



Welcome to the tenth issue of the Geological Society's e-Newsletter for Chartered Fellows.

Published five times a year, usually following each election of new Chartered Fellows, this Newsletter is to inform the Chartered Fellowship and also to gain their input into what information they would like to see. Information of general interest to the Chartered Fellows that perhaps might not reach the pages of Geoscientist is welcome (Chartership@geolsoc.org.uk).

In this issue:

[Mentoring Workshops](#)

[CPD](#)

[Apology](#)



Mentoring Workshops

The first of the Society's Mentoring Workshops was held at Burlington House on 11 April with some 16 attendees.

The Workshop was aimed at Fellows who were interested in understanding the principles of [mentoring](#) and who has assumed responsibilities for mentoring within their companies. Almost all the participants came from companies who had [Accredited Company Training Schemes](#) and for which assignment of mentors to trainees is part of the system.

The overall response to the Workshop was extremely positive and feedback indicated that the participants engaged fully with it and both enjoyed and learned from it.

Being the first this produced good information for the planning of future similar events. In particular it was clear that the 4.5 hours assigned to the Workshop were perhaps too few and resulted in the participants having their awareness of the concepts of mentoring raised rather than their being trained to be mentors.

The second of these workshops is scheduled for Manchester on 1 July, again as a half day only, and this time it follows an earlier Scrutineers' Training session. There are still places available for either or both the Scrutineering and Mentoring sessions. Any Fellow interested in attending can book a place by contacting Janine Benn in the Fellowship Office (janine.benn@geolsoc.org.uk).

Once this is over and we have been able to digest the feedback from both then the Professional and Chartership Committees can think about how the Society might look to develop this service in the future. The two workshops this year have been provided free of charge through the good offices of John and Trudy Arthurs; however should we look to run a full day session next year then probably a fee will need to be charged to cover expenses and costs.

[back to top](#)



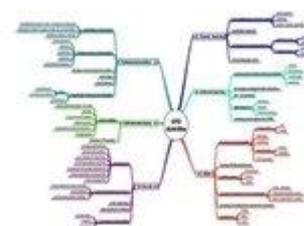
CPD

This is an area that has exercised both Applicants for Chartership and Chartered Geologists in terms of recording and the types of activity that may be recorded and counted.

CPD is all about professional development hence learning is the key part. It needs to start with structured Aims and Objectives and be completed with a reflection on what was achieved over the year. Because of this the recording of a group of miscellaneous, unrelated items is not what is to be expected.

The Chartership and Professional Committees have developed a proposal for a new system for CPD which is hoped to be adopted later this year. The proposed new CPD system is less onerous and easier to use than the present one while still meeting the required level of rigour as a professional CPD system. It proposes that there should be mandatory recording of a minimum of 90 unweighted hours per annum for those in professional employment. The current complicated points system is to be discontinued. Fellows will record their CPD in a range of categories with the system being made clearer, improved and expanded. The focus is to be in the areas of On-the-Job learning and Professional Activities with a smaller proportion in the other categories including opportunistic broadening of overall geoscience knowledge.

To help with working out what constitutes CPD and which category to record an activity in a 'Mind Map' has been produced showing CPD categories, sub-categories and activities within them. A draft copy of the proposed 'Mind Map' is attached here:



[Download the CPD 'Mind Map'](#)

The proposed system will also provide guidance for those retired Fellows who still wish to maintain their Chartered title and similarly for any Chartered Fellow who takes a career break.

[back to top](#)



Apology

In the last Newsletter where the newly elected Fellows were listed the name of Miles Bevan was inadvertently omitted. Miles was elected at the April Council meeting.

J W Gaskarth,
Chartership Officer
5 May 2016

