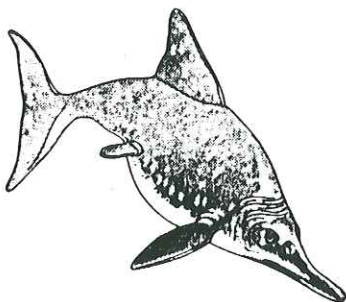


# CHARNIA



LEICESTER  
LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL  
SOCIETY

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THE NEWSLETTER OF  
SECTION C (GEOLOGY)

AUTUMN / WINTER 1993-4

LEICESTER LITERARY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY  
SECTION C - GEOLOGY  
WINTER PROGRAMME 1993-4

All meetings will take place on Wednesdays in the Council Room of Leicester Museum at 7.15pm, unless otherwise indicated. The entrance is at the rear of the Museum, on Princess Road West. Coffee will be available from 7.00pm.

September 22nd: MINERAL WEALTH OF THE LAKE DISTRICT - PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE?

Dr. Brian Young of the British Geological Survey at Newcastle is a Principal Geologist with the Central & Southern Scotland and Cumbria Group. Dr. Young joined the BGS in 1968 from the University of London, working on regional mapping and mineral exploration in Southern Thailand. This was followed by more than a decade of study devoted to the Cretaceous rocks of Southern England. In 1981 Dr. Young moved north to help establish the Newcastle office of the BGS, where he is now Officer in Charge. Since 1981, Dr. Young has worked on various aspects of Lake District geology, including the Eskdale Granite; the Windermere Group and currently, the Carboniferous rocks of NW Cumbria. He is also Project Leader for the Upper Palaeozoic mapping of the Lake District. His research interests include the mineral deposits and metallogenesis of Northern England. Dr. Young has published numerous papers on mineralisation and is the author of the 'Glossary of Lake District Minerals'.

Dr. Young's talk will illustrate the amazingly wide variety of minerals occurring in such a small area of the country. A recent study revealed that around fifty per cent of British mineral species have been recorded within the Lake District. The long and intermittent mining history of the region is well documented. Metalliferous ores worked commercially include lead, haematite, copper, zinc, antimony, arsenic, cobalt, manganese, nickel and silver. The Lake District includes Britain's only known workable tungsten deposit, other than that of the South West Peninsula. Non-metalliferous minerals include baryte and graphite.

Several new minerals, only recently recognised, remain to be described. There is also a wealth of new structural, geochemical and stratigraphical data now available. Consequently a number of suggestions, some very speculative, are now being made on the age, origin and regional significance of the mineralisation of the Lake District...

October 6th: CONCEALED CALEDONIDES OF EASTERN ENGLAND

This talk, given by Dr. Tim Pharoah of the BGS at Keyworth, is an update based on the latest findings of geophysical and petrographical analyses of the Caledonian basement underlying the eastern counties. The Caledonian orogenic cycle lasted for a period of several million years, corresponding approximately to the opening and closing of the Iapetus Ocean. The Caledonides underlie about three-quarters of Britain. A considerable part of

this fold belt underlies Belgium, the Netherlands and Denmark. Dr. Pharoah's work has concentrated on the tectonic history of the basement of the Southern half of the U.K., since he joined the BGS in 1983. Dr. Pharoah graduated from Aberystwyth in 1975 and went on to obtain his PhD. at Dundee in 1980. His early career was concerned with early Proterozoic greenstone and gneiss terrains in Northern Norway. Dr. Pharoah taught structural geology at Newcastle University for five years, prior to joining the BGS.

Dr. Pharoah's work has revealed indications of a calc-alkaline magmatic arc underlying Eastern England. This evidence comes from geochemical studies. Geophysical studies have provided additional revelations of the internal structure of this deformation belt. The result of this is that the familiar and somewhat simplistic tectonic models we are acquainted with now need to be revised...

October 20th: DERBYSHIRE DISASTERS

Dr. Neil Aitkenhead, also a member of Keyworth's BGS Staff, will describe the relevance of the geology of two sites to the causes of two disastrous events which occurred in Derbyshire in the mid-1980s. Namely, the Carsington Dam Failure and the Loscoe Landfill Gas Explosion. These events had profound effects on the civil engineering profession and on the waste disposal industry.

