



Home Counties North Regional Group

From Polar Bears to deep-sea seeps, a Mesozoic palaeontologist's view of Greenland

Dr Simon Kelly

This talk is aimed at a general level, introducing the audience to life as a palaeontologist working under canvas in Arctic conditions with hazards from the intense cold down to -40°C to visits from Polar Bears. How do we travel and what can we find? What use is a macropalaeontologist to the hydrocarbon industry of the North Atlantic? What is CASP? Why Greenland? I will guide you through some of the biota which we find in the Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous rocks, from mighty air-breathing dinosaurs to giant methane-dependant deep-sea molluscs, and show how we can use them to understand changing environments. And what do we use for a clock? - a geological one that is. How do we get a resolution of under half a million years? Come and find out!



Simon Kelly is a palaeontologist, specialising in Mesozoic mollusca and biostratigraphy. Graduating from Oxford University in 1971, he studied for a PhD at London University (1977) on bivalves of the Jurassic-Cretaceous boundary in eastern England. Worked at Goldsmith's College for two years before taking up missionary work in the Fens and worked at Cambridge University for 5 years. Apart from a 5-year stint at the British Antarctic Survey he has been self-employed based in Cambridge, working mainly for CASP (formerly the Cambridge Arctic Shelf Programme). He has been on 25 Polar expeditions (Antarctic, Greenland, Svalbard and Canadian Arctic), amongst other areas, and is currently curator of two arctic geological collections. He was awarded the Polar Medal in 2000 and has written more than 60 peer-reviewed publications.

Date: Thursday 2 June 2016

Venue: Affinity Water, Tamblin Way, Hatfield, Herts AL10 9EZ

Refreshments 18.00

Meeting starts 18.30

For more information on the Home Counties North Regional Group visit the website at <http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/hcnrg>

