



Welcome to the fortnightly Geological Society newsletter.

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## The Bicentenary Celebrations Officially Begin



This year is the bicentenary of William Smith's 1815 geological map of England, Wales & part of Scotland - the first nationwide geological map ever produced. Yesterday, on Smith's birthday, the celebrations started off with the unveiling of a plaque at 15 Buckingham Street, London, Smith's residence from 1804 - 1819. Sir David Attenborough did the honours, before heading back to the Geological Society apartments for an evening reception.

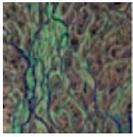
The event included an opportunity to view a pristine first edition copy of Smith's map, recently discovered in the Geological Society's archives, which is [now available to view online](#). It also featured the launch of [www.strata-smith.com](http://www.strata-smith.com), the largest online collection of Smith's maps, where visitors can view the maps in 3D, and as virtual fly-throughs.

[Read the BBC article about the map](#)

Follow the bicentenary on Twitter: [#williamsmith200](https://twitter.com/williamsmith200)

[Find out about other planned events to celebrate Smith's bicentenary](#)

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## Membership

### Have You Voted? Council Elections End Soon

VOTING CLOSES: 31 March 2015

Don't miss your chance to choose who should serve on Council.

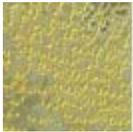
As a Fellow this is your opportunity to decide who you think best represents the interests of all Fellows and can shape the future of the Society. Fourteen nominations have been received, two for President-designate and 12 for the remaining seven places.

[Login to your page on the Society's website \(MyGSL\) to cast your vote.](#)

[Read Council biographies](#)

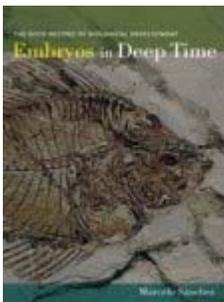
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## Library and Information Services

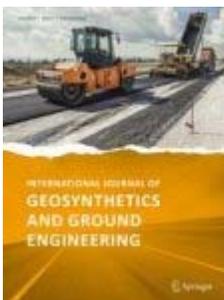
### New offsite E-book and E-journal Access



The Library can now provide offsite access for Fellows of the Society to the following e-book and e-journal using an [Athens login](#).

#### E-book

*Embryos in Deep Time* by Marcelo Sánchez is a critical synthesis of the study of individual development in fossils. It brings together an up-to-date review of concepts from comparative anatomy, ecology and developmental genetics, and examples of different kinds of animals from diverse geological epochs and geographic areas. [Twenty other e-books are now also available.](#)



#### E-journal

Online access to all issues of the *International Journal of Geosynthetics and Ground Engineering* is also available. This is a new journal presenting research on all aspects of geosynthetics and their applications, and a variety of ground improvement techniques. [Offsite access to 100 e-journals is now available.](#)

Email [Library](#) for more information  
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## 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.

New special issues on the following topics have been added to March's section.

- [Engineering geology for landslides and slope stability problems](#)
- [Geochemical speciation codes and databases](#)
- [Megathrust earthquakes and sea-level change](#)
- [Sustainability and water resources](#)
- [World of Gravettian hunters](#)

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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## New Exhibition: William 'Strata' Smith (1769-1839), the Father of English Geology



In August 1815, William Smith (1769-1839) issued what is acknowledged as the first geological map of a country ever produced, 'A Delineation of the Strata of England and Wales, with part of Scotland; exhibiting the collieries and mines, the marshes and fen lands originally overflowed by the sea, and the varieties of soil according to the variations in the substrata, illustrated by the most descriptive names'.

Bringing together the Society's rare and unique William Smith items, this exhibition is a celebration of his achievements in the field of geology which laid the basis of the science we know today - and led to him rightfully being known as 'The Father of English Geology'

[Visit the Exhibition page to learn more about Smith's life](#)

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## Publications

## Upgrade your Fellowship to include the Full Book Collection

Make the most of your GSL Fellowship by subscribing to the Full Book Collection. The collection features online access to hundreds of titles including those in the Books Archive, plus over 40 additional new and recently published titles from 2012 to the present day!

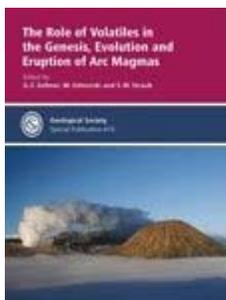


Find out more about upgrading your Fellowship status by logging into your account at [www.geolsoc.org.uk](http://www.geolsoc.org.uk) or by contacting the [membership team](#).



