



Welcome to the fortnightly Geological Society newsletter.

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Council Elections Now Open

The October issue of Geoscientist invited Fellows to nominate new members of Council to succeed those retiring at the Annual General Meeting on 3 June 2015. Fourteen nominations have been received, two for President-designate and 12 for the remaining seven places.

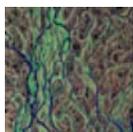
Voting for the elections to Council 2015-2016 is now open to Fellows. [Login to your page on the Society's website \(MyGSL\) to cast your vote.](#)

Voting will close on **31 March 2015**.

[Read Council biographies](#)

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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[Membership](#)

Help us find out about our Fellowship



As part of our commitment to supporting diversity, equality and inclusion in the geosciences, the Geological Society has introduced a Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Survey for its Fellows and Candidate Fellows. We want to know more about the diverse make-up of our Fellowship so that we can identify and address any actual or perceived barriers to inclusion, and measure our success over time.

Fellows and Candidate Fellows can complete the survey by logging in to their MyGSL dashboard on the [Geological Society website](#).

The survey is optional, but we hope you will help us by completing it. The more Fellows who do, the clearer a picture we will have about the Society and its Fellowship.

[Read more about why we are conducting a Diversity, Equality and Inclusion survey.](#)

Find out more about [what the Geological Society is doing to support diversity, equality and inclusion.](#)

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Publications

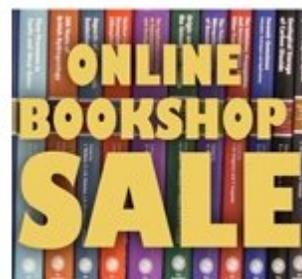
Save the date for the Online Bookshop Sale

The Society online bookshop sale, commences on **24 February** and ends at midnight (GMT) on **5 March 2015**. Some publications in the sale have limited stock available.

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

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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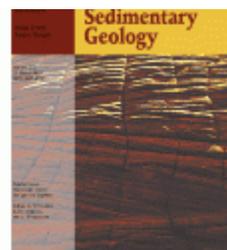


Library and Information Services

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.



New special issues on the following topics have been added to the February section:

- [Carbonate slopes and gravity deposits](#)
- [The contact zone between the Kaczawa Structural Complex and Swiebodzice Depression \(Central Sudetes, SW Poland\)](#)
- [The evolution of the Suwałki Massif and its surroundings \(NE Poland\)](#)
- [Sustainable Management of Mineral Resources in Uganda](#)

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

Ground Characterisation for Sustainable Underground Space



Date: 20 - 21 May 2015

Venue: The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

It has long been recognised that the subsurface is a complex, scarce and valuable resource. With urbanisation, and in order to support a well functioning society, we are now becoming more reliant on using the subsurface for physical infrastructure (e.g. underground networks such as utilities & transport) and for the storage and containment of resources (energy & water) and waste (CO₂ & radioactive waste). This meeting will focus on the importance of understanding the subsurface for now and the future.

We welcome both poster and oral presentation contributions for this meeting covering any of the following themes:

- Subsurface investigation: Invasive and/or non-invasive
- Sustainable management of subsurface resource: Nearfield and farfield interaction
- Regulation and planning: 3D resource management/planning and regulation
- Construction and design
- Decommissioning/reuse of space

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](#) no later than 5pm on Friday 13 March 2015.

[For more information, visit the website](#)

Twitter: [#exploitsubsurface](#) and [#yearofmud](#)
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The Geology of Geomechanics

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Date: 28 - 29 October 2015

Venue: The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

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. The deadline for abstracts is **1 June 2015**.

[To submit an abstract and for more information, visit the website](#)
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Lyell Meeting 2016



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The Joint Committee for Palaeontology (JCP) is a joint liaison body of the Palaeontographical Society, Palaeontological Association, The Micropalaeontological Society and the Geological Society of London.

The primary function of JCP is to organise the annual Lyell meeting and to promote Palaeontology within the Earth Sciences. The date for the 2016 Lyell meeting is Wednesday 9 March 2016 and a call for proposals is now open. Those wishing to propose a topic and convene this meeting are invited to submit developed proposals to the JCP by **28 February 2015**.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

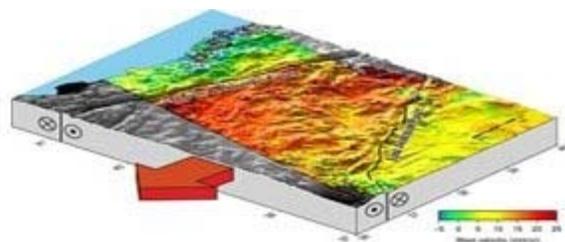
London Lecture: When Continents Collide: Active Deformation and Seismic Hazard

Date: 25 February 2015

Venue: The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

Webcasts at 3pm and 6pm

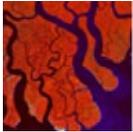
In this lecture Tim Wright, a geophysicist at the University of Leeds, will describe how we can use the latest satellites to map how continents deform. He will highlight how we can make extraordinarily accurate measurements, use this information to understand where damaging earthquakes are likely to occur, and how the results can be used to reduce their devastating impacts.