Dr. Aitkenhead graduated in Geology at Durham University in 1959 after which he had the good fortune to work in the Antarctic for two and a half years, leading to the award of the Polar Medal and a PhD. In 1965 Dr. Aitkenhead joined the BGS in whose employment he has remained ever since. Much of his work has involved making geological maps of the Peak District and North Lancashire and in writing the descriptive memoirs about the geology of these areas. Dr. Aitkenhead is currently President of the East Midlands Geological Society.

November 3rd: A NEW LOOK AT THE LEICESTERSHIRE COALFIELD

Using, amongst other research methods, the latest LANDSAT imaging techniques, Mike Whately of Leicester University will give a review of the geology and economic prospects of the Leicestershire Coalfield.

November 17th: A UNIQUE FOSSIL DEPOSIT FROM THE ORDOVICIAN OF SOUTH AFRICA

Dr. R.J. Aldridge, also from Leicester University, will describe an assemblage where soft part preservation has taken place. Rare enough and especially rare in strata of Ordovician age. This deposit, with its unique giant conodonts, is an important window on the life of that time.



NOTES ON CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS 1992-3: THE WATER SUPPLY OF  
LEICESTERSHIRE

December 1st: TIME FOR WASTE, OR WASTE OF TIME?

Leicester University's Dr. Ian Hill applies geophysics to environmental issues, such as landfill sites, derelict land and groundwater pollution. A rapidly expanding and controversial area of innovation more usually applied to global study or to the oil and gas industry...

December 15th: MEMBERS' EVENING

Our annual DIY session! You are invited to bring along specimens, photographs/slides, stories (short) Oh yes, food and drink too...

The programme for 1994 is as follows:

- January 12th: TRILOBITES: EVOLUTION AND ORIGIN OF SPECIES  
Dr. Peter Sheldon of The Open University
- January 24th: EXCEPTIONAL PRESERVATION OF FOSSILS  
Dr. David Martill of Leicester University.  
*Please note that this Joint Meeting with the Parent Body of the Society takes place on MONDAY at 7.30pm*
- January 26th: THE GEOLOGICAL EVOLUTION OF THE AREA BETWEEN COVENTRY, ATERSTONE AND CROFT, FROM THE PRECAMBRIAN TO THE QUATERNARY - RESULTS OF BGS MAPPING.  
Dr. John Carvey of the BGS, Keyworth.
- February 9th: WHERE DINOSAUR TRACKS MAY LEAD  
Paul Ensom of the Yorkshire Museum, York.
- February 23rd: MEMBERS' EVENING  
Short presentations of slides.
- February 26th: CHARNIA REVISITED  
Vaughan College Saturday School. (See \* below)  
9.30 for 10 am. Refreshments available.
- March 9th: LOOKING AT FOSSILS  
Chairman's Address by Dr. Roy Clements of Leicester University.  
*This meeting is also the AGM.*

\* 1994 SATURDAY SCHOOL

It is thirty five years since *Charnia* was discovered and it has been followed by further discoveries in Charnwood Forest and at about a dozen other localities around the world. The current situation on the Charnian fossil fauna will be revued. This will be followed by a discussion of where the Charnian fauna fits in the history of the evolution of life on Earth, in particular looking at the problem of the great contrast between Pre-Cambrian and Cambrian fossil records.

For further details and booking please 'phone 0533-517368

The water supply industry in Leicestershire has a history of some one hundred and fifty years. Prior to that, most water was obtained from springs and wells. Development of towns, industry and the growth of the population required a more reliable and cleaner source of water. This triggered the formation of a Water Company, known as the Leicester Waterworks Company.

Obviously, water supply relies heavily on prevailing geological conditions. Raw water first has to be collected and impounded. The morphology of the catchment basin is of paramount importance. For example, the Blackbrook Valley to the north west of Loughborough, provided a superb natural impounding area in hard Charnian rocks.

