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What can study of past high-CO₂ tell us about our present and future climate?

Dr Kirsty Edgar (University of Birmingham)

9th November 2021 | Zoom Video Conference | 6.30pm start

Synopsis:

Projected partial pressures of atmospheric carbon dioxide (pCO2) for the coming century have not been seen on Earth since the Eocene, more than 34 million years ago (Ma). In the early Eocene (~48-56 Ma), the Earth was much warmer than today with heat-loving organisms such as turtles, crocodiles and palm trees in the Arctic, and small or no ice sheets at the poles. The study of such past



warm time intervals in the geological record can provide us with novel insights into how the Earth system (e.g., life, oceans & climate) looked and worked under high pCO2, as well as a crucial test of the accuracy of climate models. Here, I'll discuss some of the lessons that we can take from the study of past high-CO2 worlds to inform present and future change.

About the speaker:

Kirsty is a micropalaeontologist and palaeoceanographer, specialising in planktic foraminifer and foraminifer-based geochemical records. She is interested in understanding the timing and nature of the interaction between global climate, geochemical cycling, and biota during the Cenozoic. A major research focus is elucidating the dynamics and consequences of transient climate events in the geological record.

Forthcoming talks:

DATE	TITLE	SPEAKER	VENUE
14th December 2021 6:30pm		Hamish Strachan (Atkins)	Zoom – Virtual Meeting
	Variable Glacial ground and liquefiable soil conditions	Ryan Beech (Jacobs)	
11th January 2021 6:30pm	- and an and a single state of	Dr Jonathan Paul (University of London)	Zoom – Virtual Meeting



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