



Ussher Society

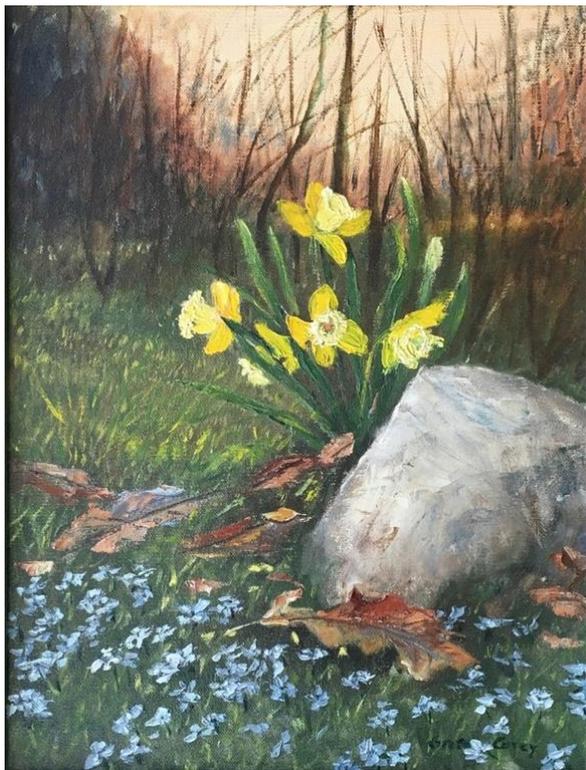
Newsletter – Spring

2018



From the Secretary

Dear Membership,



I hope the New Year has started well for you all, and for those of you that attended; that you enjoyed the Ussher society conference held down in Falmouth. I hear on the grape vine that the talks were of a high quality and the venue and organisation was of a very high standard.

The days are getting longer; the daffodils are coming out in their masses so I hope you are all looking forward to an active year exploring the prevalent geology Devon, Somerset and Cornwall have to offer us here on our doorstep. I was introduced to the local geology when I moved to North Devon in 2010, by Chris Cornford and through his enthusiasm and the passion of those in the society, through many a field trip, I have enjoyed exploring what's right on our doorstep. A favourite of mine, and my dogs, is walking the coastal path from Abbotsham westwards around Bideford Bay.

This is a very appropriate painting for this time of the year entitled "Daffodils by Rock" is by the late artist Greta Carey. <http://www.gretacarey.art/daffodils-by-rock/>.

With best wishes,

Andrew

secretary@ussher.org.uk

Andrew Green MSc Integrated Petroleum Geosciences / MSc Petroleum Geochemistry
Secretary for the Ussher Society

Message from the New Chair

Andy Fleet

This a good time to be writing my first Chairman's piece for the newsletter coming soon after an excellent annual conference in Falmouth with 83 attendees. Many thanks to the organisers, Sam Hughes and Chris Yeomans, who did a splendid job finding a comfortable and accommodating venue and putting together a varied and interesting programme of papers. A spread of subjects in each session, rather than grouping by topic, worked for me and I gather for many others. Though I wasn't able to go on it, I'm told the post-conference fieldtrip was a great success

and blessed by good weather: thanks to Robin Shail, Peter Ealey, Kate Smith and Sam Hughes for organizing and leading the trip.

There was a significant changing of the guard at the AGM in Falmouth. Jenny Bennett stepped down at the end of two very successful years as Chair to keep an eye on things over the next year as Vice Chair. Many thanks to Jenny and to Louise Hollick who stepped down from her often unseen but vital role of secretary. Andrew Green is already very busy as Louise's successor pulling together this newsletter and much more. Danny Clark-Lowes was elected onto the committee and subsequent to the meeting Kate Smith was co-opted onto the committee.

Next year the conference returns to the Redcliffe Hotel in Paignton. The lead organizer for the conference, David Roche, had put in considerable effort to find a venue in Sidmouth but he was unable to persuade the one hotel that has a large enough meeting room to offer room rates at levels we expect.

