



UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM

MICROBIOLOGY, GENETICS AND  
MOLECULAR BIOLOGY OF ARCHAEA

9<sup>TH</sup> UK MEETING

The University of Birmingham  
Edgbaston

January 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> 2010

*the*  
**genetics**society

society for general  
**Microbiology**

society for applied  
**sfam**  
microbiology



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## SPONSORS

The organizers would like to express their gratitude to the meeting sponsors:

**The Genetics Society**  
Roslin BioCentre  
Wallace Building  
Roslin  
Midlothian EH25 9PS  
<http://www.genetics.org.uk/>

**Society for General Microbiology**  
Marlborough House  
Basingstoke Road  
Spencers Wood  
Reading RG7 1AG  
<http://www.sgm.ac.uk>

**Society for Applied Microbiology**  
Bedford Heights  
Brickhill Drive  
Bedford  
MK41 7PH  
<http://www.sfam.org.uk/>

**New England Biolabs (UK) Ltd**  
Knowl Piece  
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Hertfordshire  
SG4 0TY  
<http://www.neb.uk.com>

**Bioline Ltd.**  
16 The Edge Business Centre  
Humber Road  
London  
NW2 6EW  
<http://www.bioline.com>

## ATTENDEE INFORMATION

**Venue:-** Lectures and registration take place at:

The Biosciences Building  
The University of Birmingham  
Edgbaston Campus  
Birmingham B15 2TT

### ***Registration***

Registration will take place from 12:00 to 13:45 on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January in the Undercroft of the Biosciences Building. If arriving outside these times, please contact the conference organizers directly. Badges should be worn during the meeting.

### ***Scientific Sessions***

Talks will take place in lecture theatre NG8 of the Biosciences Building. Speakers should ensure that their talks are loaded onto the resident PC or Mac laptop before their respective session. Posters will be exhibited in the Undercroft of the Biosciences Building. The poster session is scheduled for 17:10 on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January.

### ***Accommodation***

Overnight accommodation is in Lucas Hall. Room keys can be collected after 14:00 on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January. Rooms must be vacated by 10:00 on Friday 8<sup>th</sup>.

### ***Meals and Refreshments***

Breakfast will be served in Lucas Hall. Tea / coffee and buffet lunches will be served in the Undercroft of the Biosciences Building. Beer / wine / soft drinks will be available during the poster session scheduled for 17:10 on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January.

