



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

Registered Charity Number 1054303

50 YEAR ARCHIVES 1960-2010 - ANNUAL REPORTS to GA

This section includes Annual Reports sent to the Geologists' Association (GA) in London.

The GA works to a calendar year, but the SWGA's year is usually from March to February. Therefore, at the end of each calendar year, the Group sends an Annual Report to the GA, which in turn brings the reports of all the Local Groups of the GA (the South Wales Group being one of these) into its own annual GA report and compilation.

The compilation has been taken from the original paper records of Alun J Thomas (Secretary 1966-1999) who also gave two from (presumably) George Askey (Secretary 1960-1966), Geraint Owen (Secretary 1990-2009), and Lynda Garfield (Secretary 2009-).

The SWGA's own annual report is given to members at its AGM in March.

As a result, there is some confusion in some of the records, as not all the annual reports to the GA have kept to a strictly calendar year. Luckily, these are not many.

A few years are missing; 1962-4, 1989, 1999, 2002-7.

Chairman, Dr. D.A.Bassett, B.Sc., Ph.D., F.G.S.; Vice-Chairmen, Professor J.G.C.Anderson, M.A., Ph.D., D.Sc., F.R.S.E., Mr. B.Norris, M.Sc., Professor F.E.T.Rhodes. Ph.D., F.R.I.C.; Secretary, Mr. G.Askey, M.A.; Assistant Secretary, Mr. W.S.Morgan, B.Sc.; Field Secretary, Mr. T.M.Thomas, M.Sc.; Treasurer, Mr. R.Parsons, B.A.; Committee, Dr.C.R.K.Blundell, B.Sc., Miss K.Goskar, M.Sc., Miss Gillian Groome, M.Sc., Mr. B.Isaac. B.Sc., Miss G.Meara, B.Sc., Mr. T.R.Owen, M.Sc., F.G.S., Miss M.I.Roberts, B.Sc., Mr. D.Thomas, B.Sc.

During the year seven Ordinary Meetings and four Field Meetings were held. The Ordinary Meetings were held alternately at Swansea and Cardiff at the University Colleges but the symposium on the Arctic and Antarctic and the talk to the Junior Members were held in the National Museum of Wales.

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| 23 January. | "Prospecting for Minerals." Professor D.Williams. |
| 13 February. | "The geology of South East Wales, with special reference to the Cardiff Area." Professor J.G.C.Anderson. |
| 3 March. | "The Rocky Mountains." Professor F.H.T.Rhodes. |
| 5 April. | First Annual General Meeting. Chairman's Address: "The History of Lower Palaeozoic research in Wales, with special reference to the Cambrian rocks of Merionethshire." |
| 9 April. | Field Meeting: "The Vale of Glamorgan." Mr. Trevor M. Thomas. |
| 23 April. | Field Meeting: "The Head of the Vale of Neath." Mr. T.R.Owen. |
| 7 May. | Field Meeting: "Beachley-Aust and Chepstow Areas." Professor J.G.C.Anderson. |
| 21 May. | Field Meeting: "Llandilo.-Llandovery area" Professor F.H.T. Rhodes. — |
| 8 October. | "Sedimentation in geosynclinal troughs." Professor Alan Wood. |
| 5 November. | Symposium: Arctic and Antarctica. Geology. "Some aspects of the geology of the Arctic." Dr. J.W.Cowie. "An introduction to the geology of Antarctica." Dr. D.H.Maling. "The geology of Graham Land and the Scotia Arc." Dr. P.R.Hooper. |
| 8 December. | "Geological holidays in Scotland." A talk to the Junior Members by the Chairman. |
| 10 December. | "The geological approach to Historic Buildings." Dr. F.J. North. |

Chairman, Dr. D.A. Bassett, B.Sc., Ph.D., F.G.S.; Vice Chairman, Professor J.G.C. Anderson, M.A., Ph.D., D.Sc., F.R.S.E., Mr. B. Norris, M.Sc., Professor F.H.T. Rhodes, Ph.D., F.R.I.C., F.G.S.; Secretary, Mr. G. Askey, M.A.; Assistant Secretary, Mr. W.S. Morgan, M.Sc.; Field Secretary, Mr. T.M. Thomas, M.Sc., F.R.G.S.; Treasurer, Mr. R. Parsons, B.A.; Committee, Mr. D.E.T. Bidgood, B.Sc., Miss K. Goskar, M.Sc., Miss G. Groom, M.Sc., Mr. B. Isaac, B.Sc., Miss G. Meara, B.Sc., Miss E.J. Searle, B.Sc., Mr. P. Thomas, B.Sc., Mr. T.R. Owen, M.Sc.

During the year six Ordinary Meetings and six Field Meetings were held. The Ordinary Meetings were held alternately at Swansea and Cardiff at the University Colleges, but the symposium on Geology and Soils was held in the National Museum of Wales.

- 21st January. "Sedimentary Features of Ancient Deltas." Professor J.H. Taylor.
- 18th February. "Some aspects of caves in South Wales." Dr. Anne Williams.
- 11th March. The Second Annual General Meeting Lecture - "Recent Sedimentation on the Lincolnshire Coast." Dr. Graham Evans.
- 15th April. Field Visit - "Geomorphology of South West Breconshire." Mr. T.M. Thomas.
- 29th April. Field Visit - "The North East Crop of the South Wales Coalfield." Dr. R.C.K. Blundell.
- 13th/14th May. Field Visit - Weekend excursion to Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire and Wiltshire. Mr. T.R. Owen and Mr. Bernard Norris.
- 27th May. Field Visit - "South East Glamorgan Coast." Mr. H. Ivimey Cook.
- 3rd June. Field Visit - "Llandaff Cathedral;" Dr. F.J. North.
- 23rd/24th September. Field Visit - Weekend excursion to St. David's. Mr. T.R. Owen and Mr. B. Norris.
- 20th October. "The Denudation Chronology of Southern Britain." Dr. E.H. Brown.
- 17th November. Members Night - 'The Evolution of the Drainage of Afan and Lower Nedd Valleys." Mr. W.S. Morgan.
 "The Evolution of the Drainage in the Eastern Portion of the South Wales Coalfield." Mr. D.B. Norris .
 "Some Karstic Features of the North Crop of the South Wales Coalfield." Mr. T.M. Thomas.
- 9th December. A symposium on "Soils and Geology". Dr. C.B. Crampton and Dr. D. Ball.

Chairman, Mr. D.J.W. Thomas, B.Sc., Vice-Chairmen, Mr. D.E. Morgan, B.Sc., Mr. T.R. Owen. M.Sc., Dr. D.E.T. Bidgood; Secretary, Mr. G. Askey, M.A.; Assistant Secretary, Mr. W.S. Morgan, M.Sc., Field Secretary, Mr. T.M. Thomas, M.Sc.; Treasurer, Mr. R. Parsons, B.A.; Committee, Miss E.J. Searle, B.A., Mr. A.J. Thomas, B.Sc., Mr. R.T. Gethin, B.Sc., Mr. W.J. Watkins, B.Sc., Dr. D.H. Richardson, Mr. R.A. Stevens, M.Sc., M.I.E.E., Mr. Brian White, B.Sc.

During: the year six Ordinary Meetings and four Field Meetings were held. The Ordinary Meetings were held alternatively at Swansea and Cardiff at the University Colleges.

January 16 th	"Gemstones", Mr. Brian Simpson, M.Sc.,
February 13 th	"The Old Red Sandstone of South Wales and the Welsh Borderland", Dr. J.W. Baker.
March 13 th	The Annual General Meeting, followed by "Geology in Industry - a neglected tool"? Dr. R.H. Cummings.
April 3 rd	Field Visits. "The Coastal Section in the Ogmores-by-Sea and Southerndown area of the Vale of Glamorgan". Mr. T.M. Thomas, M.Sc.
May 1 st	"The Geomorphology of the country between Swansea and Carmarthen". Dr. David Q. Bowen.
May 22 nd	i) The Hydrology and Morphology of the Age of Ffynnon-Ddu Cave System in the Upper Tawe Valley. Mr. R.A. Stevens, M.Sc. ii) Structure and, Stratigraphy of the Cribarth Ridge and Upper Tawe Valley, Mr. T.R. Owen, M.Sc.
October 2 nd & 3 rd	Week End Exhibition to North Pembrokeshire, Dr. G. Kelling and Mr. T. Bloxham.
October 9 th	"Geology and Geologists in Wales and the Welsh Borderland" Dr. D.A. Bassett.
November 6 th	"The Lower Swansea Valley Project" Mr. K.J. Hilton, LL.B
December 11 th	"Aspects of the Geomorphology of Western U.S.A." Professor T. Neville George, F.R.S.

	<u>Session 1965-6</u>	<u>Session 1966-7</u>
<u>Chairman:</u>	D.J.W. Thomas, B.Sc	T.R. Owen, M.Sc
<u>Vice Chairmen:</u>	D.E.T. Bidgood, Ph.D. D.E. Morgan, B.Sc. T.R. Owen, M.Sc.	D.E. Morgan, B.Sc. G. Askey, M.A. D.J.W. Thomas, B.Sc.
<u>Secretary:</u>	G. Askey, M.A.	A.J. Thomas B.Sc.
<u>Assistant Secretary:</u>	W.S. Morgan, M.Sc.	W.S. Morgan, M.Sc.
<u>Treasurer:</u>	R. Parsons, B.A.	R. Parsons, B.A.
<u>Excursions Secretary:</u>	T.M. Thomas, M.Sc.	T.M. Thomas, M.Sc.
<u>Committee:</u>	Miss E.J. Searle, B.A. R. Gethin, B.Sc. D.H. Richardson, Ph.D. R.A. Stevens, M.Sc. A.J. Thomas, B.Sc. W.J. Watkins, B.Sc. B.J. White, B.Sc.	Miss I. Roberts, B.Sc. V.J. Davies B.Sc. J.N.M. Firth B.Sc. D.H. Richardson, Ph.D. R.A. Stevens, M.Sc. W.J. Watkins, B.Sc.
<u>Editor, Welsh Geological Quarterly:</u>	D.A. Bassett, Ph.D.	D.A. Bassett, Ph.D.
<u>Assistant editor:</u>	J.N.M. Firth B.Sc.	J.N.M. Firth B.Sc.

During 1966 seven Ordinary Meetings and four Field Meetings were held. The Ordinary Meetings were held alternatively at Cardiff and Swansea in the University Colleges.

Ordinary Meetings

15th January : Members' Meeting

"Minerals of Glamorgan" J.N.M. Firth.
"Staining carbonate minerals" J.A. Dixon
"Minerals and x-rays" Dr. J.I. Langford.

5th February: "Landforms and scenery in western Canada" T.M. Thomas.

12th March: The Eighth Annual General Meeting, followed by the Chairman's Address; "The Personality of Geology".
(LPG note 2011 - surely it was the 7th AGM?)

Field Meetings

2nd April: "Periglacial landforms of the Brecon Beacons" C. Lewis.

23rd April: "The succession in the basal Coal Measures between Abercrave and
Aberdare" T.R. Owen.

7th May: "Geology of the Chepstow, Beachley, Severn Bridge and Monmouth
areas" Professor J.G.C. Anderson.

8th - 9th October: "The Ludlow-Wenlock Edge district" Dr. V.G. Walmsley.

Ordinary Meetings

24th September: "Aspects of Ordovician vulcanicity" Dr. W.J. Phillips.

29th October: "Expedition to Spitsbergen" Dr. H. Squirrel.

19th November: "The geology of the Moon" Dr. C.H.K. Blundell.

10th December: Members Meeting. Exhibition of colour slides by members.
"Sedimentological studies and their application to
the Pembrokeshire coalfield" P.F. Williams.
"Specimen collecting and the conservation of sites of
geological interest" A.J. Thomas.
"Digging for a cave" J.C. Jones and D. Kemp.

The first four numbers (volume 1, 1966) of the "Welsh Geological
Quarterly" were published.

20. 1.67.

Alun J. Thomas
(Honorary Secretary).

1967

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION, SOUTH WALES GROUP

SESSION 1967

Officers and Committee Members

Chairman: D.J.W. Thomas, B.Sc

Vice Chairmen: G. Askey, M.A.
D.E. Morgan, B.Sc.
D.J.W. Thomas, B.Sc.

Secretary: A.J.Thomas B.Sc.

Assistant Secretary: W.S. Morgan, M.Sc.

Treasurer: R.Parsons, B.A.

Excursions Secretary: T.M.Thomas, M.Sc.

Committee: Miss K.Goskar, M.Sc.
Miss I. Roberts, B.Sc.
Miss E.J. Searle, B.A.
V.J.Davies, B.Sc.
J.N.M. Firth, B.Sc.
F.M. Hourahane, B.Sc.

Editor, Welsh Geological Quarterly:
D.A. Bassett, Ph.D.

Editorial Assistants:
D.E. Morgan, B.Sc.
A.J.Thomas B.Sc.
D.J.W. Thomas, B.Sc.

