

# HOGG

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## Newsletter

of the

## History of Geology Group

of the

## Geological Society of London



### Bicentennial Celebrations

Isle of Wight Fieldtrip

Dine with the Founding Fathers  
Conference

The End of Mantell's Spine

Dinosaurs-An Historic Perspective

**Front Cover:** Lithograph of the Needles, Isle of Wight. Thought to be drawn by Thomas Webster in 1816.

**Editor:**

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## In the Footsteps of the Founding Fathers

9-13 November, 2007

### HISTORY OF GEOLOGY GROUP BICENTENARY CELEBRATIONS



*The Geological Society of London, was founded on the 13th November 1807 and is the oldest geological society in the world. This year it celebrates its bicentenary. To mark this occasion the HISTORY OF GEOLOGY GROUP has organised three events under the general theme 'In the Footsteps of the Founding Fathers'.*



*The above composite was created by Conker Design at the request of Richard Moody; using images provided by the Geological Society.*

## Walk with the Founding Fathers

9-11 November 2007

The field trip to the Isle of Wight to visit some of the classic geological localities of historic interest. The trip will be led by Professors Hugh Torrens and Martin Rudwick. Accommodation has been arranged for the nights of Friday 9th and Saturday 10th November at the Wellington Hotel, Ventnor.



**Above:** View from Alum Bay Park south-east to Needles.

**Right:** Three toed footprint of *Iguanodon* at Hanover Point, Isle of Wight.

**There are 2 places left.**

*(Images by Richard Moody)*



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## Talk with the Founding Fathers

12-13 November 2007

Geological Society of London, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London

*“Endeavour has been made not merely to trace the birth,  
the develop-ment, and influence of the Society,  
but to indicate something of the manner  
of men who laid its foundations.”*

**Horace B. Woodward, 1908**  
History of the Geological Society of London

This two-day international conference, will commemorate the lives of the founders, the achievements of the Geological Society of London, and the activities of some of its members over the past 200 years.

**Conference Programme set out below**

## Geological Society Bicentenary Meeting: Talk with the Founding Fathers

| Speaker  | Title  |
|--|--|
| <b>Guest speaker:</b> Dr Iain Stewart, presenter of BBC TV series Journeys from the centre of the Earth    | Cultural Geology: modern marketing of an ancient planet  |
| <b>The status of geology in 1807</b>   |  |
| <b>Keynote Address:</b> Professor Martin Rudwick - Cambridge University, UK                                | The status of the earth sciences in 1807, in Britain and the rest of the scientific world, in relation to the other sciences of nature |
| Professor Phillipe Taquet - Laboratoire de Paleontologie, Paris  | Geology beyond the Channel: the beginnings of geohistory in France in the early nineteenth century                                     |
| Dr Julie Newell - Southern Polytechnic State University, USA   | A story of things yet-to-be: the status of geology in the US in 1807   |
| Professor Gian Battista Vai - Universiti di Bologna, Italy   | The status of geology in Italy around 1807   |
| Dr Irena G.Malakhova - Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia   | Scientific institutions and geosciences in Russia at the beginning of the nineteenth century.  |
| <b>The founders and foundation of the Society</b>  |  |
| Dr Martina Kölbl-Ebert - Jura-Museum Eichstätt, Germany  | George Bellas Greenough  |
| Professor David Knight - Durham University, UK   | Chemists get down to Earth   |
| Dr Cherry Lewis - University of Bristol, UK  | The founding doctors: Parkinson, Babington, Frank and Laird  |
| Professor Hugh Torrens - Madeley, UK   | Dissenting Science: the Quakers among the founding fathers   |
| Keynote Address: Professor Simon Knell - University of   | A society in a nation of geological societies: the Geological  |
| <b>The first 100 years</b>   |  |
| Leicester, UK  | Society in its early nineteenth century context  |
| Leucha Veneer - University of Leeds, UK  | Practical geology in the early years of the Geological Society   |
| Dr Noah Heringman - University of Missouri-Columbia, USA   | Thomas Webster, Sir Henry Englefield, and Geological antiquity   |
| Dr Ted Rose - Royal Holloway, University of London, UK   | Early fellows of the Geological Society and the dawn of military geology in Europe   |
| Professor David Branagan, University of Sydney, Australia  | The Geological Society of London: the Antipodean connection  |
| Professor Patrick Boylan - City University London, UK  | The Geological Society and its official recognition  |
| Dr Ralph O'Connor - University of Aberdeen, UK   | Experts in search of an audience: the Geological Society and the wider public, 1807-1837   |
| Dr Renee Clary - Mississippi State University and Dr. James H. Wandersee - Louisiana State University, USA | All are worthy to know the Earth: Henry De la Beche and the origin of geological literacy.   |
| Christopher J. Cleal, Helen E. Fraser and Maureen Lazarus, Geoffrey Dannell - National Museum Wales, UK    | Edmund Tyrell Artis (1789-1847) - Britain's pioneering Carboniferous palaeobotanist  |
| John R. Smallwood - Amerada Hess Ltd, UK   | The first geophysical map - rediscovered: Playfair on Schiehallion 1801-1811   |
| Professor Cynthia Burek - University of Chester, UK  | The status of women and the first female Fellows   |

## Dine with the Founding Fathers

12 November 2007

A bicentenary dinner will be held in the New Connaught Rooms, which now incorporates the Free Mason's Tavern where the Geological Society was founded.

