# HOGG

Newsletter of the History of Geology Group of the Geological Society of London





Number 49 October 2013

## Front cover The National Museum of Wales, Cathays Park, Cardiff. The Museum was founded in 1905 and granted its royal charter in 1907. Construction of the present building began in 1912 but it was not opened to the public until 1922; the official opening took place in 1927. It is a Grade 1 listed building designed by architects Arnold Dunbar Smith and Cecil Brewer although the building, as it now stands, is much reduced from their original design. The Museum has collections of archaeology, botany, fine and applied art, geology and zoology. (information and picture from NMW website and Wikipedia)

**Editorial subcommittee** 

Beris Cox (e mail: beris.cox@btinternet.com)
David Earle (e mail: daearle@btinternet.com)

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The HOGG newsletter will be issued in February (copy deadline 31st January), June (copy deadline 31st May) and October (copy deadline 30th September).

#### **HOGG NEWSLETTER 49**

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#### LETTER FROM THE CHAIR



It has been a very busy year for the HOGG committee with our intense involvement as the 'local' organisers of an international conference for INHIGEO (International Commission on the History of Geological Sciences; <a href="https://www.inhigeo.org">www.inhigeo.org</a>). The INHIGEO conference was within a much larger International Congress on the History of Science, Technology and Medicine at the University of Manchester – 1750 attended. So it was frustrating that the rules set by the Congress required full registration to partake in any of the three field trips and the two and half days of lectures that were specifically geological, thereby setting a cost threshold which most HOGG members found too high. However, our efforts were greatly appreciated – see attached

letter – and HOGG intends to repeat two of the field trips – Buxton and the Lake District – and make available a field guide to the other (Shropshire) on the HOGG website. In fact, the latter is available now, but driving instructions and grid references need to be added.

On the home front, two of our events this year have not been successful. The 'tour' of the treasures in the GSL's Map Library and Archive was popular with cartaholics from the Charles Close Society who joined with HOGG for this meeting; however, relatively few HOGG members attended. Our Selsey Field Trip in early September, investigating the life of Edward Heron-Allen FRS, foraminifera expert and polymath, had to be cancelled due to insufficient interest (only five bookings). It may be that the dates, the cost, or the subject are reasons for the lack of interest. I would appreciate comments from HOGG members so that we may learn from our mistakes and create a more involving programme (contact john@geolmaps.com).

Our final event in 2013 will be a visit to the National Museum of Wales in Cardiff on Friday 15th November. Curator Tom Sharpe has assembled what promises to be a fascinating private viewing of maps and documents relating to William Smith and G B Greenough, and an optional field trip on the Saturday looking into local aspects of the life of William Conybeare who co-authored the *Outlines of the Geology of England and Wales* (1822).

HOGG's 2014 programme is taking shape with proposed field visits to Burgundy and Brecon, and a London-based meeting in November. Regarding the Brecon trip, we need your advice. This proposed field trip will be based in Brecon and 'following' Murchison. The field trip would be in late June or early July, and be spread over three days/two nights. We have a planning decision to make about the timing and would like some feedback. This is the issue: the best place to stay is the Brecon Castle Hotel. In fact, it is the hotel that Murchison used and, as you would expect, very nice. We can obtain a dinner, bed and breakfast rate of £80 with a block booking, but only mid-week. At weekends, travel companies have block-booked the hotel. Our choice is therefore either a weekend field trip arriving on a Friday afternoon but each one booking individually at B&Bs in and around Brecon or at the Brecon Castle @ £87 for bed and breakfast, or a mid-week field trip at £80 for dinner, bed and breakfast in the Brecon Castle Hotel. If we take the former option, we would aim to arrange a group dinner at the Brecon Castle but otherwise, meals would be up to individuals. The choice will be largely dictated by whether your time is your own or, if you are not retired, whether you can take the time from work. Please let me know if the Murchison in Brecon fieldtrip is of interest to you and whether you would prefer a mid-week group booking or a weekend DIY booking. E mail john@geolmaps.com or write to me at 71a Oxford Gardens, London W10 5UJ.

I hope to see you at all or some of our forthcoming meetings. Best wishes John Henry

October 2013

### INTERNATIONAL UNION OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES INTERNATIONAL UNION OF THE HISTORY & PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE



## INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORY OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES (INHIGEO)

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6 August 2013

John Henry, Chairman History of Geology Group, The Geological Society 71 A Oxford Gardens London, W10 5UJ UK

Dear John,

On behalf of INHIGEO, and especially for everyone who participated in the history-of-geology events connected with the recent International Congress of History of Science, Technology and Medicine held at Manchester, I wish to express our gratitude to the HOGG Committee for everything its members did for their planning and organization.

As I know from my personal participation in all except the post-meeting field trip to the Southern Lake District (which I was sorry to miss), this year's INHIGEO conference was a resounding success. The symposia and the field trips were excellent. These things don't just happen by themselves. A lot of hard work went into the arrangement and coordination of all these events. We thank those in HOGG who did so much, and we congratulate you on the outstanding results.

With best wishes,

Kenneth L. Taylor INHIGEO President

#### **HOGG COMMITTEE 2013**

Chairman John Henry Vice Chairman Bob Symes Acting Vice Chairman Dick Moody Secretary Leucha Veneer Treasurer Beris Cox Membership Secretary Cherry Lewis Ordinary members Alan Bowden, David Earle, Tom Hose, Tom Sharpe, Dave Williams

#### **HOGG AGM 2013**

HISTORY
OF
GEOLOGY
GROUP

As announced in the previous newsletter, the 2013 HOGG AGM will be held in the Oriel Suite at the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff, at 12.30hrs on Friday 15th November 2013.

Two committee members will be retiring; two nominations for new ordinary committee members have been received.

#### **HOGG WEBSITE**

Since October 2012, HOGG has had its own website at <a href="http://historyofgeologygroup.co.uk/">http://historyofgeologygroup.co.uk/</a>. This is our main website although we continue to have a presence at <a href="www.geolsoc.org.uk/">www.geolsoc.org.uk/</a>. The HOGG site provides easy access to all aspects of HOGG including details about HOGG meetings and the facility for online registration and payment. It also includes links and latest news from elsewhere.

If you have any queries about the site or material to add to it, please contact Cherry Lewis at <a href="mailto:cherry.lewis@bristol.ac.uk">cherry.lewis@bristol.ac.uk</a> in the first instance.

#### E MAIL ADDRESSES

Please check that the Membership Secretary has your correct e- mail address and advise her of any future changes, otherwise HOGG news and alerts will not reach you.

Contact the Membership Secretary at <a href="mailto:cherry.lewis@bristol.ac.uk">cherry.lewis@bristol.ac.uk</a>

### HOGG SUBS FOR 2014 ARE DUE IN EARLY JANUARY

If you do not already do so, please consider paying by standing order. Set one up in time for 2014 by completing the standing order mandate at the back of this newsletter.

