



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

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## Submission of Evidence to the Lords Arctic Committee



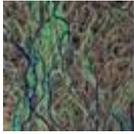
The Geological Society has made a written submission in response to the Lords Arctic Committee's call for evidence for its wide-ranging inquiry on the Arctic region.

Summer sea ice decline is making access to the Arctic Ocean increasingly easy, with implications for resources, shipping, international relations and environmental protection. The Committee was appointed to look at the unique opportunities and risks presented by development of the Arctic, and will report in March 2015 after collecting expert evidence, including recent

hearings with representatives of the Scott Polar Research Institute, British Antarctic Survey and Scottish Association of Marine Science.

Some of the issues were explored in [February's London Lecture](#), which is available to watch online together with the [post-lecture podcast](#).

[Read the Society's submission on the website](#)  
[Find out more about the Committee and the terms of reference for the enquiry](#)  
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## Membership

### 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.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

[Read about an undergraduate mapping project funded by a Society bursary in Geoscientist](#)

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## Publications

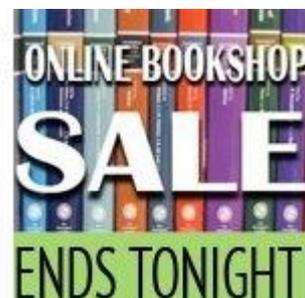
### Online Bookshop Sale Ends Midnight Tonight!

Don't miss the Geological Society online bookshop sale, ending at midnight (GMT) tonight, with a selection of 30 titles priced at £25-£35 each. Some publications in the sale have limited stock available.

You'll also find a huge range of new publications, back list publications from GSL and other publishers too.

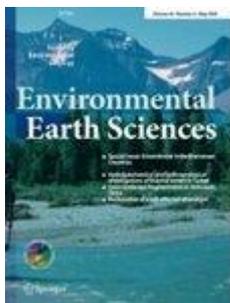
[Visit the bookshop for more information](#)

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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 November's section.

- [Bone and enamel diagenesis](#)
- [Cenozoic extensional tectonics in Western and Central Anatolia](#)
- [Changes in South American climate since the Last Glacial Maximum](#)
- [Dissolved gases in groundwater and groundwater dating methods](#)
- [Lithics of the Late Middle Palaeolithic](#)
- [Visualization in environmental sciences](#)

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

### Call for Poster Abstracts: Lyell Meeting 2015: Mud, Glorious Mud, and Why it is Important for the Fossil Record

Date: 11 March 2015

Abstracts deadline: 9 January 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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### London Lecture - Contaminated Land: What is it good for?



Date: 19 November 2014

Venue: The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

Broadcast online at 3pm & 6pm

Historic industrial activities, waste management practices, war and accidents have left a chemical fingerprint on soil and in groundwater that can occasionally threaten the well-being of humans and parts of the eco-system. Paul Nathanail (Land Quality Management Ltd & University of Nottingham) discusses the work done by Environmental geoscientists to help ensure land affected by

contamination is safe.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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

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### Doing More with Less

A panel discussion on the complexity of making decisions and growing profits in oil and gas exploration with less time and less resources

Date: 20 November, 6pm-9pm

Venue: The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

A joint venture by GSL and Elsevier to coincide with the last day of [PETEX 2014](#), and part of the Elsevier Thought Leadership Programme.



Panellists will include:

- **Moderator:** Phil Andrews, Chairman of Getenergy Events Ltd
- Friso Veenstra, Senior Director of Business Development for O&G Exploration, TNO
- Ian Bryant, Vice President & Senior Geoscience Advisor, Schlumberger Information Solutions
- Andy Latham, Vice President of Exploration Service, Wood Mackenzie
- Jonathan Turner, Structural Geologist, Geological Studies Group, BG Group

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## Geoconservation Annual Gathering 2014



Date: 24 November 2014

Venue: The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

Led by the Geological Society's [Geoconservation Committee](#), whose aims are to help conserve the diverse geology and rich geological and geomorphological heritage of the UK, this meeting brings together people from geoconservation initiatives around the United Kingdom to discuss fundraising opportunities and support mechanisms for geoconservation. As the impact of austerity cuts on environmental and geoconservation initiatives sets in, we will

consider how best to fund and support geoconservation projects going forward.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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## Geological Society Careers in Earth Science 2014

Date: 26 November 2014

Venue: Our Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh

The programme is now available for the Careers in Earth Science event, run by the Earth Science Scotland community and 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.

