



**Circular 388
November 2010**

Registered Charity No: 503617

President: Tim Colman

www.emgs.org.uk

WINTER 2010/2011
LECTURE PROGRAMME

Saturday, 11th December 2010 - 6.00 pm

The Earth after us

Speaker: Jan Zalasiewicz

(followed by our Christmas Cheese & Wine evening)

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING A GLASS!

Saturday, 15th January 2011 - 6.00 pm

Britain in the Freezer - a long term perspective of Quaternary Ice Ages

Speaker: Jonathan Lee

Saturday, 12th February 2011 - 6.00 pm

The last 50 years of Mineral Exploration in Britain

Speaker: Tim Colman

Saturday, 12th March 2011 - 6.00 pm

Annual General Meeting to be followed by:

Multiphase in Volcanoes

Speaker: Barry Azzopardi

followed by the Annual Society Dinner – Booking Form in January Circular.

Saturday, 26th March 2011

Joint meeting with the Yorkshire Geological Society on the theme of "Carbon Capture & Storage" - details in next Circular.

Saturday, 16th April 2011 - 6.00 pm

Members' Evening - details to follow in next Circular.

LECTURE VENUE

Indoor meetings will take place in lecture theatre B3 of the Biology building at the University of Nottingham. If you require to use the lift to B3, please speak to the security attendant who will assist you. B3 is equipped with induction loop hearing assistance. If you are attending meetings or joining a coach at the University of Nottingham, enter from the South Entrance on University Boulevard. Cars should be parked in the car park on the bend in the road just beyond the security point after Science Road. The entrance to the Biology building is at the right hand side of the rear of this car park.

INDOOR LECTURES

Saturday, 11th December 2010 - 6.00 pm

The Earth after us

What traces will be left of human civilization, in the far geological future? There may be little of our handiwork left, then, at the surface. But the Earth's history is a 4.6 billion narrative that can be teased out, forensically, by the geologist from many clues preserved in the strata of this planet. It is a story of glaciations and global greenhouses, of the rise and destruction of mountain belts, of the evolution of life-forms both enigmatic - as the *Charnia* fauna, say - and familiar. Within this enormous history, what position can the brief history of humans have? This talk will consider the evidence, and the story, that might emerge as alien visitors explore the Earth, one hundred million years in the future.

Saturday, 15th January 2011 - 6.00 pm

Britain in the Freezer - a long term perspective of Quaternary Ice Ages

Previous research has demonstrated that Britain was glaciated on several occasions over the past 500,000 years. Prior to 500,000 years ago, comparatively little is known about the scale and frequency of glaciation, or indeed, whether we really had glaciers in the British landscape. However, there is good evidence from Scandinavia and the Nordic Seas that northern Europe was glaciated frequently during this time interval. Why does our record here in Britain appear to be different? Does it reflect differences in the climatic response of Britain to other areas of northern Europe? Within this talk, we examine new evidence for the long-term glacial history of Britain and compare it to the record of other areas of northern Europe to attempt to answer these questions.

Saturday, 12th February 2011 - 6.00 pm

The last 50 years of Mineral Exploration in Britain

Mineral exploration in Britain faces unusual challenges: privately owned mineral rights whose ownership is frequently unknown, no Ministry of Mines, with mineral developments being administered by a variety of Ministries, and a small island where every hectare is precious to somebody!

Nevertheless over one hundred UK and overseas companies have carried out exploration projects for a variety of metals and deposit types in Britain over the past 50 years. Several have resulted in mines and there are currently at least five projects which may soon develop into mines for gold, tungsten, tin, copper or zinc.

The talk will describe how the exploration focus changed from uranium and lead in the 1950s to copper and tin in the 1960s then to nickel and fluorspar in the early 1970s before a hiatus in the mid to late 1970s. Gold has been the main target from the 1980s to the present day.

Saturday, 12th March 2011 - 6.30 pm

Multiphase in Volcanoes

The behaviour of volcanoes is driven by gas/magma mixture within it. A simple description was given by Bonney more than 110 years ago. However, it is only recently that disciplines with multiphase flow expertise have been drawn into the field. The work at Nottingham focuses on two aspects of volcano behaviour. In the first, there is the recent observation that volcanoes emit infrasound. Though this is not audible, it can be recorded and analysed. However, though volcanoes have different signatures, there is not the knowledge base to interpret this. To provide that knowledge base we have set up columns with viscous liquids through which we bubble gas. I will report on what we are observing. The second activity relates to those cases where, as well as the main vent emitting magma, there is a side vent. We have proposed an explanation and have carried out modelling studies which predict the field observations well.

Information for Other Societies

We hold information of lectures and field meetings for other local societies such as the NSSGA, Black Country Geological Society and Leicester Lit & Phil Society. If you would like details of any of these, please contact the Secretary.

New Members

Mr Jordan Haggett, Cromford, Derbyshire
Mr Daniel & Mrs Katy Gosling, Derby.
Mr Eric Oliver, Chesterfield
Mr Ashley Dace, Beccles

Society Publications

- (1) **Leicester Building Stones Guide;**
 - (2) **East Midlands Field Guide;**
 - (3) **Sandstone Caves of Nottingham** (new full colour edition)
- Copies available by contacting the Secretary or at Indoor Meetings.

We are still looking for volunteers please in the Leicester area to help in distributing the Leicester Building Stones Guide. If you can help, please contact the Secretary (details below).

EMGS Website

A plea for past EMGS Field Trip Photographs please for a gallery on the website. Pictures can be e-mailed to website@emgs.org.uk or sent to the Secretary.

Marketing the Society's Publications

We are still in need of a volunteer to promote the marketing of the Society's publications such as the East Midlands Field Guide, Leicester Building Stones Guide and the Sandstone Caves of Nottingham books. If you have any expertise in this field, or even if you haven't but would like to volunteer to help, please contact the secretary or any other member of Council.

The National Stone Centre

Are looking for volunteers for guiding and other activities on the site at Wirksworth. If you can help, please contact Ian Thomas on 01629 824833 or ian@nationalstonecentre.org.uk

e-mail addresses

To minimise postal costs and photocopying charges which amount to approximately £4.00 each year for every member who still receives their Circular by post, we would very much like to send you your Circular by e-mail. If you have not already done so, please send your e-mail address to the Circular Editor, sue.miles@freethcartwright.co.uk.

Please can you also confirm your name and address when sending your e-mail so we can correlate these details with our membership listing.

The next Circular will be published in January 2011.

The next Council Meeting will be held on 12th January 2011.

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