

The Ussher Society
Geoscience in south-west England
46th Annual Conference
St. Ives, Cornwall, 3rd – 5th January 2008

Second Circular

The Ussher Society **46th Annual Conference** is being held at the **Tregenna Castle Hotel, St. Ives, Cornwall**. This 3-day conference for geoscientists working in south-west England and related areas comprises two days of presentations and a day of field excursions.

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Due to Conference falling very close to the New Year, and the distance to the venue for many delegates, there will be no 'icebreaker' reception on the evening of Wednesday 2nd January. Delegates who arrive at the hotel that evening will still be able to register (18:00-20:00) and we suggest meeting up in the hotel bar from 19:00 if you wish to join others for a meal at the hotel or in St Ives.

Thursday 3rd January

Verbal and poster presentations commence (posters can be viewed during all scheduled breaks). **The Scott Simpson Lecture** entitled 'From Dines to the 21st Century: Past activity, research and prospects for metal mining in SW England' will be given by Dr Richard Scrivener, of the British Geological Survey.

The **Annual General Meeting**, to which all Members of The Society are invited, will be held at the end of the afternoon session. Items to be included on the agenda, or major items for discussion under Any Other Business, should be submitted to the Secretary (Dr Clive Nicholas) well in advance. There will then be a reception at the Tregenna Castle Hotel, sponsored by IGI Limited, prior to the Conference Dinner at around 20:00.

Friday 4th of January

Verbal and poster presentations continue and the joint afternoon session with the South West Regional Group of the Geological Society has the theme 'Applied Geology in South West England'.

Saturday 5th January

Those registered for one of the three post-conference field excursions will depart shortly after 09:00. Please indicate your choice of field excursion on the booking form.

The provisional programme of verbal and poster presentations is attached. It is still possible to accommodate a few additional verbal presentations and more posters on a first-come, first-served basis. If you would like to make a contribution, please contact the Conference Secretary first, as soon as possible, to confirm if slots are still available.

Please note that a bursary fund is available to contribute to the cost of full-time students wishing to attend the Meeting to present a paper or poster. For details, please apply in the first instance to the Conference Secretary, Peter Frost, via e-mail or post.

Conference Secretary

Peter Frost, Camborne School of Mines, University of Exeter, Tremough Campus,
Penryn, Cornwall. TR10 9EZ

Telephone 01326 253748 E-mail: Peter.A.Frost@exeter.ac.uk

www.ussher.org.uk

Provisional Programme

The Ussher Society Annual Conference - Tregenna Castle Hotel, St. Ives
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Thursday 3rd January: Presentation of papers and posters

- 08:30 onwards **Registration** – Tregenna Castle Hotel
- 09:15 – 09:20 **Chairman's Introduction**
Bob Symes
- 09:20 – 09:45 The English Riviera European Geopark: geodiversity and community in Torbay
Kevin Page and Mel Border
- 09:45 – 10:10 **tbc**
- 10:10 – 10:35 Public domain geological data for Cornwall in the age of Google Earth
Charles Moon
- 10:35 – 11:10 **Morning Coffee/Tea** **(Posters available for viewing)**
- 11:10 – 12:10 **SCOTT SIMPSON LECTURE**
From Dines to the 21st Century: Past activity, research and prospects for metal mining in SW England
Richard Scrivener
- 12:10 – 12:35 Tectonics of mineralization in the Land's End Granite
Nick LeBoutillier and Robin Shail
- 12:35 – 13:00 Late 18th and Early 19th Century forays into economic geology – some little-known Franco-German papers describing Carclaze Old Pit, near St Austell
Colin Bristow
- 13:00 – 14:15 **Lunch** **(Posters available for viewing)**
- 14:15 – 14:40 Redcliff Point, Weymouth, Dorset, SW England and Savournon, Serres, Haute Provence, SE France: candidate Global Stratotype Section and Points (GSSP) for the base of the Oxfordian Stage (Upper Jurassic)
Kevin Page, Guillermo Meléndez and Francois Atrops
- 14:40 – 15:05 The stratigraphy of the Charmouth Mudstone Formation (Lower Jurassic) of the Vale of Ilchester and adjacent areas (Somerset, SW England)
Hugh Prudden and Kevin Page
- 15:05 – 15:30 Lower Jurassic mud volcanoes and methane, Kilve, west Somerset
Price, G.D., Vowles-Sheridan, N. and Anderson, M.W.
- 15:30 – 16:00 **Afternoon Coffee/Tea** **(Posters available for viewing)**
- 16:00 – 16:25 Geodiversity and conservation in Devon: integrated approaches to heritage management
Kevin Page
- 16:25 – 16:50 **tbc**
- 17:15 – 18:30 **Annual General Meeting of the Ussher Society**
- 18:30 – 20:00 **Reception** **(Posters available for viewing)**
- 20:00 **Ussher Society Conference Dinner – Tregenna Castle Hotel, St. Ives**

