



**Circular 428
November 2017**

Registered Charity No: 503617

President: Vanessa Banks

www.emgs.org.uk

AUTUMN/WINTER 2017/2018
LECTURE PROGRAMME

Saturday, 9th December 2017 – 6.00 pm

Tony Waltham - Control the drainage: the gospel accorded to Sinkholes

(To be followed by our Christmas Cheese and Wine Evening £5.00 – please remember to bring a glass).

Saturday, 13th January 2018 – 6.00 pm

**David Martill - Dinosaur hunting in the Sahara Desert:
The Cretaceous Kem Kem beds of Morocco**

Saturday, 10th February 2018 – 6.00 pm

Dr Vanessa Banks: British Geological Survey

Presidential Address: The Geological and Hydrogeological significance of karst processes in the Peak District, U.K.

(To be followed by the Annual Dinner at the Orchard Hotel. Booking form attached).

Saturday, 10th March 2018 – 6.00 pm

Annual General Meeting, followed by:

Haydon Bailey - The real use of microfossils

Saturday, 14th April 2018 – 6.00 pm

Paul Olver - A day in AD79

LECTURE VENUE

Indoor meetings are now held in the School of Geography on the Nottingham University campus which is in the Sir Clive Granger Building. Enter the University by the North Entrance, off the A52, and follow signs to the main Visitor Car Park. As you enter the car park, the Sir Clive Granger building is on your left.

The Society is indebted to the School of Geography at the University, who are sponsoring our lectures, for the use of these facilities.

Saturday, 9th December 2017 – 6.00 pm

Speaker: Tony Waltham

Control the drainage: the gospel accorded to Sinkholes

Karst is a landscape that is distinguished by underground drainage and is normally formed on limestone or gypsum. Its impact on engineering geology is the distinctive suite of karst geohazards, which are largely related to the holes in the ground of varying size and unpredictable nature. The most widespread and frequent geohazard is the development of new sinkholes within the soil profile over a cavernous limestone; they develop by suffosion, where soil is washed down into cavities in the stable rock. New suffosion sinkholes are nearly all formed by rainstorms, new drainage inputs or water table decline; they are therefore largely avoidable if the gospel of drainage control is obeyed. Rock collapse to develop new sinkholes is hugely less common, though drainage can again be significant where water table decline reduces hydrostatic support. Most sinkholes in soil and most collapses on rock are induced, wholly or partially, by civil engineering activities, and are therefore largely avoidable. Examples from around the world clearly illustrate these themes, and the relative frequencies of events confirm that drainage control is the golden rule on karst.

This presentation is largely a reprise of the Glossop Lecture given by invitation to the Engineering Group of the Geological Society in London in November 2015; its companion paper is therefore already published at Quarterly Journal of Engineering Geology and Hydrogeology, 2016, v49, p5-19.

Saturday, 13th January 2018 – 6.00 pm

Speaker: David Martill

**Dinosaur hunting in the Sahara Desert:
The Cretaceous Kem Kem beds of Morocco**

An extensive plateau, the Hamada Kem Kem, fringes the ancient plain of the Tafilalt in south east Morocco. This desert borderland once recognised for its trans-Saharan gold routes is now famed for its ancient fossils. A vigorous and international trade in these provides thousands of families with an income: a much better living than can be had from grazing goats and growing dates as this oasis dries out. Thousands of Palaeozoic trilobites, goniatites, orthoconic nautiloids and crinoids have now found their way into museums and on to mantelpieces around the world. Above these spectacularly rich Palaeozoic strata lying at the foot of the Kem Kem escarpment are Cretaceous sandstones rich in terrestrial vertebrates. Formerly known as the Continental Intercalaire, the Kem Kem sandstones yield a wide variety of dinosaurs, pterosaurs, crocodiles, turtles and some of the largest fishes ever to have inhabited river systems. This fossiliferous Lagerstätte is the remnant of a river of giants.

The dinosaurs too were enormous. *Spinosaurus*, a fish eating, semi-aquatic dinosaur was probably longer than *T. rex*. *Carcharodontosaurus* was similarly a massive predator of other dinosaurs.

Even the pterosaurs were gigantic, with examples of *Coloborhynchus* and *Alanqa* exceeding 6 metres in wingspan.

In this talk, I will introduce the geology and palaeoenvironments of the Kem Kem, and discuss the palaeobiology of the most important of the faunal elements.

Saturday, 10th February 2018 – 6.00 pm

Speaker: Dr Vanessa Banks

Presidential Address: The Geological and Hydrogeological significance of karst processes in the Peak District, U.K.

This talk will describe the wide range of erosional and depositional karst processes and landforms that are evident in the Peak District. It will consider their timing and how they have contributed to unravelling the geological and hydrogeological history of the Peak District. Comparisons will be made with karst processes operating in other regions.

