



**Geologists' Association - South Wales Group**  
**Cymdeithas Y Daearegwyr - Grŵp De Cymru**

*Registered Charity Number 1054303*

## **50 YEAR ARCHIVES 1960-2010 - 25<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY 1984**

This section includes a set of papers put together by Secretary Alun J Thomas around the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Group.

The 25<sup>th</sup> session was 1983-1984. The 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary was celebrated on the occasion of the 25<sup>th</sup> AGM, Saturday 10 March 1984.

Other publications related to the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1984 are listed and archived separately in  
**1960-2010 - PUBLICATIONS.**

This is Alun Thomas' "A List of some of the relevant documents"

- GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION, SOUTH WALES GROUP  
THE CELEBRATION TO MARK THE FIRST TWENTY FIVE YEARS 1959-1984:  
A LIST OF SOME OF THE RELEVANT DOCUMENTS
- A. JANUARY 23, 1960, Sat. Dept. of Geology, University College, Newport Road, Cardiff:
    - \* MINUTES of the FIRST MEETING (pp.2)
  - B. FEBRUARY 13, 1960, Sat. Dept. of Geology, University College, Singleton Park, Swansea:
    - \* MINUTES of the SECOND MEETING
  - C. MEMBERSHIP CARDS(19) 1959-60, 1960-61, 1961-62, 1962-63, 1963-64 all missing;  
1964-1965, 1965-1966, 1966-1967, 1967-1968, 1968-1969, 1969-1970,  
1970-1971, 1971-1972, 1972-1973, 1973-1974, 1974-1975, 1975-1976;  
1976-77 missing; 1977-1978, 1978-1979, 1979-1980, 1980-1981, 1981-1982, 1982-1983,  
1983-1984: TWENTY FIVE YEARS (also GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION 1859-1983)
  - \* D. LETTER 27.01.1984 to Professor T.R. OWEN - FIRST HONORARY MEMBER
  - \* E. LETTERS (2) February 1984 to 1. Former Chairmen 2. Former Committee Members  
(to attend on Sat. 10. March 1984 the TWENTY FIFTH A.G.M.)
  - \* F. LIST OF SPEAKERS 1960-1984 [March 1984] F2 LIST OF COMMITTEES 1960-1984
  - \* G. TWENTY FIVE YEARS: A Brief History [March 1984]: includes references to -  
Preliminary meetings, 2 (07.11.1959 Cardiff, 21.11.1959 Swansea);  
Preliminary Committee (04.12.1959 Cardiff); FIRST ORDINARY MEETING  
(Sat. 23.01.1960 Cardiff, see A. above), (partial) Programme of Meetings;  
Early PUBLICATIONS of the Group; List of OFFICERS including the  
FOUNDER CHAIRMAN (Dr. D.A. BASSETT).
  - \* H. LUNCH 10.03.1984, Programme.  
DONATION of the above documents to the Geologists' Association, South  
Wales Group, made November 2009
- Alun J. Thomas

Those marked \* are included below; the Membership cards are included elsewhere

Minutes of the First Meeting of SOUTH WALES BRANCH of **GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION**, held at the Department of Geology, University College, Cardiff on Saturday January 23rd 1960.

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1 The meeting was opened by Professor J.G. C. Anderson, who welcomed the members to the first assembly of the newly formed group, and also expressed his pleasure at the large number present. He said that people had long felt the need of a branch of the Geologists' Association in South Wales, and that the Geologists' Association had been only too pleased to recognise this new local group. He was pleased to inform the members that he had also received a telegram of good wishes from the Midland Group which was celebrating its 21st Anniversary,

Professor Anderson then spoke briefly about the aims of the newly formed group and outlined the history of its formation. The present movement had stemmed from two preliminary meetings at the University Colleges of Cardiff and Swansea respectively, and the subsequent establishment of a Preliminary Committee to make recommendations, and to take the first steps in the formation of the Group.

Professor Anderson then put to the meeting the Committee's recommendation that Dr. D. A. Bassett of the National Museum of Wales be elected Chairman. The adoption of the recommendation was proposed by Mr. Walter Jones (Penarth Grammar School) and seconded by Mr. A. J. Thomas (Barry Grammar School) and was carried unanimously. Dr. Bassett was then invited to occupy the chair.

2. The Chairman thanked the meeting for its warm welcome and then outlined the recommendations of the Committee which should continue to act until April.

a. Structure of the Committee. The committee should consist of a Chairman, Vice-chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Excursion Secretary and six Ordinary members. The adoption of this recommendation was proposed by Mr. W.Jenkins (Llanelly Boys Grammar School) and seconded by Mr. R.Cooper (Howardian High School).

b. Composition of the Committee.

The following names were suggested:-

Chairman	Dr. D.A. Bassett.
Vice-chairman	Professor F.H. T. Rhodes.
Secretary	Mr. G. Askey.
Treasurer	Mr. R. Parsons.
Excursion sec.	Mr. T.M. Thomas.
Other Members.	Miss G. Meara, Miss K.A. Goskar, Mr. T.R. Owen, Dr. R.C.K. Blundell

Acceptance was proposed by Mr. D. Protheroe Davies (Port Talbot) and seconded by W.J. Griffiths, and was carried unanimously. At this point it was suggested by the Chairman that additional members of the Committee be elected by the meeting. It was proposed and accepted that the additional members be

Professor J.G.C. Anderson

and Mr. Basil Isaac (Treforest School of Mines).

