



Clare – The half-sized T-Rex replica acquired by the Museum after the Clare College May ball in 2014, now advertises the Museum's entrance (surrounded with a Mesozoic feel vegetation)

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FORTHCOMING FRIENDS EVENTS

Unless otherwise clear, Friends Talk events will be held in the Department of Earth Sciences, Downing Site, Cambridge CB2 3EQ. The Doors to the Department will be opened at 6.15 pm for tea/coffee etc, and the Talk will start promptly at 7 pm. Please try not to be late, in spite of Cambridge traffic congestion, because our doors have to be locked at 7 pm. At 6.50pm, some events will be preceded by a short talk about the development of the New Ice Age displays (see below)

Cars may be parked on the Site during these events. The Downing Site entrance for cars is from Tennis Court Road, opposite the back entrance to Pembroke College, through the "Visitor's barrier Gate taking a paper ticket. Identify yourself as attending a "Friends of the Sedgwick Museum" event, if requested by Security. After the talk, cars can leave the Site using the Exit barrier Gate at the other (Downing College) end of the Site, and offering the paper-ticket, or pressing the exit button, as needed.

Members attending a Friends talk are asked for a donation of £2 each (or £3 for non-members).

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

☎ (01223) 333456 ✉ sedgwickmuseum@esc.cam.ac.uk 🏠 www.sedgwickmuseum.org

🏠 **Friends of the Sedgwick Museum** www.friendsofsedgwickmuseum.com

📘 <https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-the-Sedgwick-Museum-508873495923670/>



Registered Charity (No. 1091393)



Editor: Peter Friend



Arts & Humanities
Research Council



Heritage
Lottery Fund



Sub Editor: Alison O'Reilly

FORTHCOMING FRIENDS EVENTS October – December 2016

Tuesday, 18th October. Talk, doors open 6.15 for 7.00 in the Department, by Cambridge graduate student, William. J. McMahon. *'River functioning before land plants; worldwide visits to the Precambrian and early Palaeozoic'*

Tuesday, 1st November. Talk, doors open 6.15 to 7.00 pm in the Department, by Open University graduate student, Jack Wright. *"Mapping geological features on Mercury"*

Tuesday, 15th November. Talk, doors open 6.15 for 7.00 pm in the Department, by Cambridge CASP geologist.

Dr Edward Fleming, *"Dynamic glaciation during a late Pre-Cambrian, Snowball Earth event; insights from field-work in the present-day Arctic"*



Dr Edward Fleming



Please note that events with a star * need to be pre-booked. Please use the standard booking form which is found on Pg.19 of this Newsletter and is also on our website



* **Tuesday, 6th December.** Christmas Party with student talks. 6-8 pm. This is always a popular social event, thanks to the varied talks by students, describing their adventures during the year. Refreshments are also an important feature of the Party.

Please consider bringing a prize for our fund-raising raffle.

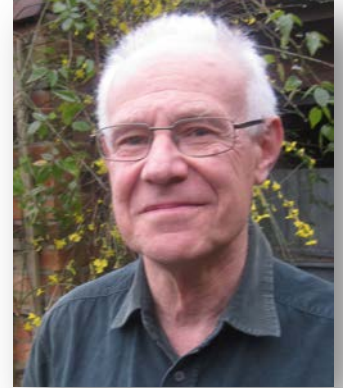
Please register for the Party, using a copy of our booking form, and enclosing a cheque for £7/head to cover refreshments, or let us have £9 per head at the door, if you cannot register by Friday, 2nd December to help us estimate numbers.

Our Registrar for this event is Carol Franklin, 273 Wellbrook Way, Girton, Cambridge CB3 0GL; email s_carol_f@yahoo.co.uk (Note the underscores in the email address)

FRIENDS FORTHCOMING EVENTS January to March 2017

Tuesday, 17th January. Talk, doors open 6.15 pm for 7.00 pm in the Department, by Cambridge Professor of Geophysics, Dr Robert H. White, "*Our latest work in Iceland; tracking underground movement of igneous melt, using earthquakes*"

* **Tuesday, 7th of February.** Experimental Geology Practical, doors open 6.15 pm for 7.00 pm in the Department, by our Vice Chairman, Dr. Mike Tuke, "*Pebbles: their size and shape and what can be deduced from them*"