During 1967, 6 Ordinary meetings (alternately at Cardiff and Swansea) and 5 Field Meetings were held.

Ordinary Meetings

21st January, 1967 "The Genesis of Coal Seams" - Dr. F.M.Trotter.

18th February, 1967. "Symposium on Applied Geology":
 'The geology of hydro-electric and water storage schemes' - Professor J.G.C. Anderson
 'The geology of oil and natural gas deposits with particular reference to the North Sea area' - Dr. R. Lakeman
 'Economic Geology' - Dr. R. Cummings

11th March, 1967. The Ninth Annual General Meeting, followed by a lecture: "Geological aspects of Water Supply in Wales" - Dr. J. Ineson.
(LPG note 2011 - surely it was the 8th AGM?)

Field Meetings

- 8th April, 1967. "Millstone Grit of the Rhymney Bridge area" - D.E. Evans, National Museum of Wales.
- 22nd April, 1967. "Upper Bala and Llandovery rocks of the Rhayader, Elan valley and Claerwen areas" - Dr. G. Kelling, University College, Swansea.
- 27th May, 1967. "The Old Red Sandstone of the area lying north and northwest of the Forest of Dean coalfield" - Dr. J.R.L. Allen, Reading University.
- 10th September, 1967. "Geology of the central section of the Vale of Glamorgan" - T.M. Thomas, Welsh Office, Cardiff (held jointly with Bristol Naturalists Society).
- 16th-17th September, "Geology of the Mendip Hills" - R. Bradshaw, Bristol University.

Ordinary Meetings

- 14th October, 1967. Extraordinary General Meeting followed by 'Members' Meeting'
"Expedition to Balinka Pit, Yugoslavia" - J. Hartwell.
"Aspects of the transportation of coastal sediments along part of the Glamorgan coast" - Dr. D. Keatch.
- 18th November, 1967. "The geochemistry of sediments" - Dr. T.W. Bloxham.
- 16th December, 1967. "Landforms and geology of 'Canyonlands'¹, S.E. Utah - America's new national park" - T.M. Thomas.

The second volume (vol.2, 1967) of the Welsh Geological Quarterly was published (in four quarterly parts).

1968

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION, SOUTH WALES GROUP

SESSION 1968-69. CHAIRMAN : J.W. BAKER, Ph.D.

Annual Report, 1968.

Chairman, J.W. Baker, Ph.D.; Vice-Chairmen, T.M. Thomas, M.Sc., D.A. Bassett, Ph.D, D.E. Morgan, B.Sc., T.H. Owen, M.Sc., D.J.W. Thomas, B.Sc.; Secretary, A.J. Thomas, B.Sc.; Assistant Secretary, W.S. Morgan, M.Sc.; Treasurer, R. Parsons, B.A.; Committee,; M.J. Brooks, Ph.D., Miss O. Harding, B.A., F.M. Hourahane, B.Sc., Miss E. Searle, B.A., A.G-. Thomas, Miss P. Thomas;
Editor, Welsh Geological Quarterly, D.A. Bassett, Ph.D.

7 Ordinary Meetings (alternately at Cardiff and Swansea) and 3 Field Meetings were held.

- 27 January. 'The structure of the sea floor', Professor D.H. Griffiths, University of Birmingham.
- 17 February. 'The Pleistocene development of the Bristol Channel coastline with special reference to the Somerset coast', Professor C. Kidson, University College, Aberystwyth.
- 16 March. 'Symposium on Palaeontology': 'Recent researches on ammonites', Dr. J.W. Cope, University College, Swansea; 'Graptolites', Dr. I. Strachan, University of Birmingham; 'The natural history of trilobites', Professor H.B. Whittington, University of Cambridge; exhibition of specimens and books.
- 30 March. Field Meeting: 'The geology of the Fishguard and Strumble Head area with particular reference to the Fishguard Volcanic Series'. Director, T.M. Thomas, Welsh Office.
- 6 April. The Ninth Annual General Meeting, followed by the retiring Chairman's address, 'Problems associated with the evolution of surface and drainage in South Wales', T.R. Owen, University College, Swansea.
- 4 May. Field Meeting: 'The coastal Pleistocene deposits and landforms of Gower.' Director, Dr. D.Q. Bowen, University College, Aberystwyth.
- 11-12 May. Field Meeting: 'The geology of the Malvern Hills.' Director, Dr. M.J. Brooks, University College, Swansea.
- 19 October. 'Oceanography', Dr. F.T. Banner, University College, Swansea.
- 16 November. 'Members Conversazione': an exhibition of books and specimens and demonstrations by members of current projects.
- 7 December. 'Symposium on Palaeontology', the work of the Wren's Nest Study Group
and the Nature Conservancy. 'The Nature Conservancy and the Wren's Nest', A.E. Stubbs, Nature Conservancy; 'Stratigraphy' and 'Bryozoa', H.D. Brook; 'Stratigraphy' and 'Tabulate corals', J.I. Langford; 'Problematica', I. Strachan.

Parts 1 and 2 of the Welsh Geological Quarterly, volume 3 (1967-8) were published.

1969

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION, SOUTH WALES GROUP

SESSION 1969.

CHAIRMAN: J.W. BAKER. Ph.D.

Annual Report 1969.

Chairman, J.W. Baker, Ph.D; Vice-Chairman, T.M.Thomas, M.Sc., D.A.Bassett, Ph.D.
D.E. Morgan, B.Sc., T.R. Owen, M.Sc., D.J.W. Thomas, B.Sc;
Secretary, A.J. Thomas, B.Sc.,; Assistant Secretary, W.S. Morgan, M.Sc.,
Treasurer, R. Parsons, B.A.: Committee, M.J. Brooks, Ph.D., Miss O.Harding, B.A.,
J. Brian Lewis, B.Sc., Miss J.M. Roberts, B.Sc., A.G. Thomas, Miss P.
Thomas.
Editor, Welsh Geological Quarterly, D.A. Bassett, Ph.D. .

6 Ordinary Meetings (alternately at Swansea and Cardiff) and 3 Field Meetings were held.

- 18 January. "The Pleistocene history of South Wales and the Bristol Channel".
Dr. D.Q. Bowen, University College, Aberystwyth.
- 15 February. "The lost continent of the Devonian". Professor D.L. Dineley,
University of Bristol.
- 15 March. Tenth Annual General Meeting, and
"Symposium on the Irish Sea"; Contributors included;
Dr. D.J. Blundell, University of Birmingham,
Dr. M.R. Dobson, University College of Aberystwyth,
Dr. J.E. Wright, and Mr. R.McQuillin, Institute of Geological
Sciences, London.
- 29 March. Field Meeting; "The South Pembrokeshire Coast".
Director, Mr. Trevor M. Thomas, Welsh Office, Cardiff.
- 3 May. Field Meeting; "The East Glamorgan Coast".
Director, B. Isaac, Glamorgan Technical College, Treforest.
- 17 May. Field Meeting; "The Silurian Rocks of the Builth Wells-
Llangammarch Wells Area."
Director, M.G. Bassett, National Museum of Wales.
- 18 October. "Kashmir and Bohemia, or how I did not represent the G.A. at
two international congresses".
Professor D.V. Ager, University College, Swansea.
- 15 November, "Ancient quicksands".
Dr. Gwyn Thomas, Imperial College London.
- 13 December. "William Smith and his work".
Mrs. J.M. Eyles.

Parts 3-4 of The Welsh Geological Quarterly, volume 3 (1967-8), parts 1,2-3,
volume 4 (1968-9) were published.

19.12.69

1970

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION, SOUTH WALES GROUP
SESSION 1970. CHAIRMAN : T.M. THOMAS, M.Sc.

ANNUAL REPORT 1970.

Chairman, T.M.Thomas, M.Sc.; Vice-Chairman, M. Brooks, Ph.D.;
Secretary, A.J. Thomas, B.Sc.; Assistant Secretary, W.S. Morgan, M.Sc.;
Excursion Secretary, M.G.Bassett, Ph.D.; Treasurer, R. Parsons, B.A.;
Committee members, Mrs.E.J.Coppin, B.Sc., C.Hulme, B.Sc., J.B.Lewis, B.Sc.;
Miss J.M. Roberts, B.Sc., E.M.Williams, B.Sc. and D.Davies, B.Sc. (co-optd).
Honorary vice-chairmen; D.E. Morgan, B.Sc., D.J.W. Thomas, B.Sc., T.R. Owen, M.Sc.,
J.W.Baker, Ph.D.
Editor, Welsh Geological Quarterly, D.A. Bassett, Ph.D. .

Six Ordinary Meetings (alternately at Swansea and Cardiff) and three
Field meetings were held.

- 17th January. 'The formation of caves with special reference to South Wales' :
Dr.G.T. Warwick, University of Birmingham.
- 21st February. 'The work of the Department of Mineral Exploitation, University
College, Cardiff'; a visit to the department,
Professors J.Platt and A.P.Millman, University College, Cardiff.
- 14th March. Eleventh Annual General Meeting and the retiring Chairman's Address,
'In Wales before the Cambrian',
Dr.J.W.Baker, University College, Cardiff.
- 11th April. Field meeting; 'Geomorphology and geology of the upper Afon Llwyd
valley and the western valleys of Monmouthshire'
Director : Mr.D.Emlyn Evans, National Museum of Wales, Cardiff.
- 2nd May. Field meeting; 'Stratigraphy, structure, sedimentology and
mineralisation of the Forest of Dean area'.
Directors : Dr.R.Gayer, University College, Cardiff and
Mr.J.Stead, University College, Swansea.
- 23rd May Field meeting; 'The Silurian rocks of Wooltack Park and Marloes Bay,
Pembrokeshire'
Director : Dr.M.G.Bassett, National Museum of Wales, Cardiff.
- 17th October. 'Life in the Precambrian and early Cambrian' :
Dr.J.W. Cowie, University of Bristol.
- 21st November*. 'The Severn, an estuary in question' :
Dr. J.N.M. Firth, University of Bristol.
- 19th December. 'New eyes in the Ice Age' :
Dr. G.R.Coope, University of Birmingham.

Volume 4 (1968-9), part 4 and Volume 5 (1969-70), part 1 of
The Welsh Geological Quarterly was published.

Membership at March 1970 was 126.

7.1.1971.

1971

Geologists' Association, south Wales group.

Annual report for 1971

Chairman	T.M. Thomas, M.Sc.
Vice-chairman	M. Brooks, Ph.D.
Treasurer	R. Parsons, B.A.
Secretary	Alun J. Thomas, B.Sc.
Excursions secretary	M.G. Bassett, Ph.D.
Committee Members	E.V. Bowden, Mrs. E.J. Coppin, B.Sc., J. Gross, C. Hulme, B.Sc., E.M. Williams, B.Sc., D.Davies, B.Sc. (co-opted).
Honorary vice-chairman	D.E. Morgan, B.Sc., D.J.W. Thomas, B.Sc., T.R. Owen, M.Sc., J.W. Baker, Ph.D.

Editor, The Welsh geological quarterly, D.A. Bassett, Ph.D.

Six ordinary meetings (alternately at Cardiff and Swansea) and two field meetings were held.

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| 16 January | 'Hydrogeological aspects of the Bunter sandstone in the east Midlands' by Dr.B.P.J. Williams, University of Bristol. |
| 20 February | 'Ores and the ancients in Anatolia', by J.W. Barnes,
University college Swansea. (<i>LPG note 2011: the title on the main listing as "Early development of the mineral industry"</i>) |
| 20 March | <u>Twelfth</u> annual general meeting and 'Geology in the service of the iron and steel-industry', by Professor W. Davies, University college of Wales Aberystwyth. |
| 3 April | Field meeting: 'The geology and geomorphology of the Penwyllt and upper Nedd fechan areas, with particular reference to Karstic landforms'.
Director: T.M. Thomas, Welsh Office Cardiff. |
| 24 April | Field meeting: 'Mapping techniques in geology, illustrated in the Carboniferous of the Penderyn area'.
Director: K. Taylor, Institute of geological sciences London, |
| 16 October | Extraordinary general meeting and 'The formation of post-orogenic mineral veins', by Dr. W.J. Phillips, University college of Wales Aberystwyth. |
| 20 November | 'Geology and government', by Dr. A.W. Woodland, Institute of geological sciences London. |
| 18 December | 'The Variscan fold belt', by Dr.S.C. Matthews, University of Bristol. |

'Geological excursions in south Wales and the forest of Dean', edited by D.A. Bassett and M.G. Bassett, pp. 267, £1.75, was published in September. The 21 excursions described cover areas not dealt with in the Guides of the parent body. Membership at March 1971 was 120.

1972

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION, SOUTH WALES GROUP

Annual report for 1972

Chairman	M Brooks PhD	T.M. Thomas, M.Sc.
Vice-chairman	D E Evans BA	M. Brooks, Ph.D.
Treasurer	R. Parsons BA	
Secretary	Alun J Thomas BSc	
Excursions secretary	MG Bassett PhD	
Committee Members	EV Bowden, J Gross, RA Hayward BSc, .TRE Jones BSc, K Sullivan	
Honorary vice-chairmen	JW Baker PhD, TR Owen MSc, DJW Thomas BSc, TM Thomas MSc	

Six ordinary meetings (alternately at Cardiff and Swansea) and two field meetings were held.

