

Dave was the Very Model of a Student of Geology

A tribute to the life and times of Dave Clark - a life long friend

Here is a rhyme of rocks and ale, lecture learning, & old field trip tales
Hammer here and hammer there, smashing outcrops everywhere
Isle of Wight, Dorset coast and Arran geomorphology
Dave was the very model of a student of geology

Earth science teaching of varied kinds, educating our mixed up minds
Hard rock labs with hand specimens, birefringence in cross polar lens
In matters of petrology, crystals and mineralogy
Dave was the very model of a student of geology

Sediment types of sand and lime, plus muds laid down, then burial time
Diagenesis sets in and complicates things, toughens rocks up,
hammers make 'em ring
In matters of erosion, deposition and chronology
Dave was the very model of a student of geology

Fossil drawings Dave made a lot and filled a book with useless grot
Trilobites, ammonites, brachiopods and graptolites
In matters of ichnology, bugs and palaeontology
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Geophysical incantations, magnetic fields, gravitation
Turgid tech terms, maths strain a brain,
picking wiggles making eyes strain
In matters of calculation and squinted seismology
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Making maps and correlations, integrating with cross sections
Creative thinking in 3D, drinking too much and needing a pee
In matters of stratigraphy, tectonics and cartography
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Field trip capers or out on the town, pub stops for lunch drinking
Newcastle Brown
Back to college yes penniless, had to home brew, beer in bath mess
In matters of fermentation, consumption and oenology
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Lifelong college mates that Dave had made, geologists all,
we made the grade
Exams over, shredded nerves mend, degrees confirmed,
get a job my friend
In matters of graduation, occupation and wealth technology
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Stuart Harker