



Welcome to the fortnightly Geological Society newsletter.

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## New Blog Post: Communicating Contested Geoscience

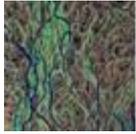


Geology is essential to many of the issues facing the UK today, and public engagement in informed debate and decision-making is essential from both a practical and an ethical point of view on issues such as shale gas, and the storage of carbon and radioactive waste. However, statements based on concepts which geoscientists are comfortable with, such as deep time and uncertainty due to incomplete data, may undermine confidence unless there is an understanding of public perspective and concerns.

These challenges were explored by geoscientists from academia, industry and government, as well as science communication practitioners and social scientists, at [a recent Society Conference](#).

Speakers highlighted practical ways to improve verbal and visual communication and reach the widest possible audience; but interdisciplinary work with communication and public engagement professionals is equally important for the geoscience and engineering community. Reforming science teaching to highlight overlaps between disciplines, with careers guidance reflecting the diversity of what scientists actually do, is also vital, both to train the next generation of scientists and enable the wider public to interpret scientific claims about politically contested matters.

[Read the full article by Nic Bilham, Society Director of Policy and Communications on our Blog](#)  
(First published 3 September 2014 in *Research Fortnight*)  
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## Membership

### Applications Open for 2015 Research Funds

Applications are invited for the 2015 round of the Society research funds. Please complete the appropriate form which can be downloaded 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.



The Research Grants committee meets once annually. Applications must 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. Only complete applications on the appropriate form will be considered. Please send to the Awards Secretary at the Geological Society.

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

[Visit the website for more information](#)  
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### Last Chance for Awards Nominations



It's not too late for Fellows of the Society to submit nominations for the Society's 2015 Awards to the Awards Committee. Full details of how to make nominations are on the website.

Nominations must be received at the Society no later than **1 October 2014**

[Visit the website for more information](#)  
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## Publications

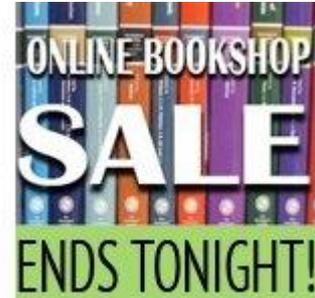
### Online Bookshop Sale Ends at Midnight Tonight

Don't miss the Geological Society online bookshop sale that ends at midnight (BST) tonight.

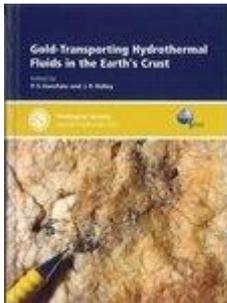
You'll find 30 titles priced at just £25 each, some publications in the sale have limited stock available.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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### New Title Announcement: Gold-Transporting Hydrothermal Fluids in the Earth's Crust



Edited by P.S. Garofalo and J.R. Ridley

Hydrothermal ore deposits that are exploited for gold include both gold-only deposits, such as orogenic deposits, and gold-bearing examples of the common hydrothermal deposit types that are formed around upper-crustal magmatic centres, in particular porphyry and epithermal deposits. Fluid-inclusion data have shown that ore fluids of gold-only deposits are compositionally distinct compared to fluids of other deposit types.

This Special Publication includes an up-to-date summary of thermodynamic parameters of aqueous Au species at high temperatures and pressures; a dataset of fluid inclusion properties and compositions from orogenic deposits of different parts of the world; comprehensive case studies of different types of gold deposits and their fluids; and numerical modelling aimed to define key parameters that affect fluid flow and gold deposition at a range of scales.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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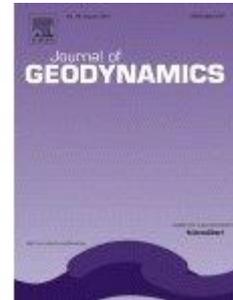
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## Library and Information Services

### 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 September's section.

- [Agrarian Archaeology in Early Medieval Europe](#)
- [Biomaterialization and Biomimetic Materials](#)
- [Fluid Composition and Propagation in the Deep Crust \(Limpopo Complex\)](#)
- [Geologic Problem Solving with Microfossils 3](#)
- [Observational and Modelling Perspectives on the Mechanical Properties of the Lithosphere](#)
- [Paleoanthropological and Prehistorical Research in Ethiopia](#)
- [Quaternary Studies in Korea](#)
- [Understand the Earth](#)

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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## Events

### National Geological Screening Technical Event



Date: 30 September 2014

Venue: The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

Radioactive Waste Management Limited (RWM), the Government's designated developer of a Geological Disposal Facility in the UK, will be holding a day-long technical meeting on the National Geological Screening Exercise, a key component of the Government's recently published White Paper ['Implementing Geological Disposal'](#) for higher activity radioactive waste.

