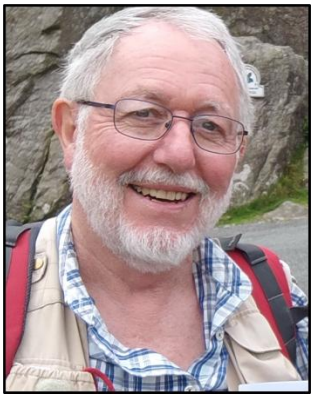
11th February 2025

LGS Newsletter 166.8

Information about indoor meetings for the 166th session is available on the LGS website at:
https://liverpoolgeologicalsociety.org/indoor-meetings

Liverpool Geological Society events
Tuesday 4th March 2025

Lecture by Dr. Alastair W. Baird
Title: The geological structure of central/northern Snowdonia (Eryri):
Significant modifications to the status quo.
Location: Lecture Theatre B in the Central Teaching Hub, University of Liverpool



Dr. Alastair W. Baird

View North to Pen yr Ole Wen and Nant Ffrancon

As a result of extensive mapping and research by BGS geologists and affiliated geoscientists from the early 1970's to the end of the Millenium, a complex story of Caradocian (Late Ordovician) volcanic and volcanoclastic structures and transtensional back-arc basins, followed by Acadian (Late Caledonian) deformation and metamorphism, has been generated and widely published. Brief summaries of this work appear in "The Geology of England and Wales (2006)" and "Geological History of Britain and Ireland (2012)". The presenter of this talk published a short paper on the structure of the Ogwen / Idwal area of Snowdonia in 1999. More recently, after Covid, having retired to North Wales, and whilst contemplating leading a Snowdonia field trip for another local geological association, the author joined a LGS excursion to the same area. Whilst doing some preparatory reading for that trip, it became obvious that much of the published structural analysis for the region was illogical, unjustified, and often simply nonsense. This realisation has resulted in him resuming geological fieldwork in the area.
In this talk, the current "orthodox" view (= the status quo) will be summarised before a fieldwork-justified alternative interpretation is presented. In this revision, the nature of Caradocian caldera structures, Caradocian transtensional "basin bounding" faults, the Acadian structural evolution including the cleavage-transected folds, polyphase deformation, and the formation of the regional arcuate fold structure (= orocline) in north Wales will be discussed.

Tuesday 11th March 2025

Extraordinary Meeting
This meeting will begin at 7.30 p.m. and will precede the practical session with Dr Maggie Williams.
Please note that the post as Vice President remains vacant. Nominations for this post will be announced after the start of session 167.
Agenda for the Extraordinary Meeting

1. **Nominations for Council 2025 – 2026.**
   The following are proposed by Council to be elected for the 2025/2026 Session:
   Officers of Council:
   President P. Burgess, Hon Secretary ME Williams, Hon Programme Secretary NC Hunt, Hon Treasurer GT Billington, Hon Assistant Treasurer NC Hunt, Hon Editors (NW Geologist) ME Williams & TJP Williams, Hon Librarian WJ Iley, Hon Archivist A Morgan, Hon Publicity Officer S Hurrell,

Hon Excursions Secretary M Stoddart, Hon Website Manager TJP Williams,
Hon Publications Sales Manager GT Billington.
Ordinary Members of Council:
A Clague, G Gilchrist, R Leong, E Message'
Co-opted Member of Council:
E Thompson.
Holding Trustees:
S Hurrell, HE Clark, E Thompson

2. **Rates of Subscription for 2025/2026**
The following annual subscription rates are proposed by Council for the 2024/2025 Session:
Full members £15 Student members £5.

Tuesday 11th March 2025

Liverpool Geological Society Practical Session with Dr Maggie Williams (University of Liverpool)
Title: ice ablation
Glaciers are not static bodies of ice - they flow. The speed at which they flow is controlled by several factors, including the temperature of the ice, ice thickness, how steep the surface of the glacier is, the ability of the glacier to slide, and the properties of the rock or sediment that underlies the glacier. The flow of glacier ice means that it can move downhill from areas of snow accumulation to areas where the mean annual average temperature is >0°C. This means that as glaciers flow, they move from accumulation zones (where they gain mass) into ablation zones (where they lose mass due to surface melting).

