

Newsletter of Micropalaeontology



January 2006

Number 73

Edited by I.J. Slipper

The Micropalaeontological Society



CONTENTS

Society news	3
Group news	10
Society officers	18
Conferences ahead	20
Conference reports	25
Micro News	31
New works	34
People	36
Diary	37

2006 is looking like a very full year for the micropalaeontologist if the Diary on page 37 is any indication. The TMS is a thriving Society as can be seen in the new "Directory of Micropalaeontologists" for 2006 which accompanies this *Newsletter*. The last AGM with its revised format of more shorter talks from each of the specialist groups seems to have been a great success in attracting new student members, one of whom has contributed to this issue. It is good to see enthusiasm from the next generation.

We also honour those who have given outstanding service to the Society, and above is pictured Professor John Murray receiving Honorary Membership to The Micropalaeontological Society from the Chairman, Professor David Siveter.

Copy deadline for next issue: **1st June 2006**

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Society News

Report from the Chair - Prof. David Siveter

There have been several pleasing developments for The Micropalaeontological Society recently. Firstly, TMS Officers and other Committee members have reported positive feedback from the Membership on the new format of the Annual General Meeting that was unveiled at University College London in mid-November. By common consent it was an enjoyable and successful meeting, with about 100 attendees, perhaps swelled even more at the post-meeting wine reception (generously sponsored by PetroStrat Ltd). TMS hopes to adopt a similar template next year, again with about six thirty-minute talks, but arranged on the theme of "Microfossils and Climate Change". Mark Williams and collaborators will be lead organisers for the meeting, to be held in mid November. We hope to see you there!

In 2006 TMS will have its 'Coral anniversary', having been founded 35 years ago. During that time the Society has acquired the trappings of age – journals, newsletters, countless minutes of meetings and reports of the activities of its constituent groups. One of the first things that I received from my predecessor as Chairman, Haydon Bailey, was a largish cardboard box marked "Chairman's files". TMS has long recognised the need to establish an archive for its material. To that end I am delighted to report that as from the recent AGM Richard Hodgkinson has agreed to act as archivist for the Society, and has begun to put 25 years of Society business in order. As many of you know, Richard was for many years on the staff of the Micropalaeontology Section of the Natural History Museum, where he is now an honorary member, and he has a strong interest in the history of geology. So, those of you who have played a part on TMS Committee in the past, this is the time to salvage those long forgotten TMS box files and send any relevant papers to Richard. Clearly, such papers could help in the future in penning a history of the Society.

This year TMS editors have been responsible for developments concerning three publications of the Society. The 2006 Volume of the *Journal of Micropalaeontology* sported its first paper to be illustrated with colour plates. In association with the Publishing House of the Geological Society the TMS 'Special Publication Series' has been revived with the publication of *Recent Developments in Applied Biostratigraphy*. We hope that this series can now build up a head of steam. Two future issues are at a reasonably advanced stage and TMS would welcome proposals from those with ideas for future publications in the series. Thirdly, with the coming of a new Editor the TMS Newsletter has seen changes that we hope the Membership approves (comments and suggestions to the Newsletter Editor).

In the summer TMS became a founding member of the Earth, Environment and Ocean network (EEON), set up through the Geological Society of London. This is a group of currently eight UK-based, learned societies. It aims to publicise the activities and events of its member societies, to foster interdisciplinary initiatives in the UK and internationally, and to promote the interests of the Earth and Environmental Science community at large, including trying to ensure that its voice is heard in the media and Government. For news and views on Earth Science matters, I can recommend a visit the EEON web site.

As I pen this in the run up to the festive season I am reminded that this is a period of 'giving'. I would like to highlight to TMS members that there is a very easy and pain-free way to help the coffers of the Society. If you shop on-line using 'Amazon.co.uk', the next time that you purchase your items do so by logging on via the link clearly displayed on the front page of the TMS web site. In this way TMS gets a 'percentage' for the purchase! So, when you next order a camera, washing machine or motor car..... Simple!

Secretary's Report - Dr Michal Kucera

2005 Annual General Meeting

The Society entered the 35th year of its existence with a variety of new initiatives. To mention two: the format of the Annual General Meeting has been changed to offer a broad range of speakers and the Society restarted its special publication series by a deal negotiated with the Geological Society Publishing House. Apart from routine committee work and keeping the database of members my main tasks have been the organization of the AGM and administration of TMS grants and awards schemes.

Specialist Group Meetings 2005

The Society continues promoting micropalaeontology through small, focused international meetings organised by its specialist groups. "Foraminifera and Nannoplankton in Palaeoceanography" organized jointly by the Foraminifera and Calcareous nannofossil Groups took place in May 2005 in Southampton, and was visited by over 80 researchers from 12 countries. The APLF-TMS-LSPG meeting "PALYNOLOGIE, PALEOLATITUDES, PALEOALTITUDES", co-organised by the Palynology group, took place in October 2005 in Paris whilst the Ostracod group meeting was held in May 2005 in London. The increasing resonance of these meetings among the scientific community shows the usefulness of this activity and help to enhance the profile of the Society.

Changes to the Committee

Officers elected at the 2004 AGM were:

Prof. David Siveter (Chairman) who replaced Dr Haydon Bailey.

Dr Steve Starkie (Publicity Officer) who replaced Dr Rachel Preece.

Dr Ian Slipper (Newsletter Editor) who replaced Dr Jenny Pike.

Prof Malcolm Hart (Special Publications Editor for a second term).

New specialist group representatives appointed since the 2004 AGM were:

Dr Ian Harding (Palynology Group Chair) who replaces Dr Susanne Feist-Burkhard.

Dr Duncan McLean (Palynology Group Secretary) who replaces Dr Paul Dodsworth.

Dr Ian Boomer (Ostracod Group Chair) who replaces Dr Ian Slipper.

Dr David Lazarus (Silicofossil Group Chair) who replaces Dr Cathy Stickley.

The Society is grateful to all committee members who have volunteered their time and effort.

Charles Downie Award

The Charles Downie Award is given annually to the member of TMS who, in the opinion of the Committee, has published the most significant paper, in any journal, based upon his or her postgraduate research. The committee decided that the 2005 award will be given to Dr **Daniela Schmidt** for her paper: Schmidt, D.N., Thierstein, H.R., Bollmann, J. and Schiebel, R., 2004. Abiotic Forcing of Plankton Evolution in the Cenozoic. *Science*, 303: 207-210.

Grants-in-Aid

One TMS Grant-in-aid was awarded in 2005. This grant was given in the memory of Alan Higgins and went to **Sarah de la Rue** of Louisiana State University, to support her attending the 2005 Dinoflagellate Cyst Workshop in San Diego. [Report on page 27 - Ed.]

Membership Database

The Society's updated database comprises 386 individual members, of which 206 are resident in the UK, 94 in Europe, and 86 in the rest of the world. The membership of the Society continues to decline slightly (2003: 408, 2004: 400 members), but we are encouraged by an increase in new members joining the Society: since January 2005 TMS welcomed 23 new members.

Newsletter

The continuation of the Newsletter has been under discussion by the Committee, and it is thanks to a competitive printing offer arranged by the new editor, **Dr Ian Slipper**, that this valuable instrument of the Society will continue to entertain and inform the membership in a convenient format. *Newsletter of Micropalaeontology* No. 71 was issued in January 2005 and No. 72 in July 2005. The next issue, accompanied by a new Directory of Micropalaeontologists is due in January 2006.

Website

Dr Andy Henderson has completed his third year as the Society's Webmaster. The

site is continuously updated and used to disseminate information to the membership including details of specialist group meetings. The link is: **<http://www.tmsoc.org>**

Publicity

With so many new activities planned for the next year, including the celebration of the 25th volume of the *Journal of Micropalaeontology*, publicity will be an important issue for the Society. We are thankful to all those who continue to support us on this front and look forward to a chance for a greater exposure of the Society next year.

Michal Kucera

<michal.kucera@uni-tuebingen.de>

TMS Secretary, 1/11/2005

Treasurer's Report - Dr Stephen Packer

The TMS accounts for 2004-2005 were presented at the AGM in November. Copies of the accounts will be available on the TMS website and are also reproduced in this Newsletter. The end of year balance continues to show a moderately healthy improvement and is in line with the overall strategy of increasing the financial reserves of TMS, whilst maintaining support to our core activities and other micropalaeontological events around the world.

Subscription rates for 2006 will remain unchanged at 35 GBP for ordinary members and 20 GBP for retired / student members. 2006 subscription invoices will be issued in November & December and are due for payment on the 1st January 2006. As always I would ask you to pay promptly and to complete the form in full.

A reminder also that TMS administers two memorial funds (Charles Downie and Alan Higgins). Proceeds from the Higgins fund have been used this year to support a student Grant-in-aid. If you would like to make a donation to either fund please send your cheques etc to me.

Turning to the future, 2006 will see the end of my three year term as Treasurer of the society. TMS will therefore be looking for someone to fill this position from the end of 2006. If any members are willing to consider taking on this position please do not hesitate to contact me for further information.

Thank you for your continued support of TMS and I look forward to seeing many of you again during 2006.

