

Summary

During the day, I lead part of Cancer Research UK's Health Evidence and Information Team. I communicate to the public about cancer prevention and early detection, edit and fact-check the charity's information, and act as a media spokesperson.

By night, I am a freelance journalist with a wide publication history. I write the award-winning science blog Not Exactly Rocket Science, I am an active part of the scientific community on social media, and I speak regularly about science journalism and blogging.

Employment

Science writer (2006-present)

- Award-winning science writer with freelance pieces published in New Scientist, the Times, WIRED, the Guardian, Nature, the Daily Telegraph, the Economist and more.
- Creator of Not Exactly Rocket Science (blogs.discovermagazine.com/notrocketscience), a science blog which draws a diverse audience of general readers, attracts around 200,000 page views a month.
- Self-published Not Exactly Rocket Science, a book collecting articles from the blog.
- Savvy with social media and active on Twitter, Facebook and the blogosphere
- Engaging speaker on science journalism and online media; presented at many national and international conferences
- A full list of articles and talks at flavors.me/edyong

Head of Health Evidence and Information, Cancer Research UK (2004-present)

I joined Cancer Research UK's Health Information Department as a Health Information Officer in 2004 and have been promoted three times, culminating in my current role as Head of Health Evidence and Information.

- Led the Evidence and Information team, a group of six people with scientific backgrounds who ensure that the charity's information on cancer prevention and early detection is evidence-based and up-to-date
- Edited and fact-checked writing from across the charity for consistency and accuracy, including press releases, web content, publications, copy from corporate partners, health campaigns, policy statements and more.
- Developed extensive knowledge of cancer prevention, early detection and health communication, and provides consultation and training on these topics to other departments in the charity, and to partner organisations.
- Reviewed evidence on key topics in cancer prevention and early detection and provided monthly internal updates
- Communicates about cancer prevention and early detection through print resources and web content (including our award-winning Science Update blog)
- Media spokesperson: has given over 100 TV, radio and phone interviews and hundreds of written comments.
- Contributed to strategic direction of Health Information Department

Education

- MPhil in Biochemistry, University College London 2002 – 2004
- MA in Natural Sciences, 2:1 degree, University of Cambridge, 1999 – 2002, specialised in Zoology

Awards and honours

- Winner [National Academies Keck 2010 Science Communication Awards](#) – Online category
- Times Eureka List – Top Ten people to watch under 40
- Winner of the [Three Quarks Daily Science Prize 2010](#), judged by Richard Dawkins
- Winner of the [Research Blogging Awards 2010](#) including Research Blog of the Year, Best Post of the Year, and Best Lay-Level Blog
- Winner of the [Association of British Science Writers Best Newcomer Award](#) 2009
- Winner of the [Daily Telegraph Science Writer Awards](#) in 2007 and Runner-up in 2004-2006
- Recruited into the Observer Future 500, a network showcasing the “best and brightest” of British talent; placed in the Top 10 for Science and Innovation.
- Judge for ABSW Science Writer awards 2010, and OpenLab compilations 2008-2010

Bibliography

- Not Exactly Rocket Science (2009) Lulu (self-published)
- Defining Moments in Science: Over a Century of the Greatest Scientists, Discoveries, Inventions and Events That Rocked the Scientific World. (2008) Cassell Illustrated. (contributed 40 out of 1,000 short pieces)

Education

- 2002 – 2004 MPhil, Biochemistry, University of London. working at Clare Hall Laboratories, Cancer Research UK
- 1999 – 2002 Ma (Hons) Natural Sciences, Pembroke College, Cambridge University. Class: 2:1, specialising in zoology and molecular biology