A plaque commemorating the founding of the Society will be unveiled by Professor Richard Fortey, President of the Geological Society of London.

The evening marks a moment in history and will in turn become a historical reference point. It will be an evening to remember; informal with the option of wearing Period Dress. It will be a time to dine with friends listen to the music of the **Abraxas String Ensemble** and the **Alicia Hunt Flute and Guitar Duo**.

**BOOKINGS FOR THE CONFERENCE AND DINNER ARE GOING FAST  
- THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER**

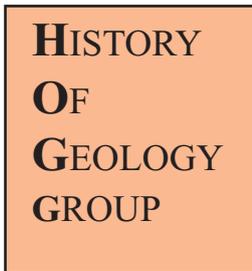


For any other enquiries please contact:

**Dr Cherry Lewis, Senate House, University of Bristol, Tyndall Ave, Bristol BS8 1TH.  
Email [hoggchair@aol.com](mailto:hoggchair@aol.com)**



*Above: Covent Garden Area 1804. From Rowes Map of London*



In the Footsteps of the Founding Fathers  
**9-13 November 2007**

**Registration Form**

**Name:**.....

**Address:**.....

.....

..... **Post Code:**.....

**Telephone:**..... **Fax:**.....

**Email:**.....

Please tick the appropriate boxes.

I wish to attend the Conference: **Talk with the Founding Fathers** on 12-13 November 2007

**The registration fees per person are as follows:**

History of Geology members ..... £55 x £.....

Others ..... £65 x £.....

Students ..... £25 x £.....

Conference fee enclosed £.....

I wish to attend the field trip **Walk with the Founding Fathers** on 9-11 November

**(2 Places left)**

**The registration fee per person is £45**

Accommodation for two nights, breakfast and dinner (2 sharing) £120 x £.....

Accommodation for two nights, breakfast and dinner (single) £150 x £.....

Field trip fee enclosed £.....

I wish to attend the dinner **Dine with the Founding Fathers** on 12 November

**The cost of the dinner is** ..... £55 per person

Cost of dinner enclosed £.....

**Total amount enclosed** £.....

**Please return:**

Your registration form and cheque, made payable to the History of Geology Society,  
 to:

**Dr Cherry Lewis, Chairman History of Geology Society, Senate House, University of Bristol,  
 Tyndall Ave, Bristol BS8 1TH.**

**Email [hoggchair@aol.com](mailto:hoggchair@aol.com)**

## Dine with the Founding Fathers 1807 Revisited

Cut a dash and wear period costume to the  
HOGG/Geological Society Club Bicentennial Dinner  
at the New Connaught Rooms, London on the 12th November 2007

*Make it an evening to remember*



Numerous people have expressed the wish to wear period dress on the 12th of November. In response to their requests we have negotiated special prices with suppliers for the hire of period costumes on the night. Let us help you in the search for the correct attire and arrange delivery to your hotel or to the Connaught Rooms.

Should you wish to take part please complete the form below: **Remember Period Dress is optional**

I would like to Dine with the Founding Fathers on 12th November in period costume

Name:.....Contact address:.....

.....Post Code:.....Tel:.....

Please indicate how much are you would be prepared to spend on a costume/accessories:

eg: £25-40

£40-60

£60-100

**Please return to:** Prof Richard Moody, Gnoll House, 15 Forster Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 9AE.  
rtj.moody@virgin.net

## **History of Geology Group AGM, 2007**

### *Call for resolutions*

The AGM will be held on the 13th of November, day 2 of the 'Talk with the Founding Fathers' Conference to be held at the Geological Society, Burlington House, London.

If you have a resolution you wish to raise, please send it to the Secretary, by 7 November 2007, at [hoggsec@hotmail.com](mailto:hoggsec@hotmail.com)

or by post to the following address:

Dr. Anne O'Connor  
13 Manor View  
High Pittington  
Durham DH6 1AD  
UK

### **Agenda**

- 1) Apologies
- 2) Minutes of the last AGM
- 3) Matters Arising
- 4) Election Matters
- 5) Secretary's Report
- 6) Treasurer's Report
- 7) Editor's Report
- 8) Resolutions
- 9) AOB

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### ***VACANT COMMITTEE POSTS***

**Dear HOGG member,**

Would you like to join the HOGG Committee?

Several general posts on the HOGG Committee will become vacant at the next AGM (November 2007). Posts will commence in January 2008 and are tenable for a period of 3 years.

The posts involve attending four committee meetings a year in London (travel expenses paid) and participating in one or two members' meetings a year. You do not need any particular qualifications or previous committee experience. All we ask is that you have an interest in the history of geology and are keen to be involved.

If you would like further information about joining the HOGG Committee, please contact the Secretary by email before 20th September 2007: [hoggsec@hotmail.com](mailto:hoggsec@hotmail.com)

Many thanks,

Anne

## **MINUTES OF THE HOGG ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2006**

The Annual General Meeting for 2006 was held electronically (and by mail) over a week, from 24 November to 1 December 2006.

**1 Apologies**

No apologies were received.

**2 Minutes of the last AGM**

The minutes of the last AGM were taken as read.

**3 Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

**4 Proposals**

**a.** Election Matters: ratification of appointment of Beris Cox to the Committee  
Beris Cox's appointment to the HOGG committee was ratified by 22 votes in favour (none against).