22 January	'Source rocks and depositional environments of the Old Red Sandstone, Anglo-Welsh basin' by DrJRL Allen University of Reading.
19 February	'The Bristol Channel', Symposium by university college Swansea (this meeting was, through industrial action, postponed to 1973).
19 March	<u>13th</u> annual general meeting and retiring chairman's address - 'Western USA - a geological and geomorphological showcase. An area of physical fantasy' ', by TM Thomas, Welsh Office Cardiff.
29 April	Field meeting: 'Carboniferous stratigraphy, structure and sedimentation of the coast between Amroth and Tenby, Pembrokeshire'. Leader Dr G Kelling, university college Swansea'.
20 May	Field meeting: 'Stratigraphy and palaeontology of the Inferior Oolite (Jurassic) of the south Cotswolds' leader Dr J Murray, university of Bristol.
21 October	'The Arctic caledonides and their bearing on a caledonian ocean', by Dr RA Gayer, University college Cardiff.
18 November	'Plate tectonics and the pre-Mesozoic history of Britain, by TR Owen, university college Swansea.
16 December	'Films on Earth sciences, a programme of 5 short films on aspects of geology.

Membership at March 1972 was 135.

Alun J Thomas
(hon secretary)
5.2.1973

Sent 6.2.73

SOUTH WALES GROUP

Chairman: M. Brooks, Ph.D.; Vice-chairman: D.E. Evans, B.A.; Treasurer: R. Parsons, B.A.; Secretary: Alun J. Thomas, B.Sc.; Excursions secretary: M.G. Bassett, Ph.D.

Committee members: F.L. Evans, B.Sc., R. A. Hayward, B.Sc., F.G.A., T.R.E. Jones, B.Sc., J.W. Perkins, B.Sc., K. Sullivan, V.L. Constable (coopted), M.A. Taylor (coopted);

Honorary vice-chairmen: J.C.W. Baker, Ph.D., T.R. Owen, M.Sc., T.M. Thomas, M.Sc.

Six ordinary meetings (alternately at Swansea and Cardiff) and four field meetings were held.

20 January 'Periglacial deposits and landforms in mid Wales', by Dr. E. Watson, university college of Wales, Aberystwyth.

17 February 'The Variscides of the British Isles', by Professor S. Simpson, university of Exeter.

17 March 14th Annual General Meeting followed by 'Geology and sedimentology of the Bristol Channel: a symposium', by Dr. M. Brooks, R. Britton, T.R. Owen and M.S. Thompson, all university college, Swansea.

14 April Field meeting: 'The geology of the Gower peninsula', Leader: T.R. Owen, university college Swansea.

6 May Field meeting: 'Excursion to Minchin hole cave, Gower'. Leaders: Dr. D.Q. Bowen, university college of Wales Aberystwyth and Dr. A.J. Sutcliffe, British Museum (nat. hist.).

12 May Field meeting: 'The Black Mountains of Breconshire and Monmouthshire'. Leader: D.E. Evans, National Museum of Wales.

13 October Field meeting (at Orielson field centre and afterwards at Freshwater west bay): 'Some techniques in the field of analysing a sedimentary rock sequence, with special reference to the Old Red Sandstone of south Pembrokeshire'. Leader: Dr. B.P.J. Williams, university of Bristol.

20 October 'The early history of the Earth', by Professor John Sutton F.R.S., Imperial college London.

17 November 'Climatic belts and sedimentation in Phanerozoic times', by Dr. A.T.S. Ramsay, university college Swansea.

22 December 'Problems of the Welsh Quaternary', by Dr. D.Q. Bowen, university college of Wales Aberystwyth (this meeting was, as a result of the power crisis, postponed to 16 February 1974).

Membership at March 1973 was 161.

1974 GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION, SOUTH WALES GROUP

Annual report for the year 1974

Chairman : DE Evans BA; Vicechairman : RA Gayer Ph D; Treasurer : R Parsons BA;
Secretary : AJ Thomas B Sc; Excursions secretary : RM Owens Ph D;
Committee : MG Bassett Ph D, Mrs J Conroy B Sc, FL Evans B Sc, D Lewis B Sc, JW Lewis LDS, JW Perkins B Sc, Miss C Simpson;
Honorary vicechairman : JW Baker Ph D, M Brooks Ph D, TM Thomas M Sc
Deceased : TM Thomas M Sc

Six ordinary meetings (alternately at Cardiff and Swansea), one junior members meeting and three field excursion meetings were held

19 January Department of mineral exploitation, uni college Cardiff;
'Mineral resources and the 'energy gap' with particular reference to the UK' :
Professor J Platt (dept of mineral exploitation), TM Thomas (Welsh Office)

16 February Uni college Swansea; 'Problems of the Welsh Quaternary' ; Dr DQ Bowen (uni college, Aberystwyth), followed by "Films on Earth Sciences, 3', a programme of four films on the internal constitution of the Earth

16 March Uni college Cardiff; 15th Annual General Meeting, followed by a lecture 'The role of experimental studies in understanding the dynamics of reef preservation and development' : Dr JAE Hubbard (Kings college London)

27 April Field meeting; 'Triassic sedimentology in the Sully-Swanbridge area' ;
leader, Dr ME Tucker (uni college Cardiff)

18 May Field meeting; 'The Llandeilo-Llangadog area, Carmarthenshire' ; leaders,
Drs MG Bassett and RM Owens (National museum Cardiff)

12 October National museum Cardiff; 'Films on Earth Sciences, 4', a programme of four films on palaeoecology

18-20 October Field meeting; 'Structural and sedimentological techniques in field geology – Pembrokeshire' ; leaders, Drs BPJ Williams and PL Hancock (uni of Bristol)

16 November Uni college Cardiff; 'Variscan structures in Pembrokeshire' ; Dr PL Hancock (uni of Bristol)

14 December Uni college Swansea; 'The volcanic geology and petrology of the Lesser Antilles' Dr WJ Rea (uni college Aberystwyth)

14 December Uni college Swansea; a meeting for junior members, 'A volcano in action' ; Dr WJ Phillips (uni college Aberystwyth)

Membership at March 1974 was 135

Hon secretary
10.1.75

1975 Annual report 1975 of the Geologists Association, south Wales group

Chairman : DE Evans BA; Vice-chairman : RA Gayer Ph D; Treasurer : R Parsons BA;
Secretary : AJ Thomas B Sc; Excursions secretary : RM Owens Ph D;
Committee : Ms C Adamson, MG Bassett Ph D, Mrs J Conroy B Sc,
G Davies BA, WM Herbert B Sc, D Lewis B Sc, JW Lewis LDS, P Simpson;
honorary vice chairman : M Brooks Ph D.

Seven ordinary, two junior members' and four excursion meetings were held.

18 January. Department of geology, university of Bristol : a visit to the department with an introductory address by Professor DL Dineley.

18 January. Field meeting, 'The geology of Aust cliff'. Leader, D Hamilton, university of Bristol.

15 February. University college Swansea. 'The geology of the Alps', Professor JG Ramsay FRS, university of Leeds.

15 March. University college Cardiff. 16th annual general meeting followed by 'The geology of the English channel', Dr AJ Smith, university college London.

22 March. National museum of Wales Cardiff, junior members' meeting. 'Hunting for dinosaurs in Basutoland', PJ Whybrow, British museum (nat history).

8 June. Field meeting, 'The structure and sedimentology of the Upper Palaeozoic rocks of Portishead'. Leaders, Drs PL Hancock and BPJ Williams, university of Bristol.

21 June. Field meeting, 'The Lower Carboniferous rocks of the forest of Dean'. Leader, T Burchette, university college Cardiff.

5 July. Field meeting, 'An approach to the upper Carboniferous Limestone (in Pwll Du bay, Gower)'. Leaders, Dr ATS Ramsey and A Thorne, university college Swansea.

18 October. University college Cardiff, 'Leonardo da Vinci and geology', R Bradshaw, university of Bristol.

15 November, University college Swansea. 'Aspects of the geology of central Wales', Dr M Anketell, university of Manchester.

6 December. University college Swansea, junior members' meeting. 'Experiments with minerals', a demonstration by DE Evans, national museum of Wales Cardiff.

13 December. National museum of Wales. 'Films on Earth sciences, 4', a programme of two films on mineralogy and two on geomorphology.

13 December. University college Cardiff. 'Early Ordovician faunas and environments of the Carmarthen area', Dr RM Owens, national museum of Wales.

Membership at March 1975 was 226

Alun J Thomas (hon secretary) 4.1.76
National museum of Wales CARDIFF CF1 3NP

Chairman : RA Gayer Ph D; Vicechairman : DV Ager Ph D; Treasurer : R Parsons BA;
Secretary : AJ Thomas B Sc; Field meetings secretary : RM Owens Ph D;
Committee : P Barty, F Claybrooke, G Davies BA, WM Herbert B Sc, EW Neale, AG Thomas, CE Wilson B Sc; honorary vicechairman : M Brooks Ph D, DE Evans BA;
publications subcommittee : MG Bassett Ph D, JW Perkins B Sc (coopted)

Six ordinary and three field meetings were held.

17 January. University college Swansea. 'Deep structure of South Wales and the Bristol channel based on recent explosion and quarry-blast studies' (lecture/ demonstration) - Dr M Brooks, university college Swansea.

21 February. University college Swansea. 'Educational usage of sites of geological interest'; contributors included Prof DV Ager (Swansea), Dr GP Black (NCC), Dr RA Gayer (Cardiff), Dr G Kelling (Swansea), TR Owen (Swansea), Dr RM Owens (Cardiff), JW Perkins (Cardiff), AJ Thomas (Cardiff).

13 March. University college Cardiff. 17th AGM, followed by a conversazione; exhibitors included CJ Cleal, DG Evans, RM Evans, AJ Thomas (all Nat Mus Wales), P Barty, RA Gayer, C Jones, S Kershaw, JW Perkins (all uni coll Cardiff), F Gross (Merthyr Tydfil), AC Price (Danyrogof), R Thomas (Whitchurch), C Titcombe (Caldicot), D Tucker (Caerwent), VP Wright (Tonyrefall); and various young people.

28 March. Field meeting, 'Some sedimentary and structural aspects of the Pennant Measures in the Rhondda region'. Leader, Dr G Kelling, University college Swansea.

3 April. Field meeting, Junior excursion to the Pontneddfechan district - AJ Thomas, Nat mus Wales Schools Service.

9 May. Field meeting, 'Namurian exposures from Dowlais Top to Llangynidr mountain, Brynmawr' - DE Evans, Nat mus Wales Cardiff (joint meeting with Mid Wales geol soc).

16 October. University college Cardiff. 'Mid Plates' - Dr ER Oxburgh, University of Oxford.

20 November. University college Swansea. 'Sedimentary basins associated with strike-slip faulting' - Dr HG Reading, University of Oxford.

11 December. National museum of Wales, Cardiff. 'Films on Earth sciences, 6' (in collaboration with Museum Schools Service), including The drifting of the continents, A case study of the Gower coast, Fire over Helmay.

Membership at March 1976 was 155

Alun J Thomas
(hon secretary)
National Museum of Wales
CARDIFF CF1 3NP

3 February 1977

Chairman: R.A. Gayer, Ph.D.; Vice-Chairman: D.V. Ager, Ph.D.;
Treasurer: R. Parsons, B.A.; Secretary: A.J. Thomas, B.Sc.;
Field Meetings Secretary: R.M. Owens, Ph.D.; Editor: M.G. Bassett, Ph.D.;
Committee: F. Claybrooke, P. Hodges, D. Ince, Mrs. C.E. Roberts, B.Sc.,
A. Stradling, M.Sc., A.G. Thomas; Vice Chairmen (ex officio) : M. Brooks, Ph.D.,
D.E. Evans, B.A.; Coopted: J.W. Perkins, B.Sc.

EIGHT Ordinary and FOUR Field Meetings were held.

15 January, University College of Swansea. 'Did the Chalk Sea cover Wales?' -
Dr. J.M. Hancock, University College, London.

12 February, University College, Cardiff. The Trevor M. Thomas Memorial
Lecture, 'Limestone caves and mineralisation' - Dr. T.D. Ford, University of
Leicester.

19 March, University College of Swansea. The 18th Annual General Meeting,
followed by 'Silurian studies in Britain and Scandinavia' - Dr. M.G. Bassett,
National Museum of Wales, Cardiff.

23 April, Field Meeting, 'M4 sections in the Pyle-Stormy Down district'.
Leaders, S. England (University College, Cardiff), A. Stradling (Bridgend, Brynteg
School).

18 June Field Meeting, 'Junior excursion to the Barry district'. Leader, A.J. Thomas
(National Museum of Wales, Cardiff).

