



Welcome to the fortnightly **Geological Society** newsletter.

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100 Great Geosites: The Final List



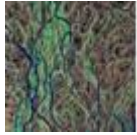
The UK and Ireland feature some of the most diverse and beautiful geology in the world, spanning most of geological time. Last week, as events all over the country celebrated our unique geo-heritage for [Earth Science Week](#), the Society launched a list of 100 Great Geosites across the UK and Ireland. The list was widely reported in the media, including the [BBC](#) and the [Telegraph](#)

The final list was chosen by our committee of experts, with help from nearly 1500 people who voted for the 'People's Favourite' in each category. From remote mountains and classic outcrops to tourist attractions and wonders of our industrial and scientific history, from the Channel coast to the furthest north of Shetland, the final hundred can all be explored on the website.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

[Explore the interactive map](#)

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Membership

28 October: Former Society President Richard Fortey on Radio 4

Richard Fortey, Professor of Palaeontology at the Natural History Museum and President of the Geological Society from 2006 to 2008, will be the subject of *The Life Scientific* on Radio 4, in which Professor Jim Al-Khalili talks to leading scientists about their life and work, finding out what inspires and motivates them and asking what their discoveries might do for mankind.



The broadcast will go out [at 9am](#) with a repeat [at 9.30pm](#); both will be available from the Radio 4 Website shortly after broadcast.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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Call for Nominations to Serve on Council



Would you consider standing for election to Council? Are you willing to contribute to the work of the Society not only by becoming a member of Council and one of its standing committees but also by serving on working groups and undertaking particular tasks between meetings?

Whatever your background and expertise in the geosciences, membership of Council enables you to influence the role of the Society in acting as a respected voice serving society and the geoscience profession.

The following members of Council are due to retire at the Annual General Meeting in 2015:

- Dr Mike Armitage, Prof Neil Chapman, Mr David Cragg, Prof Al Fraser, Mr David Jones, Dr Adam Law, Prof Alan Lord, Dr Brian Marker and Dr Gary Nichols

Fellows received with October's Geoscientist nomination forms for the election of new Council members and the President-designate 2015/16. Details & return address are on the forms and also in the [Governance section of the website](#). **The closing date for the receipt of nominations is noon on Friday, 9 January 2015** and nominations will NOT be valid unless they are fully completed, signed and accompanied by a statement by the nominees.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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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.

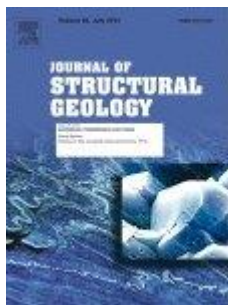
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Library and Information Services

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 October's section.

- [Deformation processes in lithospheric high-strain zones](#)
- [Mineral systems analysis of the west Musgrave Province: regional structure and prospectivity modelling](#)
- [24th Colloquium of African Geology](#)
- [Volatiles and fluids in subduction zones](#)

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

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Events

The Lost World of Ladakh: Reclaiming the Past, Sustaining the Future

Date: 24 October 2014

Venue: The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

This evening event will include presentations by the authors of The Lost World of Ladakh and organisers of the [Sustainable Resource Development in the Himalayas conference](#).

A discussion session will draw upon wider expertise of this fascinating region, as we consider how an understanding of the past can help to build the sustainable future. A photo exhibition and wine reception will then give participants the opportunity to talk informally about this region and the work being undertaken.



[Visit the website for more information](#)

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Geological Society Careers Day 2014



Date: 5 November 2014

Venue: BGS, Keyworth, Nottingham

The Geological Society's Careers Day is the essential meeting place for geoscience students and the geoscience industry. The day will include presentations on careers and an exhibition fair.

University undergraduates and postgraduates will have the chance to find out about the latest career options, and talk to industry leaders about how they may gain entry into that sector. There will also be some University representatives available to discuss MSc and PhD programmes.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

Follow this event on Twitter: [#GSLcareers14](#)

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Geological Society Careers in Earth Science 2014

Date: 26 November 2014

Venue: Our Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh

The Careers in Earth Science event is being run by the Earth Science Scotland community, and is co-badged by the Geological Society and the Petroleum Exploration Society of Great Britain.

