

Bulletin Autumn 2021

**Royal
Geographical
Society**
with IBG

Advancing geography
and geographical learning

Inside

- News
- What's on?
- Our work



Provocations

.....
Reclaiming the map



About the Society

Need to know

The Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) is the UK's learned society for geography and professional body for geographers. We are also a membership organisation and a registered charity.

The Society was founded in 1830 to advance geographical science and this remains our core purpose. We achieve this through supporting geographical research, education, and fieldwork and expeditions, as well as by advocating on behalf of the discipline and promoting geography to public audiences.

We value our independence as well as the breadth of our activities that support the understanding of the world's people, places and environments.

Everyone with an enthusiasm for geography, travel and exploration is welcome to join.

W www.rgs.org **T** @RGS_IBG **E** membership@rgs.org **T** +44 (0)20 7591 3080



A message From the President

It's my great pleasure to write as President of our extraordinary Society.

Firstly, I would like to thank you, our members, for staying true to the Society over the last, exceptional, 18 months. Because of your loyalty, the imaginative team at the Society has maintained support for geographical education, research, expeditions and fieldwork with new and different resources delivered in new and different ways.

This positive response is one reason why I feel great optimism for geography. Our discipline is providing answers to today's challenges – social, economic and environmental. This view is shared by many, as can be seen in the establishment of the UK's first Geospatial Commission, which is promoting and investing in 'location' to help form and deliver policy across the UK.

More broadly, I believe geography brings with it valuable life skills: insatiable curiosity about how our world is constructed and evolving, a collaborative mindset, an appreciation of 'connectedness', and a desire to make a real-world difference. You will already know that geographers are a friendly bunch and I certainly found during my time at Ordnance Survey that geographers across the world are adept at forming strong, open and supportive communities.

We can look forward to an interesting year of renewal. I am delighted to be working with Joe, the Society's team, Council, corporate sponsors and you all to spread the word, strengthen the Society and serve the discipline that we all love.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Nigel Clifford'.

Nigel Clifford

President



Society News

Welcome back

At the time of writing, the Foyle Reading Room is open by appointment only, and the Members' Room is due to reopen in September. In-person events will also restart in September. Events, including Monday night lectures, will continue to be live streamed and recorded. Please check our website for information.

W www.rgs.org/visiting-the-society

A remarkable legacy

We recently received a gift of £50,000 from the estate of Jennifer Fry. Jennifer was a Fellow for 27 years and a regular volunteer helping to care for the Society's Collections. Her generous bequest will help us inspire new audiences by providing better interpretation and display of the Collections. Contact Christine James at c.james@rgs.org to learn how your gift could be used to support the Society's charitable work.

W www.rgs.org/leave-a-legacy

Council elections

Congratulations to our newest members of Council elected at the Annual General Meeting in June: Nigel Clifford (President), Stephen Jones (Honorary Secretary: Expeditions and Fieldwork), Helen Walkington (Councillor: Expeditions and Fieldwork), Melanie Norman (Vice President: Education), Narinder Mann (Councillor: Education), Rachel Pain (Chair of Annual Conference: Research and Higher Education) and Vandana Desai (Councillor: Research and Higher Education), Jordi Buckley (Postgraduate Representative).

Thank you to our outgoing members of Council for their hard work and dedication.

W www.rgs.org/councilelections



A piece of history

A new publication by the Folio Society, *Everest From Reconnaissance to Summit, 1921 to 1953* recounts five key expeditions to Everest and includes incredible mountain photographs held in the Society's archives, alongside testimony gathered from articles, memoirs, reports and letters.

This remarkable two volume edition is available to buy from the Folio Society.

W www.foliosociety.com/uk/everest.html

Birthday honours

Congratulations to all those recognised in the Queen's birthday honours, including Sir Michael Gooley, chairman of Trailfinders on his knighthood for services to business and charity.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Professor Felix Driver, Royal Holloway, University of London, who was awarded the Society for the History of Natural History President's Medal for his research on the Hidden Histories of Exploration, and to Professor Paul Bates, University of Bristol, who was recently elected as Fellow of the Royal Society.

Online joining

You can now join and gift Ordinary Membership, Young Geographer membership or School Membership by completing a quick and easy online form.

W www.rgs.org/join-us/

Education News



Geography superheroes © RGS-IBG

Geography superheroes

We have transformed real-life geographers into superheroes to inspire young people to think about their power for change.

Each of the cartoon geography superheroes can be collected, shared and displayed to complement accompanying resources including podcasts and lectures.

Our initial superheroes include Earth scientist, Dr Anjana Khatwa, Black Geographers founder, Francisca Rockey, flood expert and climate change modeller, Professor Hannah Cloke, and Space researcher, Prem Gill.

W www.rgs.org/geography-superheroes

Financial Times competition

We are seeking thoughtful and well-argued responses from sixth form students for our third School Essay Competition with the *Financial Times*, as part of its education programme. In anticipation of the COP26 summit, entries must explain how transport changes might help the world achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement. With a focus on the movement of food or the movement of people, submissions should reference data and *FT* articles to demonstrate how we can accelerate action. The deadline for entries is 1 October.

W www.rgs.org/FTcomp



Stay Home Stories

To understand the domestic impact of the coronavirus pandemic, the Society is a partner on the Mapping Home strand of the *Stay Home Stories* research project. Pupils from across Key Stages 2-4 have been invited to take part in a nationwide mapping exercise which will help illuminate how children and young people's experiences of home may have changed. Resources are available for teachers to support the development of mapping skills and encourage engagement with a sense of place. The materials produced, including the winning entries from this year's Young Geographer of the Year competition, will be brought together in a virtual exhibition later in the year.

W www.rgs.org/stayhome

Thames Valley Police resources

The Society has partnered with Thames Valley Police (TVP) on research into the geography of bike crime, using local and national data to explore its patterns and distribution. The first educational resource comprises a scheme of work and podcast featuring TVP officers and analysts who use GIS to track crime. Young people will be invited to contribute to the research by mapping how bikes in their area are locked and stored.

W www.rgs.org/resources

Weddell Sea partnership

We are pleased that the Society's Weddell Sea Educational partnership, supported by the Flotilla Foundation, has been extended and the Society will continue to create educational resources to engage young people with Antarctica's unique terrestrial and marine environments.

W www.rgs.org/wse



From the field News

In the field

A small number of researchers funded by our grants programme have been able to go into the field in a safe and responsible manner. PhD student Daniela Soto, University of Sussex, is working in South America investigating lithium extraction, supported by the Dudley Stamp Memorial Award. Julio Rodríguez Stimson, University of Cambridge, is nearing the end of 12 months of fieldwork on the Galapagos Islands, studying how people understand, perceive, and adapt to climate change.

Expeditions and Fieldwork Handbook

The Transglobe Expedition Trust has signed an MOU with the Society, which includes a donation of £50K, to support a multi-media expeditions and fieldwork handbook. The Society's grant applicants, Explore attendees and students conducting fieldwork will all benefit from this resource.

Grants supporting 32 projects

With the generous support of our donors, over £91,000 of funding has been allocated this year to support 32 field research projects. An increased number of projects will be studying geographical issues in the UK, including investigating the geography of antibiotic- and vaccine-related attitudes, alongside further afield studies. Application deadlines for the 2022 grants programme begin in November 2021.

W www.rgs.org/grants

Funding opportunities

We have recently revamped our list of grant-giving organisations to make it easier to find funding for fieldwork. Alongside the Society's own grants programme, this resource is a great place to start when looking for funding for your own expeditions and fieldwork.

W www.rgs.org/otherfunding



Professional News

Geography in government

The Government Geography Profession awards celebrated excellence in geography across the public sector. The overall winners were Public Health England's GIS Team, Emergency Preparedness Division, for their contribution to the COVID-19 response, and the Office for National Statistics Data Science Campus, for their machine learning approach to estimating vehicle and pedestrian activity.

W www.rgs.org/GiG-2021-award-winners

Knowledge exchange and briefing

The Society hosted an online event on realising co-benefits in blue-green cities. A panel of geographers, engineers and designers discussed the transformative change needed in how urban flood risk and water security are managed. A policy briefing has since been published, setting out recommendations for action.