ALTERNATIVELY, SEND A CHEQUE FOR £15 (payable to HOGG) to HOGG Treasurer 151 Browns Lane, Stanton-on-the-Wolds, Keyworth, Nottingham NG12 5BN

#### PLEASE PAY PROMPTLY

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#### OVERSEAS MEMBERS WILL BE SENT PAYPAL INVOICES

## CHERRY LEWIS TO DELIVER GSL FOUNDERS' DAY LECTURE



The annual Founders' Day Lecture and Dinner commemorates the Geological Society's inauguration on Friday 13th November 1807, by thirteen gentlemen who sat down to dine at the Freemasons' Tavern, Covent Garden.

This year, the Founders' Day Lecture will be given by HOGG stalwart Dr Cherry Lewis (University of Bristol). Her lecture, entitled *James Parkinson* and the Founding of the Geological Society, will be held on Wednesday 13th November 2013.

Full details on page 24 of this newsletter.

#### REPORT ON THE INHIGEO 2013 CONFERENCE

#### Leucha Veneer<sup>1</sup>

The 2013 meeting of the International Commission for the History of the Geological Sciences (INHIGEO) was held as part of the 24th International Congress of the History of Science, Technology and Medicine in Manchester from 21st to 28th July. The two INHIGEO symposia, which were organized by HOGG and which formed only a small part of the overall Congress proceedings, were both very successful, with an audience of more than 60 HOGG and INHIGEO members, as well as many other historians of science attending the Congress. Both the INHIGEO symposia, and the Congress more generally, welcomed speakers and delegates from all over the world.

The first symposium, *Geology in Art and Literature*, convened by Ralph O'Connor and Noah Heringman, ran across six conference sessions and concluded with a special screening of a documentary about the seismologist John Milne, made by his great-nephew Will Twycross who also gave a paper. There were also papers on geological writings and geology in fiction, as well as landscape artists and cartography. The audience was sad to hear David Oldroyd announce that his presentation would be his final conference paper.

The second symposium, *Geologists in the Field*, convened by Martina Kölbl-Ebert and Leucha Veneer, also ran across six sessions, and encompassed an even broader range of material. There were papers on the organization of, and sometimes the restrictions on, fieldwork, geological travel, and the meaning of particular landscapes. There was also a memorial to Bernhard Fritscher, well-known to many of the delegates, who had planned to give a paper but who sadly passed away a few weeks before the Congress.

However, perhaps the most notable feature of this symposium was the exhibition of two nineteenth-century geological sections. The first was an 1839 42-foot long hand-coloured section of the North Pennines by Thomas Sopwith, currently owned by Graham Carlisle who kindly gave permission for it to be displayed. This section was the subject of a paper by Sue Turner. The second was an 1815 11-foot long section of part of the coal-field of the Forest of Dean, recently purchased at auction by Cherry Lewis. Both these artefacts were much admired, not only by the symposium audience but also by many other Congress delegates who took the opportunity to view the exhibition which was reported before the event on the Congress blog <a href="http://www.ichstm2013.com/blog/2013/07/03/geological-cross-sections-on-display-at-ichstm/">http://www.ichstm2013.com/blog/2013/07/27/congress-transmission-saturday-27-july-2013/</a>

The INHIGEO symposia were complemented by three field-trips, also organized by HOGG and led by Martin Rudwick and Hugh Torrens, Tom Hose, and Alan Bowden (see John Henry's report which follows). All in all, HOGG and INHIGEO were both very happy with the success of 2013 events, though the HOGG members who helped to organize it found it most exhausting; they are looking forward to the next meeting at the Asilomar Conference Center, Monterey Peninsula, California, 7th-10th July 2014 (see page 26 of this newsletter).

e mail	<u>leucha.veneer@manchester.ac.uk</u>
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#### REPORT ON INHIGEO FIELD TRIPS: SILURIA AND RUSKIN JULY 2013

#### John Henry<sup>1</sup>

The 2013 INHIGEO (International Commission on the History of the Geological Sciences) conference in Manchester this summer included three field trips organized by HOGG committee members to Shropshire, Buxton and the Lake District.

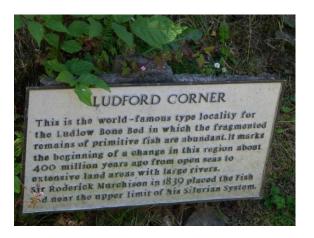
Martin Rudwick and Hugh Torrens lead the pre-Congress field trip *The Silurian of 'Siluria' and the Idea of a Palaeozoic Era* based in Church Stretton. Following the conference theme of *Geology in the field*, this trip followed the work in Shropshire of Roderick Impey Murchison and Adam Sedgwick. It was based around grand hill-top views and visits to modern quarries and ones that Murchison and Sedgwick had visited. We had marvellous clear days and could see for miles. As the days progressed and hill-tops accumulated, the forward and backward views built and reinforced our understanding of the landscape and underlying geology. The landscape is still very rural, although more wooded and less populated than it was in Murchison's and Sedgwick's time when there were many small quarries and more people working on the land who knew the details of its outcrops, springs and pits.

On out first evening, Martin spoke about 'retreading' history, not just following in the footsteps but also trying to get into the mindset and the time frame of our historic geologists. Hugh had assembled an impressive display of early maps, figures and documents relating to Murchison and Sedgwick, and the contemporary local geologists who assisted them. This display remained out for the duration of the trip so that we could consult it in the evenings in the light of our observations each day.

We travelled in two small buses, beginning at Titterstone Clee Hill from which we could survey the landscape of the days to come, with Ludlow to the south-south-west and Wenlock Edge to the west, with the Long Mynd beyond.





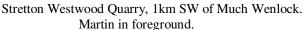


Descending to Ludlow, we visited the museum which has an excellent exhibit illustrating the local geology and geologists whose assistance to Murchison was not initially acknowledged. From the museum, we strolled to the River Teme to see Murchison's Ludlow Formation and a remnant of his Ludlow Bone Bed.

Ludlow town deserved more attention but time pressed and we proceeded to the modern Diddlesbury Quarry in the Amestry Limestone of Corve Dale. After an initial scramble for fossils, we found shade and settled for our packed lunches. From our next stop at Major's Leap on Wenlock Edge, we looked back to our first summit and westward to Ape Dale below and the Caradoc Hills beyond as Murchison

must have done as he linked his formations to the topography. We then descended to Stretton Westwood Quarry (disused) in the Wenlock Limestone near Much Wenlock.







Martin and Hugh in Lodge Hill Quarry, exposed in Murchison's day but not to us.

This large exposure was not available to Murchison and Sedgwick, but our next quarry was. At Lodge Hill on Hoare Edge, now hidden in mature deciduous forest, we had a brief discussion of a contemporary issue in conservation about the competing interests of botanists and geologists.

We completed the day by ascending the Lawley, one of several basalt-capped hills with a view of another, Caer Caradoc Hill, the northern reaches of Church Stretton and the Long Mynd, a preview of our second day.

