



Jamaican Geode

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Geological Society of Jamaica

Volume 17, Number 2
June 2008

Stephen Donovan Awarded the 2008 Linnean Medal for Zoology

Contributed by Prof. Trevor Jackson

A member of the Society, Stephen Donovan, and former Professor of Palaeozoology at UWI Mona, has been honoured by the Linnean Society of London for his contribution to science. Steve was awarded the Linnean Medal for Zoology at a meeting in Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, on Friday 23 May. This medal was first presented in 1888 to Sir Richard Owen and no more than one has been presented annually since.

Steve Donovan came to Jamaica in January 1986 as lecturer in palaeontology and was a member of the Department of Geology for 12½ years. He moved from Lecturer to Senior Lecturer to Professor in the space of 10 years. Steve is a former editor of the Journal of the Geological Society of Jamaica, now the Caribbean Journal of Earth Science. His research work on Jamaican and Caribbean echinoids is internationally recognized.

Steve's propensity for scientific publication is well known. He has over 650 publications including books and monographs, research papers in peer-reviewed journals, chapters in books and conference volumes, essays, book reviews and conference abstracts. The common measure of a scientist's worth

Inside this issue:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Tremors | 2 |
| Membership list | 2 |
| Outgoing President's Report 2007/08 | 3 |
| Upcoming Earth science meetings | 4 |
| Field trip Highlights | 5 |
| Membership Form | 6 |

Coming Soon

GSJ Field Trips

♦ ***Agate Hunt !!***
August 2008

♦ ***Geology of
The Benbow
Inlier!!***

Date to be
announced



Photo of Professor Stephen Donovan (second right) taken on the field trip to commemorate the bicentennial of the birth of Sir Henry de la Beche in 1996. From left to right are Professors Trevor Jackson, Alan Fincham and David Barker.

Two of Steve's publications will be well known to readers of the *Geode* and, particularly, ex-UWI students. *Caribbean Geology: An Introduction* (Donovan & Jackson, 1994) filled a need for a textbook to support one of the most challenging advanced geology courses at UWI. Previously, there was no textbook on this subject, and this course had relied, unsatisfactorily, on a number of research papers and other sources for background reading.



Cont. from page 1

The field guide to the UWI campus at Mona (Donovan & Jackson, 2000) was in part a reaction to reduced fieldwork funding from the University. The field guide covers diverse features and rock types seen on campus, and students answer a questionnaire as a first introduction to taking field notes. Without the necessity for a long bus ride, students are fresher at the start and the day's work can be completed by early afternoon.

Steve is currently attached to the Department of Geology of the Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum in Leiden, the Netherlands. He is married to Fiona and has two children, Hannah (who was born in Jamaica) and Pelham.

Donovan, S.K. & Jackson, T.A. (eds). 1994. *Caribbean Geology: An Introduction*. University of the West Indies Publishers' Association, Kingston, iii+289 pp.

Donovan, S.K. & Jackson, T.A. 2000. Field guide to the geology of the University of the West Indies campus, Mona. *Caribbean Journal of Earth Science*, **34**: 17-24.