W www.rgs.org/impact/bluegreencities

Location data ethics

The Society has signed up as a supporter of the Locus Charter, a proposed set of common international principles to guide responsible practice when using location data, supporting data owners and users to safeguard privacy, protect the vulnerable and address any harmful impacts of bias. We are now working with the Association for Geographic Information (AGI) to support geographers in putting the principles into practice. We are also engaging with wider initiatives around data ethics and responsible uses of location data, such as the Geospatial Commission's public dialogues project, the UK Statistics Authority's advice for researchers and statisticians on the use of geospatial data, and resources for exploring location data ethics in universities.

Research and higher education News



© Pamel B Photography

Annual Conference 2021


We are looking forward to welcoming you to our largely virtual annual conference between Tuesday 31 August and Friday 3 September. The conference is on track to be the largest on record with over 475 sessions and a stimulating programme of keynotes, convened by conference chair Uma Kothari. Registration is available up to and during the conference – contact us at ac2021@rgs.org for more information.

W www.rgs.org/ac2021

Research Group interview series

The Society's Quantitative Methods Research Group (QMRG), in collaboration with the Spatial Analytics and Data (SAD) Seminar Series, have launched *Spatial Analytics and Data: the interviews*, a forum for dialogue among researchers united by an interest in geographic data and spatial analytics.

An extension of the SAD seminar series, it offers a platform for experts in spatial analytics and data to offer their insights



on the evolutions in the field. Interviewees include Michael Batty, Helen Couclelis and Danny Dorling.

W www.rgs.org/research-group-SAD-interviews

Support for geographical research

The Society is delighted to be partnering with a number of geographers who are leading UK Research and Innovation funded research projects, to further our understanding of the world, its people, places and environments. The projects include, among others, developing a new generation of global flood models, looking at the effects of El Nino on the lives of vulnerable groups in Peru, understanding how ideas and experiences of home have changed because of the COVID-19 pandemic (p.5), and transforming discussions about race and anti-racism in UK higher education institutions (p.42).

One of the projects, led by Professor Gavin Bridge at Durham University, is investigating the ongoing transformation of the UK's strategic position within global oil networks. Using social science methods and an innovative research design, the project will contribute new knowledge about the changing role of different 'assets' in the UK for international oil firms and advance understanding about the processes that connect national and global economies.

We are working with the project teams to disseminate the findings of the research to geography students, professionals and the wider public. We will provide updates on all the projects as they progress.

Events Highlights



© RGS-IBGS

Autumn events programme

At the time of writing, we are planning for Society-organised events, including our Monday night lecture series, to be held in the Ondaatje Theatre in front of a live audience. We will continue to live stream our events so that they are available to Fellows and members wherever they live. You can access the live stream of our Monday night lectures, and other events,

by logging in to the Members' Area and accessing our Livestream page. If you haven't previously logged in, you can set a password using the 'forgotten password' link on the login page. Bookings will be required for all in person events, including Monday night lectures, and can be made via each event's page on our website.

Our regional committees are intending to provide a mix of both in person and online events throughout the autumn. All of our plans are dependent on dependent on government and public health policies, advice and guidance, and as such we may have to alter them at short notice. However, we will keep you informed as and when things are confirmed or need to be changed.

Please check our website for the most up to date event information.

W www.rgs.org/events



Autumn 2021 events

Monday night lectures at a glance

6.30pm-7.45pm

RGS-IBG, 1 Kensington Gore, SW7 2AR or online at **W** www.rgs.org/livestream

Date	For	Title	Speaker
20 September	M	The international year of caves and karst: explore, study and protect	Andy Eavis
27 September	M	Housing, inequality and uncertainty: what's next, where?	Professor Susan Smith
4 October	M	Directing economic growth: a mission-oriented approach	Professor Mariana Mazzucato
11 October	M	CARICUK: Creative Approaches to Race and (in)security in the Caribbean and the UK	Dr Patricia Noxolo
18 October	M	The handshake: a gripping history	Ella Al-Shamahi
25 October	M	Teaching hopeful geographies in an age of crises	Dr Emma Mawdsley
1 November	M	Working with the world: the British Museum in the 21st century	Dr Hartwig Fischer
8 November	M	Building a planet happy clothing system	Patrick Grant
15 November	M	Positive tipping points to avoid climate tipping points	Professor Tim Lenton
22 November	M	Rewilding the wild: lessons from Australia	Lizzy Crotty
29 November	M	The Arab conquests	Justin Marozzi
6 December	M	I belong here: a journey along the backbone of Britain	Anita Sethi

Events booking

You can find more information and book tickets online **W** www.rgs.org/events **E** events@rgs.org or call us on **T** 020 7591 3100 (10.00am-5.00pm, Monday to Friday). Our staff will be more than happy to guide you through the booking process and answer any questions you may have.

Please note that unexpected changes to events may occur, especially those planned to take place in person, please check our website for up-to-date information.

We're Good to Go

We can't wait to welcome you back to the Society and we want you to feel confident and safe when you visit us. On our website we explain how we are keeping staff and visitors COVID-secure based on the latest government and public health guidelines.

W www.rgs.org/good-to-go

The Society has 'We're Good to Go' COVID-19 industry standard accreditation in partnership with The National Tourist Organisations of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, which recognises we have followed government and industry COVID-19 guidelines, ensuring processes are in place to maintain cleanliness and aid social and physical distancing.

Online events


All Society-organised online events can be booked and watched via our website. Search for the individual event page on **W** www.rgs.org/whatson.

Monday night lectures

Fellows and members can access the live stream of our Monday night lectures by logging in to the Members' Area and accessing our live stream page **W** www.rgs.org/livestream. If you haven't previously logged in, you can set a password using the 'forgotten password' link on the login page.

You will need to book in advance to attend our Monday night lectures in-person at the Society this term. This is to aid social distancing should we be required to reduce the capacity of those in attendance. Bookings will open at 10.00am, 14 days in advance for each lecture. All Monday night lectures are for members only this autumn. We hope to resume suppers in the autumn term, please check our website for up-to-date information.

Key to events

- B** Book tickets in advance
- M** Members only
-  Continuing professional development for the Chartered Geographer scheme

Accessibility

Wheelchair spaces are available in the Ondaatje Theatre. A personal assistant or carer can usually be accommodated. Please contact the Events Office in advance on **T** 020 7591 3100 **E** events@rgs.org Registered assistance dogs welcome. The Ondaatje Theatre has an induction loop for those with hearing impairments. An accessible toilet is available.

Opportunity to meet other members

The Younger Members' Committee will host an informal get-together on Zoom following the live stream of each Monday night lecture from 7.45pm.

Opportunity to give a microlecture

The Younger Members' Committee are seeking speakers for the Thursday 10 March 2022 Geographical journeys: microlectures event. Visit the website for guidelines and submit proposals by 31 October. **E** ymc@rgs.org **W** www.rgs.org/ymc

Regional events

Events are open to all unless otherwise stated. Please bring your RGS-IBG membership card to events and contact venues directly about the facilities available and accessibility.

Thank you to all our Fellows and members who are involved in organising regional events.

For more information on any of the events run by the regional committees or to get involved yourself please see the website or get in touch with a Regional Event Organiser.

Regional event organisers

Regions Chair

David Lovell **E** regionschair@rgs.org

East of England

Clare Brown **E** ea@rgs.org

Midlands

Martin Haslett **E** midlands@rgs.org

Northern Ireland

Oliver Dunnnett **E** ni@rgs.org

Cheshire

Tina Lees-Jones **E** cnw@rgs.org

North West

Jonathan Stevens **E** nw@rgs.org

South

Henry Hogger **E** south@rgs.org

West of England

Geoffrey Parkes **E** wesw@rgs.org

South West

Derry Corey **E** sw@rgs.org

North Devon

Martin Kemp **E** northdevon@rgs.org

South Wales

Geoffrey Parkes **E** wesw@rgs.org

North Wales

Tina Lees-Jones **E** cnw@rgs.org

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Jonathan Bridge and David McEvoy **E** yne@rgs.org

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Oliver Worsley **E** singapore@rgs.org

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E admin@rgshk.org.hk **W** www.rgshk.org.hk

September

B Tuesday 31 August to Friday 3 September

Conference (online and London)

RGS-IBG Annual International Conference

Chaired by Professor Uma Kothari

The four-day conference attracts over 2,000 geographers from around the world. This year, the conference is taking place online with a small in-person core, with the theme borders, borderlands and bordering. [At the Society and online.](#)

B Thursday 2 September 7.00pm - 9.30pm

Lecture (online)

AONBs: how they address current environmental concerns

Simon Amstutz

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) are havens for wildlife and are designated national areas of importance. Here we will learn of the management of two such areas, Dedham Vale and Suffolk Coast and Heaths. Organised by the East of England regional committee. [Online. Free.](#)