Dr Mike Tuke



Dr Nigel Woodcock

Tuesday, 21st February. Talk, doors open 6.15 for 7.00 pm in the Department, by Cambridge Reader, Dr Nigel Woodcock, "*New thoughts on the Shap Granite and its relatives.*"

Tuesday, 7th March. Talk, doors open 6.15 pm for 7.00 pm in the Department, by Gisela Poesges (Nordlingen) who hosted the Friends very successful Visit to South Germany in mid June. She is Deputy Director of the Ries Meteor Crater Museum. So successful was this Visit that the Committee decided to invite Gisela to Cambridge. The date and title are only provisional, so please check with the web-site. Gisela's provisional title is "*Meteor Craters and Europe's largest, the Ries Crater*".

Thursday, 23rd March. Annual Dinner to celebrate the Birthday of Professor Adam Sedgwick. We have booked this Dinner again in Downing College, because the College has provided us with such excellent hospitality and on-site parking in recent years.

Booking arrangements and prices will be announced in the next Trilobite newsletter and our web-site.

Annual Dinner



Our Registrar for the event will again be Marjorie Veale:
(176 Green Drift, Royston, Herts, SGB 5BL)
(chrisandmarje@btinternet.com).

FRIENDS FORTHCOMING EVENTS Summer 2017 and 2018

All these arrangements are provisional, and dates, prices and booking arrangements will be contained in the next Trilobite Newsletter, and in our web site.



* **2017 Visit to the Channel Island of Jersey.**

We plan to travel on Tuesday 6th June, and will be led by Dr. Ralph Nichols on three geological and cultural days, Wednesday 7th to Friday 9th June, returning to UK on Saturday 10th June.

There will be a limit of 28 on this trip – places allocated on a first come basis [by post]. We ask you to use the attached booking form enclosing a cheque for £25 per person and send it to Margaret Sanderson, our Registrar for the trip, by the end of December. You will receive confirmation of your place by email. Any additional requests will be placed on a waiting list. If you are unable to attend please let Margaret know as soon as possible. If we have names on the waiting list then you will receive a full refund. Margaret's address is 157 High Street, Chesterton, Cambridge CB4 1NL; and cheques should be made payable to 'Friends of the Sedgwick Museum'. We are investigating travel and accommodation through a local agent and details will be sent to those registered as soon as they are available.

2017 Possible Visit to the Atlantic island of Madeira

Arranged by the Cambridgeshire Geological Society, 24 April-1 May 2017 is now fully booked. Further enquiries to Milbourn.elm@gmail.com or Graham Milbourn, Elmhurst, Winders Lane, Histon, Cambridge, CB23 8HF

2017 Finding out about Clunch.

Further research on this important local building stone, involving looking at its petrology and the history of its quarrying and effect on the local Fen-Edge village of Burwell. This afternoon event will start in the Department, with people bringing packed lunch materials, and then involve a bus to and from Burwell where tea will be available, on Saturday 22nd April.



Further details, prices and arrangements for booking will be in the next Newsletter.

2017. Visit to Torquay and Devon.

Plans are being prepared for a visit in early September, to examine the remarkable Devonian and New Red Sandstone geology of this area, with the help of the local geological Society and Peter Cox (who organized our 2015 visit to the Orkneys)

2018, NW Highlands of Scotland.



Our Vice Chairman, Dr. Mike Tuke has been investigating the possibilities of running a group visit to the classic North-west Highland Moine Thrust area, now classified as a UNESCO "Geopark". Flights, local bus transport, accommodation in Ullapool and a professional geological leader is currently estimated to cost about £700 per head. Dates and arrangements for booking will be available in the next Trilobite Newsletter.

FIFTEEN YEARS OF MUSEUM SUPPORT

Peter Friend
(Chairman of the Friends of the Sedgwick Museum)

This note is a response to requests for a review of the ways that the Friends have been supporting the Sedgwick Museum over the fifteen years since we were founded as a Charity.

Our Charitable Objectives:

We are a Charity (No 1091393), and our registered aim is the “education of the public by promotion, support, assistance and improvement of the Sedgwick Museum in co-operation with the management and staff”. Putting this another way, we have an educational role (in relation to the public and ourselves, the members), and our support of the Sedgwick Museum is part of this.