Membership list 2008-2009

| SURNAME | FIRST NAME | TITLE | Member Class | SURNAME | FIRST NAME | TITLE | Member Class |
|------------------|------------|-------|--------------|--------------------------|------------|-------|--------------|
| Aratram | Margaret | Mrs. | Professional | Mandal | Arpita | Ms. | Professional |
| Blackwood | Michael | Mr. | Professional | McDonald | Franklin | Mr. | Professional |
| Chedda | Omar | Mr | Associate | Mitchell | Simon F. | Dr. | Professional |
| Coutou | Richard | Mr | Student | Perkins | Godfrey | Mr | Professional |
| Donovan | Steven | Prof. | Professional | Perkins | Latoya | Ms | Professional |
| Fernandez | Basil | Mr. | Professional | Persaud | Shanti | Ms. | Professional |
| Fletcher | Claude | Mr | Professional | Porter | Anthony | Mr. | Honorary |
| Foreman | Craig | Mr. | Professional | Rainford | Oral | Mr | Professional |
| Garrett | Robert | Mr. | Professional | Robinson | Edward | Prof. | Honorary |
| Grant | Wayne | Mr | Professional | Scott | Peter | Prof. | Professional |
| Green | Rupert | Mr. | Professional | Shields | Jerome | Mr. | Professional |
| Greenaway | Anthony | Dr. | Professional | Smith | Cleaveland | Mr | Professional |
| Gunter | Gavin C. | Dr. | Professional | Stemann | Thomas A. | Dr. | Professional |
| Henry | Larry | Mr. | Professional | Tyson | Constance | Ms. | Professional |
| Jackson | Trevor | Prof. | Honorary | Tyson-Young | Maya | Ms | Student |
| Josephs | Omar | Mr. | Professional | White | Michael | Mr. | Professional |
| Khan | Shakira | Ms | Student | Wiggins-Grandison | Margaret | Ms. | Professional |
| Levy | Catherine | Mrs. | Professional | Williams | Roger | Mr. | Professional |
| Lyew-Ayee | Parris A. | Mr. | Professional | Wong | Lindo | Mr. | Associate |
| Lyew-Ayee | Parris | Dr. | Professional | Wright | Raymond | Dr. | Honorary |



President's Report 2007-2008

Mr. Parris A. Lyew-Ayee concluded his second three-year period of serving as the society's president. The highlights from 2007-2008

Field Trips

Field trip to St. Ann – Trelawny North Coast area with Tom Stemmann, June 30, 2007.

Geohazard field trip to South Coast area, December 1, 2007.

Seminars/Talks

Application of Earthsciences in Risk Management for the Caribbean – Dr. Simon Young, March 7, 2007.

DeLaBeche Luncheon at Halse Hall Great House, February 2, 2008.

Geoscience for Development Week: *Planning, Management and Insurance*

Proclamation at Kings House by the Governor General, November 21, 2007.

Poster Exhibition on Hazard Management

Geohazard Workshop at Jamaica Conference Centre, November 27, 2007.

Public Education Projects

JIS radio and television interviews on GSJ activities.

GSJ Web-site (gsj.monainformatixltd.com) – rated as #1 under Jamaica Geology in Google.

Special Projects

GeoHeritage Sites project proposal.

Obelisk Legend

Plaque for Obelisk

New Honour Role – List of GSJ Presidents.

GSJ Scholarship

Award of GSJ Scholarship at De La Beche Luncheon on February 2, 2008. Since its inception in 1981, 27 years ago, this was the 24th award made.

Congratulations

Parris Lyew-Ayee, C.D.

Farewell function for Ian Brown August 3, 2007.

Highlights of Achievements to be sustained

GeoScience Week for Development – Annually, last week of November.

De La Beche Performance Awards – Suggest 5-year period if warranted.

Chubb Award if and when warranted.

GSJ Scholarship Awards based on performance and career plans.

Activities to be implemented

GeoHeritage project.

Jamaica Lithostratigraphic Review.

GSJ Annual Calendars.

Areas of Concern Communications with members and Secretariat functions.

Publications at different levels for professional and non-professional readership.

Membership drive and service to members.

Financial sustainability for society.

Support from Membership

Frequency of conferences or Workshops.

Geology in schools.

General Comments

Thanks to Council Members, Sponsors, benefactors, members and friends for support; Thanks to the Geoscience organizations and media houses;

Thanks to my family for the time allowed to spend on GSJ matters; Thanks to the Governors General for their full support for the GeoScience for Development Week initiative; Special thanks to Shanti Persaud, Shakira Khan, Gavin Gunter, Ted Robinson and our Web-Master-PJ; Appeal for more involvement from members to ensure growth and strengthening of the GSJ.

Thanks for the opportunity to lead this great society over the past few years, and as I leave the centre stage I am confident of the new team coming in to continue the rich tradition, and to always make us proud to be GEOLOGISTS.



Upcoming Earth Science Meetings

Foundations and Directions: celebrating geography and geology at The University of the West Indies.