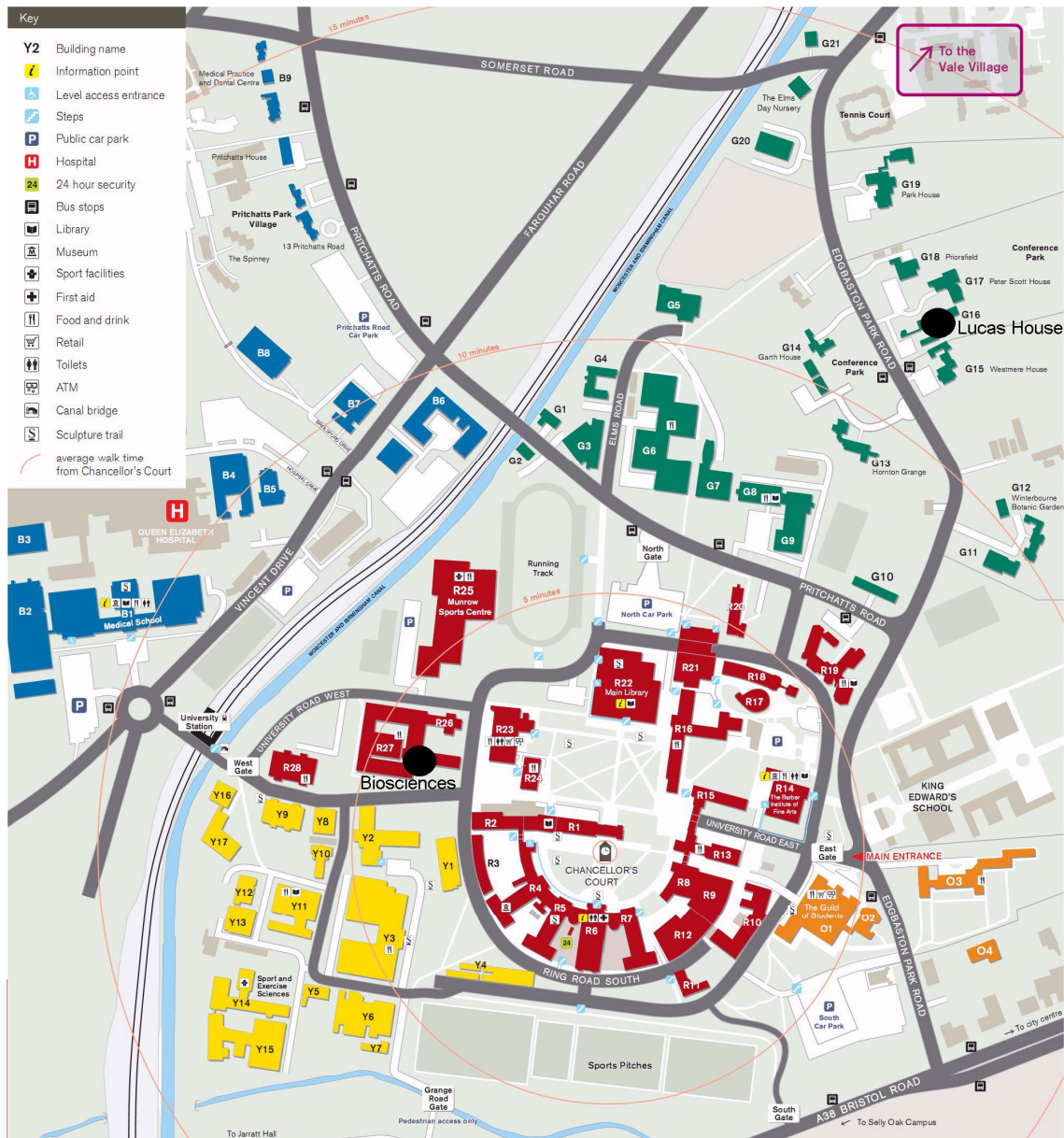
The conference dinner will be held at **Shimla Pinks** (one of Birmingham's top Indian restaurants), Five Ways Leisure Complex, Broad Street, Birmingham B15 1AY, starting at 20:00. For location see maps on page 5. (<http://www.shimlapinks.com>)

### ***Parking***

Pay and display parking spaces are available at the North Car Park. Cars can be left overnight at Lucas House if you obtain a permit when collecting your room key.