Back at the Long Mynd Hotel, refreshed and well fed, Shirley Torrens entertained us with a lively account of the reconstruction and filming of the historic visit by Sir Roderick and Lady Charlotte Murchison to Amestry as guests of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club in the 1850s. From the arrival by steam train and by pony and trap from the station to the local hostelry for breakfast, to the climb of Croft Ambry to collect fossils and have a picnic with a view, all was acted by current members of the Club in period dress and character, observing the proprieties of the class conscious Victorians. The attention to detail of clothing, interiors and manners was excellent as was the acting, with Hugh and Shirley taking the parts of Sir and Lady Murchison. Although the producers had gone to considerable lengths to eliminate anachronisms such as erasing jet trails in background skies, Shirley devised a competition for us, while we watched the DVD, to detect anachronisms that may have been missed. This was difficult and only a few very minor modern intrusions were detected. (The DVD is still available at £5 + postage – contact paulolver@hotmail.com).

Next morning, we set out to explore the Lower Silurian and the contentious overlap with Sedgwick's Cambrian. We began near Little Stretton in Ashes Hollow, a ravine cut into the Long Mynd plateau, to visit a quarry that Murchison visited in near vertically bedded Long Mynd Formation. As with The Lodge, the locality in July had overgrown considerably since the April reconnaissance.

As the Long Mynd Formation was virtually without fossils, Murchison initially agreed with Sedgwick that it was part of the Cambrian which was then conceived to be without visible life forms. On our way back to the bus, we met a class of high school students and their teachers, measuring cross-sections and long profiles of the brook and small flood plain as part of a physical geography project; this dedication on a Saturday was encouraging.





Overgrown trail in Ashes Hollow to disused quarry exposure in Long Mynd formation.

Next, we visited the Onny River valley to see the boundary between the Upper and Lower Silurian (now Wenlock and Caradoc formations), a rather subtle boundary at a gently dipping unconformity close to the local dip angle. It was very subtle and we understood that tracing it over any distance was, and is,

difficult.



Unconformity between Murchison's Upper and Lower Silurian, Onny River.

Driving to our next stop at Mitchell's Fold stone circle, we passed briefly in and out of Wales as the national boundary meandered without a river. Although not elevated, the stone circle had wide views westward to the Berwyn Hills in Wales, part of Sedgwick's "interminable greywackes", and eastward back to the Long Mynd plateau. It was a good location for a picnic lunch, after which Shirley explained the legend of this stone circle.

Following lunch, we visited the lead mining village of Stiperstones to see the very steeply dipping beds of the greywacke. Lead is no longer mined. We then drove to the Stiperstones, steeply dipping quartzite strata within the

greywacke, which form the crest of a prominent ridge. Murchison took this to be the lower limit of his Silurian, although it was well within Sedgwick's Cambrian and is classified today as Cambrian.



Disused quarry wall follows the dip in the greywackes at Stiperstones village.



Stiperstones ridge quartzite exposure in the contested Silurian-Cambrian boundary zone.

From the Stiperstones ridge, we reviewed the horizon and the formations which we had seen over the day. Then we made for Martin's home in the village of Bishop's Castle for tea, coffee or elderflower cordial. Martin opened his beautiful 16th/17th century house and garden for us to explore, and



Martin's vertiginous garden backing on to the former castle's walls

displayed originals of some of the maps we had viewed at the hotel. This was a relaxing completion to an active and informative field trip.

Martin's field notes are available on HOGG's website. At the moment they are without driving instructions and grid references, which he intends to add after mid-October. Then it will form a valuable field guide for those who missed this trip. The historical notes, which accompany the field notes, outline geological concepts of the time to provide the context for the controversy that was much more than a personal dispute. Hugh's 'Further Notes and Reading List' are also available on the HOGG website.

Many thanks to Martin Rudwick, and to Hugh and Shirley Torrens who made this field trip so enjoyable and memorable. The arrangements for meals and evening meetings at the Long Mynd Hotel, and for our local transport went smoothly and efficiently; thanks for this happy state of affairs go to Cherry Lewis.

Following the INHIGEO conference, the Lakeland field trip (*Ruskin's Geology*) led by Alan Bowden and David Oldroyd took up the second conference theme of *Geology in Art and Literature*. The warm dry weather we had enjoyed before and during the conference continued. Three prominent individuals – William Wordsworth, John Ruskin and Beatrix Potter – who had lived all or most of their lives in the Lake District were the focus of the visit. All had strong links with celebrating and conserving the landscape and, by extension, an interest in geology.

On our first day, we concentrated on William Wordsworth, the great Romantic poet, who lived all of his life in and near the village of Grasmere. Our first stop was Dove Cottage, a low-ceilinged, rambling



house where Wordsworth lived with his sister Dorothy, subsequently expanding his ménage to include his wife Mary and their children (see <a href="https://wordsworth.org.uk/visit.html">https://wordsworth.org.uk/visit.html</a>). In the 1820s, as geology was developing and geologists sought to explain the landscape and decipher a realistic story of the Earth, Wordsworth's imagination was engaged and he became friends with Adam Sedgwick and William Whewell. However, in Wordsworth and the Geologists (CUP, 1996), author John Wyatt concedes that he was often impatient with the facts that countered his poetic licence.

We lunched in Grasmere village which retains its charming appearance, but looks to consist entirely of hotels and B&Bs. In the cemetery, we visited the graves of the Wordsworth family. After lunch, we drove to Rydal Mount today north of the village (see <a href="http://www.rydalmount.co.uk">http://www.rydalmount.co.uk</a>) where, after his publishing success, Wordsworth moved his expanding family and which his descendents own. Around his large house, he designed and constructed a large informal garden that framed mountain vistas over several fields and levels.



Rydal Hall, across the lane from Rydal Mount, had no art or literary connection to geology, but nevertheless celebrated its landscape in a rather unique way. Its waterfall, Rydal Falls, has its own room with a view, built in 1669.





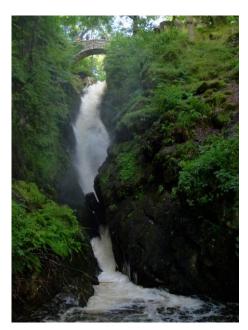
On day two, we visited Brantwood on Coniston Water, home of John Ruskin who was more explicitly connected to geology (visit <a href="www.brantwood.org.uk">www.brantwood.org.uk</a>). At 19, he attended Wm Buckland's lectures at Oxford. Among his many books on architecture and art criticism, he wrote <a href="Deucalion">Deucalion</a>; Collected Studies of the Lapse of Waves, and Life of Stones. Deucalion was the son of Prometheus and among the myths around him is the 'flood' myth of the ancient Greeks. As an artist, Ruskin was a very close observer of, among many things, rocks at the scale of a pebble, an outcrop, or an Alpine valley side. He was the first to introduce photography to the recording of geological process with daguerreotypes of the Mer de Glace at Chamonix. He was intensely interested in geology and aspired, briefly, to be president of the Geological Society. However, contemporary geologists must have dipped into Deucalion and quietly decided otherwise. Brantwood, like Rydal Mount, has magnificent views and extensive gardens with walks designed to enhance the appreciation of landscape. At Brantwood, we saw minerals collected by Ruskin and several impressive drawings and paintings that attested to Ruskin's great talent as an artist and observer. Curator, Howard Hull, delivered an excellent illustrated lecture on Ruskin and his geological interests.



Outside Brantwood.