Stephen Packer

New Members

We welcome the following new members to the Society:

Sarah Heal
Benjamin Kotrc
Lea Numberger

Robert Raine
Maria Elena Perez
Stephen Stukins

Lee Toms
Nicholas Owens
Benjamin Sames

Journal Editor's Report - Dr John Gregory

Journal of Micropalaeontology

Volume 24, Part 2, October 2005

CONTENTS

New species of prunoid radiolarians from the Antarctic Neogene

D. Lazarus, K. Faust & I. Popova-Goll

Biostratigraphy of Late Maastrichtian larger foraminifers in Jamaica and the importance of *Chubbina* as a Late Maastrichtian index fossil

S. F. Mitchell

Late Asbian to Brigantian (Mississippian) foraminifera from southeast Ireland: comparison with northern England assemblages

I. D. Somerville & P. C  zar

A key to the unilocular hyaline Foraminifera

S. A. Revets

Correlation of *Virgulinella fragilis* Grindell & Collen (benthic foraminiferid) with near-anoxia in Aso-kai Lagoon, central Japan

H. Takata, K. Seto, S. Sakai, S. Tanaka & K. Takayasu

Extinct foraminifera figured in Brady's *Challenger* Report

B. W. Hayward & S. Kawagata

Early Permian Carbonitidae (Ostracoda): ontogeny, affinity, environment and systematics

J. B. Retrum & R. L. Kaesler

Micropalaeontological Notebooks

First occurrence of the genus *Sclerocypris* Sars, 1924 (Ostracoda) in the ?Pleistocene of Western Europe (Portugal)

M. C. Cabral, J.-P. Colin & P. Carbonel

A new UK record of *Herpetocypris brevicaudata* Kaufmann, 1900 (Cypridoidea, Ostracoda): palaeo-temperature implications

R. J. Smith

The monothalamous foraminiferan *Tinogullmia* in the Black Sea

N. G. Sergeeva, O. V. Anikeeva & A. J.

Gooday

Last year was a reasonably good one with 25 submissions, there is already enough material being typeset for issue 25/1, and this volume should be published on time in April 2006.

With regard to the online access of the Journal, The Micropalaeontological Society committee and I have decided that as of January 2006 we will arrange this facility ourselves which will save the society a significant annual fee. The Natural History Museum, London has kindly allowed us to host this service via our website at **www.tmsoc.org** and Andy Henderson has done a great job arranging this. I am pleased to announce that all paid-up members of TMS will be able to download, free of charge, individual pdfs of papers from the last 4 volumes previously available on the Ingenta site. I have included an announcement in The Newsletter outlining this service and how members can access it. Later in the year (probably around March), we will be uploading the entire back catalogue of the Journal and this will happen when scanning of articles into pdf format is completed and the contents have been thoroughly checked.

As indicated previously, a major milestone in 2006 will see the Journal celebrating 25 years and to mark this I will be including an extended editorial in 25/1 and hope to include some review papers in 25/2. Additionally, I will also be producing a full cumulative index (the previous one was compiled by Lesley Sheppard and covered volumes 1-10) which will be made freely available online, along with a full Endnote bibliographic file.

John Gregory

PetroStrat Ltd

<john@jgregory.demon.co.uk>

ANNOUNCEMENT

Journal of Micropalaeontology

Journal Article pdfs now available direct from TMS website.

The Micropalaeontological Society has now moved its online Journal article pdfs from the Ingenta site to TMS website. All TMS members with up-to-date subscriptions will be able to access and download pdfs of papers from the current issue of the Journal and all uploaded archived volumes directly from TMS website. At present the last 4 volumes are uploaded, and the entire Journal archive will be available later in the year.

TMS will allow society members to download pdfs of papers for free as one of their membership benefits. This service has now been activated and is password protected; for more information follow the instructions below, or see TMS website

www.tmsoc.org.

John Gregory

(Editor, Journal of Micropalaeontology)

How to download the Journal of Micropalaeontology pdfs.

You will need your current society membership number (printed on all correspondence labels) and your email address (this is the email you informed us of when you subscribed to TMS). If you are unsure of these details, or do not have email then contact Michal Kucera, TMS secretary at:
michal.kucera@uni-tuebingen.de

- 1). Visit the TMS website (www.tmsoc.org).
- 2). Follow the links for the Journal of Micropalaeontology online.
- 3). Find the article you are interested in and download the pdf. You will be asked for a username and a password. The username is your email address and the password is your society membership number.

2005 TMS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

J. Z. Young Lecture Theatre, Wednesday 16th November 2005

Introduction

The Chairman, Prof David Siveter open the AGM by welcoming the members and guests. Approximately 100 persons, including 51 members, were in attendance.

Reports

The Society's Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Journal Editor and Special Publications Editor reported on the progress since the previous AGM.

Election of Webmaster

The Committee received only one nomination for the post of the Webmaster, that being Dr Andy Henderson, who agreed to stand for a second term in office. The proposer was Prof D. Siveter, and the seconders Dr J. Gregory and Prof M. Hart. Dr Henderson was elected unopposed.

Guest Lectures

Following Society business, a series of six talks representing the specialist groups of the Society were delivered. In the first part of the session, *Prof David Siveter* presented his work on exceptionally preserved Silurian microfossils, including sexy ostracods, *Dr Charles Wellman* spoke on the palynological evidence of early land plants and how they coexisted with giant truffles, and *Dr Ivan Sansom* introduced all things fishy from the Ordovician. Following a coffee break, which was held in the South Cloisters, *Dr Rainer Gerstsonde* presented a talk on the potential of diatoms as indicators of climate change in the Southern Ocean, *Dr Haydon Bailey* treated the audience to a fascinating account on the use of microfossils in solving a prominent murder case and *Dr Kate Darling* showed the latest results of her investigations of molecular genetics of planktonic foraminifera.

Presentation of Charles Downie Award 2004

Prof David Siveter then presented the 2005 Charles Downie Award to Dr Daniela Schmidt for her paper: Schmidt, D.N., Thierstein, H.R., Bollmann, J. and Schiebel, R., 2004. Abiotic Forcing of Plankton Evolution in the Cenozoic. *Science*, 303: 207-210. Dr Schmidt then gave a talk on the topic of her publication, convincing the audience that size matters even among microscopic plankton.

Conferment of Honorary Membership

Honorary Membership was then conferred on Prof John Murray by Dr John Whittaker, for his lasting contribution to research and education in the field of micropalaeontology and for his support and service to the Society in many capacities. During the presentation, the audience was treated to a hilarious account of the true nature of the awardee, presented by Dr Elisabeth Alve. Prof. Murray thanked the Society for the honour, expressing his optimism about the future of the science.

Subsequently, Dr John Whittaker found himself receiving the Grzybowski award for lifelong contribution to research on agglutinated foraminifera. The award is given by the Grzybowski Foundation and was presented by Dr Mike Kaminski.

Vote of Thanks

The Chairman then formally closed the AGM by thanking the speakers for their interesting contributions and Local Secretary, Prof Alan Lord.

Wine Reception

The members then adjourned to the South Cloisters where a wine reception, sponsored by Petrosolat Ltd., was held.

Michal Kucera, TMS Secretary, 22/11/2005
<michal.kucera@uni-tuebingen.de>

TMS Statement of accounts for financial year 2004-2005

INCOME	
Balance from 2003-2004	7070.59
Membership Subscriptions	
Individual/Student 2004	30.00
Individual/Student 2005	12437.50
Individual/Student 2006	40.00
Gift Aid	756.18
Sub-total	13263.68
Library Subscriptions	15967.00
Total Subscription income	29230.68
Miscellaneous Income	
Sponsorship Forum/Nanno Grp Meeting	1834.97
Transfer of Downie Account	2910.13
Advertising revenue 2005	640.00
Donations to Higgins Fund	680.00
Sale of JoM backparts	78.70
TMS Foundation	365.00
Bank account interest (BR acc)	174.34
Ingenta royalties	0.00
Kluwer royalties	1533.93
Miscellaneous	1.00
AGM 2004 Sponsorship (Ichron)	250.00
Amazon royalties	17.27
Total Miscellaneous income	8485.34
TOTAL INCOME	44786.61

EXPENDITURE	
Journal of Micropalaeontology	
Volume 24, Part 1 (inc. postage)	11904.00
Volume 24, Part 2 (inc. postage)	11656.00
Ingenta Fee for 2005	902.75
Sub-total costs of the JoM	24462.75
Newsletter of Micropalaeontology & Directory	
Printing costs Number 71	518.73
Postage: Number 71	187.28
Printing costs Number 72	195.00
Postage: Number 72	189.48
Sub-total costs for N/L & Directory	1090.49
Annual General Meeting	
Hire of lecture theatre at UCL	0.00
Reception	425.41
Speaker's expenses	323.40
Sub-total AGM 2004	748.81
Miscellaneous outgoings	
Microvertebrate Group Meeting	79.90
APLF Sponsorship	200.00
Marine Studies Group	150.00
Spec Publication Editor's expenses (MBH)	112.50
JoM Editor's expenses (JG)	210.59
Secretary's expenses (MK)	135.14
Treasurer's expenses (SRP)	272.88
Postal expenses (HWP)	24.02
Committee meeting expenses (Nov 04)	235.55
Committee meeting expenses (Mar 05)	83.34
Committee meeting expenses (Jun 05)	74.32
Grant-in-Aid 2005 (SRLR)	229.81
EEON Subscription	344.00
Downie Award 2005 (DS)	200.00
Credit Card Company fees	340.92
Direct Debit fees	84.49
Bank Charges	101.60
Sub-total	2879.06
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	29181.11

BALANCE FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2004-2005 (Current & Business Reserve accounts): 15605.50

TOTAL CASH ASSETS 15605.50

The total cash assets includes:

Downie Fund 2227.52
Higgins Fund 1270.00

This financial year ran from 11th November 2004 to 11th November 2005

Dr. S.R. Packer (Honorary Treasurer)

Dr. J.B. Riding (Honorary Auditor)

Foraminifera Group Report

Joachim Schönfeld & Daniela Schmidt

The Foraminifera Group of The Micropalaeontological Society had a very successful meeting together with the Nannofossil Group at the National Oceanography Centre in Southampton followed by a field trip to the Isle of Wight on the 16th to 19th of June 2005. This outstanding meeting and the excursion will be kept in memory for a long time. We would like to thank again **Ralf Schiebel** and **Andy Gale** for the perfect organisation of the meeting and the excursion.

