

The John Clifton Essay Prize 2025

About the prize

The British Society for the History of Radiology is pleased to launch the John Clifton Essay Prize for 2025, promoting research and insight into the history of radiological sciences (including medical imaging, radiotherapy & nuclear medicine).

We are keen to receive essays that explore all aspects of radiology history including scientific discovery and technological development; biographical accounts; societal impact and cultural dimensions. Essays which explore less well-known events / figures, or which demonstrate the relevance of historical events to current and future practice are encouraged. Topics may include diagnostic imaging, interventional techniques, radiotherapy and may seek to highlight the work of radiologists, radiographers, physicists and engineers, or may explore imaging and therapeutic techniques from the patient's perspective. Whilst entries are open to all, we particularly welcome participation from healthcare professionals in training and from undergraduates. Essays should be based on accurate historical research, but personal insights, reflections and perspectives can be included.

The prize is named in honour of Professor John Clifton (1930-2023), renowned medical physicist and member of BSHR over many years.

Competition details

Closing date: Friday 24th October 2025

Word limit: 5000 (excluding references)

Essays should be submitted in Word, using Times New Roman Font (size 12).

Please omit the author's name from the Word document.

Essays should be fully referenced. If images are included, it should be possible to determine the copyright status to facilitate potential publication.

Entries must not have been previously published elsewhere.

Use of AI chatbot software or equivalent is prohibited.

Entries will be judged by members of the BSHR Council.

Entries should be sent to: info.bshr@gmail.com

Prizes

First prize of £250 (and publication in *Invisible Light* / BSHR website)

Additional prizes may be awarded at the judges' discretion.

Winners will also receive a year's membership of BSHR.

All entries will be considered for publication in *Invisible Light* and on the BSHR website.

Winners will be announced at the BSHR Online lecture, November 2025 (date TBC, further details will be made available at bshr.org.uk)