30 November, 2020, newsletter theme: It’s beginning to look a lot like Christmas! Honest!

Dear Grey House team members and our plucky quaran-teammates,
It’s now 276 days into our record-busting team-building exercise. Grit your teeth everyone, the holidays are on their way!

Red wool blanket, courtesy of Promenta, University of Oslo.

HAPPY NEWS FIRST:

Helen Fisher secured a grant from the Psychiatry Research Trust to develop an automated approach to coding emotion in mothers’ speech to improve prediction of youth mental health problems using the FiveMinuteSpeechSample audiotapes in E-Risk. It means she can fund a postdoc to work on this for a year. Yaaay! Hopefully the tapes will be going to the company to digitise them next week.
Happy Birthday Dec 4, to Leah!

Hope you like chocolate cake Leah!
Aaron and Max’s JAMA paper on midlife brain sequelae of childhood lead exposure was on BBC World News Radio this week.

Aaron’s terrific interview begins at about 21 mins into the show.  https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/w3cszccv

Interesting because BBC’s biggest audiences are in Asia and Africa, where lead is still unregulated, producing lead levels in children matching the Dunedin cohort’s in the 1980’s.

NEXT, THE UNHAPPY NEWS:

These people are giving Jews a bad name.
Secret Hasidic Wedding Draws Thousands of Guests in Brooklyn. Bride’s name unknown.  

Our Antony Ambler had a bike accident last week, but he’s OK! What a toughie! No worries! I just thought it was ironic, after last week’s newsletter had the feature story about how safe it is to ride a bike in Oslo, and how unsafe in London and Durham. Check out Vision Zero, the international project to reduce urban traffic danger for bikers and pedestrians:  https://visionzeronetwork.org/about/what-is-vision-zero/
For a Hefty Fee, Nature Journals Offer Open-Access Publishing | The Scientist Magazine®  Academics will soon be able to make articles freely available in *Nature*-branded journals for €9,500—with a discounted option available under a pilot program that provides review, but no guarantee of acceptance. [https://www.the-scientist.com/news-opinion/for-a-hefty-fee-nature-journals-offer-open-access-publishing-68181?utm_campaign=TS_DAILY%20NEWSLETTER_2020&utm_medium=email&hsmi=100925863&hsenc=p2ANqtz-ZJd0Hgw084txYk3AZsEngOsKLMKE5nXjgOdrkNE0BBzyrHyRl8Ti-zVvlGzohC2liURHVviXCDhXgiGtBPZQBtSlyg&utm_content=100925863&utm_source=hs_email](https://www.the-scientist.com/news-opinion/for-a-hefty-fee-nature-journals-offer-open-access-publishing-68181?utm_campaign=TS_DAILY%20NEWSLETTER_2020&utm_medium=email&hsmi=100925863&hsenc=p2ANqtz-ZJd0Hgw084txYk3AZsEngOsKLMKE5nXjgOdrkNE0BBzyrHyRl8Ti-zVvlGzohC2liURHVviXCDhXgiGtBPZQBtSlyg&utm_content=100925863&utm_source=hs_email)

It’s full-on deer-hunting season in North Carolina! Blaze orange is height of fashion, with mud boots.

![Image of deer hunters](image.png)

For those who are interested in the National Academy of Sciences board that Temi chairs now, here is a lovely introduction: [https://mailchi.mp/nas/bcss-update-nov2020-1271302?e=e344699c4b](https://mailchi.mp/nas/bcss-update-nov2020-1271302?e=e344699c4b)
THIS WEEK’s Science visualization:

*Frontiers in Science* conducted survey of ~25,000 researchers in 152 countries in June, As a result of COVID19…..

**Concerns that scientists had for the future of their work??** The results showed that researchers are pragmatically considering how to prepare for and mitigate future crises that might stop or damage their research.

![Bar chart showing percentages of respondents who mentioned particular subjects](chart)

Percentages of respondents who mentioned particular subjects in response to the question, “What future threats could be prevented if we prepare for them properly?” Frontiers analyzed text responses using an algorithm that identified keywords and themes; each person’s response could be categorized in more than one theme.

