



# THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF GLASGOW

## Newsletter - Aug 2024

### Lecture Programme

The programme for the next session is still being finalised but here is some provisional information and likely dates for your diaries. Venues still to be confirmed.

**September 12th** - Presentation by St Andrews students whose project in Greenland was the recipient of a GSG grant

**October 10th** - Stuart Hazeldene, Professor of Carbon Capture and Storage School of GeoSciences, University of Edinburgh talk on Climate and carbon, control or catastrophe

**November 14th** - Heather Stewart BGS - talk on marine seabed geology

**December 12th** - Paige dePolo, Liverpool John Moores University - palaeontology talk

**January 9th** - Dr David Bond, University of Hull - talk on mass extinctions

**February 13th** TBC

**March 13th** TBC

**April 10th** TBC

**May 8th** Members' Night

Feb/March/April possibilities: Dr Alexander Dunhill (Leeds), Emma Bernard (Curator of Palaeobiology, Natural History Museum, Earth Science) fossil fish expert, and Joe Benson (Lithium research in Namibia) - GSG grant recipient. Additionally the GSG grant reports back by Kiara Brooksby and Ella Davis will probably be a live zoom event(s) at a mutually suitable date(s)

### Past Lectures

GSG YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfNSIvgEbUfLWMSceNiRm1w/>

---

### Day Field Trips 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. More information from Lindsay Smith [excursions@gsocg.org](mailto:excursions@gsocg.org)

**24<sup>th</sup> 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.

**7<sup>th</sup> 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.

---

### Residential Excursion 2025: Advance Notice

**8-12<sup>th</sup> May – Garvellachs:** Leader David Webster.

A repeat residential field excursion to the Garvellach islands is being planned (4 days instead of 3). If you're interested then please email [sec@gsocg.org](mailto:sec@gsocg.org).

---

### Library News

Good progress has been made in meetings with Roma Thomson of Glasgow University library in looking at options

to possibly donate some of the GSG collection of rare books. The thought is that the collection would be under better protection and conditions in the main university library and would still be accessible to members (via your free Glasgow University library membership) but also make them available for use by researchers and students in the near future.

---

## **Subscriptions**

You can now renew your membership subscription for the new session commencing on the 1st of October. If you already pay by direct debit you need take no action as payment will be automatically deducted from your account on that date.

If you currently pay by an alternative method, such as standing order, bank transfer or cheque would you please consider switching your payment type to direct debit. This is our preferred payment method and would significantly reduce the admin burden on our (unpaid) volunteers and helps keep costs down. Please note that the system takes the first payment shortly after you sign up for a direct debit, although the following payment will not be until 1 October 2025, so you may prefer to sign up nearer the renewal date.

To make this change please follow these steps:

1-Log into your webcollect account using the link <https://webcollect.org.uk/gsg> and press on 'renew subscription'. If you have forgotten your login details and/or password please contact the Membership Secretary to reset it [memsec@gsocg.org](mailto:memsec@gsocg.org)

2- Check your details are correct and press on renew

3- Press checkout

4- Alter pay by method to direct debit in right hand side window

5- Press place order

If you are changing from a standing order payment please remember to cancel it with your bank so that you are not charged again on 1 October.

Its a good idea to log into webcollect and check and update if necessary your details in order that our records are correct and up to date.

---

## **Webcollect mail & junk/spam**

It appears that some email servers are putting emails from the society generated via webcollect into junk/spam folders. If you're reading this then its likely that your email system is OK but its a good idea to go to your email provider settings and make sure that they don't.

Webcollect emails come from \*@webcollect.org.uk, The way to ensure that emails from a particular sender aren't put into junk/spam is to designate that sender as a "safe sender". I think that all email clients let you do this. Details of how to do it for gmail can be found here: <https://www.androidpolice.com/gmail-create-safe-senders-list/>

---

## **New Members**

We welcome Craig Durning, Roy Izzard, Gillian Lang and Ben Hardman

---

## **Scottish Journal of Geology**

Edinburgh and Glasgow Geological societies are going to re run a printed copy of the Scottish Journal of Geology for 2024 (volume 60 part 1&2) in colour for £10 .

