



EGU 2013 on the blogosphere

The *'Assembly online'*, on blogs and other social media channels such as Twitter and Facebook, received much praise at this year's EGU meeting. Professor [Ellie Highwood](#), for example, [highlighted](#) the benefits of following the conference on Twitter: "Tweets allowed those of us who would have liked to have been in two places at once to keep up with the goings on in parallel sessions."

If you are missing Vienna, you want to look back at the multitude of scientific talks presented in early April or be reminded of the special events and activities at this year's meeting, it is indeed online that you'll find the best record of the conference. You may find yourself getting lost searching through the thousands of tweets marked with the meeting's hashtag (#EGU2013) but, fortunately, there are other online sources of material related to the General Assembly. The official website, <http://www.egu2013.eu/>, is a good place to start, but much 'virtual ink' was shed about the Assembly elsewhere on the internet, particularly on the blogosphere (the blogging universe).

In this quarter's *On the Web* section, we feature some of the many bloggers who covered this year's General Assembly. We briefly review their blogs and highlight the #EGU2013 blog posts they published.

We will start by mentioning two excellent blogs, written by professional science journalists, on science and policy. [Environmental-researchweb](#) is a community website from the Institute of Physics Publishing providing informative briefs on environmental issues. Their [Planet blog](#) features "comment and analysis from [Environmentalresearchweb's] editorial staff and professionals in the field." The website editor Liz Kalaugher reported extensively on the [EGU meeting on the Planet blog](#) with short, to-the-point posts that neatly summarise important research presented at the Assembly.

The [Carbon Brief](#) is another page by professional science writers who describe it as a "blog dedicated to analysis and fact checking of energy policy and climate science, with a focus on the UK." Their regular reports of what goes on in the world of energy, climate and science policy – which include [reporting on the EGU 2013 Great Debate](#) and a post on ['Five hot topics'](#) from the 2013 conference – are authoritative and informative. They further specialise in fact-checking energy and climate stories in the press by writing reliable, accurate and well-researched articles on matters often not well covered by traditional media.

If journalists can write clearly and concisely about a range of science topics, scientists can also be second-to-none when it comes to science writing, particularly when it comes to blogging about their own field of research. An example of a great blog by scientists at the University of Liverpool, UK is [Geomagnetism.org](#), an account of the researchers' investigations into the Earth's magnetic field. While geomagnetism is the blog's main subject area, there is also space

for posts on other topics, including a two-part diary ([Part 1](#), [Part 2](#)) of this year's EGU General Assembly featuring not only geomagnetism sessions but also research on continental collisions, super-Earths and other topics.

Equally passionate about science are the bloggers at [G-Soil](#), the blog of EGU's Soil System Sciences (SSS) Division. The multinational G-Soil co-editors, researchers working in Spain, Portugal and Australia, promote SSS activities and enthusiastically communicate soil sciences, from new research to scientific conferences. General Assembly related posts included a [letter from the SSS president](#) highlighting soil sciences events at the conference and a [note about the soils and human health interdisciplinary session at EGU 2013](#).

A very special mention goes to another type of web-logging: a series of podcasts by researchers at the University of Manchester Centre for Atmospheric Science (UK) called [The Barometer](#). The topics covered include all things atmospheric science and climate and the audio posts are informative, creative and often humorous. Audio diaries of scientific conferences and events are a regular feature: the EGU conference inspired [no less than five podcasts](#), which are well worth a listen!

We could not write an article about EGU 2013 on the blogosphere without mentioning the official EGU blog, [GeoLog](#), and the [network blogs](#). Though we have featured them in the past, it is worth highlighting their excellent coverage of the General Assembly. GeoLog has a few dozens of posts labeled under 'EGU GA 2013', including about 15 posts published on the week of the conference on research presented at the meeting and on other activities of interest. And we couldn't be more pleased with our bloggers who wrote extensively about scientific talks, poster sessions, press conferences, the [Great Debate](#), and much more. Check out their posts at: <http://blogs.egu.eu/gfgd/category/egu/>, <http://blogs.egu.eu/palaeoblog/category/egu-2013/>, and <http://blogs.egu.eu/geosphere/category/egu2013/>.

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