Initially, the Leicester Waterworks Company was empowered to construct a reservoir adjacent to the village of Thornton. This was completed in 1854. The Leicester Waterworks Company was required by rapidly increasing demand for clean water to prospect for further water provision. In 1866 the Company, by Act of Parliament, obtained the right to construct a second reservoir in the County, to be located in the valley between Cropston village and Bradgate Park. The reservoir was completed in 1870 and is now known as Cropston Reservoir.

Towards the end of the last Century, Leicester City Corporation acquired the Waterworks Company and obtained another Act of Parliament to construct a third reservoir. This impounding reservoir was to be constructed between the villages of Swithland, Mountsorrel and Quorn. This reservoir was completed in 1896 and was called Swithland Reservoir. All of these impounding reservoirs were natural basins and required very little in the way of excavation. Geomorphology obviously plays an important part in deciding on the location of such reservoirs.

By the turn of the century the town of Loughborough's demand for potable water had outstripped supply. The town thus obtained the necessary powers to construct Blackbrook Reservoir. This particular reservoir is interesting because it is the only one in the county to have a solid stone and concrete dam. All other reservoirs in Leicestershire have earth dams with clay cores - this includes Rutland Water. The Blackbrook Dam is perhaps the only dam in the country to have survived a moderate earthquake.

The earthquake occurred in February 1957. The epicentre was situated at Diseworth, four miles away and the tremors reached VII on the Modified Mercalli Scale. This disturbance was severe enough to trip-out the relays of several power stations in the Trent valley! The huge coping stones along the parapet walls of the Blackbrook Dam were noticeably displaced. These large pieces of masonry (4'x3'x1', with a mass of 15cwt/760kg) extend for a distance of 482 feet on both parapets and were all visibly lifted from their mortar beds.

Water supply and geology are inextricably linked. Geology will determine the location of an impounding reservoir. For example, the valley, the underlying rock types and - over a period of time - how factors such as sedimentation rate affect the economy of water supply. One instance of the latter was at Thornton Reservoir: this was drained after WWII, following nearly a century of use. After silt removal an additional thirteen million gallons of water supply was restored.

Colin Green



At the time of writing (Aug 18th.) four of the six field outings have been undertaken. As you know, the field programme is shared between the Lit. & Phil. and the Stamford Geology Society in order to sustain a viable total of participants at each field meeting.

The first meeting, on May 5th., was an evening visit to see the works and production process at the Ketton cement works, now owned by Castle Cement. We often visit quarries, but seldom have the opportunity to see industrial processes and the final products for which the quarry exists. Keith Hudson, the former Quarry Manager, gave us a complete tour of the works right from the initial crushing of the stone and clay, through to the roasting process. The final packing showed us the many different kinds of cement produced in this, the most up to date factory in cement production in the whole of Europe.

The second visit took place on May 29th. Once more to Ketton, this was a joint venture this time with the Natural History Section joining the Geologists in the Old Grange Quarry. Dr. Gordon Chancellor from Peterborough Museum led the morning period to view the geology of the Lincolnshire Limestone, Upper Estuarine (Rutland formation) Clays and the Blisworth Limestone. In the afternoon Adam Cade and Phyllis Cook showed the party the botanical and natural history of these abandoned and largely overgrown exposures.

The third visit on Saturday, June 19th., led by Alan Dawn, explored Upper Jurassic and Cretaceous rocks in Eastern Lincolnshire. The succession from the Kimmeridge clays through the Spilsby sandstone, roachstones upwards into the chalk, is exposed in a number of places. The outing was largely concerned with the scenery resulting from the erosion of the underlying rocks, though some fossils were found in the red chalk, and the white chalk quarry. A walk into Snipedales revealed the effects of sandstone overlying the Kimmeridge clay. A very obvious change in vegetation marked the springline. Spring-head sapping was evident at the head of the valley and the effect of contrasting north and south facing slopes during periglacial solifluction could be seen on the sloping ground.

There was much of historical interest on this trip. John of Gaunt, forebear of Henry IV and Richard III, built his castle at Bolingbroke. The remains of the castle are still there. Winceby was the site of a Civil War battle and the course of the combat can be visualised when standing on the site. Tennyson was born in the vicarage at Somerby, where the churchyard contains his father's grave, and the church has some mementos of the poet himself.