In the meantime look out for the Proceedings which looks to include something for everyone, from cobalt mineralization to giant trilobites and aquifer functioning.

Finally for those that don't know me I should introduce myself. I live in northeast Dorset at the extremity of the Ussher region and have worked on and been involved with the Jurassic Coast for a number of years. During my salaried working life I spent time at the Open University, then 15 years in petroleum exploration and finally 19 years at the Natural History Museum, for most of that time as Keeper of Mineralogy. Along the way I have been Publications Secretary and Treasurer of the Geological Society. Currently I am also chair of the trustees of Dorset County Museum, temporary home of Dippy the *Diplodocus* until May.

Committee Changes

At the AGM 4th January, Jenny Bennett stepped down from her 2 year stint as Chair of the Society. Also Louise Hollick relinquished the role she had held as secretary for the past 3 years. The role of Chair is now held by Andy Fleet, and Jenny Bennett will serve as vice-Chair for the coming year. Andrew Green will take on the role of Society Secretary.

We have two new members to welcome to the society committee in Danny Clark-Lowes and Kate Smith. Danny comes to us from an industry background having founded Nubian Consulting (a consultancy which specialises in the Petroleum Geology of North Africa and the Mediterranean), while Kate's interest lies in academia where she is leading the HiTech AlkCarb project at the Cambourne School of mines. The project's goal is to develop new geomodels and sustainable exploration methods for alkaline igneous rocks and carbonatites.

The society's thanks goes to both Jenny and Louise for their time in service and energy brought to their roles.

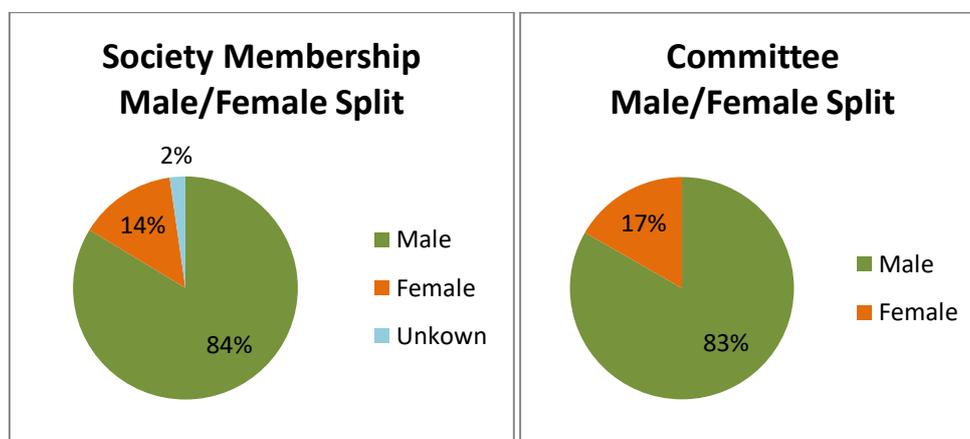
Females in Science

One topic at the minute in the field of science is the social issue of gender representation and equality across all career levels. What has been prevalently highlighted in recent months is the imbalance which is present with just 30% of the world's (34.6% in the UK) researchers being women.

On the while a growing number of women are enrolling in university, many opt out at the highest levels required for a research career. In an attempt to make the sciences an exciting, challenging and rewarding career choice for females the Ussher society has pledged £200 to the 'Girls in to Geoscience' initiative being run from Plymouth University; This payment will go towards helping participants (female A Level students) attend an exciting two day

event, comprising seminars from women working in Geology, hands on workshops on a range of geological topics, and an optional field trip to see the fantastic local geology and introduce female A level students to the Earth Sciences. For more information on this programme: <https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/whats-on/girls-into-geoscience>.

Looking at the Ussher Society membership, where our current membership is 177, 84% are male and 14% are female. Interestingly almost the same percentage split is also present in our society's committee team.