Another highlight of this year was the 7th International Symposium on the Cretaceous, which took place from 5th to 9th September 2005 at University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland. This successful meeting was organized by **Karl Föllmi** and **Thierry Adatte** and gathered more than 200 participants from all over the world. **Michele Caron** and **Malcolm Hart** convened a special session on Cretaceous Foraminifera where 7 talks and 19 posters were presented, even three more than during the competing session on Cretaceous ammonites. Most contributions focused on the stratigraphy, palaeo-ecology and evolution of Valanginian to Turonian planktonic foraminifera. Revisiting the early times of the development of modern planktonic biota under the application of timely palaeoceanographic concepts is a new trend emerging in this field. The next International Cretaceous Symposium will be held at Plymouth, United Kingdom, in 2009.

In October, many of us convened again for the "Biogeochemical Controls on Palaeoceanographic Proxies" meeting at the Geological Society, London, organised by **Bill Austin**, **Leon Clarke**, **Rachel James**, and

Ros Rickaby. It brought together palaeontologists, geochemists and palaeoceanographers with the goal of improving our understanding on proxies for palaeoclimate reconstruction. It was an exciting meeting with interesting talks covering every aspect of bugs from ecology and evolution (first things first), via biomineralisation to geochemistry. The keynote for the micropalaeo-community was given by **Joan Bernhard** (WHOI) on "Recent advances in benthic foraminiferal culturing studies", followed by talks by **Andy Gooday**, **Kate Darling**, myself and Jeremy. Several of the TMS fossil groups were covered from forams, via nannos to diatoms, most talks though on how to dissolve the bugs. A proceedings volume, reviewing the state of the art, will be published by the Geological Society in 2006.

The next spring meeting of the Foraminifera and Nannofossil Groups will take place at the University of Liverpool, United Kingdom, and **Jens Herrle** will take on the local organisation. The exact dates are not yet fixed, but they will be soon announced on the TMS website.

Beside the announcement and organisation of meetings, we would like to proceed with a collection of web-based foraminiferal taxonomic resources. We are collecting links to species lists, descriptions, images etc. and will put this list on the TMS web-pages. We again encourage the Foraminifera Group Members to send us the addresses they know in order to accomplish the list of taxonomic links.

Joachim Schönfeld
Foraminifera Group Chair,
<jschoenfeld@geomar.de>
Daniela Schmidt
Foraminifera Group Secretary,
<d.schmidt@bristol.ac.uk>

Ostracod Group Report - Alan Lord & Ian Boomer

A successful summer with over 130 participants at the 15th International Symposium on Ostracoda held in Berlin this September. Hosts organised a good meeting with full programme of pre- and post-symposium fieldtrips, there was an encouraging attendance by many new, young workers in the field. A full report will appear elsewhere in this Newsletter. The proceedings, as established at the 13th Meeting in Chatham, 1997, are to be published in International Journals with *Hydrobiologia*, *Marine Micropalaeontology* and *Palaeogeography*, *Palaeoclimatology*, *Palaeoecology* lined up for the Berlin Symposium. The next International meeting will be held in Brazil (Brasilia) in 2009.

The next meeting of the TMS Ostracod Group will be held in Drongen, Ghent, Belgium on the 19-21st May 2006, hosted by Dr **Koen Martens**, Natural History Museum, Brussels. The programme will include time for a series of talks and posters as well as field collection of Cenozoic and Cenomanian material from localities at Cap Gris Nez, led by Drs **Dick van Harten** and **Ian Slipper** respectively.

Outline Programme:

Friday 19 May,

Assemble evening at Drongen Abbey, Ghent. Buffet supper available to accommodate different arrival times.

Saturday 20 May, Morning and early afternoon - talks and posters. Late afternoon to evening - guided tour and dinner in historic centre of Ghent.

Sunday 21 May, Field collection in area of Cap Blanc Nez - Recent freshwater (Dr Karel **Wouters**) and Cenomanian (Dr **Ian Slipper**) localities. Lunch and disperse.

Everybody welcome. A second circular for registration and accommodation will be sent in January 2006.

Other forthcoming meetings to note:

1. ROLF, the French-language ostracod group, will meet in Tétouan, Morocco, 19-22nd April 2006. For further information contact:

Driss Nachite <nachite@fst.ac.ma> or
Abdelhamid Rossi <rossi@fst.ac.ma>

2. The next EOM (European Ostracodologists' Meeting) will be held in Frankfurt-am-Main, 4-7th September, 2007.

Alan Lord <Alan.Lord@senkenberg.de>

Palynology Group Report - Ian Harding

Some 90 palynologists attended an extremely successful symposium in Paris at the beginning of October (3rd-7th) entitled 'Palynologie, paleolatitudes, paleoaltitudes' which was held under the combined auspices of the Association de Palynologues de Langue Française (APLF), the Palynology Group of The Micropalaeontological Society (TMS) and the Linnean Society Palynology

Specialist Group (LSPSG), and hosted at the Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle. Five days of formal talks and poster sessions represented a comprehensive trawl through most of the geological column and the wide diversity of palynological research: a full report has been compiled for the IFPS publication 'Palynos' and will also be offered to TMS Newsletter. Five stu-

dents secured travel grants from the APLF/TMS: Eudes Thouand (Montpellier); **Filipa Naughton** (Bordeaux); **Daniel Peyrot** (Montpellier); **Sébastien Joannin** (See report on page XX of this Newsletter); **Adèle Kuentz** (Clermont-Ferrand).

The next meeting in which the Palynology Group is involved will be the 3rd Joint Meeting of the group to be held in conjunction with the Silicofossil Group, and is being jointly organised by myself, **Cathy Stickley** (outgoing Chair of the Silicofossil Group) and **Henk Brinkhuis**. Henk will be hosting the meeting in March 2006 at Utrecht University, the programme is finalised, keynote speakers have been invited and some have already confirmed their acceptances, and the registration website is up and running. This meeting has already been advertised at the Paris meeting in October, and the flyer is about to be emailed to all Palynology/Silicofossil group members, LSPSG and APLF members.

Following discussions with Danish palynologists at the Paris meeting, we hope that we will be able to organise future events in conjunction with colleagues from Scandinavia. Although not something that will bear on the arrangement of such a meeting, no further communication has yet been forthcoming from the Collegium Palynologicum Scandi-

navicum (CPS) to follow up recent discussions concerning the possible affiliation of this group with TMS.

Other meetings of interest:

Applied Palynology Session SSP28 @ General Assembly 2006 of the European Geosciences Union (EGU): Vienna, Austria 2nd-7th April, 2006 (http://meetings.copernicus.org/egu2006/general_information.html).

Climate and Biota of the Early Paleogene: Bilbao, Spain, 12th-20th June, 2006 (<http://www.ehu.es/cbep2006>).

EPPC 2006 (7th European Palaeobotany-Palynology Conference): Prague, Czech Republic, September 6th-11th, 2006 (eppc2006@natur.cuni.cz) <http://www.natur.cuni.cz/eppc2006>).

AASP Annual Conference: 39th Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, USA (in conjunction with the Geological Society of America Meeting), Oct. 22-25 2006 (<http://www.palynology.org/meetings.html>).

Ian Harding - Palynology Group Chair
<ich@noc.soton.ac.uk>

Nannofossil Group Report - Jeremy Young & Emma Sheldon

After four years of supreme efficiency **Emma Sheldon** has handed on the TMS Nannofossil secretary role to **Jens Herrle**, who is now based at Liverpool University. As is explained elsewhere in more detail (and on the website) we are all invited to visit him in early summer (25th-26th May) for a joint foram-nanno meeting, on "Biology and Palaeobiology of Foraminifera and Coccolithophores". We have had an excellent pair of meetings in Copenhagen and Southampton so I can strongly recommend this, especially

to the people who have not yet made it to one of them yet. To follow the conference there will be a weekend field trip to the Lake District lead by **Richard Worden**. Well no, there are not many coccoliths in the Lake District (although I seem to remember Manton published something on haptophytes in Lake Windermere) but this is a region of superb geology and geomorphology and a great opportunity to do something a bit different by way.