The day will include presentations from early career earth scientists from the oil and gas, mining, geotechnical, environmental and research sectors. There will also be a panel Q&A on careers. The exhibition will include employers and professional bodies, and a higher education fair, promoting MSc and PhD programmes.



[Visit the website for more information](#)

Follow this event on Twitter: [#GSLcareers14](#)

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Call for Papers: Higher Education Network Annual Meeting 2015: Sharing Educational Practice in the Geosciences



Date: 21-22 January 2015
Venue: Plymouth University

The 2015 annual meeting of the Higher Education Network will be held on January 21 and 22 at the University of Plymouth, and takes the general theme 'Sharing Educational Practice in the geosciences'. Registration is now open.

Contributions are welcome; please note that the **deadline for submission of papers is Friday 14 November**. Full details and links to online registration can be found on the conference webpage.

[Visit the website for more information](#)
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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

Mudrocks provide an unrivalled medium for the preservation of fossils. This has 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.



The meeting will be of relevance to those interested in marine and terrestrial Earth surface processes, particularly periods of extreme environmental change as well as those interested in the exceptional preservation of fossils.

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William Meeting 2015: 200 Years of Smith's map

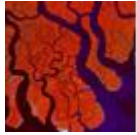


Date: 23-25 April 2015
Venue: The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

This meeting will celebrate publication of the first geological map of a nation 200 years ago. It aims to address Smith's achievements and his impact on the state of geology in his time, and will look at several aspects, including his relationship with the Geological Society of London, Smith's map, contemporary concepts of geological survey and map design and past and present research into surviving Smith maps, sections and documents.

This is the first of two Geological Society William Smith Meetings in 2015. Registration will open soon.

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Education & Careers

New Fact Sheet on UK Geoheritage

Find out more about the geoheritage of the UK and Ireland, and why we have such an amazing range of geological sites.

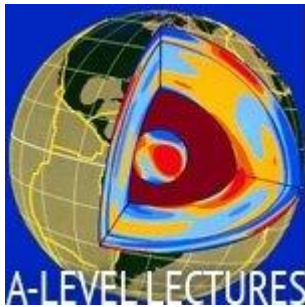
Our most recent factsheet, released for Earth Science Week, is now available to download.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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Free A-Level Lecture Series for 6th Form Students



The North West Regional Group is organising a series of monthly lectures for 6th Form students, aimed at providing a university lecture experience as well as useful A-Level course material.

The second lecture, 'Earthquake Waves & Seeing inside the Earth!' is on [12 November at Keele University](#). Details of the December lecture on Metamorphic Grades will be available soon. Please note these lectures are for school students only.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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Accreditation Officer - Applications Close 31 October

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. The deadline for applications is 31 October.

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

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2015 Funding Opportunities from the Royal Commission

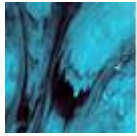


The attention of Fellows is drawn to funding opportunities from the Royal Commission. Applications are now open for the following:

- Research Fellowships in Science and Engineering (Closing Date 19 February 2015)
- Industrial Fellowships (Closing date 22 January 2015)
- Industrial Design Studentships (Closing date 29 April 2015)

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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Groups & Networks

Western Regional Group: The Colours of Fossil Birds and Dinosaurs

Date: 21 October 2014

Venue: S.H. Reynolds Lecture Theatre, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Bristol

Earth scientists wrestle with the limits of what is knowable. For years, dinosaur experts have had to say, ruefully, 'We'll never know the colours of dinosaurs or the noises they made'. Then, in January 2010, we were able to announce the first objective evidence for colour in a dinosaur.



