Hello Grey House team members and esteemed quaran-teammates! We are now 374 days into our year-long team-building ordeal! Believe it or not, more than a year has passed since the first newsletter. That’s pretty weird.

8 March 2021 Newsletter theme: Have you noticed the sun is rising earlier and setting later, at least in the northern hemisphere?

Here’s Duke’s East Campus at dawn this spring.

When it comes to spring, Avshalom and I always return each March to William Wordsworth and this poem of his that I memorized in high school:

I wandered lonely as a Cloud  
That floats on high o’er Vales and Hills,  
When all at once I saw a crowd,  
A host of golden Daffodils;  
Beside the Lake, beneath the trees,  
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.
Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the Milky Way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced, but they
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:—
A Poet could not but be gay
In such a jocund company:
I gazed—and gazed—but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:

For oft when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude,
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the Daffodils.

On Monday 15 March, no newsletter, sorry. I’m going on spring break to Florida.

Advance notice: In 2 weeks, on 22 March, I will send a special wearin’ o’ the green issue of this newsletter, to mark St. Patrick’s Day. A little late, but what the heck! So, please take photos of anything green, anything at all. I want loads of photos of green. And send me poems, quotes, jokes, recipes, travel destinations, anything on an Irish theme or St. Patrick’s Day. Here’s a teaser from Annchen:
There’s also this lovely spring poem taught to me by my grandmother, Edith Macon.

When the earth is turned in spring
The worms are fat as anything.
And birds come flying all around
To eat the worms right off the ground.
They like the worms like you and I
Like milk and cake and apple pie.
And once, when I was very young,
I put a worm right on my tongue.
I didn’t like the taste a bit,
And so I didn’t swallow it.
But oh, it makes my Mother squirm
Because she thinks I ate that worm!

Of course, March is autumn in the southern hemisphere, so.....

for our southern hemisphere readers, and for those of you who have visited us in New Zealand, and maybe done the bike ride on the Otago Rail Trail at Auripo with us:

Apple Picking, by Brian Turner, in Central Otago

Go towards and by the rustling wires,
the twisted watarahs, through thistle
and rye-grass and speckled yarrow,
to the old, scabby apple tree

by the rail trail at Auripo. Pick
the yellow and green-hued apples
flecked in autumn, the few left
like wan globes on branches
whose leaves are wearied. Pick
them to feed to birds in the depths
of winter when their chittering
speaks of gratitude more than
anything else you can think of.
Each apple’s a blessing, and a gift,

as each day is, be it sloughing autumn
or any other season. Pick and pick,

then leave with a wry smile
and a longing to be back next year.

And it’s still very much winter in Canada…..

Michel and Jocelyne
Calendar of upcoming events:

March:
9: Temi eligible for her UK pension.
9-10: Duke class break, no classes held.
11-17: Temi’s and Avshalom’s vacation to Florida. NO NEWSLETTER 15 March.
24: Oscar’s first birthday
30: Tracy D’Arbeloff’s PhD dissertation oral defense.

April:
12: Duke wellness day for students and staff (mandatory meditation and aromatherapy)
21: Max Elliott’s PhD dissertation oral defense
23: David Corcoran birthday
24: Kyle Bourassa birthday
25: Line Rasmussen birthday
27: Ahmad Hariri birthday

If you have events coming up, and would like to share them, do let me know. Temi

Many thanks for this Jasmin!
FIRST THE HAPPY NEWS:

Congratulations Doctor Reuben!!!!  Aaron Reuben defended his PhD dissertation with aplomb on 4 March.
Postdoc Stephanie Langevin is now in North Carolina and she has a lovely house and a Duke e-mail address! (stephanie.langevin@duke.edu)
Country music star Dolly Parton has a new gig: Singing the praises of coronavirus shots and getting vaccinated on camera.

On Tuesday, Ms. Parton, 75, received a Moderna shot at Vanderbilt Health in Tennessee. “Well, hey, it’s me,” she says to her fans in an accompanying video, a minute before a doctor arrives to inoculate her. “I’m finally gonna get my vaccine.”

“I’m so excited,” she added in the video, which racked up more than a million views within about four hours. “I’ve been waiting a while. I’m old enough to get it, and I’m smart enough to get it.” She also broke into song (naturally), replacing the word “Jolene” in one of her best-known choruses with “vaccine.”

“Vaccine, vaccine, vaccine, vaccine,” she sang, embellishing the last one with her trademark Tennessee lilt. “I’m begging of you please don’t hesitate.”

“Vaccine, vaccine, vaccine, vaccine,” she added, “because once you’re dead, then that’s a bit too late.”