The event, aimed at professional geoscientists, engineers and safety case experts but open to all, has been organised to raise awareness and start the process of getting views from geoscientists, wider technical audiences, and anyone interested in geological disposal. Attendance is free but advance registration is required.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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## London Lecture: Geoheritage & the UK's Most Significant Geological Sites

Date: 15 October 2014

Venue: The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

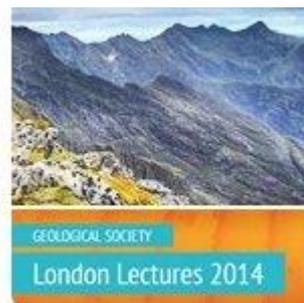
Rob Butler (University of Aberdeen) will celebrate the launch of 100 Great Geosites, to coincide with Earth Science Week 2014, in the October London Lecture.

Entry is free to all, but places are allocated on a ballot basis.

[Visit the website for more information or to enter the ballot](#)

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

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## Co-evolution of Life & the Planet



Date: 5-6 November 2014

Venue: The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

The Earth that sustains us today has arisen out of planetary scale co-evolution of the physical and biological worlds. The complexity of these interactions necessitates a multidisciplinary 'Earth System Science' approach. This two-day meeting will explore advances in our understanding of the coupled evolution of life and the planet.

**Keynote speakers include:**

- Professor Peter Harries, University of South Florida
- Dr Brian T. Huber, Smithsonian Institute
- Professor Lee Kemp, Penn State University
- Professor Andy Ridgwell, University of Bristol
- Sir Crispin Tickell

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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## MIN WIN-WIN: Establishing Europe-Wide Mineral Reporting Standards: The Key to Reducing Risk & Increasing Opportunity

Date: 20-21 November 2014

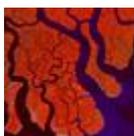
Venue: Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Brussels

This conference, organised by the European Federation of Geologists and the Pan-European Reserves & Resources Reporting Committee, aims to promote the adoption of a common mineral reporting standard in the EU, with the goal of facilitating the creation of a European Knowledge Database on mineral resources. This conference will provide a unique opportunity to learn about and discuss concrete steps regarding mineral reporting in a cross-disciplinary environment.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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## Education & Careers

### Accreditation Officer - Applications Welcome



The post of Accreditation Officer will become vacant with the retirement of the present incumbent, Dr Colin Scrutton, in 2015.

The Geological Society therefore seeks applications for the post of Accreditation Officer from 1 May 2015, or as soon as possible thereafter.

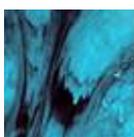
[Visit the job page for more information](#)  
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### New Lesson Plans

Visit the Lesson Plans page for some classroom inspiration.

Featuring a Classroom Volcano, the Rock Cycle with chocolate, and a Silurian Death Assemblage Cupcakes Recipe.

[Visit the Resources pages for more information](#)  
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## Groups & Networks

### What Lies Beneath Our Feet: Photographic Contest 2014



As the saying goes 'a picture is worth a thousand words'. With this concept in mind the West Midlands and Southern Wales Regional Groups and the Black County Geological Society (BCGS) launched their joint Photographic Competition in January, with the theme: 'What Lies Beneath our Feet'. Nearly one hundred entries were received, representing famous geological locations from Namibia to Iceland and Bude to Torquay.

The winning image was Malcolm Nugent's picture entitled 'Etna Beneath Our Feet'. Second & Third places were taken by John Schroder and Scott O'Neil Gwilliams. Also Highly Commended were Fiona Townley and Tim Wright's photographs.

[Visit the website to see the winning photos](#)  
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## Hong Kong Regional Group: Photography Competition Launch

We are pleased to announce the launch of our geologically themed photography competition. The theme '*Unique Hong Kong*' is open to interpretation, but should include some geological content and be a photograph of somewhere within Hong Kong.

**The Deadline for entries is 30 November 2014,**

Entries shall be displayed, and the winners announced, at the HKRG Annual Dinner. The prizes are as follows:

- 1st Prize: HK\$2,000
- 2nd Prize: HK\$1,000
- 3rd Prize: HK\$500



Please feel free to share this competition with your friends and colleagues, it is not limited to Fellows of the Geological Society - the more entries the merrier!

