

2025 RMS Annual Highlights

With the year 2025 drawing to a close, here's a quick look back at some of the RMS highlights over the last 12 months...

Events

This year the Society hosted more than **30** events in total, including **14** virtual meetings which have helped us reach a diverse, global audience. Our events this year attracted more than **3,150** registrations in total, including **85** for in-person courses and workshops, **39** for virtual training events, and **760** for other virtual events.

We hosted or assisted with a number of new events, including Navigating Strategies for Core Facilities 2025: A Town Hall Webinar (a highly successful online event with nearly **400** registrations) and Workshop on the Applications of 4D-STEM.

The Society supported a number of external events as an exhibitor, sponsor, or invited speaker. These included South West Electron Microscopy 2025 (SW-EM); GW4 Networking Day; MidsEM 2025; Cryo Microscopy Group Meeting 2025 and the Scottish Microscopy Society Symposium 2025



EMMIC 2025
Microscience Microscopy Congress
Incorporating EMAG 2025

organised by the Royal Microscopical Society (RMS)

Supported by the Scientific
Journal of the RMS

Journal of
Microscopy

1 - 3 July 2025,
Manchester Central, Manchester

Three-day scientific conference
incorporating:

- World-renowned invited speakers

- Pre-congress workshops (30 June)

- Career symposium

RMS
Royal Microscopical Society
Journal of
Microscopy
the Scientific Journal of the RMS

Dedicated to furthering
research and supporting
microscopy, imaging,
and flow cytometry
communities



Partnership

Journal of Microscopy



mmc2025

This year's stand-out event was, of course, Microscience Microscopy Congress 2025 (mmc2025), which took place at Manchester Central, UK, in early July. More than **1,100** attendees took part this year, from **36 countries** across **six continents**.

It meant this was the **second biggest** mmc the Society has staged, following the record attendance achieved in 2023 when we returned 'in-person', post-covid.

The Congress featured a superb range of scientific content with **417** abstract submissions, **236** posters and **67** invited speakers.

It also boasted a world-class trade exhibition with more than **90** exhibitors and **67** commercial workshops.



Journal of Microscopy

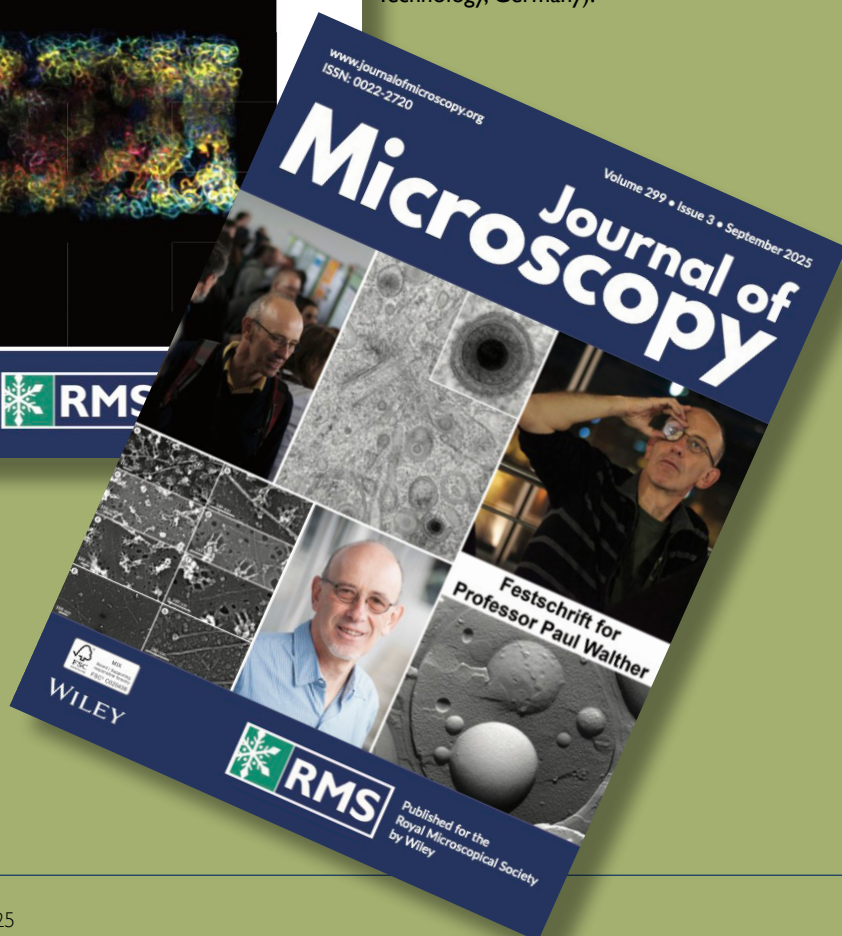
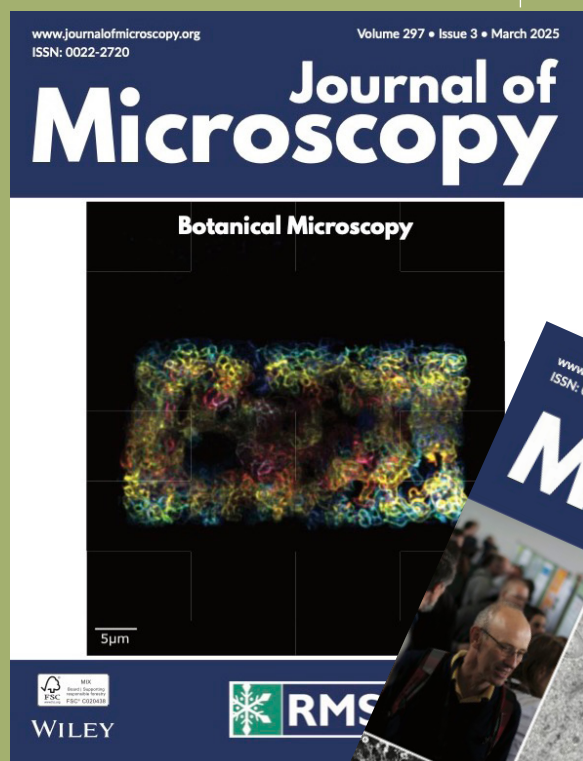
Another great year for the Journal of Microscopy is coming to a close, with **99** papers (including **56** Open Access papers) already published online during 2025 (as at 1/11/2025) – a **5%** increase on the same period last year (94). The number of new submissions to the Journal has also increased with **353** so far in 2025 compared with 315 by 1 November 2024.

