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The Volcanos of Galapagos, by Sally Gibson

Charles Darwin's specimens of volcanic rocks, which are housed in the Sedgwick Museum, provided inspiration for a recent expedition to Isla Santiago (James Island) in the Galápagos archipelago. The main focus of the trip was to trace Darwin's geological footsteps and gain an insight into where some of his most fundamental observations whilst on the Beagle voyage were made. This investigation culminated in the publication of several papers and coincided with the opening of the exhibit to mark the bicentenary of Darwin's birth in the Sedgwick Museum in 2009. Since then, research on Galápagos has focused on the causes of volcanism: it seems fitting that the 200th anniversary of Darwin's birth should stimulate a new phase of research on Galápagos volcanism involving the University of Cambridge.

Sally Gibson in the
 Galápagos archipelago
 following a workshop on
 Santa Cruz in, July 2011



The Sedgwick Museum of Earth Sciences, Downing Street, Cambridge CB2 3EQ

Opening hours: Monday – Friday 10 am – 1 pm and 2 pm – 5 pm Saturday 10 am – 4 pm

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Website: www.sedgwickmuseum.org

Friends of the Sedgwick Museum Website: www.friendsofsedgwickmuseum.com



Sandra Marsh

“300 original boxes and 30 filing cabinet drawers of material re-boxed into 500 new conservation grade boxes!”

Archives – Boxing clever, end of round 1!

In a previous edition of Trilobite, details were published about an archive project to re-box and describe some of the Museum’s archive collections. The project, funded by the MLA, has now reached a successful conclusion with over 300 original boxes and 30 filing cabinet drawers of material re-boxed into 500 new conservation grade boxes! All the material has been briefly listed, and we now have a far better idea of what is in the collections.

Some of the treasures uncovered by the Archivist and Dr Lyall Anderson during the course of the project have included:

* The original specimen label for the Irish Elk (on display in the Museum) handwritten by Edward Charlesworth (pictured below) (1813 – 1893). The label describes where the fossil came from in Ireland. It also suggests why similar fossils were not to be found in the local Fen peats.

* Letters from Charles Lapworth (1842-1920) showing early examples of a researcher requesting fossils from the museum collection for study.



* A poem about the evolution of graptolites by John Marr (1857-1933) which was found in one of his many notebooks in the archive from 1892.



Collection details are, as we speak, being published on the internet so that researchers can access further information about the collections before coming to visit the archives. The records are stored at the Brighton Building (Bullard Laboratories) at the Geological Conservation Unit along Madingley Road.

After a successful application to the Isaac Newton Trust the archivist will be staying on for another year to continue important work with the collections. The aim will be to describe some of these collections in greater detail, to enable researchers to locate material of interest more easily.

With generous funding from the Friends, Dr Lyall Anderson has also been able to remain with us and work on the notebooks of renowned Petrologist Alfred Harker. Lyall will be giving a talk about his work this coming October, and some of the notebooks will also be on show.

Sandra Marsh, Archivist sjm259@cam.ac.uk

Friends of the



Sedgwick Museum
of Earth Sciences

FORTHCOMING FRIENDS' EVENTS

September – December 2011

Talk and Demonstration on "Alfred Harker, Cambridge's Hero of Petrology"

Tuesday, 25th October 2011, 6.30 for 7.00 start, at the Bullard Laboratories, road signposted to Madingley Rise, on the same side of the Madingley Rd as the Park and Ride Site, but closer to Churchill College, West Cambridge.

With the help of a donation from the Friends, Dr Lyaal Anderson has been researching the notebooks and sketchbooks of this remarkable scientist.

Talk on "A microscopic view of the dawn of animal life"

Tuesday 15th November 2011, 6.15 for 7.00 pm start

Dr Tom Harvey will review some of his new discoveries

Friends' Christmas Party with student talks

Tuesday 6th December 2011, 6-8 pm

Varied buffet supper with a background of good stories.