“I know I’m trying to be funny now, but I’m dead serious about the vaccine,” she said. “I think we all want to get back to normal — whatever that is — and that would be a great shot in the arm, wouldn’t it?” “I just want to say to all of you cowards out there: Don’t be such a chicken squat,” she added. “Get out there and get your shot.”

Maria Gehred’s first-year project paper was accepted at Biological Psychiatry!


And the paper has already been cited!

In “Thinking Clearly About Biology and Childhood Adversity: Next Steps for Continued Progress” (Pollak & Smith 2021, Perspectives on Psychological Science).
Our Leah Richmond-Rakerd selected as an APS Rising Star!
They don't know the half of it.

New Associate Professor Sidra Goldman-Mellor celebrated her tenure appropriately.
Welcome Duke VIP Student Dina Qiryaqoz to the team. ([dina.qiryaqoz@duke.edu](mailto:dina.qiryaqoz@duke.edu))

Dina’s research will be supervised by Temi and Jasmin. Her project is resilience: Most young people from poor families do not study beyond secondary school. So, what stands out about young people from poor families who defy those odds, make it to University and graduate with a degree?

VIP is the annual summer research program for Psychology majors, the intent of which is to give participants a head start on work that may culminate in a senior thesis. At this time, it is unclear whether the 2021 VIP will be in person or remote, but in either case the program will run from May 11th-July 9th. VIP students will conduct research with a faculty mentor and in some cases a graduate or postdoc mentor. VIP students will attend seminars, professional development workshops, and an optional statistics workshop. Students will finally present their work to their peers, mentors, and (via poster session) the wider University community. Program participants receive a stipend to assist with living expenses over the course of the program.

Dina says, Marhaba!
NEXT, THE UN-HAPPY NEWS:

Our grant proposal to validate DunedinPoAm4x in other cohorts was only ranked at the 37th percentile. Boooo….! At least the application was not triaged out with the bottom half of applications. This means among the top half, it scored at 37%, but that is still not good enough for funding. The funding line is top 11%. Now we wait 30 days to see the reviewer’s comments, and hope we can revise to improve the proposal.

Interesting Peruvian-Japanese graduate student we recruited decided to go to nasty old Yale instead. Thank you to everyone who helped with recruitment by zooming with her.

THIS WEEK’s Science visualization:

I thought you might like to see how fortunate we are that we are in the 15% green bit of this chart. Sad for the other 85%.

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* These are Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, United Arab Emirates, UK and the US. Countries included in this list are not included in any other region.

Data source: World Bank (PovertyHDI) for 2015.

OurWorldinData.org – Research and data to make progress against the world’s largest problems. Licensed under CC-BY by the author Max Roser
New data initiative: The Dunedin Unit team is going to ring up to ask the Dunedin SM’s about their views on the getting the COVID vaccine. Apparently 1/3 of New Zealanders are against vaccination. Furiously writing the interview questions now, with Antony Ambler. Watch this space.

New E-Risk 2019-2020 survey data available via collaboration with Candice Odgers: Tony, Tim and Candice have planned how they can best support papers using data from this study. The data are in (three big cheers!!!) with a completion rate above 73%. This rate is far better than we could have expected from the web, and this would not have been possible without Becky and Jo. Hats off to Jasmine for submitting the first official concept paper!

1. Antony has the datafile. This is in raw form. He is ensuring it is safely saved and ready to share and is generating a codebook with the item level variables and variable names. A copy of the survey instrument can be obtained from him at Antony.ambler@kcl.ac.uk.

2. Tim and Candice suggest we create the main derived-composite variables as we write papers (this differs from the approach taken in E-risk Home Visit Phases, but seems appropriate given the short survey). So you will generate scales and summary variables while writing/analyzing and archive them as we typically do with other E-Risk papers once the paper is accepted.

3. Given the 73% versus usual 90%+ E-risk response rate, the first analytic step is to document patterns of missing data and then decide on a missing data strategy. We also collected data before and during the pandemic, so we will need to adjust for timing of the survey in analyses.

4. Proposed papers so far (concept papers coming soon):
   a. Tim: loneliness and social media use.
   b. Candice: do polygenic scores and psychopathology predict social media patterns?
   c. ALL: test of differences in mental health, loneliness, social media use, perceptions of the future, pre-COVID versus post-COVID lock down.
   d. Jasmine: NEET Status in the transition to adulthood
   e. Candice: Stability and Change in Subjective Social Status over time.
   f. Temi & Av: does child maltreatment/ACEs history predict mistrust of institutions?
NEW Data Resource for both Dunedin and E-Risk!!!!