Professor Michael J. Benton (University of Bristol) tells the story of how collaborations and fieldwork are extending our knowledge of this previously speculative theme.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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Northern Ireland Regional Group: Geology & the Low-Carbon Economy



Date: 27 October 2014

Venue: Ulster Museum, Belfast

The Northern Ireland Regional Group present their Inaugural Lecture by Professor Paul Younger, Professor of Energy Engineering at Glasgow University and a leader in the field of geothermal energy development and the efficient use of fossil fuels.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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Sediments, Sequence Stratigraphy and Material Behaviour: Why the Lambeth Group Presents a Challenge

Date: 23 October 2014

Venue: Sir Robert McAlpine, Maylands Avenue, Hemel Hempstead

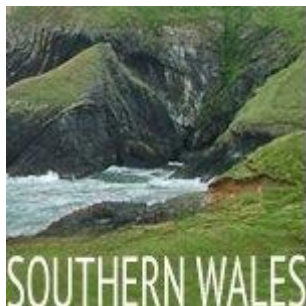
Dr Jackie Skipper presents a Home Counties North Regional Group talk on the Lambeth Group, a layer of sediments which are only 15-18m thick in the London Basin, yet they are difficult to understand and often strike fear into the hearts of those who have to interpret them, or even worse, design structures in or on them.



[Visit the website for more information](#)

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Early Career Geologist Award: Southern Wales Group Final



Date: 28 October 2014

Venue: Cardiff University, ROOM 1.25 Main Building, Park Place, Cardiff

Please come along and support your fellow geologists in The Early Career Geologist Competition, open to anyone with less than 10 years experience. Three finalists from the Southern Wales Group will present their work, and a panel of judges will crown a winner. There will be trophies and cash prizes for the finalist.

The winner will go on to represent the Southern Wales Group at the UK Final in London. The Southern Wales Group has had two winners of the UK Final and we hope to continue this success.

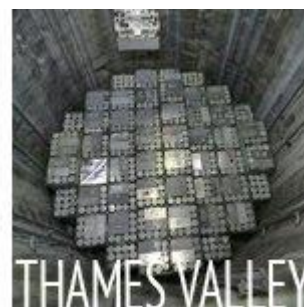
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Thames Valley Regional Group: The Current Status of Geological Screening for Disposal of Radioactive Waste

Date: 4 November 2014

Venue to be confirmed

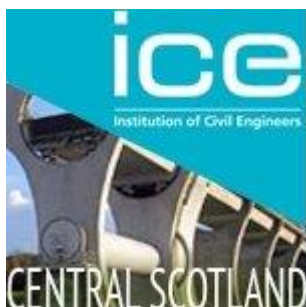
The permanent, safe disposal of higher activity radioactive waste is one of the great challenges facing Earth Scientists. The internationally agreed solution is deep geological disposal. Following an initial [technical meeting on the National Geological Screening Exercise](#) in September, Radioactive Waste Management Ltd (RWM), the Government-appointed developer of a geological disposal facility, is holding a series of meetings with Geological Society Regional Groups, as part of a programme of public events offering an opportunity for people to engage in the debate.



RWM are keen to ensure the expertise and insights of geologists, engineers, and of academics and scientists of different disciplines help shape and inform the national screening exercise and its implementation. So please feel free to bring along colleagues, ask questions and make your contribution to the debate.

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Central Scotland Regional Group: Exploiting Scotland's Shale Gas / Unusual Sources



Date: 11 November 2013

Venue: Godfrey Thomson Hall, University of Edinburgh

This is a joint lecture with the Scottish Geotechnical Group of The Institute of Civil Engineers. More details will be available soon on the event page.

[Visit the website for more information](#)
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South East Regional Group: A Periglacial Ground Model for the UK

Date: 11 November 2014

Venue: University of Sussex, Falmer Site, Brighton

There have been substantial developments in the understanding of the importance of Periglacial environments (cold-climate but non-glacial conditions) and their influence on the present day landforms. This has particular relevance for the nonglaciaded areas of Southern Britain.

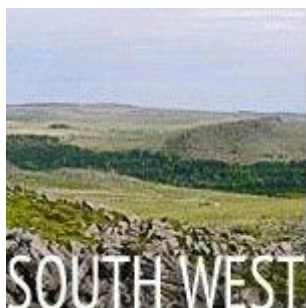
The presentation by Professor Julian Murton (University of Sussex) will focus on the development of a Periglacial Ground Model for the UK, a fundamental starting point in the preparation of a local site-specific model.



