## GEOSCIENTIST

# Finding our marbles 

The forgotten marvels of Devonshire's ornamental stone heritage

BEATING PLAGIARISM How journals can do more to prevent academic fraud

DIVERSE FIELDWORK
Constructing accessible academic field programmes

NEW STONE FOR OLD
Finding suitable replacements in restoration projects

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Gordon Walkden marvels at the Devonshire marbles now mostly to be seen adorning beautiful buildings all over the world


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Designing accessible field programmes for disabled students by Alison Stokes and Christopher Aitchison

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# The William Smith Map Bicentenary (1815-2015) 






TEITEX FOSSIL HSTNAL

## DATE/VENUE

14 February 2015
University of Nottingham
03 March 2015
Yorkshire Museum
19 March 2015
University of Oxford
23 March 2015
Geological Society
21 April 2015
Cardiff University

23-25 April 2015
Geological Society
01-03 May 2015
Lyme Regis Fossil Festival
from 22 May 2015
The Yorkshire Museum
04 June 2015
Bath Royal Literary and Scientific Institution
06 June 2015
tbc
13 June 2015
tbc
26 June 2015
Natural History Museum
26 June 2015
Rotunda Museum, Scarborough
mid June - mid October 2015
Natural History Museum
03 July 2015
The Geological Society
06 September 2015
St Peter's Church, Marefair, Northampton
08 September 2015
TU Bergakademie Freiberg, Germany
26 September 2015 - 28 February 2016 National Museum Wales

30 September - 3 October 2015

## Dorset

07 October 2015
University of Bristol

October 2015 - January 2016
Oxford University Museum of Natural History
05 November 2015
Geological Society

19 November 2015
Keele University

## EVENT/ORGANISER

William Smith lecture - by Hugh Torrens
East Midlands Geology Society
'William Smith, Father of English Geology: his maps - lecture by John Henry' Yorkshire Philosophical Society

William Smith lecture - by Hugh Torrens
Oxford Geology Group
William Smith birthday celebrations - plaque unveiling \& reception
Geological Society
William Smith (1769-1839): 200 Years of the 1st Nationwide Geological Map lecture by Tom Sharpe
Southern Wales Regional Group
William Smith Meeting I: 200 Years of Smith's Map - GSL flagship conference Geological Society

Mapping the Earth - Lyme Regis Fossil Festival
Lyme Regis Fossil Festival
The story of the rocks: William 'Strata' Smith's geological map - exhibition The Yorkshire Museum

William Smith's Earliest Careers to 1810 - lecture by Hugh Torrens
Bath Geological Society
Bath fieldtrip
Geologists' Association
Bath fieldtrip
Bath Geological Society
The Map That Changed the World - lecture by Simon Winchester Natural History Museum
Poetry Reading at the Rotunda Museum, Scarborough Scarborough Museums Trust
'William Smith: his maps, rocks \& fossils - exhibition'
Natural History Museum
William Smith Lecture by Tom Sharpe
Geologists' Association
William Smith's Last Resting Place - field trip
East Midlands Open University Geological Society
Commemorating William Smith: 200 years of Geomodelling International Association for Mathematical Geosciences

Reading the rocks: the astonishing map by William Smith - exhibition National Museum Wales

William Smith event \& fieldtrip Geologists' Association
'Visualising Landscapes \& Geology, Past, Present \& Future - commences with lecture by lain Stewart' University of Bristol

Handwritten in Stone: the life \& legacy of William Smith - exhibition Oxford University Museum of Natural History

William Smith Meeting II: 200 Years \& Beyond: the Future of Geological Mapping - GSL flagship conference Geological Society

William Smith lecture - by Hugh Torrens
North Staffordshire GA Group

For further information about any of the events, please visit www.williamsmith2015.org
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GEOSCIENIST


> BERRY HEAD, NEAR BRIXHAM DEVON. THE LIMESTONES WERE QUARRIED INTO THE 1950S, BARELY STOPPING SHORT OF THE NAPOLEONIC FORTRESS AT THE TOP

Recional Coastal Moniterying Prouramme $y$

# FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK: Enabled bodies 

My graduation group photograph (1978) reveals a vanished world in which nearly all geology graduates were white and male (and not overweight). 'Successful applicants to Geology', it said in the Prospectus, 'will be physically fit, able and willing to undertake strenuous fieldwork in all weather'. Subtext - the halt and lame can forget it.
We were also not colour-blind, having been told on day one that that disability definitely debarred us from a successful career in geology, and they would find something else to do for anyone who owned up. The rest of us were forbidden to wear sunglasses on fieldwork, because they might interfere with the correct appreciation of colour.
It was nonsense of course; and one geology graduate, of that less selective institution the University of Oxford, has recounted the tale of how his own colour-blindness turned the Royal Navy's loss into geology's gain. His name - Simon Winchester FGS. Happily, these days are over, and the only acceptable policy is one that tries to include rather than exclude people.
Later, as a research student I organised my first scientific conference, and devised a questionnaire for registrants that, for the first time, asked about dietary and other special needs, including physical
disability - though I recognised at the time that the question 'Are you a wheelchair user?' actually meant 'Are you Howard Brunton?'. Nonetheless, all the venues I chose were selected with his possible participation in mind. In the end Howard stayed away; but that is not the point.
Having to think is trouble. But the effort is repaid, as our second feature this week - on the subject of designing accessible field activities - clearly demonstrates. And if the Society's recent signature on the Science Council's Declaration on Diversity, Equality and Inclusion (Soapbox, Geoscientist 24.11) is to mean more than a photo op and a certificate on the mantelpiece, we must ensure that we, and all schools, universities and those who teach in them, make that effort.
One person in that old student photo, however, suffered a condition that no amount of legislation could or indeed perhaps should - assist. Never seen in lectures, sporadically on field trips, he was once knocked unconscious when his head was shunted between two stage-apron boxes, which he was helping porters to shift in the Student Union. He then tried (unsuccessfully) to sue the University for 'brain damage'. Medics who examined him (just like the rest of us) found they were unable to tell whether his brain was damaged or not. He was just a white, fit, healthy, non-colour-blind idiot.

# SOCIETYNEWS 

What your society is doing at home and abroad, in London and the regions


## LONDON LEGTURE SERIES

## River Dredging

Speaker: Neville White (Environment Agency) Date: 13th May

## Programme

- Afternoon talk: 1430 Tea \& Coffee: 1500 Lecture begins: 1600 Event ends.
- Evening talk: 1730 Tea \& Coffee: 1800 Lecture begins: 1900 Reception.


## Further Information

Please visit www.geolsoc.org.uk/gsllondon lectures15. Entry to each lecture is by ticket only. To obtain a ticket please contact the Society around four weeks before the talk. Due to the popularity of this lecture series, tickets are allocated in a monthly ballot and cannot be guaranteed.

[^0]
## Notification of officers for 2015/2016

At the AGM, Fellows will be asked to elect the following members of Council as Officers for 2015/16. President: Prof David Manning Vice-Presidents: Mr Chris Eccles, Mr David Jones Secretaries: Mrs Natalyn Ala, Dr Marie Edmonds, Dr Colin North Secretary, Foreign \& External Affairs: Mr Michael Young Treasurer: Mr Graham Goffey

## E-Journals

Fellows of the Society can access over 90 journals online using Athens authentication. There is no charge to Fellows for this service. Visit www.geolsoc.org.uk/ejournals to register.

## Document delivery

Not based in London or simply too busy to come to the library? We can send you by post or fax photocopies of articles from our collection. To find out more about this service, please email library@geolsoc.org.uk or call 02074320999.

## Postal loans

You do not need to live in London to borrow books, maps or journals from the library - we can post them to you! For more information, contact library@geolsoc.org.uk or call 02074320999.


## President's Day

President's Day (Burlington House, 3 June) will begin with the Annual General Meeting (11.00) followed by a buffet lunch with the award winners (members with ticket only - $£ 27.50$ per head). As in previous years, recipients of the major medals have been invited to give short talks, and the Awards Ceremony will be followed by presentations by the Lyell, Murchison, William Smith and Wollaston medallists (see below).

The timetable for President's Day and the agenda for the AGM are below.

## Timetable

-11.00 Annual General Meeting (members only)

- 12.30 Lunch with Award winners (members with tickets only)
- 14.00 Awards Ceremony
- 15.15 Talks by Lyell, Murchison and William Smith medallists
- 16.30 Tea
17.00 Talk by Wollaston Medallist
- 17.30 President's closing remarks
-17.40-19.30 Drinks reception


## AGM Agenda

Apologies; Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 4 June 2014; Appointment of Scrutineers for the ballots for Council and Officers; Ballot for Council; Annual Report and Accounts for 2014; President's Report; Secretaries' Reports; Treasurer's Report; Comments from Fellows; Formal acceptance of the Annual Report and Accounts for 2014 and approval of the Budget for 2015; Annual

Fellowship subscriptions for 2016; Deaths; Report of Scrutineers on the ballot for Council; Ballot for Officers; Appointment of Auditors; Report of Scrutineers on the ballot for Officers; Election of new Fellows; Any other business; Provisional date of next Annual General Meeting.

## Talks by medallists

- Colin Ballantyne (Lyell Medal), Professor, School of Geography and Geosciences, University of St Andrews: Catastrophic landslides in Scotland and Ireland: timing, causes and implications


## - Geoffrey Wadge (Murchison Medal),

 Professorial Research Fellow, Department of Meteorology, University of Reading: Volcanoes and Radars- Anthony Doré OBE (William Smith Medal),

Senior Advisor to Exploration Management at Statoil: The Arctic, and the dark art of regional geology

- James Jackson, (Wollaston Medal) Head of

Department of Earth Sciences, University of Cambridge: Probing the continents: how deep structure affects surface geology.

For luncheon tickets please send cheques (made payable to 'The Geological Society') to Stephanie Jones at Burlington House, or email stephanie.jones@geolsoc.org.uk. Please also contact Stephanie if you wish to attend the afternoon events for which there is no charge.

