

1 Meetings during 2021

The continuation of covid-19 lockdown measures has meant that we have continued to hold meetings in virtual space, using zoom. The zoom meetings have been hosted each month by our President, Frances Wall, and we have held a meeting for every month of the past year (the August meeting being a field trip). These have been well supported and have continued to attract people from far afield who might otherwise not have been able to join us.

The programme has consisted of the following lectures:

- a. Weds 17th March 2021: Steve Brusatte 'The Rise and fall of the Dinosaurs'.
- b. Weds 21st April 2021: Damian Nance: 'The Supercontinent Cycle'.
- c. Weds 19th May 2021: Laura Newscombe, 'Geomicrobiology: How microbes change the earth'.
- d. Weds 23rd June 2021: Gregor Borg, Saxony, "From the Mountains Through the Rivers to the Sky", Tracing the Gold of the Sky Disk of Nebra'.
- e. Weds 21st July 2021: James Scourse, "The Ice Age in Cornwall".
- f. Weds 1^{5th} September 2021: Frank Howie: Pyrite, the Ubiquitous Sulphide'
- g. Weds 20th October 2021: Jenny Bennett: 'Eileen Lind Hendriks (1887-1978), Disentangling Devonian Geology in Devon and Cornwall.'
- h. Weds 17th November: A visit to Truro School hosted by Mark Vanstone, to visit their geology department and to hear a detailed explanation of their 'Raspberry Shake' system of monitoring seismic events.
- i. Weds 15th December 2021: Our plan to hold an in-person meeting was changed due to the increasing caution urged by the government in the light of latest wave of the pandemic, and instead was held online. A 'show and tell' session where members presented photographs or specimens, and update on the work undertaken by the team working on the transactions and a presentation from Kate Moore on the Moho at Coverack.
- j. Weds 20th January 2021: "Precariously Balanced Rocks: Inverse seismometers recording ancient earthquakes".
- k. Weds 16th February: to be held jointly with Cornwall Geo-Conservation Group, Murray Gray, Queen Mary Coll., London: 'Geodiversity: redundant term or influential concept?'

2 Field Trips in 2021-22: On Sunday 25th July we enjoyed a local day trip to the Lizard area to look at Quaternary geology there, Led by Professor James Scourse, Head of the Department of Geography at University of Exeter, Penryn Campus. This followed the lecture which he delivered on 21st July and took in two sites which were discussed in the talk.

Our plans for another field trip in the autumn of 2021 were put on hold due to further covid-19 restrictions. We agreed to run this in early spring 2022, on February 12th, with a visit to Carn Galver and Porthmeor Cove.

It was pleasing to see how well attended these were.

3 Forthcoming Programme, 2022:

We are looking forward to continuing our online lectures and will include the following booked lectures:

- a. March 2022: Prof. Heather Viles, School of Geography at the University of Oxford, on her recent research into Rocks and weathering related to conservation of historic buildings.

4 Field Work Programme, 2022:

Three field visits have been planned for the coming year, at which we hope that members and friends will join us. Our agreed policy for field trip funding is to welcome all members without

additional contributions, and to ask non-members for a fee of £5, which will be discounted from their membership if they decide to become a member in that year, unless other entry fees are incurred where individual pricing will be set. The planned visits are:

- 1 Sunday 26th March 2022: Caerhayes Castle Mineral Collection and garden entry; £5 members, £10 non-members
 - 2 Sunday 15th May 2022: Coverack Cove, The Lizard, to look at the deep structure of ocean floors, led by Dr Kate Moore of Camborne School of Mines, University of Exeter.
 - 3 Saturday 2nd July 2022: Pendower Beach, Roseland Peninsula, to look at the Devonian tectonics & sedimentation of Gerrans Bay – in the footsteps of Lind Hendriks. Led by Dr Robin Shail of Camborne School of Mines, University of Exeter.
- 5 **Correspondence:** Charlie Moon, member of the Society, has been busy scanning many of the Transactions in preparation for making the series available digitally. We are very grateful to him for all his hard work. The next stage will be to ask for a group of volunteers from the membership to go through and check these against the originals and prepare them for presentation on the internet.
- 6 **Lease for the Fire Station:** After much work by Dr. Loveday Jenkin, several of the snags associated with the lease of the St John's Fire Station were sorted out, but it became clear that the building suffered from damp and was not suitable for our collections and papers. Cornwall Council has agreed and is currently seeking a suitable alternative. We have looked at buildings at King Edward Mine and are in negotiation over this at the moment.
- 7 **Curatorial Work on the Collection:** The Council appointed Dr Melanie Francis, to prepare a report for us with a proposal for the future care of the archive. We were pleased with the report and are taking action on some of her recommendations. Further progress will depend on having space available from Cornwall Council, which we hope to resolve in the near future.

Linda Beskeen

Secretary to the Royal Geological Society of Cornwall, February 2022.