TMS FOUNDATION

The Micropalaeontological Society Foundation is a sponsorship scheme to help support the *Journal of Micropalaeontology*. The Foundation is made up of members, non-members and institutions who wish to support the science of micropalaeontology via the production of the *Journal*. Any level of subscription is welcome. A minimum annual donation of £25 is suggested; donors of £25 or more will be acknowledged in the *Journal* and in the *Newsletter*.

Subscription is welcome at any time. Please send donations to:

Dr Stephen Packer, TMS Treasurer, Middlemarch, 17 Brewhouse Lane,
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Silicofossil Group Report - David Lazarus

Society Matters Hello! In case you haven't already been aware via an earlier email announcement, and as indicated by the byline above, the silicofossil group chairmanship has changed. **Cathy Stickley**, after several years of service, has taken on new professional responsibilities which make it impractical for her to continue serving as chairman. **Ivo Grigorov** has also decided to step down as silicogroup secretary. We hope to soon announce a replacement for his position as well. On behalf of the TMS and all the silicofossil group members, I would like to thank both Cathy and Ivo for their excellent work! I will be looking to both of them for support during the next months as I learn this new job, and the ins-and-outs of the TMS, as I am a new member as well.

For those of you who do not know me, I am a radiolarian specialist, an expat American based in Berlin, where I am curator for micropaleontology, including the Ehrenberg collection. My own work has mostly been on Neogene radiolarians, and thus will need your help to compensate for my own limited knowledge of other areas, such as European diatom research. Thus, my first plea: Please - send me any news you want to see advertised within the TMS, or any other suggestions you care to make! Societies live only by the active participation of its members!

In the next months I will be reviewing the current membership list (to get a better idea of who you all are!) as well as to determine who you all aren't (!?). By that, I mean to see where we best could make a special effort to recruit additional silicofossil members to TMS. Expanding membership will definitely be one of the top priorities during my tenure. More on this, and other issues, by the next newsletter.

News and events - March is the Month!

General

Second Joint Silicofossil-Palynology Group Meeting in Utrecht, March 9-10. This is covered separately in the newsletter [?] so I won't repeat the contents of the announcement here. But this meeting should be a most enjoyable one, following up from the very successful first meeting held in Cardiff June 2004. Hope you can make it!

Ehrenberg Online - With your indulgence, I would like to promote something from my own work as curator of the Ehrenberg Collection. Ehrenberg, as any microfossil worker knows, was responsible for many of the earliest descriptions of species and genera of microfossil organisms including in particular diatoms and radiolarians. Access to this collection was for many years nearly impossible as it was on the wrong side of the iron curtain in East Berlin. After many years of work, generous support from numerous student volunteers and the German Ministry for Research and Development (and most particularly **Anne Jobst**, who did most of the database entry), I am happy to announce that detailed information about the Ehrenberg Collection is now available online. The collection's homepage:

museum.hu-berlin.de/pal/microp/ehrenmp.htm

gives general information about the collection, and links to the online database of the collection and the collection archive ftp site, where one can download scans of all of Ehrenberg's drawings, copies of his daughter's handwritten indices to the collection, scanned copies of his major monographs, and much more. Although this information in itself won't solve all taxonomic problems (generally a visit to the collection eventually is necessary to examine type series material), it should help you get started if you are struggling to understand Ehrenberg's taxonomic legacy.

Diatoms

DDT - No, it's *not* the infamous pesticide! The 20th Deutsche Diatomologen Treffen will be held 23-26 March in Trebon, southern Bohemia (Czech Republic). These meetings, often with around 100 participants, have much to recommend them for anyone interested in diatoms. Although the meeting is predominantly in German quite a lot of English is used as well, and international participation is usually substantial. Indeed, in recent years the meeting has frequently been hosted outside of Germany, continuing the trend to more Europe-wide participation (and usually with a few North Americans too). Additional advantages this year include great Bohemian food and beer, and relatively low participation costs (1 Euro is approx. 30 Czech Koruna at the time of this writing). For details see the website: <http://20ddt.butbn.cas.cz/>. Registration should be by 16.12.05 abstracts by 15.01.06.

Also coming up is the 19th International Diatom Symposium (<http://lin.irk.ru/ids2006/>) which takes place in Russia in August as the deadline for registration is May 1st.

Radiolarians

Interrad XI New Zealand, March 19-24, 2006. The Interrad meetings, held only once every three years or so, are the only global meeting where radiolarian specialists of all types meet. Attendance at past meetings has

generally been good, at around 80-100 individuals. Admittedly this meeting's venue is for many of us not all that easy to get to, but on the other hand - when will you get a better excuse to visit New Zealand? And, as has been true of past meetings, there will be a unique opportunity to exchange ideas and information with fellow radiolarian specialists, get caught up with radiolarian themes, and plan new work with like-minded colleagues. For details on the meeting, as well as more information about the association, see <http://www.radiolaria.org/interrad/>.

In Memorium - **Cathy Nigrini**. I regret to record here the passing at the beginning of the year of Cathy Nigrini, a close colleague of many of us, and one of the most respected workers on radiolarian taxonomy for nearly 40 years. Cathy's numerous publications have been both the foundation for much of our current taxonomy, particularly for Cenozoic faunas, and as well were exemplars of accuracy, lucidity and pure professionalism. Cathy in person was warm and unassuming, but at the same time one of the most charmingly elegant people I have ever known - a true lady, in a way that one finds but rarely in real life. We are all going to miss her deeply. A special symposium in her honor will be held as part of Interrad XI in New Zealand.

David Lazarus - Silicofossil Group Chair
<david.lazarus@rz.hu-berlin.de>

Changes to the Committee 2006

The terms of office of the **Secretary** and **Treasurer** of the Committee come to an end at the 2006 AGM. Potential candidates for these posts are encouraged to contact the incumbent officers to discuss the nature of the work involved.

We regret to note that the current **Publicity Officer**, Dr Steve Starkie, has had to resign from his post as he had found it difficult to carry out the role required due to increasing work commitments. The committee co-opted **Dr Mark Williams** to this office until the next AGM, when a new officer will be duly elected. Potential candidates are encouraged to contact the Secretary to discuss the duties involved.

Nominations for all committee positions should be submitted to the Secretary by October 2006. Nominees, proposers and seconders should all be members of the Society.

CHARLES DOWNIE AWARD

The late Charles Downie was one of the pioneers of palynology in the U.K. and a mentor who guided the thinking and development of a large number of postgraduate students who passed through the University of Sheffield. Through the efforts of former colleagues at Sheffield, a permanent memorial has now been established to recognize Charles' contribution to micropalaeontology. An annual award will be made to The Micropalaeontological Society member, who in the opinion of The Micropalaeontological Society Committee, has published the most significant paper, in any journal, based upon his or her postgraduate research.

An award of £200 will be made for the best paper published during 2005 and will be presented at The Micropalaeontological Society AGM in November 2006. Nominations for the best paper published in 2005 should be submitted either to the appropriate TMS Specialist Group, or The Micropalaeontological Society Secretary by 28th February 2006.

Charles Downie Memorial Award Contributors

R. L. Austin	W.A.M. Jenkins
G. A. Booth	J. K. Lentin
B. Braham	R. S. W. Neville
J. P. Bujak	B. Owens
G. Clayton	T. L. Potter
M. D. Crane	A. J. Powell
S. Duxbury	S. M. Rasul
G. L. Eaton	M. Razzo
G. A. Forbes	J. B. Riding
K. J. Gueinn	W. A. S. Sarjeant
A. M. Harding	J. E. Thomas
R. Harland	J. Utting
K. Higgs	D. Wall
P. J. Hill	M. J. Whiteley
A. Hossein Zahiri	G. L. Williams

Journal of Micropalaeontology Sale of Back Issues

TMS has a considerable number of back issues of past volumes of the *Journal of Micropalaeontology* and is having a sale in order to try and clear much of this back stock. Not all volumes are available, but we certainly have the majority of the Journal's first 21 volumes for sale at the give-away price of **£1 per issue** plus postage and packaging. Should you wish to purchase back issues of the Journal, then please use the form below.

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Conference Announcements

General Assembly 2006 of the European Geosciences Union (EGU)

Austria Center Vienna

Vienna, Austria 02-07 April, 2006

http://meetings.copernicus.org/egu2006/general_information.html

Call for papers

Session SSP28

Applied Palynology

Convener: A. Götz

Co-Convener: S. Feist-Burkhardt

Deadline for abstract submission: 13 January, 2006

Contact: Annette E. Götz

Institute of Geosciences

Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg

D-06099 Halle (Saale)

EGU Session SSP12 "Environmental micropaleontology, monitoring past and present environmental perturbation using micro-organisms"

General Assembly of the European Geosciences Union (EGU), Vienna, 2-7 April, 2006.

During the last EGU (2005) micropaleontological science was very poorly represented (only 1 single session in the whole Assembly). In proposing this session we would like to show that micropaleontology still exists, and has significantly modernised. We want especially to highlight the great potential of microorganisms as environmental indicators in recent and past settings.