Photo: Alan Bowden.

From Brantwood, our bus threaded its way back through the difficult narrow lanes to Coniston village. We visited Ruskin's grave and then the Ruskin Museum, where Vicky Slowe, the curator, guided us through an excellent display of Lakeland geology and mining history. (Visit <a href="http://www.ruskinmuseum.com/geology.htm">http://www.ruskinmuseum.com/geology.htm</a>). Copper was mined around Coniston where, in the 1820s,



Aira Force at NGR NY205399

the mining engineer John Taylor introduced deep mining to extend production begun in the 1570s at outcrops. Taylor was an associate of John Phillips and active in the British Association for the Advancement of Science. In the exhibit on slate quarrying, Jonathan Otley, the 'father of Lakeland geology' was introduced. Otley guided Adam Sedgwick and instructed him how to distinguish between bedding and cleavage in the slates. I learned the local term "shearbait" which is the condition in slate when bedding and cleavage coincide to produce a crinkly surface. The museum had an excellent exhibition on Ruskin as well.

Our final destination of the day was Aira Force, a 20 m high waterfall, in the Borrowdale Volcanic Group, which was a favourite walk/climb of tourists appreciating the landscape from early Victorian times, and is now protected by the National Trust.

On our third and final day, we visited the Armitt Museum in Ambleside (<a href="www.armitt.com">www.armitt.com</a>) where curator David Kilner introduced an unexpected side of Beatrix Potter. In the 1890s, she was a mycologist and produced exquisite illustrations of fungi.

She had a mycological paper presented at the Linnean Society in March, 1897, and ventured into

palaeontology. Seeking financial independence from her wealthy family and realizing that a career in mycology or palaeontology would not provide it, she turned to writing and illustrating children's books. This is the 'Peter Rabbit' part of Beatrix Potter's life that most of us are aware of, but it only lasted ten years.

Her publishing success enabled her to buy a farm in the Lake District and she began a life as a full time farmer. She was very concerned, as was Ruskin, to preserve the landscape and way of life of the Lake District. With several like-minded people she formed the view that to thwart insensitive and excessive development in areas of great landscape value, the key was to acquire the land and provide security of tenure to tenants. She was a founder member of the National Trust. With her royalties, farm income and inheritance she eventually bought up 20 farms totalling 8,000 acres and left them to the National Trust on her death in 1943. It was largest donation ever to the NT and with the other NT properties in the Lake District has been a key element in preserving the lake and mountain landscape.

Many of us were intrigued to learn that our co-leader David Oldroyd had met Ms Potter when he and his mother evacuated to the Lake District during the bombing of London.



Eurpypterid by B. Potter Armitt Museum



Ruskin Library, University of Lancaster.

From Ambleside we drove to Lancaster University to visit the Ruskin Library. The largest collection of Ruskin's prodigious output – correspondence, publications, diaries and works of art – are located in this purpose built iconic structure. In its structure, materials and internal elements, the architect, Richard MacCormac, incorporated layers of symbolism related to Ruskin's life and interests. Prof. Stephen Wildman had selected a large number of Ruskin's paintings and drawings of landscapes in the Alps and the Lake District. His paintings are very attractive, often beautiful. Ruskin painted for his own enjoyment subjects that interested him; he kept them as his own record and did not sell them. Many he might have regarded as unfinished sketches have, to modern eyes, a fresh, uncluttered clarity and focus that his prose lacks.

In diaries upstairs we found coloured geological sections made during visits to the Swiss Alps which again revealed his great interest in geology. However, one comes away with the opinion that Ruskin had so many interests that he was often distracted from following any one for long.

Our great thanks go to Alan Bowden, who organised the sites we visited and the several excellent speakers, and to David Oldroyd for his insights and entertaining comments about our three main characters – particularly Ruskin – and about the history of geology in the Lake District.



Ruskin's diaries, volume on Alpine travel.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> e mail john@geolmaps.com

#### INHIGEO FIELD TRIP: BUXTON SPAR AND SPA

#### Leader Tom Hose<sup>1</sup> reflects on his midweek field trip and the ICHSTM Congress itself.

Packed presentation sessions and fully subscribed field excursions speak to the interest in, and success of, this international gathering of historians and scientists at which the geological aspects were adeptly developed and managed by INHIGEO and HOGG. Having myself organized the *Buxton Spar and Spa* field excursion, I had something of an insight into the hard work and long hours it takes to put together such a brilliant programme in terms of topics and speakers; it was good to see and hear from a mix of experienced and fresh presenters providing their insights into a broad programme (see Leucha Veneer's report on page 6). Even the weather was kind for the Buxton and, even more surprisingly, the Lake District excursions! The former had seen myself and my good lady spending something of a very cold and rather wet April tramping the routes of the original 1904 Geologists' Association long field excursion (H. Arnold-Bemrose's Excursion to Buxton and North Derbyshire; *Proceedings of the Geologists' Association* Vol.18, pp. 419-427) looking for an interesting and safe route for modern excursionists. As the thirty-six page *Excursion and Souvenir Guide* indicated (and don't ask how long that took to prepare!), the area's rich geological heritage is not as accessible as it was in 1904; equally, field parties a century ago walked farther and for a longer time than most would wish to do today.



The gas works is now a Morrison's supermarket, an industrial estate straddles a partly infilled old quarry, and a massive road haulage depot has closed off another; meanwhile, an explosives test site has made yet another quarry inaccessible, and the reservoir under construction in 1904 has now been breached and drained. Then there is the abandoned and torn up railway route...... On a positive note, the old lime workings are preserved in a country park and another quarry has become a well tended Caravan Club site; many thanks to the latter for their willing permission to let thirty geologists loose in their grounds. Further, the major spa site of the Buxton Crescent complex is being restored and the Buxton Museum and Art Gallery geology displays are excellent. The Pavilion Café (more than its name implies) provided a superb luncheon at a fair price and right on time for the hungry excursionists (see picture above). Poole's Cavern was an enjoyable last venue, and the train journey to and from Manchester was okay! Would I do it again, well, err....?!

This article is essentially that which appeared in the *GeoConservationUK Newsletter*, Vol. 4, No. 3 (Sept. 2013), p. 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> e mail t.hose123@btinternet.com

#### **FUTURE HOGG EVENTS**

#### 2013

#### \*COMPARING THE SMITH AND GREENOUGH MAPS – BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WALES, CARDIFF

Oriel Suite, National Museum of Wales,

Cathays Park, Cardiff CF10 3NP

Friday 15th November 2013 including HOGG AGM at 12.30

See page 16 of this newsletter for details. Registration form on page 27.

#### 2014

## \*FIELD TRIP: A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE OF THE GEOLOGY AND WINES OF BURGUNDY

**April 2014** 

See page 17 of this newsletter for details.

#### \*MURCHISON IN BRECON

#### Late June/ Early July 2014

A three-day/two night field trip led by Duncan Hawley based in Brecon, Powys, Mid Wales. See Letter from the Chair (page 2 of this newsletter).

#### \*November 2014

#### **Burlington House**

TBA. See next (February) newsletter.