Orders and payment will need to be in before the 30th September, and the journal will be mailed to your home address in late November/early December direct from the printing company. To order contact [books@gsocg.org](mailto:books@gsocg.org) or alternatively you can purchase this direct using webcollect.

---

## **Fossil Grove Update**

You will recall that in late 2023 GCC earmarked a sum of £450k for fossil grove renovations and to stabilise the fossils. The funds are retained within GCC and City Building are nominated lead contractor.

There have been a number of site meetings with GCC architects and contractors to develop a plan which is close to being finalised.

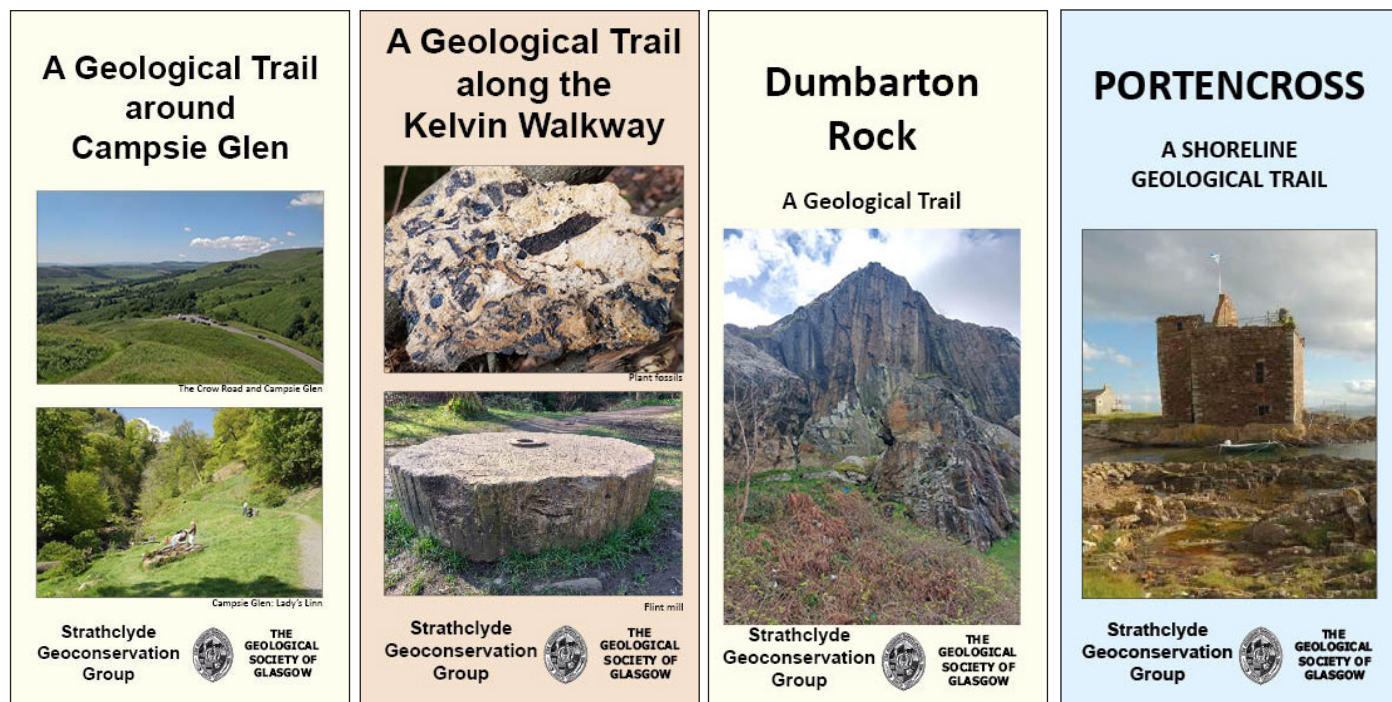
The monthly open afternoons are proving popular (3rd Sundays on the month 12-4). Come along or send friends and family. Next dates 18 Aug, 15 Sept, 20 Oct (these may be cancelled if the work starts in this period).