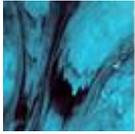


[Visit the website for more information](#)

Follow this event on Twitter: [#gslcareers14](#)

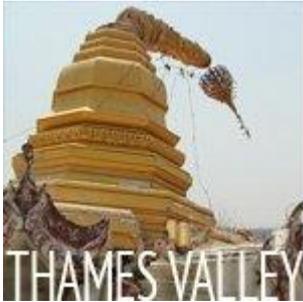
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## Groups & Networks

### Thames Valley Regional Group - One Tick of the Time Bomb: An Increment of Slip along the Sagaing Fault, Myanmar



Date: 18 November 2014

Venue: Queen's Lecture Theatre, Queen's Building, Royal Holloway University, Egham

An exceptionally well-developed surface rupture of the Sagaing Fault produced during a  $M_w$ 6.8 Earthquake in 2012 reveals large scale complexities, indicating that the fault is segmented. Dr Ian Watkinson (Royal Holloway University) discusses implications for future earthquake prediction and the dangers posed by adjacent structures.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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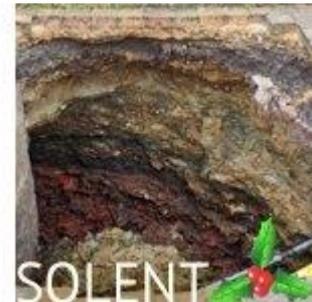
### Solent Regional Group: Lecture, Christmas Social & AGM

#### Sinkhole Geohazards: Triggers, Causes, Solutions

Date: 20 November 2014

Venue: National Oceanography Centre, Southampton

The rash of sinkholes produced by the exceptional 2013/14 winter rainfall damaged buildings and threatened life across southern England. Dr Clive Edmunds (Peter Brett Associates) will show a series of case studies illustrating the nature and behaviour of the collapses, the follow-on investigations and engineering solutions being adopted.



#### Christmas Social & AGM - Please Register Before 19 November 2014

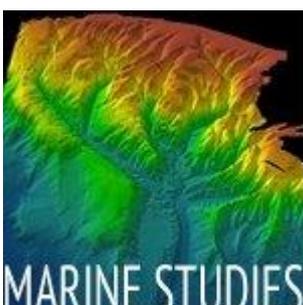
Date: 3 December 2014

Venue: Southampton Old Bowling Green, Lower Canal Walk, Southampton

The evening will include a brief AGM, main course meal, photographic/word puzzles to challenge your geological and general knowledge and a skittles championship! To add items to the agenda or join the committee or please email [karen.allso@ramboll.co.uk](mailto:karen.allso@ramboll.co.uk) before 21 November.

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### PRiMES 2014: Postgraduate Research in Marine & Earth Science



Date: 19-21 November 2014

Venue: Scottish Association for Marine Science, Oban

This two day conference, sponsored by The Geological Society of London and the Marine Geosciences Group, is an opportunity for new postgraduate students and early career researchers to present projects and ideas to their own peer-group in a supportive and sympathetic atmosphere.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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## South West Regional Group AGM & Frederick Sherrell Career Recognition Award 2014

Date: 26 November 2014  
Venue TBC, Exeter Area

The South West Regional Group is delighted to present the Frederick Sherrell Career Recognition Award for 2014 to **David Roche** (Director and Consultant of David Roche Geoconsulting).

The evening will also host the AGM for the South West Regional Group.

[Visit the website for more information](#)  
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## Engineering Group Glossop Meeting & AGM



### 15th Glossop Medal Lecture: 'Terrain and Geohazard Challenges for Onshore Pipelines in Remote Regions'

Date: 26 November 2014

Venue: The Royal Geographical Society, 1 Kensington Gore, London

The 2015 Glossop Medal Lecture will be delivered this year by Mike Sweeney (until recently, BP Upstream Technical Authority Geotechnics). The Lecture is preceded by the 18<sup>th</sup> Glossop Award presentation by Joshua Morland (Atkins) '*Cooper's Hill Landslide: Building on Experience*', and followed by the Glossop Reception.

