



3rd February 2026

LGS Newsletter 167.10

All talks for the 2025-26 session will start at 7.30pm and take place at the Central Teaching Hub of the University of Liverpool in Lecture Theatre C. Entrance will be via the main door.

Liverpool Geological Society events

Tuesday 3rd March 2026

Extraordinary Meeting

This meeting will begin at 7.30 p.m. and will precede the practical session Dr Katy Chamberlain.

Agenda for the Extraordinary Meeting

1. Nominations for Council 2026 – 2027

The following are proposed by Council to be elected for the 2025/2026 Session:

Officers of Council:

President M Amlôt, Vice-President M Stoddart, Hon Secretary ME Williams, Hon Programme Secretary NC Hunt, Hon Treasurer GT Billington, Hon Assistant Treasurer NC Hunt, Hon Editors (NW Geologist) M Williams & TJP Williams, Hon Librarian WJ Iley, 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:

E Thompson, G Gilchrist, R Leong, P dePolo

Co-opted Members of Council:

A Clague, E Message

Holding Trustees:

M Amlôt, S Hurrell, E Thompson

2. Rates of Subscription for 2026/2027

The following annual subscription rates are proposed by Council for the 2026/2027 Session:

Full members £15 Student members £5.

Tuesday 3rd March

Lecture by Dr Katy Chamberlain (University of Liverpool)

Title: Ascension Island: volcanology and eruptive history of an active UK Overseas Territory

Ascension Island is a volcanic island situated 90km west of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge – (MAR), where its formation began ~ 6-7 Myr ago. The island exhibits multiple rock types that represent its varied volcanic history, with differences not only in composition, but also in eruptive style – from lava flows and domes to thick pumice and scoria deposits. The origins of the Island and its volcanism are as of yet not fully resolved. The range in rock composition observed on Ascension is atypical for an ocean island. In this talk we will explore the range of volcanic products, and possible reasons for this variation.



Katy Chamberlain is an igneous petrologist and volcanologist, specialising in the interpretation of pre-eruptive magmatic evolution using geochemical analyses of erupted products. She has worked all over the world, studying super-eruptive processes in the Bishop Tuff (USA), ocean island volcanism at Ascension Island and the Canary Islands, and subduction zones processes in the Southern Volcanic Zone of Chile.

Wirral History & Heritage Fair 2026

This will be held at Hulme Hall, Port Sunlight on **Saturday 21st March**, 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

For more details visit: <https://sites.google.com/site/wirralhha/next-whha-event>

University of Liverpool - School of Environmental Sciences

Free public lecture in Lecture Theatre D in the Central Teaching Hub

Wednesday 11th February from 6.00 p.m. to 8.30 p.m.

Title: Greenland – the land behind the headlines



Chaired by Prof Richard Black, Provost and Deputy Vice Chancellor, University of Liverpool.

Timings: Talk 6.00 p.m. - 7.00 p.m.

Questions and discussion: 7.00 p.m. - 7.30 p.m.

Reception: 7.30 p.m. - 8.00 p.m.

Overview

Discover the untold stories of Greenland beyond what you see in the news – a journey into the heart of this unique land.

Glaciologists Douglas Mair and James Lea provide an overview of the island of Greenland based on over 20 years of combined research experiences, reflecting on their personal and professional attachments to an increasingly important corner of the globe, at the heart of 21st century global political strategy and central to understanding the current and future impacts of Climate Change.

Book a free ticket via this link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/greenland-the-land-behind-the-headlines-tickets-1981585411308>

Down to Earth Magazine (DTE)

Bringing you all the latest geo-news from Britain and around the world!