History of the Friends and support to the Museum:

Our Charity began its work in 2002, and members annual subscriptions provided our initial income. The Annual Rates of our subscriptions have not changed: Individual, £12; Family, £18 (two or more people living at one address): Young person, £6 (under 18): Concession, £8 (full-time students, unemployed, or over 60’s). These subscriptions have been covering “running costs”, such as postage, newsletter printing etc. The main educational programme of events for members, such as talks, summer visits and social events has been covered directly by payments made for the costs of the events by the members attending.

Our financial planning has been allowing each event to provide typically some £30 -£100 per event to our funds (for example, we ask members attending our talks to contribute £2 per event, and non-members are asked for £3 per event). Subscriptions and these event “fees” have provided the background income. Important further contributions have come, since 2001, in the form of two large bequests, each of £10,000. in the Wills of former members, Miss M. Arber, and Dr.R.B.B.Bishton. These made very significant additions to our funds and have allowed us to respond with increasing flexibility to requests from the Museum.

A number of smaller but very welcome donations, of between £200 and £1000, have also been received. In this Newsletter, we wish now to review the main contributions we have made to the Museum over the years, and consider how important these have been to the Museum.

Membership grew in numbers steadily towards about 150 over our first three years. Since then, our membership has grown more gradually to about 200 and this number has remained relatively stable.

In this time the Friends have been asked for support for specific projects suggested by members of Museum staff (items of Museum furniture, panel labels for exhibits, research books and equipment and conference contributions for Museum staff). A grant of some £5000 to the Friends from the Curry Fund of the Geologists’ Association allowed the Museum to repair, rehouse and restore the skeleton of our well-known Barrington Hippo.

We also made a donation for the transportation to the Museum of a Colombian plesiosaur which became the subject of a research project by a Colombian student in Cambridge. During our first 15 years, a total of some £23,300 has been donated to the Museum by the Friends (and this averages out at some £1,500 per year).

FIFTEEN YEARS OF MUSEUM SUPPORT

Student Placements:

In 2008, we started a new initiative when the first student placement competition was held, and these have taken place each year since. We initially offered two such placements each year, but have now increased the number to three per year. Museum staff propose specific summer projects suitable for senior undergraduate geologists in the Department, and select the students after interview.

The four-week summer project is then carried out under supervision from the staff member. Each student receives a “prize”, now £950 each per head, as a contribution to accommodation and subsistence costs during the four weeks. These schemes have been found to work extremely well, giving the student experience of Museum project work, and providing welcome support for the Museum staff supervisor. The total donation made by the Friends to the succession of varied projects has been £12,300. Many of the projects have been written up in our Newsletters.

General Archiving:

The Museum has recently been successful in raising outside funding to employ a full-time archivist to sort and study paper and photographic material stored in the Museum and Department. To further support this much-needed work, Friends’ funding has been requested to provide extra part-time archivist support, and shelving and filing materials have been required also. Some £10,800 has been provided by the Friends to the Museum for these purposes.

Mapping Archive:

The Museum has been much involved in restoration of one of the Department’s copies of the famous William Smith Map, published in 1815. This is now one of the only copies of this map permanently displayed to the general public anywhere in the UK. It is on display in our Museum, amidst a collection of other remarkable geological maps. The Friends made a donation of £10,000 towards the restoration of the William Smith copy, and presentation of other maps in the gallery.

FIFTEEN YEARS OF MUSEUM SUPPORT

Importance of Friends Support provided to the Museum:

In round terms, the Friends have provided an overall sum of about £60,000 to the Museum over the fifteen years since we were founded. How does this compare with other support received by the Museum from other sources?

During this fifteen year period:

- 1) About £500,000 was received from external sources to pay for the mounting of the exhibition on “Darwin the Geologist”.
- 2) Total bequests to the Museum from the Will of Dr. Colin Forbes have amounted to some £3,000,000, and made possible a number of staff appointments for the Museum.
- 3) The remarkable Woodward-Scilla research project on the early history of Museum collections, particularly in palaeontology and mineralogy, has been funded by some £80,000 of external funding
- 4) Funding from National Arts Council Museum sources has contributed to some of our running costs and further Museum staff appointments.

In Summary, in round numbers, the Friends have contributed a sum of about £60,000 to the support of the Sedgwick Museum over our fifteen years. This compares with a total other funding received, of about £4,000,000, much the largest proportion of which has come from the bequest to the Museum by Dr. Colin Forbes.