A key example of the success that can be achieved with a career in Earth science, is shown by one of our own Ussher society's female members Professor Frances Wall (Camborne School of Mines, University of Exeter). Frances is an Associate Professor in Applied Mineralogy at the University of Exeter's Camborne School of Mines (CSM) and was recently appointed first female president of the Mineralogical Society. The University recently caught up with Frances to discuss the roles for women in sciences and how having a healthy work/life balance can help inspire the next generation of female academics. <http://www.exeter.ac.uk/research/researcher/franceswall/>

Note from the Editor of GiSWE

Members of the Society will shortly be receiving their copies of GiSWE, Volume 14(2). There is a good mix of papers and I wish to thank all the authors and reviewers for their assistance during the production process.

That said, I must also name the customary request for papers that will comprise Volume 14(3) for 2018. Volume 14(2) has, again, appeared in the year after target and we would really like to see things moved forward if that is possible.

To this end could authors aim to submit manuscripts during the **spring and early summer months**. Please submit papers as Word files (in Arial or Times New Roman font) with images in a separate file (which can be a PDF of all the figures for the review process).

It would also be helpful if all members will encourage **colleagues** and **research students** to submit papers, even if these individuals are not (presently) members of the Ussher Society. **GiSWE as a publication continues to offer:**

- Free processing,
- No page charges
- Full colour production.
- A provided PDF of the final paper to all authors for personal use (though these should not be listed on websites (such as Researchgate) until the 3-year period is over and we name GiSWE available for download from the website.

Change of Treasurer's Address and Membership Arrears

Please note that the Treasurer's temporary address with immediate effect is:

Treasurer
Mr F. Howie
C/o Mr A. Green
IGI, The Granary
Hallsannery temporary
Bideford
Devon EX39 5HE

The majority of those in arrears with their subscriptions to the Society contacted by email or letter during 2017 are now up to date with payments. The Committee would be grateful for those still in arrears who wish to continue membership and receive the forthcoming Geoscience Journal pay the outstanding amount as soon as possible.

Please send your cheque, made out to the Ussher Society, to the address above or through your bank (the Society's bank account is HSBC, Ussher Society, sort code 40-20- 30, account number 91039059). Should you wish to discontinue your membership please inform the Secretary and Treasurer as soon as possible.

The current subscription rates are as follows:

- full membership rate is £30
- retired membership is £22
- student membership is £12

It would be helpful if the few members currently not paying by Standing Order would do so and a link to the Standing Order form can be found on the Society's membership page - http://www.ussher.org.uk/Ussher_Society_Membership.htm

Plate Tectonic Stories

In 2017, the Geological Society is celebrating 50 years of plate tectonics. In December 1967, Dan McKenzie and Bob Parker published a paper in Nature – 'The North Pacific: an example of tectonics on a sphere'. This paper, building on work by many other scientists in the preceding years, was arguably the crucial final step in establishing the paradigm of plate tectonics, which provided a unifying context for the previously disparate disciplines of Earth science and was rapidly accepted across the geological community.

To mark this milestone anniversary, and to celebrate the important role of narrative and storytelling in geology, the Geological Society has developed Plate Tectonic Stories – an online resource that tells the story of 20 geological sites showing how the UK and Ireland have been shaped by plate tectonic processes.

Here is the link to two stories which relate to the south west: <https://www.geolsoc.org.uk/tectonicstories>

- The Lizard, Cornwall
- Hartland Quay, Devon

International Mining Games



The Camborne School of Mines is hosting the **40th International Mining Games** on Thursday 28th March to Saturday 1st April at King Edward Mine, Troon, Cornwall.

This year we are expecting 50 teams from Mining Schools across the world competing in 7 events of traditional mining methods in order to commemorate those who have lost their lives in industry and preserve those traditional methods for many years to come.

On Monday 26th March, the **Cornwall School Mining Games** will also be held at King Edward Mine and will see local secondary schools competing in a mini version of the Mining Games.

To close the event on Sunday 1st April the Man Engine will be starting his Resurrection tour from Heartlands, Camborne, Cornwall. The Man Engine is the largest mechanical puppet ever constructed in Great Britain and will be a must-see event.