## FUTURE MEETINGS

The dates for meetings of Council and Ordinary General Meetings until June 2016 will be as follows:

- OGMs: 17 June 2015; 22 September 2015; 25 November 2015; 3 February 2016; 6 April 2016
Council: 17 June 2015; 22 and 23 September 2015 (residential); 25 November 2015; 3 February 2016; 6 April 2016


The following are put forward for election to Fellowship at the OGM on 17 June 2015:

ABU MAHFOUZ Isra'A; ADAMS Abigail ouise; ALI Nezamul; AMAIRA Benjamin; ANAND Paresh; ARES Ana; ARMITAGE Stephen; ASHFORD Lucretia; ASSADI LANGROUDI Arya; AUGUSTINE Anil; BARKLEY Craig; BARLEY Brian; BECKER David; BEKMASHEVA Natalya; BINNIE James; BLACK Kenneth Thomas; BOND Matthew; BOSWELL Lee; BOYLANTOOMEY Justin; BROOKFIELD Anna; BROWN Lucy; BRUINVELS Charles Ronald George; BURNHILL Tim; BUTT Alice; BYERLY Matthew; CAMPBELL lan; CANNON Scott; CHAMBERLAIN Anthony; CHAPMAN David; CHENG Ting Cheung; CHEUNG Wing Yee; CLARK Holly; CLENT Thomas; COKER Gertrude; COLLINS Andrew; COOK Nick; COOMBS Harris Michael; COOTE Vanessa Jean; COPUS Jonathan Michael; COWLEY Lawrence; COX Alex; COY Gordon; CROSS Nigel Edward; DAVIES Tomos; DAVIS Brennig Jonathan Bryan; DAVIS Jennifer; DE SIENA Luca; DERRY James; DICKINSON Nicholas Alexander; DICKSON Joanna; DREW Stephen Alexander; DURRANT Joe; DYER Joao; EASTWOOD Laura Ann; EMBILE Rodrigo Jr; EVANS Marcus Ellwyn; EVANS Nicholas; FAKINLEDE Akintola; FLAHERTY ucy; FLATTERS Lucy; FLEETWOOD Robert; FLEMING James; FORREST Kenny; FULOP Anna; GARVEY Philip Michael; GEER Melanie; GENT Lesley; GLAISTER Chris; GRANT David Alexander; GRANT Hanna; GRESTY Amy; GRIFFITHS David; GUNN Kathryn Louise; HAGEMAN Wouter Bastiaan; HALKER Anthony; HALL Thomas David; HARRISON Catherine; HAZELL Samuel; HEILBRONN Gloria; HILDER Jevon Marc; HINTZKE Michael; HOWDEN Freya;
IACOVIELLO Francesco; IQBAL Javied; JACOBSON Christopher; JAMES Nicholas Trevor; JOHNSON Trevor; JONES Chris; JORDAN Naomi; KEEGAN Holly;
KORTEKAAS Stella; KRISCH Ryan; LANGFORD Sarah; LAVI Jonathan Josef; LAW Suneel; LOEB David; LOMBARDO Luigi; MACAULAY Euan; MACRAE Calum lain; MANNERS Hayley; MARIEN Christian; MARTIN Luke; MARTIN Nicholas; MASON Alexander; MATHEW George; MCCAFFREY William Dale; MCCAUGHEY Laura; MCCUAIG Rebecca; MCDONALD Liam; MCFADDEN Brendon; MCINTOSH Scott; MCLAVERTY Rob; MELLERS Sarah; MIDDLEHURST Anthony; MOODY Loren; MUTCH Euan James Forsyth; NEHAL Rakesh; NEWALL Mark; NG Stephen; NORWOOD Paul; O'DONNELL Darina Marie; O'NEILL Aisling; O'REILLY Kay Louise; O'SHEA Keara; O'TOOLE Ryan; OKEGBEMIRO Temitayo; PAGE Daniel PALMER Michael Scott William; PAXTON Richmal; PENNEY Camilla Emily; PHILLIPS Ellen; PLUMMER Rhys; POUJARDIEU Romain; PRICE Gavin; PROSSER David Jeremy; PUGH Robert Colin: REHFELDKIEFER Ursula; REINHARDT Ashley; REYNOLDS Daniel; RIFAAT Leith; RIZZO Roberto Emanuele; ROBBINS Benedict; ROBERTS Daniel; ROBERTS Gavin; ROBERTS Jen; ROBERTS Patrick; SALT Keith Edward; SARDISCO Lorenza; SAUNDERS Martin; SCHOFIELD James; SEMPERS Danielle Elizabeth; SHEPARD Grace Margaret; SIDES Isobel; SMITH Edward: SOUTHAM Carolyn; SPARKES Cate; SREEVES Elizabeth; STEPHENSON Simon; STEVEN Christopher; SWEETING Elizabeth Nawila; SWINNERTON Robert: TAHA Mohamed; TAYLOR Kathryn; THEW Ciaran; TIMSON Victoria; TRIBICK Helen Maria; TUCKER Richard; TURNBULL Colin Barclay; TURNBULL Scott; VALLANCE Steven; VAUGHAN Sam; WALKER Jessica; WALTERS Gregory; WARNER Jack; WEBB Richard; WELLS Steven; WILLIAMSON Zoe; WOOD Bill Laurie; WOODS Jennifer; YOULE Oliver: YOUNG Thomas; ZARREBINI Sara

## SOCIETYNEWS...

## Fellowship subscriptions for 2016

The Finance \& Planning Committee (FPC) was asked by Council to consider how Fellowship fees might more fairly reflect changes in the membership profile of the Society, sensitivities over fee rises, and the underlying principle that fees should cover the costs of services provided. FPC recommended to Council a model which addresses a current disparity in fee bands, defers a general rate rise for one year, and establishes a transparent mechanism for future fee increases. At its meeting on 8 April Council agreed to recommend to the Fellowship for approval at the Annual General Meeting the subscription rates for 2016 shown below.

## New discounted fee band for 60 64 age range

The original purpose of fee bands was to reflect ability to pay at different stages in Fellows' careers with discounts provided to those in education, those at the start of their careers as well as to those who have reached retirement. But there are changes in working practices and retirement laws and increasingly Fellows are either continuing to work in senior positions beyond the age of

60 and/or are taking on consultancytype roles. It is recommended that a new fee band be introduced from 1 January 2016 for Fellows in the 60-64 age range. Those moving into this range will pay a reduced fee of $66 \%$ (£130) of the total instead of the $50 \%$ rate (£99) as would have previously been paid. Those already in the band will continue to pay the lower rate.

## One-year freeze on general fee

 increases and mechanism for future fee increasesTo link future fee increases to Consumer Price Index (CPI) in February of the preceding year as the default measure. Consequently fees for 2016 will rise by $0.0 \%$ unless FPC advises Council that there is reason to doubt it provides a reasonable basis for the coming year's fee increase.

As previously reported, Chartership validation and annual registration fees no longer cover the full cost of providing those services and it was agreed at the Annual General Meeting in 2013 to raise the validation fee incrementally over a three year period to $£ 85$ (2014), £95 (2015) and £100 (2016) and the annual registration fee to £35 (2014), £42 (2015) and £48 (2016).

| SUBSCRIPTIONS 2016 |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Subscription type | 2015 | 2016 |
| Junior Candidate Fellow | 10.00 | 10.00 |
| Candidate Fellow | 15.00 | 15.00 |
| Candidate Fellow full course fee | 40.00 | 0.00 |
| 27 and under | 70.00 | 70.00 |
| $28-33$ | 130.00 | 130.00 |
| 34-59 | 198.00 | 198.00 |
| 34-59 (Overseas) | 152.00 | 152.00 |
| 60-69 | 99.00 | 99.00 |
| 60-64 | - | 130.00 |
| 65-69 | - | 99.00 |
| 70+ | 68.00 | 68.00 |
| Concessions | 70.00 | 70.00 |
| Full time postgraduate MSc | 28.00 | 28.00 |
| Full time postgraduate PhD | 41.00 | 41.00 |
| Supplement (to payer) for Joint Fellowship | 58.00 | 58.00 |
| CGeol supplement payers | 42.00 | 48.00 |
| CSci supplement payers | 25.00 | 25.00 |



## CHARTERSHIP NEWS

Bill Gaskarth, Chartership Officer, has news of more accredited company training schemes and university courses.

Recent additions to the list of companies having Accredited Training Schemes are GRM Development Solutions Ltd, ERC Equipoise and Fugro Seacore. The ERC Equipoise scheme is the second from the Oil and Gas sector joining that of RPS Energy.
This brings the number of Accredited Schemes up to 15, though when we count company offices in Hong Kong and Australasia that have adopted a scheme first accredited in the UK, or whose scheme has been adopted in the UK, the number climbs to 19. The list of companies with their logos are shown on the Society's web pages. In addition we have received an application from Listers Geotechnical, which is presently being reviewed.
Interest has been expressed, with an intent to apply, by a number of other companies and it is expected that numbers of Accredited schemes will increase substantially over the next few months. The Chartership Officer continues to visit companies to advise and support applications for Accreditation of schemes and also to make presentations to early career geologists who are preparing for Chartership. Similarly visits to Regional Groups to give talks on Chartership continue to increase in number.

## Cardiff MSc

The MSc in Applied Environmental Geology at Cardiff University has just been Accredited. This brings the number of Accredited MSc courses up to 15. These are at the following universities; Newcastle (4), Manchester (2), Leeds (2), Portsmouth (2), Imperial (2), Heriot Watt and Derby. The list of courses can be found on the Society website, by going to 'Education', 'Careers’ and then 'Course Accreditation’.

For further information go online www.geolsoc.org.uk or email chartership@geolsoc.org.uk

## GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY CLUB

New diners are always welcome! Dinner costs $£ 57$ for a four-course meal, including coffee and port. There is a cash bar for the purchase of aperitifs and wine.
2015: 6 May (Athenaeum Club). Fellows wishing to dine or requesting further information contact Caroline Seymour via email carolineseymour554@hotmail.com. DR

# Fast-track fast one 

Fast-tracking publications leads to quick pecuniary gain, but also opens the floodgates to fraud or plagiarism, and publishers should take appropriate countermeasures says John Buckeridge*

Dramatic increases in university enrolments, and the extra graduates that result, have resulted in increased competition for tenure in universities. Tenure and promotion are dependent upon research grants and publication record; hence 'publish or perish'1.

But with this comes increasing incentive to purloin the ideas of others. In a recent article in Nature , Praveen Chaddah extolled the acceptability of some forms of plagiarism, stating 'copied text in a paper's introduction or concluding paragraph' may simply reflect the author's poor English ${ }^{2}$. He implies that this is only unacceptable if it is extensive; Chaddah believes that 'scientists are not writers' and concludes: 'we value the originality of ideas more than language' 2 .

## Missed point

He has missed the point. Non-citing of another's text is theft. Even if simply text, it is nonetheless plagiarism. All that's required is a citation that the text is from another's work. Rather than diminish the article, citation may well enhance it.

On the same day as Chaddah's paper appeared, an article by Henry Fountain in the New York Times described an ingenious mechanism to reduce the time to publication ${ }^{2}$. Many journals ask authors to nominate potential reviewers. Provision of suitable referees speeds up the process and ensures that appropriate reviewers are selected for complex topics. On the surface this seems perfectly reasonable.

