



THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF GLASGOW

Newsletter - April 2024

Lecture Programme

NOTE: The April lecture will be held in the Kelvin Hall on a trial basis. We will be recording the talk for later viewing. If you've not been to the Kelvin Hall before the lecture theatre is at the end of the main corridor on the right-hand side. We will be convening afterwards in the activity room (where Geonatter is held), which you pass in the main corridor before the lecture theatre. There will be tea, coffee, biscuits, but you could bring a flask of your own (as the hot water supply is a bit dodgy) or your own cup to save on disposables.

Thursday 11th April 2024

David Webster

"Neoproterozoic glaciation in Scotland: The Port Askaig Formation"

The Garvellach Islands and Islay expose a magnificent section of the glacial Neoproterozoic Port Askaig Formation. Although part of the Dalradian it is relatively undeformed and contains an extraordinary amount of glacial features including spectacular glaciotectionic 'rafts' as well as a sequence at the base recording the transitional onset of glaciation at the start of the Cryogenian - which is a prime candidate for a global 'golden spike' or GSSP. The snowball earth concept will be discussed and how the succession here fits (or doesn't) with that model. New work on the provenance of the exotic granitic clasts will also be covered.

The talk will introduce the new Geological Society of London 'Memoir' on the Port Askaig Formation - currently being produced by a large multi-disciplinary team led by Tony Spencer and Ian Fairchild.



David is a retired oil-company geologist who juggles his time between Glasgow and Islay. He graduated from Oxford University in 1976 and in later life did Masters degrees in Environmental Management and on the geology of the Colonsay Group on Islay. He has written two guidebooks to the geology of Islay, Jura and Colonsay. He is currently the Secretary of the Geological Society of Glasgow and is a Board Member of the Fossil Grove Trust.



'The Bubble' on Holy Isle. An enormous isoclinally folded glaciotectionic 'raft' derived from the underlying Garbh Eileach Formation which has been incorporated into the Great Breccia of the Port Askaig Formation.

Future Lectures

Thursday 9th May 2024 Members Night

Past Lectures

A recording of the October lecture on Vikings and isotopes can be found here: <https://youtu.be/ZUtCfCZxP1o>

A recording of the November lecture on the Dalradian can be found here: <https://youtu.be/tnsw0mQu0zI>

A recording of the December lecture on plate tectonics can be found here: <https://youtu.be/nQGFjAllasY>

A recording of the January lecture on Closing the Iapetus Ocean can be found here: https://youtu.be/LeJ_Tg5iPxc

A recording of the February lecture on Mars analogue sites can be found here: <https://youtu.be/JrBoDYrsHfs>

A recording of the March lecture on Strathkelvin can be found here: <https://youtu.be/0pzj05vN88E>

A recording of the March bonus lecture on Dinosaurs from Montana can be found here: <https://youtu.be/GOZRw2DQdDU>

GSG YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfNSIvgEbUfLWMsCeNiRm1w/>

Field Excursions 2024.

Bookings can now be made directly in WebCollect or by clicking the links in the 'Events' section of the website, where full and up-to-date details including prices are available.

Go to Events, Excursions, and click on your chosen excursion and then simply press at the end of the description and you can also pay for the trip, enter emergency contact details etc.

Its all very easy and no need to fill out a booking form, although a paper copy can be requested.

30th April – Guided tour of the Glasgow Life Geology collection: Leader Ann Ainsworth, Curator of Geology
This small intimate guided tour of the Glasgow Museums Resource Centre (storage facility) near Nitshill in Glasgow is an opportunity to see behind the scenes and view geology specimens not currently on display. Meet at 1.45pm. Limited to 10 members. Own travel. There is free parking at the resource Centre or the venue is a 10 min walk from Nitshill train station.

10-13th May – Garvellachs: Leaders Tony Spencer and David Webster.
This residential field excursion to the Garvellach islands is now fully booked; however if you would like to go on the reserve list then please email sec@gsocg.org.