Redeveloping our Ice-age Exhibits:

The Museum is planning a thorough redevelopment of the Pleistocene (Ice Age) part of the Mahogany Wing gallery. Fresh and up-to-date presentations will deal with the evolving fauna of Cambridgeshire during the times of exceptional climate change. They will show the nature of the fauna and flora and general biodiversity and look at why the fauna in the current interglacial is so different, examining ecological factors including the role of humans.

Over the last several years, many Cambridge University Departments have been making major contributions to the understanding of climate change, and landscape evolution. It is now the intention that the Sedgwick Museum which is so centrally located in East Anglia should become a key centre of excellence, representing this work to the general public.

The Committee of the Friends has offered a provisional donation of “up to £25,000” towards this new Gallery Development. This is part of a deliberate decision to use a significant part of the £38,000 that we have currently accumulated for the Museums public education and outreach programme, before the funds lose further value during times of very low interest rates.

We appeal to our Members to make donations, and consider making bequests, so that our support for our marvellous Museum can continue at an enhanced rate.

Please do not hesitate to discuss this with our Treasurer (Dr. David Peel, Holly Tree House, 21 Bell Road, Bottisham, Cambridge, CB25 9DF dapeel@btinternet.com) or our Chairman (Dr. Peter Friend, 95 Water Lane, Oakington, Cambridge, CB25 3AL pff1000@cam.ac.uk).

EXPLORING THE NOERDLINGEN METEORITE CRATERS, AND SOME EXQUISITE JURASSIC FOSSILS, JUNE 2016

Gidon Bahiri



Group photo

30 of us went on the trip that was centred on Noerdlingen in June.

Noerdlingen is a beautiful mediaeval town in Bavaria with a unique intact wall surrounding it.

We were very lucky to have found Gisela Poesges who is the Assistant Director of the Impact Crater Museum.

Gisela led the first two days. She also found us the tour guides to the other day trips, as well as finding us a wonderful coach company, who provided the most terrific driver Guenter. Guenter collected us all at the airport.

He waited for late arrivers and though buses were not allowed into the old town centre, he broke the rules and took us in and collected us every day.

On the first two days Gisela showed us amongst other things:

- The fantastic Ries Crater Museum with its amazing displays. She gave us the history of how it became known that the crater was indeed an impact site and not an extinct volcano. It took a "damned American" to find this out.
- Showed us around the 15 million year old Noerdlingen impact crater. This is the larger of the twin impact craters (26 km across).

EXPLORING THE NOERDLINGEN METEORITE CRATERS, AND SOME EXQUISITE JURASSIC FOSSILS, JUNE 2016

- We learned about impact breccias and the other unique geological features of the crater.
- Showed us around the smaller Steinheim Basin and the beautiful small museum.

On Day three Gisela arranged for us to visit the world famous museum and quarry at Solnhofen.

Dr Martin Roeper, the museum director, personally guided us to a quarry where we were all given a chance of finding our very own archaeopteryx. Sadly the best we could manage was a nautilus or two. Martin then gave us a guided tour of the museum. They have really good displays of various Jurassic fossils. The most famous of which is, of course, archaeopteryx.



Fossil Turtle from Solnhofen

The first archaeopteryx found (1861) went to the Natural Museum in London. This was because at that time the Germans could not accept Darwin's theory of evolution for religious reasons. The museum also had fantastic fish, reptile and plant fossils.

On day four we went to the beautiful town of Aalen. Uli Sauerborn showed us round the small museum in the historic centre. Then we went to the Limes Museum. The Limes was a Roman wall that went for 600 km from the North Sea and down into central Europe. In the afternoon we went down into a disused iron-ore mine 800 meters into the heart of the mountain.

Finally, on the last day we had a morning guided tour of the old town of Noerdlingen.

Amongst other things we visited the church, which is made of Suevit. When the meteor hit, it converted a graphite layer into diamonds. It is said that there are 900 gr of diamonds in the stones of the church.



Suevit Church

Gidon Bahiri

REDEVELOPING OUR ICE-AGE EXHIBITS



At our recent AGM this summer, there was further discussion of the plans to redevelop the Sedgwick's exhibition of material relating to the Ice Age and its aftermath. Our Museum Director, Dr. Ken MacNamara, gave us an exciting summary of some of his thoughts on this work, along with the news that he plans to see the job completed by October 2017!