## Strathclyde Geoconservation Group

The SGG is a subcommittee of the Society, it is open to all members of the Society; just turn up to a meeting, or a site visit. Its main aims are the protection and interpretation of locally important geological sites, mainly in the Greater Glasgow area. It does have a Chair, Secretary and Treasurer but that's about the only formality. The Group have been busy on two fronts, producing a series of leaflets following recent site visits and have made a start at putting information into the fledgling Geosites database. The aim of Geosites is to allow users to access geological locality information online through a map interface. Currently the database comprises GCR (sites previously assessed as Geological Conservation Review sites plus a growing number of Local Geodiversity sites.

The new leaflets are for Campsie Glen, Dumbarton Rock, Kelvin Walkway. A flyer for Calder Glen has been printed, and Linn Park and Portencross leaflets are nearly ready for printing. The latter requires a site visit before finalisation. If you're interested in coming to Portencross on the 14th August please contact [SGG@gsocg.org](mailto:SGG@gsocg.org) for more details.

The next meeting (by zoom) will be on 22nd August at 7:30. All welcome, contact [SGG@gsocg.org](mailto:SGG@gsocg.org) for a zoom link



## Geonatter

Geonatter continues on Wednesday afternoons (1 to 3:30) at the Kelvin Hall. Next dates are:

August 7 and 21

September 4 and 18

## Recent Papers on Scottish Geology

Clark, N.D. and Ross, A.J. 2024. Caridoid crustaceans from the Ballagan Formation (Tournaisian, Lower Carboniferous) of Willie's Hole, Chirnside, Scottish Borders, UK. *Earth and Environmental Science Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh*, pp.1-12. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1755691024000045>

Ballantyne, C.K., 2024. Rock-slope failure scars on sandstone mountains in NW Scotland. *Proceedings of the Geologists' Association*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pgeola.2024.05.003>

Strachan, R.A., Kirkland, C.L., Finlay, A.J., Wray, D.S., Metcalfe, J.H. and Holdsworth, R.E. 2024. U-Pb apatite geochronology shows multiple thermal overprints within the Neoarchaean foreland basement of the Faroe-Shetland Terrane. *Journal of the Geological Society*, pp.jgs2024-003, <https://doi.org/10.1144/jgs2024-003>

Interested in rocks/fossils?

## Geo Natter

Kelvin Hall, Glasgow

Come to Kelvin Hall to look at some rocks & fossils, maybe get your rocks and fossil identified, chat informally to others or ask questions about geology and find out what's happening locally. Tea & Coffee provided.

It's free & everyone is welcome

**Geo Natter is held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed 1.30-3pm on the following dates 2024**

Aug	7 <sup>th</sup> & 21 <sup>st</sup>	Nov	13 <sup>th</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup>
Sept	4 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	11 <sup>th</sup>
Oct	2 <sup>nd</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> & 30 <sup>th</sup>		

**HUNTERIAN**  
THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF GLASGOW



- Daly, J.S., Flowerdew, M.J., Whitehouse, M.J. and Badenszki, E. 2024. Palaeoproterozoic (late “Laxfordian”) reworking of juvenile Neoarchean Lewisian orthogneisses, Iona, Inner Hebrides, Scotland. *Scottish Journal of Geology*, pp.sjg2024-005, <https://doi.org/10.1144/sjg2024-005>
- Scott, A.C. 2024. The anatomically preserved Early Carboniferous flora of Pettycur, Fife, Scotland. *Proceedings of the Geologists' Association*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pgeola.2024.06.001>
- Goodwin, A., Garwood, R.J. and Tartèse, R., 2024. Geochemical evidence for a chondritic impactor in altered impact glass from the Stac Fada Member impactite, NW Scotland. *Journal of the Geological Society*, pp.jgs2023-213, <https://doi.org/10.1144/jgs2023-213>