B Wednesday 8 September 6.30pm - 7.45pm

Lecture (online)

An overview of the unprecedented 2021 Geldingadalir eruption

Dr Oliver Lamb

This talk will give an overview of the Geldingadalir fissure eruption in south west Iceland, which began in March 2021, the first such eruption in the area for 800 years. Organised by the Cheshire and North Wales regional committee. [Online. Free.](#)

B Wednesday 8 September 6.30pm - 9.30pm

Social (Chichester)

Members and supporters evening

Join us in the historic town of Chichester for an evening of short presentations on geography-related topics and personal journeys. Organised by the South regional committee. [Cathedral Room, Chichester College, Westgate Fields, West Sussex, PO19 1SB. £12, RGS-IBG members £10 \(includes buffet\).](#)



B Thursday 9 September

10.30am - 11.00am

Networking event (online)

Chartered Geographer virtual coffee morning

Join our Chartered Geographer coffee morning to meet and network with other Chartered Geographers. [Online. Free.](#)

Thursday 9 September 7.30pm - 9.00pm

Lecture (online and Bath)

Phenology: climate change and the country diary

Grahame Madge

How is nature being affected by climate change? For example, why in the South West, do daffodils bloom now in December and January rather than February and March? Joint event with the Bath Royal Literary and Scientific Institution. Organised by the West of England and South Wales regional committee. [BRLSI, 16 Queen Square, BA1 2HN and online. £4, RGS-IBG members and students £2.](#)

W www.brlsi.org

B Wednesday 15 September 9.00am - 12.00pm

Guided walk (Bath)

Cotswold enterprise

Dick Bateman

An approximate three-hour guided walk on the western edge of Bath. Joint event with the Bath Royal Literary and Scientific Institution. Organised by the West of England and South Wales regional committee. Meeting place: Shallows Public Car Park, Saltford, BS31 3EX grid ref: 686 673. Free. Contact Lucy Bartlett **E** Lucy.Bartlett@bathscape.co.uk **W** www.bathscapewalkingfestival.co.uk

B Wednesday 15 September 6.00pm - 11.00pm

Annual forum (lecture and dinner) (Tavistock)

HMS Endurance in Antarctica

Rear Admiral Nick Lambert

A trip down memory lane with some reflections on the vitality of the marine environment. Organised by the South West regional committee. Mount Kelly, PL19 0HZ. To book for dinner please send cheque for £30 (payable to South West Region) to Derry Corey, 47 Glenfield Road, Glenholt, PL6 7LN by 3 September. Contact Derry Corey **T** 01752 703354



B Wednesday 15 September

7.00pm - 8.30pm

Lecture (online)

Carbon capture, use and storage and its role in delivering net zero

Dr Helen Atkinson

C-Capture discuss CCUS technology and the role it will play as countries and companies commit to reaching net zero emissions. Organised by the South regional committee. Online. Free.

B Monday 20 September 3.30pm - 4.30pm

Lecture (Appledore)

Latitude

Nicholas Crane

Latitude is an epic story of survival and science set in mountain camps and remote observatories. Joint event with the Appledore Book Festival. Organised by the South West regional committee. Skern Lodge, Torridge Road, Devon, EX39 1NG. £12, RGS-IBG members £8 (first 50 members to book).

W www.appledorebookfestival.co.uk

B M Monday 20 September 6.30pm - 7.45pm

Monday night lecture (online and London)

The international year of caves and karst: explore, study and protect

Andy Eavis

The lecture will include the latest caving discoveries, fascinating underground science projects and will highlight the role of cavers in underground sites in British Sites of Special Scientific Interest, as well as the work of Cave Rescue Organisations.

At the Society and online. Free, members only.



B Tuesday 21 September

4.00pm - 5.00pm

Using our Thames Valley Police bike crime resources

Harri Hegarty

This is a resources walkthrough session for teachers who would like to find out more about our bike crime resources, produced in partnership with Thames Valley Police. Online. Free.



B Tuesday 21 September

6.00pm - 7.00pm

Networking event (online)

Chartered Geographer for teachers and educators

Join our online networking session to meet and network with Chartered Geographers with experience in teaching and education. [Online. Free.](#)



B Wednesday 22 September

1.00pm - 2.00pm

Workshop (online)

Making an application for Chartered Geographer: introductory webinar

Chartered Geographer is the Society's professional accreditation for those using their geographical skills, knowledge and understanding in the workplace. Join this webinar to learn more about the benefits of becoming Chartered. [Online. Free.](#)



B Wednesday 22 September

6.30pm - 8.00pm

Workshop (online)

Expedition and wilderness medicine: an introduction

A workshop to assist health professionals who wish to practice expedition or wilderness medicine – open to junior doctors and medical students, early career wilderness medics and nurses and those responsible for health and safety on overseas expeditions. Joint event between the Society's Expedition Medicine Advisory Group and Younger Members Committee. [Online. £10.](#)



B Wednesday 22 September

6.30pm - 7.45pm

Lecture (online)

West with the light: my life in nature

Brian Jackman

The autobiography sheds light on Jackman's lifelong love of nature, instilled by childhood holidays and the stories that led to his passion for Africa and the big cats that still enthral him. Joint event with Bradt Travel Guides. Organised by the Cheshire and North Wales regional committee. [Online. Free.](#)

B Wednesday 22 September 7.30pm - 9.00pm

Lecture (online)

Antarctica's most extreme rescue mission

Tim Nutbeam

Malcolm Roberts was overwintering at the remote Halley Research Station in Antarctica when he suffered severe internal bleeding. Tim explains the extreme logistical and psychological challenges he and his team overcame to rescue him. Organised by the Yorkshire and North East regional committee. [Online. Free.](#)



B Thursday 23 September

7.00pm - 8.30pm

Lecture (online)

How is Antarctica changing and why should we care?

Professor Martin Siegert

Martin will discuss how we know the Antarctic ice sheet is reacting to climate change and what it means for the UK. Organised by the South regional committee. [Online. Free.](#)

B Monday 27 September 2.30pm - 3.30pm

Be Inspired afternoon talk (London)

Herbert Ponting

Anne Strathie

From California, via Japan to the Antarctic, Anne Strathie follows the creator of some of the 20th century's most iconic images.

At the Society. £5, RGS-IBG members free.



B M Monday 27 September

6.30pm - 7.45pm

Monday night lecture (online and London)

**Housing, inequality and uncertainty:
what's next, where?**

Professor Susan Smith

Residential property is a major under-acknowledged driver of economic inequality in the long run.

Following a dislocation of unprecedented scale and impact, might housing nevertheless add shape to our radically uncertain future? At the Society and online. Free, members only.



Tuesday 28 September 7.00pm - 8.30pm

Lecture (online)

Atlantification of the Arctic Ocean

Professor Tom Rippeth

A lecture on the increasing role of heat from the Atlantic Ocean in melting Arctic Ocean sea ice and the potential impacts on the UK. Organised by the South regional committee. Online. Free.

B Thursday 30 September 7.30pm - 9.00pm

Lecture (online)

The power of geography

Tim Marshall

Writer and journalist Tim Marshall will talk about the influence of geography on history and politics. Organised by the Northern Ireland regional committee. Online. Free.

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October

B Saturday 2 October 10.30am - 12.30pm

Guided walk (Ashby-de-la-Zouch)

**Exploring the topography
of Ashby-de-la-Zouch**

Trevor James

Trevor, a local historian leads our walk, seeking out the fossilised topography of Ashby, finding architectural highlights along the way. Joint event with the Historical Association (Mid-Trent and Mercia). Organised by the Midlands regional committee.

Meeting place TBC. Free.

B Saturday 2 October 10.30am - 12.30pm

Field visit (Ipswich)

Dedham Vale AONB and River Stour

Simon Amstutz and Simon Leatherdale

Following on from the 2 September lecture, Simon has offered to give a guided walk in Dedham Vale to highlight the work of the Trust and the ongoing management. Organised by the East of England regional committee. Stutton Community Hall, Manningtree, Stutton, IP9 2TA. £5, RGS-IBG members free. Contact Gary Battell

T 07513 800118 E gary.battell@14trees.co.uk

Monday 4 October - Sunday 19 December

Exhibition (Ashley Heath)

Earth Photo exhibition: Moors Valley Country Park and Forest

Earth Photo 2021 has attracted hundreds of photo and video submissions which stimulate conversations about our world and its inhabitants. Visit Moors Valley this autumn to see a stunning selection of the shortlisted images, from categories including people, place, nature, changing forests and a climate of change. Developed jointly by the Society, Forestry England and Parker Harris. Supported by Jaguar Land Rover and the Sun Institute: Environment & Sustainability. **Moors Valley Country Park and Forest**, Horton Road, BH24 2ET. Free.



