



The Ussher Society
Geoscience in South-West England
50th Anniversary Conference
Exmouth, Devon, 3rd – 5th January 2012



SECOND CIRCULAR

The Ussher Society **50th Anniversary Conference** will be held at the **Royal Beacon Hotel, Exmouth, Devon** on **3rd-5th January 2012**. There will be two days of presentations followed by one day of field excursions.

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

The 50th Anniversary Conference marks a significant milestone for the Society and we have a full programme of presentations. There is a limit of ~110 delegates for the presentations and ~80 for the Conference Dinner so, whilst we don't anticipate being oversubscribed, we would recommend booking as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. If you have already booked in response to the First Circular by 4.11.11, no further action is needed, confirmation of your booking is included.

If you wish to register for the conference please complete the enclosed booking form and return with payment as soon as possible and, by the latest, Friday 16th December. We will indicate on the Society webpages if we are oversubscribed.

Note that as the Conference falls very close to the New Year, travelling for many will be necessary on Monday 2nd January which is a Bank Holiday.

We are running eight sessions that span some of the major research themes of the last 50 years; these will each include slightly longer keynote addresses.

- **Monday 2nd January – Registration and Reception**

Registration will be possible 1700-2000 with an 'icebreaker' reception, kindly sponsored by IGI Ltd, from 1900.

- **Tuesday 3rd January - Presentations**

Verbal and poster presentations.

The Scott Simpson Lecture entitled "*Resolving long-standing tectonic enigmas in the Wessex Basin - new insights from the integration of field observations with the subsurface database*" will be presented by Professor John Underhill of the University of Edinburgh.

The **Annual General Meeting** will be held at the end of the afternoon session.

The **Conference Dinner** will be held in Donato's Restaurant at the Royal Beacon Hotel.

- **Wednesday 4th January - Presentations**

Verbal and poster presentations.

- **Thursday 5th January – Field excursions**

A perfect start to the New Year. A choice of two excursions taking in either the best of the East Devon coastal section with Ramues Gallois or the Crediton Trough with Sarita McVicar Wright and Richard Scrivener. Booking essential.

Mark Anderson, Richard Scrivener and Robin Shail
Conference 2012 organizing committee

Programme – Tuesday 3rd / Wednesday 4th January

The Ussher Society 50th Anniversary Conference
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TUESDAY 3RD JANUARY

Session 1: History of Ussher Society / Historical Geology

- 0915 John Mather
Promoting Geoscience in South-West England - 50 years of the Ussher Society
- 0940 Keynote: Tom Sharpe
From Sidmouth to the Survey; the early years of Henry De la Beche
- 1030 Norman Butcher
Geologists in South-West England - what have they been up to ?
- 1055 Elaine Burt
BGS archive photographs
- 1115 *Morning tea / coffee (+ poster displays)*

Session 2: Mesozoic Geology and basin evolution

- 1145 Richard Edmonds
Introduction to the World Heritage Site
- 1200 Scott Simpson Lecture: John Underhill
Resolving Long-Standing Tectonic Enigmas in the Wessex Basin - New insights from the integration of Field Observations with the Subsurface Database
- 1300 *Lunch (+ poster displays)*

Session 3: Quaternary

- 1400 Keynote: Tony Brown
Gulls, dates and axes: Recent Quaternary research in SW England
- 1450 Les James
Summaries of evidence for changing Pleistocene sea-levels and environments in SW England and the Channel Islands
- 1515 John Renouf
Aspects of coastal cliff and slope modification in the Channel Islands during the past half million years
- 1540 *Afternoon tea / coffee (+ poster displays)*

Session 4: Mesozoic / Cenozoic Geology

- 1600 Keynote: Malcolm Hart
Developments in Mesozoic stratigraphy and palaeontology during the last fifty years
- 1650 Laura Basell, Richard Scrivener, Peter Fookes and Tony Brown
Sarsens from Devon and West Somerset: towards an understanding of their origin and implications for regional landscape evolution
- 1715 Malcolm Hart and Richard Edmonds
Microfossils associated with the Dorset pliosaur
- 1745 AGM