25 September, University College of Swansea. Third Meeting (23-26 September) of
Geological Societies of the British Isles; Session B5 (Publishing geological
literature in the UK), 'Publishing geological literature for young people' - A.J.
Thomas, National Museum of Wales, Cardiff.

15 October Field Meeting, 'The Carboniferous Limestone of the Abergavenny district'.
Leaders, W.J. Barclay and D.I. Jackson (IGS London).

22 October, University College of Swansea. Extraordinary General Meeting followed
by 'Plate tectonics and the early history of the Earth' - Dr. B.F. Windley,
University of Leicester.

12 November Field Meeting, 'The geology of the Llangynog district'.
Leader, Dr. J.C.W. Cope (University College of Swansea).

19 November, University College, Cardiff. 'Early Ordovician volcanism in north
Pembrokeshire' - Dr. R.L. Roach, University of Keele.

26 November, National Museum of Wales, Cardiff. 'Films on Earth Sciences, 7' (in
collaboration with the museum's schools service), including 'San Francisco - the city
that waits to die', 'Plate tectonic processes', 'North Sea oil' and 'Rivers at work'.

17 December, University College of Swansea. 'The geology of wine' - Dr. P. Wallace,
Imperial College, London.

Membership at March 1977 was 204.

Alun J. Thomas (Hon. Secretary)
National Museum of Wales CARDIFF CF1 3NP

1978 GEOLOGISTS ASSOCIATION, SOUTH WALES GROUP

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1978

Chairman: DV Ager DSc; Vicechairman: JW Parkins BSc;
Treasurer: R. Parsons BA; Secretary: AJ Thomas BSc;
Fieldmeetings secretary: RM Owens PhD; Editor: MG Bassett PhD;
Committee: C Atkinson, H Bartlett, JW Cope, P Hodges, A Stradling, Mrs
I Taylor, P Webber;
Vicechairmen (ex officio): M Brooks PhD, DE Evans BA, RA Gayer PhD.

SEVEN Ordinary and THREE Field Meetings were held

21 January, University college of Swansea. 'Recent advances in sedimentology illustrated in the geology of South Wales' - Dr T Elliott, University college of Swansea

18 February, National museum Cardiff. Short symposium of aspects of Welsh palaeontology: 'An Ediacara-type fauna in South Wales' - Dr JW Cope, University college of Swansea; 'Trilobite trace-fossils' - Dr TP Crimes, University of Liverpool; 'Welsh graptolites' - Dr RB Rickards, University of Cambridge

18 March, University college Cardiff. 19th Annual General Meeting followed by the Chairman's address 'Iapetus, the Caledonian ocean' - Dr RA Gayer, University college Cardiff

22 April Field Meeting, 'The Malvern Hills'. Leaders, Professor M Brooks, Dr JW Baker, both University college Cardiff

8 July Field Meeting, 'Junior excursion to the Ogmore-Southerndown coastal section'. Leader, AJ Thomas, National museum of Wales

21 October, University college Cardiff. 'Deformation and metamorphism in overthrust belts' - Dr G Williams, University college Cardiff

28 October Field Meeting, 'Aspects of the palaeoecology of the Carboniferous and Jurassic strata in the Ogmore-Southerndown district'. Leader, Professor DV Ager, University college of Swansea.

18 November, University college Cardiff. 'Pleistocene geology in South Wales' - Dr C Harris, University college Cardiff

25 November, National museum of Wales Cardiff. 'Films on Earth Sciences, 8' (in conjunction with the Museum Schools Service); 'The drifting of the continents', 'Plate tectonic processes', 'A case study of the Gower coast', 'A case study of Cwm Idwal and Nant Ffrancon', 'Story In the rocks'

16 December, University college of Swansea. 'New thoughts on the Old Red (Sandstone)' - Dr BPJ Williams, University of Bristol.

Membership at March 1978 was 160.

Alun J Thomas
Hon Secretary, GA South Wales group
c/o Dept of geology
National Museum of Wales
CARDIFF CF1 3NP

1979

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION, SOUTH WALES GROUP

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1979 (TWENTIETH/TWENTY FIRST SESSIONS)

Chairman: D.V. Ager, D.Sc., Ph.D. (Lond.), D.H.C. (Paris), D.I.C., F.G.S.

Vice-chairman: J.W. Perkins, B.Sc.

Treasurer: R. Parsons, B.A.

Secretary: A.J. Thomas, B.Sc.

Field meetings Secretary: R.M. Owens, Ph.D.

Editor: M.G. Bassett, Ph.D.

Committee: C. Atkinson, H. Bartlett, J.C.W. Cope, Ph.D., P.J.S. Dix, Ph.D., J.W. Saxty, L. Smith, Mrs. I. Taylor, Vice-chairman (ex officio) - R.A. Gayer, Ph.D.

SIX Ordinary and ONE Field Meetings were held.

20 January, University College Cardiff. 'Some ophiolites and their tectonic setting' - Dr. A.G. Smith, University of Cambridge.

17 February, University College Cardiff. 'Geology of the Costa Blanca (Alicante)' - J.W. Perkins, University College Cardiff.

10 March, University College of Swansea. 20th Annual General Meeting followed by 'Organic reefs, ancient and modern' - Dr. R.H. Riding, University College Cardiff.

2 June, Field Meeting, 'Junior excursion to the Bendrlcks-Black Rocks Barry coastal section'. Leader, A.J. Thomas, National Museum of Wales.

20 October, University College of Swansea. 'The geological evolution of Wales - 25 years after 'OT' - Professor T.R. Owen, University College of Swansea (Chairman 1966-1968).

17 November, University College Cardiff. 'Problems of the Caledonides' - Dr. R.A. Gayer, University College Cardiff (Chairman 1976-1978).

8 December, University College Cardiff. 'Recent geological investigations in the North Aegean Sea' - Professor M. Brooks, University College Cardiff (Chairman 1972-1974).

Membership at March 1979 was 153. Annual subscriptions remained at £1.50 (Ordinary) and 20p (Student).

Commencing in October each Ordinary Meeting was addressed by a past chairman to record the 21st Session (1979-1980) and the 20 years of the Group's existence since January 1960.

Alun J. Thomas,
Hon. Secretary, GA South Wales Group,
c/o Department of Geology,
National Museum of Wales,
CARDIFF, CF1 3NP

1980

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION, SOUTH WALES GROUP

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1980

Chairman: J W Perkins, B.Sc.; Vicechairman: J C W Cope, Ph.D.
Treasurer: R Parsons, B.A.; Secretary: A J Thomas, B.Sc.
Field meetings Secretary: R M Owens, Ph.D.; Editor: M G Bassett, Ph.D.
Committee: C Atkinson, W T Dean, D.Sc., P J S Dix, Ph.D., J Horak, E K Jones,
B.Sc., J W Saxty, M G Watkins, B.Sc.
Vicechairmen (ex-officio): R A Gayer, Ph.D., D V Ager, D.Sc., D.H.C.

SIX Ordinary and FOUR Field Meetings were held:-

26 January, University College Cardiff. 'Mineralogy in the modern world' -
Dr A C Bishop, British Museum (Natural History) London (President, Geologists'
Association).

16 February, University College of Swansea. 'Standing on Carboniferous
shoulders' - Dr D A Bassett, National Museum of Wales Cardiff (Founder-chairman,
1960-1962).

15 March, University College of Swansea. Special General Meeting and 21st Annual
General Meeting followed by the Chairman's Address 'The Mesozoic opening of the Atlantic
or what the brachiopod saw' - Professor D V Ager, University College of Swansea.

19 April Field Meeting, 'Junior excursion to the Penarth-Lavernock coast'.
Leader - A J Thomas, National Museum of Wales, Cardiff.

27 April Field Meeting, 'Great Oolite of the Bath and west Wiltshire area'.
Leader - J W Perkins, University College Cardiff.

5 July Field Meeting, 'Geology of the Swansea and Neath valleys'.
Leader - Professor T R Owen, University College of Swansea.

18 October, University College Cardiff. 'Problems of the British Pleistocene'
Dr D Q Bowen, University College of Wales, Aberystwyth.

15 November, University College Cardiff. 'Palaeomagnetism' - Dr J Shaw, University
College Cardiff.

22 November Field Meeting, 'Excursion to the Clydach gorge area'.
Leader - V P Wright, Polytechnic of Wales, Treforest.

13 December, University College of Swansea. 'Anglesey - old rocks and new ideas' -
Dr D E B Bates, University College of Wales, Aberystwyth.

Membership at March 1980 was 124.

Annual subscription for Ordinary Members was raised (from £1.50) to £2, that for
Student Members remained at 20p.

Alun J Thomas,
Hon. Secretary, GA South Wales Group,
Department of Geology, National Museum of Wales,
CARDIFF, CF1 3NP.

16 January 1981

1981

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION, SOUTH WALES GROUP

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1981

Chairman: J.W. Perkins, B.Sc.; Vice Chairman: J.C.W. Cope, Ph.D.;
Treasurer: R. Parsons, B.A.; Secretary: A.J. Thomas, B.Sc.;
Field Meetings Secretary: R.M. Owens, Ph.D.; Editor: H.G. Bassett, Ph.D.
Committee: C. Atkinson, W.T. Dean, D.Sc., E.K. Jones, B.Sc., G.J. Mills, B.Sc.,
M.G. Watkins, B.Sc., M.D. Wright, M.Sc.
Vice Chairmen (ex-officio): R.A. Gayer, Ph.D., D.V. Ager, D.Sc., D.H.C.

SIX Ordinary and ONE Field Meetings were held:-

- 17 January, University College Cardiff. 'A geological visit to China' -
Dr. A.W. Woodland, C.B.E.
- 21 February, University College of Swansea. 'Ordovician volcanism in North Wales' -
Dr. M.F. Howells, I.G.S. Leeds.
- 14 March, University College of Swansea. 22nd Annual General Meeting, followed
by 'Deep sea trenches ancient and modern' -Professor G. Kelling, University
of Keele.
- 26 September, Field meeting. 'Field excursion for students to the
Southerndown Coast SSSI' - A.J. Thomas, National Museum of Wales, Cardiff.
- 17 October, University College of Swansea. 'The green invasion of the land' - Dr. D.
Edwards, University College Cardiff.
- 21 November, University College Cardiff. 'Recent geological research in Peary Land,
North Greenland' - Dr. R.E. Bevins, National Museum of Wales, Cardiff.
- 12 December, University College of Swansea. 'An Ordovician chronicle: the development
of the Ordovician System in Great Britain' -Dr. M.G. Bassett, National Museum of
Wales, Cardiff.

Membership at March 1981 was 169.

Alun J. Thomas,
Hon. Secretary, GA South Wales Group,
Department of Geology,
National Museum of Wales,
CARDIFF,
CF1 3NP.

36 January 1982

Chairman: JCW Cope PhD; Vice-chairman: WT Dean DSc;
 Treasurer: R Parson BA; Secretary: AJ Thomas BSc;
 Field meetings secretary: RM Owens PhD; Editor: MG Bassett PhD;
 Committee: RE Bevins PhD, BP Coles PhD, L Cuckney, D Jones,
 GJ Mills BSc, K Sheldon, MD Wright MSc
 Vice-chairmen (ex officio) : RA Gayer PhD, DV Ager DSc DHC,
 JW Perkins BSc.

FIVE Ordinary and THREE Field Meetings were held:-

16 January (postponed)

13 February, University College of Swansea. "Aspects of sedimentation in a Kenyan coral reef lagoon" - Dr ATS Ramsay (UC Swansea)

13 March, University College Cardiff, Twenty third Annual General Meeting and Chairman's Address - "City centre geology (a means of conservation)" - JW Perkins (UC Cardiff)

1 May, Field Meeting. "Ordovician rocks of the Builth-Llandrindod area" - Dr JW Baker and Mr P Sheldon (both UC Cardiff).

19 June, Field Meeting. "Dinantian rocks of the eastern Vale of Glamorgan" - Dr RA Waters (IGS Aberystwyth)

15 October, National Museum Cardiff. "The work of the Institute of Geological Sciences in Wales" - Dr GM Brown (Director, IGS London); also the formal opening of the exhibition 'Geological surveying in Wales' (mounted in the museum by IGS)

6 November, Field Meeting. "Carboniferous sediments and palaeoecology in the Gower peninsula" - Dr ATS Ramsay (UC Swansea)

13 November, University College of Swansea. "Volcanoes of the solar system" - Professor MJ OHara FRS (UCW Aberystwyth)

11 December, National Museum Cardiff. "The geological evolution of Wales", a symposium; speakers - Dr AJ Barber (Chelsea C, U of London), 'The early history of Wales'; Professor WT Dean (UC Cardiff), 'Regional relationships of Welsh Cambrian and Ordovician faunas'; Dr PL Hancock (U of Bristol), 'Variscan movements in Wales'; Dr JCW Cope (UC of Swansea), 'The Mesozoic era in Wales'; Professor EH Brown (UC London), 'Tertiary, land forms and deposits'; Dr DQ Bowen (UCW Aberystwyth), 'Problems of the Welsh Quaternary'. Chairman was Professor M Brooks (UC Cardiff)

The Group published (May 1982)-BASSETT MG (ed), 1982, Geological excursions in Dyfed, pp 327 (itineraries for 19 excursions). During the year Professor TR Owen (UC of Swansea), a former Chairman of the Group, returned to good health after a serious motoring accident. As an experiment, commencing 1982, some meetings will take place on Friday evenings though Saturday mornings will continue to be the time for most meetings.