[Visit the website for more information](#)

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South West Regional Group: Younger Geoscientist Evening



Date: 13 November 2014

Venue: The Cardinals Hatt, A388, Hatt, Saltash, Cornwall

Please come along and support new entrants to the profession at our annual "Younger Geoscientists Evening".

More details of the talks will follow soon.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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Fracked or Fiction: The Science of Shale Gas

Date: 14 November 2014

Venue: The Board Room, Eco Innovation Centre, City Road, Peterborough

ReFINE (Researching Fracking In Europe) is an independent research consortium led jointly by Newcastle University and Durham Energy Institute. Bringing together international academics to investigate key areas of public concern, ReFINE aims to provide an agnostic appraisal of the real risks and potential of shale gas and shale oil in Europe and add scientific balance to the heated debate over Fracking.



ReFINE researcher Dr Liam Herringshaw (Durham University) will discuss the ReFINE project, the science and the controversies of fracking in Europe, and what we really know about UK shales.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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Hydrogeological Group & British Hydrological Society Meeting: Groundwater Extremes and Surface Water Impacts



Date: 3 December 2014

Venue: Institution of Civil Engineers, 1 Great George Street, London

Registration is now open for this joint meeting to examine the remarkable period of climatic and hydrological extremes since 2012. The programme will begin with two invited talks, considering these points from different perspectives and aiming at stimulating some lively debate!

- **David Evans, OBE MSc FCIWEM MIC:** *It's the evaporation, stupid! Why we are going to need more storage and where is it going to come from?*
- **Mike Price, BSc MSc DSc FGS CGeol CSci:** *It's the groundwater, stupid! Why we must learn to live with more variable stream networks.*

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Other News

Earth Science Week Daily Blog

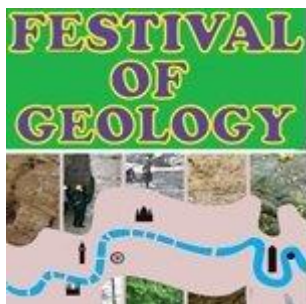
Read about the Earth Science Week celebrations as they happened:

- [Monday: 100 Great Geosites: The Launch](#)
- [Tuesday: Geobingo and the 100 Geosites Nominations](#)
- [Wednesday: Ask a Geologist Live!](#)
- [Thursday: The 100 Geosites Film Quiz](#)
- [Friday: Film Quiz: The Answers!](#)

[Visit the blog for more information](#)
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The Geologists' Association: Festival of Geology



Date: 1 November 2014
Venue: University College London, Gower Street, London

The annual Festival from the Geologists' Association includes exhibitors from the world of geology, a discovery room for children of all ages and free lectures including:

- Laurance Donnelly: *Forensic Geology*
- Richard Edmonds: *Fossils & Fossil Collecting along the Jurassic Coast*
- Iain Stewart: *Planet Oil*
- Peter Styles: *Shale Gas: What the Frack is that all about?*

There will be a free guided walk led by Dr Ruth Sidall on the Geology of UCL, and the festival will be followed by three field trips and walks on Sunday 2 November.

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The International Petroleum Technology Conference

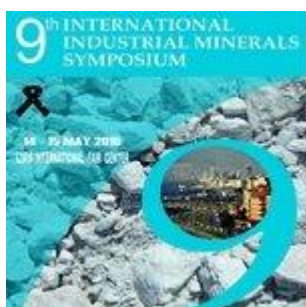
Date: 10-12 December 2014
Venue: Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, Malaysia

The International Petroleum Technology Conference is renowned as the premier multi-disciplinary oil and gas event in the Eastern Hemisphere.

[Visit the website for more information](#)
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9th International Industrial Minerals Symposium 2015



Date: 14-15 May 2015
Venue: Izmir International Fair Centre, Izmir, Turkey

This Symposium is organized jointly by the Chamber of Mining Engineers of Turkey and Dokuz Eylül University Faculty of Engineering.

Previous Symposia enjoyed outstanding interest from both industry and academia. Exhibitions with diverse participation from industry and presentations of the most recent research carried out in this field will provide a fertile environment to exchange ideas and solve problems.

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