Stephen Battersby

Science writer and editor

stephenbattersby@gmail.com
+44 7833 524 171

Education

1987 to 1990 *Oxford University.* BA in Physics, 1st class.

1991 to 1995 *Imperial College, London*. PhD in Astrophysics (looking at how cosmic rays affect a space observatory, and calculating the neutrino output of quasars).

Employment

1995 to 1998 *Nature magazine, News & Views editor*

Commissioning eminent scientists to write about new research in physics, astronomy, mathematics, technology and earth sciences – then making their copy as accessible as possible for a broad academic readership.

1998 to 2002 *New Scientist magazine, features editor*

Handling feature articles from professional journalists and scientists, aiming to entertain the science-curious public. For the last year I was acting head of the features section, managing a team of 10 to 12 people.

2002 to present *Freelance writer and editor*

- Covering climate and energy issues for businesses (BeZero Carbon, DNV GL, Snam S.p.A., Xyntéo, Valence Solutions, CUR8 Earth). Topics include adaptation, collaboration, resilience, the hydrogen economy and carbon removal.

- Writing policy briefs for UN climate COPs 26 and 27, and UN Biodiversity COP 15, on behalf of the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA). Also editing reports for IIASA and writing articles for their website and Options Magazine.

- Editing reports for the UK Government Office for Science (and one for the Cabinet Office) covering quantum technologies, critical infrastructure dependency on GPS, service industries, cities, citizen data, and climate research to support COP 26.

- Various work on quantum tech, including mission reports for Innovate UK, editing for the Cambridge University Engineering Department, articles for M Squared Lasers, research for Element Six, studies for the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, and brochures and technology roadmaps for Birmingham University.

- Writing articles on a very wide range of topics for New Scientist, PNAS, and occasionally other magazines. A piece on the methane seas of Saturn's moon Titan won the 2015 Eberhart award for planetary sciences journalism: https://dps.aas.org/prizes/2015.

- Setting questions for University Challenge.

Writing

Upgrading the concept of net zero
https://www.pnas.org/doi/abs/10.1073/pnas.2407160121?af=R

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

Solar farming
https://www.pnas.org/doi/10.1073/pnas.2301355120

Clouds could speed climate change
https://www.newscientist.com/article/mg22329850-800-burning-blue-sky-earths-cloud-shield-is-failing/

Electricity vs birds
https://www.newscientist.com/article/mg22830521-200-why-bird-droppings-are-the-enemy-of-electricity/

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

The solar cell of the future
https://www.pnas.org/doi/10.1073/pnas.1820406116

Carbon detectives
https://www.pnas.org/doi/10.1073/pnas.1808901115

Guarding biodiversity
https://iiasa.ac.at/options-magazine/summer-2021/defense-of-natural-realm-0

Editing

The Hydrogen revolution
https://www.google.co.uk/books/edition/The_Hydrogen_Revolution/Q0cDEAAAQBAJ?hl=en&gbpv=0&kptab=getbook

The Blackett review on quantum technologies
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/quantum-technologies-blackett-review