Department Newsletter
September 2005, Number 153

STAFF AND STUDENTS

Welcome to Karen Oliver, our new Postgraduate Administrator/Secretary who will be working Wednesday to Friday.

The Department also welcomes three new postdoctoral research staff working with Clive Gamble: Fiona Coward (working on the British Academy-funded project, The Archaeology of the Social Brain), and Vicky Elefanti and Gilbert Marshall (both working on the new AHRC Resource Enhancement Project The Prehistoric Stones of Greece).

Duncan McGregor has been elected to serve as Treasurer for three years at the inaugural AGM of the RGS-IBG Climate Change Research Group.

Alex Loftus was successfully examined on his DPhil Thesis, entitled 'A political ecology of water struggles in Durban, South Africa'. The examiners were Gavin Williams, Fellow in Politics at St Peter's College Oxford and Greg Ruiters, Professor of Politics at Rhodes University, South Africa.

Abdullah Adam-Bradford has been awarded a prize for a paper submitted to a competition organised by Islamic Relief, with the title 'Meeting Muslim needs with Islamic charity-based interventions: defining appropriate and culturally acceptable solutions'. The paper presented a study of a land rehabilitation project in Cegrane, Macedonia.

Mark Stephens has had his post extended until the end of December 2005. This is funded by the Leverhulme Trust, as part of a grant to Jim Rose through the AHOB Project.

OUTSIDE ENGAGEMENTS

Ed Derbyshire visited the British Antarctic Survey headquarters in Cambridge on 13 July for a liaison meeting with Dr. David Carlson, the new Director of BAS and Leader of the forthcoming International Polar Year, for a discussion on mutual aims and cooperation with the International Year of planet Earth and other forthcoming international 'Geo-Years'.

Ed Derbyshire, together with Dr. Joe Cann FRS, and Dr. Ted Nield representing the External Relations Committee of the Geological Society, met Dr. David Falvey, Director of the British Geological Survey and Dr. David Ovadia who is in charge of international programmes at the BGS at Keyworth on 26 July, to discuss possible ways of ameliorating the short-term financial threat currently posed to the International Geoscience Programme (IGCP).

Ed Derbyshire attended a meeting of the Management team of the International Year of Planet Earth held at the Geological Society on 29 July.
Ed Derbyshire visited the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on 11 August for discussions on the International Year of Planet Earth with the three members of the Sustainable Development and Commonwealth Group and a representative of DEFRA.

Ed Derbyshire spent the period 5-9 July at the United Nations in New York, lobbying on behalf of the International Year of Planet Earth, including visits to the UN Missions of Austria, Tanzania and the United Kingdom.

Ed Derbyshire co-represented the International Year of Planet Earth at a meeting on future cooperation with three other 'Geo Years' (International Polar Year, the Electronic Geophysical Year and the International Heliophysical Year) held at the Villa Celimontana ('Home of Geography') in Rome, 6-7 September.


Jim Rose attended the concluding meeting of the British Geological Survey Quaternary Methodology Steering Committee on Thursday 29th September 2005 to approve the publication of the Quaternary Methodologies publications.

David Simon presented a talk on 'Globalisation, urbanisation and the challenge of poverty' at the Africa Focus Day of Street Child Africa, the NGO with which CEDAR has an association, on 27 September. The event - held in Esher - was attended by staff, trustees, donors and volunteers.

PUBLICATIONS


Driver, F. 'Hints to Travellers: La Royal Geographical Society e la cultura dell'esplorazione', in M. Bossi & C. Greppi (eds), Viaggi e Scienza: Le istruzioni scientifiche per i viaggiatori nei secoli XVII-XIX (Gabinetto Scientifico Letterario G. P. Vieuusseux, Studi 13, Leo Olschki, 2005), 243-57.


ABSTRACTS


Rose, J. A new approach to the Quaternary Stratigraphy of Europe. INQUA-SEQS, The Quaternary Record of Switzerland, Bern, Switzerland, September 4-9th 2005, Book of Abstracts, Edited by Andreas Dehnert and Frank Preusser, p 46-47.


Stephens, M., Canti M., Rose J., Gilbertson D. Micromorphology of Tropical Cave Sediments: The Great Cave of Niah, Sarawak. UK Archaeological Science conference at the University of Bradford, April 14th 2005.

