24th October 2026

LGS Newsletter 168.3

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 3rd November

Prof Silvia Gonzalez
Emeritus, Liverpool John Moores University
Title of talk: Brymbo Fossil Forest, North Wales, UK.



Silvia Gonzalez
Emeritus Prof of Quaternary Geology and Geoarchaeology
Story Brymbo Volunteer

The upper Carboniferous sedimentary sequence exposed within the Brymbo Fossil Forest (BFF) Special Site of Scientific Interest (SSSI) in North Wales, UK represents palaeoenvironments associated with an equatorial coal-forming, umbral rainforest in association with river deltas and meandering river systems. Results of detailed palaeontological excavations will be presented, including stratigraphy of the BFF, geochemical proxies of siderite concretions (where the best-preserved fossils are included, sometimes in 3D) and palaeoenvironmental reconstructions.

We show that the BFF deposit, due to the large number of in-situ fossilised plants (300+), the abundance of fossil-bearing siderite concretions (5000+ to date) and the swathes of plants preserved as carbon adpressions is a Konzentrat Lagerstätte deposit, adding much needed detail to the palaeoecology of the region during the upper Carboniferous.

Tuesday 17th November

Prof Prof Peter Styles
Emeritus Keele University
Title of talk: Kefalonia… a new plate boundary and perhaps the site of Homer's Ithaca.

Peter will talk about a new plate boundary and may shed some light on the question that has puzzled scholars for centuries: 'Where is Ithaca – Odysseus' homeland?'.

For centuries scholars have been baffled by Homer's description of Ithaca in the Odyssey. It simply doesn't fit the geography of the modern day Ionian island of Ithaki.



Head of Odysseus wearing a pileus depicted on a 3rd-century BC coin from Ithaca.

Classical Numismatic Group, Inc. http://www.cngcoins.com, CC BY-SA 3.0



Prof Peter Styles
Emeritus Professor in Applied and Environmental Geophysics

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

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

Down to Earth Magazine (DTE)

Hard copies of this publication are not being produced, but electronic copies are available, which we have permission to email to LGS members. If you would like a pdf copy of the recent publication (DTE Extra Number 167), please email Maggie Williams (Secretary) at lgssecretary19@gmail.com and it will be sent to you.

The Paleocene Hebridean Igneous Province of Scotland (Bell 2026)

It may be of interest to members that the memoir The Paleocene Hebridean Igneous Province of Scotland (Bell 2026) is now available online via:
https://www.skyegeology.com/emeleus-bell-5th-edition-2026