WEDNESDAY 4TH JANUARY

Session 5: Upper Palaeozoic stratigraphy, sedimentology and tectonics

- 0905 Elaine Burt, Richard Scrivener and Sarita McVicar Wright
Volcaniclastic red beds from the Corbyn's Head Member, Torquay, South Devon
- 0930 Keynote: Maurice Tucker
Upper Palaeozoic sedimentation in SW England
- 1020 Geoff Warrington, Bill Barclay, Brian Leveridge and Colin Waters
Global Devonian, Carboniferous and Permian correlations: successions in Great Britain
- 1045 Robin Shail and Brian Leveridge
50 years of tectonics and structural geology in SW England
- 1110 *Morning tea / coffee*

Session 6: Granites and mineralisation

- 1140 Keynote: Robin Shail
Granites and mineralisation in SW England
- 1230 Richard Scrivener
Some observations on tungsten mineralisation in South-west England
- 1255 John Cowley
I have seen the future – and it might work – Hemerdon and metal mining in the UK
- 1320 *Lunch*

Session 7: Environment and industrial legacy

- 1415 Keynote: Duncan Pirrie
Environmental impacts of historical mining in SW England
- 1500 Bruce Webb
Suspended sediment sources and behaviour in the catchment of the Helford River, Cornwall
- 1525 Doreen Smith
Brickyards and Claypits - A Dorset Industry
- 1550 *Afternoon tea / coffee*

Session 8: Applied Geoscience and the future

- 1615 Keynote: Erika Palin (Met Office)
Climate change: facts, fiction and challenges
- 1705 Ramues Gallois
Coastal erosion at Sidmouth, Devon: if you're in a hole, stop digging
- 1730 Andrew Green
How Unconventional is the North Torridge Coast ?

Field Excursions – Thursday 5th January

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Please note that, for insurance purposes, it is essential that you book your place on the field excursion using the conference booking form. All participants require appropriate footwear and clothing for early January fieldwork and a hard hat (available on the day). Due to the possibility of adverse weather / sea conditions, field excursion details will be confirmed at the conference on Wednesday 4th January.

Excursion 1: Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous of the East Devon Coast

Leader: Ramues Gallois

Purpose: To examine the transition from the terrestrial environments of the latest Triassic to the marine environments of the early Jurassic. The walk also includes the most accessible sections in the Upper Greensand in Devon, and traverses the spectacular 1839 Bindon Landslip. Continuous cliffs on the first part of the walk expose red and green mudstones that pass up into grey mudstones and white limestones, a succession of lithologies that represents the late Triassic change from hot desert to brackish marine environments. The later part of the walk includes foreshore exposures in fossiliferous marine Jurassic mudstones and limestones, and large collapsed masses of marine Cretaceous sandstones, calcarenites and Chalk within the western part of the 7 km-long Undercliffs Landslide NNR. The final part provides views of the well-documented Bindon Landslip and the extensive Eocene planation surface of East Devon.

Meeting point / practicalities: The complete excursion is about 7 km long, the first half along the beach (including some boulders). The return is along the coastal footpath. Assemble at 10 am at Seaton Bridge. There are roadside car parking spaces 100 m north of the bridge [SY 2535 9012] alongside the B3172 and in the nearby streets in Seaton. There are toilets at Seaton adjacent to the bus station, but none on the walk. Picnic lunch will be taken on the beach. The aim will be to return to the cars at about 4 pm. An alternative return route will allow those who have a long journey to get back by 3 pm.

Excursion 2: Igneous and sedimentary rocks of the Crediton Trough

Leaders: Sarita McVicar Wright and Richard Scrivener

Purpose: This excursion will visit localities selected to demonstrate the continental sandstones and breccias of the various Permian formations, also examples of basalt, lamprophyric lava and rhyolite of the Exeter Volcanic rocks. Possible locations include: West Sandford (Bow Breccia and Knowle Sandstone), Knowle Hill Quarry (lamprophyric lava), Uton Quarry (alkali basalt), Neopardy (rhyolite), Newton St Cyres (Crediton Breccia) and Cromwell's Cutting (Newton St Cyres Breccia)

Meeting point / practicalities: The meeting place will be the main car park at Crediton Station at 9.30 am (Barnstaple side). There will be a lunch stop at the Lamb Inn, Sandford.

Please note that this excursion will be limited to 25 participants.