**b.** Due to escalating costs it is proposed that the membership fee be raised from £10 to £15 to take effect from 2008

This proposal was accepted by the members, who gave it their strong support: 22 votes in favour (none against). The rise was necessary to cover escalating costs and the considerable expenses anticipated for the Bicentenary Event.

**5 Secretary's Report for 2006**

This was taken as read.

**6 Treasurer's Report for 2006**

This was taken as read.

**7 Newsletter Editor's Report for 2006**

This was taken as read.

**8 Motions**

No motions were raised.

**The meeting closed at 12.00 pm on 1 December 2006.**

## HOGG Diary of Future Events

The HOGG Committee has set an ambitious provisional agenda of meetings for the future. More details will be given of each meeting nearer the date, but so far the provisional diary is:

### 2007

HOGG Celebration of the bi-centenary of the Geological Society (12-13th November)

*Walk with the Founding Fathers 9-11th November*

*Talk with the Founding Fathers 12-13th November*

*Dine with the Founding Fathers 12 November*

### 2008

'Dinosaurs-A Historical Perspective' - May 6-7 2008. Burlington House, London.

Smith, Phillips & Rotunda meeting (Scarborough, Autumn)

Literature & Geology (Autumn ?)

History of Gemmology -"Stones of Desire" (November )

#### **Possible meetings on:**

History of Metalliferous Mining (possibly to be held in Cornwall)

History of Igneous Petrology

### 2009

Field trip to Liverpool (in conjunction with the Geologists' Association ?) - Autumn

History of Micropalaeontology

History of Military Hydrogeology (June)

#### **Other topics may include:**

History of the Philosophy of Geology

History of Mineralogy, something on Collections Lost and Found,

Hydrogeology

**If members have any additional ideas for meetings (or field excursions)  
the Committee would be pleased to hear of them.**



Gideon Mantell

## *THE END OF MANTELL'S SPINE*

**Tony Brook**

**Taken** literally, the end of Mantell's spine was his coccyx, just like everyone else, but, as you may well imagine, this phrase has another meaning, in this context. Whatever happened to Mantell's lower lumbar vertebrae, which were preserved as an anatomical exhibit at the Royal College of Surgeons? There seems to be some disagreement. Because the best medical opinion of the time was so undecided about his unusual condition, and what to do about it, Mantell left instructions that a post-mortem examination should take place, and, if the pathology of his lumbar vertebrae warranted it, then the relevant parts should be preserved as specimens in the Hunterian Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, of which he was a proud Fellow. Drs Hodgkin and Adams, eminent surgeons of the day, who performed the autopsy shortly after Mantell's death on 11 November 1852, reported their findings to a Meeting of The Medico-Chirurgical Society on 27 June 1854, and in the subsequent paper, stated that 'the [vertebral] specimen was also exhibited to the Society, and is now deposited in the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons. A plaster cast, taken before the section was made and accurately representing the amount of distortion, is also in the Museum'.

In a similar way to the holotype of a fossil or a mineral, body-parts of Mantell were now serving as type-specimens for the rare condition of spiral rotation of the spine, and continued to do so for many decades. They were viewed by Sidney Spokes, Mantell's first biographer, in the 1920's: as he remarks, he 'first saw the specimens in March 1922, and, on recently (October 1926) looking at them again, learned that the section of the spine had been remounted and described' He then provides the Catalogue description for 'the lower part of a spinal column, affected by osteo-arthritis' (No. 4808.1), and for 'a plaster cast of the lower dorsal and lumbar spine of the preceding specimen' (No.4808.2). Undoubtedly Mantell's, and still serving a useful purpose, which would have mightily pleased its original owner.

What happened to them thereafter is open to interpretation. Two different writers on Mantell are firmly of the opinion that Mantell's spine met its end in the early years of World War 2. Deborah Cadbury, in *The Dinosaur Hunters* (2000, p.325), believed that 'it was obliterated by German bombs during the height of the London Blitz', by which she presumably meant September-October 1940, when London suffered air-raids on 57 consecutive nights. On the other hand, Dennis Dean, in *Gideon Mantell and the Discovery of Dinosaurs* (1999, p.264) stated that 'it remained an exhibit at the Hunterian Museum for almost 90 years, until destroyed by enemy action in May 1941, a casualty of World War 2'.

Later writers also believed that Mantell's spine became just another casualty of wartime, but are less specific as to exactly when. Christopher McGowan, in *The Dragon Seekers* (2001, p.212) states that 'it appears to have been lost during World War 2', and Valerie Wilding, in *Discovering Dinosaurs* (2003, p.165) claims that 'Mantell's spine was eventually destroyed by a German bomb during the Second World War'. The differences in timing of this tragic event are most curious, but whether it was as general as 'during the War' or as specific as October 1940 or May 1941 is really immaterial, because, whenever it occurred, Mantell's spine was completely obliterated. Or was it?!

Comments by Dr Jeremy Fairbank, of the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, Oxford, in recent articles in medical journals about Mantell's spinal condition and its significance, have provided a further twist to the end of Mantell's spine. In both the *Annals of the Royal College of Surgeons* 86 (2004) p.351 and *Spine* 29 (2004) p.1953, he remarks that 'the spine and plaster cast [in the Hunterian Museum] were destroyed in 1969 due to lack of space'! In both journals he later comments that 'it is a pity that the

Hunterian Museum destroyed Mantell's spine as today we could subject it to CT and MRI find out what was within the [vertebral] canal' (Annals, p.352 and Spine, p.1953); and then makes the very pertinent point (in Annals, p.352) that 'this illustrates the difficulties of museums and collections with too many specimens for their storage capacity'. In this scenario Mantell's spine survived the War intact, but later suffered the indignity of purposeful destruction due to lack of storage space.