Polygenic scores based on SSGAC GWAS of ~a million participants, for these phenotypes:

PGI_ACTIVITYSingle
PGI_ADHDSingle
PGI_ADVENTURESingle
PGI_AFBsingle
PGI_ASTECZRHIsingle
PGI_ASTHMAsingle
PGI_AUDITsingle
PGI_BMIsingle
PGI_CANNABISSingle
PGI_CPDisingle
PGI_CPsingle
PGI_DEPsingle
PGI_DPWSingle
PGI_EAsingle
PGI_EVERSMOKEsingle
PGI_EXTRAsingle
PGI_FAMSATsingle
PGI_FRIENDSATsingle
PGI_HAYFEVERSINGLE
PGI_HEIGHTsingle
PGI_HIGHMATHsingle
PGI_LEFTOUTSingle
PGI_MENARCHESingle
PGI_MIGRAINESingle
PGI_MORNINGsingle
PGI_NARCISsingle
PGI_NEARSIGHTEDSingle
PGI_NEBWomensingle
PGI_NEUROsingle
PGI_OPENsingle
PGI_READINGsingle
PGI_RELIGATTSingle
PGI_RISKSINGLE
PGI_SELFHEALTHsingle
PGI_SELFMATHsingle
PGI_SWBsingle
PGI_ADHDMulti
PGI_ADVENTUREMulti
PGI_AFBmulti
Now that is rather a lot of polygenic scores.

There will be a "Resource Profile and User Guide of the Polygenic Index Repository" (NATHUMBEHAV-200812240A).
RESEARCH-PROJECT PROGRESS SINCE 1 March:

Aaron Reuben and Helen Fisher’s paper has just been accepted for publication in JAMA Network Open: "Air pollution exposure in childhood and adolescence and psychopathology at the transition to adulthood”  Well done you two!

Tracy D’Arbeloff’s paper is accepted this week by Frontiers in Aging Neuroscience for "Midlife cardiovascular fitness is reflected in the brain’s white matter: Potential implications for biomarker development in cognitive decline and dementia intervention research”.  Congratulations Tracy!


Dina Qiryaqoz submitted a proposal to Duke’s highly competitive VIP program and won a summer fellowship.  She’s already at work teaching herself R, poor thing.


Kyle Bourassa and Line Rasmussen submitted their paper “Linking Stressful Life Events and Chronic Inflammation Using suPAR (Soluble Urokinase Plasminogen Activator Receptor)"

Signe Hald Andersen and Leah Richmond-Rakerd submitted their paper: "Nationwide evidence that education disrupted multigenerational transmission of health & social disadvantage."

Andrea Danese got great scores from peer reviewers on his large collaborative grant application to the MRC Adolescent Mind scheme. He now has submitted a 3-page response to the reviewers’ queries, worth 4 million pounds.  Good luck Andrea!

David Mason and Franky Happe are resubmitting their revision to Autism Research this week.  Autistic traits are associated with faster pace of aging: Evidence from the Dunedin Study at age 45.

Helen Fisher and Rachel Latham are working on a minor R&R from Journal of Psychiatric Research for "Childhood exposure to ambient air pollution and predicting individual risk of depression onset in UK adolescents". Well done!

Joseph Dowsett’s manuscript is very close to acceptance at Communications Biology, entitled "Eleven Genomic Loci Affect Plasma Levels of Chronic Inflammation Marker Soluble Urokinase-type Plasminogen Activator Receptor."

Andrea Danese and Stephanie Lewis are working on an R&R from British J of Psychiatry for “Unravelling the contribution of complex trauma to psychopathology and cognitive deficits: a cohort study. “ Well done Stephanie!

Barry Milne completed an R&R from Advances in Life Course Research for his manuscript: “Do socially isolated children become socially isolated adults?” Good as gold, Barry!

Jenny Van Dongen’s paper “Identical twins carry a persistent epigenetic signature of early genome programming” got transferred to Nature Communications. Fingers crossed for Jenny.

Line Rasmussen has a new concept paper in review for: “suPAR and mental health in Denmark, Dunedin, and E-Risk”.

Kyle Bourassa has a new concept paper in review for: “Identifying treatable pediatric health risk factors for accelerated aging”

Jasmin Wertz submitted her new concept paper: “Are there enduring effects of parenting in childhood on early-adult personality? Evidence from a monozygotic-twin differences study.”

Rachel Latham and Helen Fisher have a new concept paper in review for: “Preliminary investigation of associations between individualised risk at age 12 of future depression and age-18 inflammation in a UK longitudinal cohort study”

Everyone please send me a few lines about what you are doing, research-wise, so I can add to the next newsletter. Thanks everyone! Temi
Have a serene week everyone.

Taken by Avshalom on Haifa Beach, 2019

Remember, for those of you in NC, you and yours are welcome to come out to the Macon Farm for a walk in the woods. Wildflowers will launch in March. Come have a COVID-safe day out!