However an entrepreneurial academic, Chen-Yuan Chen, of National Pingtung University in Taiwan, decided to facilitate the process by inventing 130+ fake reviewers whose email accounts he owned ${ }^{3}$. These he recommended to editors, and his
manuscripts were duly sent for assessment. In reality, these fictitious pseudonyms permitted rapid self-review of his own work and positive response to the editor with few recommended changes. Papers were published in remarkably short order. The saga concluded when an editor became increasingly concerned and contacted Chen's university, leading to Chen's exposure.

## Penalties

This leads us to contemplate the penalties for plagiarism and the role of reviewers. To suggest that intellectual theft may be 'culturally acceptable' is obfuscation. If there is confusion in the minds of students (and staff) we must move to a mandatory code of practice for researchers. This can be underpinned by knowledge that one infringement is one too many and will impact very negatively on one's future career.

As to reviewers... many of us spend considerable time in reviewing manuscripts. But reviewing can be tedious indeed and often goes beyond assessing science, and into editing the manuscript. A fair manuscript becomes a good manuscript following sound, professional review.
In light of this, why not name reviewers with each publication? This will acknowledge their work and neatly diminish opportunities to invent fake referees.

References - 1) Buckeridge \& Watts, 2013. On ethics, the pursuit of knowledge, truth and status in the hallowed halls of academe. Integrative Zoology 8: 223-231. 2) Chaddah, P., 2014. Not all plagiarism requires a retraction. July 10. Nature 511:127. 3) Fountain, H., 2014. Science. http://www.nytimes. com/2014/07/11/science/science-journal-pulls-60-papers-in-peer-review-fraud.html?_r=0

* John Buckeridge is Professor of Natural Resources Engineering, RMIT University, Melbourne and Chair, IUBS Ethics Commission.



## SOAPBOX <br> CALLING!

Soapbox is open to contributions from all Fellows. You can always write a letter to the Editor, of course: but perhaps you feel you need more space?

If you can write it entertainingly in 500 words, the Editor would like to hear from you. Email your piece, and a self-portrait, to ted.nield@geolsoc. org.uk. Copy can only be accepted electronically. No diagrams, tables or other illustrations please.

Pictures should be of print quality - please take photographs on the largest setting on your camera, with a plain background.

Precedence will always be given to more topical contributions. Any one contributor may not appear more often than once per volume (once every 12 months).
$\sigma_{\text {non-citing }}$ OFANOTHER'S TEXT IS THEFT. EVEN IF SIMPLYTEXT, IT IS NONETHELESS PLAGIARISM. ALL THAT'S REQUIRED IS A CITATION THAT THE TEXT IS FROM ANOTHER'S WORK John Buckeridge

# FINDING OUR MARBLES 



> Gordon Walkden*
> tells the story of a long-forgotten but quite exceptional range of ornamental marbles

Geologists tend to overlook ornamental stone, but all of geology can be there sometimes at its most challenging. Perhaps our difficulty is that we see so much in a polished stone, yet often have no idea where the stone is from. Devonshire marbles are a fine example. Their colour and diversity brought them to prominence in the Victorian era, fully at ease in aesthetic competition with foreign rivals, and yet in the 20th Century they slipped into obscurity and are now probably the least recognisable of all widely-used ornamental stones.

Devonshire marbles tell a great story, geologically and historically. Their 'Britishness' was branded on them by the great Victorian architect George Gilbert Scott when he used them in his Foreign Office building (1861-75) on Whitehall. We can now 'map' more
than 70 buildings up and down Britain, and a few more abroad, with significant examples of Devonshire. There may be North American, South African and Pacific examples. Devonshire marbles are in Melbourne Cathedral.

Produced from the same marble works in Plymouth and Torquay, south Devon were vases, tazzas, inlaid desk sets, dressing-table sets and some magnificent stone-inlay specimen marble tables. While Devonshire marble shafts and panels became standard finery in Gothic Revival buildings, these artefacts became mansion 'must-haves', in direct competition with a very similar stoneinlay industry in Derbyshire. Thanks to Trevor Ford and others ${ }^{1}$ we know a lot about the Derbyshire industry, but of the Devonshire one precious little is recorded.


## Competition

Much of the British and foreign competition faced by Devonshire marble is well documented by Monica Price ${ }^{2}$, and sadly, for many of these marbles (especially Devonshire ones) the best outcrops are now the buildings they adorn, the marbles characteristically rich in fossils, often veined and stylolitised.

George Gilbert Scott brought together all his favourite British ornamental stones in a single building at St. John's College Chapel, Cambridge (1869), using granite, serpentine, Irish and Devonshire marble. The Oxford Museum of Natural History's (1861) ground floor and first floor arcades are supported by a whole collection of British ornamental stone shafts, including Devonshire examples.

Until the start of my Devonshire marble project, perhaps a dozen building interiors were known, mostly anecdotally, and most without detail of variety or
provenance. Now over 70 UK examples are recorded and documented, with a further dozen or more unvisited 'probables'. These buildings contain columns, panels, reredos, chancel screens, pulpits, fonts, pavement, stairways and whole galleries executed in Devonshire. Some use Devonshire on the outside (e.g. County Chambers, Queen Street, Exeter, a charming mid to late 19th Century building). Two of the finest examples of interior use are St. John's Church, Torquay (1885, mainly varieties of Ashburton, Petitor, Lummaton and Ogwell.) and Birmingham Art Gallery and Museum (1885, mainly varieties of Ogwell, Ashburton and Petitor. Many more remain to be discovered.

## The rock

Marble, to most of us, means a recrystallised limestone; but this is certainly not what the mid- to Late

Devonian Limestones of Devon are like. These 'marbles' still retain their original fossil and sediment detail, even down to some of the original radiaxial-fibrous marine calcite cements that precipitated in empty reef cavities.

Sedimentary basins started to develop across what became south-west Britain in the early Devonian ${ }^{3}$ some 410 million years ago, in response to stretching, thinning and faulting of the crust - all attributable to a complex interplay of plate tectonic movements during the final stages of the assembly of NW Europe ${ }^{4}$.

By the Middle Devonian the 'South Devon Basin' was filling with carbonate sediments organised into reefs and lagoons. There was a worldwide trend to carbonates at this time, becoming one of our most important reef-forming periods ${ }^{5}$. Some basins were huge (the Canning Basin in NW Australia extending across more than $150,000 \mathrm{~km}^{2}$ ).

## The great

 Devonshire specimen marble table at the Natural History Museum, SouthKensington,
London. This is
the largest of
just 10 such
specimen
marble tables
so far recorded

Sedimentary
textures in a
block of Red
Petitor marble,
Petit Tor Quarry,
St. Marychurch,
Devon.
Specimen 28 ,
Watson
Collection,
Sedgwick
Museum,
Cambridge
(Buildings
Guide Group 6,
E/CB/1)

The textural
evolution of
Devonshire
marble. Events/
processes are
based upon
alirect
observation of
polished
samples, stone
in buildings and
rock at outcrop.
No examples
show all
texturing
cvents*

Ogwell marble in
a stair panel at the Fitzwilliam
Museum,
Cambridge.
Plates of rugose
and tabulate
corals
apparently lic
parallel to the
sediment.
However, a
geopetal fill*
*Please see online for full captions

- The South Devon Basin was a fraction of that, perhaps up $2000 \mathrm{~km}^{2}$, allowing for later crustal shortening. It all came as a response to worldwide sea-level rise ${ }^{6}$, which drowned basin margins, inhibited the incursion of clastics and allowed carbonate-secreting organisms to get into full swing. Some areas sometimes shallowed to mudflats and even underwent subaerial exposure as minor sea-level cycles tussled with local tectonics.

A switch from basin extension and subsidence to compression and uplift began towards the end of the Devonian ${ }^{3,4}$. Carbonate reef and lagoon sediment was now a good few hundred metres thick. First it became exposed, cracked, fissured, weathered and injected with extraneous sediment; then it was entombed beneath a substantial thickness of clastic mud and sand, derived from the advancing tectonic slices.

The new compressional regime lasted well into the Carboniferous, during which time the limestones became buried, fractured, sheared, veined and stylolitised. Some even became cleaved as Variscan basininversion swept across, but burial was never sufficient to induce recrystallisation. The usual story is one of 'detail lost - marbles gained'; but in this region the nearest thing to that occurred after Permian erosion and intrusion of Cornubian granites had returned the thrusted and folded core of the orogen to surface. Locally, phreatic haematisation soaked the limestones in a mix of oxic and anoxic water to redden and alter them. In this shallow but intensely duteric environment, they began to lose detail. Radiaxial fibrous marine calcites, for example, became
first white, then red and blocky, and finally haematite. For the most part, limestones retained a mix of original sedimentary plus subsequent tectonic textures.

## Rock to block

Panels of best Devonshire grace the interiors of some of the finest marble buildings in Britain. The Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge, for example, has stair panels (1875) that constitute the best outcrops of Ogwell mudmound facies to be found anywhere. Added to that, one of the specimen marble tables lay unrecognised on the first floor gallery there for years, before being identified during this research as the probable work of John Woodley, the south Devonshire master mason. Woodley managed to beat off some of the best Derbyshire marble-table crowd to a Prize Medal at the Great Exhibition of 1851. This was no mean feat, for the Derbyshire industry was heavily sponsored both by Aristocracy and Royalty. Confusingly, it was the 6th Duke of Devonshire who was behind the Derbyshire manufacturers and, judging by his own stone artefact collection, we could guess that His Lordship had never even visited Devonshire. What he must have said about Woodley's victory is not recorded.

Woodley tables are now prized possessions. A large one, exactly fitting the description of the Woodley table exhibited at the Great Exhibition, occupies the stairway mezzanine at the Cromwell Road entrance to the Natural History Museum Earth Galleries in South Kensington, London. Radialpatterned, fit for an Arthurian gathering, it is presented with no provenance history apart from its inscription 'DEVONSHIRE MARBLE' surely the mark of an assertive exhibition-piece. With the help of Colin Scrutton, a document now describes and identifies the marbles and fossils in this important table.

In the great entrance arch just below this mezzanine can be found the rare green Kitley marble, an unusual Devonian serpentine which probably is recrystallised (but look at it carefully). In the abutments there is also Pink Petitor. At nearby Brompton Oratory are magnificent Plymouth Radford Red marbles in columns, and a grey stromatoporoid-rich variety in the great pilasters. In the opposite direction from the museum is St. Augustines'

Church on Queen's Gate. Here you can find a wonderful William Butterfield interior (1876) featuring more of the Petitor range as well as Red Ogwell, Black Ogwell, Ashburton and a fine font bowl in solid Derbyshire crinoidal.

