma.htm](https://legacy.bas.ac.uk/met/jds/met/SCAR_oma.htm)) has been updated to include a plot showing the number of ships in Antarctic waters that are reporting meteorological observations against those that are not: <https://legacy.bas.ac.uk/met/jds/met/ships.JPG>

**Action Group on Geological Heritage and Geoconservation**

- A UK scientist led an Action Group meeting at the SCAR OSC in Davos (June 2018) and co-led a further meeting in Madrid (November 2018).
- Action Group outputs are being prepared for submission to the Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP; Prague, July 2019).

**AntECO**

- An international expedition to the A68 iceberg on Polarstern included UK participants from AntECO. This expedition is attempting to understand the ecology of the iceberg and the seafloor it used to cover.