### **'Hutton in Edinburgh'**

An Edinburgh Fringe walking theatre show (fingers cross for the weather), to be led by an experienced geological guide, but also starring Hutton himself (?) and his sister Isobella. You can join them on a walk-through Holyrood Park, taking in the landscape and musing on Hutton's life and ideas, before finishing at the Hutton Memorial Garden. The show is on at 2pm every day from 1st -11th August 2024 (except 6th August), starting outside the Commonwealth Pool. You can book here - <https://tickets.edfringe.com/whats-on/hutton-in-edinburgh>

### **'Darwin in Edinburgh'**

Another Fringe show telling the story of young Darwin's two years as a medical student. It's got only 5 performances this year, from 2nd – 6th August 2024 at 11am - <https://tickets.edfringe.com/whats-on/darwin-in-edinburgh>

### **Geology of Scotland Book Launch**

A reminder to keep Monday 16th September 2024 free for the new [Geology of Scotland](#) 5th edition, launch event at Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh (starting at 7pm)

### **Rock-Paper-Chisels**

Some advance information about the 'Rock Paper Chisels' Festival, a weekend to celebrate Luing's slate quarrying history past and present, from Friday Sept 20th to Sunday Sept 22nd 2024. This is being organised jointly by [Luing History Group](#) and the Isle of Luing Community Trust, with funding from Historic Environment Scotland and Scotland Book Trust's Live Literature. There will be further information soon, about the prices for events and how to book for the evening events and boat trips..

# ROCK PAPER CHISELS

WEEKEND FESTIVAL  
FRIDAY 20 - SUNDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2024

CELEBRATING  
LUING'S PAST AND  
FUTURE  
AS A SLATE ISLAND



## WALKS TALKS AND VISITS

MEDIEVAL BOAT GRAFFITI - DRAMATIC SLATE QUARRIES - ISLAND HISTORY



### CRAFT WORKSHOPS FOR ALL AGES

SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE  
'SONGS AND STORIES OF SLATE AND STONE'  
AWARD WINNING WRITER JAMES ROBERTSON  
AND LOCAL MUSICIANS



## TASTE OF LUING

FOOD FROM SEA AND LAND

programme of events can be found at  
<https://isleofluing.org/groups/history-group>  
email enquiries to: [slate.luing@btinternet.com](mailto:slate.luing@btinternet.com)




Isle of Luing Community Trust & Luing History Group

### Weekend festival 'ROCK PAPER CHISELS'

A celebration of Luing's past and future  
as a Slate Island

Friday Sept 20<sup>th</sup> to Sunday Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> 2024



*Rock Paper Chisels* celebrates Luing's past - its geology, history and archaeology – and looks towards the future. Supported by Historic Environment Scotland, the Isle of Luing is opening a new chapter in its history. Sixty years after the last slate quarry closed at Cullipool, plans are afoot to restart the production of roofing slates as a community business, creating jobs and helping to revive the island economy.

The weekend festival is for people of all ages interested in archaeology, history, geology, crafts and music. Starting on Friday afternoon and ending on Sunday afternoon, the festival includes:

- Walks, talks and visits, and boat trips round Luing. See, experience and learn about the island's history, including hill-top forts, Medieval boat graffiti and stunning slate quarries.
- Join in craft workshops – 'painting on slate' and 'crafting with stone' for adults and children. Compete to make the tallest and most beautiful stone spire.
- Hear about recent archaeological discoveries and explorations of Luing's history, as well as island plans for the future, including re-opening a slate quarry, tackling coastal erosion and attracting more young people to live on the island.
- Listen to stories by award-winning Scottish writer James Robertson and enjoy song and music from local musicians on Saturday night.
- Enjoy 'Taste of Luing' food from sea and land in the Atlantic Islands Centre – great home-baking during the day, special Festival meals in the evenings.

