



Bio Sketch for James Sneyd

What area of maths do you mostly work in?

Applied Mathematics. More specifically, the application of mathematics to physiology.

Tell us a bit more...

Study of cells and body parts. How does the eye work? The ear? The heart? How do muscle cells contract? How do they secrete saliva? Etc etc. Lots of really interesting questions that we can study using mathematics and computers.

What areas of maths do you follow from a purely interest standpoint?

None. Math for its own sake is dull.

What were your best and worst subjects at school?

I was OK at math, chemistry, history and classical studies. I was lousy at metalwork and woodwork, English and Latin.

When you decided you wanted to be a mathematician and why

During my first year at University I decided I didn't want to go to Medical School after all, but I was really intrigued by my math classes. So I decided to do Math and Chemistry instead.

What training (degrees and subjects) you've done

Bachelor degrees in Math, Chemistry and Classical Studies. Honours in Math. PhD in Applied Math.

Most interesting place you've travelled with your research

I've been all over the world with my work, so that's a hard one! USA (just about every major city there), Europe (most countries in Europe), Taiwan, China, Australia. All to do with my research, giving talks, going to meetings, etc. But they're not all interesting.

If you follow sport, what sport, and which team - if not, why not???

I support my kids' soccer teams. That's about the only sports games I care about. But I'll watch the All Blacks whenever I can, and cheer them on.