Membership (at March 1982) was 172.

Alun J. Thomas (hon sec, S Wales group)
 National Museum of Wales
 CARDIFF CF1 3NP

1983 GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION, SOUTH WALES GROUP

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1983

Chairman: JCW Cope PhD; Vicechairman: WT Dean DSc; Treasurer: R Parsons BA;
Secretary: AJ Thomas BSc; Field meetings secretary: RM Owens PhD;
Editor: MG Bassett PhD;
Committee: RE Bevins PhD, ME Brennan BSc, BP Coles PhD, J Girllow, JA Hewlett, K Sheldon,
P Waters; Vicechairmen (ex officio): DV Ager PhD, DHC, JW Perkins BSc.

SIX Ordinary and THREE Field Meetings were held:-

14 January University College of Swansea. "Turning points in the evolution of the continents" - Professor JV Watson (Imperial C, U of London and President Geol Soc of London)

12 February University College of Cardiff. "The seafloor-spreading history of the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden" - Dr P Styles (UC of Swansea)

26 February Field Meeting. "The Silurian of the Usk district" - Drs MG Bassett and RM Owens (both National Museum of Wales)

12 March University College of Swansea. Twenty-fourth Annual General Meeting followed by "Burgess Shales animals" - Dr DE Briggs (Goldsmiths C, U of London)

13-15 May Field Meeting. "Mesozoic rocks of the Dorset coast" - Dr JCW Cope (UC of Swansea)

15 October University College Cardiff. GEOLOGISTS ASSOCIATION 125TH ANNIVERSARY LECTURE "The role of the geologist in the construction industry" - Professor JL Knill (Imperial C, U of London and President Geologists Association)

22 October Field Meeting "Ogofau gold mines, Dolaucothi" - Dr AE Annels (UC Cardiff)

19 November University College of Swansea. "Mining for metals in Lower Palaeozoic rocks of Wales" - Dr AE Annels (UC Cardiff)
(LPG note 2011 the main listing gives Metal **Mining in Wales**)

3 December National Museum Cardiff. Symposium "Lower Palaeozoic Wales" comprising - "The Precambrian setting of the Lower Palaeozoic in Wales" - Dr FA Gibbons (UC Cardiff); "Lower Palaeozoic Wales - the past 25 years" - Dr MG Bassett (National Museum Cardiff); "Recent studies in the Lower Ordovician of South Wales" - Dr RA Fortey (British Museum of Natural History London) and Dr RM Owens (National Museum Cardiff); "Recent IGS work in North Wales Lower Palaeozoic" - Dr SD Campbell (IGS Aberystwyth); "Early development of the Lower Palaeozoic basin in North Wales" - Dr AJ Reedman (IGS Aberystwyth) (LPG note 2011: the main listing omits this talk); "Lower Palaeozoic sedimentation and tectonics in Wales" - Dr NH Woodcock (U of Cambridge); "Lower Palaeozoic volcanicity in Wales" - Dr RE Bevins (National Museum Cardiff).

Membership at March 1983-205.

Alun J. Thomas (Hon sec S Wales group)
National Museum of Wales CARDIFF CF1 3NP

12 January 1984

1984

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION, SOUTH WALES GROUP

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1984

Chairman: AG Thomas; Vice-Chairman: ATS Ramsay PhD; Treasurer; R Parsons BA;
Secretary: AJ Thomas BSc; Field Meetings Secretary: RM Owens PhD; Editor; MG Bassett
PhD; Committee: ME Brennan BSc, WRG Davies BSc, JA Hewlett, D Lewis MSc, C McMahon, A
Marshall, RA Stevens;
Vice-Chairmen (ex-officio): DV Ager PhD, DHC, JCW Cope PhD, JW Perkins BSc

Six indoor meetings were held:

January 14 'Upper Palaeozoic Wales', a symposium comprising:
'Early Carboniferous terrestrial deposits in South Wales - their palaeoclimatic and
palaeoecologic implications', Dr VP Wright (Open Uni Milton Keynes); 'Upper Palaeozoic
Wales - the past 25 years', Professor TR Owen (UC of Swansea); 'Aspects of the
sedimentology of the Black Rock Limestone and Gully Oolite in the Vale of Glamorgan', Dr
RA Waters (BGS Aberystwyth); 'Recent IGS work in the Carboniferous of North Wales', Dr
JR Davies (BGS Aberystwyth); 'New faunal discoveries from Visean limestones in North
Wales', Dr ID Somerville and Dr ARE Strank (both University coll Dublin); 'Faunal
developments in Upper Palaeozoic Wales', Dr WHC Ramsbottom (BGS Leeds); 'Late
Palaeozoic sedimentation in Wales', Dr BPJ Williams (Uni of Bristol).
Chairman was Dr JCW Cope (UC of Swansea).

February 10 'Dinosaurs - some myths and misconceptions', Dr AE Charig (BM (NH) London)

March 10 TWENTY FIFTH Annual General Meeting, Chairman Dr DA Bassett (Founder-
chairman 1960-1962). Presentations - to Emeritus Professor TR Owen elected as first
Honorary Member of the Group, to Mr R Parsons for 25 years service to the Group as
Treasurer.

There then followed the address of the Retiring Chairman (Dr JCW Cope), 'The
Llangynog inlier-new discoveries in the Carmarthen area'.
In attendance at the buffet lunch [held in the Court Room of the National Museum of
Wales) were most of the Group's past Chairmen and Committee members of the 25 years.

October 12 'Mount St Helens revisited', Dr PW Francis (Open Uni Milton Keynes).

November 17 'Coal prospecting in Britain 1650-1900', Dr HS Torrens (Uni of Keele)

December 8, 'Depositional environments of the Carboniferous Limestone of the Gower',
Dr ATS Ramsay (UC of Swansea)

Two field meetings were held:

March 31 'Big Pit mining museum Blaenavon'

May 18-20 Field meeting to Ramsay Island and mainland Preseli, Drs RE Bevins and RM
Owens (both National Museum of Wales)

Most of the papers read at the Upper Palaeozoic Wales meeting of 14 January together
with those read at the Lower Palaeozoic Wales meeting of 3 December 1983 (and the
paper of Dr JCW Cope from the meeting of 11 December 1982) were, as part of the
celebration of the Group's 25 years, published in the Proceedings as Part 4,
entitled 'Focus on Wales', and issued November 1984.

Thanks are expressed to the Editor of the Proceedings, DrJT Greensmith, and to the
Council of the Association for making this possible.

Membership at March 1984 was 213.

Alun J. Thomas Hon secretary, Geologists Association South Wales Group 20.12.84

1985

GEOLOGISTS ASSOCIATION, SOUTH WALES GROUP ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1985

Chairman: AG Thomas; Vice-chairman: ATS Ramsay PhD;
Treasurer: R Parsons BA; Secretary: AJ Thomas BSc;
Field Meetings Secretary: RM Owens PhD; Editor: MG Bassett DSc;
Committee: J Adams, WRG Davies BSc, W Gibbons PhD, D Lewis MSc,
JA Piffaretti BSc, G Riley, RA Stevens;
Vice-chairmen (ex-officio): JCW Cope PhD, JW Perkins BSc.

Six indoor meetings were arranged:-

January 18 Geophysical predictions: civil engineering site investigations,
Professor D Taylor Smith (UCNW Bangor)
[this meeting was cancelled because of heavy snow]

February 16 Early years of the Geological Survey, J Thackray (BGS London)

March 9 TWENTY SIXTH Annual General Meeting followed by:-
The Cambrian - Ordovician boundary, Professor WT Dean (UC Cardiff)

October 11 Diagenesis and low-temperature metamorphism, an introduction to its uses
and importance in geological studies - Dr D Robinson (U of Bristol)

November 16 Geological Survey in Wales 1980-1995, a review of achievements and a
look at the future - Dr RAB Bazley (BGS Aberystwyth) *(LPG note 2011: main listing gives 1980-
1990)*

December 7 Graptolites through the looking-glass or An electron microscope
investigation of some retiolitid graptolites - Dr DEB Bates (UCW Aberystwyth)

Two field meetings took place:-

May 10-12 Field meeting to South Shropshire, Dr MG Bassett
(National Museum of Wales) and Professor WT Dean (UC Cardiff).

October 27 Field meeting (jointly with West of England group) to the Portishead
and Clevedon area, Drs BPJ Williams and PL Hancock (both U of Bristol)

Membership at March 1985 was 175.

Alun J. Thomas

Hon secretary Geologists Association South Wales group

23.12.85

GEOLOGISTS ASSOCIATION, SOUTH WALES GROUP
REPORT of hon secretary of 1985 activities

Submitted in person to Geologists' Association Council meeting of 1 November 1985

Severe weather caused a postponement of the year's first meeting; Professor Denzil Taylor Smith was marooned - by deep snow - (at home) in Bangor while Swansea (the venue) was cut off from the rest of Wales. By mid February the weather - and our programme - had resumed in even keel and the 26th annual general meeting took place in March.

A May weekend field meeting was led in South Shropshire by Professor Bill Dean and Dr Mike Bassett; its 25 participants enjoyed good geology, good company - and good weather (in order of increasing rarity)!

Another - more recent - field meeting to coastal sections at Portishead and Clevedon was a (first) joint meeting of this group with the West of England group - currently celebrating its 10th anniversary - ending comfortably with tea and buns in the spacious new premises of the University of Bristol's department of geology. It is hoped that this kind of contact between neighbours will be repeated.

If a forward look is permitted, then it is to the February 1986 meeting which is to be an all day symposium (containing not less than seven speakers,) on the theme of 'The offshore geology of Wales and contiguous regions', complementing the onshore geology theme of recent symposia (published as 'Focus on Wales' in the Proceedings)

Alun J. Thomas (hon secretary)

31.10.85

1986

GEOLOGISTS ASSOCIATION, SOUTH WALES GROUP ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1986

Chairman: ATS Ramsay PhD; Vice-chairman: RA Stevens MSc;
Treasurer: R Parsons BA; Secretary: AJ Thomas BSc;
Field Meetings Secretary: RM Owens PhD; Editor: MG Bassett DSc;
Committee: M Davies MSc, W Gibbons PhD, S Hopkins, CW Lee PhD, Ms B Morgan,
JA Piffaretti, CT Taylor,
Vice-chairman (ex-officio) JCW Cope PhD, JW Perkins BSc, AG Thomas.

Six indoor meetings were arranged:-

January 17 Anglesey geology: a review of recent research work, Dr Wes Gibbons (UC Cardiff)

February 15 'The offshore geology of Wales and adjacent areas: a symposium'.
A. 'Pre-Quaternary geology', chairman Professor M Brooks (UC Cardiff);
MG Bassett, JCW Cope, 'Sabrinia: the Palaeozoic history of a Bristol Channel landmass'; I Penn, 'Geophysical logs in Welsh stratigraphy: onshore and offshore';
M Dobson, RJ Whittington, 'Geology and evolution of Cardigan Bay'; M Brooks, 'Geological structure of the Bristol Channel area'; CM Davies, 'Geology of the Lundy Tertiary basin'.
B. 'Quaternary geology and sedimentology', chairman Dr AW Woodland;
MB Collins, 'Sediment transport in the Bristol Channel and adjacent regions';
J Rimmer, 'Offshore sediment movement identified through remote sensing';
MA Hession, RJ Whittington, 'Aspects of the Quaternary sediments of the Anglesey and Cardigan Bay map sheets'; RTR Wingfield, C James, 'Seafloor sediments of the Anglesey and Cardigan Bay map sheets'; J Lowe, 'Processes of estuarine sedimentation in North Wales'.
C. 'Geotechnics', chairman Dr AW Woodland;
D Taylor-Smith, 'Geotechnical studies in Tremadog Bay'; SE Shackley, 'Some geotechnical properties of offshore sediments'; SE Jones, 'Geophysical assessment of some Welsh coastal sediment properties'.
(Symposium papers to be published in the Proceedings)

March 8 TWENTY SEVENTH Annual General Meeting including the election as Honorary Member of the Group of Dr Douglas A Bassett, followed by the Address of the Retiring Chairman (Mr Alan G Thomas), 'Reflections in coal; 35 years in the South Wales coal industry'. The Retiring Chairman's Lunch was attended by 27 members.

October 17 Biogeographic evolution of South American mammal faunas, Professor RJG Savage (U of Bristol).

November 15 Soft-sediment deformation structures: products of ancient earthquakes?, Dr HG Owen (UC of Swansea).

December 6 Quaternary sediments at sites of opencast coal mining in South Wales, R Donnelly (UC Cardiff).