As it turns out, the truth is 'None of the Above'; it seems that historical reality prefers a different outcome. Jeremy Fairbank is nearest the truth: Mantell's spine did survive the War, and was disposed of in dubious circumstances. On 9 April I emailed the Curator of the Hunterian Museum with details of these discrepancies and asked if he could possibly shed any light on the case of the disappearing bones. On 19 April Simon Chaplin, Senior Curator at the Hunterian Museum, sent the following reply: 'I can confirm that the preparations of Gideon Mantell's spine did survive the War, but both were subsequently disposed of. According to our Register books, the [plaster] cast (4802.2) was discarded in 1945. The actual specimen survived until 1970 when it, too, was discarded.

There is no record of why they were disposed of: lack of space is a plausible explanation. It is also possible that, when the specimen was discarded, nobody recognised its connection with Mantell: although the [plaster] cast was listed as 'Cast of Mantell's Spine, the specimen was described in the Register only as 'Lumbo-dorsal spine: lateral curvature'. A check of the earlier Catalogues would have revealed its origin, but perhaps nobody thought to do this---or, if they did, they did not feel that the connection was important. Either way, a regrettable loss'. So that means that, after all, all that remains of Mantell's spine is the documentary record: the drawings of the bare bones of lower spinal column, front and back, from Hodgkin and Adams's 1854 paper, which incorporated the post-mortem report, and the poor-quality photograph of the plaster cast in the Appendix to Spokes's 1927 biography.

This is yet another example of authorial miasma over a verifiable historical fact, and illustrates the differing interpretations of historic events with the passage of time. It also emphasises how easily and how quickly a misconception becomes ingrained in the system and established as the historical truth, when all it needs is a little bit of basic research to ascertain what actually happened. For Mantell's spine to be 'destroyed by enemy action' sounds far more impressive and romantic than 'thrown out as surplus to requirements' or 'discarded as unrecognised or unimportant' The old adage of newspaper editors still rings true: never let the facts get in the way of a good story!

Gideon Mantell was unique in life and in death. In death he made a unique contribution to human pathology---a feat which no other geologist can emulate, nor, on further thought, would wish to emulate. The final humiliation of rejection would have given the Ghost of Richard Owen the ultimate reason to chortle long and loud!

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**SIDNEY SPOKES**  
**GIDEON ALGERNON MANTELL:**  
**SURGEON AND GEOLOGIST**  
**1927, 256-57**

The present writer first saw the specimens in March, 1922, and on recently (October, 1926) looking at them again, learned that the section of the spine had been remounted and described. The catalogue now contains the following statements:—