15th May NEW- National Museums Tour: Leaders Dr Andrew Ross and Dr Rachel Walcott
National Museums Collections Centre tour (with optional visit to Granton shore). A fantastic chance to visit both the Palaeobiology and Earth Systems collections held in the National Museums Scotland specialist facility.
Own/Public Transport

25th May – Pentland Hills: Leader Gary Hoare
We will visit the Deerhope burn area and examine fossils dating back to the Silurian period. There will be a chance to see and/or collect a few sample fossils including trilobites, brachiopods, nautiloids, corals and crinoids.
Travel: 16 seat Minibus leaving Molema building 8.30am returning around 6pm

15th June – Innellan, Dunoon: Leader Keith Torrance
On this excursion we will look at the relationships between the Dalradian metamorphic rocks of the Highlands, the rocks associated with the Highland Boundary Fault, and the younger sedimentary fill of the adjacent Midland Valley. All these rocks are present in coastal exposures within a relatively short distance on the SE Cowal coast around Innellan.
Travel: Coach leaving Molema building 8.30am returning around 7.30pm

6th July – Spireslack, near Glenbuck: Leaders Graham Leslie & Mike Brown.
A visit to Spireslack and Mainshill Wood surface coal mines to examine spectacular exposures of Carboniferous strata on a scale not seen anywhere else in the United Kingdom.
Travel: 16 seat Minibus leaving Molema building 9.00am returning around 5.00pm

24th August – Londniddy and Aberlady: a joint excursion with EGS to explore this shoreline. As ever we will join EGS for a high tea afterwards, likely in Aberlady. There will be no bus booked for this trip, we will encourage car sharing if possible. This trip will be subsidised by the two societies and is therefore free.

7th September – Dunure beach pebble event: Leader Neil Clark.
A Scottish Geology Festival Event. A chance to bring the family along to a fun day out examining beach pebbles and learning more about the geology of this Ayrshire coastal location. Own transport.

New Members

We welcome the following new members:

Sharon Reid

Sean Watson

Magnus Pole

Urszula Filipowicz

Strathclyde Geoconservation Group

There will be a visit by SGG to Dumbarton Rock on Friday 12th April meeting at 10.30 and a visit to Carron Glen (near Denny) on Monday 29th April meeting at 10.30. Visits are anticipated to be about two hours duration with tea/coffee/chat afterwards.

If you are interested in joining these visits please email sgg@gsocg.org

Geonatter

Geonatter continues on Wednesday afternoons (1 to 3:30) at the Kelvin Hall. Remaining dates for this session are:

April 24

May 8 and 22

June 5 and 19

Geological Society Library

The cataloguing of our collection of books on the shelves in the Molema Building have now been completed. A copy of the catalogue (and information on access) can be obtained on request from Lindsay Smith at library@gsocg.org

Palaeontographical Society Talks and AGM

16th April 4pm at the Kelvin Hall. A free event and people will be able to hear Alan Owen and Christine Strullu-Derrien talk about fossils and have a glass of wine.

The Annual Report of Council will be presented, along with the accounts, and council members will be elected for the ensuing year. This will be followed by awards and prize-giving, including the inaugural Marsh Palaeoart Award, and the Annual Lectures (see below). Tea and coffee will be available from 3.30 pm.

The AGM and our annual address are open to the all members of the Society, and the interested public. Attendance is free, but registration is necessary.

Our Eighteenth Annual Lectures will take place following the AGM, at 5.30 pm. This year's speakers are Dr Christine Strullu-Derrien (Department of Earth Sciences, Natural History Museum, London, and Institut Systématique Évolution Biodiversité) and Dr Alan Owen (School of Geographical and Earth Sciences, University of Glasgow).

Full details including abstracts for our annual lectures are available on our website: <https://www.palaeosoc.org/latest-news/agsm-and-annual-lectures-2024/>

Palaeontographical Society AGM and Annual Lectures
16th April, 4 pm
University of Glasgow, Kelvin Hall Lecture Theatre and online (hybrid)

Our Speakers

Dr Christine Strullu-Derrien
Illuminating the Microbiota of the Rhynie Chert using new imaging techniques

Dr Alan Owen
Upper Ordovician trilobites in Britain and Ireland, biostratigraphy, depth-distribution, diversity and doom

We invite you to join us for our first AGM in Scotland. There will be award and prize-giving, including the Marsh Palaeoart Award, and annual lectures, followed by a drinks reception.
Attendance free, registration necessary for in-person or online
Info and registration www.palaeosoc.org/blogs

@Palaeosoc

Recent Papers on Scottish Geology

Webb, S., Torvela, T., Chapman, R., Selby, D. and Gooday, R., 2024. A reinterpretation of the mineralisation processes involved in the formation of the Tomnadashan sulphide deposit, Loch Tay, Scotland, UK. *Scottish Journal of Geology*, pp.sjg2023-023.