The outline **events programme** is overleaf.

Advance booking and payment are needed for the boat trips and for the Friday and Saturday evening meals. All other events are turn up on the day and pay at the door.

If you're interested in participating send an email to [slate.luing@btinternet.com](mailto:slate.luing@btinternet.com) and we'll keep you informed about the final programme and how to book. For information on local accommodation go to <https://isleofluing.org/where-stay>

*Rock Paper Chisels* is organised by Luing History Group and the Isle of Luing Community Trust, with funding from Historic Environment Scotland and Scotland Book Trust's Live Literature.

The weekend festival is part of Scottish Archaeology Month and the Scottish Geology Festival.

## **Down to Earth Xtra**

Download links to [June](#), [July](#), [August](#) editions

---

## **Geology in the BBC News**

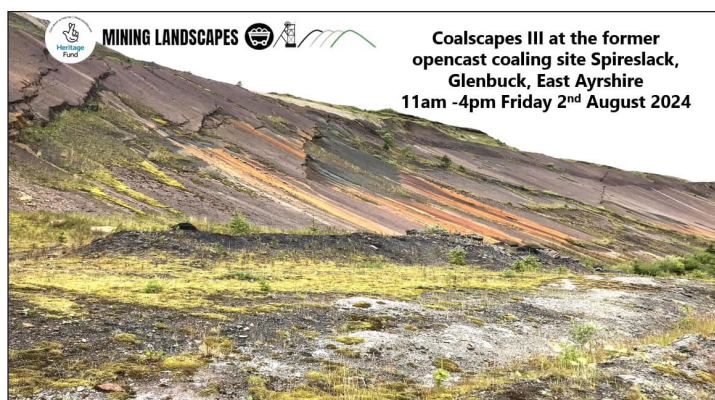
*“Rare fossils reveal secrets of mammal evolution”*. Early mammal from Skye <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c0xj65nelv0o>

*“New shrimp species named after people of Glasgow”* Dr Neil Clark said: “I am especially proud, as a Glaswegian myself, that we were able to name a fossil shrimp *Tealliocaris weegie*.” <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/articles/c72p9jm8jd7o>

*“Complex life on Earth may be much older than thought.”* 2.1 Billion-year-old possible fossil animal from Gabon <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c3geyvpdxpeyo>

---

## **Mining Landscapes**



A free walk, talk and outdoor art workshop exploring geology, ecology and landscape of the former opencast coaling site at Spireslack, Glenbuck East Ayrshire followed by a place-making art workshop.

Led by members of the Eco-Museum of Scottish Mining Landscapes team, Katie Strang (Scottish Geology Trust), Matt Harding (Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland) and Yvonne Weighand Lyle (YWL Studios) in association with the Forestry and Land Scotland Community Ranger Roddy McTavish.

More details on [Eventbrite](#)

---

## **Scottish Geology Festival**

This year's Scottish Geology Festival will run from the 1st September to 6th October. See Scottish Geology Trust website for more information. <https://www.scottishgeologytrust.org/festival/>

---

## **Earth Heritage Magazine**

New edition (#61) can be downloaded [here](#) Look out for the article on the Fossil Grove!

---

## **Geology Bites**

There are three new episodes in this excellent podcast series. See <https://www.geologybites.com/>

---

## **Pavement Geology**

The site [London Pavement Geology](#) has, by popular demand, been extended to the whole UK. Also on Twitter/X. See link [here](#) for fish fossil near Glasgow University.

---

## **Oman Field Trip**

Dec 2025 - to be run by Bruce Levell and Mike Searle. Contact [sec@gsocg.org](mailto:sec@gsocg.org) if potentially interested.

---

**Geological Society of Glasgow**

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

[@geolsocglasgow](#)

President: Simon Cuthbert [pres@gsocg.org](mailto:pres@gsocg.org)

Secretary: David Webster [sec@gsocg.org](mailto:sec@gsocg.org)