The Chairman stated that meetings would be held monthly and alternately at Cardiff and Swansea, and that there should be the possibility of meetings at other centres in South Wales.

3. The Chairman now introduced Professor David Williams, who, he said, was a very appropriate choice for the first lecturer, since he was both a Welshman and the President of the Geologists' Association.

4. In his capacity as President, Professor Williams brought the good wishes of the Geologists Association of London.

5. The lecture entitled "Prospecting for Minerals" was then delivered by Professor Williams. The lecture proved comprehensive and well illustrated, and dealt with all aspects of mineral prospecting from the early days of gold panning, to the intricate modern techniques employing geophysical and geo-chemical techniques.

6 A vote of thanks was proposed on behalf of the meeting by Mr. T.R. Owen, University College, Swansea. Incorporated in Mr. Owen's remarks was his expression of pleasure at the manner in which people in Eastern and Western parts of South Wales had been able to co-operate in this new venture, which had so long been necessary.

7. The Chairman, Dr. D.A. Bassett, added his thanks to that of the proposer and expressed the wish that Professor David Williams would return in the near future to discuss the possibility of applying the modern techniques which he had described to the exploration for minerals in North Wales.

## GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION.

### SOUTH WALES BRANCH.

MINUTES OF THE SECOND MEETING, held at the DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, SWANSEA, on Saturday February 13th 1960, by kind permission of Professor F.H.T. RHODES.

1. The meeting was opened by the Chairman who expressed his pleasure at the large number present. The Chairman then drew attention to the circulating attendance sheets and asked that all present should sign them. In addition the sheets used at the first meeting were still available and it was hoped that those who had not signed them in Cardiff might do so now, in order to preserve a complete record of the attendance at this historic first meeting.  
The Chairman mentioned that it was hoped that as many people as possible would become members of the Parent Association, and for this purpose proposal forms were available in the meeting.
2. Minutes. The minutes of the first meeting held at Cardiff on January 23rd were read and approved. Proposed - Mr. A.J. Thomas. Seconded - Mr.B. Norris.
3. The Chairman in inviting Professor J.G.C. Anderson to deliver his lecture entitled "The Geology of South East Wales with special reference to the Cardiff district", remarked how appropriate it was that the Professor should be the lecturer because he was one of the prime movers in the formation of this group, and that the subject was also appropriate because this year the British Association will be visiting Cardiff in September.
4. The lecture was now delivered by Professor Anderson and in his introductory remarks he informed the meeting that he had received goodwill messages from the Geologists' Association of London as well as from the Geological Society of the University College of Cardiff. After the introduction in which he delimited the boundaries of the area under review Professor Anderson dealt with the geological exposures of South Wales in their stratigraphical sequence. We thus had an account of rocks and structures whose ages ranged from the Middle and Upper Silurian to the Lower Liassic, and in addition of the more recent superficial deposits, glacial, marine and alluvial. The lecture was illustrated by maps, photographs and diagrams.
5. A vote of thanks was proposed on behalf of the meeting by Professor F.H.T. Rhodes. In thanking Professor Anderson for his comprehensive and informative lecture, Professor Rhodes endorsed the chairman's remarks concerning the lecturer's great interest in initiating the work leading to the formation of the Group.
6. The Chairman seconded the vote of thanks and stated that at the next meeting Professor Rhodes would be the lecturer.

*D.A. Rhodes*

**Letter 27 January 1984 to Professor TR Owen:**

MSS/G/JEA

27 January, 1984

GEOLOGISTS ASSOCIATION SOUTH WALES GROUP

Dear Professor Owen,

The Group celebrates this session the 25th anniversary of its formation. The Group, aware of your encouragement of its formation and its activities and of the interest promoted by your enthusiasm, wishes to record its appreciation of the 25 years of your continuous support. The Committee proposes that you should become the first Honorary Member of the Group and it hopes that you would be able to attend the 25th Annual General Meeting on Saturday 10 March 1984 at 11.00 in the Department of Geology University College Cardiff when a short ceremony of presentation will take place.

Yours sincerely,

Alun J Thomas  
(Hon secretary, S Wales Group)

Professor T R Owen,  
c/o Dept of geology UCS  
Singleton park,  
SWANSEA SA2 8PP

## Letter February 1984 to former chairmen:

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION, SOUTH WALES GROUP  
TWENTY FIFTH SESSION 1983-1984

Dear Past Chairman

On behalf of the Committee I write to invite you to attend the Twenty fifth Annual General Meeting in University College Cardiff on Saturday 10 March 1984 at 11.00. Before the Address of the Retiring Chairman (Dr John Cope) there will be the election to Honorary Membership of Professor TR Owen (Chairman 1966-1968). He will be the first Honorary Member; the Presentation Address will be given by Dr DA Bassett (Founder Chairman 1960-1962).