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Friday 4th January: Presentation of papers and posters

- 08:30 onwards **Registration** – Tregenna Castle Hotel
- 09:15 – 09:40 A new study of Pleistocene sediments along the North Devon Coast
C. Rolfe, A. Brown, P. Toms, S. Boreham and R. Scrivener
- 09:40 – 10:05 Some microscale analyses of periglacial aeolian sands in west Cornwall
Jasper Knight
- 10:05 – 10:30 An extension of the well-known Quaternary section at Godrevy, west Cornwall:
Analysis and Review
H.C.L. James
- 10:30 – 11:00 **Morning Coffee/Tea** **(Posters available for viewing)**
- 11:00 – 11:25 Towards a Middle-Late Pleistocene fluvial chronology for SW England: Recent work
by the Palaeolithic Rivers of South West Britain Project
Laura Basell, Tony Brown, Philip Toms and Rob Hosfield
- 11:25 – 11:50 The water issue in Jersey : 1987 to 2007
John Renouf
- 11:50 – 12:15 Measurements of Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbon (PAH) bioaccessibility and their
use in the assessment of Human Health Risk
Rod Smith, A.M. Robertson and C.J. Wachtel
- 12:15 – 12:40 **tbc**
- 12:45 – 14:00 **Lunch** **(Posters available for viewing)**
- 14:00 – 14:25 The geology of Penlee Quarry: its impact on previous quarrying and future use
Peter Scott and Geoffrey Walton
- 14:25– 14:50 Geological controls on the failure mechanisms within the Black Ven Landslip, Lyme
Regis, Dorset
Ramues Gallois
- 14:50 – 15:15 Use of the observational technique in facilitating site demolition and the construction
of a contiguous piled wall into the toe of a recently stabilized coastal landslip at
Lyme Regis, Dorset.
J.N. Grimes, M. Crumplin and M. Burrows
- 15:15 – 15:40 **Afternoon Coffee/Tea** **(Posters available for viewing)**
- 15:40 – 16:05 Climate change, slope instability and necessary stabilization of the Access Road,
Lundy Island, Bristol Channel
J. N. Grimes and M. Burrows
- 16:05 – 16:30 **tbc**

End of Conference

FIELD EXCURSIONS

Saturday 5th January 2008

All participants must book with the Conference Secretary – please complete the attached form and let us know if you are subsequently unable to attend. If you returned the form in the First Circular, please confirm your final choice with the Conference Secretary (email/telephone is fine). Full joining details and information will be available during the Conference.

Excursion 1: Penlee Quarry - geology, extractive industry and afteruse

Leaders: Professor Geoffrey Walton (PGW&A LLP)
Professor Peter Scott (Camborne School of Mines, University of Exeter)

Penlee Quarry is located just south of Newlyn. It primarily exposes thick metadolerites of the Upper Devonian Mylor Slate Formation and is within the contact metamorphic aureole of the Land's End Granite. The foreshore at Penlee Point, further south, is a GCR Site (Igneous Rocks of SW England) and Penlee Quarry is a GCR Site (Mineralogy of SW England). Early veins host a variety of As, Bi, Cu, Fe, Mo, Pb, Sn, Te and Zn minerals. A large later vein is dominantly of quartz and chalcedony. The quarry, which was dormant for a while in the 1990s, is presently under development for future production of armourstone for local coastal protection and breakwater works. It is intended that the site will eventually be developed into a marina, with associated facilities, together with housing. The visit will include an examination of the geology of the foreshore and quarry (possible through the kind permission of MDL Ltd), along with explanations of the geotechnical and other issues associated with the future development.

Meeting point: The quarry office, just inside the main gate, at 10.00 (there is ample parking – reverse parking rules apply). Depart approx. 14.00. Lifts will be available from Tregenna Castle Hotel (departure by 0920). **All participants require hi-vis vest, hard hat and safety boots – please let us know if you don't have these.**

Excursion 2: Devonian and Quaternary geology of St Ives Bay

Leaders: Dr Robin Shail (Camborne School of Mines, University of Exeter)
Dr Jasper Knight (Department of Geography, University of Exeter)

The Tregenna Castle Hotel provides, on good days, a superb eastwards view across St Ives Bay towards Godrevy Lighthouse. The excursion will provide an overview of the stratigraphy, sedimentology and structure of the superb Devonian and Quaternary sections exposed in the southern and eastern parts of the Bay at Black Cliff, Gwithian and Godrevy (including three GCR Sites). Lunch will be taken at a public house or café.