The fourth visit, on Sunday July 25th., began at Wirksworth by climbing the Millstone Grits at Blackstone Rocks. We then drove to the Stone Centre at Wirksworth, where one can see exhibits of geological interest in the area and also walk round the Stone Trail. A search in one quarry for the dermal denticles of the shark *Petrodus patelliformis* met with only limited success but the afternoon visit to Tearsall Farm quarry was more satisfying. Excellent samples of galena, calcite, barytes and fluorspar were found. A most interesting feature of Tearsall Farm quarry is seen in two beds of volcanic ash which erupted during Carboniferous times and fell into the surrounding sea, burying alive corals growing along the reefs. Corals can now be seen entombed within the ash beds, and many specimens were collected. AD

DNA, DEAD DINOSAURS AND DANGEROUS DOINGS...

by David Martill

Since the North Sea oil and gas boom collapsed, geologists - those burly he-men of Mills & Boon novels - have become yesterdays' heroes. *Palaeontologists* are now de rigeur... well, the American ones at least (the ones that look like ex-Hippies and have suntans that could fill a cancer ward). Here, in little old Britain, palaeontologists still look and talk like those quaint people that the media wheel out of museum catacombs on occasions to say something profound and meaningful about matters natural and historical - and occasionally scientific.

The contrast is probably media-generated, for here in Leicester we are attempting to clone a dinosaur and plan to release it on Victoria Park. Of course, we have only just begun and still have a long way to go. We have some dinosaur bones - the trouble is that they have no dinosaur DNA in them.

DNA is a very sensitive molecule. It breaks down easily in acidic environments and it denatures in ultraviolet light. All in all, it does not preserve well as a part of the fossil record. That stated, there are now a number of documented occurrences of DNA in fossil material which indeed is the DNA of that fossil animal or plant.

The oldest DNA on record is from an Upper Cretaceous weevil found preserved in amber in the Lebanon. DNA has also been recovered from Tertiary termites, also preserved in amber. However, the first ancient DNA to be discovered came not from animals trapped inside amber but from plants entombed in silty clays. One particular example is of North American magnolias. This first discovery was viewed with scepticism because of the doubt previously shed on the preservation potential of DNA but it is now widely accepted that DNA is preservable under certain extraordinary conditions.

Does this offer any hope for cloning our old friends, the Dinosaurs? Probably not. No dinosaur DNA has been found and indeed no fossil vertebrate DNA has been found at all, to date. This is why, here at Leicester, we are investigating a distinct mode of fossil preservation which might offer an opportunity for preserving fragments of ancient DNA. In a pilot study, currently sponsored by the NERC, Professor Alec Jeffries and I are attempting to see if cell nuclei and mitochondria in Cretaceous fishes contain any DNA. This is, of course, a long shot. The cell nuclei are preserved as mineral replacements of the original cell nucleus. This process occurred very rapidly and there is a reasonable chance that some of the original organic material of the cell nucleus was incorporated into the mineralised nucleus. If so, the real problem is how to extract it undamaged.

Assuming that there is DNA in this type of fossil material and assuming that we can get it out without damaging it, what then? The first thing we will have to do is to seek planning permission for the construction of a large electric fence around Victoria Park - and then...



Continued, in the same vein...

#### CRETACEOUS QUILT-FILLING

Well, not quite enough to fill a quilt! While engaged in field work in Brazil in the famous Crato Formation, Dave Martill's colleague Betimar Filgueiras turned up a fossil feather. Lower Cretaceous bird remains are extremely rare, so even feathers are red letter finds. There is little that one can say about the feather, other than it proves the presence of birds and adds yet another taxon to the faunal list, which already has some twenty genera of fish, six or seven genera of pterosaurs and some of the strangest dinosaurs, which have yet to be described.

#### NEW PUBLICATION BY LOCAL PALAEOLOGIST...

Dave Martill's latest book, The Santana and Crato Formations of Brazil, has just been published. After some delay, this long-awaited field guide to what must be some of the richest vertebrate and insect fossil sites in the world, is now available and is selling well. Copies can be obtained through Dr. Martill at Leicester University, or from Dr. Lesley Cherns, c/o The Dept. of Geology, University College of Wales, Cardiff. The price is £10, which is excellent value for such a liberally illustrated book.