**DATA SOURCE: FRONTIERS**

**More open access??** Publishers made all of their coronavirus research open and accessible as soon as the pandemic hit. So our question now is: What about their oncology research, or their research into dementia or Alzheimer’s?

**More preprint server use??** There was an enormous flood of COVID19 papers into the journals, and journals made processing them their top priority. As a result, researchers doing non-COVID work were forced to turn to preprint servers to self-publish their papers. Based on this experience, more researchers say that they are now likely to start using something like a preprint server routinely.

https://www.the-scientist.com/news-opinion/qa-science-has-been-resilient-during-pandemic-survey-finds-68182?utm_campaign=TS_DAILY%20NEWSLETTER_2020&utm_medium=email&hs_mi=101124764&hsenc=p2ANqtz-eXKzTq_cEEIIU4GMCEIQhz8_kHJd3yiO28PVgrYewXrIio8xDQZKHoijMwlEiXDFGw2g5OOfRA3ImEQcCK3Lcc2ISRA&utm_content=101124764&utm_source=hs_email
RESEARCH-PROJECT PROGRESS SINCE 23 Nov:

Lots of nice news this week!

Susan Harward was asked by NIA for an update on the budget for our proposal to study cannabis. Which means we might get an award letter soon! Fingers crossed!

Andrea Danese has a lovely new think piece out in BMJ: https://www.bmj.com/content/bmj/371/bmj.m3073.full.pdf Psychopathology in children exposed to trauma: detection and intervention needed to reduce downstream burden
A Danese, KA McLaughlin, M Samara, CS Stover - bmj, 2020
The clinical implementation of assessment and evidence-based interventions is lagging behind research, with huge cost to individuals and society, write Andrea Danese and colleagues. To provide the best possible care to some of the most …

Jasmin Wertz and Sophie von Stumm had a paper accepted this week in npj Science of Learning: "Who's learning? Using within-family studies to understand personalized learning”. Yay Jasmin!

Kyle Bourassa got a provisional acceptance at Clinical Psychological Science this week, for "Lower Cardiovascular Reactivity is Associated with More Childhood Adversity and Poorer Midlife Health: Replicated Findings from the Dunedin and MIDUS Cohorts". Hurrah, hurrah, hurrah! Such an important paper!

Kyle submitted his KL2 grant proposal this week. Childhood Adversity and Cardiovascular Health: Translating Psychosocial Mechanisms into Intervention Targets. Fingers crossed!

Helen Fisher submitted a proposal to ESRC for E-Risk phase 28. Go Helen Go!

Max Elliott submitted his R&R today at Nature Aging. "Disparities in the pace of biological aging among midlife adults of the same chronological age: Implications for early frailty risk and policy." Fingers crossed for this wildly responsive revision!

Jasmin Wertz is submitting her R&R this week, on a provisional acceptance on the first submission from JAMA-Psychiatry for: Psychiatric illness as a risk factor for accelerated aging: Evidence from a population-representative longitudinal cohort study. Good luck Jasmin!

Jasmin is also working on an R&R at Social Science and Medicine. The vital personality and healthy aging: Replicated life-course evidence about measurement, correlates, and familial transmission.
Maria Gehred is working on her R&R from *Biological Psychiatry* due Christmas eve for her paper: Long-term neural embedding of adverse childhood experiences in a population-representative birth cohort followed for five decades.

Aaron Reuben & Helen Fisher are submitting to *JAMA-Psychiatry* Association of childhood air pollution exposure with the emergence of psychopathology at the transition to adulthood. Thanks to Antony Ambler for the reproducibility stat check! Thanks to all who did mock reviews!

Jorim Tielbeek and JC Barnes, report of Jorim’s new GWAS and polygenic score for antisocial behaviour, Dunedin and E-risk, going out for mock review soon.

Temi and Avshalom met with Fartein Ask Torvik and Espen Roysamb, in Oslo, about doing research in Norway’s national register datasets. It may become possible to apply to add collaboration with Fartein in Norway to complement our collaborations with Signe in Denmark’s registers and with Barry and Stephanie in New Zealand’s registers.

Ben has created new polygenic scores, including one for cannabis!

Ben has been working with the ALSPAC GWAS data.

Karen has managed to download the ADNI data set, and normalize the ADNI methylation data.

Renate has valiantly done reproducibility checks, including for R&Rs under lots of time pressure.