The Museum has got exceptional material from the last few million years of the Earth's history. This includes the famous Barrington Hippo that first suggested to science that there had been warm climate episodes between numerous cold glacial episodes.

Discussion at our recent AGM focused on how the Friends could help with this redevelopment, and how we can best keep in touch with progress. We have agreed that Rob Theodore, the Museum's Collections Assistant (Documentation and Display) will give short updates of latest progress during part of the social meeting time before our Talks from October 2016 to June 2017.



Barrington Hippo

Peter Friend – Friends of the Sedgwick Museum



CAMBRIDGESHIRE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The Club meets at the Friends Meeting House, 91-93 Hartington Grove, Cambridge CB1 7UB.

Lectures start at 19:30 and doors open at 19:00

Visitors and Members are welcome.

Monday 10th October 2016

"Mass extinctions in Earth history"

Stephen Kershaw, Brunel University

There have been five major extinction events in Earth history so far. This talk will focus on these events and their possible causes and also on the role of microbes in the aftermath of mass extinctions.

Monday 14th November 2016

"The mass grave in the coal mine - the iguanodonts of Bernissart"

Franziska Norman, geology student, Open University and Cambridgeshire Geological Society member

The story behind the discovery of the first complete dinosaur skeletons and what over a hundred years of research has revealed about how these animals lived.

Monday 12th December 2016

"Tales of exploration - gold in County Mayo"

Steve Thompson, exploration geologist, Cambridge

Monday 9th January 2017

"Gemology and geology"

Gill Mallett, gemologist, Cambridge

The identification of gemstones and how gemstones relate to geological processes.

Monday 13th February 2017

"The Fens - that sinking feeling"

Pat Doody, Coastal Ecologist

The fascinating story of sea level change in the fens and its relationship with the position of the Fen Edge, the fenland soils, water channels, settlements and human history.

**Cambridgeshire Geological Society
Local Group of the Geologists' Association**

Franziska Norman, Programme Secretary

Tel: 01223 479236 Mobile: 0796 3039198

Email: info@cambridgeshiregeologyclub.org

JAMES MANN WORDIE (1889-1962) - GEOLOGIST AND EXPLORER SHACKLETON'S GEOLOGIST



James Wordie in 1913 (aged 24) on a Sedgwick Club visit to Dingle Quarry, Malvern, with Professor T. McKenny-Hughes

Douglas Palmer – Sedgwick Museum

It was whilst climbing the majestic rocky landscapes of the Scottish Highlands and the Swiss Alps that the Scots born James Mann Wordie determined to study geology in his home University of Glasgow (1906-10). With a first class degree and encouragement from his professor, John W. Gregory (1864-1932), a well known explorer in Africa, Australia and the Arctic, Wordie entered St John's College, University of Cambridge (1910), where he gained another first class degree in geology in 1912.

A Harkness Scholarship allowed the talented young Wordie to pursue geological research in Cambridge, where he encountered a number of enthusiasts of polar exploration, including Frank Debenham, Raymond Priestley, Thomas Griffith Taylor and Charles Wright.

The tragedy of Scott's *Terra Nova* expedition (1910-12) did nothing to lessen Wordie's desire for extreme exploration and in 1914 he was recruited as geologist for Ernest Shackleton's Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition.

Following the sinking of their ship *Endurance*, Shackleton, Wordie and the rest of the 28-man expedition were lucky to return alive to Britain in November 1916 – a country in the throes of war.

Penguin geology

For Wordie, as a geologist, being stranded on the ice, a long way from the nearest outcrop of rock, was extremely frustrating. However, being resourceful he found an unusual source of geological information – stones found in penguin stomachs.

As Wordie noted in his journal on 4th January 1915 'I have been looking more closely at the pebbles got from the Emperor Penguin on Dec 31st.... I notice two kinds of granite, a grit, purple sandstone, very micaceous sandstone and two kinds of dyke rock'.

Some penguins, like many other birds and dinosaurs swallow stones. For Emperor penguins the stones may reduce their natural buoyancy whilst diving for their fish prey and perhaps aid digestion. The buoyancy is caused by fat layers, which protect them against the cold. These penguin stomach stones (gastroliths) were amongst the few geological samples Wordie recovered whilst 'stranded' in the Weddell Sea and he used them as evidence for the geology of the Antarctic seafloor.