[Visit the website for more information](#)

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

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Education & Careers

For Women in Science Fellowships 2015



APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

L'Oréal UK & Ireland, the UK National Commission for UNESCO and the Irish National Commission for UNESCO, with the support of the Royal Society have partnered together to provide a dedicated UK & Ireland For Women in Science Fellowship programme for women scientists at post-doctoral level to enable and/or facilitate promising scientific research in the life and physical sciences.

Five Fellowships are available for outstanding women scientists in the early stages of their career. [Find out how to apply.](#)

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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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.

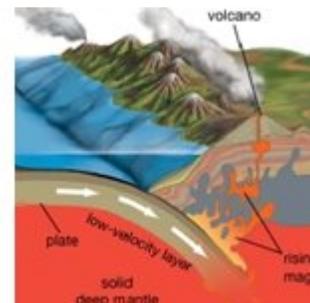
There will also be University stalls at the event to discuss course options.

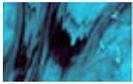
[Visit the event page for more information](#)

[Follow on Facebook](#)

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

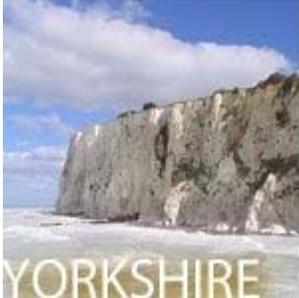
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Groups & Networks

Yorkshire Regional Group: The Chalk of the Northern Province



CALL FOR PAPERS

This meeting aims to bring together workers with a broad interest in the chalk group. The primary aim is to review advances in the sedimentology, lithostratigraphy and biostratigraphy of the chalk of the Northern Province, and to identify the extent to which these characterise the regional context.

Presentations are invited on relevant research topics, either as short lectures (approx 20 mins) or as posters (with the opportunity of a short oral summary and discussion). Contributors are requested to confirm their intent to submit a presentation to the Symposium Secretary before **31 March 2015**. Abstracts must be submitted no later than 31 July 2015.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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Home Counties North Regional Group: An introduction to quarry design: skills, experience and approaches needed for success

Date: 24 February 2015

Venue: Gass Lecture Theatre, Open University, Milton Keynes

Ruth Allington will describe a process for planning mineral operations that achieves a balance between social acceptance, limiting environmental harm, achieving commercial success and ensuring safety.

The talk will look at coordinating and managing the planning and design of new mineral operations and drawing particular attention to the geological and other technical/scientific inputs to quarry design. Ruth will also touch on wider professional skills based on 'joined up thinking' and effective communication with and co-operation between all stakeholders.



[Visit the website for more information](#)

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Solent Regional Group: Events



Chartership with The Geological Society by Dr Bill Gaskarth (Geological Society)

Date: 18 February 2015

Venue: University of Portsmouth (Burnaby Building)

The aim of the talk is to describe the value of professional development and give prospective candidates advice on how to focus their application. Bill Gaskarth will go over the procedure and describe what experience and knowledge is expected as well as

what to do or what not to do on the application. Sponsors' reports and advice are particularly important and their role will be discussed.

It is hoped that this will be an interactive open session so please come armed with your queries.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

Groundwater: the Good, the Bad and the Ugly

Date: 18 March 2015, 6.30pm

Venue: University of Southampton, NOC

Speaker: Natalyn Ala (Geological Society Council Member and Atkins Ltd)

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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North West Regional Group: Jewel of Africa - geology of Namibia

Date: 12 February 2015

Venue: John Moore University, James Parsons Building, Liverpool

Gerry Lucas, Senior Lecturer in Geology and GIS at Edge Hill University, Ormskirk, Lancashire, will give a lecture on the varied geology of Namibia.

This lecture will include a photo tour of Namibia's geology and scenery from the impressive Fish Canyon in the south, the Namib sand sea, the Damaraland orogenic belt and the dramatic endorheic salt pan - Etosha.



[Visit the website for more information](#)

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East Midlands Regional Group: William Smith and his geological advances as expressed through his work in Yorkshire



Date: 14 February 2015

Venue: Lecture Theatre B3, The Biology Building, Uni of Nottingham

As part of the William Smith Bicentenary celebrations, Dr Hugh Torrens will deliver an oral tribute to William Smith's life. The lecture will work its way through Smith's early years, his visits to Yorkshire - before and after his great Geological Map was published, his contacts in Yorkshire, his discoveries and contributions and finally his death and aftermath.

