



Welcome to the fortnightly Geological Society newsletter.

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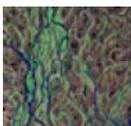
## Our Year of Mud

Themed years are at the heart of the Society's Science Strategy, and 2015 is the Year of Mud, with a programme of events celebrating a resurgence of interest in that most common of materials.

- The year opened on 21 January with a London Lecture from our President, David Manning, on 'Glories of Mud.' [Our blog has a podcast with Professor Manning and more information about the Year of Mud.](#)
- You can also read more in a recent [Nature Editorial](#) focusing on our Year of Mud, the International Year of Soil, and the importance of mud and soils to our understanding of the planet.
- On Thursday evening, David Manning will be featuring on the [BBC's Science in Action](#), to explain more about the year and its aims.



Stay up to date with the programme at [www.geolsoc.org.uk/mud15](http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/mud15)



Membership

## Last chance to apply for 2015 Research Funds



Applications are invited for the 2015 round of the Society research funds. Download the appropriate form from the [Society Awards and Research Grants page](#) where you will also find information about the Society's and other funds administered by the Society. The average award has been about £1000.

Applications need to reach the Society no later than **1 February 2015** and must be supported by two Fellows of the Society who must each complete a supporting statement form. The Research Grants committee meets once annually and only complete applications on the appropriate form will be considered.

Novas Consulting Ltd is again generously providing bursaries for undergraduate field mapping. Supervisors are asked to encourage their students to submit their applications.

[Visit the website for more information](#)  
[Read about an undergraduate mapping project funded by a Society bursary in Geoscientist](#)  
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## Publications

### New from GSL: Ore Deposits in an Evolving Earth

Edited by G.R.T. Jenkin, P.A.J. Lusty, I. McDonald, M.P. Smith, A.J. Boyce and J.J. Wilkinson

List price: £ 110.00

Fellow's price: £ 55.00

Other societies price: £ 66.00

Mineral deposits are key primary sources of wealth generation and vital for a burgeoning global population, but they are also valuable windows through which to view aspects of the evolution of the Earth. This volume presents international research on topical subjects in mineral deposit studies viewed in the context of Earth evolution.



[Visit the website for more information](#)

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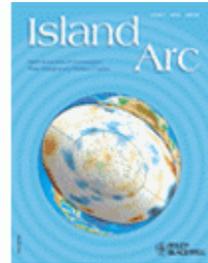


## Library and Information Services



## Recent special issues in the Virtual Library

The Recent Special Issues section of the Virtual Library contains details of thematic special issues from e-journals which are available to Fellows. These include both the [Library's 'Athens' login journals](#) and ones which are freely available online.



The following new special issues have been added to January's section.

- [Congress of the Latin American Association of Organic Geochemistry \(ALAGO\)](#)
- [Dispersal of continental vertebrates during the Paleogene](#)
- [Ghost-rock karstification, the recent theory of karstogenesis & Karst research](#)
- [Mantle heterogeneities and upper crustal variations in the ophiolite record](#)
- [Multidisciplinary perspectives on the Gigantopithecus fauna and Quaternary biostratigraphy in East Asia](#)
- [Petrogenesis and chemogenesis of orogens in Asia](#)
- [Quaternary of Interior Asia](#)
- [Sustainable water management in Central Asia](#)

Athens authentication can also be used to access more than 90 other journals from leading publishers.

[Visit the website for more information](#)  
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## Library Closure: 3 & 4 February



The Library (and Burlington House Bookshop) will be closed on Tuesday 3 February between 10am and 4pm, and be open but with a limited staff on Wednesday 4 February.

This is to allow for essential staff training as we prepare to launch a new Library Management System and online catalogue, which will improve the experience and services to Library users in Burlington House and remotely. If you would like to be notified when the new online Library catalogue goes live please email [library@geolsoc.org.uk](mailto:library@geolsoc.org.uk)

We apologise for any inconvenience caused by this closure. We will be fully re-opened as normal from Thursday 5 February.

[Visit the website from more information](#)  
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## Events

## William Smith Meeting 2015: 200 years of Smith's map

**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**

Date: 23 - 24 April 2015

Venue: The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

William Smith (1769 -1839) was an English geologist who created the first nationwide geological map. This two-day conference features keynote lectures from Professor Hugh Torrens and Professor Simon Knell and 18 talks by experts on William Smith's maps, his careers, and his contemporaries in England and Europe.



[To register, and for more information, visit the website](#)

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## Lyell Meeting 2015: Mud, glorious mud, and why it is important for the fossil record



Date: 11 March 2015

Venue: The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**

Mudrocks provide an unrivalled medium for the preservation of fossils. This exceptional preservation has in turn enabled significant scientific advances in the functional morphology and evolution of biota throughout life history and a high resolution record of the ways in which biota adapt and evolve during environmental change.