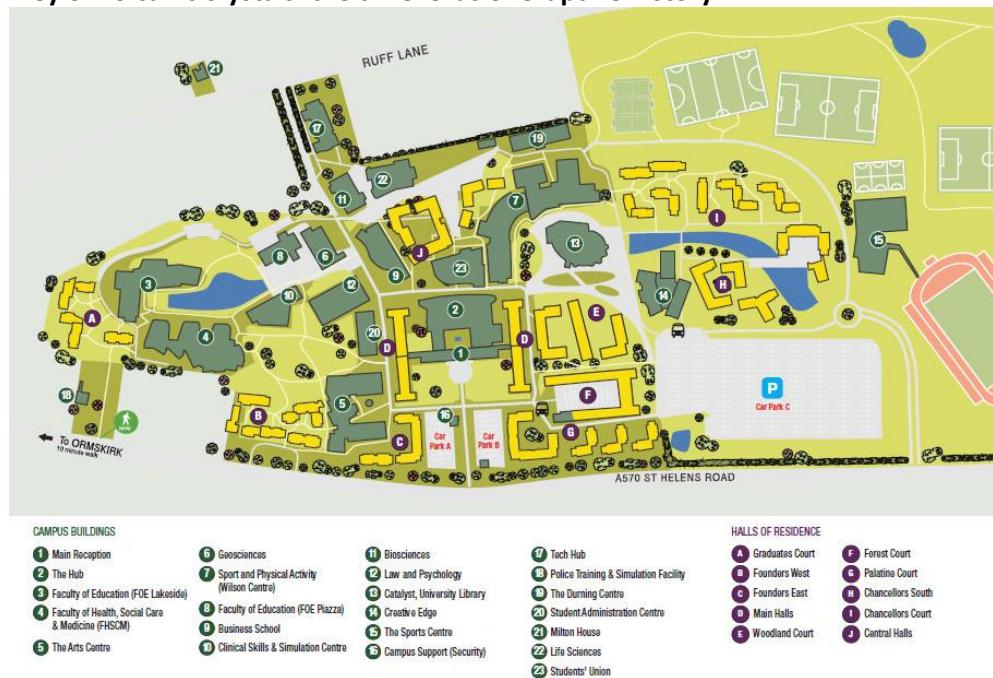
Electronic copies of this magazine are available, which we have permission to email to LGS members. If you would like a pdf copy of the most recent publication DTE Issue Number 134, please email Maggie Williams (Secretary) at lgssecretary19@gmail.com and a copy will be sent to you.

Edge Hill University

Seminar Monday in B001, Business School Building. (Building 9 on Edge Hill University campus map below)

Monday 9th February from 1.00 p.m.

Title: The journey of volcanic crystals: the time lords of eruptive history.



Geography and Geology research seminar series

The journey of volcanic crystals: the time lords of eruptive history

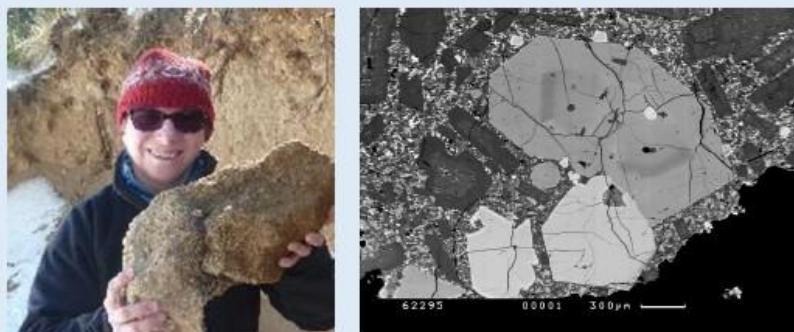
Dr Chiara Petrone, Natural History Museum, London

Monday 9th February 1 pm B001, Business School Building

Abstract: The crystal cargo of volcanic rocks is a heterogeneous assemblage of mineral populations of different origins and age ranges, recording complex histories of their journey through the volcano plumbing system prior to eruption. Timescales of pre-eruptive magmatic processes can be unlocked via elemental diffusion chronometry, a powerful and widely used tool exploiting the element exchange within a chemically zoned crystal or within a crystal and melt.

Durations of pre-eruptive magmatic processes are quite variable and are system dependent. Timescales of magma storage between magma intrusion and eruption is relative short (from a few days to a few decades) for basaltic systems, but much longer (decades to millennia) for silicic systems. The short timescales recorded by crystals from mafic and intermediate volcanoes often match those recorded by monitoring signals (e.g., gas, seismicity, deformation, etc) and offer valuable information to inform volcano forecasting and hazards mitigation. Timescales of magma remobilisation and pre-existing crystals remobilisation, retrieved from the internal portions of chemically zoned crystals, provide information on the longevity of crystal mushes and are shedding new light particularly on basaltic crystal mushes, which may persist longer than previously hypothesised.

Here, using recent examples from both terrestrial and extraterrestrial volcanoes, I will discuss how diffusion chronometry provides fundamental time-constrained insights into pre-eruptive magma dynamics. I will also focus on the challenges we face to progress diffusion chronometry, reducing uncertainties and favouring interdisciplinary approaches that link diffusion chronometry to real-time volcano observations and isotope geochemistry.



All welcome!

EIG Conference 2026, University of Liverpool



Further to his talk to the LGS last week, Dr. Alan Thompson has sent the latest EIG newsletter, which includes a short article on the LGS.

The EIG conference will be held at the University of Liverpool from Tuesday 8th to Friday 11th September. For the first time in EIG's history, and as part of their mission to broaden diversity and inclusivity, the EIG's 2026 Liverpool conference welcomes attendance by the Liverpool Geological Society. LGS members are being invited as day visitors to the conference at a special rate - available only through the Society. Details will be provided at a later date.

If you would like a copy of the newsletter, please email Maggie Williams (Secretary) at igssecretary19@gmail.com and a copy will be sent to you.