Afterwards you are cordially invited to a buffet lunch in the Courtroom of the National Museum of Wales.

Yours sincerely,



.....  
Alun J. Thomas (hon sec)

February 1984

To

Alun J. Thomas, Schools Service, National Museum of Wales CARDIFF  
CF1 3NP.

I am able/unable to attend the lunch on Saturday 10 March 1984

Signed .....

date ..... or telephone by 29 February  
0222 397951 ext 214/240

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION, SOUTH WALES GROUP  
TWENTY FIFTH SESSION 1983-1984

## Letter February 1984 to former committee members:

Dear former member of Committee

On behalf of the Committee I write to invite you to attend the Twenty fifth Annual General Meeting in University College Cardiff on Saturday 10 March 1984 at 11.00. Before the Address of the Retiring Chairman there will be the election to Honorary Membership of Professor TR Owen (Chairman 1966-1968). He will be the first Honorary Member; the Presentation Address will be given by Dr DA Bassett (Founder Chairman 1960-1962).

Afterwards there will be in the Courtroom of the National Museum of Wales a buffet lunch (limited accommodation, approximate price per person £2.70) at which your presence would be most welcome. Please let me know as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,



.....  
Alun J. Thomas (hon sec)

February 1984

TO

Alun J Thomas, Schools Service, National Museum of Wales, CARDIFF  
CF1 3NP.

I am able/unable to attend the lunch on Saturday 10 March 1984.  
No. of persons .....

Signed .....

date .....

or telephone as soon as possible / no later than 29 February

0222 397951 ext 214/240

# LIST OF SPEAKERS 1960-1984

AGER DV Prof UCSW: 1969L, 1976L,  
1978E, 1980L; C 1978-1980  
\*ALLEN JRL Prof UREA: 1976E, 1982L  
\*ANDERSON JGC Prof UCCA: 1960L,  
1963L, 1966E, 1967L  
ANKETELL M Dr UMAN: 1975L  
ANNELS AE Dr UCCA: 1983LE  
\*BAKER JCW Dr UCCA: 1963E, 1964E,  
1965L, 1970LE, 1978E, 1982E;  
C 1968-1970  
BALL DE NCCB: 1961L  
BANNER FT Dr UCSW: 1968L  
BARBER AJ Dr ULCC: 1982L  
BARCLAY W Dr IGSL: 1977E  
BARNES JW Dr UCSW: 1971L  
\*BASSETT DA Dr NMWC: 1960L, 1962LE,  
1964E, 1965L, 1980L; C 1960-1962  
\*BASSETT NG Dr NMWC: 1969E, 1970E,  
1974E, 1977L, 1981L, 1983LE  
\*BATES DEB Dr UCWA: 1980L  
\*BEVINS REB Dr NMWC: 1981L, 1983L,  
1984E  
BIDGOOD DET Dr UCCA: 1962L, 1963L  
BISHOP AC Dr BMNH: 1980L (PRES GA)  
BLACK GP Dr NCCN: 1976L  
\*BLOXAM TW Dr UCSW: 1965E, 1967L  
1968L  
BLUNDELL CRK Dr UCCA: 1961E, 1963L  
1965L  
BLUNDELL DJ Prof UBIR: 1969L  
\*BOWEN DQ Dr UCWA: 1965E, 1968E,  
1969L, 1973E, 1974L, 1980L, 1982L  
BRADSHAW R Dr UBRI: 1975L  
BRIGGS DEG Dr ULGC: 1983L  
BRITTON R UCSW: 1973L  
BROOK HD UBIR: 1968L  
BROOKS M Prof UCCA: 1968E, 1973L,  
1976L, 1978E, 1979L; C 1972-1974  
BROWN EH Prof ULUC: 1961L, 1962E,  
1982L  
BROWN GM Dr IGSL: 1982L  
BURCHETTE T UCCA: 1975E  
CAMPBELL SD IGSA: 1983L  
CHARIG A Dr BMNH: 1984L  
COOPE GR Dr UBIR: 1970L  
\*COPE JCW Dr UCSW: 1968L 1977E,  
1978L, 1982L, 1983E, 1984L; C  
1982-1984  
COMIE JW Dr UBRI: 1960L, 1970L  
CRAMPTON CB SSEW: 1961L  
CRIMES TP Dr ULIV: 1978L  
CUMMINGS RH Dr RREL: 1965L, 1967L  
DAVIES J Dr IGS A: 1984L  
DAVIES W Prof UCWA: 1971L  
DEAN WT Prof UCCA: 1982L  
DINELEY DL Prof UBRI: 1969L

OHARA MJ Prof UCWA: 1982L  
OWEN TR Prof UCSW: 1960E, 1961E(2)  
1962LE, 1963, 1964, 1965E, 1966E,  
1968L, 1972L, 1973LE, 1976L,  
1979L, 1980E, 1984L; C 1965-1968  
OWENS RM Dr NMWC: 1974E, 1975L,  
1976L, 1983LE  
OXBURGH ER Prof UOXF: 1976L  
PEEL RF Prof UBRI: 1964L  
PERKINS JW UCCA: 1976L, 1979L,  
1980E, 1982E, 1982L; C 1980-1982  
PHILLIPS JW Dr UCWA: 1966L, 1971L,  
1974L  
PLATT J Prof UCCA: 1970L, 1974L  
PUGH W Sir EXGS: 1962L

