

Geologists' Association - South Wales Group

Cymdeithas y Daearegwyr - Grŵp De Cymru



December 2019

Sixtieth session

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Other members of the committee: Nigel McGaw, Cindy Howells, Geraint Owen, John Nudds, Nick Pollock			



Anniversary Celebrations

28 members met for lunch at the Parc Plaza at the end of October (on a very wet day!). We were joined by our Speaker of the day, Prof. Mike Benton, and many people bought a copy of Mike's new book: 'Dinosaurs Rediscovered'.

Everyone attending the lunch received a gift as part of the anniversary celebrations. Indeed, we have a gift for every member of the Group and will be distributing them at the indoor events over the Winter session. If you are unable to attend and collect this for yourself, we will endeavour to post them out but not until the spring.

In honour of the SWGA's 60 years existence, the committee felt it was appropriate to mark the occasion by awarding Honorary Membership to Lynda Garfield. Lynda has been a committee member for many years and in the past has been both President and Secretary. She continues to support many of the Group's outreach events. The photo shows her receiving her certificate from Lesley Cherns, our current President.

We had planned to make a similar award to Tom Sharpe but he was not able to be present in October. Hopefully, he will be able to join us at a future meeting in the not too distant future.

Message from Lynda:

To Committee and Members of the Geologists Association, South Wales Group.

Dear Committee and Members

I would like to thank you all for the award of Honorary Life Membership of the Group that was made to me on the occasion of the celebrations of the Group's 60th Anniversary on 26th October 2019.

I am deeply honoured, extremely grateful; I do still feel a little 'gob-smacked'! It was an excellent day last Saturday - a super speaker, a delicious lunch, a memorable occasion. Congratulations and many thanks to all involved in making it such a memorable day.

Lynda 29th Oct 2019



Stephen's bit

INDOOR PROGRAMME 2019-20

Saturday 14th December 2019 - Cardiff

Roy Starkey : *The Minerals of the East Midlands*

As this is our pre-Christmas meeting the refreshments will include Christmas fare. Roy's lecture title is also that of his latest beautifully illustrated book, copies of which will no doubt be available on the day for purchase and may make a good stocking filler for those of you still looking for ideas.

Saturday 11th January

Holiday Geology – Cardiff University

We begin 2020 with our annual members event. As has been mentioned previously this **will not** be held the National Museum but in our usual lecture theatre in Cardiff University. The meeting will run from approximately 11.00am - 4pm with a break for lunch. Refreshments will be served from about 10.00 am in the usual place and as we are able to do our own catering at this venue we will be able to provide a free buffet lunch between the morning and afternoon sessions. Accordingly, I would be grateful if all of you who plan to attend this meeting can let me know by **Friday 3rd January 2020** so as to ensure that we have enough food and drink!. Many thanks to all those of you who have already done so.

I currently have had received a number of offers of short (15min) talks, but will be delighted to receive more so if you are prepared to volunteer please let me know. Two of the talks this year will be from the two Cardiff Students who won the first Howard Bartlett prize. They will be talking about their field mapping projects.

We will be having our usual raffle at the Holiday Geology meeting. If anyone has any unwanted Christmas gifts that they would be prepared to give to the raffle we would be extremely grateful. If so, please bring them along on the day.

Saturday 25th January - Swansea

Dr Delphine Angst (Bristol University): *How to study the giant terrestrial fossil birds? A multidisciplinary approach.*

Saturday 15th February - Cardiff

Dr Daniel Hobley (Cardiff University): *Forensic tectonics: using landscapes and sediments to snoop on earthquakes in the past.*

Saturday 21st March - Swansea

AGM – 10.30 followed by Retiring Presidential Address

www.swga.org

December 2019

'The changing Early Palaeozoic sea floor – biodiversity or early diagenesis'

The final meeting of the indoor session is our AGM which will be followed **by Dr Lesley Cherns'** retiring Presidential Address. Please note that the AGM starts at **10.30am** and will be followed by Lesley's talk at about 11.00am

Stephen

Bring your own! A plea to those who can....

In an effort to reduce the use of single-use plastic cups, if you can bring your own mug or cup from home to the indoor events, we would be very grateful.

FIELD MEETINGS PROGRAMME 2020

As you know Stephen is stepping down as Programme Secretary at the AGM but, as no one has yet volunteered to take over the role (there is still time to volunteer!), he will have to endeavour to put together the summer field meeting programme before he steps down as it usually starts a month after the AGM. However, to do this he needs your help. If anybody has any ideas for field trip locations, and especially with any suggestions of potential leaders, can you please let him know.

As previously mentioned although Stephen currently arranges both the indoor and outdoor meeting programmes there is no reason why the job cannot be split into two roles to lessen the work load. He will happily produce a job description of what the job entails and is also more than happy to work with anybody who is interested in taking over from him to show them how it all works. Please don't just think about it, do it!

OTHER GEOLOGICAL ORGANISATIONS

- Russell Society, Wales and West Branch: Tom Cotterell. Tel: 01594 845935 before 9 pm
- Welsh Stone Forum (Fforwm Cerrig Cymru): Jana Horak
<https://museum.wales/curatorial/geology/welsh-stone-forum/>
- U3A South Wales Geology Group: Nigel McGaw. Tel: 01656 654439
- Open University Geological Society: Norman Nimmo-Smith
severnside@ougs.org ougs.org
- West Wales Geology Society: www.westwalesgeolsoc.org.uk
- South East Wales RIGS : <http://sewrigs.wordpress.com/>