### The Future of Geosynthetics: AGM & Joint Meeting with International Geosynthetics Society

Date: 4 December 2014

Venue: The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

Geosynthetic solutions have become an accepted technology in a number of application areas for several decades. Peter Assinder (HUESKER Synthetic GmbH) will look at the latest solutions in this growing industry, including monitoring systems, ductile construction in high seismicity areas and ground improvement in super soft soils.

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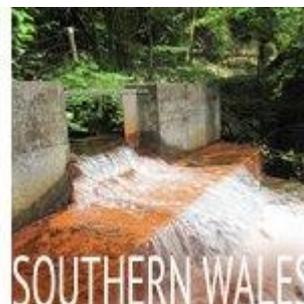
## Southern Wales Events: Lecture & Chartership Evening

### Mine Water as an Energy Source for Heat Pumps: Case Study South Wales Coalfield

Date: 26 November 2014

Venue: Trevithick Building, Cardiff University

Abandoned mine workings are often flooded with groundwater that has the potential to be a major energy source for heat pumps, with 65MW of heat that could be exploited according to Cardiff University calculations. The talk by David Tucker & Gareth Farr will cover heat pump design in general, and the environmental and financial benefits of the combined domestic and commercial Crynant heat pump project near Neath.



### [Chartership Evening with Dr Bill Gasgarth](#)

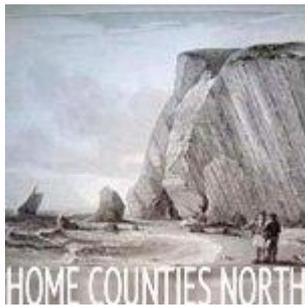
Date: 9 December 2014

Venue: Main Building, Cardiff University

This is a great opportunity for anyone who is working towards Chartership (CGeol or CSci) with the Geological Society. Dr Bill Gasgarth will explain how to work towards Chartership, your CPD, what it means and who should apply. Bill will also talk about what your reviewers will be looking for to help you prepare for your interview.

[Find out more about Chartership](#)  
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## Home Counties North Lecture: Origins of British Geological Fieldwork



Date: 27 November 2014

Venue: Gass Lecture Theatre, Open University, Milton Keynes

Speaker: Tom Hose (GeoConservationUK and the University of Bristol)

Field trips are such an accepted and popular aspect of modern geological education and geotourism that few question the fundamental shift in mindset that underpinned their emergence in the 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, when fieldwork often meant venturing into wild landscapes and social settings previously avoided, together with the development and employment of new technologies.

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## Hong Kong Regional Group & Technical Seminar

### [Managing very large Landslides](#)

Date: 28 November 2014

Venue: 4/F Academic 1, City University of Hong Kong

Professor David Petley (University of East Anglia) presents three case studies of landslides in high mountain area, which in most cases are so large that it is impossible to mitigate them and other approaches are necessary. The talk will examine the threats posed and lessons learnt from the 2010 Attabad landslide and 2012 Gayari rock avalanche in Pakistan, and the slow-moving Utiku landslide in New Zealand.



### [Joint Technical Seminar: Non-textbook Flowslides in Fine-grained Colluvium](#)

Date: 2 December 2014

Venue: Civil Engineering & Development Building, Princess Margaret Road, Ho Man Tin, Kowloon

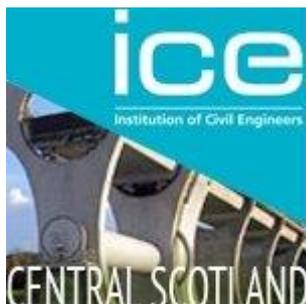
Flowslides can be extremely damaging, involving sudden failure, high velocity and long runout. Professor Oldrich Hungr (University of British Columbia) will present several case studies in which softening of disturbed cohesive soil (colluvium) can dramatically change its failure behavior, meaning assumptions backed by previous site experience may be disastrously incorrect.



It's not too late to enter the 2014 [Photo Competition](#), with the theme 'Unique Hong Kong'. The deadline is **30 November**

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## Central Scotland Regional Group Poster & Presentation Competition



Date: 2 December 2014  
Entry Deadline: 21 November 2014  
Venue: IET Teacher Building, St Enoch Square, Glasgow

Jointly hosted with the Scottish Geotechnical Group of the Institution of Civil Engineers, this event will coincide with a social evening for members and guests of both groups. Entry is open to geotechnical engineers, geologists and related construction professionals, including research students.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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## 2 days of Archaeological Geophysics & Forensic Geoscience Meetings

Programmes are now available for two meetings at Burlington House:

### [Recent Work in Archaeological Geophysics](#)

Date: 2 December 2014

The eleventh biennial meeting of the [Near Surface Geophysics Group](#) is devoted to archaeological geophysics, offering a forum to present and debate recent research and case studies. Near surface geophysical techniques have become increasingly established in archaeological research and evaluation over the past decade, and are now routinely applied in archaeological investigations.