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## New Publication: The Role of Volatiles in the Genesis, Evolution and Eruption of Arc Magmas



Edited by G.F. Zellmer, M. Edmonds and S.M. Straub

List Price: £100

Fellow's price: £50

Other societies price: £60

### Special Publication 410

The volatile cycle at subduction zones exerts strong controls on the petrogenesis, transport, storage, evolution and eruption of arc magmas.

This volume highlights recent progress in understanding aspects of this cycle, including its bearing on eruption triggering and volatile release into the atmosphere, through case studies and comprehensive reviews.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

Email: [Bookshop sale](#)

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## Events

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

Date: 23 - 24 April 2015

Venue: The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

#### LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER

William Smith (1769 -1839) was an English geologist who created the first nationwide geological map. In 1831 the Geological Society of London awarded Smith the first Wollaston Medal and the President, Adam Sedgwick, referred to him as 'the Father of English Geology'.



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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## Geology of Geomechanics



Date: 28 - 29 October 2015

Venue: The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

### CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

This conference aims to bring together geologists and engineers from the petroleum, radioactive waste disposal, carbon sequestration, mining and geothermal communities to discuss the links between the geomechanical disciplines and mainstream geology.

For this meeting we encourage submission of papers that address the full spectrum of geomechanics applications. We aim to promote lively discussion and closer collaboration among and between geologists and engineers - both researchers and practitioners.

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](mailto:Jess.Aries@geological-society.org) no later than 5pm on 1 June 2015.

[To submit an abstract and for more information, visit the website](#)  
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## EFG Meeting 2015: Mining in a Crowded Country

Date: 11-12 June 2015

Venue: North of England Institute of Mining and Mechanical Engineers

### REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

#### Workshop and Field Trips

Coal dominates the long history of mining. Along side this, lead and more recently fluorspar are important in the hills behind Newcastle, and now potash from a deep mine in North Yorkshire. However in this heavily populated region there are differing views about land use and the acceptability of mining in the 21st Century.



This workshop discusses future prospects for mining in the region and explores (in the field) the legacy of metal mining in the North Pennines. Current good practice in meeting modern environmental standards in coal mining is also discussed.

[Visit the website for more information](#)  
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## London Lecture: Earth's Climate Evolution



Date: 15 April 2015

Venue: The Geological Society, Burlington House, London  
Webcasts at 3pm and 6pm

Developments in different branches of science, including geology, have provided us with the basis for a coherent theory of climate change. The past 20 years have seen dramatic advances in our knowledge of the variability of past climate, and its causes, which underpins understanding what our climate is doing now and may do

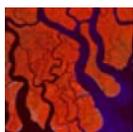
in the future (following Hutton's dictum that the past and the present are the keys to what happens next). These advances, many of them only reported in scientific journals, deserve to be more widely known. They show that our climate operates within narrow natural envelopes. We should still be in the Little Ice Age envelope, but our emissions have moved our climate into new territory. Man has become a geological agent.

The ballot for tickets is now open. To enter the ballot please [complete the form](#).

[Visit the website for more information](#)

Follow us on Twitter: [#gsllecture](#)

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## Education & Careers

### A-level Geology Revision Session & Schools Geology Challenge

Date: 28 March 2015

Venue: Manchester University

This lecture series has been organised by the [Earth Science Teachers' Association](#) and the North West Regional Group, in conjunction with Manchester University, as a revision session to reinforce classroom learning for A & AS Level students.

Speakers from leading universities and the Environment Agency will be followed by the regional heats of the National Schools Geology Challenge. The winning team of year 12/13 students will go through to the final at the Geological Society in London.

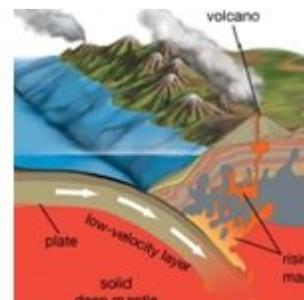
There will also be University stalls at the event to discuss course options.

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

[Follow on Facebook](#)

[Find out more about the National Schools Geology Challenge](#)

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### Royal Geographical Society: Professional Development Day

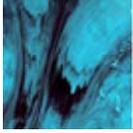


Date: 8 May 2015

Venue: Royal Geographical Society, London

This event is for early (post PhD) or mid-career academics employed in teaching-focused posts, in GEES disciplines, who are considering how to further develop their professional position.

The event will enable you to meet colleagues from a range of institutions, share ideas and experiences and develop a personal action plan.