We were very pleased to publish **four special issues**: Botanical Microscopy,

Microscopy Techniques, a Festschrift to honour the career of Professor Paul Walther and Ptychography. More are in the pipeline for 2026!

There were some notable departures on the Editorial Board, with **Professor Carolyn Larabell** (University of California, San Francisco, USA) and **Professor Mark Rainforth** (University of Sheffield, UK) retiring as Scientific Editors during the summer. **We thank them both** for their many years of service!

Meanwhile we welcomed **four** new Scientific Editors in 2025: **Professor Rik Drummond-Brydson** (University of Leeds), **Professor Dylan Owen** (University of Birmingham, UK), **Dr Thomas Walther** (University of Sheffield), and **Professor Venera Weinhardt** (Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany).

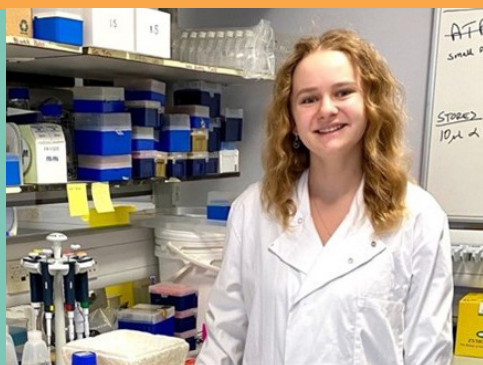
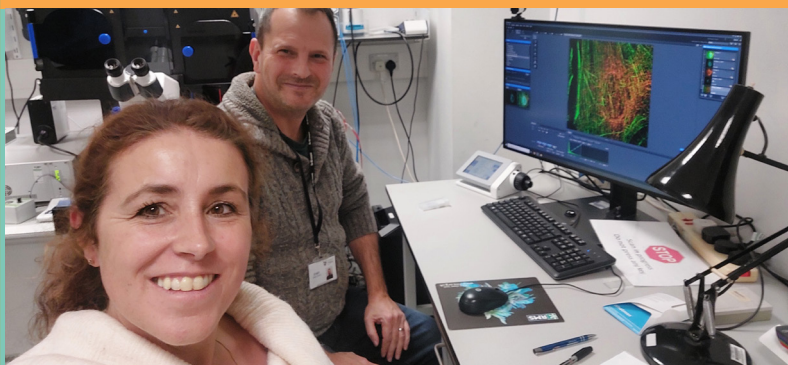


Microscope Activity Kits

2025 was another great year for the RMS Microscopy Activity Kits (MAKs) which are loaned out (free) to primary schools, providing children with their first experience of microscopy.

Exactly **100 schools** benefitted from the scheme this year, reaching a total of **18,775 students**.

At any one time, the RMS has **35 kits** in circulation and a further **five** for STEM/Learning Hubs and non-formal education (NFE) programmes (e.g. Scouts, Guides etc.). A number of spare kits are also made available for other Outreach projects (e.g. science fairs).



Summer Studentships, job shadowing, mentoring and RMS Diploma

This year we were delighted to award the maximum **six** Summer Studentship Awards to undergraduates who applied to undertake microscopy-themed projects over the summer. Each student received £2,000 to help subsidise accommodation and laboratory costs, and their reports are due to be published in our March issue of **infocus**.

Meanwhile, for RMS members already in employment, we continue to offer the RMS Diploma - a unique, portfolio-based qualification to hold. We currently have **10 candidates** undertaking the diploma, from countries including Croatia and New Zealand.

Our Application Coaching and Personal Mentoring Scheme has been a great success with **13 mentoring matches** for 2025. This initiative is designed to support career development and the unique roles specific to microscopy, imaging and flow cytometry.

A further **13 job shadowing placements** were arranged this year, as part of our Technical Specialist Job Shadowing Program giving scientists on an academic or technical career track the chance to visit a UK imaging or flow core facility for up to a week.

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