



10th October 2026

LGS Newsletter 168.2

Information about indoor meetings for the 168th session is now available on the LGS website at:

<https://liverpoolgeologicalsociety.org/indoor-meetings>

All talks for the 2026-27 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 to the Central Teaching Hub.

Liverpool Geological Society events

Tuesday 20th October

Dr Janet Richardson (Edge Hill University)

Title of talk: The African Surface debate; updates from cosmogenic nuclide dating



Note: *Pediments are long flat surfaces that extend outwards from the foot of mountains; within South Africa they are regarded as ancient landforms that can give key insights into landscape and mantle dynamics.*

Pediment surfaces are a widespread feature of the southern African landscape and have long been regarded as ancient landforms. Cosmogenic nuclide data from four pediment surfaces in the Gouritz catchment, Western Cape, South Africa are reported, including boulder surface samples and a depth profile through a colluvial pediment deposit. Pediment surfaces are remarkably stable with long-term denudation rates between 0.3 and 1.0 m My⁻¹, and their ¹⁰Be concentrations approach or are at secular equilibrium. Several pediment surfaces grade above the present trunk valleys of the Gouritz River, which suggests that the trunk rivers are long-lived features that acted as local base levels during pediment formation and later incised pediments to present levels. The geomorphic processes controlling the formation and evolution of the pediments varied over time; with pediments formed by hillslope diffusive processes as shown by the lack of fluvial indicators in the colluvial deposits and later development by fluvial processes with small tributaries dissecting the pediments. Integrating various strands of evidence indicates that the pediments are long-lived features.

Tuesday 27th October

Prof Andy Biggin (University of Liverpool)

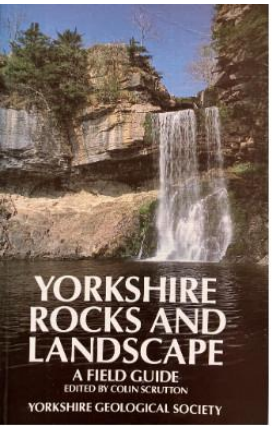
Title of talk: Huge hot blobs may have made Earth's magnetic field wonky

I will be talking about my group's latest research into using records of Earth's magnetic field recovered from continental igneous rocks of all ages to ascertain aspects of global magnetic field behaviour and infer the deep Earth structures and processes giving rise to them. I'll touch on our latest findings around how fluctuations in the strength of the dominant axial dipole part of the magnetic field are linked to full-blown polarity reversals and how supercontinent-sized structures in the lowermost mantle may be causing deviations from this simple symmetry morphology.

Note: *Professor Andy Biggin has been awarded the prestigious Harold Jeffreys Lecture as part of the 2026 Royal Astronomical Society (RAS) Awards.*



LGS Library Open – Tuesday 20th October

	The library is now placed in a permanent location in the Central Teaching Hub. There are over 390 geology books in your library. A catalogue of books available to LGS members is published on the LGS website: https://liverpoolgeologicalsociety.org/library Members will be able to access the library and borrow books between 6.45 p.m. and 7.15 p.m. on Tuesday 20th October 2026. Members wishing to borrow or reserve a particular item may also use the booking system on the above section of the LGS website.	
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LGS Members' Evening: Tuesday 12th January 2027

	A reminder: There will be a 'Members' Evening' on Tuesday 12th January 2027. This evening is your chance to have your 'Five (or fifteen) minutes of fame'. If you would like to give a short talk (15 minutes maximum) on a topic that interests you, please let Chris Hunt (Honorary Assistant Secretary – Programme) know by emailing: chris1972scfc@outlook.com
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Saturday 19th & Sunday 20th June 2027

LGS Outdoor Meeting to the Gower

We plan to visit south Wales next summer on the weekend 19-20th June 2027. On the Saturday, Dr Andrew Barnett of Shell will be showing some of the classic sections of the Carboniferous Limestone on the Gower Peninsula that record deposition on a carbonate ramp influenced by sea level and climate change. On the Sunday, Professor Paul Wright and Professor Sue Marriott will lead us at Ogmore-by-Sea and Southerndown to view some excellent coastal exposures of the spectacular unconformity between the Carboniferous and the Upper Triassic and Lower Jurassic. Those wishing to attend should contact our Field Excursion Secretary, Mike Stoddart at mike.stoddart@live.co.uk to reserve a place.

Two gentle reminders from the Treasurer

1. Subscriptions for the 2026 - 2027 session

Subscriptions were due on the 1st of October 2026. Subscription rates are: £15 for full members and £5 for student members (full time students). All enquiries about membership of the Society should be sent to the Honorary Treasurer at g.t.b_lgs@hotmail.co.uk

(Please note that Gary's email address has an underscore between b and lgs)

Those wishing to take advantage of a Standing Order Mandate to pay their subscriptions and save worrying each year about paying their subscriptions should also contact the Honorary Treasurer, who will provide you with our bank details. You can complete the Standing Order Mandate online or by visiting your bank.

2. Gift Aid - boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate!

Liverpool Geological Society reclaims **Gift Aid** from the tax you pay for the current tax year. Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer. A Gift Aid Form is available from the Honorary Treasurer and at LGS meetings. Completed Gift Aid forms should be returned to Mr Gary T Billington, Honorary Treasurer, Liverpool Geological Society, 4 Lewisham Road, Liverpool L11 1EF. Email: g.t.b_lgs@hotmail.co.uk