B M Monday 4 October 6.30pm - 7.45pm

Monday night lecture (online and London)

Directing economic growth: a mission-oriented approach

Professor Mariana Mazzucato

This lecture will make the case for rethinking the role of government in the economy, drawing on Mariana's recent and widely acclaimed book, *Mission Economy: A moonshot guide to changing capitalism*.

At the Society and online. Free, members only.



B Monday 4 October 7.00pm - 9.00pm

Panel discussion (Pateley Bridge)

Land-use in the uplands: the case for change

A panel of experts will discuss why changes in land use are necessary in Nidderdale and the uplands of Britain. Organised by the Yorkshire and North East regional committee. **Nidderdale High School and Community College**, Low Wath Rd, Harrogate, HG3 5HL. Free.



B Tuesday 5 October 4.00pm - 6.00pm

Workshop (online)

Analysing, contextualising and processing geographical data

This workshop is part of a series designed to help geography teachers build their confidence in teaching the mathematical content of A Level geography. The sessions will look at a range of statistical content. We will model approaches to teaching mathematical content and share ideas on how to engage students in meaningful discussions about data in geography. **Online. Free.**



B Tuesday 5 October 5.00pm - 6.30pm

Workshop (online)

Ofsted's approach to evaluating subject-level curriculum at primary level

Iain Freeland

Following the publication of the Geography Research Review by Ofsted over the Summer, Iain, HMI at Ofsted, joins us to explore key features that subject leaders and teachers may want to take into account when reviewing their geography curriculum.

Online. Free.

B Tuesday 5 October 6.00pm - 7.15pm

Film screening (online)

Pedal for parks

Pedal 4 Parks cycled over land and sea (on waterbikes) from the Orkney Islands to the Isles of Scilly, doing this as sustainably as possible and filming the experience and visiting National Parks on their journey. Joint event with the Snowdonia Society. Organised by the Cheshire and North Wales regional committee. **Online. Free.**

M Wednesday 6 October 1.00pm - 1.45pm

Lunchtime lecture (online)

Earth Stories

The Sustainable Development Goals outline the global ambition for a sustainable future. Our new series of lunchtime lectures will look at these goals and discuss ideas and share examples of those working to create a just and more sustainable world within planetary boundaries.

Online. Free, members only.



B Wednesday 6 October 5.00pm - 6.30pm

Workshop (online)

Ofsted's approach to evaluating subject-level curriculum at secondary level

Iain Freeland

Following the publication of the Geography Research Review by Ofsted over the summer, Iain, HMI at Ofsted, joins us to explore key features that subject leaders and teachers may want to take into account when reviewing their geography curriculum.

Online. Free.

Thursday 7 October 7.00pm - 9.00pm

Lecture (Plymouth)

Scrambles amongst the Alps: early mountaineering ventures

Andrew Thompson

Why did people of the 18th and 19th centuries become fascinated by high mountains?

Organised by the South West regional committee.

Plymouth University, Portland Square, PL4 8AA. Free.

Contact Colin Kilvington **T** 01752 564972

Saturday 9 - Friday 15 October

Festival (online and London)

Great Exhibition Road Festival

The Great Exhibition Road Festival is a free annual celebration of science and the arts in South Kensington with online events throughout the year. The festival is a collaboration between organisations on and around Exhibition Road. [Exhibition Road and online](#). Free.

B M Monday 11 October 6.30pm - 7.45pm

Monday night lecture (online and London)

CARICUK: Creative Approaches to Race and (in)security in the Caribbean and the UK

Dr Patricia Noxolo

Pat will discuss her one-year engagement project. Through arts collaborations and a learning pack CARICUK challenges geography educators, at all levels, to think differently about race. [At the Society and online](#). Free, members only.



B Monday 11 October 7.30pm - 9.00pm

Lecture (online)

Fire risk reduction in informal settlements

Steve Jordan and Mike Dayson

Steve and Mike will discuss their first-hand experiences of fires in informal settlements and how these incidents impact the estimated 21 million displaced persons living in refugee camps. Organised by the Yorkshire and North East regional committee. [Online](#). Free.

**B Tuesday 12 October 7.00pm - 8.30pm**

Lecture (online)

**Global threat to local action:
responding to the climate crisis**

Andy Lester

This talk summarises the climate and nature crisis and what is being done at grassroots level to address the most extraordinary challenge of our time. Organised by the South regional committee. [Online. Free.](#)

Wednesday 13 October 4.00pm - 5.00pm

Lecture (online)

**Making a flying start with
year 12 geography A Level**

Dr Simon Oakes

Year 12 A Level geography students are welcome to join us for this one-hour free online event designed to help you make a flying start. [Online. Free.](#)

**B Wednesday 13 October
7.30pm - 9.00pm**

Lecture (online)

**Water security: ways to address
an emerging global crisis**

Dr Jessica Budds

Jessica will give a talk about the framing of the concept of water security from a geographical perspective. Organised by the East of England regional committee. [Online. Free.](#)

B Thursday 14 October 6.30pm - 7.45pm

EGR Taylor Lecture (London)

English travellers to Venice, 1450-1600

Professor Michael Brennan

This lecture focuses on early-modern Anglo-Venetian relations and is based on a forthcoming Hakluyt Society volume of edited texts of accounts by English travellers at this period, including those by pilgrims, diplomats, merchants, scholars, spies, religious exiles, mariners and youths undertaking educational 'grand tours'. [At the Society. Free.](#)

**B Thursday 14 October 7.30pm - 9.00pm**

Lecture (online and Bath)

**Sustainable transport in
the Bath commuting area**

Councillor Joanna Wright

Joanna will talk about the obstacles and challenges local government faces when making moves to sustainable transport, addressing air quality, and improving neighbourhoods. Joint event with the Bath Royal Literary and Scientific Institution. Organised by the West of England and South Wales regional committee. [BRLSI, 16 Queen Square, BA1 2HN and online. £5, RGS-IBG members and students £2.](#)

W www.brlsi.org

B Friday 15 October 7.00pm - 8.30pm

Panel discussion (online and London)

39 Ways to Save the Planet

An evening about climate change to put a smile on your face. To celebrate the launch of environmental journalist and Society Fellow, Tom Heap's book, *39 Ways to Save the Planet*, Tom and a panel of inspiring people who contributed to the book discuss some of their ideas to relieve the stress that climate change is placing on the Earth. [At the Society and online](#). In person: £10, RGS-IBG members £8. Online: £6, RGS-IBG members £4.

B M Monday 18 October 6.30pm - 7.45pm

Monday night lecture (online and London)

The handshake: a gripping history

Ella Al-Shamahi

Ella, a paleoanthropologist, explores the untold science and surprising history behind one of our most ancient social gestures, the handshake, and argues that it is at least seven million years old. [At the Society and online](#). Free, members only.



Tuesday 19 October 4.00pm - 6.00pm

Workshop (online)

Using averages and variation with A Level geographers

This workshop is part of a series designed to help geography teachers build their confidence in teaching the mathematical content of A Level geography. The sessions will look at a range of statistical content. We will model approaches to teaching mathematical content and share ideas on how to engage students in meaningful discussions about data in geography. [Online](#). Free.



Tuesday 19 October 4.40pm - 6.00pm

Lecture (Exeter)

Climate change solutions: not just a bog standard approach

Professor Angela Gallego-Sala

The talk will explore how we may find nature-based solutions to the climate change crisis. Organised by the South West regional committee. [Exeter College Main Site, Lecture Theatre, Institute of Technology, Hele Road, EX4 4JS](#). Free. Contact Chris Brightman **T** 01392 877630

B Tuesday 19 October 7.00pm - 9.00pm

Panel discussion (online and London)

How do we talk about migration?

Migration often dominates the news, however, do you understand the complex and personal stories behind the headlines? Our panel look at some of the approaches researchers are using to share these experiences, through comics, animations and art installations. [RGS-IBG and online](#). In-person: £10, RGS-IBG members £8. Online: £6, RGS-IBG members £4.