#### 2015

2015 will be an exciting year for HOGG, being both the bicentenary of the publication of William Smith's geological map of England and Wales, and the year of the Group's 21st birthday. Two major events are therefore already in the early planning stages.

#### \*THE WILLIAM SMITH MEETING: HIS MAP AND LEGACY

#### **Spring 2015**

#### **Burlington House**

As part of the Geological Society's William Smith Conference celebrating the bicentenary of William Smith's ground-breaking map of 1815, HOGG is planning a memorable one day meeting taking us back to the production of Smith's map, his methods and contemporaries, and its legacy for geology. A celebratory dinner and a field trip are also proposed. Further updates will appear in later newsletters. HOGG contacts are John Henry (john@geolmaps.com) and Leucha Veneer (leucha.veneer@manchester.ac.uk).

#### \*THE PAST IS THE KEY TO THE FUTURE: HOGG COMES OF AGE

#### November 2015

#### **Burlington House**

A one- or two-day celebratory meeting. Further details will appear in later newsletters.

## COMPARING THE SMITH AND GREENOUGH MAPS – BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE NATIONAL MUSUEM OF WALES

During the first half of the 20th century, the first Keeper of Geology at the National Museum of Wales, Frederick John North, built up a remarkable collection of maps and papers, most notably multiple copies of William Smith's 1815 map and G. B. Greenough's 1820 map, as well as some of William Buckland's correspondence relating to the discovery of the Red Lady of Paviland and the

diaries and letters of H. T. De la Beche. The collection continued to grow under North's successors, Douglas Bassett and Michael Bassett. This meeting will focus on some of the highlights of the collection such as De la Beche's original watercolour of *Duria Antiquior*, and will include an opportunity to view several issues of Smith's 1815 map side by side, and to compare them with Greenough's map. Also on display will be the (much faded) and recently discovered annotated Greenough map which hung in the Geological Society's apartments until 1932.



#### **Programme**

Meet from 10.00 at the Reception Desk in the Main Hall of the Museum opposite the main doors. The museum opens at 10.00 and closes at 17.00.

- 10.30 Tea, coffee and Welsh cakes available in the museum restaurant
- 11.00 Welcome and introduction
- 11.15 The Smith and Greenough collection
- **12.30 HOGG AGM**
- 13.00 Sandwich lunch in the museum restaurant
- **14.00** The De la Beche and Buckland papers
- **16.00** Finish

#### Saturday 16th November

For any participants staying over, an informal field trip can be arranged for Saturday to include a visit to the monument to William Daniel Conybeare at Llandaf Cathedral where he was Dean from 1845 to 1857; also to Sully, where Conybeare was rector from 1822 until 1835, to look at the local geology he encountered daily and shared with visiting geologists such as Sedgwick and Murchison. For those staying over in Cardiff, we will organise an evening meal out together but arranging accommodation is down to each individual. If you are interested in this option, please contact the convenor Dr Tom Sharpe tom@tomsharpe.co.uk (or via contact details on next page).



#### Location and travel

The National Museum of Wales is situated in Cathays Park in the centre of Cardiff adjacent to Cardiff University and Cardiff City Hall. It is about 20 minutes walk north from Cardiff Central Station. Taxis are available at the station. Buses number 53 and 85 leave Cardiff Central Bus Station (adjacent to the railway station) and stop at the museum.

By car, Cardiff can be reached from the M4 (there is an entrance charge into Wales of £6.20 for a car crossing either of the Severn Bridges; return entry into England is free). Should delays be signposted on the M4 Second Severn Crossing, take the M48 at Junction 21 and cross the old Severn Bridge. The

M48 rejoins the M4 a short distance into Wales at Junction 23. Stay on the M4 until Junction 32 and take the first exit and follow that road into the city centre.

A Visitor Car Park, including dedicated spaces for disabled visitors, is situated behind the museum, off Museum Avenue. An exit token costing £5.00 must be purchased from the Museum Shop. Parking is free to disabled badge holders. Please take your blue badge to the Museum shop when purchasing your token. On-road disabled parking bays are also available at the front of Museum on Gorsedd Gardens Road. Pay and display parking is available on the roads around the Civic Centre, but this can be busy and spaces hard to find. Parking for the whole day will cost £5.00; the machines accept credit cards. There is an NCP car park on the west side of North Road to the west of City Hall and another on Dumfries Place about five minutes walk to the east of the museum.

More information and a map of the museum's location can be found at http://www.museumwales.ac.uk/en/cardiff/visit/

**Meeting fee** £15.00 payable to HOGG which includes tea/coffee in the morning and a sandwich lunch with fruit, soft drinks, and tea/coffee.

Tom Sharpe, Department of Geology, National Museum of Wales, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF10 3NP email tom.sharpe@museumwales.ac.uk telephone 029 20 573 265 (office) or 07968 800 228 (mobile)

#### **HOGG FIELD TRIP**

#### THE GEOLOGY, HYDROGEOLOGY AND OENOLOGY OF BURGUNDY

#### APRIL 13th – APRIL 19th 2014

**Leaders: Dick Moody and John Mather** 

This excursion will pay homage to the hydraulic engineering projects of Henry Philibert Gaspard Darcy (1803-1858), the 'Father of Hydrogeology', in Dijon before investigating the inter-relationships between tectonics, topography, palaeogeography, soil science and oenology in one of the greatest wine-growing

areas in the world. The history of the region will be fundamental to our appreciation of the different industries that thrive today.

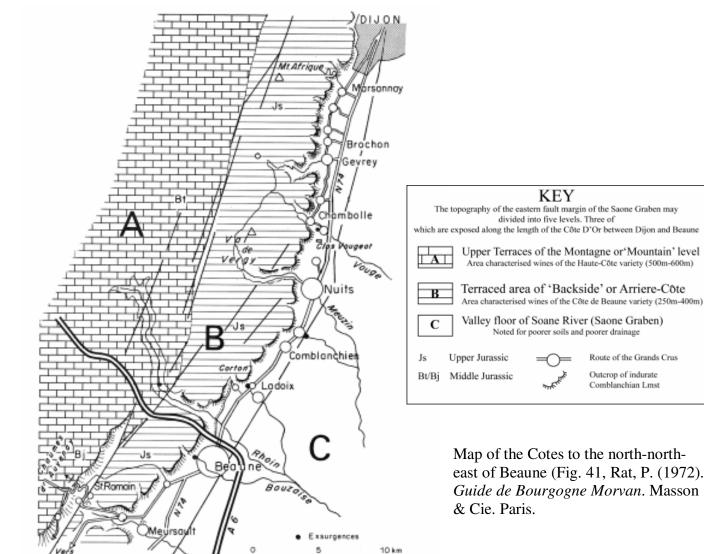
The excursion will leave Guildford by minibus on 13th April, returning via Epernay.

The estimated cost of £400 per person is based on two people room-sharing, and includes breakfast. Single rooms will be charged at cost.

If you prefer to travel by Eurostar to Dijon from London St Pancras, then you will need to book your own tickets via Paris.