Renate has completed analyses for a first draft of a new paper on the p-factor.

Honaleigh has been finding concentration time to whip the data dictionary into shape.

Antony has been doing loads of reproducibility checks, and whipping the E-Risk data dictionary into shape.

Projects underway and making good progress toward mock review:

Kyle Bourassa and Line Rasmussen, stressful life events and suPAR

Max Elliott & Line Rasmussen, brain and suPAR

Line Rasmussen, little p and suPAR

Jasmin Wertz, parenting genomics in multiple cohorts

Annchen Knodt, long-term cannabis use and midlife brain structure

Madeline Meier; cannabis and brain/cognition

Karen Sugden, education and aging in multiple cohorts
Avshalom and Renate, The p-factor, an empirical evaluation
Jess Agnew-Blase, mother-child polygenic ADHD scores and family chaos
Daniel Belsky, Karen, David, Temi, and Avshalom, DunedinPoAm4x
Aaron Reuben, childhood lead and telomere erosion
Aaron Reuben, prospective risk factors for ADRD
Leah Richmond-Rakerd, Stephanie D’Souza, Barry Milne, mental health & ADRD in the NZ IDI
Max Elliott, DunedinPoAm4x and dementia in ADNI
Signe Hald Andersen and Leah Richmond-Rakerd, 3-generations of the concentration of disadvantage and how education breaks the cycle
Geli Ronald and Lizzie, Autism Q10 and little p

From NATURE:
Quick tips for sharing evidence from your research with the media and policy makers
The aim is to ‘inform but not persuade’,
• Address all the questions and concerns of the target audience.
• Anticipate misunderstandings; pre-emptively debunk or explain them.
• Don’t cherry-pick findings.
• Present potential benefits and possible harms in the same way so that they can be compared fairly.
• Avoid the biases inherent in any presentation format (for example, use both ‘positive’ and ‘negative’ framing together).
• Use numbers alone, or both words and numbers.
• Demonstrate ‘unapologetic uncertainty’: be open about a range of possible outcomes.
• When you don’t know, say so; say what you are going to do to find out, and by when.
• Highlight the quality and relevance of the underlying evidence (for example, describe the data set).
• Use a carefully designed layout in a clear order, and include sources.
This week’s theme: Christmas season photos to get us in the seasonal mood!
Candice, Ava, Shane and Finn, fun in the snow at Lake Tahoe last week.
Jo and Jessie at the SGDP Centre Christmas Party in 2015:

They still look the same!
Here’s a nice pic of Daniel at the farm, at a Christmas past.
Cecelia, Matt, Madeline, and William, a Christmas past.
Christmas wreath, submitted by Sean Hogan, to annoy Antony Ambler.

From Leah, Eli in the snow in Michigan this week:
Aaron does Hanukka at Grey House.
From Stephanie in Auckland: I’m just sending through a cheeky Christmas photo of our dog Zoe for the newsletter. I do want to make it clear that we’re not mean dog parents and she really doesn’t mind the outfits. And also excuse any rude language on there, it’s meant to be affectionate (and also a bit accurate…).

From Renate in Durham, her cat Autumn loves hiding under the tree.
From Jasmin, pure delight!

Definitely try this link: https://elfyourself.com/?mId=45550

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Check out my moves! #ElfYourself just made me the dancer I was always meant to be. Try it at elfyourself.com or download the app.

elfyourself.com

Sadly you can't include > 5 people, so I included only us postdocs and PhD students 😊 Jasmin

Clara under the tree last year.
Just before Christmas break 2018, JC, Peter, Ryan, and co in Atlanta:
Ben in the snow, rescuing a blood shipment from Dunedin.
Sent by Susan, Christmas decorating at Grey house:
From Honalee in Durham: The Hillsboro holiday parade starts with the running of the elves. Most of us wore bells, too. Lots of fun.
Madeline, Cecelia, and William, in Arizona last week.

Oscar plays grinch.
Guess which ones are Temi, Corbin and Marlene?

E-Risk team Christmas do, 2014:
Idan’s Hannukka feast at Grey House:
Socially distanced bonfire at the farm this weekend.
Have a serene week everyone.

Ornament hand-blown in Star, NC.