B Wednesday 20 October 4.00pm - 5.00pm

Workshop (online)

Making an application for Chartered Geographer: introductory webinar

Chartered Geographer is the Society's professional accreditation for those using their geographical skills, knowledge and understanding in the workplace. Join this webinar to learn more about the benefits of becoming Chartered. [Online](#). Free.

B Wednesday 20 October 7.30pm - 9.00pm

Lecture (online)

Our changing relationship with home heating in Northern Europe

Professor Aimee Ambrose

This talk will explore how heating transitions have played out in the everyday lives of ordinary people across place and time and how they have made societal, economic, cultural and political change manifest in the heart of the home. Organised by the Yorkshire and North East regional committee. [Online. Free.](#)

B Friday 22 October 7.30pm - 9.00pm

Lecture (Kings Lynn)

39 ways to save the planet

Tom Heap

An evening about climate change to put a smile on your face. Tom talks about the inspiring people delivering solutions to global warming. There are so many ways to cut carbon emissions, some proven and growing, others promising but craving uptake. [King's Lynn Festival, St. George's Guildhall. £12, RGS-IBG members and under 18s £10.](#)
W www.kingslynnfestival.org.uk

B Monday 25 October 2.30pm - 3.30pm

Be Inspired afternoon talk (London)

Arabian Sands

Alexander Maitland

Alexander will tell the story of Wilfred Thesiger's first crossing of the Empty Quarter, 75 years ago, in 1946; what led to this epic journey; the journey itself; and the book that followed, now considered one of the greatest books ever written about Arabia.
[At the Society. £5, RGS-IBG members free.](#)

B M Monday 25 October 6.30pm - 7.45pm

Monday night lecture (online and London)

Teaching hopeful geographies in an age of crises

Dr Emma Mawdsley

How can we engage with 'hopeful geographies'? Emma argues that geography degrees must actively promote teaching and learning about the many different ways of thinking about and acting on 'hope'.
[At the Society and online. Free, members only.](#)

B Thursday 28 October 7.30pm - 9.00pm

Lecture (Worcester)

39 ways to save the planet

Tom Heap

An evening about climate change to put a smile on your face. Tom talks about the inspiring people delivering solutions to global warming. There are so many ways to cut carbon emissions, some proven and growing others promising but craving uptake.
[Huntingdon Hall. £15, RGS-IBG members £10.](#)
W www.worcesterlive.co.uk



B Thursday 28 October 7.30pm - 9.00pm

Lecture (online)

Beyond the agenda of COP26: international transport emissions

Professor John Vogler

Immediately ahead of the start of COP26, John explores the challenges of managing carbon emissions from two sectors which are notably absent from the Glasgow agenda, international aviation and shipping. Organised by the Yorkshire and North East regional committee. [Online. Free.](#)

November

B M Monday 1 November 6.30pm - 7.45pm

Monday night lecture (online and London)

Working with the world: the British Museum in the 21st century

Dr Hartwig Fischer

Hartwig discusses how the Museum collaborates with a network of individuals, institutions and communities across the globe to share their stories both at the Museum and with the world.

At the Society and online. Free, members only.

Monday 1 November 7.00pm - 8.00pm

Book club (London)

The Book of Trespass:

Crossing the Lines That Divide Us

The Book of Trespass takes us on a journey over the walls of England, into the thousands of square miles of rivers, woodland, lakes and meadows that are blocked from public access. Please read the book beforehand, and prepare for a welcoming evening of community and stimulating conversation.

At the Society. £10, RGS-IBG members £8.

B Tuesday 2 November 6.30pm - 7.45pm

Lecture (online)

Louise adventure:

around-the-world sailing odyssey

Grant Gordon

Grant sailed over 55,000 nautical miles rounding Cape Horn and the Cape of Good Hope. Louise adventure records the stories of the people, places and events that shaped this round-the-world odyssey. Organised by the Cheshire and North Wales regional committee. Online. Free.



Tuesday 2 November 7.00pm - 9.00pm

Lecture (Tiverton)

Landslide hazards

Dr Georgie Bennett

Landslides are a global hazard in hilly and mountainous regions and may be triggered by rainfall, earthquakes and human activity. Organised by the South West regional committee. Ondaatje Theatre, Blundell's School, Halberton Road, EX16 4DN. Free. Contact Peter Offord to attend post lecture meal before 25 October. T 01884 855511



B Wednesday 3 November

10.30am - 11.00am

Networking event (online)

Chartered Geographer virtual coffee morning

Join our Chartered Geographer coffee morning to meet and network with other Chartered Geographers. Online. Free.

M Wednesday 3 November 1.00pm - 1.45pm

Lunchtime lecture (online)

Earth Stories

The Sustainable Development Goals outline the global ambition for a sustainable future. Our new series of lunchtime lectures will look at these goals and discuss ideas and share of examples of those working to create a just and more sustainable world within planetary boundaries.

Online. Free, members only.

B Wednesday 3 November 7.00pm - 9.00pm

Panel discussion (online and London)

How do I connect to a place and its people?

An evening of armchair travel, slow travel is the opportunity to become part of local life. Our panel discuss different approaches they have taken to immerse themselves in the places and with the people they have met. [At the Society and online.](#)
In-person: £10, RGS-IBG members £8.
Online: £6, RGS-IBG members £4.



B Thursday 4 November 5.00pm - 6.00pm

Using our Thames Valley Police bike crime resources

Harri Hegarty

This is a resources walkthrough session for teachers who would like to find out more about our bike crime resources, produced in partnership with Thames Valley Police. This is a repeat of the session on 21 September. [Online. Free.](#)

B Thursday 4 November 7.30pm - 9.00pm

Lecture (Belfast)

Plant exploration today

Neil Porteous

The travels of a plant nut from Melbourne to Mandalay. Organised by the Northern Ireland regional committee.
[Elmwood Building, Queen's University Belfast,](#)
[Elmwood Avenue, BT7 1NN. Free.](#)



B Saturday 6 - Sunday 7 November 9.30am - 6.00pm

Conference (London)

Explore 2021

Explore is the Society's annual gathering of field researchers and explorers. With lectures, workshops and exhibits, providing inspiration, contacts and practical advice. The emphasis is on small projects with a research component but anyone planning overseas expeditions or fieldwork is welcome, regardless of age or experience. [At the Society.](#)
[Early bird tickets from £75.](#)

B M Monday 8 November 6.30pm - 7.45pm

Monday night lecture (online and London)

Building a planet happy clothing system

Patrick Grant

How can we change the system that makes and sells our clothes to be renewable and regenerative both environmentally and economically, and make it happy for the planet and happy for consumers?
[At the Society and online. Free, members only.](#)



Tuesday 9 November 4.00pm - 6.00pm Workshop (online)

Using technology to get data to work for you

This workshop is part of a series designed to help geography teachers build their confidence in teaching the mathematical content of A Level geography. The sessions will look at a range of statistical content. We will model approaches to teaching mathematical content and share ideas on how to engage students in meaningful discussions about data in geography.
[Online. Free.](#)



B Thursday 11 November

7.15pm - 8.30pm

Lecture (online)

Elephants, camels, and environmental peacebuilding in Kenya

Dr Charis Enns

A lecture on Charis' research on environmental peace and conflict in East Africa, working with youth researchers in northern Kenya. Joint event with the York and District GA. Organised by the Yorkshire and North East regional committee. [Online. Free.](#)

B Friday 12 November 7.00pm - 9.00pm

Panel discussion (online and London)

Are countries meeting their Paris agreement targets?

Nationally determined contributions (NDCs) are at the heart of the Paris Agreement and the achievement of these long-term goals. Join us on the final day of COP26 to review the efforts to reduce emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

[At the Society and online.](#) In-person: £10, RGS-IBG members £8. [Online: £6, RGS-IBG members £4.](#)

B Monday 15 November 2.30pm - 3.30pm

Be Inspired afternoon talk (London)

Cross-Channel entanglements: the Société de Géographie de Paris, the Royal Geographical Society and fin-de-siècle aesthetics of knowledge

Emily Hayes

Founded in 1821, this year the Société de Géographie de Paris celebrates its bicentenary anniversary. In this fascinating talk, Emily will explore the connections between the RGS and the SGP over the later 19th century. [At the Society. £5, RGS-IBG members free.](#)

B M Monday 15 November 6.30pm - 7.45pm

Monday night lecture (online and London)

Positive tipping points to avoid climate tipping points

Professor Tim Lenton

How positive tipping points in social or economic systems can trigger positive change to mitigate damaging tipping points in the climate system.