Please bring £7 per head to be collected at the door, and let Susie Sinclair know (susie.sinclair@btinternet.com) by 1 December to allow us to estimate numbers.

January- March, 2012

Talks on "Conquering the North: Humans at Happisburgh, Norfolk, 800.000 years ago"

Tuesday, 17th January 2012, 6.15 for 7.00 pm start

Dr Peter Hoare, School of Geosciences, Sydney, Australia, and Dr N Ashton. Department of Prehistory and Europe, British Museum

Experimental Geology Practical Session "Simulating the building and erosion of mountains, the changing height of the Earth's crust and sea-level."

Tuesday 31 January, 6.15 for 7.00pm

Dr Mike Tuke has kindly agreed to present another of his popular classes. The numbers must be limited to twenty. Please telephone Mike on 01480-457068 by 24 February

Talk on "Polar bears, politics and petroleum: conflicting issues in Arctic hydrocarbon exploration"

Tuesday, 28 February 2012, 6.15 for 7.00 pm start.

Dr Robert Scott, CASP, Cambridge

Adam Sedgwick Anniversary Dinner

Wednesday, 21 March 2012, Old Hall, Queens' College, 7 for 7.30 pm. Speaker Dr Ken McNamara, the new Sedgwick Museum Director

Our annual Dinner has always been a very enjoyable way of making new friends and renewing old friendships in a College setting. This year we have booked the remarkably colourful Old Hall at Queens, and have moved to a mid-week date, in order to keep the prices down. The prices this year will be £35 (with soft-drinks), and £42 (with wine). Please send provisional booking to Janet Herdman (< herdman.jan@googlemail.com >) or Friends, Department of Earth Sciences, Downing St., Cambridge, CB2 3EQ).

The next Newsletter (No 24) will include details for booking and how to pay.

Friends of the



Sedgwick Museum
of Earth Sciences

FORTHCOMING FRIENDS' EVENTS

April-June, 2012

Further details of the following Visits and booking requirements will be included in the next Newsletter.

Visit to North-east Norfolk Coast.

Date not yet agreed but possibilities are Saturday 21st or 28th April or 5th May, 2012.

Our leader, Professor P.L. Gibbard, suggests a bus from Cambridge and fish and chips lunch on coast.

Cromer area, West Runton, Overstrand etc. classic ground for understanding the early Ice Age history of East Anglia.

Visit to Marston Vale, Bedford.

Saturday 19 May 2012

Martin Whiteley, Tim Fairwell and Peter Friend have been exploring the landscape history of this remarkable feature, using topographic maps specially created at the University of Cranwell.

AGM with talks

Tuesday, 12th June 2012, 6 – 7.30 pm. in Department of Earth Sciences. Local members are particularly asked to attend and help to discuss future activities.

Weekend Visit to the Scottish East-Coast Borderland

Friday – Sunday 15-17 June, 2012

Programme will include visiting the famous Siccar Point Unconformity, providing classic evidence of the evolution of this part of the Caledonian mountain chain, vividly recorded in structures, sediments and volcanic remnants, as well as remarkable evidence of recent glaciation. Arrangements are currently being worked out and registrations of interest will be requested soon.



FORTHCOMING SEDGWICK MUSEUM EVENTS

Monday 24th October: Access all Archives: Sights and Sounds

This event is part of the Festival of Ideas, and is an evening where 5 of the University Museums are open at night, hosting different kinds of music. The Sedgwick will host a gamelan group from 6.30pm to 9pm - playing Javanese bronze percussion and with Indonesian vocals.

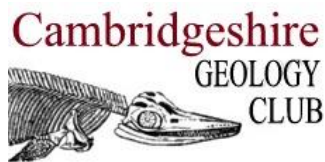
The website for more information is: <http://www.mus.cam.ac.uk/events/festival-of-ideas/#accessallarchives>

Sat 22nd, Mon 24th, Weds 26th, Fri 28th October: Drawing at the Sedgwick: Jurassic Pond and Beyond

This is an event for children, inspired by 'The Big Draw'. Children can drop in between 11am-3pm on 22nd and 10am-1pm on the three weekdays, to draw their own ammonites and other fantastic fossils, and put them in a large Jurassic sea collage in the Museum gallery. Lots of colourful fun!