Topic of the symposium:

Micro-organisms can be found in fresh water and marine environments at all latitudes. Recent studies have demonstrated that these organisms have a great potential to solve environmental problems. Micro-organisms can be used to describe and understand abrupt climate change in the past, but also to detect and monitor environmental changes due to anthropogenic impact in recent ecosystems. Thanks to their fossil record, micro-organisms can inform about the natural background conditions, in polluted environments where these background conditions are mostly unknown. The main purpose of our session is to bring together experts in micropaleontology to (1) present their research focused on the potential of microorganisms to reconstruct paleoenvironments and (2) to discuss the use of micro-organisms as indicators of present and past naturally or human-induced stressed environments.

We will be very glad to welcome your contributions to this session, and hope to see a large participation!

Silvia Spezzaferri
Geology and Paleontology
University of Fribourg, Switzerland

Frans Jorissen
Laboratory of Recent and Fossil Bio-Indicators (BIAF),
Angers University, France

The Micropalaeontological Society



3rd Joint Meeting of the Palynology and Silicofossil groups of TMS

March 9-10, 2006

Laboratory of Palaeobotany & Palynology (LPP)
Utrecht University, The Netherlands

Co-conveners: Catherine Stickley (Norsk Polarinstitutt), Ian Harding (University of Southampton) and
Henk Brinkhuis (Utrecht University)

Hosted by the LPP, The Palaeobotanical Palynological Society Utrecht (PPGU) and TNO-National Geological Survey

Goals: Building on the Joint Meeting at Cardiff University in 2004, the aim of the 3rd mini-symposium is to bring together palynologists and silicofossil workers, from academia and industry, for two days of presentations and discussions. The aim is to demonstrate the mutual benefit of integrating palynological (particularly dinocysts) and siliceous groups (diatoms, radiolarians, silicoflagellates) in palaeoenvironmental and biostratigraphic studies.

Although the meeting will be of most interest to palynologists and silicofossil workers, we welcome participation by any interested micropalaeontologists or palaeoceanographers.

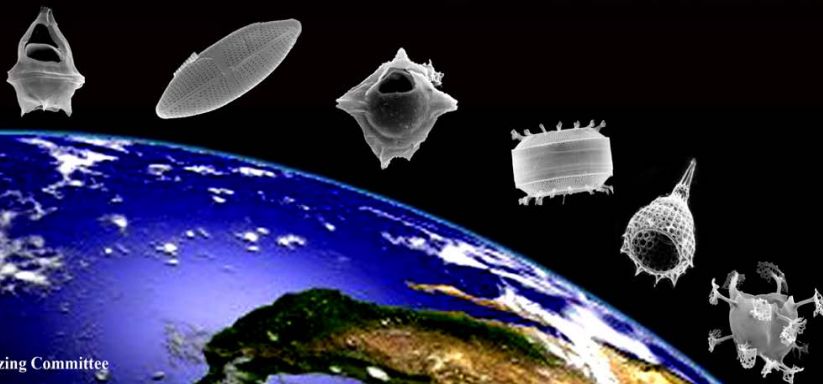
Contributions: We are now accepting offers of oral and poster presentations on any aspect of integrated palynological/siliceous micropalaeontology, novel techniques, and/or palaeoecological applications for one group which may be applicable to the other.
Special session: Reconstructing paleoproductivity in lakes and oceans: current developments with key note speakers Barrie Dale (Oslo) and Helen Bennion (UCL, UK)

Registration: online at the website http://www.bio.uu.nl/~palaeo/Congressen/TMS2006/Intro_TMS2006.htm

Abstracts: Please submit abstracts (max. 1 side of A4) before February 15, 2006 to Marjolein Mullen and/or follow instructions on website. The length of the talks will be 20 minutes; oral presentations will be selected.

Fieldtrip: we are exploring the option to organize a fieldtrip to the Type Maastrichtian on March 11. Interested parties should indicate so, mailing to Marjolein Mullen (address below); some costs will be involved.

The deadline for registration is February 15, 2006. Fees are (Euro symbol) 20,- (seniors) and 5,- (students), to be paid at arrival. Late registration is E 5,- extra. Fees include tea and coffee breaks, lunches, social drinks and an Indonesian buffet.



Local Organizing Committee

Oscar Abbink (TNO-National Geological Survey)
Henk Brinkhuis (LPP Utrecht)
Holger Cremer (TNO-National Geological Survey)
Andy Lotter (LPP Utrecht)
Marjolein Mullen (LPP Utrecht)

LPP

Further information: Marjolein Mullen, m.mullen@bio.uu.nl, tel. +31 30 2532629, fax: +31 30 2535096.



FORAMS 2006: Evolutionary Morphometrics Symposium

A linked technical symposium and workshop session dealing with the 'Evolutionary Morphometrics of the Foraminiferal Test in Time and Space' is being planned for the upcoming FORAMS 2006 meeting in Natal Brazil, 10-15 September 2006. Foraminifera have played a leading role in the development, use, and popularization of quantitative shape-analysis methods in palaeontology for many years. This symposium will provide an opportunity for practitioners to demonstrate methods, discuss approaches, and illustrate applications in this rapidly moving field. The over-riding purpose of the symposium/workshop is to provide basic information about what is possible now, what is coming in the near future, and what potential exists for integrating these methods into research programmes across the micropaleontological spectrum.

If you are working in any of the areas mentioned in the symposium description (below), please consider submitting an abstract for the programme. Also, if you would like to demonstrate software pertaining to the morphometric analysis of foraminifera, please contact me directly. Aside from standard morphometric data-acquisition software (e.g., ImageJ, tpsDIG), demonstrations of the DAISY automated species recognition system, mathematica-based packages for performing eigenshape, eigensurface, and PLS analysis, and various landmark data analysis packages are already planned. As an added bonus, the workshop will also include a demonstration of the new PaleoBase Benthic Foraminifera database.

If you have any questions about the symposium or workshop please contact me directly.

Norm MacLeod <N.MacLeod@NHM.AC.UK>

Evolutionary Morphometrics of the Foraminiferal Test in Time and Space

Organizer: N. Macleod, Department of Palaeontology, Natural History Museum (London)

The vast majority of foraminiferal taxa are defined according to morphological concepts in which patterns of variation (e.g., morphological discontinuities, subspecific morphoclines) have often been assumed or anecdotally illustrated rather than demonstrated quantitatively. While this practice is not different in principal from that used in many other fossil and Recent groups, the unique attributes of the foraminiferal fossil record make it a natural laboratory where fundamental questions regarding the nature quantitative patterns of morphological variation can be assessed at unprecedented levels of detail. Issues that can be addressed under this research programme, at least in principle, include patterns of intraspecific variation, patterns of interspecific variation, automated object recognition, morphological paleobiogeography, correlation of morphological variation with a variety of physical and biological factors, theoretical morphology, and consequences of combining this information with phylogenetic data for understanding the evolutionary history of this group (e.g., morphological disparity, comparative method studies). This open technical session addresses itself to the presentation of new methods whereby such studies can be undertaken and surveying a range of results achieved thus far. Particular emphasis will be placed on what such investigations can tell us about general nature of evolutionary-ecological processes operating in foraminifera (and marine settings in general), and how such data can be used in taxonomic, systematic, stratigraphic, biogeographic and phylogenetic contexts.

FORAMS 2006 - Workshop on Foraminifera and Trace Metals

At the Forams 2006 congress, 10-15 September 2006 in Natal, Brasil, we will organise workshop session 2: Foraminifera and Trace Metals, to be held on Monday 10 September.

We think this workshop is an excellent opportunity to bring together specialists of foraminiferal ecology and of trace metal chemistry. We are convinced that the successful development of paleoceanographical proxies based on trace metal contents of foraminiferal shells, can only be achieved by intensive collaboration of specialists from these highly complementary, but also very different fields!

Please have a look at webpage <http://forams2006.micropress.org/> for further information about the FORAMS 2006 conference, and inform us when you consider to contribute to our workshop! Although the official deadline for abstracts is February 15th, 2006, we would like to receive your abstracts by the middle of January, so that we can start planning the workshop.

Prof. Frans Jorissen <frans.jorissen@UNIV-ANGERS.FR>

Workshop 2: Foraminifera and Trace metals.

Trace metals incorporated in the calcium carbonate of foraminiferal shells are becoming increasingly popular for the reconstruction of past environments. Past sea water temperature, carbonate chemistry, nutrient levels and possibly salinity are all reflected by differences in trace metals to calcium ratios. Although it is generally assumed that the incorporation of these trace metals follows thermodynamic relations known from inorganic calcium carbonate precipitation experiments, large offsets are commonly observed for foraminiferal biomineralisation. The mechanisms responsible for these offsets are, however, not or poorly known. Within this session we would like to invite contributions specifically addressing this lack in our current understanding.

Particular questions to be addressed are the role of 1) biomineralisation and so-called vital effects, 2) ecological niches, 3) diagenetic overprinting in trace element partitioning. Furthermore we want to specifically invite contributions in which controlled foraminiferal culturing and/or new analytical techniques are applied for unraveling factors influencing foraminiferal biomineralisation and trace metal uptake.

Pander Society Symposium

Conodonts in Sequence Stratigraphy, as well as evolution, deposition, and correlation - to be held at the NE Section of the Geological Society of America meeting in Camp Hill/Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on 20 March 2006. A field trip is planned for Sunday 19 March to visit locations in the central Appalachians.

