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Introduction from the Executive Director

Welcome to the May edition of our SCAR newsletter. It's been a busy month in spite of the widespread impacts of Covid-19 and lockdown.

We are continuing to work on moving key elements of the [SCAR Open Science Conference](#) online. A range of sessions will be made available or streamed live during the week of the original OSC (3rd-7th August 2020) and a dedicated website will launch soon. Everyone who originally submitted an abstract should now have received an email asking for their consent to be in the abstract book. If you have any questions about our plans, please get in touch via info@scar.org.

Over the coming months various SCAR groups are independently planning online workshops, such as the Forum for Research into Ice Shelf Processes ([FRISP](#)) and the GNSS Research and Application for Polar Environment ([GRAPE](#)). We will keep the SCAR events calendar regularly updated with

information about such meetings.

This month's newsletter highlights a new [White Paper](#) on Antarctic geothermal heat flow (GHF) produced by the Solid Earth Response and influence on Cryospheric Evolution (SERCE) scientific research programme. Watch this [video](#) to find out how GHF is being measured and why continued research is so important for Antarctica. We also report on an updated version of the [Antarctic Digital Database \(ADD\)](#), and on the [workshop](#) "Plastics in Polar Environments: sources, impacts and solutions" held in Hull last October.

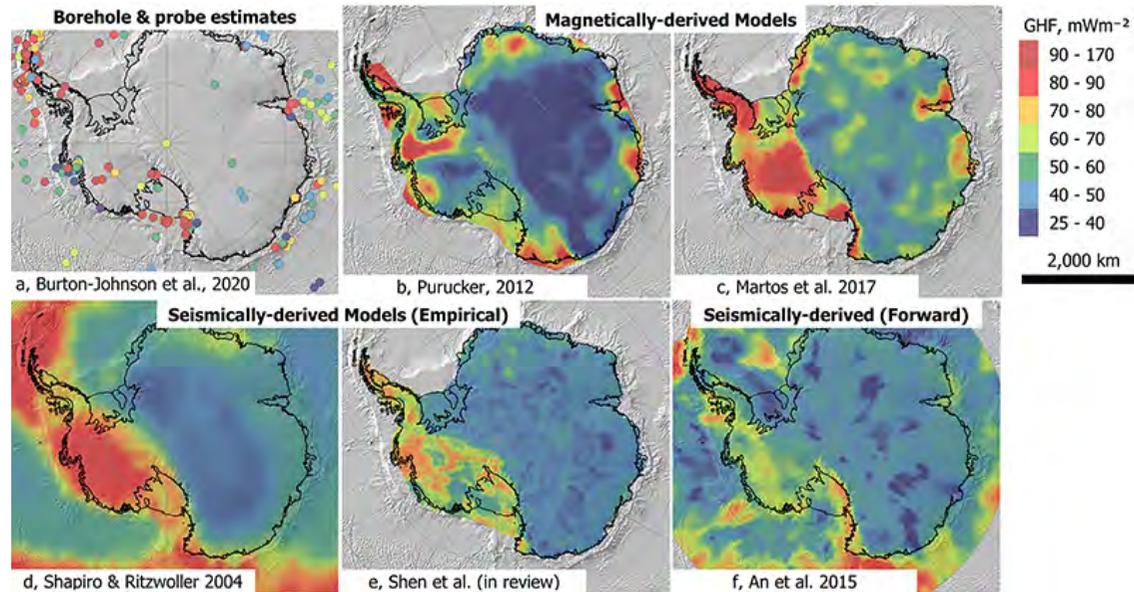
As always, you can also find a range of news from the wider community, opportunities and online events. If you'd like to share your own news, events, and photos with us, please contact us at info@scar.org.

- Chandrika Nath
SCAR Executive Director

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Featured News



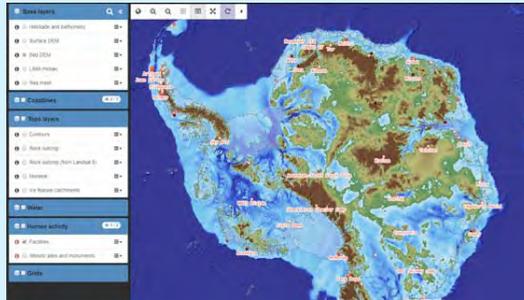
SERCE White Paper on Antarctic Geothermal Heat Flow Research

Why is geothermal heat flow important for the Antarctic Ice Sheet?
How do we even measure it when there's all that ice in the way?

A new [SCAR-SERCE White Paper](#) on Antarctic geothermal heat flow research brings together the multidisciplinary and international community to detail current methods, discuss their challenges and limitations, and recommend key future directions. Lead author Alex Burton-Johnson [explains](#) what geothermal heat flow is, how it's being measured and why continued research on the topic is important for Antarctica.

[Read the paper and watch the video here.](#)

SCAR News



Antarctic Digital Database Update

A newly updated version of the [Antarctic Digital Database](#) (ADD) has been released. ADD is a compilation of topographic data for Antarctica to 60°S. It allows to view and download datasets such as the Antarctic coastline, contours and rock outcrop.

