



Welcome to the fortnightly Geological Society newsletter.

In this issue:

- [Meet the Winners of the Schools Geology Challenge & Early Career Award](#)
- [President's Day 2015 and AGM](#)
- [Call for Proposals: 2016 - the Year of Water](#)
- [Recent Special Issues in the Virtual Library](#)
- [New Publications](#)
- [Society Events: Final Call for Abstracts and Posters](#)
- [Careers Days - Call for Sponsors](#)
- [New London Lecture Videos and the June Ballot is Open](#)
- [Confronting Barriers to Inclusion: Opening the Gates to Accessible Fieldwork](#)
- [Specialist and Regional Group Events](#)
- [Other News](#)
- [CaSE Vacancy - Paid Internship](#)

Winners of the Schools Geology Challenge & Early Career Award



A record number of schools took part in the National Schools Geology Challenge regional heats and seven schools made it to the Final that was held at Burlington House on 30 April. Paul Maliphant presided over a packed programme of talks and posters on subjects from mantle plumes to planetary geology, followed by the all-important quiz.

Congratulations go to the winning team from Sir William Borlase School ([Thames Valley Regional Group](#)) for their poster & presentation on Methane Hydrates, and to runners-up Wells Cathedral School & Whitchurch High School.

The Final of the Early Career Geologist Award was scheduled alongside the school presentations, and the three speakers were all of a very high standard. Many congratulations to winner Sarah Caven, representing our [Northern Ireland Regional Group](#), who shared her experiences in the field with a talk entitled 'Exploring Ethiopia: gold, copper and camels'.

For photos and to find out more about all the finalists, please visit the [Schools Geochallenge page](#) and the [Early Career Award page](#).

In other education news, the Society is offering FREE training and support for UK teachers at this year's [Geoscience Education Academy](#) (23 - 26 July 2015).

If you know a science or geography teacher who would like to learn more about teaching geoscience please let them know!

[Last few places available - Register online today](#)

[Back to top](#)



Membership

President's Day & AGM 2015

Earlier in the year, the Society announced the winners of its medals and funds for 2015. [The full list of winners is available on our website.](#)

The Awards will be presented on [President's Day](#), to be held this year on 3 June 2015. The day will begin with the Annual General Meeting followed by a buffet lunch with the award winners. After the Awards ceremony, the four senior medallists will give a short talk on their chosen subject.



All Fellows are welcome to attend the afternoon events of President's Day for which there is no charge. Lunch with the Award winners is by ticket only at £27.50.

[Visit the website for more information and to register](#)

[Back to top](#)

Call for Proposals: 2016 - the Year of Water



As the Year of Mud at the Geological Society is well underway, we are now starting to plan for 2016 - the Year of Water!

Themed years are at the heart of [the Society's science strategy](#), and throughout 2016 we will explore a wide range of water-related geoscience through research conferences, lectures, our education programme and other activities.

Science Committee is now inviting proposals for conferences to take place during 2016 on any geoscience topic related to water.

Meetings might focus on areas of application such as:

- Securing fresh water supplies
- Mitigating flood risk
- Or the role of water in extracting shale gas or safely disposing of our nuclear waste

Or they might address the important role of water in fundamental geological processes such as;

- Deep mantle processes
- Ore genesis in hydrothermal systems
- Or the role of water in the geology of Mars and other planets

[Visit the website for more information](#)
[Back to top](#)



Library and Information Services

Recent Special Issues in the Virtual Library

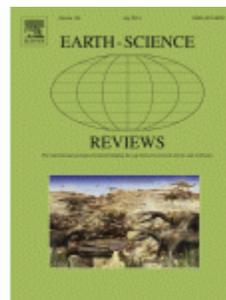
The Recent Special Issues section of the Virtual Library contains details of thematic special issues from e-journals which are available to Fellows. These include both the [Library's 'Athens' login journals](#) and ones which are freely available online.

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

- [Charcoal](#)
- [Eocene Upper Hecho Group, Ainsa Basin, Spanish Pyrenees](#)
- [Geoarchaeology and Geoprospection of Ancient Landscapes](#)
- [Unconventional Gas Resources in China](#)
- [Waste Water Treatment and Pollution Control in the Liao River Basin](#)

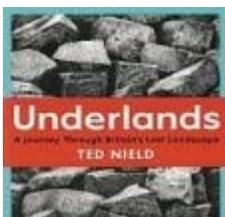
Athens authentication can also be used to access more than 90 other journals from leading publishers.

[Visit the website for more information](#)
[Back to top](#)



Publications

New Publications



Now available in paperback! **Underlands: A Journey Through Britain's Lost Landscape**

By Ted Nield (Editor of Geoscientist)
 Published 13 May 2015



Not so long ago, our roads, buildings, gravestones and monuments were built from local rock, our cities were powered by coal from Welsh mines, and our lamps were lit with paraffin from Scottish shale. At the height of the empire, British stone travelled across the world to India and China, Sri Lanka and Argentina, Singapore and South Africa.