For further information please contact: D. Jeffrey Over <over@geneseo.edu>

The First International Conodont Symposium (ICOS 2006)

University of Leicester, Leicester, U.K. July 12 - 30, 2006

Following the highly successful series of meetings held under the ECOS banner, ICOS 2006, the first International Conodont Symposium will be held in Leicester, UK, in July 2006.

Please contact the organizers Mark Purnell <map2@le.ac.uk> or Philip Donoghue <phil.donoghue@bristol.ac.uk>.

Biology and Palaeobiology of Foraminifera and Coccolithophores

The Micropalaeontological Society's Foraminifera and Nannofossil
Groups Joint Spring Meeting
Thursday 25th - Friday 26th May, 2006
at the University of Liverpool, United Kingdom.

This meeting will continue the tradition of promoting contact and exchange of ideas between workers in their respective groups, and of encouraging cross-links between the disciplines and the expertise from the host institution. For the 2006 meeting we will focus on the biological background of foraminifers and coccolithophores, their physiology, functional morphology, and ecology. We also encourage presentations of new approaches to study of palaeoecology and paleoceanography based on enhanced understanding of the biology of the organisms. Whilst we would encourage people to follow this broad theme, this is an open meeting and we will still be pleased to accept presentations covering other aspects of calcareous nannofossil and foraminiferal research.

The meeting will be followed by an excursion to the Lake District on Saturday, 27th - Sunday 28th May, 2006. The field trip will be lead by Dr. Richard Worden, University of Liverpool, and focus on past sedimentary environments, from deep-sea plains to mountain belts and deserts. The Lake District National Park lies in Cumbria and shows a 300 million years stratigraphic record with key sections of sedimentary geology and tectonics exposed in numerous abandoned mines and quarries. This trip will provide a splendid opportunity to see how palaeoenvironmental changes left their traces in the geological record and how a landscape is formed by the oscillations of late Quaternary ice ages. The costs, including transport and accommodation, will be around 80 to 100 GBP.

Students and professionals are encouraged to present updates of their research, techniques, industrial applications, and software. Oral presentations are welcome and posters will be on display during poster sessions and coffee breaks. The registration fee will be in the order of 20 GBP. Additional information about the meeting (abstract submission, deadlines, schedule etc.) and field trip will be posted to this listserver and will be available on The Micropalaeontological Society's Internet pages soon (<http://www.tmsoc.org>).

Anyone wishing to contribute a presentation or a poster is kindly asked to send an expression of interest and a provisional title of the presentation to Daniela Schmidt by the end of February 2006 (d.schmidt@bristol.ac.uk; Message subject: "TMS-FG& NG PRESENTATION"). Also please indicate whether you will participate in the field excursion. At this stage we need to get an idea of how many people will attend in order to set up the facilities, and to provide appropriate space and time for posters and talks. So expressions of interest are fine.

Joachim Schoenfeld,
<jschoenfeld@geomar.de>

Jeremy Young
<j.young@nhm.ac.uk>

Chairmen, TMS Foram. Group, TMS Nanno. Group

Conference reports

The 15th International Symposium on Ostracoda (ISO15)

David J. Horne

The 15th International Symposium on Ostracoda (ISO15) was held at the Freie Universität in Berlin from September 12th-16th. I set off a few days early from England, driving across Belgium and Germany to Greifswald (trying to listen to the fading Radio 4 commentary on the final test match in the Ashes series) near the Baltic coast, where I joined a pre-symposium field trip led by **Peter Frenzel** and **Finn Viehberg**. The first evening featured a tour of the small but comprehensive geological museum at the University of Greifswald, providing an excellent introduction to the area, followed by a barbecue, renewing old acquaintances and making new ones among the other participants: **Joan Bunbury** (Canada), **Chris Gouramanis** (Australia), **Benny Guralnik** (Israel), **Annette Kossler** (Germany), **Nadezda Krstic** (Serbia and Montenegro), **Lee Hsiang Liow** (USA), **Radovan Pipik** (Slovakia), **Evgenij Schornikov** (Russia) and **Keiichi Hayaishi**, **Chizue Hiruta**, **Shimpei Hiruta**, **Shin-ichi Hiruta** and **Tatsuhiko Yamaguchi** (all from Japan). The next morning was profitably spent sampling modern freshwater ostracods of the River Ryck and a saline spring (originating from underlying Zechstein salt) with abundant *Heterocypris salina*. Lunch was taken by the small harbour at the mouth of the Ryck, during which we observed the arrival of our home for the next two nights, the good ship *Seefuchs* (*Seafox*). A converted fishing boat with a crew of four (a group of enthusiasts who spend much of their time supporting underwater archaeological surveys) and a bunkhouse built in the hold, she proved to be a sturdy and adaptable base for ostracod sampling with grabs, dredges and corers as we traversed the

Greifswalder Bodden in the southern Baltic Sea. Living ostracods were obtained from this brackish water lagoon (salinity around 7 ‰) at depths of 6-10 m and studied with the microscopes that occupied the small mess-room (meals were taken under an awning on deck). The species (e.g., *Cyprideis torosa*) were familiar but the environment was new to me; such a large body of brackish water with no tides was quite a contrast with the British estuaries where I am used to finding such animals. The first night we anchored in a sheltered bay off the Island of Rügen; the next morning a small exploratory team set off in the ship's tender to sample the shallower waters around the bay, before we upped anchor and set off again with the intention of reaching deeper waters of the Baltic's Arkona Basin to the north of Rügen. Gale force northerly winds were whipping up the sea, however, and when Captain Oliver suggested a change of itinerary no-one complained. We were put ashore on Rügen for an enjoyable hour or two exploring cliff exposures of late Pleistocene glacial and fluvio-glacial deposits (including ostracod-rich erratics, pieces of Palaeozoic beyrichiid limestone brought southwards by the Scandina-



The *Seefuchs* sailing back to the Cretaceous

vian ice sheet). That night we retired to the small haven of Lauterbach on the SE coast of Rügen. The following day taxis were procured to take us to the Jasmund National Park on the northern coast near Sassnitz where we explored exposures of Maastriechian White Chalk (expertly introduced by **Ekkehard Herrig**), glacio-tectonic blocks interleaved with Pleistocene deposits including the Weichselian “*Limnocythere* Clay” containing the characteristic limnocytherid ostracod *Leucocythere baltica*. The strong winds and large breakers on this north-facing coast made the traverse challenging; the subsequent walk through the adjacent forest to sample freshwater springs was relatively tranquil. The trip being over, the majority then travelled to Berlin by train, changing at Stralsund (where one of our number, who shall remain nameless, made a brief photographic foray from the station and returned to see the train pulling out; he rejoined the group and his luggage later in Berlin); I returned to my car in Greifswald and drove to Berlin with Finn Viehberg for company (and navigation). This was a superbly organized, scientifically exciting and socially enjoyable field trip, for which special appreciation is due to the organizers, Peter and Finn, as well as the captain and crew of the *Seefuchs*.

Incidentally, copies of the excellent and well-illustrated guidebook, covering this and the other pre-and post-symposium field trips, are still available, price 15 euros (visit: <http://userpage.fu-Berlin.de/%7Epalaeont/paleobio.htm>).

ISO15 began officially on Monday 12th September. The packed scientific programme lasted three and a half days; 15-minute slots put pressure on presenters and session chairs alike, but most kept well within their allotted time and the sessions ran smoothly and efficiently. Thematic sessions were varied, covering “Evolution and Systematics”, “Biogeography”, “Methods and Applications”, “Ecology of Freshwater Ostracods”, “Ecology of Saline and Brackish Water Ostracods”, “Ecology of Marine Ostracods”, “Reproduction, Ontogeny and Behaviour”, “Anatomy, Histology and Molecular Biology” and “Biodiversity”. As will be apparent from the foregoing list, the balance has swung from the former domination of biostratigraphy to more biologically-orientated research. That is not to say that palaeontology was ignored; indeed, **David Siveter** stunned us all with a brief glimpse of his latest Silurian ostracod with preserved soft parts (is it a palaeocope, is it a podocope?) and the propor-



Delegates pose for posterity in Berlin at the 15th International Symposium on Ostracoda

tion of “palaeo” talks was substantially more than the list of theme titles might suggest. In general both the presentations and the science were of high quality, and the high number of young PhDs and post-docs offering talks and posters was both impressive and encouraging. There were two Sylvester-Bradley awards; the one for the best student oral presentation went to **Simone Brandão** (Hamburg, Germany) for her talk on deep-sea podocopan ostracods around Antarctica, while the one for the best student poster went to **Shimpei Hiruta** (Hokkaido, Japan) for an excellent presentation of a new, interstitial species of *Terrestriocythere* from Japan. The scientific sessions were well-attended, as were the various workshops; with more than 150 registrants from 36 countries, this could be regarded as the most successful ISO yet. Mid-symposium relaxation was provided by

a boat trip on the river, appreciated in a variety of ways by the participants; for me it featured a couple of hours of tourism as the guide pointed out the contrasts of buildings new and old (including remnants of the Wall), entertainment in the form of demonstrations of sampling devices (posters showing the local freshwater ostracod fauna being displayed on board) and finally a couple of hours simply enjoying beer and the company of old friends.