RAMSAY ATS Dr UCSW: 1973L, 1975E,  
1982LE  
RAMSAY JG Prof ULEE: 1975L  
RAMSBOTTOM WHC Dr EXGS: 1984L  
REA WJ Dr UCWA: 1974L  
READING HG Dr UOXF: 1976L  
REEDMAN AJ Dr IGSA: 1983L  
RHODES FHT Prof UCSW: 1960LE,  
1963E, 1964L  
RICHARDS AF Dr CLOL: 1962L  
RICKARDS RB Dr UCAM: 1978L  
RIDING RH Dr UCCA: 1979L  
ROACH RA Dr UKEE: 1977L

SAVAGE RJG Dr UBRI: 1964L  
SHAW J Dr UCCA: 1980L  
SHELDON P UCCA: 1982E  
SIMPSON B UCSW: 1965L  
SIMPSON S Prof UKEE: 1973L  
SMITH AG Dr UCAM: 1979L  
SMITH AJ Prof UCUL: 1975L  
SQUIRREL HS Dr IGSH: 1966L  
STEAD J UCSW: 1970E  
STEVENS RA UWIST: 1965E  
STRACHAN I Dr UBIR: 1968L (2)  
STRADLING A BBSC: 1977E  
STUBBS AE NCCN: 1968L  
STYLES P Dr UCSW: 1983L  
SUTCLIFFE AJ Dr BMNH: 1973E  
SUTTON J Prof ULIC: 1973L

EDWARDS D Dr UCCA: 1981L  
ELLIOTT T Dr UCSW: 1978L  
EMBLETON C Dr ULKC: 1963L  
ENGLAND S UCCA: 1977E  
\*EVANS DE NMWC: 1967E, 1970E, 1973E,  
1975L, 1976LE, 1979L; C 1974-1976  
EVANS G Dr ULIC: 1961L  
EYLES JM: 1969L  
EYLES VA Dr IGSL: 1963L

FIRTH JNM Dr UBRI: 1966L, 1970L  
FORD DC Dr UBRI: 1967L  
FORD TD Dr ULEI: 1977L  
\*FORTEY RA Dr BMNH: 1983L

\*GAYER RA Dr UCCA: 1968L, 1970E,  
1972L, 1976L, 1978L, 1979; C 1976  
-1978  
GEORGE TN Prof UGLA: 1965L  
GIBBONS FA Dr UCCA: 1983L  
GRIFFITHS OH Prof UBIR: 1968L  
HAMILTON D Dr UBRI: 1975E  
HANCOCK JM Dr ULKC: 1977L  
\*HANCOCK PL Dr UBRI: 1974LE, 1975E,  
1982L  
HARRIS C Dr UCCA: 1978L  
HARTWELL J MSIB: 1967L  
HOOPER PR Dr UCSW: 1960L  
HOWELLS MF Dr IGSH: 1981L  
HUBBARD JAE Dr ULKC: 1974L

INESON J WRBR: 1967L  
ISAAC B PWAP: 1969E  
IVIMEX-COOK H Dr IGSL: 1961E

JACKSON DI Dr IGSL: 1977E  
JONES JC MSIB: 1966L

KEATCH D Dr CCEC: 1967L  
\*KELLING G Prof UKEE: 1963L, 1965E,  
1967E, 1968L, 1972E, 1976LE, 1981L  
KIDSON C Prof UCWA: 1968L  
KNILL J Prof ULIC: 1983L (PRES GA)

LAKEMAN R BPLO: 1967L  
LANGFORD JI Dr UBIR: 1966L 1968L  
LEWIS CA Dr UCWA: 1966E

MCQUILLIN R Dr IGSL: 1969L  
MALING DH Dr UCSW: 1960L  
MATTHEWS SC Dr UBRI: 1971L

MILLMAN AP Prof UCCA: 1970L  
MOORE LR Prof USHE: 1962L  
MORGAN DE EXSH: 1964L; C 1962-1964  
MORGAN WS NGSC: 1961L, 1962E  
MURRAY J Dr UBRI: 1972E

NORRIS DB SWDS: 1961LE(2), 1962E

TAYLOR JH Prof ULKC: 1961L  
TAYLOR K Dr IGSL: 1971E  
THOMAS AJ NMWC: 1966L, 1976LE,  
1977E, 1978E, 1979E, 1980E, 1981E  
THOMAS DJW CCSC: 1966L; C 1964-1966  
THOMAS G Dr ULIC: 1969L  
\*THOMAS TM WOCA: 1960E, 1961LE, 1962E  
1963LE, 1964E, 1965E, 1966L, 1967LE,  
1968E, 1969E, 1971E, 1972L, 1974L; C  
1970-1972  
THOMPSON MS UCSW: 1973L  
THORNE A UCSW: 1975E  
TROTTER FM Dr EXGS: 1967L  
TUCKER ME Dr UCCA: 1974E