## Marble industry

Devonshire's marble industry operated from works at opposite ends south Devon, Plymouth and Torquay. Buildings and artefacts are usually silent about their stones, so crucial in unlocking this information has been the building stone collection at the Sedgwick Museum, Cambridge. Their 26 precious polished Devonshire marble specimens were mostly supplied by Plymouth and Torquay manufacturers. The Devonshire stones (along with hundreds of others) were catalogued and fully documented early last Century by John Watson ${ }^{7}$, with examples of where the stones were used. This collection was crucial in solving some mysteries. Several specimens, the Petitor varieties, come from just one area among the cliffs and beaches at Babbacombe near Torquay.

Were it not for the Rev. John Swete, dilettante West Country artist and writer, we might have missed the connection between Petitor marble and a man who, almost by chance, became the founding father of the Devonshire marble industry. Robert Fulton (17651815) was a promising American artist, inventor and engineer who came to Britain in 18877. Perhaps his ambition to study painting here was just a cover, for he had already established an interest in steam power. Indeed, it was not long before he moved on to France, dabbling in submarines and explosives for a certain Napoleon Bonaparte.

Swete crossed Fulton's path on one of his many Devon rambles ${ }^{8}$. He describes descending into Petit Tor cove where "a Mr Fulton an ingenious gentleman" had erected "a large building, which contains a Machine for the sawing of blocks of marble.... by the means of a single horse turning a wheel". "This of his own invention", notes Swete, it would "saw as much stone in a day as a Labourer hath been accustom'd to do in fifteen".

Now visualise, by complete contrast, the urban splendour of the grand Adam brothers' neoclassical (Georgian) terraced development of The Adelphi, off the Strand, headquarters of the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Commerce and Manufactures (SEACM,


Above: Ashburton marble. Typically dark grey with an abundance of fossils. The large grey banded ovate objects are stromatoporoids and some of the smaller white ones are corals. This is now compacted, stylolitised, veined and sheared. Together with its host formation, this dark organic-rich rock might once have made a fine hydrocarbon source rock!
now the Royal Society of Arts). Apparently, Fulton had sent them a model of his Devonshire horsepowered sawing machine, for he received in response their Silver Medal for services to 'mechaniks' in 17949.

The turn of the 19th Century was not a good time for coastal quarrying. With the Napoleonic threat increasing, Fulton soon departed to work for the French. Perhaps aware of this, and in any case to keen to promote the use of British marble over European competition, SEACM resolved (1804) to set up a long term reward, or 'Premium', for notable examples of British marbles. In 1809 a claimant is recorded; a Mr JP Hubbard, of Picket Street, Temple Bar ${ }^{6}$. He had a fine holiday home in the Cliffs at Babbacombe and was already active in the former Fulton quarry at Petit Tor. His account of the quarry, delivered to the Society in support of his submission, is a gem. The quarry was 12 acres in extent, on the beach and flooded at high tide. A specially-built wharf enabled the loading of stone directly into boats bound for Teignmouth. Hubbard had available panels and columns of marble five feet or more, with a sale price at four shillings per linear foot, half the price of
'foreign', and he believed that the number of workmen he could soon employ would be 60 to 100 .

Certainly this impressed SEACM, for not only did it display his 60 polished samples in their Great Room, but they awarded Hubbard their Gold Medal for the session. Devonshire marble had come of age and, indeed, the competition was out of sight. Sadly, so now are those 60 polished samples of Petitor marble; nor is there any sign of Fulton's model.

Medal notwithstanding, Hubbard's Petit Tor enterprise failed to prosper, and he suffered big losses during a storm. The costal quarrying business must have remained difficult and Hubbard had to bring in families from elsewhere to work and supervise his ambitious enterprise. One such was that of Daniel Woodley, father of master mason John Woodley, later of marble table fame.

Despite the eventual British victory the economy was in a mess and marble was probably not in great demand. But gradually the East India Company, inter alia, breathed new life into Imperial Britain's economy and with the increased wealth the demand for marble embellishment burgeoned. The fame of Petit Tor quarry became assured for the
next 75 years or more and it even became a tourist attraction, as a contemporary print testifies. The Victorian building boom, especially in Gothic churches, arrived with the 1840s.

## Petit Tor enigma

Nudist members of the Society, especially male ones, may know Petit Tor Cove in a more social context. Its geology, though, and that of adjacent Petit Tor Down and nearby bays, is dominated by mid- Devonian limestones and Permian breccias.

Petit Tor marbles (Petitor) are the most spectacular and varied in the Devonshire palette. They are usually distinguished by the abundance of grey banded early marine cement and some show a long history of early- to late fracturing, stylolitisation and multiple veining. Petitor can be haematised, dolomitised or limonitised giving a range of colours from pink to red or yellow. In fact, to a limestone lover it is often a complete mess. In 1832, De la Beche ${ }^{11}$ saw it as "a breccia composed of large blocks (some many tons in weight) ...the cementing matter is sometimes a red sandstone, at others a reddish clay. The marble (known as Babbacombe marble) is wholly derived from these blocks". It is not a bad description of

what we see today, and no other Devonshire marble matches this confused geology.

The mess at both specimen and outcrop scale has dogged interpretation at Petit Tor for a good while. In the 1830s, De la Beche ${ }^{12}$ first interpreted it as a rubble layer positioned above the main limestone in the cliffs; later he suggested it was at the same level but on the other side of an anticline. Even the main mass of limestone at Petit Tor Down has an unclear basal relationship, sheared and thrusted against the younger Saltern Cove Formation. More recently, Brian Leveridge and co-workers ${ }^{13}$ discounted any direct link between the Breccia and the main limestone body, mapping it as a rubble of Devonian limestone that arrived with the breccias and sands of the Late Permian.

My own picture confirms the separation. Made of Mid Devonian limestone, the Petit Tor Breccia (the Petitor marble horizon) rests on the Late Devonian Saltern Cove formation; but perhaps we should take this relationship at face value. The Breccia could be a Devonian mass flow deposit of 'Saltern Cove age' rather than Permian. As such it would be a Devonian rubble layer brought to surface and then reburied in the late Permian, rather than arriving as
a thick debris layer in unknown circumstances during the Late Permian. It could represent an Upper Devonian basin slope-failure for example, and there are examples elsewhere of big loose mid-Devonian limestone boulders within the Late Devonian Saltern Cove formation so that bits were certainly falling off at the appropriate time. If the Breccia is a submarine mass flow deposit of Late Devonian age, then the unconformity needs to be above it and its arrival predates tectonism. If it is a landslide of Permian age then the unconformity must be beneath it and the marble rubble will have been tectonised before it arrived. Easy to say; difficult to tell. The present state of outcrop and accessibility makes it a very hard call now there's a challenge! *

## FURTHER READING

The story of Devonshire marbles, featuring great geology, spectacular buildings and some unexpected historical and architectural associations, is explored in a new 2 -volume book to be published by the Geologist's Association in the Autumn.

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# GETTING OUT MORE 






# Alison Stokes and Christopher Aitchison* present diverse perspectives on accessible geoscience fieldwork 

A11 learners, regardless of their stage of education, should see geoscience as an accessible academic subject offering viable career opportunities. For those with disabilities, however, the often rigorous programme of fieldwork required by undergraduate degree programmes can present physical and psychological challenges that deter participation ${ }^{1}$.
By signing the Science Council's 'Declaration on Diversity, Equality and Inclusion', the Geological Society of London (GSL) has committed to enhancing the diversity of talent attracted into the geosciences. One key to achieving this is to provide greater opportunities for learners with disabilities to participate in accessibly designed field experiences.

A recent one-day fieldtrip conducted during the 2014 Geological Society of America (GSA) annual meeting in Vancouver was attended by 35 geoscience students and academics, almost half of whom (17) self-disclosed a physical, sensory or cognitive disability. Together they explored the feasibility and potential for both designing and conducting accessible fieldwork.

This particular fieldtrip successfully demonstrated that, with the necessary planning and organisation, it is possible to develop and deliver geology fieldwork that is inclusive of learners with a wide range of disabilities, while retaining a high degree of intellectual rigour and the capacity to deliver learning outcomes similar to 'traditional' fieldwork.

The idea of delivering a fully accessible field experience for both students and academics with disabilities was developed by Christopher Atchison (University of Cincinnati), whose 2011 study ${ }^{2}$ involved mobility-impaired undergraduate and postgraduate students in a cave and karst field experience at Mammoth Cave National Park, Kentucky. The 2014 'Sea-to-Sky Highway' accessible field course was modified from a one-day introductorylevel fieldtrip originally developed by

Brett Gilley at the University of British Columbia, and focused on exploring the geology exposed along British Columbia's famous Highway 99. The critical difference between these two excursions was the inclusion of academics as co-participants. This enabled students and instructors to work together in partnership, and explore first-hand how learners with different disabilities can be accommodated in a geological field setting.

## Vancouver

The geology of the Vancouver region is impressive and inspiring, characterised by dramatic landscapes shaped by glacial and volcanic processes, and prone to potentially destructive natural hazards. During pre-fieldtrip planning, Gilley and Atchison identified a range of field locations that were fully accessible (e.g. suitable for wheelchairs with sufficient loading and unloading clearance) and ensured that enough stops provided suitable toilet facilities. The locations selected between downtown Vancouver and Whistler included coastal and beach sections, road cuts, mountain viewpoints, and National Park hiking trails. Each site offered multiple means of physically accessing and engaging with the geological setting and featured spacious, flat areas that facilitated group participation and discussion, while enabling up-close access to specific outcrops as well as small-scale features like glacial striations.
This, coupled with the development of specific course materials (including tactile maps of key locations, and text and audio versions of the field guide) ensured that the day's activities were accessible to participants with a wide range of physical, sensory and cognitive disabilities (including limited mobility, visual and hearing impairments, learning disabilities and autism).

On the day, each student was paired with an instructor-partner, with at least one of each pair having a self-disclosed disability. Allocating partners before boarding the buses meant that everyone had someone to sit and chat with en route to the first location, and helped to initiate


Above top: Typical scenery of the Vancouver region
Above middle: Student participants share their expectations and prior experiences during a pre-fieldtrip focus group
Above Iower: Stawamus Chief (702m) near Squamish, British Columbia

Left: Hiking trail in British Columbia, Canada. Accessible to all?


the social interaction that is such an important (yet often overlooked) aspect of the field experience ${ }^{3}$.

Activities were all designed to promote inquiry and to encourage participants to collaborate with, and learn from, eachother - not just in terms of their geologic knowledge, but also their personal experiences and perspectives of fieldwork, and the implications of sharing and discussing geologic content in the natural environment while focused on physical or sensory accessibility. All participants shared ideas about how to provide inclusive instruction outside the classroom for individuals with specific accommodation needs. Thus, by extending participation to both learners and instructors with disabilities - the first ever project to do so - the Sea-to-Sky Highway actively encouraged the development of a cross student-faculty community focused on the common goal of identifying guidelines for creating future opportunities for inclusive geoscience fieldwork.