This meeting will be of interest to those interested in understanding Earth surface processes particularly periods of extreme environmental change as well as those interested in the exceptional preservation of fossils.

[To register and for more information visit the website](#)

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## Ground Characterisation for Sustainable Underground Space

Date: 20 - 21 May 2015

Venue: The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

**CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**

It has long been recognised that the subsurface is a complex, scarce and valuable resource. With urbanisation, society is now becoming more reliant on using the subsurface for physical infrastructure (e.g. underground networks such as utilities & transport) and for the storage and containment of resources (energy & water) and waste (CO<sub>2</sub> & radioactive waste) in order to provide the essential support to a well-functioning society. This meeting will focus on the importance of understanding the subsurface for now and the future.



We welcome both poster and oral presentation contributions for this meeting covering any of the following themes:

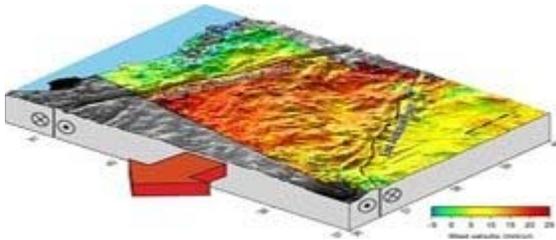
- Subsurface investigation: Invasive and/or non-invasive
- Sustainable management of subsurface resource: Nearfield and farfield interaction
- Regulation and planning: 3D resource management/planning and regulation
- Construction and design
- Decommissioning/reuse of space

If you would like to be considered for a slot in the programme, please send an abstract of no more than 400 words to [Jess Aries](#) no later than 5pm on Friday 27 February 2015.

[For more information, visit the website](#)

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## [London Lecture: When Continents Collide: Active Deformation and Sismic Hazard](#)



Date: 25 February 2015

Venue: The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

Webcasts at 3pm and 6pm

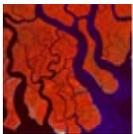
In this lecture Tim Wright, a geophysicist at the University of Leeds, will describe how we can use the latest satellites to map how

continents deform. He will highlight how we can make extraordinarily accurate measurements, use this information to understand where damaging earthquakes are likely to occur, and how the results can be used to reduce their devastating impacts.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

Follow this event on Twitter: [#gsllecture](#)

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## Education & Careers

### CaSE Part-Time Paid Internship

The Campaign for Science and Engineering (CaSE) is looking for someone to support its team on a fixed, short-term contract as a paid intern.

The three month internship placement (based in London) will provide vital administrative and communications support at an exciting and busy period for CaSE during the 2015 General Election.



[Visit the website for more information](#)

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## EMpower 2015 Research Project Placements

# EMpower 2015

Masters Programme Of Work Experience through Research

Exciting project placements are available from EMpower. The aim of the scheme is to give Science Masters students, who would not otherwise necessarily consider a career in the nuclear sector, the chance to experience the 'nuclear' industry first hand.

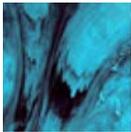
January 2015.

The deadline for receipt of applications is 29

Full details of each project and how to apply are available on the [EMpower website](#)

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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## Groups & Networks

### South West Regional Group: Trip to Kents Cavern

Date: 31 January 2015

Venue: Kents Cavern, Torquay, Devon

Join the South West Regional Group for a guided tour of Kents Cavern cave system.

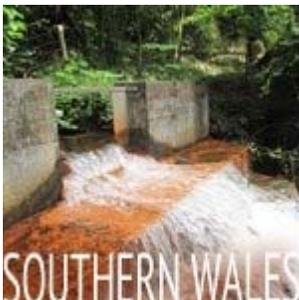
Kents Cavern is notable for its archaeological and geological features. The cave system is a geological Site of Special Scientific Interest (since 1952) and a Scheduled Ancient Monument (since 1957). They have been occupied by one of at least eight separate, discontinuous native populations to have inhabited the British Isles.



[Visit the website for more information](#)

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### Southern Wales Regional Group: Forensic Geology



Date: 5 February 2015

Venue: Trevithick Building, Cardiff University

In his lecture on forensic geology, Dr Laurance Donnelly will draw on 18 years of providing expert advice to the police as a forensic geologist and search adviser. Through his pioneering work he has made significant contributions to the development of geoforensic search strategies and methodologies for locating graves and other burials.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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## West Midlands Regional Group: Chartership Evening

Date: 10 February 2015

Venue: Atkins (the Axis) Birmingham, 10 Holliday Street

As part of this annual evening, Bill Gaskarth (Chartership Officer, Geological Society) will be on hand to provide his guide to the GSL's Chartership process. This event will be useful whether you are planning to apply, are mentoring or sponsoring someone's application, or are one of our Chartership Scrutineers.

The talk will deal with all aspects of an application and will provide advice on how to avoid common problems which could defer your recommendation.