WALKER WB UCSW: 1965L  
WALLACE P Dr ULIC: 1977L  
WALMSLEY VG Dr UCSW: 1964L, 1966E  
WARRICK GT Dr UBIR: 1970L  
WATERS RA Dr IGSA: 1962E, 1984L  
\*WATSON E Dr UCWA: 1973L  
WATSON JV Prof ULIC: 1983L (PRES  
GEOL SOC)  
WHITTINGTON HB Prof UCAM: 1968L  
WHITTON JB Dr UREA: 1964L  
WHYBROW PJ BMNH: 1975L  
WILLIAMS A Dr UCCA: 1961L  
\*WILLIAMS BPJ Dr UBRI: 1971L, 1974E  
1975E, 1978L, 1984L  
WILLIAMS D Prof ULIC: 1960(PRES GA)  
WILLIAMS GD Dr UCCA: 1978L  
WILLIAMS PF Dr UCSW: 1966E  
WINDLEY BF Dr ULEI: 1977L  
WOOD A Prof UCWA: 1960L  
WOODCOCK NG Dr UCAM: 1983L  
WOODLAND AW Dr IGSH: 1971L  
WRIGHT JE Dr IGSH: 1969L  
WRIGHT VP Dr OUMK: 1980E, 1984L

\* Contributor to "Guides" (1971, 1982)

## ABBREVIATIONS

E Excursion  
L Lecture  
BBSC Bridgend, Brynteg School  
BMNH British Museum (Natural  
History)  
BPLO British Petroleum Co London  
CCSC Cardiff, Cantonian school  
CLOL Commonwealth Liaison office  
London  
EXGS (lately) Geological Survey  
EXNM (lately) National Museum of  
Wales  
EXSO (lately) Shell Oil co  
IGSA Geological Survey Aberystwyth  
IGSH Geological Survey London  
IGSL Geological Survey Leeds  
MSIB Midland Silicones Barry  
NCCB Nature Conservancy Council  
Bangor  
NCCN Nature Conservancy Council  
Newbury  
NGSC Neath grammar school  
NMWC National Museum of Wales  
Cardiff  
OUMK Open University Milton Keynes  
PWAP Polytechnic of Wales  
Pontypridd  
RREL Robertson Research Llandudno  
SSEW Soil Survey England and Wales  
SWDS Swansea Dynevor school  
UBIR University of Birmingham  
UBRI University of Bristol  
UCAM University of Cambridge  
UCCA University College Cardiff  
UCNW University College of North  
Wales  
UCSW University College of Swansea  
UCWA University College of Wales  
Aberystwyth  
UEXE University of Exeter  
UGLA University of Glasgow  
UKEE University of Keele  
ULCC University of London Chelsea C  
ULEE University of Leeds  
ULEI University of Leicester  
ULGC University of London  
Goldsmiths C  
ULIC University of London  
Imperial C  
ULIV University of Liverpool  
ULKC University of London Kings C  
ULUC University of London Univer-  
sity C  
UMAN University of Manchester  
UOXF University of Oxford  
UREA University of Reading  
USHE University of Sheffield  
UWIST University of Wales  
Institute of S, T  
WOCA Welsh Office Cardiff  
WRBR Water Resources Board Reading

# GEOLOGISTS ASSOCIATION, SOUTH WALES GROUP

## OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS 1960-1984

AGER DV	C	1978-80
ANDERSON JGC	O	1960-62
ASKEY G	S	1960-66
BAKER JCW	C	1968-70
BARTLETT H	O	1978-80
BASSETT DA	C E	1960-62 1965-72
BASSETT MG	F E	1968-74 1974-84
BEVINS RE	O	1982-84
BIDGOOD DET	O	1960-66
BLUNDELL RCK	O	1960-62
BOWDEN EV	O	1971-73
BRENNAN ME	O	1983-84-
BROOKS M	C	1972-74
CLAYBROOKE F	O	1976-78
COLES BP	O	1982-84
CONROY J	O	1974-76
COPE JCW	C	1982-84
COPPIN EJ	O	1970-72
DAVIES G	O	1975-77
DAVIES VJ	O	1966-68
DEAN WT	O	1980-84
DIX PJS	O	1979-81
EVANS DE	C	1974-76
EVANS FL	O	1973-75
FIRTH JNM	O	1965-68
GAYER RA	C	1976-78
GETHIN RT	O	1964-66
GOSKAR KA	O	1960-64, 66-8
GROOM G	O	1960-61
GROSS J	O	1971-73
HARDING O	O	1968-70
HAYWARD RA	O	1972-74
HERBERT WM	O	1975-77
HEWLETT JA	O	1983-84-
HODGES P	O	1977-79
HOUBAHANE FM	O	1967-69
HULME C	O	1970-72