Another book, still selling well, is The Field Guide to the Fossils of the Oxford Clay. At £15 this book also represents excellent value for the wealth of information that it contains. Copies are available, though not for much longer. So, if you haven't already acquired a copy, time may be short if you are to avoid disappointment. The book purports to describe every species ever recorded from the Oxford Clay. DM doubts this but he is sure that the authors can't be far off a complete faunal list. A German translation of this book is in the press and this edition has been updated to incorporate new data obtained during a research blitz which has taken place over the last two summers. Copies are available from DM or from Dr. Cherns, as above.

#### Speaking of which...

A recent field trip in the East Midlands turned up something quite exciting - just in time to cash in on the hype surrounding Jurassic Park. Dave Martill was leading a field trip to Peterborough for his Nottingham-based adult education class and discovered a gigantic skull of the pliosaur Liopleurodon. Although not a fully grown specimen, the skull is still close to one metre in length. Liopleurodon surely vies with Tyrannosaurus for being the largest Mesozoic carnivore, with an estimated length for an adult specimen of around fifteen metres. Anyone wishing to see the skull can call in to the University's Geology Department, where it reposes on a table, guarding the Head of Department's office!

#### The 'Lit & Phil'...

...was conceived on March 15th., 1835 by George Shaw MD and Mr. Alfred Paget. Dr. Shaw had spent some time in Manchester before coming to Leicester and it was in Manchester that the idea occurred to him that our city should have a Literary & Philosophical Society. The Manchester Society was founded in 1781. In Newcastle a similar Society was founded in 1793. Other similar societies, contemporary with Leicester, were Leeds (1820) Hull (1822) Halifax (1830) Swansea (1835) and Warwickshire (1836).

During the first three or four years ladies were not admitted and the attendance varied from ten to thirty or so at each meeting. The population of Leicester at that time was approximately 45000. In 1993 the population of Leicester is six times that figure. Have Lit & Phil attendances exceeded this ratio, I wonder?

The first Honorary Members of the Leicester Society were two famous geologists: the Rev. William Buckland, DD., the First Reader in Geology at Oxford who had been president of the British Association in 1832, and the Rev. Adam Sedgwick, BD., Professor of Geology at Cambridge, who had been President of The British Association in 1833. Prof. Sedgwick spoke about the geological structure of Charnwood Forest at the meeting held on October 6th., 1837. In this talk he assured the audience that it would be useless to search for coal in the immediate vicinity of Leicester! Other talks given during the 1837-8 session were: 'On some remarkable Specimens of Fossil Fruit Recently Discovered in the Coal Formation' by Mr. J. Laurance; 'The Tertiary Formations' by Mr. J. F. Hollings, plus a series entitled 'An Elementary Course of Lectures on Geology' by Mr. J. W. Jukes, (later, Professor) BA., FGS., of St. John's College, Cambridge.

At the Annual Meeting of the Society, held on June 1st., 1838, a Committee was appointed to procure more spacious accommodation for the proper display of the fossils and minerals belonging to the Society. On March 3rd., 1837 the Rev. Andrew Irvine, BD., FGS., Vicar of St. Margaret's, asked in his inaugural Presidential Address whether the Society ought not to undertake the formation of a Natural History Museum. The Reverend Irvine stated that he would willingly present his own geological specimens.

The meetings, in the early years, were held in a house owned by a Mr. Moxon, in High Street. At the Annual Meeting of July 5th., 1839 it was resolved that the Society should meet in the larger premises of the Leicester Fire Office in Welford Place, where meetings were held up until March 20th., 1843. For the rest of the Session 1843-4 meetings were held at the Magistrates' Rooms at the Old Exchange. In 1844-5 the first two meetings were held at the Exchange and the remainder at the Amphitheatre Room, Humberstone Gate. In 1845-6 the venue moved to the Town Library and after that, up until 1849, at the Town Hall.