Conference to be held on Mona Campus, Jamaica, 7th - 11th July, 2008

The conference will be an integral part of the university's 60th anniversary celebrations, the climax of which will be a Special Convocation Week from 12-19 July, 2008. The conference, through invited plenary presentations and paper sessions, will explore our current understanding of such diverse topics as plate tectonics and vulcanicity, sedimentology and palaeontology, natural hazards and disaster management, hazard mapping, land management and conservation, small-scale farming, urban landscapes, tourism, and migration, all with a Caribbean theme.

The three-day meeting will feature two days of selected papers, with a mid-session field trip, a choice of either an urban geography or coastal vulnerability excursion. There will also be an optional post-conference two night fieldtrip to Discovery Bay Marine Laboratory, which will explore a choice of either north coast tourism, or Cockpit Country geology and karst.

2nd International Tsunami Field Symposium

Puglia – Ionian Islands 2008

IGCP Project n.495

Quaternary Land-Ocean Interactions:

Ostuni (Puglia - Italy) and Ionian Islands (Greece)

22-28 September 2008

The Universities of Bari, Lecce (Italy) and Marburg (Germany) invite coastal researchers on behalf of the IGCP Project 495: "Quaternary Land-Ocean Interactions: Driving Mechanisms and Coastal Responses" to the 2nd International Tsunami Field Symposium to be held in Ostuni (Brindisi, Italy) and in the Ionian Islands from Monday, 22 September to Saturday 28 September 2008.

The symposium will be a multi-disciplinary international meeting for scientists interested in tsunami research.

(find more information on <http://www.2ndtsunamisymposium.unile.it>)

Celebrating 150 years of the Mines and Geology Division

Celebrations will be held November, 2009

Theme: 150 Years and Beyond: Managing Geological Assets for National Development

Tremors

Congratulations

Sherene James Williamson had a healthy baby boy, Nathan on May8, 2008.

Marine Geology Unit received the Principals Award of the University of the West Indies for 2007/08

Au revoir

Jerome Shields departs after serving on council for a few months, to pursue professional pursuits abroad.



Future of the Palisadoes

GSJ Field Trip April 19th 2008



Field trip was led by Shakira Khan and Prof. Ted Robinson from the Marine Geology Unit, University of the West Indies

The field trip focused on reinforcement strategies and discussions on impacts of hurricanes Ivan (2004) and Dean (August 2007).



Above: Enjoying the view at Fort Rocky
Left: GSJ Members observing the present water line and displaced boulders.





**UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST
INDIES PRESS**

Department of Geography and Geology
University of the West Indies,
Mona Campus
Kingston 7
Phone: (876) 9272728
Fax: (876) 9776029
Email: gsj50years@yahoo.com
Webpage: gsj.monainformatixltd.com
ISSN 1016 - 1936

GSJ COUNCIL 2008—2009

President Mrs. Shanti Persaud-Levy
Vice President Dr. Gavin Gunter
Treasurer Mr. Michael White
Secretary Ms. Shakira Khan
Editor Prof. Simon Mitchell
Council Members
Mr. Rafi Ahmad
Mr. Richard Coutou
Dr. Arpita Mandal
Mr. Franklin McDonald
Mr. Jerome Shields
Mr. Roger Williams
Webmaster Dr. Parris Lyew-Ayee Jnr.

GSJ MEMBERSHIP FORM 2008 – 09

PREFERRED TITLE: Ms. / Mrs. / Mr. / Dr. / Prof. / Sir

NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

POSITION: _____

TEL(O): _____ **FAX.:** _____

TEL(H): _____

E-MAIL: _____

HOME ADDRESS (if different from above): _____

At which address would you like to receive mail?

HOME OFFICE

MEMBERSHIP FEES (Indicate your status with an asterisk “*”)

| STATUS | ANNUAL FEE (J\$) |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| Institutional | 3,000.00 |
| Professional | 1,500.00 |
| Associate | 500.00 |
| Student | 300.00 |

Areas of Interest: _____

Membership in the Society is open to all persons with an interest in Geology and all related earth sciences. Application for Membership may be submitted to the Secretary/Treasurer, Geological Society of Jamaica. c/o Department of Geography & Geology, University of the West Indies, Mona, Kingston 7, Jamaica.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE DUE AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING EACH YEAR OR BY THE 31ST OF JANUARY.