

Natural History Museum, was part of one of the expeditions, which was covered widely in the press: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/extra/nxVbFidDbs/mission-jurassic>.

Another great article on the project, recommended by Emma Bernard, focuses on the work of researcher Dr Susannah Maidment: <https://www.knowablemagazine.org/article/living-world/2019/date-dinosaur-stegosaurus-susie-maidment>.

Commercial Use of Collections- GCG Advisory Notice

Using your collections commercially can be a powerful way to capitalise on the uniqueness of your resource and generate valuable extra revenue. However there are a number of potential pitfalls which you should be aware of, including:

- Risks to your accreditation status for your entire collection or even entire museum
- Damage to collection objects and consequent loss of scientific data
- Dilution of significance
- Misrepresentation and exploitation

Many larger organisations will have IPR (Intellectual Property Rights) departments that can advise on this, or legal expertise can readily be hired in. However it should be noted that the committee and membership of GCG represents a wide spectrum of institutions, and countless years of combined knowledge and experience in museum collections. If you have any questions regarding the above, and would like an informal chat, then please contact us on info@geocurator.org and we'll do our best to help.

Online Articles

Recent articles on the GCG blog (<https://geocollnews.wordpress.com/>) have included; *GeoWeek 2019- Looking Back, Dinosaur Croutons and Feathered Pterosaurs*, and *Thoughts on Restoration of Boxed Natural History Collections*. If you would like to submit an article please get in touch with Blog Editor Emma Nicholls at blog@geocurator.org. You don't have to be a professional geoscientist or curator, and all areas of geosciences are very welcome.

Membership

If you pay by Standing Order, please check you are paying the correct amount; UK Personal Subscription £20 per annum (optional concessionary rate £15), UK Institutions £25, Overseas Personal Subscription £23, Overseas Institutions £27. You can easily pay online using Paypal or a credit card. Those paying incorrect amounts won't be able to access all member benefits.



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Coprolite is compiled and produced by Dr Emma Nicholls, Deputy Keeper of Natural History at the Horniman Museum and Gardens, London. Contributions from everyone are welcomed, and should be sent to Emma at coprolite@geocurator.org. The copy deadlines are listed below:

- Spring newsletter - Deadline 1st February
- Summer newsletter - Deadline 1st May
- Autumn newsletter - Deadline 1st August
- Winter newsletter- Deadline 1st November

Chair: Matthew Parkes, Assistant Keeper, Natural History Division, National Museum of Ireland, Merrion Street, Dublin 2, Ireland. Email: chair@geocurator.org

Secretary: Sarah King, York Museums Trust, Yorkshire Museum, Museum Gardens, York, YO1 7FR. Email: secretary@geocurator.org

Treasurer: Dr Rachel Walcott, Principal Curator, Earth Systems, Department of Natural Sciences, National Museums Scotland, Chambers St, Edinburgh EH1 1JF. Email: treasurer@geocurator.org

Notice of Annual General Meeting of the Geological Curators' Group and Committee Nominations

Notice is hereby given that the 46th Annual General Meeting of the Geological Curators' Group will be hosted by the Sedgwick Museum of Earth Sciences at 4pm on the 10th December 2019. All Committee posts (except Chair) can be renewed annually. Nominations for the posts of Committee Members must be made by two members of the Group and submitted in writing or by email to the Secretary, Sarah King (secretary@geocurator.org), by 19th November 2019. Items proposed for inclusion on the Agenda should be submitted to the Secretary as above. For the current committee and types of roles, please see our website: <https://www.geocurator.org/committee>.

Events

9th October 2019: Fakes Workshop

If you are interested in our Fakes Workshop, *bookings will close on the 4th October*, so do register as soon as you can. To be held at National Museums Scotland in Edinburgh, the workshop will cover aspects such as how to tell real fossil material from casts and even forgeries (when the creator is trying to hide the true nature of the 'specimen!'), and how to differentiate amber from resin. For more information or to register, please see our events page: <https://geocurator.org/events/85-fakes-workshop>.