## Outcomes, implications

As well as experiencing a previously inaccessible geological environment, a critical outcome for participants in the 2011 Mammoth Cave study was the shared experience of being part of a group, and the creation of both a unique learning community and personal friendships, many of which have been maintained since the event. A key aim of
the current study was creating a similar, unique community - and both postfieldwork evaluation and research data on the students' experience suggest that the 'Sea-to-Sky Highway' field course was successful in this. Significantly, the students overwhelmingly identified the social aspects, (i.e., having a shared experience and forming new friendships) as particularly memorable.

The creation of a fledgling community of learners and academics dedicated to moving the 'accessible fieldwork' agenda forward, with a view to creating a guidance document for designing and developing such inclusive undergraduate fieldwork, is one of the experience's most important and tangible outcomes. But it was not the only outcome. The opportunity was also of great personal significance to many, as demonstrated by this student:
"[My] over-riding memory? Lack of a cloud of panic. So, I was able to break through that barrier, and just be open to being an observational scientist without having that cloud of anxiety, with all the questions of: will I be judged? Will people think I'm 'playing up' my disability? Will they think I'm lazy? How am I going to access this? All those questions were gone. We were able to take a step back and be observational geoscientists, right?"

Learners with disabilities may not experience fieldwork in the same way as the more physically able, but they are perfectly able to participate, and by doing
so, fulfil the requirements necessary to complete undergraduate geoscience degrees. The students on this fieldtrip were all highly intelligent, articulate, and deeply interested in and motivated by geology, with the potential to excel in whatever field they choose. That they should feel denied the potential to excel in geoscience - and that the geoscience profession should be denied their talent - simply because they possess a different set of abilities from the majority of their peers, is manifestly unjust.

What the project demonstrated is that fieldwork can indeed be inclusive, and that there are clear benefits when including both the learner- and instructor-perspective in designing it. To do this successfully requires a change in mind-set. Accessible fieldwork is not about achieving the impossible, but about what is possible - reducing those unnecessary aspects of fieldwork that are not directly aligned to learning objectives, and approaching design and delivery so as to enhance overall outcomes for all learners.

## Getting involved

If you want to learn more about participating in or providing an accessible geoscience field course, please contact the International Association for Geoscience Diversity (IAGD) at info@theiagd.org or visit www.TheIAGD.org. The IAGD are

particularly keen to encourage international collaboration in guidance aimed at higher education institutions.

The Society is organising a one-day meeting at Burlington House, Friday 26 June, entitled Confronting barriers to inclusion: opening the gate to accessible fieldwork. The meeting is convened by Alison Stokes. To find out more, and to register, please go to www.geolsoc.org.uk/Accessible-Fieldwork-Meeting.

## $>$ ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This project was conducted with assistance from the International Association for Geoscience Diversity (IAGD) and supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF) GEO-1441185, the Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG), and the Geological Society of America (GSA) On to the Future Program. Photos courtesy, International Association for Geoscience Diversity (www.theIAGD.org)

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For references for this article please see Geoscientist Online www.geolsoc.org.uk
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Al/ group discussions and activities were designed to be accessible and inclusive for all participants

## Tactile maps

 created for participants with visual disabilities

## A student with a

visual
impairment is exploring the regional geology using tactile maps


Adiverse range of tools were used to communicate here a student with a hearing impairment is able to stay involved in the group discussion with the help of an assistant using

As the Year of Mud at the Geological Society gets underway, we are already starting to plan for 2016 - the Year of Water! Themed years are at the heart of the Society's science strategy, and throughout 2016 we will explore a wide range of waterrelated geoscience through research conferences, lectures, our education programme and other activities.

An understanding of groundwater and hydrogeology is crucial to addressing a wide range of societal challenges, from securing fresh water supplies and mitigating flood risk to extracting shale gas and other hydrocarbons and safely disposing of our nuclear waste. But water also plays an important role in fundamental geological processes, many of which are the subject of continuing research. Dewatering is key to the formation of sedimentary rocks. Studying the isotopic signatures of ancient waters and the organisms that were formed in them can help us characterise and understand past environments. Hydrothermal systems are a rich source of mineral resources. Water also affects deep mantle processes, and is at the heart of our efforts to look for life on Mars and elsewhere.

The Year of Water will provide an opportunity to share and debate emerging research, and to communicate to policymakers and the wider public the vital role of water in how our planet works and how we can live sustainably on it.

Science Committee is now inviting proposals for Geological Society conferences to take place during the Year of Water.

Get involved!
To suggest a meeting topic or activity, or to find out more, please email Laura Griffiths. E: laura.griffiths@geolsoc.org.uk

READERS LEITERS

Geoscientist welcomes readers' letters. These are published as promptly as possible in Geoscientist Online and a selection printed each month. Please submit your letter ( 300 words or fewer, by email only please) to ted.nield@geolsoc.org.uk. Letters will be edited. For references cited in these letters, please see the full versions at www.geolsoc.org.uk/letters

# New Executive Secretary must be a Chartered Geologist 

Sir, Many Fellows will be as surprised as I am to read that the recruitment advertisement in Geoscientist (25.3, April 2015, p30) for a new Executive Secretary does not specify that the successful applicant will be a professional geologist; only that 'He/she will have a strong empathy for the membership, very likely with experience and professional credibility or academic credentials in a related field'.
In 1996 the Governance Committee recommended to Council, and Council concurred, that the post of Executive Secretary should be occupied by a professional geologist. These were the grounds for replacing Richard Bateman with Edmund Nickless. I was an Officer at the time and know what a traumatic experience this was for the Society. The change marked a 'seismic shift', as the profile of the

Society metamorphosed from 'ancient academicals' to 'professionalising moderns'1.

The wisdom of the change has been demonstrated over the last 18 years. Furthermore the Chief Executive Officers of our sister societies, the Institute of Physics, the Royal Society of Chemistry and the Society of Biology, are all members/fellows of their respective bodies, some even PhDs (Biology, Physics) and one even a professor (Physics).
Surely the Geological Society of London would exhibit retrograde metamorphism if it did not appoint a professional geologist to the high profile post of Executive Secretary. DICK SELLEY

Reference - 1) Herries Davies G L 2007: Whatever is under the Earth. Geological Society of London. Bath. 356pp.


Chartered geologist?

Professor David Manning, President, replied: We would be delighted to appoint a Chartered Geologist to this role, and look forward to receiving applications from those Chartered Geologists who feel qualified to meet the requirements of the position.

## (6) ${ }^{\text {The }}$ <br> UGGTHIL <br> $0 \div$

## Arthur Holmes Meeting 2015

Tsunami Hazards and Risks: Using the Geological Record


The Geological Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, UK REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN


With Earth's growing population clustered increasingly on coastlines, tsunami hazards are of concern worldwide. Within the framework of the bilateral agreement between the Geological Societies of London and Japan, a linked pair of one-day symposia is bringing together geoscientists and risk assessors to assess tsunami hazard in an integrated manner, with a view to facilitating more quantitative and evidence-based evaluation of their scale, nature, location and timescales. This is the second meeting organised in partnership with the Geological Society of Japan. This meeting will focus on the Atlantic margin and Europe, and on tsunami modelling, hazard and risk assessment.

Field Trip
Location - The Shetland Islands, Scotland
There will be a pre-meeting, two-day field visit to the Shetland Islands, Scotland. This will take place on 22-24 September 2015. The field trip will focus on investigating sedimentary tsunami deposits associated with the prehistoric-Storegga slide, It will also look at late Holocene tsunami evidence and extreme storm inundation deposits.
Cali for Posters
We welcome poster presentation contributions for this meeting. To be considered for a poster presentation please send an abstract of no more than 400 words to Jess Aries no later than 5pm on Friday, 7 August 2015. Aries no later than 5pm on Fric
E: jess.aries@geolsoc.org.uk

Further information - W: www.geolsoc.org.ukJahm15

## Puzzle of Earth's Uninterrupted Habitability

11 November 2015 Geological Society, Burlington House, London , UK



Confirmed Keynote Speakers: Professor Tim Lenton (University of Exeter) Professor Toby Tyrrell
(University of Southamptor)
Convenors:
David Waltham (Royal Holloway University of London) Graham Shields (University College London)

For further information please. contact:

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V@geolsoc, \#puzzleofearth
REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN
Environmental conditions at the Earth's surface have been continuously suitable for life for more than three billion years. Temperatures, for example, have only varied by few tens of centigrade despite large changes in solar luminosity and atmospheric composition. Since the Archean, the planet has not once been rendered sterile.
However, the reasons for this long-term lifefriendliness remain contentious. How has Earth's climate avoided the runaway warming shown on Venus or the runaway cooling of Mars? Has Earth's relative stability resulted from geochemical feedback (e.g. through silicate weathering), the stabilizing influence of a complex biosphere (i.e. the Gaia hypothesis), good luck (e.g. purely fortuitous cancellation of solar warming by decreased greenhouse gas concentrations) or is long-term life-friendliness simply the consequence
of life's extraordinary adaptability (allowing it to of life's extraordinary adaptability (allowing it to survive even Snowball Earth events)?

Call for Posters
We welcome poster presentation contributions for this meeting. If you would like your poster to be considered for presentation at this conference. please send an abstract of no more than 400 words to Jess Aries no later than Sunday, 5 April 2015.

## Earthquake Storms



## Ever since the

 devastating 1906 earthquake in San Francisco, the San Andreas fault-first recognised by Andrew Lawson in 1895-has been the world's most famous geological fault. Yet despite its celebrity, there are hardly any good recent books about the fault for the non-specialist: perhaps only historian Philip Fradkin's Magnitude 8: Earthquakes and Life along the San Andreas Fault, which gives more space to the fault's impact on Californian politics, economics and culture than to seismology.Earthquake Storms, by California-trained geologist John Dvorak, is therefore a welcome addition. Its chief strength lies in combining the lives and personalities of key geologists and seismologists, such as Lawson, Charles Richter, John Tuzo Wilson and Kerry Sieh, with the theoretical essentials and practical details of their scientific work, so that the former really do illuminate the latter-notwithstanding the regrettable absence of a map of California or any seismological diagram. For example, we learn the inside story of the classic Edwardian photograph (reproduced in the book) of a woman, dressed in a dark ankle-length skirt and hat decorated with flowers, standing somewhat incongruously beside the 'mole track' ridge thrown up by the San Andreas fault as it ruptured 270 miles of northern California. The photo was taken by geologist Grove Karl Gilbert, a member of the 1906 earthquake commission; the woman is his lover Alice Eastwood, a leading botanist with a daredevil streak. Just weeks before, while her San Francisco apartment burned in the great fire started by the earthquake, Eastwood had twice scaled the iron banisters of the wrecked central staircase of the California Academy of Sciences so as to rescue her rare botanical collection from the sixth floor.