ISAAC B	O	1960-62
JONES EK	O	1980-82
JONES TRE	O	1972-74
LEWIS D	O	1974-76
LEWIS JB	O	1969-71
LEWIS JW	O	1974-76
MEARA G	O	1960-62
MILLS GJ	O	1981-83
MORGAN DE	C	1962-64
MORGAN WS	A	1960-1971
NORRIS B	O	1960-62
OWEN TR	C	1966-68
OWENS RM	F	1974-84-
PARSONS R	T	1960-84
PERKINS JW	C	1980-82
RHODES FHT	O	1960-62
RICHARDSON DH	O	1965-67
ROBERTS CE	O	1976-78
ROBERTS JM	O	1969-71
ROBERTS MI	O	1960-2, 66-8
SAXTY JW	O	1979-81
SEARLE EJ	O	1961-69
SHELDON K	O	1982-84
SIMPSON B	O	1960
STEVENS RA	O	1962-67
STRADLING A	O	1977-79
SULLIVAN KJ	O	1972-74
TAYLOR I	O	1978-80
THOMAS AG	O	1968-70, 76-8
THOMAS AJ	S	1966-84-
THOMAS DJW	C	1964-66
THOMAS TM	F E	1960-68 1970-72
WATKINS MG	O	1980-82
WATKINS WJ	O	1963-67
WHITE B	O	1964-66
WILLIAMS EM	O	1970-72
WRIGHT MD	O	1981-83

A forthcoming (late 1984) issue of the Proceedings of the Geologists' Association will consist entirely of the papers read at the two symposia held during the 25th session - "Lower Palaeozoic Wales" (3 main papers, 4 shorter contributions) which took place at Cardiff on 3 December 1983 and "Upper Palaeozoic Wales" (3 main papers, 4 shorter contributions) held at Swansea on 14 January 1984 (together with 1 paper from the symposium on the geological evolution of Wales) held on

## **TWENTY FIVE YEARS 1959-1984**

Two preliminary meetings of teachers and other persons interested in the formation in South Wales of a geological group took place in late 1959. These were - at Cardiff for eastern South Wales on 7 November, convened and chaired by Professor JGC Anderson, University college Cardiff and at Swansea for western South Wales on 21 November, convened and chaired by Mr Brian Simpson, University college of Swansea; both meetings were held in the respective department of geology. A Preliminary Committee was subsequently set up to seek the approval of the parent body of the Geologists' Association to form a South Wales group and to take the first steps in its formation. At its -only- meeting on 4 December 1959 in the department of geology of University college, Cardiff (then in premises on Newport road) the Preliminary Committee was chaired by Professor JGC Anderson and its membership comprised of - Mr G Askey (National museum of Wales), Dr DA Bassett (National museum of Wales), Dr RCK Blundell (University college, Cardiff), Miss KA Goskar (Neath girls grammar school), Mr DB Norris (Swansea junior technical college), Mr TR Owen (University college Of Swansea), Mr R Parsons (Caerphilly boys grammar technical school), Mr B Simpson (University college of Swansea) and Mr DJW Thomas (Canton boys high school Cardiff). The Preliminary Committee prepared a series of recommendations (subsequently to be accepted almost in their entirety) that outlined the functions and structure of the new group and made arrangements for the holding of the first Ordinary meeting.

The first meeting of the South Wales group of the Geologists Association was held on Saturday 23 January 1960 in the department of geology of University college Cardiff. The meeting was opened by the chairman of the Preliminary Committee (Professor JCC Anderson) who in welcoming the audience of over one hundred referred to the longfelt need for a geological organisation in South Wales and drew attention to the telegram of congratulations received from the Midland group (then celebrating its 21st anniversary). Professor Anderson put to the meeting the first of the recommendations of the Preliminary Committee namely the election of a chairman of the group and of members of a committee including the offices of treasurer, secretary and field excursions secretary. The adoption of the first recommendation was proposed by Mr W Jones (Penarth grammar school) and seconded by Mr AJ Thomas (Barry boys grammar technical school) and there was then an unanimous election as the group's first chairman of Dr Douglas A Bassett, Keeper of geology at the National museum of Wales. The first full committee consisted of - as vicechairman, Professor Frank HT Rhodes (University college of Swansea); as treasurer, Mr Roland Parsons; as secretary, Mr George Askey; as field excursions secretary, Mr Trevor M Thomas (Ministry of housing and local government Cardiff); as ordinary members, Professor JGC Anderson, Dr RCK Blundell, Miss Kate Goskar, Mr Basil Isaac (Treforest school of mines), Miss Gwyneth Meara (Bassaleg grammar school Newport) and Mr TR Owen. The Chairman then introduced Professor David Williams (professor of geology at Imperial college University of London) as the current president of the Geologists Association - and a Welshman - and

therefore very properly the guest speaker at the inaugural meeting. Professor Williams brought with him the good wishes of the parent body. Following his address, 'Prospecting for minerals', the vote of thanks was given by Mr TR Owen

On the following day the formation in South Wales of the new geological group was mentioned in the radio programme 'Nodiau o'r Newyddion'. The second ordinary meeting was held (on 13th February) at Swansea when Professor JGC Anderson gave a lecture on "The geology of Southeast Wales with special reference to the Cardiff district". The third ordinary meeting, held at Cardiff (on 3rd March), was addressed by Professor FHT Rhodes on 'The Rocky Mountains'. The holding of ordinary meetings once a month at the alternate venues of Cardiff and Swansea was to become the pattern for future sessions. The first annual general meeting took place on Tuesday 5 April 1960 at 6 p.m. in the department of geology at University college of Swansea when the chairman gave an address on "The history of Lower Palaeozoic research in Wales with particular reference to the Cambrian rocks of Merioneth".

