In association with the International Heliophysical Year (IHY) 2007 and the Whole Heliospheric Interval (WHI) in 2008 we announce an Interplanetary Scintillation (IPS) Workshop to be held in Aberystwyth, Wales, 05-07 May 2009. 2009 brings us the 400-year anniversary of the discovery of Sunspots by Galileo Galilei in 1609. It also marks 50 years in 2008 since the Parker (1958) solar wind plasma definition paper.

The broad aims of this Workshop are to continue discussions on IHY collaborations and progress (specifically WHI), more ease and speed on the sharing of data between groups, updates on the MWA and LOFAR prospects to the community, further involvements with STEREO/SMEI and other white-light imaging and in situ comparisons and how the different data sets can compliment each other to further our understanding of the physics behind our observations/models; and further strengthening of the current collaborative ties between various groups following the previous workshop in Toyokawa.

From left-to-right: the EISCAT telescope near Tromsø in Norway (by M. M. Bisi), the new STELab Toyokawa antenna in Japan (by M. Kojima), the Ootacamund (Ooty) Radio Telescope in India (courtesy of P. K. Manoharan), and the new MEXART array in Mexico (courtesy of J. A. Gonzalez-Esparza).

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Temporary Web page: http://smei.ucsd.edu/Aberystwyth_IPS_Workshop.html
For travel planning purposes, a tentative schedule for the workshop is as follows…

Tuesday:
- Participants arrive around late-morning/lunchtime.
- Afternoon – Official opening of the workshop, announcements, plan, aims, and then short (~10-minute summary talks) from each of the groups being represented to give context to the gathering.
- Evening – Informal drinks/get-together in Aberystwyth town and informal discussions.

Wednesday:
- Morning – Workshop discussions/ideas/collaborations/outcomes thus far.
- Lunch.
- Afternoon – Progress made on the sharing of data and the integration of white-light, IPS (including a splinter group discussing the common IPS data format), Faraday Rotation, and radio-burst observations (including projection effects). Possible tour to see the feeding of the Red Kite birds (http://www.bbc.co.uk/nature/wildfacts/factfiles/235.shtml) at the Red Kite Sanctuary, Nant Yr Arian (near Aberystwyth). Followed by further discussions (time allowing).
- Evening to be determined.

Thursday:
- Lunch
- Afternoon – Future Work/Collaborations and next steps followed by the official close of the work-side of the workshop.
- Evening – Informal meal featuring Welsh beer and whisky.

Friday (optional):
- Morning – Tour/demonstration of the 3D imaging facilities at Aberystwyth.
- Participants depart...

The IPS Workshop organisers will apply for any possible funding opportunities for workshop participant travel and subsistence, but nothing is certain and participants should expect to obtain their own funds from their respective governments/funding councils where possible please. Tying 2-3 meetings in a row in a single country/region may help in your success for obtaining funds (please see the relevant dates below).

Important Dates/Locations:
EGU:  19-24 April – Vienna, Austria.
IPS Workshop:  05-07 May 2009 – Aberystwyth, Wales.

Organised by:
University of California at San Diego, USA, and Aberystwyth University, Wales, UK.

From left-to-right: an artist’s impression showing the SMEI cameras aboard the Coriolis satellite which was launched in a Titan II from the Vandenberg US Air Force Base on 06 January 2003 (Jackson et al. 2004), the STEREO launch on 25 October 2006 in a Delta II rocket from Cape Canaveral US Air Force Station (http://stereo.gsfc.nasa.gov/img/Delta_STEREO_launch.jpg ), and an image of a CME as seen by one of the STEREO HI instruments (http://www.sstd.rl.ac.uk/stereo/Gallery/Hi/5daylinear.jpg).