The book's title is taken from geophysicist Amos Nur, who suggested in 2000 that one earthquake may trigger another, causing them to cluster together in 'earthquake storms'. Several major earthquakes over a period of mere decades around 1200 BC were responsible for the destruction of western civilisation (Knossos, Mycenae, Troy, etc) in the eastern Mediterranean, argues Nur. The same pattern has been occurring in southwest China along the northern edge of the Tibetan plateau since the 1890s, says

Dvorak. Might a seismic storm also occur in southern California in coming decades, following two puzzling Mojave Desert earthquakes in the 1990s? Conceivably. But given the mindboggling complexity of California's faults-700 of which have ruptured over 10,000 years-earthquake prediction is currently impossible, as Dvorak finally has to concede.

Reviewed by Andrew Robinson

## EARTHQUAKE STORMS: THE FASCINATING HISTORY AND VOLATILE FUTURE OF THE SAN

ANDREAS FAULT
JOHN DVORAK, 2014. Published by: Pegasus Books 254pp (hbk) ISBN: 9781605984957
List price: \$27.95 www.pegasusbooks.us

## Harness Oil and Gas Big Data with Analytics



The title of this book intrigues. The text explains that big data are data sets that are so large and complex that they are difficult to process using current conventional processing methods, and analytics is the process of finding meaningful patterns within these sets.

Data sets are growing in size, in part because of the ability of modern information-sensing devices to collect vast quantities of data, as with seismic acquisition. The sizes are mind-boggling, with single data sets going up to (maybe soon) exabytes (1018). 'Analytics' uses massive parallel-computer software to uncover hidden patterns. The output of 'hidden' knowledge is often visualised in tables and graphics.
The practical aspect of analytics is needed for the oil and gas industry because the new generation of managers and geoscientists who are replacing the retiring 'old school' lack their experience of vision, but have an appreciation of statistics and soft computing methodologies. Analytics can show otherwise hidden patterns and may be able to retain the lost experience and enhance decisions.
The book therefore provides a complete view of big data and analytics techniques as applied to the oil and gas industry. After two chapters outlining the processes, the book moves to chapters of specific
case-studies where data analytics have been used within exploration and production. Applications, using case histories of seismic attribute analysis, give guidance on reservoir characterisation, while other chapters explore drilling and completion optimisation, reservoir management production forecasting and optimisation, and exploratory predictive analysis. Analytics suggest betterinformed models of subsurface reservoir characterisation and decisions for drilling / production optimisation for conventional and unconventional fields.
This book, which is written by an industry practitioner, is a description of the subject rather like the technical information found in 'service company' literature. The text mentions, but does not detail, the mathematics or algorithms of the methods commonly applied - such as neural networks, decision trees, genetic algorithms, data mining and artificial intelligence. Unfortunately, many of the figures are disappointing and unhelpful, with many taken from papers which were originally in colour but printed in greyscale. Some are almost unreadable. I suspect too the vocabulary might be difficult for some. A fuller glossary giving more definitions of the acronyms and terms scattered within the text would be helpful for the 'old school'.
Harness Oil and Gas Big Data with Analytics is not going to turn the reader into a digital oilfield expert, but should give an idea of where/how analytics might be beneficial.

## Reviewed by Richard Dawe

## HARNESS OIL AND GAS BIG DATA WITH ANALYTICS

KEITH R HOLDAWAY, Published by John Wiley \& sons, 2014. ISBN 978-1-118-77931-6 hbk; ISBN 978-1 118-91095-5 epdf ; ISBN 978-1-118-91094-5 epub List price (hbk): $£ 50.00 \mathrm{~W}$ : www.wiley.com

## Introduction to Ocean Remote Sensing



This book explains how remote sensing works; particularly remote sensing of biogeochemical properties, infrared and microwave retrieval of sea surface temperature and salinity etc., passive microwave measurements, scatterometer wind retrieval, altimetry and SAR. The
book tells you how to understand observations from Earth-observing systems, and the observations' importance to physical and biological oceanography. The author presents all the necessary mathematics to support and understand the text.

The book contains a useful list of abbreviations, acronyms, mathematical symbols, references and an appendix giving technical details. Also included are descriptions of the online archives where data can be obtained (e.g. NASA and ICES) and online tools for working with the data. It is suitable for graduate and advanced undergraduate students in oceanography, remote sensing and environmental science, and a practical resource for researchers and professionals.

The author begins by talking of the oceans and how important they are, covering about $70 \%$ of the Earth's surface and containing most of the Earth's water. They are dynamic at several scales and contain important and productive ecosystems. They play a big role in climate change and are important for heat storage and transfer.

The book considers the emitted and reflected radiation from the open ocean and how the ocean properties modify them at the surface. Satellite images (e.g. radar) can be used to detect such things as oil slicks. The book relates how the atmosphere and its constituents (e.g. oxygen, nitrogen and especially water vapour) affect the transmission of radiation in the visible infrared and microwave regions of Earth observation.

Passive multi-frequency microwave imagers are very useful for sea surface temperatures and salinity, sea ice extent, scalar and vector wind speeds. Ocean winds are important for the way they drive ocean currents, transfer heat, gases, heat and moisture, energy and momentum. They can be examined in detail using a scatterometer, which are of great importance in weather forecasting.

The Radar Altimeter can provide much information about global variation in sea surface height, swell and wind speeds (all very useful measurements in oceanography). Side-looking radars are also discussed (powerful tools to examine ice and ocean surface backscatter properties at a high resolution).

This is a comprehensive text, wellwritten, printed and bound, containing many diagrams and colour photographs and well worth its rather modest cover price.

Reviewed by Steve Rowlatt

AN INTRODUCTION TO OCEAN REMOTE SENSING SEELYE MARTIN, Published by: Cambridge University Press Publication date 2014 Hbk ISBN 978-1-107-01938-6 Edition: 2. 521pp
List price: £45. www.cambridge.org

> Deformation Structures and Processes within the Continental Crust


This Special Publication, a worthy contribution to its field, consists of 12 papers, presented in three themes, developed from a 'Deformation Mechanisms, Rheology and Tectonics Meeting' held at the University of Oviedo in late 2011.

The first four papers are presented under the theme of 'Structures: shear zones and folds' and provide novel and interesting approaches to quantifying, analysing, and differentiating strain within single and multiple generations of ductile structures. Lisle (2013) reviews new and existing methods for analysing finite strain in shear zones and presents a new algebraic and, graphical method to quantifying finite strain where volume change during deformation is considered.

Frehner \& Exner (2013) apply a numerical approach when considering the refraction patterns in axial foliation (fans) to understanding the distribution of strain within buckle folds and make important observations regarding the rheological sensitivity of layers to recording strain. Calvín-Ballester \& Casa (2013) employ geometrical approaches to differentiate the development of two superimposed thrust-fault - cleavage-forming events formed during progressive orogenic deformation in a foreland fold-and-thrust belt. Weisheit et al. (2013) utilise a range of thermochronological data coupled with structural analysis and reconstruction to demonstrate the development of a crustalscale fold occurred over two deformation cycles spanning $\sim 200 \mathrm{Ma}$.

The next five papers, presented under the theme of 'Magmatism and Structure', provide examples of how the development of structural features is frequently linked to magmatic activity and hence often amenable to geochronological dating. Rutter et al. (2013) use 40 Ar / 39Ar dating techniques on pre- and syn-tectonic volcanism to constrain the duration of the main
movement along a crustal-scale transform fault system. Similarly, Rodríguez-Méndez et al. (2013) date diabase dykes linked to basin-wide magmatism to better constrain the changing geodynamic regime heralding the break-up of Pangaea. Magma often utilises crustal-scale structures as conduits for ascent and emplacement and Oriolo et al. (2013) using detailed structural, kinematic, and geophysical data, show the importance of preexisting cross-strike structures associated with flat-slab segments as reactivated conduits for magmatism; a significant observation for economic geologists.

Caggianelli et al. (2013) model the thermal effect of a magmatic intrusion on the rheology of the host rocks suggesting that while multiple intrusions within the crust would be required to sustain mechanical weakening, a single intrusion maybe sufficient to nucleate a normal fault that could allow further thermal weakening through crustal extension. Morgan et al. (2013) highlight deficiencies in the 'Titanium-in-Quartz' geothermometry associated with Ti heterogeneity and its chemical activity during metamorphic conditions.

The final three papers are presented under the theme 'Microstructures and Rheology' and illustrate the effect of crystallographic preferred orientation (CPO) of mineral grains and recrystallisation on mechanical behaviour of rocks at the micro-scale. Liana-Fúnez \& Rutter (2014) experimentally explore the relation between CPO of calcite in limestone during ductile deformation and localisation of strain geometries. Similarly, Piazolo \& Jaconelli (2013) consider the rheology of sillimanite aggregates in gneiss defined by slipsystems at high-temperatures related to the aggregates CPO. A numerical approach by Borthwick et al. (2013) explores the effects of recovery recrystallisation in rocks close to their deformation temperatures showing that microstructures can be modified at temperatures lower than experienced during peak deformation.

Reviewed by Mark $\boldsymbol{N}$ Burdett

## DEFORMATION STRUCTURES AND PROCESSES WITHIN THE CONTINENTAL CRUST

S LLANA-FÚNEZ, A MARCOS, \& F BASTIDA (Eds), 2014 Geological Society of London Special Publication 394 ISBN 978-1-86239-627-2 239pp (hbk) List price: $£ 90$ (Fellows $£ 45$; Other societies $£ 54$ )
serwing science of profostion

# The Geology of Geomechanics 

## 28-29 October 2015

Keynote speakers
Dr Tony Addis
(Baker Hughes)
Professor Terry Engelder
(Pennsyvania State University)
Dr Julia Gale
(University of Teras at Austin)
Professor Rick Sibson FRS
(formerly University of Otago)
Dr Mark Tingay (Chevion)
Professor Mark Zoback
(Stanford University)
Convenors
Jonathan Turner
(BG Group)
Dave Healy
(University of Aberdeen)
Richard Hillis
(Deep Exploration Technologies (RC)
Michael Welch
(Schlumbergar)

## Further information

For further information about the conference please contact: Jess Aries, Conference Office. The Geological Society. Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J 0B6
T: 02074349944
Eijess.ariesegeolsoc.orguk
W. www.geolsoc.orguk/

Geology-of-Geomechanics-15

The Geological Society, Burlington House, London, UK

This conference aims to bring together geologists and engineers from the petroleum, radioactive waste disposal, carbon sequestration, mining and geothermal communities to discuss the links between the geomechanical disciplines and mainstream geology.
We define geomechanics as the study of stresses in the crust, and their impact on the stability of rocks (e.g. reservoirs, seals, faults) and man-made features therein (tunnels, boreholes, repositories).