GRANTS AND AWARDS
Jim Rose has been awarded £3,000 for one year from NERC - British Geological Survey, (2K03F157S1) for the study of Quaternary deposits

CONFERENCES-FIELDWORK-OVERSEAS

Jim Rose attended the Lithostratigraphy Symposium, TNO-NITG, Utrecht Wednesday on 25th May 2005 and gave a paper on The Quaternary geology of Britain: Events, processes and stratigraphy.

Jim Rose attended the International Conference on Glacial Sedimentary Processes and Products. University of Wales, Aberystwyth, 22-27, August 2005. He was involved in the following presentations:

New evidence for the Middle Pleistocene glaciations of lowland midland and eastern England co-authors were Lee, J., Moorlock, B., Hamblin, R., Riding, J., Smith, J., Sumbler, M.G., Pawley, S. and presented by J. Rose

The application of multi-proxy lithological techniques to reconstructing the dynamics of Quaternary glaciations: an example from the early Middle Pleistocene of eastern England by Lee, J.R., Hamblin, R.J.O., Moorlock, B.S.P., Riding, J.B. and Rose, J. and presented by J. Lee.


Geomorphological mapping of glacial landforms from remotely sensed data: a summary of the principal data sources and an assessment of their quality. by M.J. Smith, J. Rose, S. Booth and presented by M. Smith.

Jim Rose attended the INQUA-SEQS, The Quaternary Record of Switzerland, Bern, Switzerland, September 4-9th 2005 and presented A new approach to the Quaternary Stratigraphy of Europe.

Jim Rose attended the AHOB Workshop, British Museum, London, September 15-16th 2005 and presented Using climate-forced river processes to determine the age of the first appearance of humans in Britain.

Jim Rose gave the Frost Lecture at the BGRG Annual Meeting 2005, University of Southampton, September 19-21st 2005, entitled Does a geomorphological process approach provide the only way of putting science into terrestrial stratigraphy? A process-based approach to the Quaternary stratigraphy of Britain and other cool-temperate latitude regions.

Jim Rose was unable to attend the NERC/BGS - Exploring NEXTMap Britain for NERC Science, British Geological Survey, Keyworth, September 21st 2005 but was involved in the presentation of the following papers:
Geomorphological mapping of glacial landforms from NEXTMap: an assessment of data quality, by M.J. Smith, J. Rose and S. Booth and presented by M. Smith.

NEXTMap Britain in the Lake District - results of undergraduate work at Royal Holloway, University of London by J. Rose and presented by S. Booth

Fernando Garcia and Philip Crang presented a paper entitled 'Hospitality, the city and cafe culture: conviviality, cosmopolitanism and contemplation in Chueca, Madrid' at an international workshop entitled 'Mobilising hospitality: the ethics of social relations in a mobile world', hosted by the Centre for Mobility Studies, Lancaster University, 26th-27th September.

Hilary Geoghegan presented a paper at the 'Cultures of eBay' conference hosted by Chimera, University of Essex. The paper was entitled 'The Virtual Spaces of Telecommunications Heritage Enthusiasm: Internet, Yahoo! Groups, eBay'.

Hilary Geoghegan presented a paper at the 'People and their pasts' conference at Ruskin College in Oxford. The paper was entitled 'Enthusiasts and their individual, collective and material pasts'

RGS-IBG ANNUAL CONFERENCE - contd. From August newsletter

Abdullah Adam-Bradford, Duncan McGregor and David Simon gave a paper entitled 'Waste in a peri-urban context: developing community-based solutions in Kumasi, Ghana'

Katie Walsh gave a paper entitled 'Expatriate intimacy: the gendered negotiation of interpersonal relationships'

Dorothea Kleine and Tim Unwin convened a session on "Spaces and flows of technological transformation: a 'development' perspective", in which they also presented papers.

ANY OTHER NEWS

Congratulations to Toby and Liz Butler on the arrival of their daughter Lillie Butler (7lb 5oz).

Tom Myles graduated from the Department in 2001, and having spent a couple of years in the wine trade (inspired by Tim Unwin's viticulture course) has just qualified as a commercial airline pilot. He is about to start his first job, based in Aberdeen, flying for Loganair. A more detailed story will appear on the Department's alumni webpages.