Meeting point: The excursion will depart, and lifts will be available, from the Tregenna Castle Hotel at 0930. The precise itinerary will be weather/tide dependent.

Excursion 3: Land's End Granite – geology and mining landscape

Leaders: Dr Nick LeBoutillier
Simon Gamm

The excursion will provide an overview of the geology, mineralization and mining landscapes of the northern margin of the Land's End Granite. The first locality will be Cape Cornwall, where pre-granite host rock deformation, contacts with the granite(s), textural variations, vein mineralization and Quaternary sediments are all superbly exposed. The historic workings of Cape Cornwall, St Just United (\pm Boswedden) mines will be discussed. The excursion will then head back northeastwards towards St Ives, along the scenic B3306 coast road, stopping at Botallack, Levant/Geevor and Carn Galver mines to further investigate geology, mineralization and mining landscapes. Lunch will be taken at a public house or café.

Meeting point: The excursion will depart, and lifts will be available, from the Tregenna Castle Hotel at 0915. The precise itinerary will be weather/tide dependent.

ACCOMMODATION INFORMATION

The Ussher Society Annual Conference - Tregenna Castle Hotel, St. Ives
3rd – 5th January 2008

Please note that it is your responsibility to make arrangements/payment for accommodation that you require before, during and after the conference.

The Conference Venue is the Tregenna Castle Hotel. It occupies a hill-top location on the southern side of St Ives, approximately 600 m from the railway station, and has panoramic views across St Ives Bay. Full details are available at: www.tregenna-castle.co.uk

We have negotiated special rates, so please mention Ussher Society Conference 2008 when making your booking. The hotel can be contacted on: 01736 795254.

Ussher Society Conference 2008 rates

- Standard Non-seaview room @ £35.00 per person per night on a Bed and Breakfast basis
- Non-seaview room @ £40.00 per person per night on a Bed and Breakfast basis
- Seaview room @ £45.00 per person per night on a Bed and Breakfast basis
- West Wing Seaview room @ £50.00 per person per night on a Bed and Breakfast basis

Please note that there is no single occupancy supplement.

These are good rates, it's a great venue, and so demand for rooms is likely to be high. We strongly recommend that you book early to avoid disappointment.

The Tregenna Castle Hotel also offers a range of evening meals in the bar/restaurant; bookings for meals may be made at the same time as your accommodation reservation.

Alternative accommodation can be found via <http://www.stives-cornwall.co.uk/>, or through the Tourist Information Centre, The Guildhall, Street-An-Poll, St. Ives. Tel: (01736) 796297

CHANNEL ISLANDS 2008

Arrangements for this Field Visit are now in hand and provisional dates for your diary are as follows:

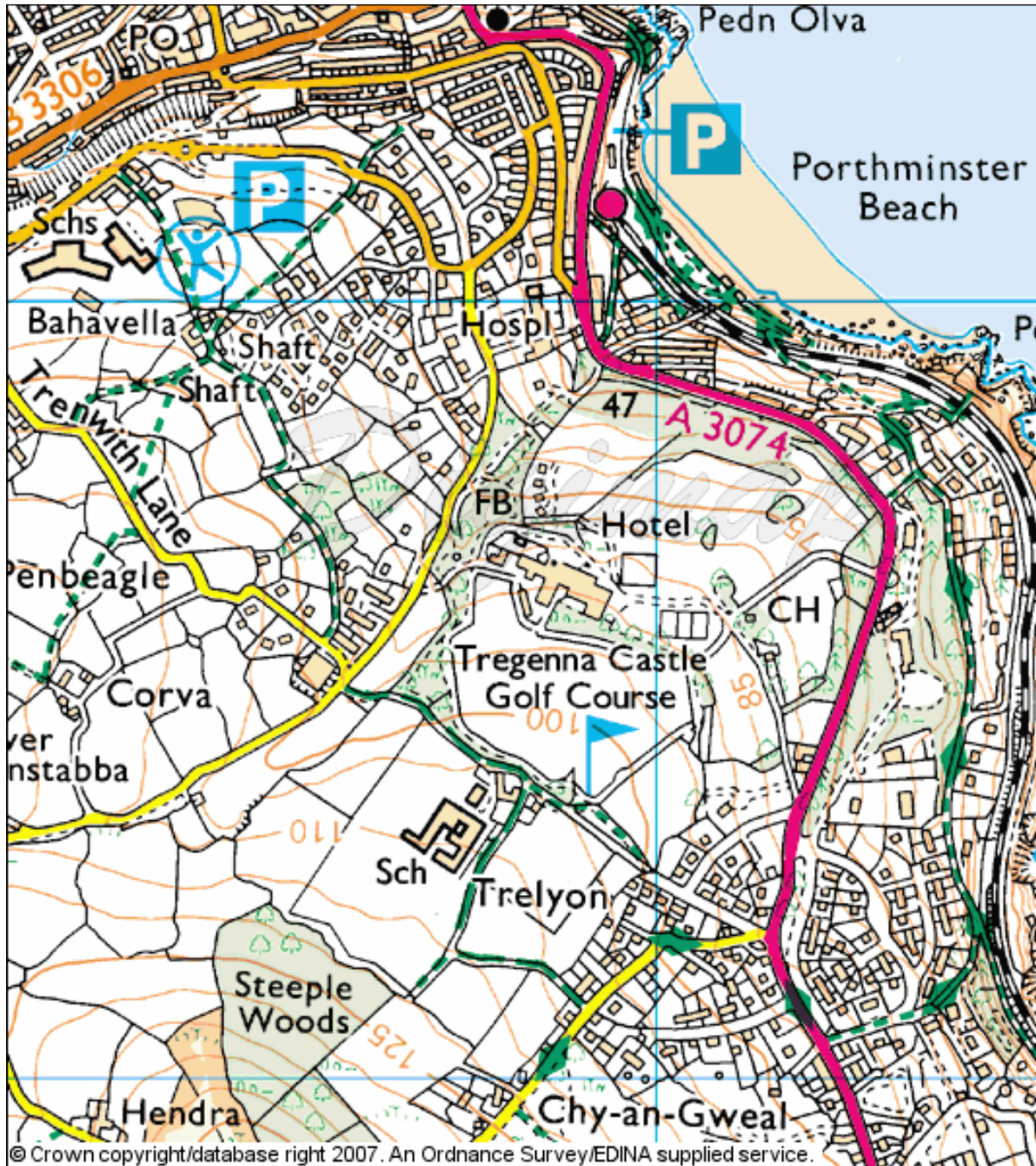
Assemble Guernsey on Friday the 2nd May 2008
Transfer Guernsey to Jersey with free time Tuesday the 6th May
Disperse from Jersey on Saturday the 10th May.

Further details about the programme and the arrangements can be found via www.ussher.org.uk. We expect to be joined for this event by Members of the Royal Geological Society of Cornwall and by Members of the Geologists' Association in their 150th Anniversary Year.

As part of the lead up, Stan Salmon will be giving a talk on ***The Geology of the Channel Islands*** on Thursday 27th March 2008 in the small lecture theatre, Opie Building room E23 at the Cornwall College campus, Pool, Camborne. **All will be welcome.**

Map of St Ives

Showing location of the Tregenna Castle Hotel



CONFERENCE BOOKING FORM

The Ussher Society Annual Conference - Tregenna Castle Hotel, St. Ives
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NAME:

ADDRESS:

Telephone:

Mobile:

E-mail:

I wish to register for the conference as follows (*please tick where appropriate*)

Standard conference delegate

Both conference days (3rd / 4th January) @ £35

Thursday 3rd January only @ £18 Friday 4th January only @ £18

Full-time student delegate

Both conference days (3rd / 4th January) @ £20

Thursday 3rd January only @ £10 Friday 4th January only @ £10

N.B. Registration includes morning/afternoon tea/coffee and buffet lunch at the conference venue

Conference Dinner on Thursday 3rd January – carvery @ £19.95 for 3 courses and coffee, at the restaurant in the Tregenna Castle Hotel.

I wish to attend the Conference Dinner

I prefer/require a vegetarian meal

I enclose a cheque for £ _____ made payable to **Ussher Conference 2008**

PLEASE NOTE: Bookings for Conference Registration and/or Dinners must be received by the Conference Secretary no later than **22nd December 2007**

I am interested in participating in a field excursion on Saturday 5th January

- 1) Penlee Quarry - geology, extractive industry and afteruse
- 2) Devonian and Quaternary geology of St Ives Bay
- 3) Land's End Granite - geology and mining landscape

Please indicate, if applicable, the number of spaces in your car that you would be willing to offer to other field excursion participants.

Warm clothes, hat, gloves, full waterproofs and appropriate footwear are **essential**. Lunch will be taken at a public house. Beach, shore/quarry platform, coastal slope and steep steps may be encountered. Excursions are numbers, weather and tide dependent.