It was in 1849 that the town's Museum opened to which the society donated its collection of some ten thousand objects. In 1841 the Leicester Chronicle reported that the Society's 'Museum' was housed in the New Hall, Wellington Street. In 1854 the Society's collection was housed 'in a cupboard, next in a small room at the Mechanics' Institute'. On January 22nd., 1849, the Society met for the first time in the Lecture Room of the Town Museum. The following extract is from the speech given by the musician and author, Mr. William Gardiner, at the Meeting of January 22nd., 1849:



"In my early days who would have believed that in the limestone rocks at Barrow - people called them Deluge Stones, as no one could account for them - were the remains of gigantic animals which had existed millions of years before? Why, if but a part of those fossils which had been recklessly destroyed in making lime had been preserved, our Museum would then have boasted one of the richest collections in the world."

In June 1849 it was decided to create Divisional Committees within the Society. Five 'sections' were created: Geology; Zoology; Botany, Archaeology and Fine Arts. Prior to this, the Society had its own 'Departments': Archaeology; Geology; Botany, Entomology and Ornithology. In 1851 two more sections were added: Meteorology and Chemistry & General Physics. Various changes to the Sections took place, but the most important was in 1882-3 when they became denoted by letters:-

A	B	C	D	E
Archaeology	Astronomy	Geology	Biology	Natural History
Literature	Physics &		Zoology &	
Economics	Chemistry		Botany	

The following extract is from the Centenary Book of the Society (Thornley, Leicester, 1935):

*'In 1870 on May 24th an Excursion was made under the superintendance of Mr. James Plant and the Chairman and members of the Geological Section to Groby, Markfield and Bardon. At each place Mr. Plant gave an address. The party were very handsomely entertained by Mr. Breedon Everard at Hill-top House and by Mr. T. Nevinson at Abbots Oak. The day was a brilliant success. This excursion had been planned by the Rev. J. Spittal, the then President of the Society and a member of the Geological Section. In the next year that section proposed to arrange another outing of the same kind, to which the Council gladly consented. Accordingly an excursion was made on June 13th, 1871. It was a party of fifty-one men. Lady associates were admissible, but none attended. "The excursion would have been of little value without the explanations of Mr. James Plant, who stands at the head of our local geologists." - Report of the Section. At the time the members of the Section were seven in number.'*

In following years various other Sections were added to the Society: Section F (Entomology) 1893-4; Section G (Photography) 1899-1900; Section H (Economics) 1907-8; Section I (Astronomy) 1915-6; Section J (Philosophy) 1920-1; Section K (History) 1922-3, Section L (Chemistry) 1923-4 and Section M (Physics) in 1926-7.

In October 1912, Dr. Astley V. Clarke, in his Presidential Address to the Society, said, "May the Society flourish! May its future be the stepping-stone to the institution of a University College in our town!" Astley Clarke saw the 'Lit & Phil' as an embryo university, using this very term in a passage of his address. In 1921-2 the Chairman of Section C, Mr. F.W. Bennett, MD., BSc., presided over seven meetings and four excursions. FWB was Chairman of Section C from March 1908 until the Autumn of 1930. The records of the 1921-2 season state 'The Officers and Committee of this section feel that the usefulness of its work suffers through there being no classes for the teaching of Geology. Until such classes are provided by the University College, one of our members (Mr. F. Jones) is hoping to start a class to fill the gap temporarily.'

To be continued...

Graham Stocks

## RIGS AND THE LEICESTERSHIRE STRUCTURE PLAN

The single Structure Plan for the County is in the final stages of the process of formulating planning policies and strategies effective up until the year 2006. The original Draft Statement and Draft Explanatory Memorandum was published in January 1991.

The initial environmental policies concerning geology stated that planning permission would not be granted for any development which would damage or destroy sites, *unless an overriding national or local need could be shown*. The policy statement also recommended that planning permission should be given within or around geological sites *where the local planning authority can be assured that such sites can be replaced or protected*.

The Explanatory Memorandum highlighted the importance of the Museums Department's role in identifying and compiling Regionally Important Geological & Geomorphological Sites (RIGS). All planning applications could then be judged against this database. The memorandum also mentioned the fact that the Nature Conservancy Council (now known as English Nature) recommended that sites of geological and geomorphological interest should be given the same protection as ecological sites at not only County level but District and Parish level too.

