Stephen Battersby

Science writer and editor

Employment

1995 to 1998 *Nature magazine*

News & Views editor, covering physics, astronomy, mathematics, technology and Earth sciences.

My job was to coax articles out of eminent scientists, encourage them to write in a way that readers outside their own sub-field might understand, and then rewrite the result as tactfully as possible.

1998 to 2002 *New Scientist magazine*

Features editor, physical sciences.

I commissioned longer pieces from professional journalists, aiming to tell a story and entertain the science-curious public. For just over a year I was acting head of the features section.

2002 to present *Freelance*

Work includes:

- Popular science articles for New Scientist, PNAS, Nature, Discover and Current Science, on subjects including climate change, icy moons, dark matter, the final fate of the Universe, swarming skin cells, twisted light, space weather and SETI. A piece on Saturn's moon Titan won the 2015 Eberhart award for planetary sciences journalism: https://dps.aas.org/prizes/2015.

- Writing and editing reports and articles for business (Xyntéo, DNV GL, Snam S.p.A.) covering climate and energy issues including adaptation, collaboration, green economies and resilience.

- Editing reports for the Government Office for Science, including the 2016 Blackett Review on quantum technologies, and Blackett reviews in 2017 on satnav vulnerabilities and service industries.

- More quantum technology work writing a fact-finding mission report for Innovate UK, articles for M Squared Lasers and a vision piece and case studies for EPSRC; also editing a brochure and a technology roadmap for Birmingham University.

- Setting questions for University Challenge.

Education

1987 to 1990 *St John's College, Oxford University.* BA in Physics, 1st class

1991 to 1995 *Imperial College, London*. PhD in Astrophysics, analysing the radioactive background in an orbiting gamma-ray telescope and calculating how many high-energy neutrinos might be emitted by quasars and other active galaxies.

Some writing

The tragedy of the commons and how to escape it
http://www.pnas.org/content/114/1/7

Geoengineering
https://www.newscientist.com/article/mg21528831-700-can-geoengineering-avert-climate-chaos/

A quantum technology mission report
https://admin.ktn-uk.co.uk/app/uploads/2018/11/2018-Canada-Quantum-Technologies-Expert-Mission-Report.pdf

A mission to the ignorosphere
https://www.newscientist.com/article/mg23130870-400-nofly-zone-exploring-the-uncharted-layers-of-our-atmosphere/

Seas on Titan
https://www.newscientist.com/article/mg22229700-800-into-the-methane-depths-of-kraken-titans-strange-sea/#

Some editing

A climate science report for business leaders
https://issuu.com/xynteo/docs/climate_science

The UK government's Blackett Review of quantum technologies
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/quantum-technologies-blackett-review

A report on collaboration and growth
https://issuu.com/xynteo/docs/collaboration_for_new_growth

And a mixture of both

https://www.dnvgl.com/technology-innovation/broader-view/adaptation-to-climate-change/index.html