[Visit the website to enter or download the Flyer](#)

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## Central Scotland Regional Group Talk: Falklands Oil



Date: 23 September 2014

Venue: British Geological Survey, Murchison House, Edinburgh

Exploration around the Falkland Islands started in 1977, was interrupted by a skirmish in 1982, and recommenced in 1998 when the lack of discoveries and crash in the oil price led to most companies losing interest in the region. Subsequent geological work led to a new exploration effort by a group of small, UK-based companies in 2010. The resulting 34 month drilling campaign concluded with six discoveries and a resurgence of political interest from the neighbours. The Falklands are now on the brink of becoming an oil producing nation.

Phil Richards, petroleum manager at the British Geological Survey, will review the drilling campaign and its successes, and look to the future for the area.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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## Abstracts Deadline Extended: Forensic Geoscience: Future Horizons

Date: 3 December 2014

**Extended Abstracts deadline: 26 September 2014**

Venue: The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

This multidisciplinary meeting will capture shared interests between the geological, environmental science, forensic science, geophysics, engineering, geotechnical, mining and archaeological communities in assessing the future of forensic geoscience.

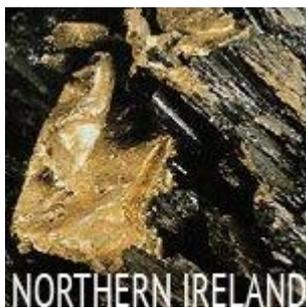
Those interested in contributing are warmly encouraged to submit abstracts to the convenors.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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## Northern Ireland Regional Group: Visit to the Cavanacaw Gold Mine & Curraghinalt Gold Project



Date: 28 September 2014

Venue: Meet at the Silverbirch Hotel, Omagh

A field excursion and mine visit to the Cavanacaw gold mine and Curraghinalt gold project, County Tyrone. Numbers are limited so please confirm in advance.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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## Thames Valley Regional Group Lecture: Groundwater and Flooding

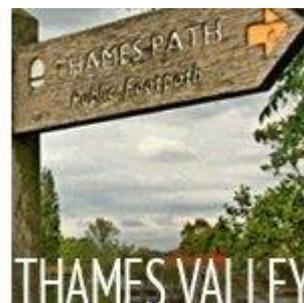
Date: 30 September 2014

Venue: Jacobs Office, Winnersh

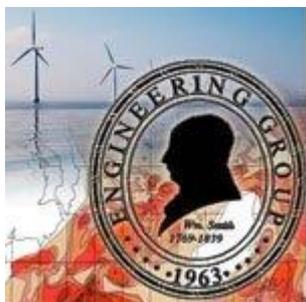
Speaker Jo Godfrey will give a Lecture on Groundwater & Flooding.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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## Forthcoming Engineering Group Lectures



Venue for All: The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

**Onshore-Offshore Geology: The Vital Link for the Engineering of Offshore Wind Farms Founded in Chalk**

Date: 1 October 2014

**Advances in Geological/Geotechnical Data Handling & Modelling**

Date: 2 October 2014

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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## Hydrogeological Group: Ineson Lecture 2014: Groundwater and Hydrocarbon Change

Date: 6 October 2014

Venue: The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

A joint meeting of the International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH) and the Hydrogeological Group of the Geological Society, including the 2014 Ineson Lecture by Professor Jim F. Barker, with a focus on evolving groundwater-related issues from hydrocarbon exploitation and use, including conventional and innovative hydrocarbon fuels, shale gas and oil sands.



An updated programme is now available on the event page. **Registration closes 26 September.**

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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## South West Regional Group: ProGeo 2014: Quaternary Geology in the Southwest



Date: 10 October 2014

Venue: Lakeside, Roadford Lake, Broadwoodwidge, Lifton. Devon

Pro Geo is a one-day conference for professional geoscientists in the South West, and the flagship event for the South West Regional Group.

A booking form and list of speakers are now available on the event page, together with information for Exhibitors & Sponsors.

**Discounted Registration closes 26 October.**

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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## Southern Wales Regional Group Skittles Evening: Change of Date

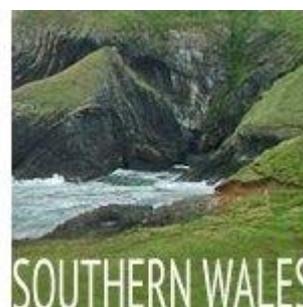
Date: 21 October 2014

Venue: The Halfway Pub, Pontcanna, Cardiff

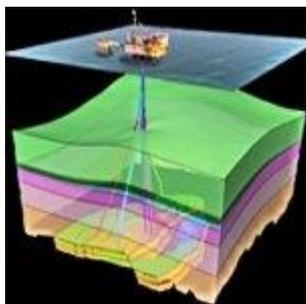
Please note the date change for the Southern Wales Regional Group annual Skittles Evening, a great chance to meet fellow geologists in the South Wales area over a few drinks and some food. The defending champions, Arup, will be hoping to hold on to their trophy, so make sure you have put a team together.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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## Petroleum Group: Small to Subseismic Scale Reservoir Deformation



Date: 29-30 October 2014

Venue: The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

**Registration Now Open**

Given recent advances in seismic data acquisition and processing, the geological detail of the subsurface can now be imaged with greater resolution than ever before.

