



**Electronic Bulletin #28
December, 2007**

EXTENDEND DEADLINES FOR 33RD IGC

The Geohost Stipend Programme: New application deadline is January 15, at 24:00.

The Abstract and Field Trip Registration Deadline: The deadline is extended from Feb. 1 to Feb 29, at 24:00.

Please note that field trips may be filled up and early registration for these is highly recommended.

ICSU GRANTS PROGRAMME FOR 2008

The ICSU research grants programme for 2008 has now been announced. Reasonable project proposals are eligible for a maximum one time only support of 30,000 Euros. Only full scientific members (Unions) of ICSU can apply directly for ICSU grants. As such, IUGS invites official representatives of IUGS National Bodies, Affiliated Organizations and Scientific Commissions to submit Expressions of Interest (EOI) (100 word maximum) suggestions directly to the Permanent Secretariat (iugs.secretariat@ngu.no) before January 15, 2008. Independent EOI submissions from individuals are not eligible; please ensure your EOI is submitted to IUGS through one of the appropriate representatives. NOTE: all ICSU grant proposals must be endorsed by more than one Union. As such your EOI must clearly indicate which other ICSU Unions will endorse your proposal. The IUGS EC will evaluate all EOI submissions for suitability. The IUGS EC will provide official “guidelines” and “application forms” for those EOIs considered appropriate to submit to ICSU. The deadline for submission to ICSU is 1 March 2008.

NEW GSL-IUGS BOOKS

Order from <http://www.geosoc.org.uk/bookshop>

1. Devonian Events and Correlations -
Geological Society of London Special Publication no 278 (Hardback)
Editors – R. T. Becker and W. T. Kirchgasser
ISBN 13 no – 978-1-86239-222-9
Retail Price - £75.00

The Devonian was a peculiar period, characterized by simplified plate tectonic configurations, climatic overheating and widely flooded continents. The bloom of fishes and ammonoids, extensive reef complexes, and the conquest of land indicate major biosphere innovations, punctuated by many global events, including two of the biggest mass extinctions.

The Devonian was the first system for which subdivisions were formally defined. This was achieved by significant advances in pelagic biostratigraphy. The chronostratigraphic framework and interdisciplinary techniques allow us to correlate intervals or sudden events across facies boundaries, in order to reconstruct the sedimentary and evolutionary history of the system with highest precision. This volume honours the lifetime stratigraphic achievements of Michael Robert House (1930-2002). Based on case studies from Europe, North Africa and North America, it shows how the combination of biostratigraphy, chemostratigraphy, magnetostratigraphy, sequence stratigraphy and event stratigraphy can contribute to a much deeper understanding of both regional and global environmental change.

2. The Rise and Fall of the Ediacaran Biota -
Geological Society of London Special Publication no 286 (Hardback)
Editors – P. Vickers-Rich and P. Komarower
ISBN 13 no – 978-1-86239-233
Retail Price - £95.00 GSL Member Price - £47.50
Other Qualifying Societies Member Price - £57.00
Publication Date – September 2007
Pages – 464

The Proterozoic and early Phanerozoic was a time punctuated by a series of significant events in Earth history. Glaciations of global scale wracked the planet, interfingering with dramatic changes in oceanic and atmospheric chemistry and marked changes in continental configuration. It was during these dynamic and ‘weedy’ times that metazoans first appeared. Their subsequent diversification culminated in the appearance of hard tissue skeletons and deep ‘farming’ of the marine substrate in late Proterozoic and first few millions of years of the Phanerozoic. The papers in this book deal specifically with the precise timing of physical events and teasing out of the effects which these changing environments, climates, global chemistry and palaeogeography had on the development and diversification of animals, resulting in the spectacular Ediacaran/Vendian faunas of the late Precambrian.

3. Four Centuries of Geological Travel:
The Search for Knowledge on Foot, Bicycle, Sledge and Camel -
Geological Society of London Special Publication no 287 (Hardback)
Editors – P. N. Wyse Jackson
ISBN 13 no – 978-1-86239-234-2
Retail Price - £90.00 GSL Member Price - £45.00
Other Qualifying Societies Member Price - £54.00
Publication Date – September 2007
Pages – 424

In the last four centuries geologists have traversed the globe, searching for economically important materials or simply to satisfy their intellectual curiosity. Geologists have often been at the vanguard of scientific exploration. The microscopist Robert Hooke explored the Isle of Wight, and Charles Darwin the Cape Verde islands and parts of South America. The volcanic wonders of Italy and central France attracted native and foreign visitors including Lyell and Murchison. The Tyrrell brothers faced great hardship in northern Canada, as did the actor and mineralogist Charles Lewis Giesecke in Greenland. The development of Sydney, Australia depended on finding limestone for building. French geologists relied on camels in the Sahara, while Grenville Cole trusted his tricycle to carry him across Europe.

Four Centuries of Geological Travel: The Search for Knowledge on Foot, Bicycle, Sledge and Camel focuses on the complexities of geological exploration and will be of particular interest to earth scientists, historians of science and to the general reader interested in science.

EPISODES

The December issue of Episodes is a special issue dedicated to the 33rd IGC. This issue will contain about 30 papers and maybe over 200 pages in length. As with previous International Geological Congress events, this issue of Episodes highlights the unique geology of the hosting region, in this case, Scandinavia.

MEETINGS

Osnabrück, Germany June 22-16, 2008: "The 3rd International UNESCO-Conference on Geopark"

Themes include 1) Communicating geological heritage, 2) Young people and Geoparks, 3) Socio-Economic benefits of Geoparks, 4) Climate change and Geoparks, 5) Quality management in Geoparks, 6) European Union and Geoparks, 7) Tourism and Geoparks, 8) Presentation of new and aspiring Geoparks, 9) Criterion to join the Geopark family, 10) Bridging the gap between geology and soil sciences.

The meeting is planned for participation by senior officials from local authorities, national and international government, professional geo-scientists and practitioners in the fields of tourism, education and cultural heritage associations will find items of interest in the conference programme. For further information see: <http://www.geoparks2008.com>

Tunis, November 04-06.2008 "22nd Colloquium of African Geology & 13th Conference of the Geological Society of Africa"

Theme: Knowledge, Solidarity and Development e-mail: afric2008@gmail.com (if your e-mail message bounces back, please try mh.inoubli@wanadoo.tn or saidtlig@yahoo.fr or dt.onm@email.ati.tn)

On behalf of the IUGS Executive Committee I take the opportunity to thank all of you for the news you have contributed in 2007. We wish you A Happy New Year 2008 and look forward to further collaboration with you during the next year.

Sincerely yours,
Sylvi Haldorsen
(IUGS Vice President)