Dobson, D.P. and Martinescu, V., 2024. Magma mixing between rhyolite and pseudotachylite as the origin for the Glencoe 'Flinty Crush Rock'. *Scottish Journal of Geology*, pp.sjg2023-016.

Leslie, A.G., Krabbendam, M., Thomas, C.W., Banks, C.J. and Clarke, S.M., 2024. Geometrical restoration of a late Neoproterozoic depositional framework and an intrabasinal unconformity in the Laurentian margin Dalradian Supergroup, Grampian Highlands, Scotland. *Journal of the Geological Society*, pp.jgs2023-208.

Edinburgh Science Festival

Edinburgh Geological Society will be holding four beach pebble events on the mornings of Thursday 11 – Sunday 14 April 2024 (10am to 1pm). These will be at Wardie, Crammond, Portobello and North Berwick. Why not come along to ask how the pebbles got there. Contact Angus Miller on promotion@edinburghgeolsoc.org

Scottish Geology Trust - Geosites and Geoguides

The geosites project being coordinated by the Scottish Geology Trust has been further developed to include Local Geodiversity Sites as well as the original GCR sites. Contact sec@gsocg.org if you're interested in adding data.

<https://geosites.scottishgeologytrust.org/>

A further development is the companion Geoguide website which gives access to online editions of geological guides.

<https://geoguide.scottishgeologytrust.org/>

Down to Earth Xtra

March edition [here](#)

International Geological Congress 2028

The Glasgow bid has been submitted for the IGC 2028 Results expected in August

An online version of the bid can be found at <https://igc2028glasgow.org/>



Fossil Grove Open Afternoons

We still have no information on the proposed renovation project to be carried out by Glasgow City Council and its various subcontractors.

For the moment we are still planning on holding our regular Open Afternoons on the third Sundays of the month - starting Sunday April 21st from 12-4.

If you're interested in helping out please contact the Secretary sec@gsocg.org

Friends of Hugh Miller

This year's AGM in Edinburgh will be in the The Library of Mistakes on Sunday 26 May at 2-4pm.

The Library of Mistakes, 33A Melville Street Lane, Edinburgh EH3 7QB

2pm AGM Official Business

2.30pm - 4pm

Public talk by Professor Ralph O'Connor, University of Aberdeen 'Hugh Miller, folklore, and the recovery of the geological past'

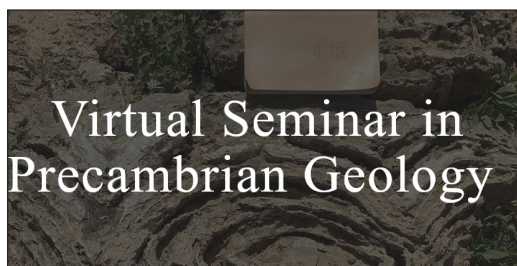
There will also be two poets joining to read some of their own work; Cáit O'Neill McCullagh and Gill Shaw. Both poets reside in the North East of Scotland and use the Scottish landscape and folkloric elements in their works.



On-line Lectures

Edinburgh Geological Society continue to record their lectures and post them on their You Tube channel. Well worth a look!

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPYcOiV-w9rgr_nb52ByV1w



Virtual Seminars in Precambrian Geology - These started in Covid times but have continued.

Website at <https://sites.google.com/ucr.edu/vs-pg/home>

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-mxePnmA2Lchjn_gm7O06g

Geological Society of Glasgow

<https://geologyglasgow.org.uk/>

[@geolsocglasgow](https://www.instagram.com/geolsocglasgow)

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