[Read more](#)



Conference Report of Humanities and Social Sciences Action Group

A new publication in *The Polar Journal* includes a conference report of the [Policy-Law-Science Nexus Action Group](#) (PoLSciNex). The report covers their contribution to the SC-HASS biennial conference and the Polar Law Symposium, which were both held in 2019.

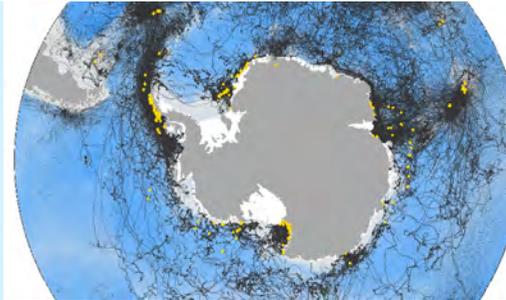
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Workshop Report: Plastic in the Polar Environment

A report from the two-day Plastic in the Polar Environment Workshop which took place in October 2019 at the University of Hull, UK is now available on our website. The workshop was organised by the [Plastic in Polar Environments Action Group](#) and involved academic experts, representatives of citizen science projects, tourism operators and policy makers.

[Read More](#)



WWF reports on 'Tracking predators to protect Southern Ocean Ecosystems'

In his article "Where the animals go... a clue for protecting Antarctic wildlife" Rod Downie, who leads WWF's Polar Programme in the UK, writes about the Retrospective Analysis of Antarctic Tracking Data (RAATD) project of the SCAR Expert groups EG-ABI and EG-BAMM and their [recent publication](#).

[Read More](#)

To read more news from the SCAR community visit our [website](#). You can also follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) for updates. If you've got news to share email the SCAR Secretariat at info@scar.org.

Community News

News from the SCAR community and wider research community

- A **special issue of Polar Biology** "Pathways and impacts of biotically-mediated marine and other stored nutrient transfer between polar ecosystems" is looking for submissions. Please get in contact with the [editors](#) if you are interested in contributing.
- The [EGU medals & awards programme](#) 2021 is open for nominations until 30th June 2020.
- **The Polar Technology Conference** "Linking Experts in Polar Science and Technology" has made video recordings and presentation files from the event [available online](#).
- **ASSEMBLE Plus** is launching a new and final [call for access](#) to over 30 marine biological stations and infrastructures. Researchers from industry and academia are invited to apply for free access. The deadline for applications is 4th October 2020.

Events

Upcoming events from SCAR, the SCAR community and wider research community

Note: Due to the current situation worldwide we are only listing virtual events at the moment. We hope you will enjoy meeting online!.

- The [ICESat-2 Cryospheric Science Hackweek](#) will be offered online from **8-18 June 2020**.

- [FRISP 2020](#) - The 34rd Forum for Research into Ice Shelf Processes has moved online. Virtual FRISP 2020 meetings will take place on four dates in **June 2020** (16th, 17th, 24th and 25th June). The registration and abstract submission deadline is 31 May 2020.
- The **GRAPE Expert Group** has organised an [Online Workshop](#) for **1-3 July 2020**. Registration ends 15th June. Please register to receive the link for participation.
- [SCAR 2020 online](#) will deliver some of the highlights of the SCAR Open Science Conference online through both pre-recorded videos and live events between **3-7 August 2020**. More information will be available soon.

Opportunities

Opportunities from the SCAR community and wider research community:

- The Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies, UTAS, is looking for a Southern Ocean [spatial and community ecologist](#) to work on a research project that will be mapping, predicting and monitoring ecological change in the Southern Ocean. Applications close **5th June 2020**.
- The Norwegian Meteorological Institute (MET Norway) is offering a [PhD position in sea ice remote sensing](#). The position is available for commencement from 1st September 2020, the application deadline is **7th June 2020**.
- The Center of Global Sea Level Change (CSLC), New York University Abu Dhabi, seeks to recruit a [Postdoctoral Associate](#) to work in

Antarctic glacier and ice shelf modelling. Application will be accepted immediately and are considered until the position is filled.

- A [Postdoctoral Position](#) is available through the NSF-funded [Polenet-ANET](#) project to work on modeling ice sheet dynamics, sea level change and solid Earth deformation in Antarctica. The position has a flexible start date of **August 2020** and applications are viewed as they come in.

Image of the month



Our image of the month shows Dome C North HF radar located close to Concordia research station. Both this Dome and Dome C East are part of the Super Dual Auroral Radar Network (SuperDARN). The image is tied to the work of SCAR's GNSS Research and Application for Polar Environment ([GRAPE](#)) Expert Group and was taken by Alessandro Cirioni of the Department of Earth System Science and Environmental Technologies at [CNR](#).

We love seeing photos from SCAR scientists so get in touch at info@scar.org if you'd like to share yours!



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