[At the Society and online. Free, members only.](#)



B Tuesday 16 November

7.00pm - 8.30pm

Lecture (Southampton)

Mobile games in the great outdoors

Mike Hawkyard

Geo-location games are encouraging people around the world to get outside. Go on an exploration with Mike, Ordnance Survey's new Head of Mobile Games, to see what's out there! Joint event with Ordnance Survey. Organised by the South regional committee. [Ordnance Survey, Explorer House, Adanac Drive, SO16 0AS. Free.](#)



B Wednesday 17 November

5.00pm - 6.30pm

Workshop (online)

Assessment for learning in geography: how to write questions that work

Dr Simon Oakes

This event, aimed at both new and more experienced teachers, will focus on key principles of assessment for learning at different key stages in secondary geography. [Online. £40, RGS-IBG members £30.](#)

B Thursday 18 November 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Lecture and Collections display (London)

Departures

Alasdair MacLeod

An evening illustrating the preparation, planning and moment of departure for a range of historic expeditions linked to the Society's historic Collections. Organised by the Younger Members' Committee.
At the Society. £25, RGS-IBG members £22.

B Thursday 18 November 7.00pm - 9.00pm

Lecture (online)

Small charity, big difference?

Team Kenya's approach to the SDGs

Lynda Evans

This talk will highlight small charities working in international development to support the Sustainable Development Goals, in areas such as girls' education, women's economic empowerment, food security and advocacy for safe communities. Organised by the Yorkshire and North East regional committee.
Online. Free.

B Monday 22 November 2.30pm - 3.30pm

Be Inspired afternoon talk (London)

The relief models of Sir L. Dudley Stamp

George Tobin

George's talk will explore the fascinating collection of relief models held at the Society which represent a significant component of Stamp's life work, and of the creative and engaging ways which defined his approach to the teaching of geography throughout the mid-20th century. At the Society. £5, RGS-IBG members free.

B M Monday 22 November 6.30pm - 7.45pm

Monday night lecture (online and London)

Rewilding the wild: lessons from Australia

Lizzy Crotty

Australia has the worst mammal extinction rate globally. Hear how Australian Wildlife Conservancy, one of the world's largest non-profit conservation organisations, is reacting to prevent further extinctions.
At the Society and online. Free, members only.



Monday 22 November 7.00pm - 8.30pm

(doors open at 6.30pm)

Lecture (Peterborough)

The current issues of inequality and housing in the UK

Professor Susan Smith

Susan's expert insight into the challenges of inequality in housing in the United Kingdom. Organised by the East of England regional committee. The King's (the Cathedral) School, Park Road, PE1 2UE. £5, RGS-IBG members and students free.



B Tuesday 23 November 9.45am - 4.30pm

Workshop (London)

Educational Visits Coordinator training

Essential training for new EVCs responsible for the policies and practice around risk management.
At the Society. £280, RGS-IBG members £252.

Tuesday 23 November 4.00pm - 5.00pm

Lecture (online)

Aiming to excel in Year 13 geography A Level

Dr Simon Oakes

Year 13 A Level geography students are invited to this one-hour free online event providing plenty of top tips for succeeding in your final A Level examinations.

Online. Free.



Tuesday 23 November 4.00pm - 6.00pm

Workshop (online)

Truth or lies: working with big data sets

This workshop is part of a series designed to help geography teachers build their confidence in teaching the mathematical content of A Level geography.

The sessions will look at a range of statistical content. We will model approaches to teaching mathematical content and share ideas on how to engage students in meaningful discussions about data in geography.

Online. Free.



B Tuesday 23 - Wednesday 24 November

9.00am - 5.30pm

Workshop (London)

Off-site safety management course

A must for those involved in planned visits in the UK or overseas, this course looks at the safety management issues involved in planning, managing and evaluating local visits, fieldtrips, residentials and exchanges.

At the Society. £360, RGS-IBG members £300.



B Wednesday 24 November

9.45am - 4.00pm

Workshop (London)

Educational Visits Coordinator update workshop

This course gives trained EVCs the opportunity to revalidate while looking at current issues and sharing good practice for out-of-school visits.

At the Society. £280, RGS-IBG members £252.



B Wednesday 24 November

1.00pm - 2.00pm

Workshop (online)

Making an application for Chartered Geographer: introductory webinar

Chartered Geographer is the Society's professional accreditation for those using their geographical skills, knowledge and understanding in the workplace. Join this webinar to learn more about the benefits of becoming Chartered. Online. Free.



B Thursday 25 November

10.00am - 4.30pm

Workshop (London)

OSSM training the trainer

A one-day course for trainers with relevant previous experience in managing a wide range of visits in the UK and overseas who wish to deliver the off-site safety management course to their own groups.

At the Society. £216, RGS-IBG members £192.



B Thursday 25 November
7.30pm - 9.00pm

Lecture (online)

Water harvesting in dryland areas

Dr Kevin Cook

WaterHarvest is a UK based charity that has been working in India for over 30 years. This lecture will examine the opportunities for two-way technology transfer between Rajasthan and Kenya. Organised by the Yorkshire and North East regional committee.
Online. Free.

B M Monday 29 November 6.30pm - 7.45pm

Monday night lecture (online and London)

The Arab conquests

Justin Marozzi

The extraordinary story of one of the greatest feats of arms in history, when seventh and eighth century warriors burst out of Arabia, established an empire and changed the world forever. *At the Society and online. Free, members only.*

.....
December

M Wednesday 1 December 1.00pm - 1.45pm

Lunchtime lecture (online)

Earth Stories

The Sustainable Development Goals outline the global ambition for a sustainable future. Our new series of lunchtime lectures will look at these goals and discuss ideas and share of examples of those working to create a just and more sustainable world within planetary boundaries.
Online. Free, members only.

B Wednesday 1 December 5.00pm - 7.00pm

Workshop (online)

Evaluating like a geographer

A session designed for teachers focused on the evaluative demands posed by geography assessment objectives and strategies for developing students' evaluative capabilities.

Online. £45, RGS-IBG members £35.

M Wednesday 1 December
TBC

(online and London)

Medals and awards celebration

Our medals and awards recognise people or organisations for their outstanding contributions to geographical research, fieldwork and teaching, and public engagement. Join us as we celebrate the 2020 and 2021 award recipients. *At the Society and online. Free, members plus one guest.*

B M Wednesday 1 December
TBC

(London)

Annual reception

Join us as we celebrate another successful year for the Society. *At the Society. £20, members only (includes drinks). Bookings open on 1 November.*

B Thursday 2 December 7.30pm - 9.00pm

Lecture (Belfast)

**Around the world in 30 years:
a diplomat's journey**

Andrew Heyn

Andrew will reflect on a distinguished diplomatic career in the UK Foreign Office from 1989 to 2020 and discuss how foreign policy has been carried out in this period of dramatic geopolitical change. Organised by the Northern Ireland regional committee. Elmwood Building, Queen's University Belfast, Elmwood Avenue, BT7 1NN. Free.

B M Saturday 4 December 2.30pm - 4.00pm

Lecture (online and London)

Children's lecture

Join us for the Society's annual Children's lecture. Geography Ambassadors will provide fun activities after the lecture. [At the Society and online.](#) RGS-IBG members free (up to five tickets each).

B M Monday 6 December 6.30pm - 7.45pm

Monday night lecture (online and London)

**I belong here: a journey
along the backbone of Britain**

Anita Sethi

Anita, author of the acclaimed book *I Belong Here: a Journey Along the Backbone of Britain* explores nature, wildness, walking and what it means to belong. [At the Society and online.](#) Free, members only.

Monday 6 December 7.00pm - 8.00pm

Book club (London)

A woman in the Polar night

A classic memoir that tells the incredible tale of a woman defying society's expectations to find freedom and peace in the adventure of a lifetime. Please read the book beforehand, and prepare for a welcoming evening of community and stimulating conversation. [At the Society.](#) £10, RGS-IBG members £8.



Tuesday 7 December 4.00pm - 6.00pm

Workshop (online)

Statistical testing with a focus on chi-squared

This workshop is part of a series designed to help geography teachers build their confidence in teaching the mathematical content of A Level geography. The sessions will look at a range of statistical content. We will model approaches to teaching mathematical content and share ideas on how to engage students in meaningful discussions about data in geography. [Online.](#) Free.