South-facing slopes below limestone cliffs near Nuit St George, Burgundy. (Image: Dick Moody)





Major depositional features in the Middle Jurassic above Orches. (Image: Dick Moody)



The Chateau de Sully, Burgundy (Image: Dick Moody)

#### **EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST TO DICK MOODY**

email <u>rtj.moody@virgin.net</u> tel. 07973 273623

Prof. R T J Moody, Gnoll House, 15 Forster Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 9AE

#### **BOOK and MAP NOTES**



#### A History of Geology and Medicine

Duffin, C. F., Moody, R. T. J. and Gardner-Thorpe, C. (editors) *Special Publication of the Geological Society* SP375. 470pp. Including 29 papers based on the HOGG meeting held in November 2011.

Publication date 22nd November 2013. List price £125.00 GSL Fellow's price £62.50 Other societies price £75.00

#### **Brilliant Blunders**

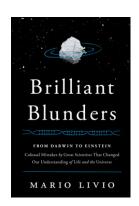
From Darwin to Einstein – colossal mistakes by great scientists that changed our understanding of Life and the universe

Mario Livio

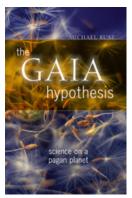
Simon & Schuster. 2013. 352pp.

ISBN 978-1-439-19236-8 (hardback) £18.99

This book recounts the 'errors' made by five great scientists – Charles Darwin, William Thomson (Lord Kelvin), Linus Pauling, Fred Hoyle and Albert Einstein. The review in *New Scientist* (20th July 2013), by Justin Mullins, highlights Livio's take on Darwin's supposed blunder of failing to anticipate



that the mechanism of natural selection does not work under the assumption of blended inheritance (that an advantageous characteristic would inevitably be successively diluted in succeeding generations), and also that of Lord Kelvin. Kelvin calculated the age of the Earth as 98 million years by measuring the rate at which the planet was cooling and comparing this to the heat generated by various chemical processes. But, because he was unaware of the heat generated by nuclear processes, his age estimate was far too low. The *New Scientist* reviewer goes on to suggest that characterizing this as a 'blunder' was inappropriate for Kelvin's work was not stupid or careless and, in fact, "changed the way we think about our world and established geology as a mainstream science."



## The Gaia Hypothesis: science on a pagan planet Michael Ruse University of Chicago Press. 2013. 272pp. ISBN 978-0-226-73170-4 (clothback) \$26.00

From the outset, chemist James Lovelock's idea that the Earth was akin to a living organism, regulating its temperature and chemistry to keep conditions suitable for life, was scorned particularly by academics. However, public reaction was far more positive. This book seeks to understand why this so-called Gaia hypothesis was "so warmly embraced by its lay audience and so brutally disparaged (at least at first) by its professional one". According to the review in *New Scientist* (24th August

2013), the book plots "a concise history of holistic and scientific enquiry, mainstream and maverick" and is "an impressive homily on the evolution of scientific thinking".

#### FOSSILS: THE EVOLUTION OF AN IDEA

Exhibition at The Royal Society, 7 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG Monday to Friday, 10.00am to 5.00pm, until 8th November 2013. Admission free.



Illustration from Robert Hooke's *Posthumous Works* (1705).

"Fossils have been a familiar sight for people throughout history but, for many generations, they prompted a series of questions. What are fossils? How are they formed? How did they get inside rocks?

Too help answer these questions, geologists from the 16th century onwards collected and studied fossils. Often, they published their theories in beautifully illustrated books. The works of each generation of scientists produced new answers to fundamental questions about the history of the earth, and the progress of life on earth.

The exhibition displays some of the fossil specimens owned by Fellows of the Royal Society in the 17th and 18th centuries, and printed books demonstrating the changing ideas about fossils. Highlights include an ichthyosaur discovered by Mary Anning, the original illustrations for Agostino Scilla's *La vana speculazione disingannata dal senso* (published in 1670), and specimens from the collections of Scilla and John Woodward FRS."

(http://royalsociety.org/events/2013/fossils-exhibition)

#### TEMPEST ANDERSON – EXPLORER AND SURGEON

Small exhibition at the Yorkshire Museum, Museum Gardens, Museum Street, York YO1 7FR Open every day 10.00am to 5.00pm, until 14<sup>th</sup> January 2014. Admission charges apply.

Born in York in 1846, Tempest Anderson studied medicine at University College, London, and returned to York to work in his father's practice, specializing in ophthalmic medicine. He also worked in the County Hospital in York. He was a keen mountaineer, starting with an interest in glaciers and later a lifelong fascination with volcanoes.

By 1900, he had visited and photographed most of the European volcanoes, as well as those of Iceland, and travelled to the USA. In 1902, the Royal Society asked him to accompany Dr Flett of the Geological Survey to study the recent eruptions of Mont Pelée (Martinique) and La Soufrière (St Vincent) in the West Indies. Whilst there, he observed nuée ardente eruptions and was one of the first to compare them to avalanches which he had observed in the Alps. He described these in a major paper published by the Royal Society.



(Yorkshire Museum)

Back home, he gave lots of lectures using 'magic lantern slides'. His pictures (the Museum has 5000 taken by him) gave people the chance to see landscapes which they had never seen before. He became a prominent figure in York – a pioneer of town planning, Sheriff of York in 1894, and was the first man in the city to have a telephone.

He died in 1913 on the Red Sea and is buried at Suez. He never married and left half his estate to the Yorkshire Philosophical Society, the founders of the Yorkshire Museum.

(http://www.yorkshiremuseum.org.uk/Page/ViewCollectionid=37)

#### DOES THIS PHOTOGRAPH SHOW MARY ANNING?

This was the title of a posting on the THEHWORD HIGGITT & HEGGIE<sup>1</sup> Guardian science blog made on Wednesday 21st August 2013 by Suzanne Pilaar Birch (Postdoctoral Fellow in Archaeology at Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, USA). Searching for the missing women of geology, she asked if the photograph (a salt print by William Henry Fox Talbot titled *The Geologists, 1843, Dorset*, from the National Media Museum Bradford), could be the only existing photograph of renowned palaeontologist and geologist Mary Anning. Read the posting at <a href="https://www.theguardian.com/science/the-h-word/2013/aug/21/photograph-mary-anning-women-history-geology">www.theguardian.com/science/the-h-word/2013/aug/21/photograph-mary-anning-women-history-geology</a>



(The National Media Museum)

#### **DORSET'S DARWIN**

Anthony Brook<sup>1</sup> reports on the Alfred Russel Wallace Centenary meeting held in June at Bournemouth University.



Alfred Russel Wallace and Charles Darwin jointly established the fundamental principle of evolution by natural selection at a meeting of the Linnean Society in July 1858; and Darwin's *Origin of Species* was published in November 1859. Wallace lived in and around London and the Home Counties until midsummer 1889 when he moved to Corfe View, Parkstone, in the suburban environs of the growing seaside resort of Bournemouth. Later, at Christmas 1902, he moved to Old Orchard, Broadstone, where he passed away peacefully at 9.25 am on 7th November 1913, aged 90. In 1912, he had been hailed 'the last of the great Victorians'. It was thus no great surprise that two major scientific societies

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> THE-H-WORD is a science blog, hosted by the Guardian newspaper, focussing on the history of science, medicine and technology. The 'H' stands for history as well as the surnames of the historian authors Rebekah Higgitt (curator at the Royal Museums Greenwich) and Vanessa Heggie (Research Fellow at the College of Medical & Dental Sciences, University of Birmingham).

arranged to celebrate the Alfred Russel Wallace Centenary at the University of Bournemouth, in the area where Wallace spent the last 24 years of his very long and productive life.