Understanding how fast glacier ice melts is not straightforward. Sediment can be entrained from the base and sides of the glacier, and rockfalls from valley sides also deposit sediment at the surface which can then get incorporated into ice flow. As ice flows and reaches the ablation zone, this sediment affects the albedo of the glacier surface (i.e. how much energy the surface absorbs) and the ice begins to melt at the surface of the glacier.

For this practical activity you will vary the surface debris cover of insulated blocks of ice and subject them to a heat supply (equivalent to insolation, the supply of solar radiation), and assess albedo and insulation controls over melt rate. During your experiments you will test the following hypotheses: 1. Albedo of the ice surface is the key factor controlling rates of ice melt via thermal conductivity. 2. Thickness of the debris is the key factor controlling rates of ice melt by insulating the ice.

The practical session will be held in the ENVS lab in the CTL and will start at 7.15 pm. Meet at 7.00 pm outside Lecture Theatre D in the Central Teaching Hub, University of Liverpool. Entrance will be via the main door.
Please note: The maximum number for this session is 15. If you wish to reserve a place, please contact Maggie Williams (Hon. Secretary), by mobile: 07784 720 551, or email: lgssecretary19@gmail.com

LGS Fieldwork excursions 2025: a reminder

Anglesey excursion
All the places for our excursion to Anglesey from **24-26th May 2025** are now taken, but if you want to be placed on a reserve list, please contact our Excursion Secretary, at mike.stoddart@live.co.uk

Shap Quarry Excursion
On Saturday **14th June 2025** we will be visiting the famous Shap Granite quarry in Cumbria.
Numbers may be limited so members are encouraged to reserve a place with our Excursion Secretary, at mike.stoddart@live.co.uk

Edinburgh Excursion
For the weekend of **28-29th June 2025** we are planning to look at the geology of the Edinburgh area. We will be visiting Siccar Pointon the Saturday and visiting locations in Edinburgh on the Sunday. Members interested in attending should reserve a place with our Excursion Secretary, at mike.stoddart@live.co.uk. We will travel to Edinburgh on the Friday ready for a full day on Saturday and then field visits on Sunday, so accommodation will be required on the Friday and Saturday nights. Members can choose to attend either or both days.

Liverpool Geological Society Annual Dinner

This will be held on **Tuesday 18th March 2025** at Villa Romana, 6 Wood Street, Liverpool, L1 4AQ at 7 pm. Bookings must reach Stephen Hurrell by 11th March.

Details are shown below:

First Course: Choice of

- Homemade Soup of The Day (V)
- Caprese Salad (V) - A salad of mozzarella cheese, tomato slices and fresh basil. Served with a vinaigrette dressing.
- Sautéed Mushrooms - In A Cream & Garlic Sauce
- Goats Cheese - Deep fried goats cheese coated in breadcrumbs. Served with rocket leaves and red currant jelly.

Main Course: Choice of

- Tortelloni Basilico (V) - Large pasta filled with ricotta cheese and spinach with a Napoli cream sauce, oven baked and topped with mozzarella sauce
- Prosciutto E Funghi - Pizza with mozzarella, tomato, parma ham and mushrooms
- Branzino Al Vino Bianco - Oven roasted sea bass fillets with peppers, onions, cherry tomatoes, basil, and white wine. Served with a side of sautéed potatoes
- Pollo Villa Romana - Pan fried breast of chicken served in a creamy mushroom sauce. Served with a side of sautéed potatoes

Desserts from the trolley

Tea/Coffee

Cost: £38.50 per head (including 10% service charge).

Note: *Guests can pay for any extra drinks ordered at the end of the meal.*

Please indicate your choice of food on a printout of this page and add your name.
Either hand your menu choice sheet and **cash payment**, or a **cheque** made payable to Liverpool Geological Society, to Stephen Hurrell at the LGS meetings usually held in the Central Teaching Hub, University of Liverpool
Or post this menu choice sheet with a cheque* made payable to Liverpool Geological Society to The Treasurer by 4th March. Gary's address is shown below.
Gary T Billington
Honorary Treasurer
Liverpool Geological Society
4 Lewisham Road, Liverpool L11 1EF

*Gary would prefer members to pay by making a **direct payment (bank transfer)** to the Society and he asks those who do pay by this method, to contact him to confirm payment. The Society's bank details are shown below:

CAF Bank Limited

Sort 40 52 40

Account No 00013990

Name: _____
Payment by cash/ cheque/ direct payment