

June 2015



Fifty-seventh session



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Other members of the committee: Lesley Cherno, Tom Sharpe, Nigel McGaw, Cindy Howells, Christian Baars, Caroline Davies			



NOTE: Important information about contacting the Programme Secretary

Please note that Stephen retired from the National Museum of Wales last October and that his museum email address ceased to function from the day that he left. He knows that some people have tried to contact him on that address since he left and may have wondered why they never received a reply. Could you please note that he can now only be contacted at: steve.howe@talktalk.net. Thanks.



SWGA Summer Field Meetings 2015

Stephen Howe

Programme Secretary



Saturday 11th July

The Cambrian and Silurian rocks of the Malverns- stratigraphy, faunas and palaeography.

Leader: Bob Owens

Meet at 10.30am in the car park on north side of A438 Ledbury to Tewkesbury road at Hollybush, in the southern Malverns, SO 759 369. Bring a packed lunch.



Sunday 16th August

Recent re-evaluation of the Triassic-Jurassic stratigraphy of the River Severn as seen at Sedbury Cliff and Garden Cliff , Westbury on Severn

Leader: Peter Hodges

Meet at 10am at Sedbury, on the side of the road off the B4228 at ST 549 926. The morning will be spent at Sedbury Cliff and the afternoon at Westbury-on-Severn. Lunch will be taken at Westbury on Severn. We will park near the Water Gardens at Westbury-on-Severn (SO 718 138) and walk to Garden Cliff as the locality has restricted parking limited to one car.

Both localities are very muddy and slippery in places so wear appropriate footwear. There will be plenty of opportunity to collect fossils.



Saturday 19th September

Porthcawl and Sker

Leader: Stephen Howe

This excursion will examine the coastal section between Lockes Common, Porthcawl and Sker Point. This coastal stretch is part of an exhumed Triassic landscape and exposes excellent exposures in the Dinantian Oxwich Head Limestone and the overlying marginal Triassic facies. The walk will be along the low cliff top path, shingle beaches and generally rock platforms the latter of which are rough and slippery when wet. The total walking distance will be about 6-7 kms.

Meet at 10.30am at the car park in Rest Bay, Porthcawl (SS 804 783) which is a pay-and-display car park. Bring a packed lunch. If time and enthusiasm allows we may walk into the town at the end of the main walk to look at some of the local building stones.





Rockwatch Welsh Weekend 2015

As in previous years we are hosting *Rockwatch*, the junior branch of the GA, in Wales again this year. The weekend meeting will take place on 18th/19th July and will be centred in the Marloes/Martin's Haven area of Pembrokeshire. If anybody is interested in helping out with this event please let the Programme Secretary know [steve,howe@talktalk.net]



Winter Session 2015-16

The dates (subject to confirmation from our hosts) for the indoor meetings for the next session are as follows:

Saturday 24th October 2015 (Cardiff)

Saturday 21st November 2015
(Swansea)

Saturday 12th December 2015
(Cardiff): Tom Sharpe on William Smith

Saturday 9th January 2016 : *Holiday Geology* (National Museum of Wales, Cardiff). ***This year teas and coffee will be available at the start of the day but lunch will NOT be provided. This is due to withdrawal of the subsidy from the Museum which we have enjoyed for many years.***

Saturday 23rd January 2016 (Swansea)

Saturday 20th February 2016 (Cardiff)

Saturday 19th March 2016 (Swansea)
AGM and Presidential Address: Rhian Kendall

I have a promise from Haydon Bailey the current GA President to come and speak to us and a few other ideas but if members have any suggestions for speakers or topics that they would like to hear someone talk about please let me know.



Field Work Safety Code and Safety Policy

Although full Risk Assessments are undertaken prior to each field meeting members are reminded that they attend field excursions at their own risk. They are expected to take reasonable precautions to ensure the safety of themselves and other

participants and to behave in a responsible manner at all times. The Group has a Safety Policy and Safety Fieldwork Code that all participants should have read prior to attending a meeting. Copies can be found on the Group's web site and a resume can be found on the reverse of the Summer Field Meeting card.



Out of the Woods Festival: 23rd August

Once again the group has been asked if it would like to take part in the annual *Out of the Woods Festival* that will be held in Sophia Gardens, Cardiff on Sunday 23rd August from 10.00 - 16.00. At this event we usually run our ever popular fossil bashing activity and run a stall. It is a good way to 'spread the geological' message and encourage new members. We are currently struggling to find volunteers to help out with this event, a number of the regulars being away at that time, so if anybody would be willing to help out could they please contact the Secretary.



From the committee - Optional concessionary rate

At the last AGM it was agreed to introduce a new category of membership, an Optional Concessionary Rate (OCR), to replace the Senior/Student Rate. This means that those of you who previously were senior or student members must now amend your standing order to reflect this change. Your standing order should be amended to reflect the subscription of £10 that is due on 1st September every year. Please do this NOW in preparation for September. If you feel you should be considered for the new category, please contact the membership secretary.



Other Geological Organisations

- Russell Society, Wales and West Branch: Tom Cotterell. Tel: 01594 845935 before 9 pm
- Welsh Stone Forum (Fforwm Cerrig Cymru): Tim Palmer tjp@aber.ac.uk or www.museumwales.ac.uk/en/welshstoneforum
- U3A South Wales Geology Group: Nigel McGaw. Tel: 01656 654439
- Open University Geological Society: Janet Hiscott ougs.org.uk/severnside
- West Wales Geology Society: www.westwalesgeolsoc.org.uk
- South East Wales RIGS : <http://sewrigs.wordpress.com/>