On Friday 7th June 2013, as part of the year-long Wallace Centenary Celebrations, a conference was held at the Talbot Campus of the University of Bournemouth, jointly organised by the Linnean Society and the Society for the History of Natural History, in association with the University's Festival of Learning. With the general title *Unremitting passion for the beauty and mystery of the natural world*, which is a quotation from Wallace himself, 70 people attended in the appropriately-named Wallace Lecture Theatre, to hear talks on diverse aspects of Wallace's life, letters and contribution to science.

The first session, chaired by Professor Andrew Newton of Bournemouth University, began with a beautifully illustrated presentation by **Andrew Sortwell** and **David Ord Kerr** about their various expeditions since 1978, combining science and travel, *In the Footsteps of Wallace, to the Amazon and Rio Negro*. Wallace spent 1850-54 in the upper Amazon, collecting specimens, exploring the wilderness and marvelling at major aspects of Amazonia: the enormity and diversity of the tropical rainforest and its unique and spectacular fauna and flora; and the native Indians and their indigenous culture with so many artefactual survivals. These expeditions were partly to see how much has remained pristine since Wallace's time, what has changed, and to what extent.

As part of a three year, Mellon Fund-supported project to digitize, and thereby make more readily available, the Linnean Society's collection of bequeathed and acquired Wallace notebooks, **Janet Ashdown**, the Society's conservator, had recently undertaken the task of *Conserving Wallace's Notebooks and Journals*, prior to scanning. This diverse collection of ten notebooks presented the full range of conservation challenges, from minimal to complete; the most important was the 'Species Notebook' of 1855-59. The conservation issues, practical problems and methods employed to conserve such historic documents for future generations were vividly illustrated.

**Professor Jim Costa**, of Western Carolina University, saw Wallace's time in the Malay Archipelago (1854-62) as a period of remarkable creativity that produced many publications, including *Sarawak Law* (1855) and *Ternate Essay* (1858), both landmarks in the development of ideas about evolution. The single most important document, reflecting this creative ferment, is the 'Species Notebook'; this has 56 pages on transmutation etc, under the heading *Notes for an Organic Law of Change*, the title of a forthcoming book. Wallace argued firmly for the reality of transmutation, in marked opposition to Charles Lyell in his *Principles of Geology*; indeed, Lyell acted as both inspiration and foil for Wallace at this time, a long-range intellectual adversary. Wallace emphasized the significance of islands and domestication; he inherently understood that gradual change over immense time applied equally well to biology as to geology; and considered five broad evolutionary topics in his 'Species Notebook', the ideal document to confirm Wallace as a giant of evolutionary biology, alongside Darwin.

The afternoon Session, chaired by Professor Sir Ghillean Prance, started with a lively presentation by Caroline Catchpole, the NHM Archivist responsible for the Mellon-Funded Wallace Correspondence Project, the early phase of which involved the locating, cataloguing, digitizing and transcribing all known letters to/from Wallace, plus certain other selected manuscripts. The surviving correspondence, estimated to be 4000+ letters, is based at five British libraries and institutions, but is scattered worldwide. Wallace Letters Online, collating this correspondence, was launched in January, and enables researchers to search this epistolary archive by keyword, writer, date, address and owner, but not yet by subject. In due course, it will also include his collecting notebooks from the Malay Archipelago, and all his published letters. The most scientifically significant series of letters are those he wrote from Amazonia and Indonesia. This correspondence also illuminates the other passions and pursuits of a wide-ranging, late Victorian scientist: belief in spiritualism and socialism, relationships with contemporary scientists, and anxieties about educating the next generation of natural historians.

Annette Lord, of Oxford University Museum of Natural History, began by quoting from Wallace on his 90th birthday: "Am Feeling Quite Jolly!" She then described two important Wallace collections in the Museum: over 300 documents in the Wallace Archive (mostly letters and postcards, 1860-1913) and many thousands of specimens collected by Wallace, mostly from the Moluccas, but also some of his British and Amazonian specimens. Most of the correspondence is between Wallace and two Oxford professors, Edward Poulton and Ralph Meldola, and covers an expansive variety of topics, both mundane and scientific, revealing Wallace's insatiable curiosity, his belief in sudden inspirational ideas, his generosity and self-effacing modesty, his profound concern with spiritualism and socialism, his relationship with Darwin, and his unremitting and exceptional collecting. The Museum's Hope Entomological Collection includes several of his complete insect collections, and also species named by/after Wallace, plus numerous type specimens, one of which is his famous Giant Bee.

**Dr Charles Smith**, of West Kentucky University, emphasized the importance of Wallace's *Ternate* paper on natural selection; and remarked upon the convoluted process of its conception, and the numerous early applications of this controversial paradigm. Wallace's own evolution of thought resulted from interaction with the fervent mid-19th century intellectual landscape, but there were also other earlier and indirect influences, the most significant of which were the natural-philosophical writings of von Humboldt who championed interdependent ecosystems, whereby nature strove towards dynamic equilibrium by the essential process of 'elimination of the unfit'. Wallace scrupulously avoided applying this idea to the evolution of mankind and human consciousness.

After closing remarks by **Gina Douglas** of SHNH, the Conference adjourned until the evening reception at Bournemouth Natural Sciences Society, founded in early Edwardian times with Wallace as President, and located in a magnificent mansion housing their exemplary Victorian collections. On the next day, there was the opportunity to visit Wallace's grave in Broadstone Cemetery.

Wallace Centenary celebrations continue at many locations (see Wallace 100 link on the next page of this newsletter).

May I also draw your attention to two, hour-long programmes broadcast on BBC2 in early May and repeated a month later, on Wallace's travels in the East Indies; they were titled *Bill Bailey's Jungle Hero*—Part 1 Wallace in Borneo, Part 2 Wallace in the Spice Islands. Excellent documentaries on a great underrated naturalist who now, at last, has his portrait hanging alongside Darwin at the Natural History Museum in London.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>e mail <u>anthony.brook27@btinternet.com</u>

#### **FUTURE MEETINGS OF OTHER BODIES**



Described as an intrepid explorer, collector, brilliant naturalist, geographer, anthropologist, political commentator and remarkable intellectual, Alfred Russel Wallace (1823-1913) had the revolutionary idea of evolution by natural selection entirely independently of Charles Darwin.

WALLACE 100 is an informal; international association of organisations with projects that are designed to celebrate, in **2013**, the 100th anniversary of Wallace's death.



\*See the Natural History Museum website

<u>www.nhm.ac.uk/nature-online/science-of-natural-history/wallace/events</u> for an extensive list of commemorative Wallace events in the UK.

## THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY FOUNDERS' DAY LECTURE AND DINNER WEDNESDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2013 BURLINGTON HOUSE and LE MERIDIEN, PICCADILLY, LONDON



The Geological Society was inaugurated on Friday 13th November 1807 by thirteen gentlemen over dinner at the Freemasons' Tavern, Covent Garden. The anniversary of the inauguration is celebrated by the Society at its annual Founders' Day lecture and dinner.



This year's lecture will be given by Cherry Lewis (University of Bristol).

James Parkinson and the Founding of the Geological Society

At the age of 16, James Parkinson (1755-1824) was apprenticed to his father to learn the 'art and mystery' of being an apothecary. Living all his life in Hoxton, then a village on the outskirts of London, his pioneering work in medicine led to him identifying the Shaking Palsy as a distinct medical condition, which eventually became known as Parkinson's disease. His favourite pastime, however, was collecting fossils. This talk will review Parkinson's remarkable life, including his involvement in a plot to kill King George III, how he put the study of fossils on the scientific map of Britain through his three volume work *Organic Remains of a Former World*, and how

his expertise as the country's only 'fossilist' led to him becoming one of the 13 founders of the Geological Society.

Tea & coffee will be served at Burlington House from 17.30hrs. The lecture (18.00hrs) will be followed by a drinks reception (19.00hrs) and dinner (20.00hrs) at Le Meridien, Piccadilly, with an after dinner speaker at 21.30 hrs. Ticket price £80 per person. Dress: black tie.

Bookings are now being taken. To reserve your place, complete the registration form in the 'Downloads' box on the appropriate events page of the GSL website (<a href="www.geolsoc.org.uk/founders13">www.geolsoc.org.uk/founders13</a>) or contact Naomi Newbold at the GSL (e mail <a href="mailto:naomi.newbold@geolsoc.org.uk">naomi.newbold@geolsoc.org.uk</a>; tel. 0207 432 0981)

\*NB: There are a limited number of places for the lecture only at no charge. Contact Naomi Newbold (details above).

### WARWICKSHIRE GEOLOGICAL CONSERVATION GROUP

GREATS OF MIDLANDS GEOLOGY Wednesday 20th November 2013 7.00pm (coffee) for 7.30pm start

St Francis Church Hall Warwick Road (Kenilworth main street) Kenilworth CV8 1HL



Prof. Peter Worsley (University of Reading) will be speaking on *Fred Shotton FRS (1906-1990*), and Dr Jon Clatworthy (University of Birmingham) will be speaking on *Leonard (Jack) Wills (1884-1979)*.

There is ample parking adjacent to the church hall. Also the venue can be reached by bus from either Coventry or Leamington Spa via Stagecoach X17 or National Express Coventry (blue buses) No. 11 – both services pass close to the rail stations; travellers should alight at St John's Church at the south end of Kenilworth main street.

### THE SIR ARTHUR SMITH WOODWARD 150th ANNIVERSARY SYMPOSIUM FLETT THEATRE, NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM, LONDON

#### Wednesday 21st May 2014

Arthur Smith Woodward (ASW) built his scientific reputation on detailed and meticulous studies of fossil fish, many of which helped to form the foundations of current research on numerous fish groups. However, he also contributed to our knowledge of other extinct animals and regional geology, and he endured some notoriety for his involvement in the Piltdown Man hoax. Almost no attempt has been made to assess Smith-Woodward's wider impact on palaeontology. This one- day symposium aims to rectify this omission, with invited speakers who will present papers on Smith Woodward's life and career, his varied scientific outputs, and his involvement in Piltdown.



(GSL)

The symposium is open to the general public, and is free of charge. There will be displays of important fossil specimens, memorabilia and other items of interest in the Flett Theatre foyer. Attendees will be required to pre-register to gain access to both the foyer and the lecture theatre.

To pre-register and receive further information, please e-mail the Meeting Co-ordinator, Mike Smith, at ASW150@nhm.ac.uk



#### 39TH INHIGEO SYMPOSIUM ASILOMAR CONFERENCE GROUNDS PACIFIC GROVE CALIFORNIA, USA

Sunday 6th July – Thursday 10th July 2014

Membership of INHIGEO is not a prerequisite for participation in this meeting. The organizers strongly encourage attendance and participation by everyone with an interest, and are hoping for active involvement by many who are not INHIGEO members.

The conference themes are

- Doing the History of the Earth Sciences: What, Why, and How? What is properly encompassed within historical studies of the earth sciences? How is the domain of investigation defined? Where do its boundaries lie? Why should the history of the earth sciences be investigated and analyzed? What purposes are served by such historical examination? Who should care? How should research on history of the geosciences be conducted? How should the results be formulated? How can constructive dialogue between scientists and historians be promoted? How can our research be better shared with colleagues and with the public at large?
- California in the History of the Earth Sciences

See <u>www.inhigeo.org/coming-symposia</u> for more details.

#### GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION REGIONAL CONFERENCE AMBERLEY (CHALKPITS) MUSEUM AND HERITAGE CENTRE NEAR ARUNDEL, SUSSEX

Saturday 29th November 2014

#### Preliminary announcement from convenor Tony Brook:

"On behalf of the Geologists' Association, I am organising a

South-east Regional Conference with the broad theme *Geology and History in South-east England*. By south-east is meant the counties of Kent, Surrey and Sussex or, more geologically, the whole dimensions of the Wealden Anticline. The terms geology and history should be considered as widely and generously as possible. There will be nine presentations during the day on a wide range of topics around this theme; a lively programme is envisaged appealing to a broad spectrum of interests. A full list of speakers and topics, and a registration form, will be available in due course. Please ensure that this GA regional event is entered into your calendar of events for 2014, and please lend it your full support. If any HOGG members have recently undertaken research bearing on any aspect of this broad theme and area (or part thereof), and would like to tell us about their results and ideas, please contact me as soon as possible."

Anthony Brook (e mail <u>anthony.brook27@btinternet.com</u>)



#### **REGISTRATION FORM**

## COMPARING THE SMITH AND GREENOUGH MAPS - BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WALES FRIDAY ${\bf 15}^{\rm TH}$ NOVEMBER 2013



Name(s)	
Address	
E mail	
	Mobile
HOGG member YES / NO	
I / We will be attending the me	eting in Cardiff and enclose a cheque for £15.00 per person.
	TOTAL
I / We intend participating in t	he fieldtrip on Saturday 16th November.
Please make cheques payable to	HOGG and send to
HOGG Treasurer 151 Browns I	ane Stanton-on-the-Wolds Keyworth Nottingham NG12 5RN

HOGG STANDING ORDER MANDATE
Name of bank or building society.
Branch address
Sort codeAccount number
Account name
Please pay the amount of £15 (fifteen pounds) to the History of Geology Group of the Geological Society (Santander Business Account, Sort code Account number) on 1st January (or closest date thereto) following the date of this instruction and annually thereafter until terminated by me in writing. [NB Account details will be inserted by the HOGG Treasurer.]
Signed
PLEASE SEND THE COMPLETED MANDATE TO
HOGG Treasurer 151 Browns Lane, Stanton-on-the-Wolds, Keyworth, Nottingham NG12 5BN