*“Acquired Deformities: Spine: Lateral Curvature.*

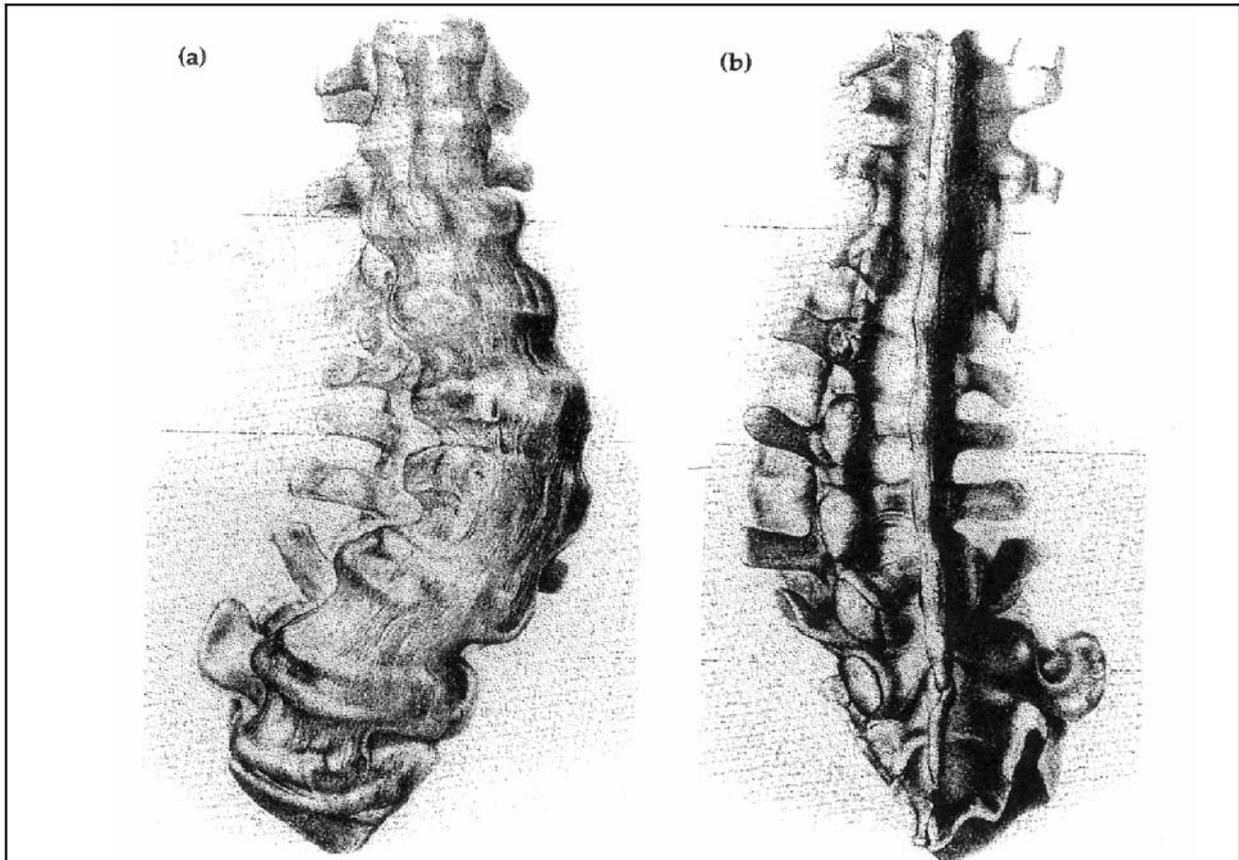
“4808. 1. The lower part of a spinal column affected with osteo-arthritis. A frontal section has been made, passing through the middle of the vertebral bodies. Almost all the intervertebral discs show fissures or cavities in their substance, due probably to liquefactive degeneration: this is well marked in the discs between the 3rd and 4th lumbar vertebræ, and between the last two dorsal vertebræ. The body of the 3rd lumbar vertebra has become partially dislocated from the 4th and displaced to the left, and a similar but slighter displacement has occurred between the 4th and 5th lumbar vertebræ. A marked lateral curvature has resulted with its convexity to the left, with diminution of the vertical measurement of the bodies of the 2nd and 3rd vertebræ and atrophy of the discs on the concave side of the curve. Between the last two dorsal and the first lumbar vertebræ there has been a slight shifting of the vertebral bodies on one another in the opposite direction, towards the right. Extensive lipping of the margins of the lumbar vertebræ has occurred, rendering their right surfaces markedly concave. There is also an abundant formation of new bone on the lumbar articular processes; one of the joints is seen in section and the new bone at its lower part articulates with a deposit of new bone on the lamina below. The deformity has led to considerable narrowing of the intervertebral foramina on the concave side of the lumbar curve.

“From a male patient aged 62, who had suffered pain in the back for ten years; and subsequently received an injury in the back, after which the pain became more severe, and the lower limbs and bladder became paralysed. Voluntary motion and sensation slowly returned, followed with intense neuralgia. The patient died from taking an overdose of opiate.

“4808. 2. A plaster cast of the lower dorsal and lumbar spine from the same case as the preceding specimen. The lumbar curvature to the left is well shown and, in addition, a rotation of the lumbar vertebral bodies, the anterior surfaces of which are directed somewhat to the left.”

**Left.** Notes by Sidney Spokes on the lower spine and a cast of the lower spine of Gideon Mantell.

**Below.** The two figures below are of specimens 4808.1 (Lower Spine) and 4808.2 (Cast) once housed in the Hunterian Museum, Cambridge,



## Worth a visit?...

### “William Daniel Conybeare (1787-1857) and the Development of Geology”



W. D. Conybeare

Source:

[www.tlysau.org.uk/en/item1/26472](http://www.tlysau.org.uk/en/item1/26472)

This will be a one-day symposium at the University of Leeds, on Friday 19th October, exploring the important but somewhat neglected work of the geologist W.D. Conybeare. Conybeare was part of the highly important Oxford group of geologists in the 1810s, and also an early member of the Geological Society. He is also credited with inspiring and mentoring many of his colleagues and contemporaries, including William Buckland and Adam Sedgwick, and was later an important critic of the work of Charles Lyell. Through the prism of his work we will therefore explore wider themes in the history of the earth sciences in the early nineteenth century.

Please contact Leucha Veneer, by email: [phllv@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:phllv@leeds.ac.uk), or by post: Division of History and Philosophy of Science  
Department of Philosophy University of Leeds Leeds  
LS2 9JT. United Kingdom

**HOGG members are welcome, and this symposium is being supported by HOGG**

## Can you help?...

### William Perceval [also Percival] Hunter (1812-fl. 1839)

: naturalist & geologist

Hunter is now a completely forgotten figure. Born in 1812 in Greenwich, Kent, a son of David Hunter (1752-1822) and Helen née Maclure (sister of the so-called "father of American Geology", the Scot, William Maclure (1763-1840)), he went to Charterhouse School in 1827 and soon, in 1829, started a long and enthusiastic correspondence in Loudon's Magazine of Natural History, on zoology, botany and geology, although by 1830 he 'preferred mammalogy'. After matriculating at Cambridge University in 1830, he transferred to Oxford in 1832, but graduated from neither. He now became highly itinerant; Canterbury 1829, Walthamstow (the family home, 1830 - when he proposed to join James Silk Buckingham's soon-abandoned round the world voyage - see New ODNB), Leamington, Warwickshire 1833, where he compounded his subscription to the BAAS. In 1834 he travelled in France and Spain (and was rude about Spanish attitudes to naturalists!), Sandgate, Kent, and into Sussex, 1835, whence he published his Geological Notes, dedicated to Gideon Mantell. In 1835 he also joined the Société Géologique de France (from whom only silence), described Dorset geology and visited Ireland. By 1836 he was living in London and was admitted to the Inner Temple (but, as he was never called to the Bar, that Temple has no further data on him) and joined its Geological Society and made several donations (but who also have no further data on him, removing him only in 1892 along with a man who would then have been 115 !). Hunter next joined the Zoological Society in 1837 (who again have no further news of him, removing him in 1864). In 1837 his Selections and Translations of the work of the Spanish zoologist Don Félix de Azara (1746-1821), appeared in London 1837 and in 1838 in Edinburgh, where Hunter was now briefly based. By late 1838 he was back in London. Early in 1839 he was in Florence,

