



# Maxwell 150 Years On – the impact of his science

Marischal College and King's College, University of Aberdeen, 7<sup>th</sup>–9<sup>th</sup> September 2006

## [A Maxwell Year 2006 Event](#)

### About the Event

The year 2006 marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the appointment of James Clerk Maxwell, at Marischal College, Aberdeen, to his first professorial post and his only Scottish chair. The same year also marks the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Maxwell. The academic year started in November in Maxwell's day and to mark the occasion we at the University of Aberdeen are planning to hold a celebratory meeting just before the start of our new session, now in September. The 2-day meeting will have talks on today's science in fields where James Clerk Maxwell laid the foundations, a poster session and a final afternoon of public lectures on Maxwell's work and his place in the history and philosophy of science. The scheduled dates are Friday and Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> with registration and a welcome reception on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September.

While Maxwell was at Aberdeen, he was particularly involved with developing the dynamical analysis of Saturn's rings, the measurement of colour perception and the kinetic theory of gases. However, Maxwell was gestating his ideas on electricity and magnetism and other subjects and hence we would like to keep the meeting open for presentations on any topics in modern science that owe significant insights to Maxwell. That covers a lot of science!

**Participation in this event is cordially invited. Those interested are requested initially to register at the event website shown at the end of this flyer.**

### Format

- Registration and reception (Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September afternoon/evening)
- Scientific lectures (Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September and Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September morning)
- Public lectures (Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September afternoon)
- Poster section during the event.

All the lectures will be delivered by invited speakers, who are leading UK and international experts in the relevant fields.

### Scientific Scope

The scope of this meeting will cover Maxwell's scientific interests including, amongst other topics:

**electromagnetism, colour science, kinetic theory, planetary and celestial dynamics, statistical mechanics and thermodynamics, and active control theory,**

and their further developments such as:

**special and general relativity, gauge field theory, solar physics, plasma physics, laser physics, magnetic fusion, and imaging science.**

### Call for Papers

Contribution of papers is invited on subjects described above. Accepted papers will be presented as posters during the event and the corresponding articles will be considered for publication in the event proceedings. Young scientists including PhD students, postdoctoral researchers and early-stage academics are particularly encouraged to come and present their recent research results. **Potential authors are requested to submit a paper title and short abstract at the event website below.**

### Proceedings

The event proceedings will be published in a dedicated Theme Issue of the *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society*. This Theme Issue will consist of papers presented by invited speakers as well as contributed poster presenters. All papers will be refereed. The submission deadline will be announced later but is expected to be around 1<sup>st</sup> November 2006.

**For registration and further information including a list of speakers, please visit:**

[www.abdn.ac.uk/maxwell/](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/maxwell/)

### Local organisers

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