B Tuesday 7 December 7.30pm - 9.00pm

Social event (online)

Fellows and members Christmas quiz

As the year draws to an end, join the South regional committee for a festive online get-together and test your geography knowledge in our Christmas quiz! Organised by the South regional committee. [Online.](#) Free.

Tuesday 7 December 7.30pm - 9.30pm

(doors open at 7.00pm)

Lecture (Norwich)

The Sami People and natural history of Lapland

Kevin Hand

The East of England regional committee's end of term and Christmas gathering is a wildlife and natural history study of the Sami people in the Arctic Circle. Organised by the East of England regional committee. [Blake Studio, Norwich School, 71a The Close, NR1 4DD. £5, RGS-IBG members and students free.](#)

B Thursday 9 December 7.30pm - 10.00pm

Social event (London)

Christmas quiz

Come one and all to test your general and geographical knowledge at a festive quiz. Prizes for the best dressed in festive attire! Maximum of five per team; all over 18s welcome. Organised by the Younger Members' Committee.

[At the Society. £20, RGS-IBG members £16.](#)



Wednesday 15 December

Conference (London)

Circular economy: sustainability implications of a social transformation

Conference chair: Professor Pauline Deutz

This conference aims to open discussion into the implications for sustainability of the development of a circular economy. A major element of resource policy globally, a circular economy is seen as reducing carbon emissions, protecting resource security, creating jobs and promoting the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Partnered with the Society, this conference is organised by the University of Hull for the Cresting project. [At the Society and online. £25 for in-person attendance, free online.](#)

W www.cresting.hull.ac.uk/cresting-conference-2021

Monday 20 December - Sunday 24 April

Exhibition (Hawkshead)

Earth Photo exhibition: Grizedale

Earth Photo 2021 has attracted hundreds of photo and video submissions which stimulate conversations about our world and its inhabitants. Visit Grizedale this winter to see a stunning selection of the shortlisted images, from categories including people, place, nature, changing forests and a climate of change. Developed jointly by the Society, Forestry England and Parker Harris. Supported by Jaguar Land Rover and the Sun Institute: Environment & Sustainability. [Grizedale, Forestry Commission Visitor Centre, Grizedale Forest, LA22 0QJ. Free.](#)

..... **Non-Society events**

The following events are not organised by the Society but are held on our premises (1 Kensington Gore, London, SW7 2AR). For further information and tickets please contact the organisers listed directly.

Monday 13 - Wednesday 22 September **10.00am - 5.00pm**

Exhibition

Out of thin air

Paintings of Annapurna and the Himalayas by Patrick Cullen, Tobit Roche and Tim Scott Bolton in aid of Community Action Nepal. **Free.**

B Tuesday 14 September (time TBA)

Film screening

Out of thin air and RGS-IBG archival film

Introduced by Stephen Venables

Documentary by Jack Hextall of painters, Patrick Cullen, Tobit Roche and Tim Scott Bolton's trek in the Annapurna's. An exhibition of the artist's paintings and a display from the Society's Collections.

In-person: £20, RGS-IBG members £15. Online: £7.

FR Community Action Nepal. **T** 020 7591 3100

E deniseprior@canepal.org.uk **W** www.rgs.org/thinair

Tuesday 5 October - Thursday 28 October **10.00am - 5.00pm** (not Saturdays and Sundays)

Exhibition

The other Shakespear

An exhibition of photographs, maps and other ephemera chronicling the adventures and explorations in Arabia of Captain William Shakespear, a British civil servant and explorer who mapped uncharted areas of Northern Arabia and made the first official British contact with Abdulaziz Ibn Sa'ud, founder of the modern Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. **Free.**

B Saturday 23 October 6.00pm - 9.00pm

(doors open at 5.00pm)

Lecture

Global gala for rhinos

Simon Jones, Richard Vigne and Megan McCubbin

Experts from the field will provide insight to the work carried out to protect the rhino supported by stunning cinematography. **£25, VIP £150.**

T 07912346223 **E** rhino@helpingrhinos.org

W www.helpingrhinos.org/events/473/global-gala-for-rhinos

B Friday 22 October 9.00am - 10.00pm

(doors open at 8.30am)

Conference

Half-Earth day / How to save the natural world

Professor E.O. Wilson, Sir David Attenborough, Sir Tim Smit

A call to protect half the land and half the sea in order to manage sufficient habitat to ensure the long-term health of our planet. **E** halfearthday@edenproject.com

W www.edenproject.com/half-earth

W www.half-earthproject.org/hed2021

Friday 29 October 10.00am - 4.00pm

Exhibition

AlUla: a journey through time

View historic items related to AlUla, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, from the Society's 200 year old archive, together with awe inducing imagery of the destination.

Free. **E** alulauk@fourcommunications.com

Saturday 6 - Sunday 14 November

10.00am - 4.00pm

Exhibition

Remembering African wild dogs exhibition

Images by top wildlife photographers from the newly published Remembering African Wild Dogs will be exhibited daily. Free.

E contact@rememberingwildlife.com

W www.rememberingwildlife.com

B Thursday 11 November 7.30pm - 10.30pm

(doors open at 7.00pm)

Lecture

Remembering African wild dogs launch

Launch of the sixth book in the highly acclaimed Remembering Wildlife series, which has raised more than £850,000 for conservation.

£23 general admission, £95 VIP inc reception.

E contact@rememberingwildlife.com

W www.rememberingwildlife.com

B Wednesday 17 November 7.00pm - 9.30pm

(doors open at 6.00pm)

Lecture

Where was I?

Ranulph Fiennes OBE, Rebecca Stephens MBE, Toby Nowlan, Sacha Dench

Back again, the Transglobe Expedition annual evening has returned with scintillating stories of adventure, exploration and nature – always hugely popular! **T** 01728 604434 **E** TGExpedition@aol.com

W www.buytickets.at/transglobeexpeditiontrust

B Thursday 18 November 7.00pm - 10.00pm

(doors open at 6.30pm)

Lecture

Partnerships to protect the wild: 21 For 21

An evening of wildlife and conservation with special guests. From £20.

E info@explorersagainstextinction.co.uk

W www.explorersagainstextinction.co.uk/get-involved/events/

B Thursday 25 November 7.00pm - 10.00pm

(doors open at 6.00pm)

Lecture

Doug Scott: never had a proper job

Sir Chris Bonington, 'Tut' Braithwaite, Leo Houlding, Stephen Venables, Dr Rob Lorge and others

A celebration of Doug's life. Friends and mountaineering legends will share memories with Julie Summers. Video message from Reinhold Messner. Plus online screening. £22.15.

T 07986372558 **E** deniseprior@canepal.org.uk

W www.canepal.org.uk/post/doug-scott-never-had-a-proper-job-a-celebration-of-doug-s-life

B Saturday 27 November 8.45am - 5.00pm

Conference

**SGD autumn conference sense
of place: listening to the land**

Aniket Bhagwat, Charlotte Harris, Hugo Bugg,

Teresa Moller, Troy Scott Smith, Isabella Tree

The SGD Autumn conference explores genius loci, spirit, or sense of place. How to design with genuine sensitivity to the existing landscape; in other words, how to listen to the land. *Early bird prices (before 16/10) SGD members £118, student members £70, friend members £140, SGD non-members £162.*

T 01159683188 **E** info@sgd.org.uk

W www.sgd.org.uk/events/conference.aspx

Tuesday 14 - Monday 20 December

10.00am - 5.00pm

Exhibition

With nature and a camera

With nature and a camera will exhibit the works of wildlife documentary pioneer Cherry Kearton, with a dynamic display of original photographs, films and artifacts. Cherry's works and historiography will illustrate the plight of our biodiversity and raise awareness to current climate issues. **FR** *Flora and Fauna*

International **W** www.withnatureandacamera.co.uk



Welcoming you back to the Society

Have a safe visit...

Wear a face covering Please ensure that this is worn correctly including over the nose.

Wash your hands Hand sanitiser is available on arrival. Please wash or sanitise your hands thoroughly and at regular intervals during your visit.

Follow the one-way system and observe social distancing There is a one-way route signposted through the building which is easy to follow and makes social distancing possible.

Pre-booked attendance only All event attendees, including Society Fellows and members, need to book a ticket in advance.

For more details about how we are keeping you safe

W www.rgs.org/good-to-go



Visual archives of travel

Felix Driver

The Society's Collections, acquired over a period of nearly two hundred years and covering a wide range of subjects, are amongst its greatest assets. In recent years, much work has been done to unlock their potential in education, research and public engagement, through digitisation, interpretation, exhibition and new scholarship.