Hearty congratulations are due to the organisers of ISO15 (Chairman **Michael Schudack**, Secretary **Steffen Mischke** and Treasurer **Ulla Schudack**, as well as numerous counsellors and helpers) for a superb and fulfilling symposium. The next ISO will be held in Brasilia in 2009; they have a hard act to follow.

‘PhytoPal’ Symposium, St. Louis, Missouri, 2005

Sarah R. de la Rue, LSU, USA <sdelarue@geol.lsu.edu>

The American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists (AASP) welcomed the PhytoPal Group during AASP’s annual meeting in St. Louis, Missouri on September 20, 2005. Ably chaired by **Reed Wicander**, the morning symposium began at 9am sharp and a room full of unsuspecting (and I suspect, unaware) dinoflagellate and pollen/spore workers were introduced to the world of Paleozoic acritarchs!

Gary Mullins began the session by introducing the three-year PhytoPal project and its scientific objectives in light of recent findings and general problems inherent in such an ambitious undertaking. Numerous acritarch/prasinophyte curves are recognized including origination, diversity, and extinction curves. With further investigations, these broad-scaled variations in phytoplankton dispersion will be used to construct a Sepkoski-type curve which will be compared to fluctuations in sea-levels, carbon and

CO_{2atm} levels, and global climate for the Precambrian to Permo-Triassic. Presently, the database is 52% complete, with 3015 taxa described to date.

Malgorzata Moczydlowska presented exciting new information on phytoplankton biological affinities. She showed that various form species (taxonomic designations that are, unfortunately, very prevalent in acritarch work) may actually represent the several life stages of a single acritarch. To date, the acritarch/prasinophyte biodiversity curve has been based on morphological disparity of form species that may not be true biological species. Moczydlowska’s work suggests that actual diversity may have been much lower than is estimated.

Another aspect of the project is the “late Paleozoic blackout” (the apparent absence or near absence of phytoplankton during the Carboniferous) which was addressed by **Thomas Servais**, who asked three



Acritarchs on the silver screen

very relevant questions concerning the primary problems in acritarch-based food-web research: 1) "How good is the fossil record?"; 2) "What is the preservation potential of marine phytoplankton?"; and 3) "Who wants to eat an acritarch?".

Although Reed was not spotted in his cow or Elvis get-ups (to get to know Reed better, visit his webpage at <http://www.cst.cmich.edu/units/gel/cstfacpa/Wicander.html>), meeting attendees were often spied with liquid

refreshments and holding down engaging conversations in the hotel bar and lounge! More intrepid attendees braved the temperatures and rain to enjoy the Centennial Arch to the West and some rather savory blues music and New Orleans-style red beans and rice and jambalaya in the old French section of downtown St. Louis.

I would like to thank TMS for the Grant-in-Aid which not only allowed me to attend this multidisciplinary meeting, but to also present preliminary isotopic and

palynological results of my Ph.D. research entitled "Palynological, Biogeochemical, and Mineralogical Signatures in Sequence Cycles: Carbon Cycling Dynamics in late Devonian Frasnian-Famennian Black Shales". Again, many thanks indeed!

Further information about PhytoPal can be found at www.le.ac.uk/geology/glm2/phytopal.html. The site hosts a discussion group and the taxonomic database.

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Joint meeting of APLF-TMS-LSPG, 3-7 October 2005 in Paris

Sébastien Joannin <sebastien.joannin@univ-lyon1.fr>

I truly enjoyed the first joint meeting of APLF-TMP-LSPG: beautiful venue (Paris city, National Museum), a friendly and informal atmosphere, and a range of very useful and diverse communications. As it was my first APLF congress, I appreciated to meet so many people that I knew only by name through their publications. The conference concept, having keynote lectures at the beginning of each session, was useful for a student like me because it provided an introduction to the fundamental points of the subject

a bit similar to a university lecture (e.g. the lectures given by Cheddadi, Duplessy, Loutre, etc.). Many presentations were informative and of high quality. The lecture theatre was well equipped and I appreciated giving my presentation there. I keep a good feeling about this congress, and hope to attend others in the future. I want to thank TMS and APLF for the student travel grants, and sincerely hope that I came up to their expectations.

5th Regional Symposium of the International Fossil Algae Association 30th-31st August 2005, Ferrara, Italy

Davide Bassi <bsd@unife.it>

The 5th Regional Symposium of the International Fossil Algae Association was organised by **Davide Bassi** and **Anna Fugagnoli** in the Dipartimento delle Risorse Naturali of the University of Ferrara. This symposium follows the tradition of successful regional meetings previously held in Granada (1989), Munich-Vienna (1993), Cracow (1997), and Cluj-Napoca (2001) (<<http://www.ku.edu/~ifaa/>>.><http://www.ku.edu/~ifaa/>).

Presentations were organized in three sessions: general themes, calcareous red algae, calcareous green algae. A total of 31 presentations were made over the two days. Delegates from several countries (Italy, France, Germany, Spain, Sweden, Slovenia, Croatia, Israel, China, U.S.) attended the symposium. Two workshops were also held. One focused on the classification criteria of Dasycladales and Bryopsidales (Halimedaceae) green algae (chairman **Ioan I. Bucur**). The second workshop deal with the palaeobiogeography of calcareous algae (chairman **Juan C. Braga**). Titles of the presentations can be found at <<http://www.uni-tuebingen.de/>

IFAA-regional-symposium/.><http://www.uni-tuebingen.de/IFAA-regional-symposium/>. The abstract book was published in the *Annali dell'Universit  di Ferrara, section Museologia Scientifica e Naturalistica*, volume 1.

A post-meeting field excursion focused on shallow water carbonates including Middle-Upper Eocene calcareous algae and larger foraminifera (Colli Berici, Monti Lessini, north-eastern Italy), Lower Jurassic microbial structures, dasycladaleans, larger foraminifera, and dinosaur footprints (Rovereto and Altopiano di Lavarone, Trento area), and dasycladaleans at the K/T boundary (Friuli and western Slovenia areas). The field excursions were organised by the University of Ferrara, the Museo Tridentino di Scienze Naturali, the University of Naples Federico II, the University of Trieste, the University of T bingen, the Slovenian Geological Survey, and the Slovenia Academy of Sciences. The field trip guide-book is published in the *Studi Trentini di Scienze Naturali, Acta Geologica*, supplement 80 (2003).

The Annual UCL MSc Micropalaeontology Field Trip

Lee Toms <ucfbltt@ucl.ac.uk>

After visiting the South of Spain for the first time, the annual UCL MSc Micropalaeontology field trip can be regarded as a complete success. This excursion occurred over the week commencing the 26th October to the 3rd December and was led by Foraminifera Course leader **Mike Kaminski**, along with **Jeremy Young** and **Andy Henderson** of the Natural History Museum.

After a flight to Malaga the first port of call was the town of Guadix near Granada,

where the accommodation took the form of caves carved into the local rock and provided a cosy and complete base. The main area examined here was in the Rio Fardes Valley where transition from the Albion Hatteras Formation, through the Santonian Plantagenet Formation, until the Campanian Couche Rouge Formation. Only a limited amount of work had been previously conducted on these geological formations so they were logged and sampled for micropalaeontological analysis.

After a minor detour to take in the wonders of the Alhambra in Granada, the next stop was the Sorbas Basin near Almería. This place is quite the inverse of the previous geological area visited, in the fact that it has been extensively studied and is the subject of many undergraduate field trips. However, the geology here provides an amazing glimpse of the events before, during and after the well documented Messinian Salinity Crisis. Here a full day was allocated to the exploration of the local formations and another to field work where sections were once again logged and sampled for further analysis.



The UCL training ground, S. Spain

The final area visited was the world famous Caravacas K/T boundary section, but obviously samples were not collected due to its protected status. Additionally, there are also a large section of outcrops that reflect Cenozoic geology and were again subject to scrutiny by this team of MSc Micropalaeontologists.

In conclusion, the trip was thoroughly enjoyed by all and reflected the fact that there is currently a great bunch of people on this course. Added by the guidance of Dr's

Kaminiski, Young and Henderson a vast amount was learnt, not only about the Geology visited, but in various methods of studying micropalaeontology. The after hour antics were led by Dr Young and are much to be elaborated on, but were also as much of a success as the day time field visits! Apparently a different part of Europe will be visited by next years MSc Micropalaeontology group and if anything is to go by they will also have an outstanding experience.

TMS Grants in Aid

TMS Grants-in-Aid are awarded annually to help student members of the Society in their field-work, conference attendance, or any other specific activity related to their research which has not been budgeted for. Grants-in-Aid cannot be awarded for miscellaneous expenditure (e.g. slides, sample bags, sample preparation, laboratory costs, SEM photography or producing, photocopying, printing and binding of theses), nor can they be awarded retrospectively. A maximum of £200 can be awarded to each successful applicant, and a total of £600 is available annually. Awardees are also expected to write a short report for the Newsletter once their grant has been used. Applications forms may be obtained from the Secretary < michal.kucera@uni-tuebingen.de >. Deadline for applications is 28th February 2006.