World War I

Within a week of returning from the Antarctic, Wordie joined the armed forces and was commissioned in May 1917 as 2nd Lieutenant in the 3/4th Lowland Brigade of the Royal Field Artillery. In March 1918 he was part of the 11th Army Brigade stationed near Armentieres on the French-Belgian border when the German's launched one of their last major offensives on the Western Front.

JAMES MANN WORDIE (1889-1962) - GEOLOGIST AND EXPLORER SHACKLETON'S GEOLOGIST

On April 9th, Wordie was wounded during the early stages of the Battle of Lys, in which some 50,000 men lost their lives. As his field gun was moving into position, an exploding shell blasted him from his mount and killed the other riderless horse of the team, which fell on Wordie and broke his leg. The fracture was sufficiently serious for him to be evacuated back to England where a surgeon warned him that he might never regain full use of his leg. He was still unfit for duty when the war ended on November 11th, 1918, was demobbed on January 9th, 1919 and returned to Cambridge.

The beginnings of a Polar Research Institute

In Cambridge, Wordie joined his fellow polar enthusiasts Ray Priestley and Frank Debenham, in drawing up proposals for a Polar Institute in Cambridge. By 1920, an initial grant of £6,000 from the Scott Memorial Fund allowed the establishment of the Scott Polar Research Institute with Debenham in part of the still relatively new Sedgwick Museum Building, which had been opened in 1904 by King Edward VII. Wordie persuaded Shackleton to donate the records from the Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition to the new organization. Meanwhile, determined to prove his surgeon wrong, Wordie joined the 1919 expedition of his fellow Scot William Bruce (1867-1921) to the Arctic island of Spitsbergen in the Svalbard archipelago. Bruce, a very experienced and pragmatic scientist and explorer of Arctic waters, had raised money to prospect for coal and more especially oil in Spitsbergen. Wordie was employed as one of several geologists, miners, surveyors and naturalists. However, this initial geological survey did not find oil nor did a return journey the following year. Over a decade later, detailed geological investigation of the Svalbard archipelago was pursued by Cambridge geologists led by W. B. (Brian) Harland (1917-2003).

Despite the commercial failure, Wordie was impressed by Bruce's scientific approach and the following year he turned down an opportunity to return to Antarctica with Shackleton in favour of a more scientific based exploration of another Arctic island, that of Jan Mayen. Used for centuries as a whaling station, the island's steep cliffs and bleak rocky terrain is dominated by the huge snow-capped Beerenberg volcano. At some 2,277 m high, it was climbed for the first time on August 11, 1921 by Wordie, Tom Lethbridge (1901-71), a 20 year-old Cambridge undergraduate and Paul-Louis Mercanton (1876-1963), a Swiss mountaineer and professor at Lausanne University.

Wordie's university and college duties prevented him from further exploration until 1923 when he led the first of five expeditions over the following 15 years to Greenland. These helped stimulate British academic interest in the remarkable geology of the region, which was pursued particularly by a Cambridge geology graduate Lawrence (Bill) Wager (1904-65), who first visited Greenland in 1930. Wager found the Skaergaard layered intrusion, an extremely interesting and important geological phenomenon, which became his life's work.

By 1927, the Scott Polar Research Institute moved out of its cramped quarters in the Sedgwick Museum building into Lensfield House but it still had to share that with the School of Architecture. In 1932, another site on Lensfield Road was allocated by the University for a new building, which was finally completed in 1934. And, in 1937, Wordie was appointed chairman of the management committee of SPRI. He was 48 years old and returned to the Arctic for the eighth and final time on a diverse research programme of geology and archaeology. It was one of the most scientifically successful of Wordie's Arctic voyages with the exploration of Ellesmere and Melville islands, including a major study of cosmic rays in the upper atmosphere using high altitude balloons. These pioneering efforts by Hugh Carmichael (St John's College) and E.G. Dymond from Edinburgh University were subsequently put to good use in the development of wartime communications.

JAMES MANN WORDIE (1889-1962) - GEOLOGIST AND EXPLORER SHACKLETON'S GEOLOGIST

At War again

As the momentum towards war gathered in 1939, the Admiralty were keen to establish an information bureau for geographical, geological, meteorological and other useful data on the terrains over which forthcoming battles were likely to be fought. SPRI effectively became an outpost of the Admiralty with Wordie acting as part-time director of some 30 academics and another 60 associated experts in Cambridge and another team in Oxford. They were all working on cold-climate terrains and produced 58 volumes of Admiralty Geographical Handbooks, otherwise known as the 'Blue Books'.