14th November 2019: Jurassic East

Geo-East are holding a one day conference called *Jurassic East* at the British Antarctic Survey's Aurora Centre on Madingley Road, Cambridge. Talks will focus on the Jurassic geology and palaeontology of the area and relevant material held in the collections of the Sedgwick Museum of Earth Sciences. As well as talks, there will be posters, and palaeoart on display. For more information or to register, please visit their website: <http://www.geo-eastevents.org.uk/>.

10th – 11th December 2019: GCG Annual Conference and AGM

The theme for this year's annual GCG conference is the thought provoking title "How can we make our precious collections available to researchers?". We are looking for abstracts from those that work, volunteer, or have an interest in the collections management side of the debate, as well as those who carry out research on museum collections, particularly but certainly not limited to, scientists who require destructive sampling for their work.

We are thrilled to announce that our annual conference and AGM will take place at the Sedgwick Museum of Earth Sciences, University of Cambridge. We will announce more information shortly, on the following page: <https://www.geocurator.org/agm2019>.

18th – 20th December 2019: Palaeontological Association Annual Conference

This year PalAss is jetting off to Spain for their conference, where it will be hosted by the University of Valencia. There are two field trips planned, one pre-conference from 15th - 17th December, and one post-conference on the 21st December. More information can be found here: www.palass.org/meetings-events/annual-meeting/2019/.

5th – 7th May 2020: Marine Reptile Conference

Due to take place at the Etches Collection in Kimmeridge, Dorset, this meeting will comprise oral platform presentations, discussions, and posters. The conference is open to all, and professionals, amateurs and enthusiasts in the field of marine reptiles are invited to attend. The primary focus will be on the fossil record, covering both marine reptiles and other organisms which formed part of their ecosystems, however a session will also take place on modern marine reptiles, and abstracts from researchers studying all aspects of this field are welcomed. For more information please visit their website: <http://marinereptiles.org/>.

News

Earth Science Week

The theme of Earth Science Week for 2019, run by the Geological Society of London, is *Geoscience is for Everyone*. GCG will be joining in, with the specific aim of quashing ill-conceived ideas that any aspect of geosciences is only for certain types of people.

Here is a little back story as to our motivations: A colleague of one of the GCG committee members has a 4 year old daughter who is extremely keen on dinosaurs. However, this palaeontologist-in-the-making recently returned home from playgroup saying that she no longer likes dinosaurs because she had been told dinosaurs are for boys. Sadly, this is not the only anecdote the committee has heard of late, and it predominantly seems to be affecting pre- or primary school age girls actively being put off science. In an attempt to address this rather serious issue, the Geological Curators' Group is hosting a week long social media campaign aimed not just at girls, but at all who could have an interest in geosciences. The campaign will comprise a daily theme on Twitter, as well as short videos, and a number of blog articles to be published on our website. We will be encouraging everyone to get involved so for further information, please see the events page on our website: <https://www.geocurator.org/events/93-earth-science-week-2019>.

Earth Science Week 2019 runs from the 12th to the 20th October 2019 and comprises a host of events and activities. For more information, please see the GeolSoc website: <https://www.geolsoc.org.uk/earthscienceweek>.

Members-Only Book Review Offer

We are delighted to announce that we are offering a copy of Professor Michael Benton's new book *Dinosaurs Rediscovered- The Scientific Revolution in Paleontology* for review. This offer is only open to members, however the review will be published on our blog as an open access article for all to read and enjoy. Published in April 2019, this fantastic book explores the changes in scientific methodologies employed by palaeontologists in the current day, and looks at how different modern palaeontology is as a science, compared to its roots in Victorian collecting. If you would like to be the lucky person to get this free copy of *Dinosaurs Rediscovered*, please get in touch with Emma Nicholls at blog@geocurator.org. The book will be offered for free, on a first come first served basis and the deadline for the review will be mutually agreed by the author and Blog Editor.

Mission Jurassic

The Natural History Museum is working as part of an international team of researchers excavating a 2.6 km² Late Jurassic field site in Wyoming, USA. The geology of the area is primarily Morrison Formation, with sporadic outcrops of the older Sundance Formation. Both articulated and partially articulated skeletons have been recovered so far, as well as plant material and trace-fossils such as trackways, giving insights into the Late Jurassic faunal diversity and ecosystem. Committee member Emma Bernard, Curator of Fossil Fishes at the