This 2-day international conference will bring academic and industry geoscientists and engineers together, to examine:

1. How much extra geological detail modern seismic techniques are now able to image;
2. How that expansion of detailed information is being approached and captured by interpreters - and tied back to real reservoir geology;
3. What modern questions and techniques are now being applied to outcrop and drill-core studies in order to address the 'unseen challenges' of subseismic deformation; and
4. How this is influencing the level of detail that should be captured to define better subsurface flow characteristics within flow simulation models.

[Visit the website for more information](#) or [contact Laura Griffiths](#)

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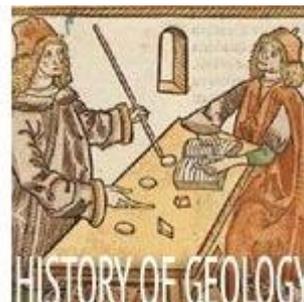
## History of Geology Group Meeting: Geology and Medicine

Date: 2-4 November 2014

Venue: The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

### Exploring the Historical Links and the Development of Public Health and Forensic Medicine

Building on the success of the “*History of Geology and Medicine*” conference held in 2011 and the subsequent publication SP375 of the Geological Society of the same name, this meeting of the History of Geology Group will celebrate the Tercentenary of Sir John Hill. The meeting will investigate the lives and work of physicians who have contributed to Geology, and trace the historical links between Geology and disease.



[Visit the website for more information](#)

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## Geological Curators' Group Seminar & 41st AGM: Writing Effective Grant Proposals for Collection Projects



Date: 2-3 December 2014

Venue: Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery

This seminar will focus on practical and informative methods of obtaining funds and writing grants for working with geological collections in various different ways.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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### Other News

## Two New Blog Posts from the British Science Festival

### We are all Catastrophists Now

The Society's Earth Science Communicator, Sarah Day, reported on Sanjeev Gupta's talk on megafloods on earth and other planet

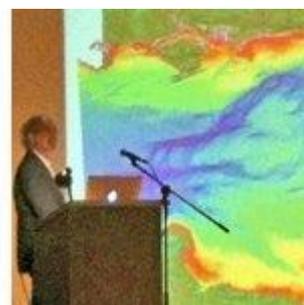
[Visit the blog for more information](#)

### Operation Stonehenge

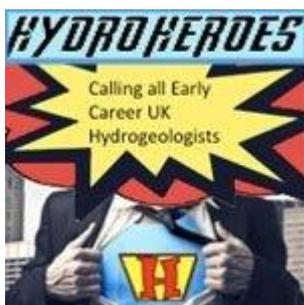
Professor Vincent Gaffney and colleagues unveiled the latest from the Stonehenge Hidden Landscapes Project, the digital mapping project using remote sensing and geophysical surveys to map the hidden landscape of the site.

[Visit the blog for more information](#)

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## The Early Career Hydrogeologists' Network UK Launch: *Hydro Heroes: Using Your Powers for Good*

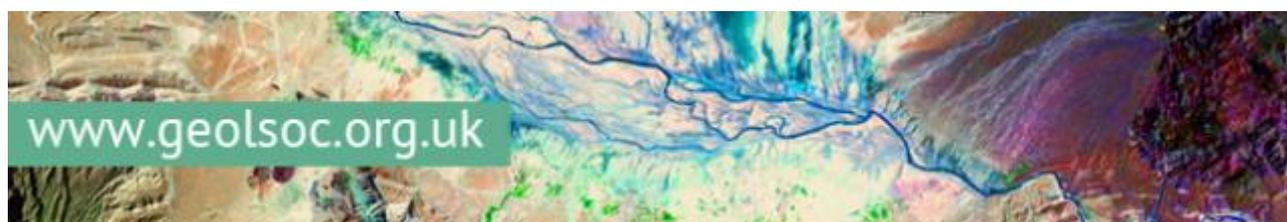


Date: 26-27 September 2014

Venue: James Weir Building, Strathclyde University, Glasgow

Supported by the British Chapter of the International Association of Hydrogeologists, Strathclyde University and Hydrogeologists without Borders UK, this conference marks the launch of The [Early Career Hydrogeologists' Network](#) in Great Britain. Talks and workshops aimed at Early Career Hydrogeologists will cover the environment, humanitarian work, ethical issues and publishing.

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