Stress leads to change and we need data, tools, models and workflows to understand and manage it. Geomechanics is a wellestablished sub-discipline but until recently has had relatively little airing across geology. However, geomechanical models depend critically on geological inputs. We are particularly interested in what geological observations can add to the predominantly present-day observations and analysis of geomechanics. Furthermore, what can geology learn from the unique observations of geomechanical datasets? Geologists and engineers therefore need to share their understanding of the key issues in geomechanics, and to develop a common language to describe our respective approaches to it.

## FINAL CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

For this meeting we encourage submission of papers that address the full spectrum of geomechanics applications. We aim to promote lively discussion and closer collaboration among and between geologists and engineers - both researchers and practitioners.
The deadline for oral abstracts 51 Jund 2015. Please submit yoar abstract as a Word document to Jess Aries. Ex
jess.arles@geolsoc.org.uk

Geoscientists in the news and on the move in the UK, Europe and worldwide

IN MEMORIAM www.GEOLSOc.ORG.UKJOBITUARIES

THE SOCIETY NOTES WITH SADNESS THE PASSING OF:

Adatia, Ruth Horman*<br>Armstrong, David *<br>Borg-Costanzi, Joseph A *<br>Cater, Maxwell Clinton *<br>Evans, J Russ*<br>Foster, Michael *<br>Fothergill, T *<br>Heeley, Martyn *<br>Hooper, P L *<br>Hubbard, Julia A E B *<br>Kosler, Jan *<br>Lane, Alan*<br>Leach, Bernard *<br>Mills, J A *<br>McSweeney, LJM *<br>Morris, Richard Oliver *<br>Quick, David *<br>Rivington, John Blackett* Scott, Barry*<br>Seymour, John<br>Watson, John S<br>Wright, Martin *<br>In the interests of recording its Fellows' work for posterity, the Society publishes obituaries online, and in Geoscientist. The most recent additions to the list are shown in bold. Fellows for whom no obituarist has yet been commissioned are marked with an asterisk (*). The symbol § indicates that biographical material has been lodged with the Society.<br>If you would like to contribute an obituary, please email ted.nield@geolsoc.org.uk to be commissioned. You can read the guidance for authors at www.geolsoc.org.uk/obituaries. To save yourself unnecessary work, please do not write anything until you have received a commissioning letter.<br>Deceased Fellows for whom no obituary is forthcoming have their names and dates recorded in a Roll of Honour at www.geolsoc.org.uk/obituaries.



## CAROUSEL

All Fellows of the Society are entitled to entries in this column. Please email ted.nield@geolsoc.org.uk, quoting your Fellowship number.

## - David Abbott



David Abbott is the recipient of the 2015 Ben H Parker Memorial Medal, the oldest and most distinguish award granted by the American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG). The Parker Memorial Medal is awarded to individuals who have long records of distinguished and outstanding service to the profession. Abbott is best known for his Professional Ethics \& Practices column in AIPG's The Professional Geologist that he has been compiling since 1995.

## - Drew Craig



Drew Craig, a geologist with Rocklore Exploration Services Limited, undertook a gruelling charity ultra challenge in April, attempting to complete the 250 km Marathon des Sables (Moroccan Sahara), and another 42.2 km in the London Marathon. Drew took on this challenge on behalf of the Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability, which provides a range of services to those with neuro-disabilities and injuries, ranging from long-term care to rehabilitation. Donations:
http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/DrewCraig

## - Ted Nield

Ted Nield's book Underlands - a journey through Britain's lost landscape (Granta Books, 2014) is published in paperback this month, Price £10.00. "... a stunningly good book which combines beautiful writing with a passion for geology and the lost landscapes of Britain." John Gribbin. "In the minds of its practitioners, geology is a noble instrument of inquiry and conviction. It can be oracular still, fiercely warning us against the degradation of our planet, and in the hands of Ted Nield it edges its way towards art." Jan Morris, Literary Review

## DISTANT THUNDER Glorious mud!

## As geologist and science writer Nina Morgan

 discovers, geologists are not the only ones who love mudIn 2011 the Geological Society held a meeting to celebrate Poetry and Geology. This year the Society is waxing poetical about mud. "Mud represents both and end and a beginning the end of the cycle of erosion and transport, and the beginning of the generation (through burial and transformation) of new materials of great value to society," reads the notice on the Events page of the website.
These are two topics close to the heart of Liberty Hyde Bailey (1858-1954). As a child, Bailey apparently loved playing with stones - but he also loved plants. In the end, plants won.

## Mentored by American botanist

 Asa Gray [1810-1888], who corresponded with many in the Geological Society, Bailey went on to focus his prodigious talents on botany, and helped to create the science of horticulture. But his interests were very wide.He corresponded with Darwin as a supporter of Darwin's Origin of Species, and once entertained Alfred Russel Wallace when Wallace visited the Michigan Agricultural College. Bailey was also a prolific writer, rural sociologist, philosopher and environmentalist. He wrote poetry too, and fully appreciated the importance of mud - a sediment he celebrated in verse in his collection of poetry entitled Wind and Weather, first published in 1916:

## Mother Mud

Ye roils of mud! On slag and road On wallowed track and slipping yard Down millioned years of slash and goad, Ye be the earth's first honor-guard. [sic]
Clean scurf and rain, by heaven mixed Forth-destined when the orb was flung Within the quick'ning sludge transfixed Were all the songs the years have sung.
No sprout of earth, no winnowed soul No singing sphere, no god of man Except from out your brooding shoal Had ever winged their master-span.
Flush sloughs of mud! In fragrant dawn Is leaping spring and garnered fall I tribute bring to breed and brawn Nor dare defile one mire withal.
Flow down ye rains to earth far-long Rise up ye lands to wind and rift When ye be strong then all be strong Full-free of doubt and stain and shrift
For from the sleech the strong ones come;
And ev'ry bird and hoof and bud In godly part and sacred sum
Proclaim the kinship of the mud

Though he could never be said to be a geologist sensu stricto, Bailey's celebration of mud must surely qualify him as an honorary geologist at least!

## Acknowledgement

This vignette was inspired by the gift of a 1919 edition of Bailey's book Wind and Weather rescued from a box of his books recently rediscovered in storage near the orchards at Cornell University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, in Ithaca, New York, US. Other sources of information include an obituary of Liberty H Bailey, published in the New York Times on 26 December, 1954; and A Biographical Memoir of Liberty Hyde Bailey, 1858 -1956, by Harlan P Banks, published by the National Academy of Sciences, Washington DC, 1994.

# OBITUARY MICHAEL JOHN O'HARA 1933-2014 

Mike O'Hara was one of the leading petrologists of his generation. It has been said that modern igneous petrology and geochemistry would not be the same without Mike's many discoveries, creative efforts, and deep insights. He pioneered the use of experimental and theoretical petrology to unravel the processes involved in the formation of the ocean crust from the underlying mantle.

He was also one of the original Apollo scientists who investigated the rocks returned from the Moon. He was awarded the Murchison Medal of the Geological Society of London and both the N L Bowen and Hess Medals of the American Geophysical Union for his contributions to petrology and his "outstanding achievements in research of the constitution and evolution of the Earth and other planets".

## Passport

Mike was born in Sydney, Australia in 1933. This led Ted Ringwood, his great Australian rival in subsequent debates on the origin of the Moon, to threaten "to get his passport revoked". The family moved to England when Mike was just one year old. At the outbreak of war in 1939, Mike's father was stationed in Pwllheli in North Wales, where he was brought up. On Good Friday 1945 his Mother took him to the funeral of David Lloyd George on the banks of the


River Dwyfor near Llanystumdwy in Eifonydd, North Wales. This was to presage a long association with Wales and lifelong support for Welsh rugby.

Mike went up to
Cambridge in 1952 and joined the Spitsbergen expedition in 1953. This started a life-long love of mountaineering. He was persuaded to follow a career in geology rather than becoming a mountaineering instructor by Stuart Agrell, and studied at Cambridge (under C E Tilley) for his PhD on the high pressure-high temperature Scourie gneiss.

He moved to Edinburgh in 1958 to continue his research with Arthur Holmes and Fred

Stewart. In 1962-1963 he was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship at the Geophysical Laboratory at the Carnegie Institute in Washington. He spent the year with Frank Schairer and Hat Yoder. He returned to Edinburgh in 1963 where he established a high pressurehigh temperature laboratory to study igneous petrology. He was awarded a personal Chair in Edinburgh in 1970 and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

## Aberystwyth

In 1978 he moved to Aberystwyth where he chaired the Geology

Department. He was elected Fellow of the Royal Society in 1981. He spent two years at the Sultan Qaboos University, Oman in 19881990 before moving in 1994 to Cardiff where, as he wrote: "an outstanding latecareer opportunity... illuminated my last decade". As Distinguished Research Professor he spearheaded a new worldclass petrology group that included inter alia Julian Pearce, Yaoling Niu and Chris Macleod.

Mike O'Hara was a full member of the University Grants Committee (UGC) and chaired the UGC Earth Science Review National Committee during 19861988, which shaped the modern form of UK University geoscience. His contribution to the Cardiff School of Earth and Ocean Sciences helped establish the department as a major international centre for research and teaching in the Earth Sciences.

Michael John O'Hara's scientific success lay in his vision and an approach that did not follow bandwagons but continually challenged tradition and authority. He was a likeable and approachable man who hid his great scholarship and intense concern about the subject under a veneer of humour. Many Earth scientists worldwide owe much to his unstinting encouragement and advice. He will be greatly missed.