Thursday 27th October: Storytelling with Marion Leeper

Marion Leeper of Cambridge Storytellers will be joining us for two story time sessions aimed at the under 6's. First at 10:15 the tale of 'Boy', a prehistoric boy who goes on adventures and then at 11:45 'The Amazing Mr Darwin', on his travels around the world, collecting and identifying fossils.



FORTHCOMING CAMBRIDGESHIRE GEOLOGY CLUB EVENTS

**Cambridgeshire Geology Club meets at the Friends Meeting House,
91-93 Hartington Grove, Cambridge CB1 7UB.
Lectures start at 7.30 pm, and doors open at 7.00 pm.**

Monday 14th November, "The Geology and Landscape of Bedfordshire".
Speaker: Dr Martin Whiteley

Monday 12th December, "The Acadian Orogeny: what, where, when, and why"
Speaker: Dr Nigel Woodcock

Monday 9th January, "Stratigraphic Tertiary: Survival of the fittest?"
Speaker: Prof. Philip Gibbard

Monday 13th February, title to be announced
Speaker: Dr Fausto Ferracioli, British Antarctic Survey

Monday 12th March, "The Pleistocene Geology and Fauna of the Thames Valley".
Speaker: Dr David Bridgland

Monday 16th April: "A lot of hot air: volcanic eruptions and their climate impacts"
Speaker: Dr Marie Edmonds

Monday 14th May, "The Geology and Landscape of Scotland"
Speaker: Dr Peter Friend.

The Friends of the Sedgwick Museum exists to support and encourage the development of the Sedgwick Museum and promote the collections to a wider audience (Charity no 101911393).



JOIN THE FRIENDS...
Membership is open to anyone!

APPLICATION FORM

Please use block capitals and return the form, with your cheque, to the membership secretary.

Name (Dr, Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms) *(delete as applicable)*
.....
Address.....
.....
..... Postcode.....
Telephone.....
E-mail:
Age (if under 18).....

Subscriptions (please tick)

- Individual:** £12 per annum (Over 18 years)
- Family:** £18 per annum (Two or more members living at the same address)
- Young person:** £6 per annum (members under the age of 18)
- Concession:** £8 per annum (Full time students, unemployed or over 60s)

Membership is for one year and expires on 31 March. Members joining after 31 December will have the last quarter's membership included in the following year.

I attach a cheque for £.....made payable to The Friends of The Sedgwick Museum.

Signed.....Date.....

Gift Aid Scheme. Because the Friends is a registered Charity (No 101911393) we can claim an additional amount (currently 25%) on any subscription or donation, provided you are a UK tax payer. Your signature below will allow us to increase the value of each payment you make for the benefit of the Friends.

Gift Aid Declaration. I am a UK taxpayer. I would like the Friends of the Sedgwick Museum to treat all membership fees and donations as Gift Aid donations from the date of this declaration until I notify otherwise.

CONTACT DETAILS

The Friends of the Sedgwick Museum
Downing Street
Cambridge, CB2 3EQ

Department reception: 01223 – 333400
Chairman e-mail: pff100@cam.ac.uk

Event leaders may be contacted before and during events on the events mobile: 07754 592439

Please see change to chairman's e-mail and events mobile number.

KEY WEBSITES:

FRIENDS OF THE SEDGWICK MUSEUM
www.friendsofsedgwickmuseum.com

SEDGWICK MUSEUM
<http://www.sedgwickmuseum.org/>

SEDGWICK MUSEUM BLOG
<http://sedgwickmuseum.org.uk/blog/>

CAMBRIDGESHIRE GEOLOGY CLUB
<http://www.cambridgeshiregeologyclub.org.uk/>



Signed:.....Date:.....