### [Forensic Geoscience: Future Horizons](#)

Date: 3 December 2014

A multidisciplinary joint meeting of the Near Surface Geophysics Group & [the Forensic Geoscience Group](#), to capture shared interests between the geological, environmental science, forensic science, geophysics, engineering, geotechnical, mining and archaeological communities in assessing the future of forensic geoscience.

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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

This joint meeting will examine the remarkable period of climatic and hydrological extremes since 2012.

The programme will begin with two invited speakers, 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.*

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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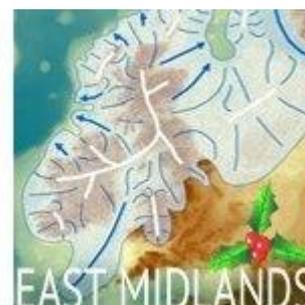
## Can Reconstructing the Last British-Irish Ice Sheet Help Improve Forecasts of Antarctic Ice Sheet Collapse and Sea Level Rise?

Date: 11 December 2014

Venue: Conference Centre, BGS Keyworth, NG12 5GG

Satellite measurements of the Antarctic and Greenland ice sheets highlight that reductions in mass are occurring at rates higher than expected, contributing to global sea level rise and with suggestions that this may soon occur at an accelerating rate.

Chris D Clarke (University of Sheffield) presents a Christmas lecture for the East Midlands Regional Group on the current state of knowledge regarding extant polar ice sheets, and how knowledge on the demise of past ice sheets will be vital in improving forecasts.



[Visit the website for more information](#)

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### Other News

## APG IV Conference: Economic Geology of the Portuguese Speaking Countries - Bridge to Cooperation

### IV JORNADAS APG

GEOLOGIA ECONÓMICA NOS  
PAÍSES DE LÍNGUA PORTUGUESA:  
PONTE DE COOPERAÇÃO  
5 DE DEZEMBRO DE 2014 (SEXTA-FEIRA)  
LABORATÓRIO NACIONAL DE ENERGIA E GEOLOGIA, LISBOA

ORGANIZAÇÃO: Associação Portuguesa de Geólogos



Organized by the Portuguese Association of Geologists, this conference aims to strengthen cooperation between Portuguese-speaking countries and between them and the European Union. The conference will provide opportunities to detect new fields or areas of cooperation and strengthen the links between the European Union and Portuguese-speaking countries.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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## Two New Blog Posts

### [Granite One, Perlite One - Knitting Rocks](#)

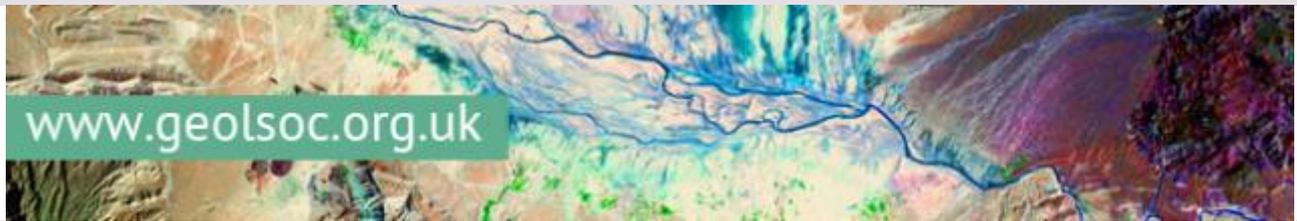
Sarah Hume presents the creative world of Geological knitting, from wearable strata to knitted nautiloids and geodes, and even a trilobite hat perfect for Autumn fieldwork...

### [The Great Schools Geobakeoff - The Results!](#)

For those for whom Earth Science Week feels like a very long time ago, Sarah Day relives the array of geological delights baked by Individuals, class teams and even some teachers, with the results of the Great Schools Geobakeoff.



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