where his (partial?) Examination of Lyell's *Principles of Geology* was published (in which he was rude about Florentine library facilities !). This he dedicated to "his friend - William Smith - to whose original discoveries towards the close of the last century the Science of Geology owes its rise and rank as a Science". He presented a copy, anonymously, to the Geological Society of London in September 1839, suggesting he had returned here.

Thereafter he completely disappears. Any help in tracking down more on him, and what became of him, would be much appreciated by:

**Hugh Torrens, Lower Mill Cottage, Furnace Lane, MADELEY, Crewe, CW3 9EU, UK.**

e mail <gga10@keele.ac.uk

.....

## For your bookshelf?...

Ignotas Domeika (Ignacy Domeyko) 1802-1889: His Life, Works & Contribution to Science (Proceedings of an International Scientific Conference, 10-12th September, 2002, Vilnius, Lithuania). Ed: Algimantas Grigelis, Pub: Ministry of Education & Science of the Republic of Lithuania, 2002, p.354, ISBN 9986-711-56-8 (In Lithuanian and English)

Ignacy Domeyko was a 19th century scholar, teacher, geologist, mineralogist and ethnologist, who wrote about 560 articles, and about whom >4000 are articles are written. Over 75 objects on earth and in space bear his name. This book, a compendium of papers given at a conference to honour his work, contains many new facts, new archive investigations, and unpublished documents.



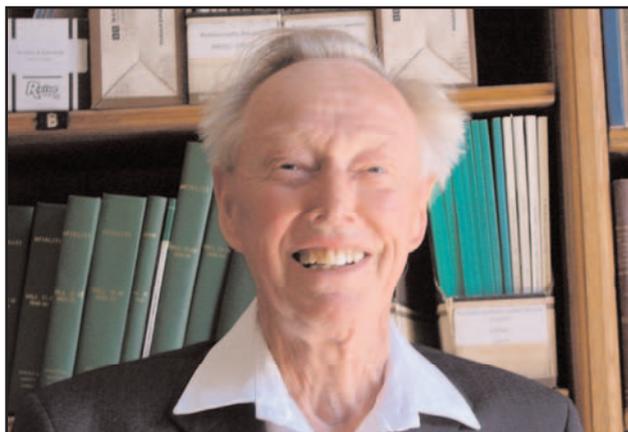
**Ignotas Domeika (Ignacy Domeyko) 1802-1889**

## Sue Tyler Friedman Medal

The Sue Tyler Friedman medal is one of a number of awards made by the Geological Society. It is endowed by the distinguished sedimentologist Professor Gerald Friedman, and named for his charming wife, Sue Tyler Friedman.

The Sue Tyler Friedman Medal is awarded for contributions to the study of the history of geological science, and this year's winner is **Mr Jack Morrell**.

The President of the Society, Professor Richard Fortey made the presentation and said:



“Jack Morrell is one of this country's most distinguished academic historians, who over a period of about 30 years has brought historical rigor to the study of this endlessly fascinating subject. His special interest has been on 19th and early 20th Century geologists, as pioneers and leaders in the development of institutional and public science.

He has persuasively described how many of those involved in this very Society were leaders in developing a public face for science in the UK. He has also explored the relationship between metropolitan and provincial science, and the way it was mediated by the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

However if we were to single out one contribution for this award, it would undoubtedly be his publication - after over 20 years' research - of the first book-length life of William Smith's nephew, John Phillips, for over 80 years - John Phillips and the Business of Victorian Science (2005).

A former winner of this award, Professor Jim Secord of Cambridge, has written of that work that "No-one knows more about the life of science in 19th Century Britain than Jack Morrell, and his biography of John Phillips is a revelation". High praise indeed. Jack Morrell, we are delighted that you have been able to join us today, and to hear me describe you, in the words of our History of Geology Group, as "an illustrious addition to the Society's medallists".

### **Jack Morrell replied:**

“Mr President, Fellows, ladies and gentlemen,

When you, Mr President, told me that I had been awarded the Friedman Medal I was surprised because much of what I have written has nothing to do with the history of geology, I do not regard myself as a specialist historian of earth science, and I have never studied geology formally. When I have published a history of geology I have tried to bring to it approaches that are reliable in history of science and in history in general. I have therefore often focussed on the interests pursued by individuals and groups, on coteries in institutions, and on careers considered as social and intellectual projects, all of which are important in history of geology. Even so I feel unworthy of this Medal but I am happy on this occasion to defer to the superior judgement of my betters.

I am now 73 years old and might be termed an offer septuagenarian. I face obvious danger of decline into drooping dilapidation, but the award of this Medal will satisfy me in two ways. Firstly, it will

encourage me to continue my research into the genesis of a classic work of regional geology, 'The Geology of Yorkshire' by Kendall and Wroot published in 1924.