As at January 1993 twenty-one RIGS had been identified within Charnwood Borough; ten in North West Leicestershire; nine in Rutland; six in Blaby; eighteen in Harborough; twenty-one in Hinckley & Bosworth; one in Oadby & Wigston, two in Leicester City and twelve in Melton Borough. Any planning application is now obliged to refer to the RIGS database for the County.

At the time of publication of this issue of 'Charnia' (early Sept. '93) the Replacement Leicestershire Structure Plan, following recommendations made in 1992, proposes to strengthen the protection given to sites of regional importance. The exact wording of Environment Policy 10: Geology, is as follows:

*'Measures will be taken to protect and conserve sites of geological importance. Development will not be permitted which could adversely affect proposed and designated Sites of Special Scientific Interest or Regionally Important Geological Sites (RIGS), unless an overriding national need can be shown or a suitable substitute site of equal or greater value can be proposed.'*

*'Development will not be permitted which could adversely affect sites of county and district level geological interest unless an overriding national or local need can be shown, or a suitable substitute site of equal or greater value can be proposed.'*

*'Where development is to be permitted which could adversely affect any site of geological interest, conditions will normally be imposed to minimise disturbance to conserve its geological interest as far as possible and/or to provide substitute sites where damage is unavoidable.'*

If you, as a member of the Literary & Philosophical Society, wish to make comments, address your statement to the County Secretary, County Hall, Glenfield, LE3 8RP, by Sept. 13th. Tempus fugit...

Graham Stocks



SECTION C COMMITTEE 1993-4

- LIFE PRESIDENT: Dr.R.J.King, Longdon, Tewkesbury, Gloucester.
- CHAIRMAN: Dr.R.Clements, Geology Dept., University of Leicester, Leicester LE1 7RH.
- VICE CHAIRMAN: Dr.M.J.LeBas, Geology Dept., University of Leicester, Leicester LE1 7RH.
- SECRETARY: Mrs.E.Bellamy, 11 Bennetts Hill, Dunton Bassett, Lutterworth, Leics., LE17 5JJ.
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- TREASURER: Mr.D.Lazenbury, 39 Station Rd., Countesthorpe, Leicester, LE8 3TA.
- FIELD SECRETARY: Mr.A.Dawn, Stamford, Lincs.
- COMMITTEE: Mr.P.Blake, 35 Holbrook Rd., Long Lawford, Rugby  
Mr.C.Green, 45 Warwick Ave., Quorn, Leics.  
Mr.K.Lloyd, 9 Beacon Ave., Quorn, Leics.  
Mr.G.Stocks, 63 Barrow Rd., Quorn, Leics.,
- Co-opted: Dr.T.D.Ford, 21 Elizabeth Dr., Oadby, Leics., LE2 4RD.  
Mr.J.Martin, Leicestershire Museums, 96 New Walk, Leicester LE1 6TD.
- Student Rep: Mary Gee, Geology Dept., University of Leicester

Introducing the new Chairman... Roy G. Clements

Many of you will already know Section C's new Chairman. His has been a regular face at our meetings for rather more years than he cares to remember. Born and brought up a Man of Kent, Roy's interest in geology was kindled by finding 'formed stones' (in this case fossil echinoids in flint) from the chalky soils of his home area in the North Downs. This interest was turned into passion at Ashford Grammar School. From there he headed to the far north (as it then seemed) arriving to read for a degree in Geology at Leicester, shortly after the appointment of Professor P.C.Sylvester-Bradley.

Heading even further north, Roy arrived at the University of Hull, where he not only met his Leicester-born wife but did his PhD research on the non-marine snails and ostracods of the Purbeck Beds. It was Bob King (this section's Life President) who enabled Roy to return to Leicester's Geology Department as part of the curatorial team. It was Bob who inspired (and continues to inspire) Roy's interest in curation and conservation, an interest not only pursued nationally but also locally in the Leicestershire & Rutland Trust for Nature Conservation. Roy continues to have wide-ranging research interests in Mesozoic rocks and fossils, particularly from non-marine sequences and - because he is now a thoroughly naturalised native of the county - the geology of the East Midlands Jurassic in particular.

(The first in a series of committee profiles)