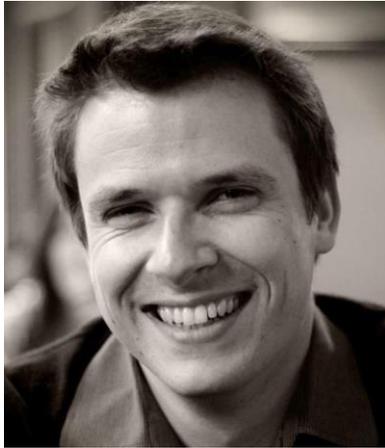


## Karl Byrne, Christmas Lectures Manager The Royal Institution of Great Britain (Ri)



*'It was a pleasure to work with Catryn and I hope to see her at science communication events in the future.'*

Catryn was involved many aspects of the production of this year's CHRISTMAS LECTURES. This included:

1. Taking ownership of certain demos for the show- designing them, building and/ or sourcing materials and instructing volunteers on how to complete tasks Catryn was integral in the creation of the World record breaking lemon battery.
2. Catryn also worked closely with the presenter and producer in elements of the script and had the crucial role of running the autocue during the recording of the lectures, being in constant contact with the Director and communicating directly with the presenter while he was on stage.

The expectations of this placement were to find a PhD student who could input into the science content of the lectures, aid the CHRISTMAS LECTURES team, source materials and carry out small but important tasks to ensure the smooth running of the lectures, while gaining an understanding of how a unique television show like the CHRISTMAS LECTURES is put together.

Catryn surpassed all of our expectations. In previous years this role has been more to do with the social media side and with running the autocue. However due to a change in the structure of the internal team here at the Ri, Catryn was given more responsibility. Because of her excellent problem solving, analytical mind and creative input, Catryn was able to create a number of the large demonstrations in the Christmas Lectures, taking them from ideas through to finished product. She was also instrumental in giving feedback on the script and on the creation of various sections of the script.

Because of the changes in the organisation around the time that Catryn's placement started, we are reviewing the way information is recorded and passed to new members of staff. We are also reviewing the structures we have in place regarding chain of command in relation to some of our external stakeholders that we work in partnership with during the lectures. Catryn's input into both of these has led to organisational changes.