In concluding the more formal business of its first-short session the group re-elected as its chairman for the next two sessions Dr Douglas Bassett, re-elected its treasurer, secretary and field excursion secretary, made in addition to Professor FHT Rhodes two further vice-chairmen in Professor JGC Anderson and Mr DB Norris, elected as assistant secretary Mr WS Morgan (Neath technical college), and to the list of ordinary members of the original committee (all re-elected) added the names of Miss C Groom (University college of Swansea). Miss MI Roberts (Llanelli girls grammar school) and Mr DJK Thomas (Canton boys high school Cardiff), This was the composition of the committee for the group's first full session (1960-1961) which opened on 1 September 1960 with the group helping to host Section C (geology) of the British Association for the Advancement of Science at its annual meeting for 1960 held in Cardiff.

During the remainder of its first session the group established another important element of its activities by holding for its members field excursions; on 9th April the first to Ogmere by Sea, was led by the late TM (Trevor) Thomas and two weeks later on 23rd April the leader (to the 'head of the Vale of Neath' - where else?) was Mr TR (Dick) Owen.

During the 1965-1966 session the idea of a regularly issued publication as a means of communication with members - initially promoted by Mr JKM Firth (Midland Silicones ltd) was taken up and bore fruit with the publication of the Welsh geological quarterly. Under the editorship of Dr DA Bassett the journal appeared during the period 1965 to 1970; subscribers included many universities in the UK, several bodies in the USA, others in Europe (including one in the USSR) and in Australia. Publication by the group of an occasional series commenced in 1971 (during the chairmanship of the late Mr TM Thomas) when coincident with the holding at Swansea of the annual meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science there was published the volume Geological excursions in South Wales and the Forest of Dean; edited by Drs DA Bassett and MG Bassett (both National museum of Wales) the two hundred and sixty seven page volume contained itineraries prepared by nineteen authors for twenty one field excursions in the region. It sold widely

and all two and a half thousand copies were sold by 1979. The profits enabled the group to share in the financing of a second volume in the occasional series; for both volumes the bulk of the costs of printing, binding and publishing were borne by the principal distributors. Dr Michael G Bassett, editor of the group since 1974, produced for publication by the National museum of Wales in 1982 Geological excursions in Dyfed, South-West Wales; in a format similar to the first volume (but, with three hundred and twenty seven pages, almost 25% longer) it bore the imprint of the group and consisted of itineraries prepared by twenty four authors for nineteen field excursions in the former counties of Cardigan, Carmarthen and Pembroke.

A forthcoming (late 1984) issue of the Proceedings of the Geologists' Association will consist entirely of the papers read at the two symposia held during the 25th session - "Lower Palaeozoic Wales" (3 main papers, 4 shorter contributions) which took place at Cardiff on 3 December 1983 and "Upper Palaeozoic Wales" (3 main papers, 4 shorter contributions) held at Swansea on 14 January 1984 (together with 1 paper from the symposium "The geological evolution of Wales" held on 11 December 1982) - and this, it is believed, will be first time that a local GA group has so contributed to the Proceedings. The one earlier appearance in the Proceedings (for 1970) was the excursion account 'Field meeting of the South Wales group on the Stack Rocks to Bullslaughter Bay section of the south Pembrokeshire coast<sup>1</sup> by the leader, the late TM Thomas.

The activities of the group have been regularly recorded through the annual reports to members of its officers; a summary report has since 1969 appeared annually in the Proceedings of the Geologists Association and notices of meetings have appeared regularly in the Circular of the Geologists' Association (six times a year). During its first twenty five years the meetings of the group drew widely on speakers and leaders from all parts of the UK, from government from industry and from the universities (a full list has been separately compiled). It was to the great benefit of the group that it was able to hold its ordinary and general meetings in the premises made so readily available by the departments of geology of the two University colleges and the National museum of Wales. Of all the staff of those and other institutions who gave freely of their time grateful thanks should be accorded, none more so than to Mr Roland Parsons, for his unbroken twenty five years of service as Honorary Treasurer, and to Professor TR [Dick] Owen who for his unique contribution to the group was, at the twenty fifth annual general meeting in 1984, made its first Honorary member.