## Groups & Networks

### Solent Regional Group: Joint meeting with the ICE Southern Geotechnical Group

Sedimentology, sequence stratigraphy and material behaviour - why the Lambeth Group

Date: 21 April 2015

Venue: University of Portsmouth (Burnaby Building)

Speaker: Dr Jackie Skipper (Geotechnical Consulting Group)

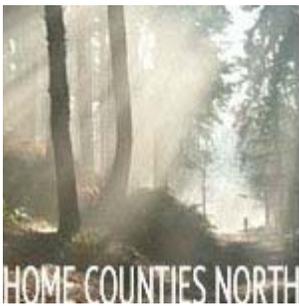
The Lambeth Group is a layer of sediments which are only around 15-20m thick in the London Basin (up to 50m in the Hampshire Basin) yet they are difficult to understand. They can strike fear into the hearts of those who have to interpret them, or even worse, design structures in or on them.



Dr Jackie Skipper will be showing how, by going back to geological first principles and teaching staff in the stratigraphy, it is possible to better understand and predict why and where these deposits are as they are, and thus anticipate the risks of engineering with such high sedimentary variability.

[Visit the website for more information](#)  
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### Home Counties North Regional Group: Field Trip



Surface geology in Watford, Aldenham and Letchmore Heath, Hertfordshire

Date: 29 March 2015

Meeting point: Car park near Whippendell Wood, Grove Mill Lane, Watford

The field trip will start at Whippendell Wood and continue into nearby Cassiobury Park before moving down the the banks of River Colne and to the Grand Union Canal. After lunch the group will travel to Aldenham village to see the building stones of the 700-year old Church of St John the Baptist and other historical buildings.

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## Other News

### Euroclay 2015

LAST CALL FOR ABSTRACTS: Deadline 31 April

Euroclay 2015 is the quadrennial meeting of the European Clay Groups Association (ECGA), jointly with the annual meeting of The Clay Minerals Society (CMS) and in association with the International Natural Zeolite Association (INZA).

The scientific programme of EUROCLAY 2015 will bring together, in an exciting, leading-edge programme, specialists from different disciplines related to clays and clay minerals. Pre-meeting workshops and mid-meeting field excursions will be integral parts of the scientific program. A key aim of this conference will be to integrate industrial and academic workers with sessions which cover both areas.



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### Course: Cambridge University Institute of Continuing Education - Evolution and the Fossil Record



Date: 17 - 19 April 2015

Venue: Madingley Hall, Cambridge

This weekend course asks you to explore current ideas on evolution from a geological viewpoint. This is a practical course for beginners with a field trip to collect and identify fossils. Among the topics discussed will be natural selection, the origin of species, major events in the evolution of life and recent discoveries.

[Visit the website for more information](#)  
Follow this event on Twitter: [@Cambridge\\_ICE](#)  
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### Course: Risk Mitigation, Planning and Engineering

Date: 30 March - 3 April 2015

Venue: University of Sussex

Endorsed CPD Course

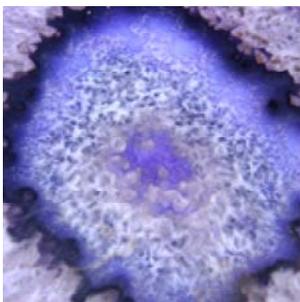
Many applied geomorphology projects lead to recommendations for management and engineering mitigation of natural processes, hazards and risk to protect communities and infrastructure. This module will cover approaches to geohazard risk management including planning and development controls, monitoring and dissemination, engineering schemes, current legislation, guidance and funding mechanisms.



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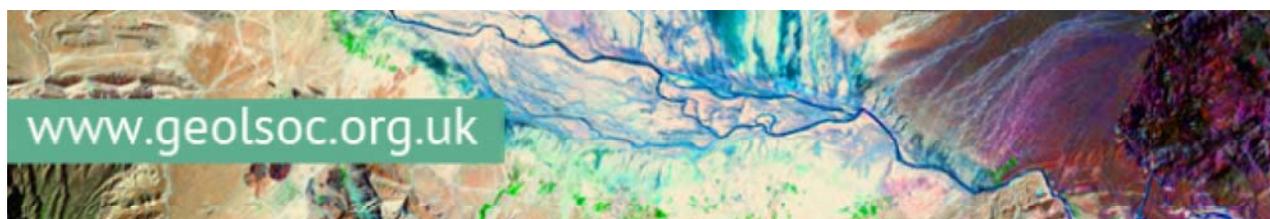
## New Events Registrations and Abstracts Page



We've launched a new page in the Events section of the website.

The [Registration and Abstract Deadlines](#) page lists events that are open for registration or have calls for abstracts/submissions. The list will be updated as events are uploaded to the calendar, and will hopefully prove useful. [See what's on the list.](#)

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