Kendall was the first professor of geology in the University of Leeds and well known for his views about glacier lakes and glacial overflow channels in Northern England. He has been widely regarded as the senior author while Wroot has been dismissed as a mere amanuensis. I am questioning this interpretation by examining the varied inputs made by Wroot, a newspaper journalist in Bradford and Leeds who was never a Fellow of this society.

Secondly, the award will help me to maintain the tempo of my research, which at the moment is andante. It might even generate the occasional spurt into allegretto but more frequently it will, I hope, prevent me from slowing to adagio molto.

For any historian it would be a pleasure to receive a medal in this society's bicentennial year. For me it is particularly curious and gratifying: while preparing my book about John Phillips. I studied many award ceremonies at The Geological Society, without ever thinking that one day I would be a recipient of one of its medals. Now that unexpected but happy day has arrived.

So, Mr President, I thank you for your kind words and for the award of the Friedman Medal”.



Norber Erratic near Austwick in the Yorkshire Dales as illustrated on the Austwick Community Website (copyright Ex-Joan). Kendall and Wroot 1924 are listed among a long list of authors who have studied these products of regional glacial activity.

*“STONES*



*of DESIRE”*

## **A history of gemstones and gemmology**

### **First call for papers**

The History of Geology Group, an affiliated group of the Geological Society of London, is planning to hold a meeting entitled “Stones of Desire” - the History of Gemstones and Gemmology, in November 2008.

We are looking for speakers to give 30 minute talks on subjects which fit into this topic, perhaps under the following broad categories:

- a) Famous gemstones**
- b) Historical Gemstone collections**
- c) Historical Gemstone collecting**
- d) Gemstones in Jewellery**

although any other aspects would be also welcomed.

Essentially we are looking for historical aspects rather than modern-day research

The venue is likely to be in London

If you feel you would like to contribute, or want to be put on a mailing list for more information, please contact:

**Peter Tandy,**  
**Department of Mineralogy,**  
**The Natural History Museum,**  
**Cromwell Road,**  
**London SW7 5BD,**  
or e-mail [p.tandy@nhm.ac.uk](mailto:p.tandy@nhm.ac.uk).

## Local Heroes

'Local heroes' is a series of events organised by local groups to celebrate the bicentenary of the Geological Society, and covering a variety of aspects of geology and its history. Details of events are available from the Geological Society website

(go to: <http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/gsl/cache/bypass/events/listings>)

### A series of events to celebrate John Cadman Lord Cadman of Silverdale

Dates: between **20 October and 22 November 2007.**

Venue: various venues in the Staffordshire area

The North Staffordshire Group of the Geologists' Association (NSGGA), in conjunction with the University of Keele, the Potteries Museum & Art Gallery in Hanley, the Apedale Mining Museum, Apedale Country Park and the West Midlands Regional Group of the Geological Society, propose a series of events to celebrate 200 years of the Geological Society and 150 years of the Geologists' Association based on our local geological hero, John Cadman, Lord Cadman of Silverdale - "Our Jack"- and the importance of geology in the development of North Staffordshire. John Cadman was born in 1877 in Silverdale, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire and was eventually instrumental in many aspects of geology in the area. Following a scholarship awarded in 1896, he graduated from Durham University with a 1st class degree, and became an FGS in 1900. Other honours followed until he became Chief Inspector on Mines in Scotland, and later Professor of mining at Birmingham. He was the first person to search for oil in Britain, and was knighted in 1918. He then had a career with the Anglo Persian oil Company (now BP) becoming its Chairman in 1927. He was raised to the peerage in 1937, became an FRS, and died in 1941 in Bletchley (Buckinghamshire)

#### Events:

**October 20th, 2007.** A children's event will be held at the Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Hanley with the theme of "Our local geological heritage" run by the NSGGA. Based on the Cadman themes of coal and oil, activities will include a mock mining tunnel, a spoil heap mineral search and making a nodding donkey, as well as combining with the museum's own displays on the geological heritage of North Staffordshire.

**October 21st, 2007.** The NSGGA will host a "field trip" to the Apedale Heritage and Mining Museum, with underground tours and exhibitions of the region's geological heritage. Apedale, where Cadman searched for oil, also hosts a geological and geomorphological trail around the grounds of the country park. Guided geo-tours entitled "Rock, Fire, Ice and Water" given by Drs Ian Stimpson & Peter Knight will outline the geological history of the region including the Apedale Volcano and the Apedale Fault as well as the coal measures geology exposed in the park and the Apedale glacial melt-water channel.

**November 22nd, 2007.** The celebration will culminate with a lecture on "Oil, The Potteries and the Works of Sir John Cadman", to be given by Professor Hugh Torrens at Keele University.

Further details: Ian Stimpson (e-mail: [i.g.stimpson@esci.keele.ac.uk](mailto:i.g.stimpson@esci.keele.ac.uk))

5) Quaternary Geology of Yorkshire.

#### A series of lectures and field trip to be held in Hull

**Date: 27th October 2007.** For more details contact Trevor Morse: [tjm@tutor.open.ac.uk](mailto:tjm@tutor.open.ac.uk)

## **Micropalaeontological heroes**

### **7 November 2007 University College London**

The 2007 Annual General Meeting of The Micropalaeontological Society will form a contribution to the bicentennial celebrations of the Geological Society. Held in association with the Geological Society, this meeting will focus on 'Micropalaeontological Heroes' - worthies who helped found the discipline of micropalaeontology, the scientific contributions that they made and the relevance of their discoveries for current research.