However, by 1943 Wordie had moved on to a more secret Naval Intelligence organization called 'Operation Tabarin' designed to reinforce British interests in the Antarctic region, which included the Falkland Islands and South Georgia. Permanent bases were set up on Deception Island and on the Antarctic Peninsula. The Port Lockroy base was a British research station and is now one of the most popular tourist destinations in Antarctica and is operated by the United Kingdom Antarctic Heritage Trust.

Peace regained and a mountain to climb

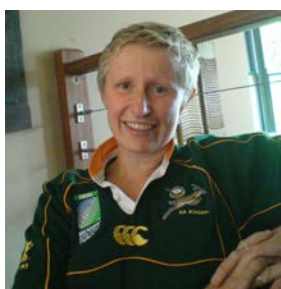
With the end of hostilities in 1945 'Operation Tabarin' evolved into the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey (FIDS) and subsequently, in 1962, the British Antarctic Survey. In 1946 the Colonial Office asked Wordie to tour the region and report on the progress being made by FIDS, it was his first voyage to Antarctica since 1916 but he could not quite face the opportunity to land again on Elephant Island.

Wordie had been Honorary Secretary of the Royal Geographical Society (RGS) since 1934 and was appointed President in 1951 at an important moment in the history of mountain exploration, as Mount Everest had still to be conquered. Decades earlier, Wordie had applied to be part of the 1922 British attempt on Everest but had been turned down because of his blood pressure, which could be problematic at high altitude.

Wordie as a 'Johnian'

Wordie came to St John's College in Cambridge in 1910 and remained there until 1959. He was as an undergraduate, taking a first class degree in Part II of the Natural Science Tripos, continuing as a research student, whilst being appointed as a demonstrator in the Department of Geology. Following his return from the First World War, Wordie resumed his geological and college duties and was elected a fellow of the college in 1921 and tutor in 1923, the year he was married. He was made Senior Tutor in 1933, became President in 1950 and finally Master in 1952 before retiring in 1959. His business acumen helped secure donations to the very successful fund raising, which resulted in the new Cripps Building opened in 1967, five years after Wordie's death in 1962.

THANK YOU, ALISON



Alison O'Reilly is leaving us, after working for some seventeen years in The Department.

She has been a huge supporter of the Friends of the Sedgwick Museum since we were founded in 2001. She has particularly played a major role in compiling and circulating our "Trilobite" Newsletters with great creative zest. She has turned it into the lively booklet it has now become by seeking out excellent photos and diagrams that have enlivened our reading.

Alison is returning to Ireland, and we wish her every good fortune in her new life there.

Peter Friend.

Friends of the Sedgwick Museum

BOOKING FORM

| |
|-------------------|
| Date/Event |
|-------------------|

| |
|---|
| Contact details – please print |
| Name(s) |
| Email |
| Telephone |
| Address |
| Additional Information Parking required? Special diet? |

**Please enclose cheque for the appropriate amount made payable to
'The Friends of the Sedgwick Museum'
and send to the person indicated on the programme**

Enclosed cheque for _____

Signed _____

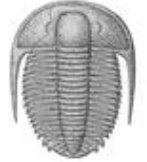
Details will be emailed to you unless you indicate otherwise



JOIN THE FRIENDS...

Membership is open to anyone!

Friends of the



Sedgwick Museum
of Earth Sciences

CONTACT DETAILS

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

Department Reception:
01223 – 333400

Chairman e-mail: pff1000@cam.ac.uk

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

KEY WEBSITES:

FRIENDS OF THE SEDGWICK MUSEUM
www.friendsofsegdwickmuseum.com

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

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

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

FACEBOOK - SEDGWICK MUSEUM
<https://www.facebook.com/segdwickmuseum>

FACEBOOK – FRIENDS OF THE SEDGWICK MUSEUM
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Friends-of-the-Sedgwick-Museum/508873495923670>

BOOKING FORM (ON-LINE)
<http://www.segdwickmuseum.org/uploads/images/Whats%20On/Booking%20Form.pdf>

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.....

Email.....

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 31st March. Members joining after 31st 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. 1091393) we can claim an additional amount on any subscription or donation, provided that 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 tax payer. 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.

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