#### THE FIRST TWENTY FIVE YEARS' 1960-1984 LIST OF OFFICERS

##### CHAIRMEN

1ST	1959-60	DR DA BASSETT
2ND	1960-61	National Museum
3RD	1961-62	of Kales Cardiff
4TH	1962-63	DE MORGAN
5TH	1963-64	ex Shell co ltd

6TH	1964-65	DJW THOMAS
7TH	1965-66	Canton sch Cardiff
8TH	1966-67	TR OWEN
9TH	1967-68	Uni Coll Swansea
10TH	1968-69	DR JCW BAKER
11TH	1969-70	Uni Coll Cardiff
12TH	1970-71	TM THOMAS
13TH	1971-72	Welsh Office Cardiff
14TH	1972-73	DR M BROOKS
15TH	1973-74	Uni Coll Swansea
16TH	1974-75	DE EVANS
17TH	1975-76	NMW Cardiff
18TH	1976-77	DR RA GAYER
19TH	1977-78	Uni Coll Cardiff
20TH	1978-79	PROF DV AGER
21ST	1979-80	Uni Coll Swansea
22ND	1980-81	JW PERKINS
23RD	1981-82	Uni Coll Cardiff
24TH	1982-83	DR JCW COPE
25TH	1983-84	Uni Coll Swansea

#### TREASURER

1959-	R PARSONS
	St Martins Sch Caerphilly

#### SECRETARY

1959-1966	G ASKEY
	NMW Cardiff
1966-	AJ THOMAS
	NMW Cardiff

#### FIELD SECRETARY

1959-1968	TM THOMAS
	Welsh Office Cardiff
1968-1974	DR MG BASSETT
	NMW Cardiff
1974-	DR RM OWENS
	NMW Cardiff

#### EDITOR

1965-1971	DR DA BASSETT
	NMW Cardiff
1974-	DR MG BASSETT
	NMW Cardiff

The **programme** for 10 March 1984:

10 March, Saturday, Cardiff, Twenty Fifth Annual General Meeting  
**First Honorary Membership** to Professor T.R. ('Dick') Owen *for His Services to the Group*,  
Presentation by Dr Douglas A. Bassett (Founder Chairman);

*For 25 years continuous service* Roland Parsons (Honorary Treasurer),  
Presentation by Alun J. Thomas (Honorary Secretary),

Followed by the Retiring Chairman's Address:  
**The Llangynog Inlier: New discoveries in the Carmarthen Area**,  
Dr John C.W. Cope (University College of Swansea),  
afterwards

Lunch (at the National Museum of Wales) for all Past Chairmen and Committee Members,  
Toast **The Group** given by Dr Douglas A. Bassett (Founder Chairman);  
Response by Alan G. Thomas (Incoming Chairman for 1984-86)

November 1984 saw the publication, to celebrate 25 Years of the Group, of  
Bassett, M.G. (ed.), 1984, **Focus on Wales**,  
*Proceedings of the Geologists' Association*, Vol. **95**, pt.4, pp.289-398.  
[Based on papers read at three symposia 11.12.1982, 03.12.1983, 14.01.1984]

GEOLOGISTS ASSOCIATION SOUTH WALES GROUP  
SESSION 1983-84 CHAIRMAN: DR JOHN COPE

TWENTYFIVE YEARS 1959-1984

Saturday 10 March 1984

Also present

MRS F CLAYBROOKE	MRS K SHELDON
MR D CONROY	MR C TAYLOR
MRS J GROSS	MRS AG THOMAS
MRS M HOURAHANE	MRS AJ THOMAS
MRS C HULME	MRS DJ THOMAS
MRS R PARSONS	

LUNCH

IN  
THE COURTROOM  
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WALES

Founder Chairman  
DR DOUGLAS A BASSETT (1960-1962)  
First Honorary Member and Past Chairman  
PROFESSOR TR (DICK) OWEN (1966-1968)  
Past Chairmen  
MR DAVID J THOMAS (1964-1966)  
PROFESSOR MICHAEL BROOKS (1972-1974)  
DR RODNEY A GAYER (1976-1978)  
PROFESSOR DEREK V AGER (1978-1980)  
MR JOHN W PERKINS (1980-1982)  
DR JOHN CW COPE (1982-1984)  
Past Committee  
MR HOWARD BARTLETT (1978-1980)  
MR FRANK CLAYBROOKE (1976-1978)  
MRS JILL CONROY (1974-1976)  
PROFESSOR WILLIAM DEAN (1982-1984)  
DR PETER J DIX (1979-1981)  
MS JANE GIRLOW (1983-1984)  
DR JOSEPH GROSS (1971-1973)  
MR F MICHAEL HOURAHANE (1967-1969)  
MR CLIFF HULME (1970-1972)  
MR BASIL ISAAC (1960-1962)  
MR E KEITH JONES (1980-1982)  
MR DAVID LEWIS (1974-1976)  
MR JOHN SAXTY (1979-1981)  
MS ELSA J SEARLE (1961-4, 1967-9)  
MR KEN SHELDON (1982-1984)  
MR ALAN STEVENS (1962-1967)  
MRS IRIS TAYLOR (1978-1980)  
MR W JOHN WATKINS (1963-1967)

Toast

Founder Chairman  
DR DOUGLAS A BASSETT

"THE SOUTH WALES GROUP OF  
THE GEOLOGISTS ASSOCIATION"

Response

Chairman (1984-6)

MR ALAN G THOMAS

Current Committee

Chairman

MR ALAN G THOMAS (1984-1986)

Editor

DR MICHAEL G BASSETT (1974-)

Treasurer

MR ROLAND PARSONS (1960-)

Vicechairman

DR ANTHONY T RAMSAY (1984-1986)

Secretary

MR ALUN J THOMAS (1966-)

Field meetings sec

DR ROBERT M OWENS (1973-)

MR W GARETH DAVIES (1984-1986)