For more information please visit the CSM International Mining Games website - <http://www.csmimg.com/csm-2018-mining-games>

Events of interest to members

- 28th March-1st April **International Mining Games**
Dartmoor Society Public Debate at Meldon Village Hall (£20 non-members)
<https://www.dartmoorsociety.com/events> for online bookings (book by 12 October)
- 8th May 2018 **Jurassic Coast Boat Trip**
Run by Stuart Line Cruises, departing from Exmouth along the Jurassic Coast (with a geological commentary). Book directly with Stuart Line Cruises – either online <http://www.dtapps.co.uk/stuart-line-cruises/calendar.php> or by phone (Phone: Summer **01395-222144** or Winter **01395-279693**) – as opposed to previous occasions when bookings were routed through the Ussher Society. Adults and Children £20 per head.
- 12th May Beer Stone Mines
A Joint South West Regional Geological Society and Devonshire Association Field trip Lead by Malcolm Hart. To attend you need to belong to either of these societies and register with through the Devonshire Association website <http://devonassoc.org.uk/event/field-trip-branscombe-beer-geology-section/>

General Data Protection Regulation

As many of you will be aware from your involvement with other regional organisations, societies and groups, there are law changes afoot concerning the protection and use of any personal information you provide. On 25th May 2018, a new data protection regime will come into force, through the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection (Charges and Information) Regulations 2018 (the 2018 Regulations) to better protect people rights concerning how their provided personal information is handled and used.

One of the biggest single changes is a need for organisations to not only abide by a common set of data protection principles (provided in the Ussher Society Privacy Policy) but also document why the society needs your personal information and what we intend to do with the personal information we possess (also provided in the Ussher Society Privacy Policy). [http://www.ussher.org.uk/Ussher Society Membership.htm](http://www.ussher.org.uk/Ussher_Society_Membership.htm) .

However as Society we cannot continue to use the personal information we hold unless we acquire consent from the data's owner. **Attached to this newsletter is a GDPR consent form which we require all of our members to complete and return, preferably by email by the 23rd MAY. The form can also be downloaded from the website.** [http://www.ussher.org.uk/Ussher Society Membership.htm](http://www.ussher.org.uk/Ussher_Society_Membership.htm) .

If your form is not received by the 23rd May then we will restrict your details (store but not use) and come the end of the membership year we still have not heard from you, your details will be deleted permanently from our systems.

Next Edition

I will look to produce another newsletter **late June**. If you have any knowledge of events which you think may be of interest to your fellow Ussher Members or geological news items which have occurred throughout the South West region, please send them to me for inclusion in the next newsletter by the **By the latest 8th of June**. Thank you. secretary@ussher.org.uk



Ussher Society

secretary@ussher.org.uk

Ussher Confirmation of details Form 2018

A new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR becomes law on the 25th May 2018). This law is aimed at protecting your personal data. Therefore, the Ussher Society will need your written consent to continue to communicate with you by post, or email, or telephone, or text.

Please complete and return this form, by 23th May, preferably by email to the address above.

Alternatively print a copy and post it to the Address listed below.

Please view and read the Ussher Society Privacy Policy available on the website before providing your consent: http://www.ussher.org.uk/Ussher_Society_Membership.htm

NAME:

TITLE/S: (Mr/Ms/Dr/Prof etc.)

ADDRESS:

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.....

TELEPHONE: (Home) (Mobile / Other)

EMAIL:

Date.....

I consent to you contacting me by (please place a 'Y' or tick in the appropriate boxes):

Name	email	post	phone	text

I give the Ussher Society permission to use my contact details, for Ussher Society use only, as detailed in the Ussher Society Privacy Policy.

Deadline for completion 23rd May

Completed forms should be preferentially returned by email to: secretary@ussher.org.uk
Or, posted to: 8 Moreton Park Rd, Bideford, Devon EX39 3AU **Attn:** Ussher Secretary

Thank you for completing the form
<http://www.ussher.org.uk>