Re-activating the knowledge which lies dormant in the Collections is no small challenge given their scale and diversity: more than a million maps, half a million photographs, hundreds of thousands of books and periodicals, an astonishing collection of manuscripts, pictures and drawings, an intriguing set of artefacts and the recently digitised film collection.

Re-activating such historic collections often requires innovative approaches to research, education and public engagement, as witnessed in anthropologist Paul Basu's lecture in March 2021 on the subject of 'Colonial collections in decolonial times'. Such work reminds us that while collections may be artefacts of past times, they are also cultural assets capable of inspiring present and future generations. And sometimes, as befits an active collection, new opportunities are presented by new donations. In recent years, for example, the Society's 20th century Collections have been significantly enhanced through the donation of unique archival material relating to the Everest cinematographer John Noel, the travel writer Eric Newby and the tropical ecologist Michael Eden.

The latest donation to the Society significantly extends an existing collection of drawings made by a Victorian naval



Pitman Island, 1851-3 © RGSL/BS

surgeon and amateur artist, John Linton Palmer (1824-1903), which I have been recently researching. To the six albums already in the Society's collection (containing sketches made during a naval career which included service across the Pacific) are now added a seventh, in the same design, containing a total of 108 watercolour and pencil sketches made in the British Isles. These sketches include the earliest of Linton Palmer's drawings (an art he clearly learned as a child) dating from the 1830s, as well as those made on service around the coasts of Britain and Ireland, and during the long years he spent in retirement. Like the drawings in the other albums, those in the newly acquired *Home Album* have been cut from sketch books and reassembled in a new sequence, a form which enabled sharing with family and friends.

Tam, 1837 © ACS-BG





Calanish, Hebrides, 1857 © RGS-IBG



Cornamilly, looking towards Invergordon, c. 1857 © RGS-IBG

There is so much to interest social and art historians in visual archives like these. Apart from memorialising sites of personal interest, from family homes to archaeological sites, they present a peculiarly Victorian topographical vision of the nation in which biography is intertwined with history, antiquity and myth. Amongst the most interesting drawings in the *Home Album* are a series of sketches and plans by Linton Palmer relating to the excavation of the stone circle at Calanais on the Isle of Lewis in 1857. These are unique and important historical documents in their own right. When seen alongside other historical and archaeological evidence concerning the site, they have the potential to make an important contribution to our knowledge of one of the most celebrated historical landscapes in Britain.

Professor Felix Driver is Chair of the Society's Collections Advisory Group.

Medals and awards

2021 Royal Medal recipients

Our medals and awards recognised 23 recipients for extraordinary achievements in geographical research, practice, fieldwork, teaching, and public engagement. We caught up with this year's Royal Medalists, Andy Eavis and Dr Rita Gardner CBE, to find out more about their achievements, why geography is important and how the discipline may evolve in the future.

© University of Hull



Founder's Medal

Andy Eavis was awarded the Founder's Medal for his significant contribution in leading speleological expeditions, exploring and recording some of the largest caves in the world for over 50 years.



Patron's Medal

Dr Rita Gardner CBE was awarded the Patron's Medal for the widespread advancement of geography across all its sub-disciplines through her Directorship of the Society.



Andy Eavis

What do you consider to be your greatest achievement to date?

“The ability to organise a team of wonderful cave explorers. Together we have traveled around the world, exploring and surveying some of the largest cave passages known. We were lucky enough to be able to go to places like China and Borneo, at a time when they were just opening up and no caves had been explored. A golden age of cave exploration.”

How has the field of speleology changed during your career and where could it go in the future?

“A great change has been the science, enabling us to date the caves and sediments and get a tremendous history.

In addition, the technology has changed dramatically. I've done a project recently laser scanning all the largest caves in the world, giving a 3D image of these wonderful underground features.”

What would you say to young cavers starting out today?

“I moved from recreational caving into what I found more interesting areas of cave exploration, such as organising the expeditions, which involves a huge number of facets, many of them political and financial. All that became part of exploring caves in a modern world. If you like challenges, if you like original exploration, you've got 90% of the caves of the world to go at. Get going, get organised, go for it.”



Dr Rita Gardner CBE

What are you most proud of in your career?

“I’m most proud of leading the transformation of the RGS-IBG from the time when those two bodies merged back in the mid 1990s until 2018. I’m also incredibly proud of being the first female, and academic, Director of the Society. Lastly, I’m really proud of being a key part of convincing the government to put geography in the English Baccalaureate.”

How do you view geography’s place in society today?

“We live our lives in societies, in places, and our activities both use and impact on the environment every single day. Understanding people, communities,

places and environments, and the way in which they interact with each other are at the very heart of geography. The understanding of that is vital to our future, to government policy making and to our role as citizens within society.”

What do you think the future of geography looks like?

“Geography will continue to evolve with new specialisms emerging. I think we will see a continuation of the trend towards geospatial analysis and interpretation. I’d like to see more geographers taking up the challenge to apply their knowledge and skills to helping solve some of the really difficult challenges we face as a society, because that in part is what inspires young people about geography, being useful to the world as a whole.”

W www.rgs.org/medals-and-awards-2021

Reclaiming the map

Race and (in)security

The Society is delighted to be a partner of the *Creative approaches to race and (in)security in the Caribbean and the UK (CARICUK)* research project, which aims to transform discussions about race and anti-racism in UK higher education institutions.

Led by Dr Pat Noxolo, the AHRC funded EDI engagement project brings together artists and educators to provoke, participate and transform discussions, redefining race as an (in)security and encouraging education institutions to actively participate in anti-racist learning and transformation.

CARICUK has three elements. The first, the provocation, involved three collaborations with artists to encourage public conversations about how race can be understood as an (in)security. The second draws students and teachers into the discussion, and involves developing a




Designing the map portrait © Damon Griffiths



range of online learning resources which encourage young people to produce their own artworks about Caribbean and racialised (in)securities. Finally, short films will record young Black people engaging with the Society's building and archival materials, in order to think about what tangible institutional changes can be made in the short and long term.

Pat said: "I want to think creatively about insecurity in the world, about race as one of those insecurities, and I want to think about the Caribbean and the UK. The other thing I want to do with this project is to make the issue of race in education more easily, openly and explicitly talked about and discussed. I think there's quite a lot of anxiety around race, we know that there are things to be addressed but for the UK there's such a long imperial history, people find it quite hard to talk about, particularly in contexts that have been



very heavily affected by colonialism, such as geography."

As part of the provocation element of the project, an original artwork by visual artist Sonia E. Barrett was installed at the Society's building in South Kensington earlier this year. Titled *Dreading the Map*, the sculpture drew on surplus maps of the Caribbean and East Africa, some from the Society's Collections, and used Black hair techniques to remake and reclaim what the maps represent. Sonia and a group of Black women co-creators shredded, plaited and weaved the maps together to create the installation.

Sonia said of the artwork: "I thought it would be really exciting to make this work in the Map Room at the Society, where so many map makers have departed from and critically returned to recount their versions of what they saw."

Pat added: "Sonia's work raised a number of really important geographical issues, around place and the making of place, around connection and how we interrelate with each other, and around mapping. How do we understand the map and what is its job in the current times? Sonia's work cut right to the centre of what we want the project to do."

Director of the Society, Professor Joe Smith, said: "We are really excited to be a partner to CARICUK, which has the potential to catalyse critical discussions and change at the Society. We are in the early stages of a project to rethink how our building works, enabling greater public engagement with the past, present and future of geography, and the Society, through enhanced interpretation of the building and its contents. CARICUK will help to directly shape this work, with long lasting legacies."

W www.caricuk.co.uk



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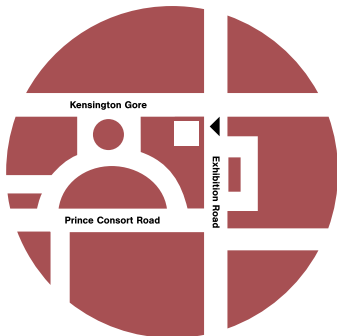
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For anyone between the ages of 14 and 24, or studying geography at any age, Young Geographer membership will inspire learning and discovery.

W www.rgs.org/gift

How to find us



Entrance is on Exhibition Road
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The Society is the learned society and professional body for geography. We support and promote geographical research, education, fieldwork and expeditions, and geography in society; we also advise on policy issues. The Society has substantial Collections available to all.

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