A weekend field meeting was held (2-5 May) in Anglesey led by Dr Wes Gibbons (UC Cardiff), Ms J Horak (NMW Cardiff).

Membership at March 1986 was 128.

Alun J. Thomas
Hon secretary, Geologists Association South Wales Group

Geologists' Association. South Wales Group : brief interim review of the year's activities to date for the GA Council Meeting of Friday 7 November 1986. Read in absentia.

'Geology and sediments of offshore Wales and adjacent areas' not only suggests a fresh Celtic claim to areas of continental shelf but was the title for an all day symposium in mid February (with 15 contributors from four of the colleges of the native university, from its institute of science and technology and from BGS) which aimed to complete the review of the geology of Wales - begun in earlier symposia - and, like them, to appear in a subsequent issue of the Proceedings.

The Group's Annual General Meeting elected only its second Honorary Member in the worthy form of its founder chairman and first editor (and a guiding light for the Group for many years) Dr Douglas A Bassett - and afterwards entertained him to lunch.

Professor RJG (Bob) Savage talked of South American fossil mammal faunas on 17 October last at UC Swansea creating an interesting if minor coincidence in that his one previous address to the Group (also on fossil mammals - but African) had been made also on 17 October also at UC Swansea - 22 years earlier!

Finally an event of dubious note. The Group's year had opened on a high note when Dr Wes Gibbons talked about Anglesey geology and had almost closed during the later weekend spent in rewarding fashion looking with him at Anglesey geology. A particularly fierce rainsquall drove the members of the party to shelter for a few minutes in the lee of a building. Witty comments were exchanged over the building's location some 150m from the cooling water outlet from Wylfa Head nuclear power station, little realising that the rain shower was probably -in retrospect - the first (on that particular day in early May) to wash down out of the atmosphere curies (or is it becquerels?) from Chernobyl!

Membership before that excursion had been 128!

Yours? radioactively

Alun J Thomas (Hon Secretary)
23.10.86

1987

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION, SOUTH WALES GROUP

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1987

Chairman: ATS Ramsay PhD; Vice-chairman: RA Stevens MSc;
Treasurer: R Parsons BA; Secretary: AJ Thomas BSc;
Field Meetings Secretary: RM Owens PhD; Editor: MG Bassett DSc;
Committee: M Davies MSc, D Edwards PhD, CW Lee PhD, DN Roberts BSc, CT Taylor;
Vice-chairman (ex-officio): JCW Cope PhD, AG Thomas.

Seven indoor meetings were arranged:-

January 7 The exhibition at the National Museum of Wales of Dinosaurs from China, Dr Michael Bassett (NMW Cardiff)

January 16 A new look at the geology of central Southwest England, Dr EB Selwood (U of Exeter); this meeting was postponed because of heavy snow

February 14 Gemstones, Mr Basil Isaac (Poly of Wales, Pontypridd)

March 7 TWENTY EIGHTH Annual General Meeting followed by - In search of fossil plants, Dr Dianne Edwards (UC Cardiff)

October 16 Recent developments in the understanding of the Variscan geology of Southwest England, Dr Brian Selwood (U of Exeter)

November 14 Radioactive waste disposal beneath the sea-bed?, Professor Robert Kidd (UC of Swansea)

December 5 The changing shoreline of the Severn Estuary, Professor John Allen FRS (U of Reading)

A one day field meeting was held (jointly with WEGA) in the Pumpsaint-Llandovery district, leader Dr Brian Williams (U of Bristol).

A weekend field meeting to the Malverns was postponed.

Membership at March 1987 was 160

Alun J Thomas (Hon secretary)

17 02 88

1988

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION, SOUTH WALES GROUP

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1988

Chairman: RA Stevens MSc; Vice-chairman: AJ Thomas B Sc;
Treasurer: R Parsons BA; Secretary: AJ Thomas BSc;
Field Meetings Secretary: RM Owens PhD; Editor: MG Bassett DSc;
Committee: D Edwards PhD, LP Garfield, BJ Lewis BA, HG Owen PhD, DN Roberts BSc;
Vice-chairmen (ex-officio): JCW Cope PhD, ATS Ramsay PhD, AG Thomas.

Six indoor meetings were arranged:-

January 15 Micro-seismic research in the South Wales Coalfield, Dr P Styles (UC Swansea)

February 13 The life and times of dinosaurs, Dr LB Halstead (U of Reading)

March 5 TWENTY NINTH Annual General Meeting followed by The Carboniferous Limestone of the North and South crop - problems and discoveries, Dr ATS Ramsay (UC Swansea)

October 14 Time and Space in the Quaternary Ice Ages, Professor DQ Bowen (UCW Aberystwyth)

November 19 Sedimentation and tectonics in the Pindus Foreland Basin of Greece, Dr J Alexander (UWC Cardiff)

December 10 Mountain building, Dr D Powell (RHB New Coll U of London)

A one day field meeting was held at Amroth, leader Dr HG Owen (UC Swansea), and a weekend field meeting in the Malverns was led by Dr MG Bassett.

There had been published in Proc geol ass, 98, pt 4 (December 1987), pp 273-416, the proceedings (edited by MG Bassett) of a symposium held on 15 February 1986 entitled "Geology and sediments of Offshore Wales and adjacent areas".

Membership at March 1988 was 109

Alun J Thomas (Hon secretary)

23 01 89

GEOLOGISTS ASSOCIATION, SOUTH WALES GROUP

Report of the hon secretary of 1988 activities; to be presented in person, at the GA Council Meeting of Friday 4 November 1988.

The programme began explosively with Dr Peter Styles describing (but not demonstrating) rock 'bursts' in the mines of the anthracite district of the South Wales coalfield.

An audience of over a hundred, (including members of other societies) was on the edge of its collective seat when Dr Beverly Halstead's description of dinosaurian life-styles included a demonstration of some of the lesser-known positions adopted by the more laid-back members among the dinosaurs.

Dr Tony Ramsay gave the Retiring Chairman's address on problems of the Carboniferous Limestone of South Wales the digestion of which was aided by the pleasant lunch that followed.

Dr Geraint Owen led a field excursion into south Dyfed (Llanstephan and Amroth) and Dr Michael Bassett a weekend field excursion to the Malverns, both in pleasant Spring weather. The Student Lecture for 1988 (the first) was splendidly delivered by Professor David Bowen (currently New College London, but soon to head at University College of Wales Aberystwyth the newly-formed broad-spectrum Institute of Earth Studies).

Another - but depressing - sign of the times in the world of higher education was the UGC "thumbs-down" on the future of the department of Earth science at University College of Swansea - so the Group's western venue may be in jeopardy.

Unreported in the annual report for 1987 but an omission the secretary is pleased now to correct was the appearance in Proc geol ass, vol 98, part 4 (December 1987) of "Geology and sediments of offshore Wales and adjacent areas" being mainly the papers read at the symposium held by the Group on 15 February 1986. This was the second of the symposia arranged by the Group to be published in the Proceedings.

A third symposium (on Paleobiology in Wales) will be held on 11 March 1989 and it is the intention to offer its papers for possible publication by the Association.

Total membership of the Group at March 1988 was 113.

Alun J Thomas (Hon secretary)

1990

**SOUTH WALES GROUP
REPORT FOR 1990**

The South Wales Group's year runs from September to September, so this period includes parts of the 1989/90 and 1990/91 sessions.

Early 1990 saw the sad death of Prof. T.R. (Dick) Owen, a past Chairman and Honorary Member of the Group, after illness. He will be missed by all.

Despite the closure of the Department of Geology at Swansea, which was finally effected this year, there is a strong core of members in the Swansea area, and meetings will continue to be held in Swansea as well as Cardiff.

During the 1989/90 session there were 63 paid-up Ordinary Members, plus 2 Honorary Members. Membership for 1990/91 is already over 70, and several new initiatives have been taken to try and attract new members.

At the Annual General Meeting in March, Alun Thomas was awarded Honorary Membership and, having stepped down as Secretary in 1989 after 23 years, took over as Chairman for the period 1990-1992. After an even longer period - 31 years - as the only Treasurer in the Group's history, Roland Parsons also stepped down, to be replaced by Tom Sharpe. Nigel Roberts resigned as Secretary, and was replaced by Geraint Owen, who was replaced as Field Secretary by John Cope. Lynda Garfield and Bryn Lewis retired from the Committee, their places being taken by Jim Chetcuti, Peter Hodges and Mike Lees.

At a Special General Meeting held before the Annual General Meeting subscriptions were increased to £5.00 for Ordinary Members and £1.00 for Student Members. This is the first increase for 8 years.

There will have been 7 lecture meetings during the year. Mike Benton started the year off with a talk on Rhynchosaurs, attended by 39 at Swansea. In February, Dick Aldridge talked on the thermal history of Wales before 20 people in Cardiff. The Annual General Meeting in Swansea in March was followed by Alan Stevens' Chairman's Address, attended by 32 - an account of Black Country geology through an engineer's eyes. The 1990/91 session got under way in October with Tim Palmer talking on Hard Bottoms, attended by 24 people in Swansea. In November, the third annual Student Lecture will be given by Peter Styles on earthquakes, and Bruce Sellwood will talk on the stratigraphical evolution and petroleum geology of southern England. This should be a useful precursor to our April field weekend to southern England. Finally, Jake Hancock will talk in December on the geology of wine production. We hope to follow this with a wine and snacks buffet.

There will have been 3 field meetings in the year. Peter Sheldon led a group of 22 around the Builth-Llandridod inlier on a hot, sunny day in March, which provided excellent conditions for finding trilobites and considering their evolution. Only 3 people came to the head of the Neath Valley in June, and the weekend excursion to the Isle of Wight, planned for May, had to be cancelled for lack of interest. A trip to Barry is planned for early November, including a tour of NERC's research ship, and has over a dozen registrants.

August 1990 saw the British Association for the Advancement of Science's annual meeting - Science 90 - held in Swansea. The overall theme was 'The Environment'. The Group organised a Mason Conference - a day of lectures - on Palaeoclimates, which was well attended and proved a most stimulating and interesting day. The Group also organised several field trips at the start of the week. Despite some cancellations from the original programme, trips were held on Sunday to the Gower, the Pembroke peninsula and Carmarthen Bay, and on Monday to Fishguard, and to the Swansea and Neath Valleys. During the week Eric Robinson led 2 most successful tours, to a local cemetery and to the city centre. In general the week was a success and was well attended and supported by Group members.

Geraint Owen Hon Secretary November 1990

Presented at GA Council, Burlington House 2 November 1990

1991

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION

SOUTH WALES GROUP

REPORT FOR 1991

The South Wales Group has had a successful year in 1991. Membership has risen from 63 in September 1990 to 112 at the end of the 1990/91 session, and currently stands at 112, with more expected before the current session ends in September 1992. Membership includes 2 Honorary Members, but just 15 Student Members: we hope the new RockWATCH scheme may bring us more young members. Subscriptions remained unchanged at £5 for Ordinary Members, £1 for Student Members and senior citizens, and we introduced a family rate of £2.50 for each further adult at the same address as an Ordinary Member. Members receive a regular newsletter. During the summer we produced a new membership leaflet and have had about 30 new members since.

7 lecture meetings were held in 1991. On 19 January Dr K Pickering spoke on the evolution of Iapetus to an audience of 35 in Cardiff. On 16 February Dr E Hailwood spoke on magnetic polarity reversals to an audience of 24 in Swansea. Our Annual General Meeting was held on 9 March in Cardiff and was followed by a lecture from Prof RSJ Sparks on "Volcanoes of the Andes", attended by 45 people. The 1991/92 session got under way on 19 October in Cardiff with a lecture from Dr D McCarroll on "The Glaciation in Wales: a Return to the Flood?" which 30 people attended. Our annual Student Lecture was held on the evening of 6 November in Cardiff. About 60 young and old students listened to Dr A Charig talk on "Dinosaur Extinctions". An audience of 30 heard Dr D Bassett talk on "Wales and Geology" in Swansea on 16 November and the final lecture of the year was given by Dr R King in Cardiff on 7 December, on the mineralogy of the Caldbeck Fells in Cumbria, attended by 32. Refreshments were provided before each lecture meeting, and wine and snacks after those in March and December.

5 field meetings have been held. On 23 February Drs J Cope and R Bevins led a group of 12 to the Precambrian rocks of the Llangynog Inlier, west of Carmarthen. On 14 April Dr G Owen led 20 members of the South Wales Group and the Open University Geological Society Severnside Branch along the Carmarthen Bay coast from Pendine to Amroth. After several years of having to be cancelled the Group's spring weekend was again a success, largely due to publicity in the GA Circular. About 20 people spent a weekend in Dorset under the guidance of Dr J Cope. On 1 June Dr E Robinson gave a talk in Cardiff followed by a tour of Cathays Cemetery. Finally, on 30 November, 32 people were led by Mr D Hawley around the Old Red Sandstone of the Talgarth area, including the Brecknock Wildlife Trust Geology Group's geology trail at Pwll y Wrach.