ACCOMMODATION INFORMATION

The Ussher Society 50th Annual Conference

Royal Beacon Hotel, Exmouth, Devon, 3rd – 5th January 2012

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

The Conference Venue is the Royal Beacon Hotel. It occupies an elevated position and provides superb coastal views. Full details are available at: www.royalbeaconhotel.co.uk

Conference Accommodation – Royal Beacon Hotel

We have negotiated special rates, so please mention 'Ussher Society' when making your booking. The hotel can be contacted on 01395 264886.

Ussher Society rates

- Single Rooms already booked after First Circular
- Double / twin Room (double occupancy) £78.50 per night (bed and breakfast)
- Double / twin Room (single occupancy) £55.50 per night (bed and breakfast)

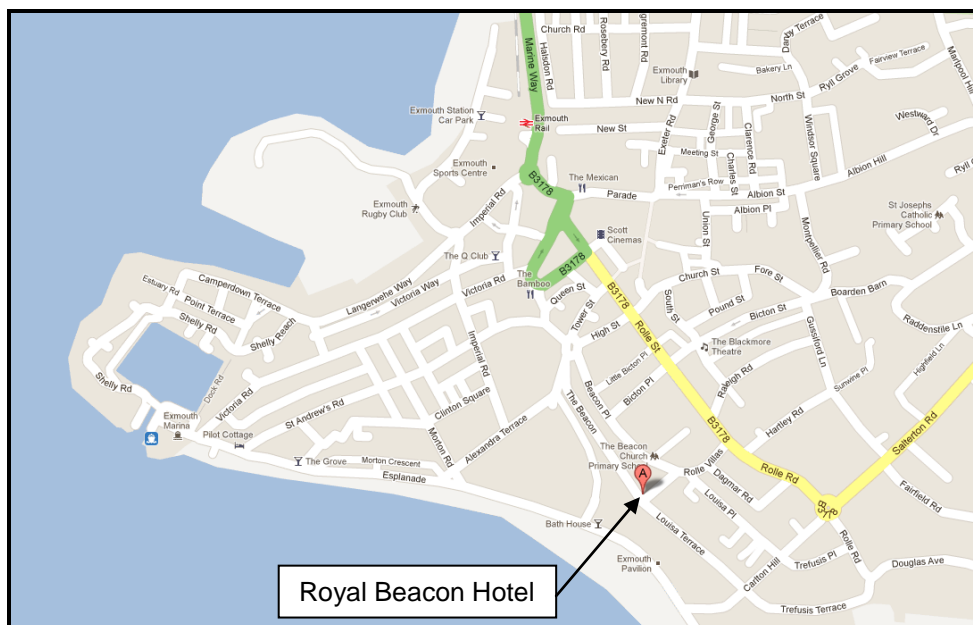
The Royal Beacon Hotel also offers a range of evening meals in the bar/restaurant; bookings for meals may be made at the same time as your accommodation reservation.

Alternative Conference Accommodation – Manor Hotel

Alternative accommodation has been arranged at the Manor Hotel (~70 metres from the Royal Beacon). Full details are available at: <http://www.manorexmouth.co.uk/> Please mention 'Ussher Society' when making your booking. The hotel can be contacted on 01395 272549.

Ussher Society rates

- Single Room £37.00 per person per night (bed and breakfast)
- Twin/double room £34.00 per person per night (bed and breakfast)



CONFERENCE BOOKING FORM

The Ussher Society 50th Anniversary Conference
Royal Beacon Hotel, Exmouth, Devon, 3rd – 5th January 2012

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) @ £50

Tuesday 3rd January only @ £25 Wednesday 4th January only @ £25

Full-time student delegate

Both conference days (3rd / 4th January) @ £30

Thursday 3rd January only @ £15 Wednesday 4th January only @ £15

N.B. Registration includes morning / afternoon tea /coffee and buffet lunch

Conference Dinner on Tuesday 3rd January – carvery @ £20.00 for 3 courses at Donato's Restaurant at the Royal Beacon Hotel.

I wish to attend the Conference Dinner

I prefer/require a vegetarian meal

I enclose a cheque for £_____made payable to **Ussher Society Conference**

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

1) Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous of the East Devon Coast

2) Igneous and sedimentary rocks of the Crediton Trough

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

Please return conference booking forms and payment by Friday 16th December

Dr Robin Shail, Camborne School of Mines, University of Exeter, Cornwall Campus,
Penryn, Cornwall. TR10 9EZ

Telephone 01326 371826 E-mail: R.K.Shail@ex.ac.uk

www.ussher.org.uk