The lecture will also look at Smith's important part in the foundation of the Scarborough Philosophical Society and Rotunda museum and explain why the Rotunda Museum should be so special to geoscientists.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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Radioactive Waste

Date: 16 February 2015

Venue: British Geological Survey, Keyworth

As part of a programme of public events offering an opportunity for people to engage in the debate on the permanent disposal of radioactive waste, Radioactive Waste Management Limited (RWM), the Government-appointed developer of a geological disposal facility, is holding a series of meetings with Geological Society Regional Groups.

Prof. Bruce Yardley of RWM will be with the East Midlands Regional Group to explain the new two-year National Geological Screening exercise, and seek Members' views on the screening exercise.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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South East Regional Group: Sinkhole geohazards

Date: 17 February 2015

Venue: Gatwick Manor Hotel, Crawley

The talk will look at the impacts of climate upon sinkhole occurrence in England. Case studies of a series of sinkholes that appeared in February 2014 will be presented. Mechanisms of ground failure as well as how different scenarios produce different size holes will be highlighted. The conclusion will focus on an overview of engineering solutions that can be used in varying situations.



[Visit the website for more information](#)

South West Regional Group: Karst from the inside - A caver's perspective



Date: 19 February 2015

Venue: Pengelly Centre, Russets Lane, Buckfastleigh, Devon

Paula Grgich-Warke, a Principal Consultant at Red Rock Geoscience and highly experienced caver will deliver a lecture on the karst landscape phenomena. Her presentation will largely focus on the structures as seen from the perspective of the caver.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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Forensic Geoscience Group: Whodunnit

Date: 19 February 2015

Venue: Ulster Museum, Northern Ireland

An event run by the Forensic Geoscience Group as part of the Northern Ireland Science Festival, and the Geological Society's themed year '2015: Year of Mud'

There will be a series of interactive talks followed by a treasure hunt for forensic geological clues using exhibition material in the Ulster Museum. This will reveal how a forensic geologist thinks and show how an understanding of geological processes and environments can assist in unravelling a crime.



[Visit the website for more information](#)
[Visit www.nisiencefestival.com](http://www.nisiencefestival.com)
Twitter: [#yearofmud](#)
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Northern Ireland Regional Group: The 58th Irish Geological Research Meeting



Date: 20 - 22 February 2015
Venue: Ulster Museum, Belfast

The event will consist of 45 talks and more than 40 posters.

Dr Tori Herridge will present the Philip Doughty Memorial Lecture on *How to make a Dwarf Mammoth* while Prof. Valentin Troll will present the Conroy Gold & Natural Resources Lecture on *Rewriting the stratigraphy of the British and Irish Palaeogene Igneous Province: a short-lived explosive episode in NE Ireland*.

There will be evening lectures, a dinner on Saturday and general poster sessions in the Ulster Museum. Registration closes on **18 February 2015**.

[Visit the website for more information](#)
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Other News

Geologist's Directory Online Update

Updating is underway for the latest refresh of www.thegeologistsdirectory.com which is the reference source for contractors and consultants in the Earth Sciences sector and endorsed by The Geological Society.



If you wish to ensure your company is included and find out how promotion of your services on the site could help generate enquiries for your services please email geo@boundaryimedia.co.uk or call the directory team on 01892 662225.

[Visit thegeologistsdirectory for more information](#)
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The Cliff



"Most people look at a cliff and just see a pile of rocks. But when I look at a cliff I see millions of years of geological time." says Zoe



Shipton, Professor of Geology at Strathclyde University in her illustrated essay; episode 3 of the BBC Radio 4's 'The Cliff' series.

Airing tomorrow, at 1.45pm GMT, the piece focuses on three sets of cliffs; The Book Cliffs in central Utah, the Grand Canyon and Nanga Parbat in the Himalayas to explain how geologists decipher the clues left in the rocks.

[Listen to previous episodes and find out more on the BBC website](#)
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Endorsed CPD Courses

Cone Penetration Testing (CPT)

Date: 10 - 12 February 2015

Venue: Manchester

Provider: Fugro Engineering Services



The
Geological
Society

endorsed training course

This free course covers the application for Cone Penetration Testing for onshore geotechnical and geo-environmental investigations. It includes how to acquire & use CPT data, the advantages & limitations using ground investigation case studies, coverage of different cone types eg. friction, piezocone, shear vane, UXO magnetometer cone for unexploded ordnance, a practical demonstration on a CPT vehicle and much more.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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Forcing and Predictive Models of Change

Date: 18 - 22 February 2015

Venue: University of Sussex

Provider: University of Sussex

This module will review the scale and potential impacts of natural and human forcing, current research themes, and ways in which these can be factored into predictive models of landform change processes. Project work will include research and application of potential forcing in predictive models of change of choice.

The fee for this course is £1160. Fellows of the GSL receive a 10% discount.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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