The most active "week" of the year was Welsh Geology Week, which saw talks, walks and exhibitions throughout the Principality between 4th and 14th July. Many members were involved in organising and attending events and 19 new members were recruited. The week was a great success and it is hoped that it will be repeated in some form.

Members are still awaiting publication of the Group's guide to the geology of Powys and the GA guide to the Swansea region. Both of these are now close to completion.

The current session continues until September 1992 and highlights still to come include a lecture on the natural history of the mammoth, to be followed by a viewing of the National Museum of Wales' "Mammoths and the Ice Age" exhibition, the Annual General Meeting with Mr Alun Thomas's Chairman's Address, and more field meetings including a weekend in North Wales and a visit to the new M4 cutting near Swansea.

Geraint Owen (Honorary Secretary)

December 1991

1992

ANNUAL REPORT TO GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION, LONDON, DECEMBER 1992

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION - SOUTH WALES GROUP

REPORT FOR 1992

Chairman: Michael Bassett; **Vice-Chairman:** Peter Hodges; **Treasurer:** Tom Sharpe; **Secretary:** Geraint Owen; **Field Secretary:** John Cope; **Editor:** Michael Bassett; **Members of Committee:** Brenda Bruck, Jim Chetcuti, Mervyn Howells; Sid Howells, Mike Lees.

This has been a successful year for the South Wales Group, spanning our 33rd and 34th sessions. 8 lecture meetings have been held at University College Swansea, University of Wales College of Cardiff and the National Museum of Wales: Prof D T Herbert, Prof M Brooks and Dr M G Bassett are thanked for their support of our activities. Dr P Brabham spoke on engineering and environmental geophysics; Dr A Lister outlined the natural history of the mammoth, a meeting held jointly with the Cardiff Naturalists Society and followed by a viewing of the National Museum's 'Mammoths and the Ice Age' exhibition; Alun Thomas gave his retiring Chairman's address on 33 years of the South Wales Group; Prof G Kelling gave the 2nd T R Owen Memorial Lecture on 60 years of Welsh Lower Palaeozoic geology; Dr J C W Cope spoke on the palaeogeography of the British Isles; the 5th annual Student Lecture was given by Mr E Thomas on practical engineering geology; Dr B Thomas described Coal Measure forests; and Dr R Bevins explained the volcanic rocks of the Welsh Basin. Typical attendances were between 35 and 40.

Although our spring field weekend was once again cancelled, there were 5 very successful field days, with average attendance over 30. 53 people came to see the new cutting for the M4 at Earlswood; Dr R M Owens took us to Cwm Graig Ddu; Dr J C W Cope took us to the Vale of Glamorgan; Mr S Howells led us round the firing range at Linney Head; and Drs M G Bassett and R M Owens took us the Usk area.

Membership reached 146 at the end of the 1991/92 session in March, and currently stands at 151. Subscriptions are unchanged at £5 for Ordinary Members, £1 for senior citizens and students. Members received 5 newsletters during the calendar year.

The Committee met 3 times during the year. The main topics of discussion were insurance, our potential contribution to geological conservation and publicity of our activities.

1993 promises to be another interesting year with membership set to increase further, a Members' Evening to follow the AGM, prospects of a Group sweat-shirt, and a joint meeting with the Geological Society's Southern Wales Regional Group.

Geraint Owen (Secretary)

1993

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION - SOUTH WALES GROUP

REPORT FOR 1993

Chairman: Michael Bassett; Vice-Chairman: Peter Hodges; Treasurer: Tom Sharpe; Secretary: Geraint Owen; Field Secretary: John Cope; Editor: Michael Bassett; Members of Committee: Brenda Bruck, Jim Chetcuti, Mervyn Howells; Sid Howells, Mike Lees.

This year, spanning our 34th and 35th sessions, has seen 8 lecture meetings, held in Swansea, Cardiff and Ystradgynlais: Mr M Francis (glaciation of the Brecon Beacons [62]); Mr R Connelly (groundwater in mining - joint with the Geol Soc S Wales Group [28]); Dr D A Bassett (the work of FJ North - held by the Cardiff Naturalists [60]); AGM, Members' talks & visit to 'Sea Monsters' exhibition [40]; Prof EH Francis (mining and geology - TR Owen Lecture [60]); Prof M House (orbital forcing [26]); Dr M Simms (Triassic climate - student lecture [55]) and Dr C Fletcher (recent BGS work in central Wales []). Dr D Unwin will talk on pterosaurs in December. Prof DT Herbert, Prof M Brooks, Prof D Rickard and Dr MG Bassett are thanked for their support.

We have held 6 field meetings: Derlwyn opencast site (courtesy of British Coal [36]); Forest of Dean (Drs R Gayer & JCW Cope [17]); glacial features in the Brecon Beacons (Dr R Shakesby [22]); SW Dyfed (weekend, Drs JCW Cope & RM Owens [15]); Black Mountains (weekend for GA, Mr D Hawley & Dr G Owen [12]); Builth (Drs L Chems & MG Bassett [29]).

'Geological Excursions in Powys' was published in August. Promotional sweat-shirts and jackets are now on sale.

Membership reached 180 at the end of the 1992/93 session, up from 146 the previous year. Subscriptions remained unchanged at £5 for Ordinary Members, £1 for senior citizens and students. Members received 3 newsletters.

The Committee met 4 times. Public liability insurance cover was taken out at an annual premium of £150. Honorary Membership was conferred on Roland Parsons. The Group was saddened by the death of Prof Derek Ager in February.

Geraint Owen (Secretary)

1994

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION - SOUTH WALES GROUP

REPORT FOR 1994

Chairman: Peter Hodges; **Vice-Chairman:** Lynda Garfield; **Treasurer:** Tom Sharpe; **Secretary:** Geraint Owen; **Field Secretary:** John Cope; **Editor:** Michael Bassett; **Members of Committee:** Mike Brown, Brenda Bruck, Jim Chetcuti, Mervyn Howells, Sid Howells, Mike Lees.

1994 spanned our 35th and 36th sessions. We have had 7 lecture meeting, held in Swansea and Cardiff Universities. Profs Herbert and Rickard are thanked for their support. Attendances are in brackets: Dr R Lisle – folding (38); Mr N Young - diamonds - joint with Geol Soc Group (44); Prof MG Bassett - Ordovician system - retiring Chairman's address (28); Dr G Jenkins - Stonehenge (51); Prof G Eglinton - ancient biomolecules - student lecture (75); Dr EA Jarzembowski Writhlington insects (37); and Dr JCW Cope - Tertiary Wales (42).

Field days have been held at Chepstow with Dr M Simms (20) and on Ramsey Island with Mr S Howells (25). There was a disappointing turnout of only 9 for the field weekend to Central Wales with BGS staff. Other events included an evening visit to the superb "Evolution of Wales" gallery at the National Museum of Wales (70) and an all-day Conservation Forum (30) which included talks and a field visit. This led directly to the establishment of a Glamorgan-Gwent RIGS Group, and a high-profile conservation field day on classic Llandeilo sections at Llandeilo (15).

Many thanks to all speakers and field trip leaders.

Membership stabilised at 182, and subscriptions remained unchanged at £5 for Ordinary Members, £1 for senior citizens and students. Members received 3 newsletters. The Committee met 4 times.

Geraint Owen (Secretary) January 1995

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION - SOUTH WALES GROUP

REPORT FOR 1995

Chairman: Peter Hodges; **Vice-Chairman:** Lynda Garfield; **Treasurer:** Tom Sharpe; **Secretary:** Geraint Owen; **Field Secretary:** John Cope; **Editor:** Michael Bassett; **Members of Committee:** Mike Brown, Jim Chetcuti, Sid Howells, Mike Lees, Lynfa Lewis, Mike Sullivan; **Ex-Officio Vice-Chairman:** Alun J Thomas.

1995 spanned the Group's 36th and 37th sessions. We held 8 lecture meetings at Cardiff and Swansea Universities (average attendance 33) and 4 field meetings (average attendance 14). Lectures included the 5th T.R. Owen Memorial Lecture given in Swansea by Professor Brian Williams. Field Meetings included a site clearance day in Cardiff as part of European Nature Conservation Year, although we had to cancel our planned weekend trip to the Isle of Wight.

Membership was 168 at the end of 1994/95, slightly down on last year. Subscriptions remained at £5 (£1 for Senior Citizens and Students). Members received 3 newsletters, and special offers included "Plant Fossils of the British Coal Measures" and the BGS Geological Map of Wales and Satellite Image of Wales.

The Committee met 5 times, and is liaising closely with the fledgling Glamorgan-Gwent RIGS Group. A formal application for Charity status should be made soon - we hope to put a new set of rules to a Special General Meeting in the spring. These rules include an official Welsh version of the Group's name - *Cymdeithas y Daearegwyr - Grwp De Cymru*.

Finally, many thanks to Professors Rickard and Herbert for supporting our activities, to our speakers and field trip leaders, and to Committee Members for their hard work.

Geraint Owen

December 1995

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION - SOUTH WALES GROUP
CYMDEITHAS Y DAEAREGWYR - GRWP DE CYMRU

REPORT FOR 1996

President: Lynda Garfield; **Vice-President:** Gareth Davies; **Treasurer:** Tom Sharpe; **Secretary:** Geraint Owen; **Membership Secretary:** Mike Lees; **Programme Secretary:** Lesley Chems; **Editor:** Michael Bassett; **Committee Members:** Mike Brown, Eddie Callaway, Jim Chetcuti, Lynfa Lewis, Stephen Plant, Mike Sullivan; **Past Chairmen:** Peter Hodges, Alun Thomas.

1996, spanning our 37th and 38th sessions, was a busy year. New rules formalising a Welsh version of our name and a new Committee structure led to our registration as a charity. Subscriptions rose to £6 and membership to 189. Members received 2 newsletters and the conservation newsletter *Cadwyr Creigiau Cymru*.

We held 7 lecture meetings at Cardiff and Swansea Universities (average attendance 38), 3 field days (average attendance 19) and a weekend in Dorset. An informal meeting in September combining displays with fieldwork attracted some new members. We took a display to the GA Reunion. Six walks for Science Week were attended by 195 people (including 91 on 1 walk), and with a COPUS grant several leaflets were produced. Members played an active part in the Welsh RIGS Forum, and we have improving links with the Russell Society, OUGS and Geological Society.

The Committee met 5 times, discussing programme planning, the application for charity status, and geological conservation. We thank Professors Herbert and Rickard for their support, and all our speakers and field leaders. We congratulate one member - Dianne Edwards - on her election as a FRS, while mourning the loss of two - Rob Kidd and Arthur Pinner.

Geraint Owen (Secretary)

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION - SOUTH WALES GROUP
CYMDEITHAS Y DAEAREGWYR - GRWP DE CYMRU

REPORT FOR 1997

President: Lynda Garfield; **Vice-President:** Gareth Davies; **Treasurer:** Tom Sharpe; **Secretary:** Geraint Owen; **Membership Secretary:** Mike Lees; **Programme Secretary:** Lesley Cherns; **Editor:** Michael Bassett; **Committee Members:** Eddie Callaway, Jim Chetcuti, Margaret Davies, Lynfa Lewis, Stephen Plant, Mike Sullivan; **Student Member:** Richard Thomas; **Past Chairman:** Peter Hodges.

1997 - our 38th and 39th sessions - had an excellent start with a *Holiday Geology* evening hosted by the National Museum, comprising a buffet, time to view their excellent *Evolution of Wales* Gallery, and talks with slides from members who had been to Peru, Namibia, Jamaica, Hawaii and the Giant's Causeway. Over 80 members attended.

We held 7 lecture meetings at Cardiff and Swansea Universities (average attendance 46), including joint meetings with the Geological Society Southern Wales Group and the Russell Society, and 3 field days (average attendance 25). A visit to the Natural History Museum was cancelled for lack of numbers. We organised 7 walks in Science Week with attendances ranging from 1 to 450, averaging 102. A new walk leaflet was published with a grant from Bridgend Council. Our members remained central to the Glamorgan-Gwent RIGS Group, and we again took a display to the GA Reunion.

Membership reached 192, with subscriptions at £6. Members received 4 newsletters. The Committee met 4 times. Letters were sent in protest at the cessation of single honours Geology teaching at University of Wales Aberystwyth. We thank Professors Herbert, Rickard and Bassett for their continued support, and all our speakers and field leaders.

Geraint Owen
Department of Geography
University of Wales Swansea
Singleton Park
Swansea SA2 8PP

Tel: 01792-295141

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION - SOUTH WALES GROUP
CYMDEITHAS Y DAEAREGWYR - GRWP DE CYMRU

REPORT FOR 1998

President: Gareth Davies; **Vice-President:** Stephen Howe; **Treasurer:** Tom Sharpe; **Secretary:** Geraint Owen; **Membership Secretary:** Mike Lees; **Programme Secretary:** Lesley Cherns; **Editor:** Michael Bassett; **Committee Members:** Eddie Callaway, Alan Channing, Jim Chetcuti, Margaret Davies, Lynfa Lewis, Stephen Plant; **Student Member:** Richard Thomas; **Past-Chairman:** Peter Hodges; **Past-President:** Lynda Garfield.