[Visit the bookshop to find out more](#)

New! Pinedale Field: Case Study of a Giant Tight Gas Sandstone Reservoir

Edited by Mark W. Longman, Stephen R. Kneller, Thomas S. Meyer and Mark A. Chapin

Published 7 April 2015

Improved geologic insights combined with advances in technology and innovative thinking, mainly since the late 1990s, have driven Pinedale field's development and unlocked a giant natural gas resource in stacked low-permeability fluvial sandstones. Understanding this field can provide a model for developing similar tight sandstone reservoirs around the world.

[Read more in the online bookshop](#)

Email: [Bookshop](#)

[Back to top](#)



Events

Final Call for Abstracts and Posters

Meetings at the Geological Society, Burlington House, London.



William Smith Meeting 2015 (Part 2) 200 years and Beyond: The Future of Geological Mapping

Date: 5 November 2015

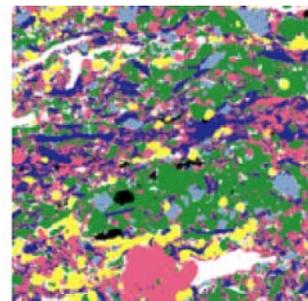
We welcome both poster and oral presentation contributions relating to geological mapping. To be considered please send an abstract of no more than 400 words to Jess Aries by Sunday 31 May 2015.

[For more information visit the event page](#)

Geomechanical and Petrophysical Properties of Mudrocks

Date: 16 - 17 November 2015

We welcome both oral and poster presentations contributions relating to mudrocks (shales) for this meeting. To be considered please send an abstract of no more than 400 words to Jess Aries no later than Sunday 31 May 2015.



[For more information visit the website](#)

[Back to top](#)



The Geology of Geomechanics

Date: 28 - 29 October 2015

For this meeting we encourage submission of papers that address the full spectrum of geomechanics applications. 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 Monday 1 June 2015.

[To submit an abstract and for more information visit the website](#)

Arthur Holmes Meeting 2015 Tsunami Hazards and Risks: Using the Geological Record

Date: 25 September 2015

For this meeting poster presentation contributions relating to tsunamis are welcomed. To be considered please send an abstract of no more than 400 words to Jess Aries no later than 5pm on Friday 7 August 2015.

[For more information and to register visit the website](#)

[Back to top](#)

Petroleum Geology of Northwest Europe



50 years of learning - a platform for present value and future success

Date: 28 - 30 September 2015

Venue: Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, London

Early Bird Registration Deadline - 31 May 2015

The Petroleum Geology of Northwest Europe Conference, organised jointly by the [Geological Society of London](#), the [Petroleum Exploration Society of Great Britain \(PESGB\)](#) and the [Energy Institute \(EI\)](#), will mark a major milestone: 50 years since the first UK North Sea discovery of the West Sole gas field.

The event will cover the North Sea and surrounding onshore areas as well as exploration frontiers in the North Atlantic and the Barents Sea.

For more information please [visit the website](#) or contact [Vickie Naidu](#)

[Back to top](#)

Geological Society's Careers Days 2015

Dates: 18 and 25 November 2015

Venues: BGS, Keyworth, Nottingham (18th November)
and Our Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh (25th November)

CALL FOR SPONSORS AND EXHIBITORS

We are on the hunt for sponsors to help fund the Geological Society's Careers Days 2015.





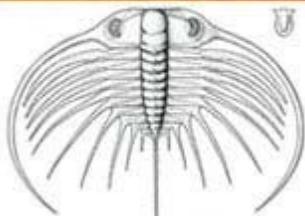
Are you interested in showcasing your company? Or do you know anyone who may want to share what they do and their corporate values with aspiring early career geoscientists?

The Geological Society's Careers Days are the most recognised geological careers-based forum in the country.

[Find out more about the opportunities available](#)

[Back to top](#)

London Lecture Videos Online and the June Ballot is Open



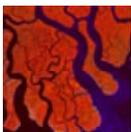
Lecture videos for the March and April London Lectures are available to view in the [Past Meeting Resources](#):

[The Cambrian Alum Shales of Scandinavia and their Remarkable Trilobites](#) by Euan Clarkson

[Earth's Climate Evolution](#) by Colin Summerhayes

The ballot for the June lecture: [Fossils and Mud - A Jurassic Adventure](#) is now open. [Register your interest today](#)

[Back to top](#)



Education & Careers

Confronting Barriers to Inclusion: Opening the Gate to Accessible Fieldwork



Date: 26 June 2015

Venue: The Geological Society, London

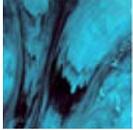
All learners, regardless of their stage of education, should see geoscience as an accessible academic subject offering viable career opportunities. However, for those with disabilities the often rigorous nature of undergraduate fieldwork can present challenges that deter participation.