### ***Local Taxi Services***

TOA Taxis (black cabs) 0121 427 8888  
CastleCars (radio cars) 0121 472 2222

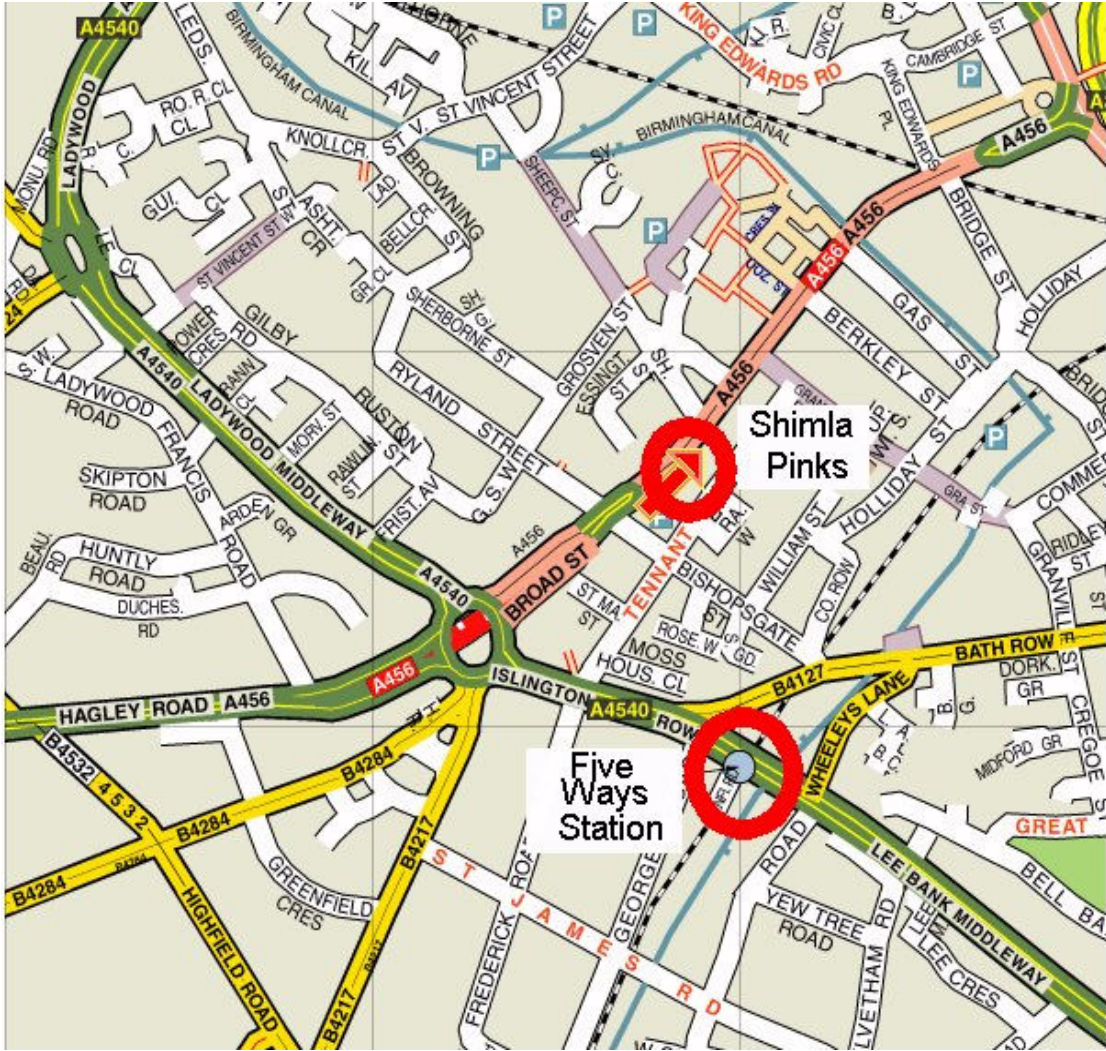


- R7 Aston Webb – C Block
- R8 Physics West
- R9 Nuffield
- R10 Physics East
- R11 Medical Physics
- R12 Aitchison Building
- R13 Poynting Building
- R14 Barber Institute of Fine Arts
- R15 Watson Building
- R16 Arts Building
- R17 Ashley Building
- R18 Strathcona Building
- R19 Education Building
- R20 J G Smith Building
- R21 Muirhead Tower
- R22 Main Library
- R23 University Centre
- R24 Staff House
- R25 Munrow Sports Centre
- R26 Geography
- R27 Biosciences
- R28 Learning Centre

- G1 32 Pritchatts Road
- G2 31 Pritchatts Road
- G3 European Research Institute
- G4 3 Elms Road
- G5 Computer Centre
- G6 Metallurgy and Materials
- G7 IRC Net Shape Laboratory
- G8 Gisbert Kapp Building
- G9 52 Pritchatts Road
- G10 54 Pritchatts Road
- G11 Winterbourne House
- G12 Winterbourne Botanic Garden
- G15 Westmere
- G18 Priorsfield
- G19 Park House
- G20 Elms Plant Laboratorium
- G21 Park Grange
- Green Zone Conference Park**
- G13 Hornton Grange
- G14 Garth House
- G16 Lucas House
- G17 Peter Scott House

Visitors are advised to check <http://www.about.bham.ac.uk/maps/> for additional maps and for information about roadworks in the vicinity of the Campus.





THURSDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY

12:00 *Registration and Lunch (Undercroft, Biosciences)*

**SESSION 1 (NG8, BIOSCIENCES)**  
*Chair: Malcolm White (St Andrews)*

13:45 *Introduction and housekeeping*

14:00 Evidence for interaction of Hel308 with DNA damage signalling and repair proteins.  
**Edward Bolt** (University of Nottingham)

14:20 The archaeal FANCM homolog Hef and Holliday Junction resolvase Hjc define alternative pathways essential for cell viability in *Haloferax volcanii*.  
**Roxane Lestini** (CNRS)

14:40 Multiple functional MCMs in *Methanococcus maripaludis*  
**Alison Walters** (University of York)

15:00 Helicases and nucleases in archaeal NER  
**Christophe Rouillon** (University of St Andrews – Scotland)

15:20 *Tea / Coffee (Undercroft)*

**SESSION 2 (NG8, BIOSCIENCES)**  
*Chair: Thorsten Allers (University of Nottingham)*

15:50 Identification of an ortholog of the eukaryotic RNA polymerase III subunit RPC34 in Crenarchaeota and Thaumarchaeota suggests specialization of RNA polymerases for coding and non-coding RNAs in Archaea.  
**Fabian Blombach** (Wageningen University)

16:10 The mechanism of transcription initiation.  
**Mirijam Zeller** (Universität Regensburg- Lehrstuhl f: Mikrobiologie)

16:30 Transcription Elongation of Archaeal RNA polymerase.  
**Finn Werner** (UCL ISMB)

16:50 Archaeal RNA polymerase subunits and transcription factors -a study in interaction and interrelation.  
**Dina Grohmann** (UCL ISMB)

17:10 Posters and wine reception (*Undercroft*) Sponsored by **Bioline**

20:00 Conference dinner

FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY

**SESSION 3 (NG8, BIOSCIENCES)**

*Chair: Finn Werner (University College London)*

- 9:30 Pulse EPR studies on the archaeal RNA Polymerase subunits F/E  
**Daniel Klose** (University of Osnabrück)
- 9:50 L-glutamine dependent binding of the allosteric transcriptional regulator Sa Lrp from *Sulfolobus solfataricus* to different target genes  
**Amelia Vassart** (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)
- 10:10 Constitutive and inducible promoters for a *S. acidocaldarius* shuttle vector system  
**Silvia Berkner** (University of Bayreuth)
- 10:30 *Haloquadratum walsbyi* strain comparison  
**Friedhelm Pfeiffer** (Max-Planck-Institute of Biochemistry)
- 10:50 *Tea / Coffee (Undercroft)*

**SESSION 4 (NG8, BIOSCIENCES)**

*Chair: Peter Lund (University of Birmingham)*

- 11:20 **Invited Speaker** Travel sponsorship from **New England Biolabs**  
Biofilm formation in hyperthermophiles  
**Sonja-Verena Albers** (MPI for terrestrial Microbiology)
- 12:00 Initiation and regulation of translation in halophilic Archaea  
**Jörg Soppa** (Goethe University- Frankfurt)
- 12:20 Can an archaeal chaperonin function in a bacterial host?  
**Andrew Large** (University of Birmingham)
- 12:40 Tat-dependent protein transport in halophilic archaea  
**Albert Bolhuis** (University of Bath)
- 13:00 Business meeting – choice of venue and organisers for next year
- 13:10 *Buffet lunch and departure (Undercroft)*

**Poster Presentations**  
(17:10, 7<sup>th</sup> January, The Undercroft)

Role of protein Mth203 in *Methanothermobacter thermoautotrophicus*.  
**Chitvan Bochiwal** (University of York)

Genetic tools in *Sulfolobus* spp.  
**Michaela Wagner** (MPI for Terrestrial Microbiology, Marburg)

Biofilm formation in *Sulfolobus* spp.  
**Andrea Koerdt** (MPI for Terrestrial Microbiology, Marburg)

A new replication initiator in an Archaeal virus  
**Xavier Giroux** (Institut de Génétique et de Microbiologie, Paris-Sud)

Putative stability determinants in the pNOB8 plasmid from *Sulfolobus*: Dissection of a motor-like protein and its binding partners  
**Fernando Rodriguez-Castaneda** (University of York)

TBA  
**Bushra Patoli** (University of Nottingham)

RPAs in *Haloferax volcanii*.  
**Amy Stroud** (University of Nottingham)

Cas-CRISPR: an antiviral defence mechanism in prokaryotes  
**Jamieson Howard** (University of Nottingham)



## List of Delegates

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