[Visit the website for more information](#)

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## Engineering Group: Rammed Earth



Date: 11 February 2015

Venue: Institution of Civil Engineers, Westminster

A British Geotechnical Association (BGA) and Engineering Group of the Geological Society (EGGS) joint meeting.

Along with many other ancient and traditional forms of construction, rammed earth has attracted a lot of interest in recent years from architects and engineers seeking alternative and lower carbon building solutions to replace conventional materials.

In his presentation Pete Walker (University of Bath) will outline the current development of rammed earth drawing from his experience of various case study projects and recent research work from around the world.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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## Other News

### Council Member to join Radioactive Waste Management

Natalyn Ala, a member of Council and Secretary of Professional Matters, will join Radioactive Waste Management Limited (RWM) as Geological Disposal Facility Siting Director on 9 March 2015. She leaves her role as Director of Land and Environmental Management at Atkins Limited.



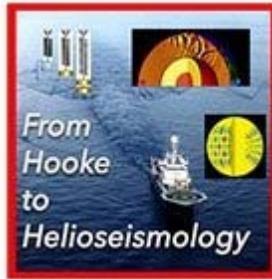
On behalf of the Society, we offer Natalyn our congratulations and best wishes in her new role. For more information, please [visit the RWM website](#).



All members of Council are bound by the Society's [Declarations of Interests policy](#).

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## From Hooke to Helioseismology - the UK's contribution to Seismology - past, present and future.



Date: 9 - 10 April 2015  
Venue: College Court, University of Leicester

The University of Leicester is holding a two day meeting on seismology. Sponsored by the British Geophysical Association, the History of Physics Group of the Institute of Physics, the Royal Astronomical Society, the Geological Society, and Shell Global Solutions, BV, this meeting has been designed to explore the UK's contribution to seismology.

Participants are encouraged to submit posters on any aspect of seismology, in particular on the UK's historical contribution to the science.

**Early bird registration ends: 31 January 2015**  
Booking ends: 20 March 2015

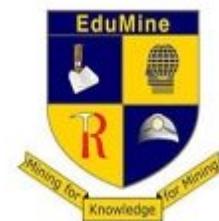
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## Upcoming Edumine Courses

**Geochemical Applications of Portable XRF**  
Date: 2 - 3 February 2015  
Venue: EduMine 580 Hornby Street, Vancouver, BC, Canada

The course encompasses a review of the theory and principles of field portable X-ray fluorescence spectrometry, considerations of data quality and data management, as well as examples of practical applications such as geochemical mapping of surface materials and lithochemical classification of rock types and alteration.

[Visit the website for more information](#)



**Mine Planning - Strategy: Live webcast**  
Date: 10 - 12 February 2015  
Venue: EduMine 580 Hornby Street, Vancouver, BC, Canada

This webcast introduces key mine planning concepts. Following completion participants will be able to recognise and use key levers in mining such as Mining Method Selection, Process Route Selection, Scale of Operation and Sequence & Scheduling to effectively unlock value from their mining operations.

[Visit the website for more information](#)  
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## British Geophysical Association: Conference - New Advances in Geophysics



Date: 5 - 6 February 2015

Venue: The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

An annual two day meeting to discuss the latest development in geophysics. The theme of BGA - NAG 2015 covers advances in our understanding of "*The Lithosphere-Asthenosphere System - Nature of the Tectonic Plates*".

This meeting will bring together world leaders from a wide array of disciplines to better understand the lithosphere-asthenosphere system.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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## Geologist's Directory Online Update

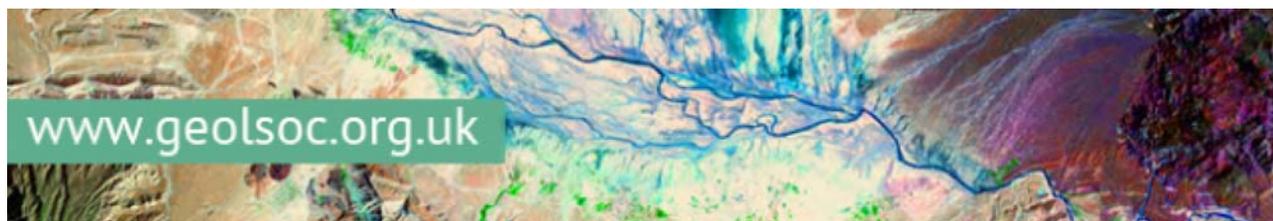
Updating is underway for the latest refresh of [www.thegeologistsdirectory.com](http://www.thegeologistsdirectory.com) which is the reference source for contractors and consultants in the Earth Sciences sector and endorsed by The Geological Society.



If you wish to ensure your company is included and find out how promotion of your services on the site could help generate enquiries for your services please email [geo@boundarymedia.co.uk](mailto:geo@boundarymedia.co.uk) or call the directory team on 01892 662225.

[Visit thegeologistsdirectory for more information](#)

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The Geological Society of London • Burlington House • Piccadilly, London W1J 0BG

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