

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



September 2016

Fifty-ninth session

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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.



SUMMER FIELD MEETING PROGRAMME 2016 - Stephen Howe

There are two field meetings left of the summer programme as follows:

Sunday 25th September: The Cotswold Escarpment

Leader: **Dave Green**

Meet at 10 am at the car park on the eastern side of the Sharpness – Gloucester canal, on the outskirts of the village of Frampton on Severn, which is on the northern side of the road by the old chocolate factory buildings (SO 747 084). The car park is right by the canal, with the turn in by the bridge operator's hut. It is a small car park, so efficient parking will be required! After meeting here we will transfer to a smaller number of vehicles to park on the roadside at Fretherne Church

(SO 734 092) where we will examine the Blue Lias (lower Jurassic) of Hock Cliff.

From Fretherne there are three possibilities for continuing the transect: (1) North Nibley and Wotton Hill in the south; (2) Cam, Dursley and Nymphsfield in the middle, or (3) Stonehouse, Stroud and Selsley Common in the north. Which of these we visit will be dependent upon access and the current state of exposures at the time, but no matter which we will cover the Middle and Upper Lias, the Inferior Oolite, and Fullers Earth, whose limestone members form the crest of the Cotswold escarpment in this area.

Saturday 8th October: The Sutton Formation (marginal Lias) of the Ogmore-by-Sea and Southerndown area

Leader: **Peter Hodges**

The Ogmore –by-Sea area is represented by an island of Dinantian limestone, which from the early Jurassic progressively became drowned by rising marine waters. This drowning event was made up of a series of marine transgressions followed by still stands, which carved out several wave cut platforms in the Dinantian limestones. The Sutton Formation (marginal Lias facies), characterised by beds of Sutton Stone and Southerndown Bed lithologies, represents the near-shore deposits surrounding this island. The Sutton Formation is diachronous and local exposures indicate an age range from the top of the planorbis chronozone to the top of the angulata chronozone. On the north side of this island near Eweny the Sutton Formation extends up to the semicostatum chronozone.

Meet at 10.30 am at the river mouth car park at Ogmore by Sea (SS 862 754). The morning will be spent examining localities in the Ogmore/Sutton/Pant y Slade area. There will then be a break for lunch at the Three Golden Cups pub at Southerndown where those who wish to may obtain lunch. We will then meet at the car park at Southerndown and spend the afternoon examining localities in Dunraven Bay.



Winter Programme 2016 - 17

The winter programme for the new session is as follows:

Saturday 29th October: (Cardiff) *Weaubleau structure in west-central Missouri: Three strikes and the serial impact hypothesis is out!* Professor Kevin Evans (Missouri)

Saturday 19th November (Swansea): *Gold Rush: Prospecting and small scale mining for gold and diamonds to the present day.* Jim Richards (Perth, Australia)

Saturday 10th December: (Cardiff) *From the depths: How cave precipitates (speleotherms) tell*

us about past environments and climates.
Professor Ian Fairchild (Birmingham)

of South Wales. Professor John Cope (National Museum of Wales)

2017

Saturday 7th January 2017: (Cardiff) *Holiday Geology* – 11:00 to 16:00

Saturday 21st January: (Swansea) *Volcanic ash and rapid climate change, piecing together the past.* Professor Siwan Davies (Swansea)

Saturday 18th February: (Cardiff): *DAB Memorial Lecture: Redrawing the geological map*

Saturday 18th March: (Swansea): AGM: *Recognition and interpretation of sea-level changes in the Marros Group (Namurian) of South Wales.* Dr Gareth George (Greenwich)

All the meetings start at **11:00** with refreshments served from about **10:15** except for the AGM which begins at **10:30** followed by the lecture at **11:00**.



Events 2016:

The Group has had a presence at three events this summer; The Fforest Fawr Geopark Open Day in June at Craig-y-Nos; a fossil bash for the National Trust at Tredegar House in July and the Out Of The Woods Festival at Sophia Gardens in August. All were generally well attended by the public and allowed us to promote both the Group and geology to a wide audience. Many thanks to those who volunteered to help out at the three events.

Holiday Geology 2017:

Holiday Geology will once again be held in the Icons Suite of the National Museum in Cardiff on 7th January from 11:00 – 16:00. Steve will be looking for about eight to ten volunteers to give a short talk on something of interest which does not have to be totally geological. Please note that this year we will be asking that each talk lasts for **no longer than 15 minutes** so that we can have time to fit them all into the meeting.



Public Lecture Series: *The Making of Wales*

Once again this year Cardiff University are hosting a monthly series of free public lectures, this year on the theme of *The Making of Wales*. The talks will take place in the Wallace Lecture Theatre (Room 0.13) on the ground floor of the main building and begin at 6:30pm. The talks up to Christmas are:

11th October: Peter Kokelaar (Liverpool) *Encounters with non-uniformitarianism: A very personal voyage amidst Ordovician volcanoes in Wales.*

8th November: Tom Cotterell (National Museum, Cardiff) *Mineral deposits in the Lower Palaeozoic Welsh Basin.*

13th December: Dianne Edwards (Cardiff) *The Greening of Wales.*

Further information can be found at : www.cardiff.ac.uk/events/category/series/the-making-of-wales/



From the committee

From Caroline, the Membership Secretary

It's subscription time. For those of you that pay your subscription annually this was due on 1st September. If you do not already but would prefer to pay by standing order you can download the form from the website, it forms part of the membership form.

I am sure you all know that if you are a UK tax payer the society can benefit if you Gift Aid your subscription. Again, if you have not already done so but would like to, the form you need is page 3 of the membership form.

If it would help please let me know and I can post a copy to you. Please send either/both on to me as we need to add a reference in order to distinguish all those popular Welsh surnames.

Caroline

Can you help?

As you will be aware, due to the generosity of our members, we have upgraded the container in which we give our speakers their wine gift from any old second-hand supermarket bag to a proper swish wine holder. I have now used up all the wine holder/ bags that I had in stock so would be grateful for any more that members no longer require. If you have any spare I would be delighted to take them off your hands at any meeting. Thanks.

Stephen



Its your Newsletter !

My first time as Newsletter Editor, hope it doesn't show !

And finally, the Newsletter is of course the perfect medium for keeping you all up to date with important issues and programme dates and venues. It is of course YOUR Newsletter so your committee would really welcome your input. Please send anything of interest, humour, a new discovery or pictures of things you've seen or indeed encountered along your way.

Roger