The highlight of 1998 was our display at the National Eisteddfod in August at Pen-y-Bont ar Ogwr (Bridgend). This was a joint venture with other groups, and generated interest in geology amongst a new section of the public. We produced a bilingual booklet to the geology of the Bridgend area, and Welsh language versions of 3 of our popular walk leaflets.

We held 4 lecture meetings in Swansea and 4 in Cardiff (average attendance 45) and 3 field meetings (average attendance 15). 100 people attended our second *Holiday Geology* evening, with slide presentations on the Middle East, America and Iceland. Members led 6 walks for set98 *Science Week* (average attendance 16). As well as the Eisteddfod publications, 2 new walk leaflets were produced. We again took a display to the GA Reunion, and members continued to support the Glamorgan-Gwent RIGS Group.

Membership at last rose to reach 200, with subscriptions remaining at £6 (£1.50 for students and senior citizens). Members received 4 newsletters, and the Committee met 4 times. We thank Professors Herbert, Rickard and Bassett for their continued support, all our speakers and field leaders, and those organisations that sponsored our activities, including the GA Curry Fund.

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GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION - SOUTH WALES GROUP
CYMDEITHAS Y DAEAREGWYR - GRŴP DE CYMRU

REPORT FOR 2000

President: Stephen Howe; **Vice-President:** Allan Cuthbertson; **Treasurer:** Malcolm Shaw; **Secretary:** Geraint Owen; **Membership Secretary:** Mike Lees; **Programme Secretary:** Lesley Cherns; **Editor:** Michael Bassett; **Committee Members:** Alan Channing, Lynda Garfield, Lynfa Lewis, Nigel McGaw, Stephen Plant, Dave Wellings; **Past-Chairman:** Peter Hodges; **Past-President:** Gareth Davies.

This has been another successful year. The most high-profile activity was a return to the Welsh National Eisteddfod, in Llanelli in August. A display and hands-on activities were organised jointly with The Russell Society by an enthusiastic team headed by Lynfa Lewis and Lynda Garfield. Grant funding was received from a various sources, and the display was the most popular in the environment pavilion. Displays at the Eisteddfod, Earth Alert and the Kenfig National Nature Reserve Open Day, have done much to raise the public profile of geology in South Wales.

Our regular programme of lectures and field meetings remains popular. We held 2 lectures in Swansea and 4 in Cardiff (average attendance 43), another Holiday Geology evening (67 present), a lecture and demonstration at the Museum of Welsh Life (61 present), an opencast site visit (36 present) and a summer programme of walks and field meetings. Several field meetings were held to survey the conservation potential of sites Cardiff.

Membership stood at 192 at our AGM in March, when subscriptions rose to £6.50 (£2.50 for senior citizens and students). Members received 4 newsletters and a copy of a CCW booklet about Welsh landscape. The Committee met 4 times, and is currently discussing a revised membership leaflet and a safety policy. Gareth Davies stepped down as President, and Jim Chetcuti and Margaret Davies retired from the Committee. The last week has seen the launch of a web site - www.swga.org.uk.

We once again thank Professors Herbert, Rickard and Bassett for their continued support, all our speakers and field leaders, and the organisations that sponsored our activities, including the Curry Fund.

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GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION - SOUTH WALES GROUP
CYMDEITHAS Y DAEAREGWYR - GRŴP DE CYMRU

REPORT FOR 2001

President: Stephen Howe; **Vice-President:** Allan Cuthbertson; **Treasurer:** Malcolm Shaw; **Secretary:** Geraint Owen; **Membership Secretary:** Mike Lees; **Programme Secretary:** Lesley Cherns; **Editor:** Michael Bassett; **Assistant Editor:** Bob Owens; **Committee Members:** Lynda Garfield, Rhian Hicks, Lynfa Lewis, Nigel McGaw, Stephen Plant, Dave Wellings; **Past-President:** Gareth Davies.

This has been another active year for the Group. It began with another enjoyable *Holiday Geology* evening hosted by the National Museum of Wales, attended by 60 members. We held 4 lectures in Swansea (including the TR Owen Memorial Lecture) and 5 in Cardiff (with an enjoyable wine-tasting session after the December meeting): the average attendance was 40. We scheduled a full summer programme of monthly field meetings; although several had to be cancelled because of foot-and-mouth restrictions, 4 field meetings were held, with average attendance of 23. We reinstated a field weekend, which was hosted by the Shropshire Geological Society and attended by 10 of our members. Successful displays were taken to the Kenfig Nature Reserve Open Day in July and the GA *Festival of Geology* in November.

The Committee met 4 times, and moved meetings to the Glamorgan Wildlife Trust centre near Bridgend. A safety policy was adopted and progress was made towards a new membership leaflet. Peter Hodges retired after 9 years as Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Membership stood at 173 at our AGM in March, down from 192 the previous year. Subscriptions remained at £6.50 (£2.50 for senior citizens and students). Members received 4 newsletters and were offered reduced prices on several books and field guides.

We thank Professors Herbert, Rickard and Bassett, and all our speakers and field leaders, for their support of our activities.

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GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION, SOUTH WALES GROUP

ANNUAL REPORT 2008

The Group's annual session follows the Academic year so this report covers the latter half of 2007-08 and the first half of the 2008-09 sessions. Like the parent body, the Group celebrated a special anniversary when in September 2008 we began our 50th Session. A number of publicity and fund raising events were held to help mark this anniversary, in addition to the usual programme of lectures and field meetings. Membership remained fairly steady and at the end of year totalled 179.

Indoor Meetings: During 2008 the Group held five indoor lecture meetings, in Swansea and Cardiff Universities. January - *Dorset's Diana, Mary Anning (1799-1847) of Lyme Regis; "the greatest fossilist the world ever knew"?* (Hugh Torrens); February - *Stratigraphy of the Fishguard area* (Huw Sheppard); March – Presidential Address: *John MacCulloch and William Smith: the men and their maps* (Tom Sharpe); October – *Geology and Mineralisation of the Central Wales Orefield* (David James); December – *150 Years of the Geologists' Association* (Eric Robinson).

In January the highly popular annual *Holiday Geology* meeting was held in the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff, hosted by the Department of Geology, at which eight members gave short illustrated talks.

Field Meetings: During the year five full day and two weekend field meetings were held. Full day meetings were held in: April - *Aust and Portishead* (Peter Hodges and Geraint Owen); June – *The Quaternary of Gower* (John Hiemstra); August – *Saundersfoot to Waterwynch, Pembrokeshire* (Sid Howells); September – *The Woolhope Inlier* (Bob Owens). Weekend field meetings were held in March – *The Gash Breccias of the Bullslaughter Bay and Pembroke Synclines* (Peter Walsh and Sid Howells) and in October – *The Variscan stratigraphy and tectonics of North Cornwall* (Ted Freshney).

In addition the Group hosted a weekend field meeting for *Rockwatch* in June. On the Saturday we visited Big Pit, National Coal Museum, and old opencast pits at Blaenafon on the Sunday Lavernock and the Bendricks in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Events: The Group took part in a number of events during the year, the most important of which was *Geofest*, a major public orientated event held at the National Museum of Wales in November, which was the Group's regional contribution to the Association's 150th Anniversary celebrations. During the day over 1700 people visited the museum to take part in the range of geological activities on offer. These included two lectures - *Grave secrets of the dinosaurs* (Phil Manning) and *Mmmagma: Edible demonstrations of volcanic processes* (Alison Rust) both of which had large audiences. The event was supported by a number of other groups and organisations including the GA groups from Kent and West of England, *Rockwatch*, the Open University Geological Society, BGS, CCW and the Geology Department of the National Museum of Wales. The Group is grateful to the Curry Fund for a grant towards the costs of hosting this event.

The Group was invited to take part in two other local events. In June we attended the *Penarth Festival of the Sea* where we produced a display on the local geology and provided a rock, fossil and mineral identification service. In August we attended the annual *Out of the Woods* festival, run by the Cardiff Parks Department in Bute Park, Cardiff where we manned our highly popular Coal Measures fossil bash.

The Group also attended the Annual Reunion in London in November.

Publications: During the year the Group produced four *Newsletters* and work proceeded on two further editions of *Walking the Rocks*; one covering Pembrokeshire and the other further sites along the Glamorgan coast both of which we hope to publish in 2009. Work on the *Building Stones of Newport* leaflet by Eric Robinson reached the final phases and is due for publication early in 2009.

Geoconservation: Following on from the Group's involvement in the survey of geological sites within Cardiff a South Wales RIGS group has been established of which the Group is a constituent member.

Committee: 2008-09 *President:* Nigel McGaw; *Vice-President:* Malcolm Shaw; *Past President:* Tom Sharpe; *Secretary:* Geraint Owen; *Treasurer:* Hazel Trenbirth; *Programme Secretary:* Stephen Howe; *Membership Secretary:* Mike Gregory; *Editor:* Rhian Hicks; *Committee Members:* Lesley Cherns, Allan Cuthbertson, Diane Davies, John Davies, Lynfa Lewis, Mike Smith. *Russell Society Ex-Officio Member:* Dave Wellings.

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION - SOUTH WALES GROUP

ANNUAL REPORT 2009

This report covers the latter part of the 2008-09 session (our 50th) and the first part of that for 2009-10.

In September 2008 the Group began its 50th Session. As the very first session only lasted a few months (the first AGM was in March 1960), it was decided to hold the main 50th celebratory event on Saturday 23rd January 2010, exactly 50 years to the day of the founding of the group and the first lecture.

Publicity and fund raising have continued during the year to help mark this anniversary, in addition to the usual programme of lectures and field meetings. Membership continued to be steady and at the end of the 50th session (March 2009) totalled 179.

Indoor Meetings: During 2009 the Group held six indoor lecture meetings, in Swansea and Cardiff Universities. January – *The geology and natural hazards of Papua New Guinea* (Stephen Edwards); February – *Why protect the rocks?* (Joanne Venus); March – AGM: *The Old Red Sandstone of South Wales* (Brian Williams); October – *Supercontinent Disunity: why did America reject Wegener's big idea?* (Ted Nield); November – *Permian and Triassic mineralisation in the rocks of South-west England* (Richard Scrivenor) December – *Reflections on 50 years of geological change* (John Cope).

In January the highly popular annual *Holiday Geology* meeting was held in the National Waterfront Museum, Swansea, at which 8 members gave short illustrated talks.

Field Meetings: During the year seven full day field meetings were held, in: April – *Rudry* (Tom Sharpe); May – *North-west Carmarthenshire* (John Davies); June – *Chedworth* (David Owen); July – *Exploring the landforms and de-glaciation of the Middle Usk Valley in the Abergavenny area* (Adrian Humpage); August – *Burrington Combe, Mendip* (Andy Farrant); September – *St Davids, Pembrokeshire* (Dyfed Elis Gruffydd); November – *Cwm Gwrelech and Sellar Opencast* (Ben Evans).

Rockwatch: The Group hosted a Rockwatch Weekend in Carmarthenshire over the weekend of 11th-12th July. A total of 37 Rockwatch members and their families enjoyed the weekend that included a day of trilobite hunting.

Events: In August we again attended the annual *Out of the Woods Festival*, run by the Cardiff Parks Department in Bute Park, Cardiff, where we manned a stall including our highly popular Coal Measures fossil bash.

The Group also attended the Annual Reunion in London in November, highlighting both our 50th anniversary and the South Wales RIGS project.

Publications: During the year the Group produced four *Newsletters*, and work continued on two further editions of *Walking the Rocks*; one covering Pembrokeshire and the other further sites along the Glamorgan coast. The *Building Stones of Newport* leaflet, written by Eric Robinson, was published during the year.

Geoconservation: The South Wales RIGS Project (with the group as a constituent member) got underway early in the year with the appointment of SWGA member Rhian Hicks as Project Officer, based at the British Geological Survey office in Tongwynlais, Cardiff. The project has run several training sessions, at which numerous group members have attended. The write up of the Cardiff RIGS sites has been completed and Rhian has represented the group at meetings with Cardiff County Council.

Other: The Group was saddened by the deaths in November of two former Chairmen/Presidents; founder Chairman Douglas Bassett (Chairman 1960-1962) and Gareth Davies (President 1998-2000).

Committee: The Committee (2009-2010) comprised: *President:* Nigel McGaw; *Vice-President:* Malcolm Shaw; *Past President:* Tom Sharpe; *Secretary:* Lynda Garfield; *Treasurer:* Hazel Trenbirth; *Programme Secretary:* Stephen Howe; *Membership Secretary:* Mike Gregory; *Editor:* Rhian Hicks; *Committee Members:* Lesley Cherns, Diane Davies (resigned 17 Dec), John Davies, Lynfa Lewis, Geraint Owen, Mike Smith.

We once again gratefully acknowledge the continued support that we receive from Cardiff and Swansea Universities and the National Museum of Wales.