This one-day meeting will explore the design and delivery of fieldwork which is inclusive and accessible to all, and how to ensure that the geoscience community attracts and develops the talents of people with diverse abilities.

We welcome and encourage participation from educators at all levels from school to professional, and organisations involved in provision of fieldwork in both formal and informal

capacities.

[Visit the event page to register](#)
[Read about accessible fieldwork in this month's Geoscientist](#)
[Back to top](#)



Groups & Networks

Specialist and Regional Group Events

Visit the individual event pages for more information.

Quaternary Research Association:

[The Quaternary of the Lake District](#)

Date: 21 - 24 May 2015

Venue: Blencathra Field Studies Centre,
Cumbria



This meeting will consider recent and ongoing Quaternary research in the Lake District, with the emphasis on glaciation and longer-term landscape development. The programme will consist of field visits and short evening presentations.

Quaternary Research Association: [The Quaternary of Southern South America](#)

Date: 2 - 3 June

Venue: University of Glasgow

The aim of this two-day discussion meeting is to provide members of the UK Quaternary research community working in southern South America (SSA) with an opportunity to showcase and discuss their work with a broad but regionally-focused audience.

[Back to top](#)



Home Counties North Regional Group: [St Paul's Walden Field Trip](#)

Date: 31 May

Venue: St Paul's Walden

A free field trip looking at the Anglian glacio-fluvial deposits at St Paul's Walden and Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation at Hill End Farm Chalk Pit, one of Hertfordshire's RIGS.

Northern Ireland Regional Group: [How will Minerals Feed the World in 2050](#)

Date: 1 June

Venue: Ulster Museum, Belfast

This lecture by David Manning, President of the Geological Society, will look at some of the issues surrounding food security and how



innovative use of geological resources is needed to ensure that global populations can be sustained by agriculture.



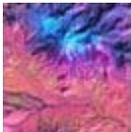
Engineering Group and Northern Ireland Regional Group:
[Engineering Geology Field Trip](#)

Date: 5 - 7 June

Venue: Holiday Inn, Belfast

This trip will explore the Glens of Antrim coast road, the world famous Giant's Causeway and the Sperrin Mountains. An optional tour of the Quaternary deposits of the Belfast Lagan Valley is available for those arriving earlier on Friday. Advanced registration is required.

[Back to top](#)



Other News

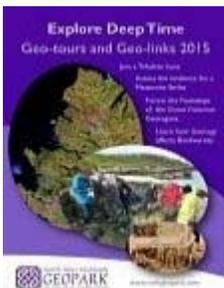
Upcoming Events

Yorkshire Museum's Trust: [The Story of the Rocks: William 'Strata' Smith's Geological Map at the Yorkshire Museum](#)

Date: 22 - 31 May

Venue: The Yorkshire Museum, York

The launch of the William Smith map display and exhibition will be followed by a week of half term activities celebrating and exploring the map and Smith's Yorkshire.



North West Highlands Geopark: [Geotour of the Geopark](#)

Date: 3 - 10 June

Venue: North West Highlands Geopark, Scotland

With an experienced guide, visitors will explore the geographical area that makes up the current day Geopark and look back through time to interpret what the rocks, landscape, flora and fauna have to tell us.

[Back to top](#)

Bath Geological Society: [William Smith's Earliest Career to 1810](#)

Date: 4 June

Venue: Bath Royal Literary and Scientific Institution, Bath

To celebrate the bicentenary of William Smith's map, Bath Geological Society presents a lecture by Professor Hugh Torrens of Keele University. This lecture will try and survey, for the first time,



Smith's complex and fluctuating financial situations over the period 1793 to 1819 (when he entered a debtors prison).



The Geologists' Association: [Field Trip to Bath](#)

Date: 5 June

Venue: Bath

Professor Hugh Torrens will lead a field trip for the Geologists' Association around the Bath area made familiar by William Smith. The trip will focus on the most significant places where Smith was involved.

[Back to top](#)

CaSE Vacancy - Paid Internship

The Campaign for Science and Engineering (CaSE) is looking for an intern (paid) to support their team. As the leading independent advocate for science and engineering in the UK they have an excellent track record of influencing policy and media at the highest levels, and focusing on the important and exciting issues facing the science and engineering sector.



The successful candidate will provide vital administration and communications support during an exciting and busy period for CaSE. The intern will be responsible for contacts management, event management, and communications support.

[Read the full job description to find out more about the role](#)

[Back to top](#)



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