Other Societies Lectures

OUGS Day of Talks – 9th December 2017 - 10.00am-16.45pm

BGS Conference Centre, Keyworth

Subject: Ice Worlds

A copy of the above is attached with this Circular, along with booking form and Abstracts.

EMGS Annual Dinner – 10th February 2018 – 7.30 pm for 8.00 pm

Please do think of booking for the Society's Annual Dinner on the 10th February after the President's lecture. This is an excellent social event and is to be held for the second year running at the highly rated Orchard Hotel on the University Campus. Last year's event was greatly enjoyed by all who attended and the food and surroundings are excellent. This year we will also have the exclusive use of their newly constructed private Dining Room, the Beresford Suite.

2018 Summer Field Trips

If any members have ideas for field trips for next year, they would be gratefully received by Tim Colman, e-mail address: timcolman@tiscali.co.uk

Transport Help Needed

We have several long standing members of the Society who can no longer attend meetings due to transport difficulties. If anyone would be prepared to offer help with this, please could they let the Secretary have their details.

Society Publications

- (1) **East Midlands Field Guide;**
- (2) **Sandstone Caves of Nottingham (3rd edition)**

(3) Leicester Building Stones Guide

Copies available by contacting the Secretary or at Indoor Meetings.

Mercian Geologist – Back numbers

Do you need any back numbers of the Mercian to fill a gap in your collection?

The scanning of every single issue of the Mercian Geologist that the Society has published is now complete. As soon as they are all accessible through the Society's website the stocks of back numbers that the Secretary currently holds will be disposed of although a complete set of hard copies will of course be kept for archive purposes. So please contact the Secretary Janet Slatter at secretary@emgs.org.uk or on 01509 843297 if you have any gaps that you want to fill

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.

EMGS Website

The publications page on the Society website (www.emgs.org.uk) has been tidied up and updated. It now includes links to two archives:

One is the archive of the early Mercian Geologists where the huge task of diligently scanning and preparing copies of all the back issues has now been completed thanks to the hard work of David Bate. These will soon, if they are not already, all be accessible through the Society's website.

The other is the archive of papers and reports in the more recent issues. These will go into the webpage one year after they appear in the paper issues of the Mercian. All papers 2000 to 2014 are already in the online free archive.

Costs of the Circular

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@freeths.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 2018.

The next Council Meeting will be held on 9th January 2017.

Secretary: Mrs Janet Slatter, 100 Main Street, Long Whatton, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE12 5DG e-mail: janet.slatter@btinternet.com . tel. no. 01509 843297.

Treasurer: Mr Colin Bagshaw, 150 Scalpcliffe Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE15 9AD, e-mail: Colin.bagshaw@yahoo.co.uk tel. no. 01283 564520

EAST MIDLANDS GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

54th Anniversary Dinner **10th February 2018 - 7.30pm for 8.00pm**

The 54th Anniversary Dinner will be held in a private dining room at the Orchard Hotel on the University Campus after the Presidential Address. The hotel is very close to the lecture venue and there is ample parking and easy level access. There will be a complimentary drinks reception before the meal and a three course dinner with tea or coffee to follow. The price for the meal will be **£30.00** per person.

MENU

Starter

1. Seasonal vegetable soup, bread and butter (V)
2. Crayfish Cocktail, Marie Rose Sauce, wholegrain bread *
3. Pork, Apricot and Pistachio Terrine, Dried Fruit Chutney *

Main Course

1. Fillet of Salmon, Lemon and Herb Quinoa, Roasted Tomato and Vegetable Stew (GF)
2. Steak and Ale Pie, Mustard Mash, Buttered cabbage
3. Proper British Chicken Tikka Curry, Sourdough Flatbread, Onion Salad and Cucumber Yoghurt *
4. Lincolnshire Poacher Potato Cake, Fried Hens Egg, Roasted Root Vegetables (V)

Dessert

1. Steamed Ginger Sponge Pudding, Rum and Raisin Ice Cream
2. Warm Chocolate Brownie, Chocolate Ice Cream
3. Bramleys Fruit Salad and Sorbet (GF)

Tea and coffee

V = Suitable for vegetarian

GF = Gluten free

*The * denotes that this dish can be made gluten free on request – please indicate on your booking form if this is required. Also please explain on the form if you have any allergies.*

Please indicate your choice of starter, main course and dessert below.

Booking form for 54th Anniversary Dinner

Please reserve places

My/our choice of three courses are as follows:

Starter(s):

Main Course(s):

Dessert(s):

Name(s) & Tel. Nos:

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Cheque made payable to EMGS enclosed for £

Please send to: Ian Sutton at 30 Alford Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 6GJ

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