**Dr David J. Horne** - Ostracods, evolution and religion: George Stewardson Brady (1832-1921) and his scientific collaborators

**Dr Robert Wynn Jones** - Henry Bowman Brady, Hero of Foraminiferology: The Man, the Scientist and the Scientific Legacy.

**Prof. Simon J. Knell** - The contentious vertebrate: Christian Pander and the conodont in the nineteenth century.

**Prof. John Marshall** - Arthur Raistrick, Dalesman of the Millennium and palynologist

**Dr Jeremy Young** - The slow discovery of coccolithophores, from Ehrenberg to Lohmann via Sorby Wallich and Huxley - heroes and anti-heroes?

There is no registration for the meeting  
and attendance is absolutely **FREE**. All are welcome to attend; simply turn up on the  
day.

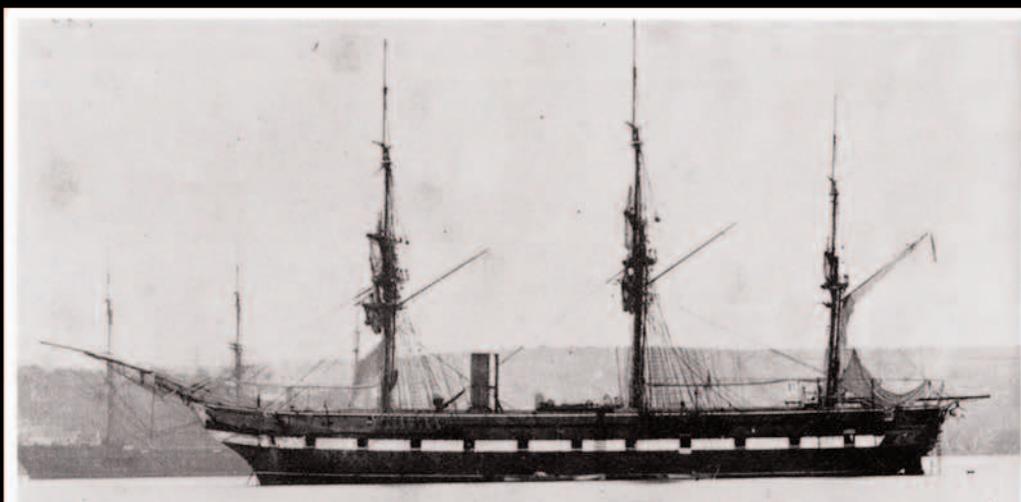
**Meeting convener:**  
**Dr Andrew Henderson**  
**(Department of Palaeontology, Natural History Museum, London).**  
**Telephone: 020 7942 5684**



# The Micropalaeontological Society

<http://www.tmsoc.org>

Annual  
General  
Meeting  
2007



## Micropalaeontological Heroes

### Speakers:

**Dr David J. Horne** - Ostracods, evolution & religion: George Stewardson Brady (1832-1921) & his scientific collaborators. **Dr Robert Wynn Jones** - Henry Bowman Brady, Hero of Foraminiferology: The Man, the Scientist & the Scientific Legacy. **Prof. Simon J. Knell** - The contentious vertebrate: Christian Pander & the conodont in the nineteenth century. **Prof. John Marshall** - Arthur Raistrick, *Dalesman of the Millennium* & palynologist. **Dr Jeremy Young** - The slow discovery of coccolithophores, from Ehrenberg to Lohmann via Sorby, Wallich & Huxley - heroes & anti-heroes?

**Venue:** University College London, November 7th, 2007. Meeting convener: Dr Andrew Henderson, Department of Palaeontology, Natural History Museum, London. For further information see TMS website. The meeting will include presentation of society Awards & Honours, & will be followed by a wine reception.

Registered Charity No. 284013



# HISTORY OF GEOLOGY GROUP



## 'Dinosaurs - A Historical Perspective'

A conference to be held on the 6-7 May, 2008  
at Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, UK.

### Call for Papers

#### Convenors:

Richard Moody

*Kingston University*

Eric Buffetaut

*CNRS (Laboratoire de Géologie de l'Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris)*

Dave Martill

*University of Portsmouth*

Darren Naish

*University of Portsmouth*

#### The theme:

The History of Dinosaur Research with particular emphasis on personalities, major discoveries and expeditions; and the introduction, debate and acceptance of major theories or principles associated with the greater understanding of dinosaur taxonomy, palaeobiology and evolution.

Authors may also probe a cultural theme; exploring the role of artists and animators and the influence they have on our perception of dinosaurs over the last 180 years or more!

#### Abstracts:

Authors are requested to send an abstract of 500 words by no later than Monday 28th January 2008 to [rtj.moody@virgin.net](mailto:rtj.moody@virgin.net). Accepted abstracts will be printed in the Conference Abstracts which will be made available to authors and delegates at the conference. Specific papers will also be considered for inclusion in a special publication.

#### Registration and Associated Events:

Registration will take place on the 5th of May. The conference will be preceded by a visit to the Waterhouse-Hawkins models at Crystal Palace and followed by a visits to historic localities on the Isle of Wight and Dorset Coast.