By David Rickard

[^1]
## ENDORSED TRAINING/CPD

| COURSE | DATE |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Lapworth's Logs | n/a | 'Lapworth's Logs' is a series of e-courses involving practical exercises of increasing complexity. <br> Contact: info@lapworthslogs.com. Lapworth's Logs is produced by Michael de Freitas and <br> Andrew Thompson. |

## DIARY OF MEETINGS MAY 2015

| MEFTING | DATE | VENUE AND DETAILS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mapping the Earth - Lyme Regis Fossil Festival | 1-3 May | See website for links, details and registration. |
| RCMNS Interim Colloquium 2015, Mediterranean-Atlantic Gateways (Neogene-present). Medgate, IODP Expedition 339 | 5-8 May | Venue: Rabat, Morocco. See website for details and registration |
| Groundwater in Africa: Is There Enough to Go Around? Southern Wales Regional | 12 May | Venue: Wallace LT, Cardiff Unviersity. Time: 1800 for 1830. Speaker: Prof. Alan Macdonald (BGS). E: swales.rg@geolsoc.org.uk |
| River Dredging Geological Society | 13 May | Venue: Burlington House. Speaker: Neville White (Environment Agency). Society London Lecture. See p. 6 for details. |
| Modelling Groundwater in the Urban Environment Processes and Problems. Hydrogeological Group | 13 May | Venue: Priory Rooms, 40 Bull Street, Birmingham. Time: 0930-1600. See website for details and registration. Fees apply. |
| 4th Annual Asia Pacific Small to Midscale LNG APAC | 13-15 May | Venue: Singapore Marriott Hotel, 320 Orchard Rd, Singapore. See website for details and registration. E: info@apacIng.com |
| 9th International Industrial Minerals Symposium 2015. TMMOB Chamber of Mining Engineers of Turkey \& Dokuz Eylul University | 14-15 May | Venue: Izmir, Turkey. See website for registration \& details. E: indmintr@deu.edu.tr |
| Sedimentology of Paralic Reservoirs: Recent Advances and their Applications. Petroleum Group | 18-19 May | Venue: Burlington House. Fees apply. See website for registration \& details. E: laura.griffiths@geolsoc.org.uk |
| Canada LNG Export DMG Events | 19-21 May | Venue: Calgary TELUS Convention Centre. See website for registration \& details. E: neillhoward@dmgevents.com |
| Near Surface Geophysics as used in Geotechnical Site Investigations. Western Regional | 19 May | Venue: Reynolds Lecture Theatre (Room G25), Earth Sciences, Bristol University. Time: 1800 for 1830. Speaker: Dr. Simon Hughes - TerraDat UK Limited. See website. E: westernregionalgroup@gmail.com |
| Urban Geology in Wales Southern Wales regional | 19 May | Venue: Cardiff University, ROOM 1.25 Main Building. Time: 1730 for 1800. Speakers: Doug Nichols, Dr Richard Bevins, Sergio Solera and Ray Kenny. E: swales.rg@geolsoc.org.uk |
| Sustainable exploitation of the subsurface Geological Society. EGGS. IAEG | 20-21 May | Venue: Burlington House. See website for registration \& details. E: jess.aries@geolsoc.org.uk |
| The Quaternary of the Lake District QRA | 21-24 May | Venue: Blencathra Field Studies Centre, Threlkeld, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 4SG. See website for registration \& details. E: d.mcdougall@worc.ac.uk |
| Implementing geological disposal of higher activity radioactive waste Northern Ireland Regional | 21 May | Venue: Wellington Park Hotel, Belfast. Time: 1330 for 1400. Lecture. With Radioactive Waste Management Ltd. Contact: Mike Young E: GeolSocNI@gmail.com |
| The story of the rocks: William 'Strata' Smith's geological map at the Yorkshire Museum. The Yorkshire Museum, York | 22-31 May | Venue: The Yorkshire Museum, York. See website for details, links \& registration. |
| Finding Oil in Atlantic Basins Finding Petroleum | 27 May | Venue: Royal Society of Chemistry, Burlington House. Fees apply - see website. Contact: Natalie Cronshaw E: natalie@findingpetroleum.com |
| Groundwater Modelling for Mining: two day training course EDUMINE | 28-29 May | Venue: EduMine, 530 Hornby Street, Vancouver, BC Canada. Training course. See website for details and registration. E: edumine-support@infomine.com |

# OBITUARY JOHN CROOK 1933-2014 

$\square$ohn Crook's career reveals a wellregarded geologist, who worked from 1955 on major geological mapping projects in Africa and the Middle East. From 1972 until 1990 he was deeply involved in research on, and the utilisation of, the increasing information becoming available from satellites and the development of remote sensing.

John (pictured, standing) graduated in 1955 from the then Kingston Technical College, with a 1st Class Honours Geology Degree. He became a Junior Associate of the Geological Society in 1952 and was elected Fellow on 23 November 1955.

## Ghana

In 1955, John married Rosemary Smithers, and they spent the next 10 years in Ghana. John's field mapping was in the Volta region for the Geological Survey of Ghana. His maps and reports were published by the Survey and also reported in The Mineral and Rock Resources of Ghana, by G O Kese. John also contributed to the papers of Richard Holm on the Dahomeyan gneiss in the western Accra Plains, Ghana.

The opportunity to join Hunting Geology and Geophysics Ltd arose in 1966. Huntings had been established in 1952 and provided an increasingly wide range of services to oil and mining

companies, the United Nations and governments. John was an important leader of many teams, and in time was appointed an Associate Director.

To illustrate John's work I have selected just two projects, which demonstrate his wide experience and managerial skills.

In 1977, Huntings were awarded the contract to undertake geological mapping and mineral exploration in three large areas of basement rock in southern Libya. Since there were no maps or roads in the area Huntings resorted to using the earliest ERTS (now Landsat) imagery to navigate
across the Sahara. This was a typical large-scale project where the Hunting's geologists were responsible for not only the technical work but also overcoming massive logistic problems. In such projects John provided essential support and was a friend and mentor to many geologists.

## Humour

It is a measure of John's modesty that he didn't talk of himself and never complained of difficulties in the field, in spite of bouts of serious migraine. He had a fantastic sense of fun and humour. Almost every day he had a joke to tell to lift the
mood, whatever the circumstance. His honesty and selflessness and kindness to all brought out the best in all who worked with him. He made everyone feel part of the team and always offered careful considered advice and help with our tasks, however much we needed to know.

In November 1985,
Huntings were awarded the contract to support the NRSC in its mission to promote the use of remote sensing in Britain and by British companies working overseas. It did this by undertaking pilot projects using remote sensing in agriculture, geology, oceanography, forestry, urban planning and disaster monitoring, testing and planning for new sensors

John Crook was appointed Project Manager, and managed a team of scientists together with support staff. The team became widely respected in the industry, and broke new ground in many fields, for example: using multi-band thermal imagery in geology, and monitoring opencast mines, oil slicks and bush fires. John was a humorous, calm and fairly 'hands-off' but very supportive manager of the project. The project continued to the end of 1990.

Subsequently John and Rosemary retired to Harrogate in Yorkshire. John is survived by his widow Rosemary, their two children, Andrew and Susan, and five grandchildren.

By Derek Morris

[^2]
## GROSSWORID N0. 189 SET BY PLATYPUS



## ACROSS

## DOWN

1 Highest grade of coal (10)
6 Cain's brother, confused, was not, whereas Cain alas was. (4)
9 'Thunder lizard' of which everyone has heard and has recently made a comeback (10)
10 Acronym for the rock erupted at spreading centres beneath the wave (4)
12 With malice aforethought (12)
15 Manoeuvre performed by space probes which use the gavitational pull of celestial bodies to increase their speed (9)
17 Iron-carbon alloy (5)
18 The man who found and kept his marbles, in contrast to most of us (5)
19 Ceaselessly bothering and nagging a co-worker (9)
20 Lying, in relation to the matter in hand, as a straight line to the circumference of the circle it touches (12)
24 Cheek, or if you prefer, 3,4methylenedioxyamphetamine (4)
25 Variety of cryptid 'snowman' said to inhabit the Himalayas (10)
26 Middling $(2,2)$
27 County extending from Strathmore to the Pass of Drumochter, Rannoch Moor, Ben Lui and Aberfoyle (10)

1 Acronym for a new qualification awarded by the courts since 1998 to Britain's most distinguished naughty people (4)
2 Bathsheba Everdene's dashing Captain (4)
3 The lithostratigraphic 'Underlying Red', Germanically (12)
4 Well with lining (5)
5 Cut short (9)
7 The creation of life (10)
8 Study of the development of the fertilized egg (10)
11 Orthographical faults (12)
13 Industrial disease caused by fibrous mineral (10)
14 See 7D (10)
16 Capable of sustaining life (9)

21 Allow into the student body (5)

22 Place of shelter in France (4)

23 Famous Shoemaker (4)

## WINA SPECIAL PUBLICATION!

The winner of the March Crossword puzzle prize draw was Jonathan Scafidi of Haywards Heath, UK.

All correct solutions will be placed in the draw, and the winner's name printed in the July 2015 issue. The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. Closing date -
May 22.
The competition is open to all Fellows, Candidate Fellows and Friends of the Geological Society who are not current Society employees, officers or trustees. This exclusion does not apply to officers of joint associations, specialist or regional groups.
Please return your completed crossword to Burlington House, marking your envelope "Crossword". Do not enclose any other matter with your solution. Overseas Fellows are encouraged to scan the signed form and email it as a PDF to ted.nield@geolsoc.org.uk

## Name

## Membership number

Address for correspondence
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

Postcode

## SOLUTIONS MARCH

## ACROSS:

1 Epigenetic 6 Lima 9 Avalanches 10 Even 12 Athletically 15 Caenozoic 17 Oaten
18 Amino 19 Allophone 20 Exemplifying 24 Ruin 25 Equanimity 26 Lass 27 Centigrade

## DOWN:

1 Eras 2 Iran 3 Enantiomorph 4 Excel 5 Identical 7 Involution 8 Annoyances 11 Accompanying 13 Octahedral 14 Refineries 16 Odalisque 21 Yeast 22 Mica 23 Dyne

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## The School of Earth \& Ocean Sciences at Cardiff University are proud to celebrate the 25th anniversary of their professional vocational Postgraduate Taught Masters degree in Applied Environmental Geology.

The degree programme was started in 1990 as a response to the demand for a professional training programme for geo-scientists employed on designing urban regeneration schemes like the Cardiff Bay redevelopment programme. The Masters-level training course covers the multi-disciplinary skills required by the modern applied geo-scientist, particularly in site investigation, contaminated land assessment, determining an accurate conceptual ground model for ground engineers, all in the context of
 UK/European codes of practice and environmental legislation. Over 25 years, 700 of our postgraduates are now successfully employed in geotechnical / geoenvironmental consultancies and government agencies in the UK, Europe and overseas. The 12 month degree comprises of two stages: Stage I: The Taught programme (October - March)


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[^0]:    Contact: Annie Sewell, The Geological Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J OBG, T: +44 (0)20 74320981 E: Annie.Sewell@geolsoc.org.uk

[^1]:    HELP YOUR OBITUARIST The Society operates a scheme for Fellows to deposit biographical material. The object is to assist obituarists by providing contacts, dates and other information, and thus ensure that Fellows' lives are accorded appropriate and accurate commemoration. Please send your CV and a photograph to Ted Nield at the Society.

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