30 years of SGR

20th anniversary activities

Bumper issue of SGR Newsletter and members forum. Social media presence established.

2012

SGR conference on risks of emerging technologies

Highlights growing risks of military drones, geoengineering, and influence of vested interests in R&D.

2011

2013 **2**

Offensive Insecurity report published

In-depth report uses data from Freedom of Information requests to expose aggressive agenda of UK's military R&D programmes.

2013

SGR briefing on climatic impacts of UK nuclear weapons published

Briefing uses new climate modelling to estimate possibility of 'nuclear winter' arising from UK nuclear weapons use. Written by Philip Webber, it was used by ICAN to help make case for UN nuclear ban treaty. Expanded into larger report in 2015 to help campaign against Trident renewal.

AESR joins SGR family

Architects and Engineers for Social Responsibility (AESR) merges with SGR.

2005

2005

Soldiers in the Laboratory report published

SGR publishes in-depth report on extensive links between the military and UK science and technology. Launched in parliament and written by Dr Chris Langley, it's followed by two related reports in 2007 and 2008.

SGR's first Executive Director appointed

Dr Stuart Parkinson appointed to newly created staff post to oversee expansion of organisation.

Ethical careers briefings published

SGR publishes series of 10 briefings on theme of ethical careers in science and technology edited by Stuart Parkinson and Vanessa Spedding. About 50,000 copies are distributed over a 15yr period.

2001-2006

Climate Train to Kyoto

SGR takes leading role in organising group of scientists and activists travelling by low-carbon surface transport from Europe to Japan for COP3 climate negotiations.

(also see extended summary on p.5)

1997-1998

Science and the Corporate Agenda report published

SGR publishes in-depth report on damaging effects of corporate agenda in UK science.

2009

Iraq war briefing published

On eve of Iraq war, SGR publishes Why the Iraq war is a warning for the planet by Philip Webber and Vanessa Spedding.

2003

SGR debate on genetic engineering

2003

SGR conference hosts debate on genetic engineering which leads to research and campaigning on this issue.

1998

Science for the Earth conferences

SGR helps stage series of four conferences to discuss role of science in helping build better world.

1992-1996

Scientists for Global Responsibility (SGR) formed

SGR formed from merger of Scientists Against Nuclear Arms (SANA), Electronics and Computing for Peace (ECP), and Psychologists for Peace (PfP). Members of recently dissolved British Society for Social Responsibility in Science (BSSRS) also join. Dr Philip Webber is Chair.

SGR website launched

SGR an early adopter of new technology of the World Wide Web.

1995

1992

Compiled by Stuart Parkinson

2014

SGR moves office to eco-village near Lancaster

Office moved from Kent to building supplied by community renewable energy. In 2020, office moves again to another eco-retrofit building, this time in Lancaster city-centre to minimise staff commuting as well.

2014

Shale Gas and Fracking report published

Critical assessment of efforts to create UK fracking industry.

SGR at COP21 in Paris

SGR takes part in Alternative Climate Summit.

2015

UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons formally agreed

Campaigning by ICAN - including using SGR's research - leads to new UN treaty. ICAN receives Nobel Peace Prize.

2015

Annual Science4Society Week begins

SGR begins new science education activities for school children, co-ordinated by Dr Jan Maskell.

2017

Artificial Intelligence report published

Report on risks of Al written by SGR's new Assistant Director, Andrew Simms.

2018

One Planet One Life workshops in schools

Jan Maskell runs school workshops for over 1,300 children on climate change and sustainable lifestyles.

2018-21

Responsible Science journal replaces SGR Newsletter

After nearly 50 editions of SGR Newsletter, we opt for an upgrade, edited by Andrew Simms and Stuart Parkinson.

2020

SGR conference moves online

Annual conference held online for first time. focusing on lessons from COVID-19 pandemic for climate crisis.

2020

Environmental impacts of UK military report published

In-depth report on carbon emissions and other environmental impacts of UK military, written by Stuart Parkinson. Followed by report on EU military carbon emissions in 2021 - and further research and campaigning.

Two reports on responsibility of scientists published

Numerous concerns raised, including financial links between professional bodies and fossil fuel/ arms industries - leading to new Science Oath for the Climate and related activities.

2021

Globally Responsible Careers resources launched

Launch of new web-based resource, Globally Responsible Careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (GRC-STEM).

2021

SGR at COP26 in Glasgow

SGR takes part in Alternative Climate Summit.

SGR continues to grow

SGR staff expands to seven, has large reach via website and social media, and expertise is sought by wider audiences than ever!