Micropalaeontological News

TMS Archivist

The Committee is pleased to announce that as of this year, TMS has an official Archivist:

Dr Richard Hodgkinson of the NHM has kindly agreed to take on this role. Given the Society's mature age of 30 years, it indeed appears timely that we start to catalogue systematically all the various historical documents held by past and present officers. Richard has already begun working on the first box of materials and we would like to take this opportunity to ask all past officers or any other members of the Society who may hold interesting documents to please get in touch with the Secretary (**Michal Kucera**) or he can be contacted through **Jeremy Young** <j.young@nhm.ac.uk> or by letter (The Natural History Museum, Department of Palaeontology (Micropalaeontology floor 2) Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD). In the first instance he would wish to receive the **original Foundation documents (1970) and signed correspondence** and then build up from there.

International Research Group on Ostracoda (IRGO)

The Plenary Session, at the 15th International Symposium on Ostracoda held in Berlin 13th September 2005, the following decisions reached by IRGO delegates in Berlin:

The ISO 16 venue will be Brasilia organised by **Dr D. Do Carmo** (voting: Brasilia 44, Denver 30, Abstentions 4).

The IRGO Officers for 2005-2009 are
Chair - **Dr Koen Martens**
Vice Chair - **Dr Dermeval Do Carmo**
Secretary - **Dr Michael Schudack**
Treasurer - **Dr Akira Tsukagoshi**
Past Chair - **Prof. Alan Lord**

IRGO officers proposed that the organiser of the next ISO should become Vice Chair, and Dr **Martens** proposed the new position of Past Chair. The Plenary delegates adopted these proposals unanimously.

ISO 14 publications - the special part of *Hydrobiologia* has been circulated electronically and in paper, and sample paper copies of the Palaeo3 special part were available for Berlin delegates to inspect.

Thanks are recorded to the following persons and institutions: Organising Committee and Excursion Leaders ISO 15 and Freie Universität Berlin; editors, authors and reviewers of ISO 14 publications; editors of 'Cypris'; University of Houston for OSTRACON; **Prof. Eugen Kempf** for the 'Kempf Database'; retiring IRGO officers.

Sylvester-Bradley Awards

The Sylvester-Bradley Awards were presented at the closing session of ISO 15, Berlin on 16th September 2005.

Best Student Poster: Mr Shimpei Hiruta (Hokkaido University) for an excellent presentation of a new, interstitial species of *Terrestricythere* from Japan..

Best Student Oral Presentation: jointly to **Ms Simone Brandao** (Hamburg University); deep-sea podocopan ostracods around Antarctica and **Mr Shinnosuke Yamada** (Shizuoka University); new concept of podocopan ostracod hinge structure.

Judging Panel: Professors **Ikeya, Lord** and **Siveter**. The judges recommend that in future the IRGO officers act as the Judging Panel.

NANODE now online

Alison Smith, one of the co-authors, is pleased to announce that Version 1 of the North American Non-marine Ostracode Database (NANODE) is now available on line at <http://www.kent.edu/nanode> and I hope it will be useful to ostracode workers, geochemists, and hydrologists whose research involves ostracodes. NANODE is an ongoing project, and we are already looking forward to version 2. The co-authors are Richard Forester, myself, Donald Palmer and Brandon Curry.

Alison Smith <alisonjs@kent.edu>

Fossils Offer Support for Meteor's Role in Dinosaur Extinction

Forams make it into the New York Times.

The New York Times reported the story published in the September issue of *Geology* of a team of scientists from Spain, Cuba and Mexico lead by Dr. Alegret who visited disturbed sediments near Santa Clara, purported to be evidence of the meteor impact at Chixulub.

"Microscopic study also revealed the presence of thousands of tiny fossil creatures, most especially foraminifera. Those one-celled animals have a bewildering array of minuscule shells. Forams, as they are known, evolve so fast that geologists, paleontologists and oil companies use their shifting appearance as reliable guides to geologic dating."

NYT even managed to get a Cold-War slant to the story—Dinosaurs, Forams and Soviets, now that's a news story!

New Charophyte Listserver

Ingeborg Soulie-Marsche of the International Research Group on Charophytes announces the start-up of *charophyte-L*, intended as a discussion forum about Charophytes *sensu* Charales.

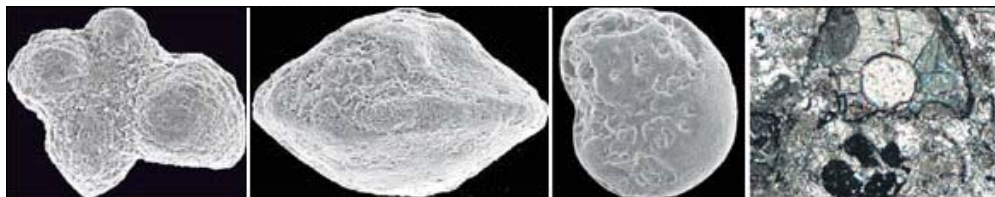
Anyone who has interest in living or fossil Charophytes is invited to subscribe and to participate. The listserver was set-up by Dr. **Robin Scribailo** and is hosted at Purdue University, IN, USA.

Subscribe by sending the message: "subscribe charophyte-L your name" to the listserver at: listserv@pnc.edu and leave the subject blank. Also make sure your signature is turned off for this particular e-mail.

Once you are subscribed, you can send messages to the list server who will distribute it to all subscribers! In order to identify your message we strongly recommend always putting <<charophyte-L> as the subject when sending a contribution to the list. Indeed, the message could be overlooked (or misplaced as an AD or Spam) if your name as a sender is unknown or unusual to the list members.

We hope the forum will give rise to fruitful discussion and contribute to strengthen the community of Charophytologists.

For further information contact
Ingeborg Soulie-Marsche
<marsche@isem.univ-montp2.fr>



Photographs of the forams by Dr. Laia Alegret as shown in the NYT

New Micropalaeontological Works

Charophyte Treatise

The Paleontological Institute of the University of Kansas and the Geological Society of America are pleased to announce the publication of a new volume of the Treatise on Invertebrate Paleontology:

Part B (Protoctista 1) Charophyta.

The volume was prepared under the able coordinating authorship of **Monique Feist** and a team of eight authors. It is 170 pages long and has 79 assemblages of illustrations, a glossary, and a range chart of taxa, and an index.

The volume is available on line from the Geological Society of America.

For further information please contact
Roger L. Kaesler <kaesler@KU.EDU>

Ostracod Thesis Publication

"Early Devonian Ostracods from Celtiberia (NE Spain) - taxonomy, palaeoecology, biostratigraphy, and biogeography" by **Claudia Dojen** is now published electronically. It is available online at:
<http://opus.tu-bs.de/opus/volltexte/2005/815>

Abstract:

From numerous successive well dated horizons of Early Lochkovian to Zlichovian age in Celtiberia (NE Spain), 93 neritic ostracod taxa of 40 genera are described and evaluated. 8 new species are named, further 10 new species are held in open nomenclature. The great potential of the Celtiberian Early Devonian for biostratigraphy is made available for work with ostracods. The ostracod records from outside Celtiberia are revised and redated. The ranges of many ostracod taxa are refined.

The ostracod assemblages belong to the Eifelian Ecotype sensu Becker, 1975, but three recurring associations can be distinguished. Spinose forms of true Thuringian Ecotype do not occur. New faunistic data reveal the biogeographical relations in the Early Devonian between Gondwana and Baltica-Avalonia. The similarities among Celtiberian, other European, and NW African ostracod faunas are evaluated with due regard to their age relations. The Celtiberian faunas are closely related to those of Armorica. Neritic ostracods common to Celtiberia, Armorica and NW Africa corroborate the continuity of the Ibarmaghian Faunal Province. Due to the different ages and facies, there are only few similarities between the ostracod faunas of Celtiberia and those of nearby Cantabria and Montagne Noire. Faunal links between Celtiberia and Laurussia exist, but are scarce. Ostracod relations between Celtiberia and the Rheno-Ardennan basin, although not with certainty on species level, are evident from the Mittlere Siegen Schichten and its equivalents onward. The occurrence of beyrichiacean ostracods in Ibero-Armorica, at least from the mid-Lochkovian onward, disproves a wide Early Devonian "Rheic Ocean" between Baltica-Avalonia and Gondwana and supports the palaeogeographical reconstruction by McKerrow et al. (2000) that postulates the vicinity of Gondwana and Laurussia for Early Devonian times. Palaeontological evidence does not support a large ocean between Gondwana and Laurussia postulated by Tait et al. (2000).

Claudia Dojen <c.dojen@TU-BS.DE>

20th ROLF Proceedings

The proceedings of the 20th ROLF (Réunion des Ostracodologues de Langue Française) have been published in the two last issues of the *Revue de Micropaléontologie* (Elsevier).

Recent Developments in Applied Biostratigraphy

This is the first special publication in the new **TMS** series published by the Geological Society Publishing House, 25 November, 2005.

The application of biostratigraphy to hydrocarbon exploration and development has become increasingly important both scientifically and economically. The demand for higher stratigraphical resolution in field development studies has resulted in the utilization of new approaches. The aim of this volume is to encourage an exchange of ideas and to seed new research initiatives particularly within integrated multidisciplinary teams. The papers are divided into four main themes which cover a broad range of modern applications of biostratigraphy. The first three themes are: UK North Sea field development; outcrop analogues; and international exploration and development. The final section discusses new methodologies, such as the application of correspondence analysis and multivariate correlation of wells, and palynological processing techniques applicable to the wellsite.

TMS Member price £42.50

Paleontological Data Analysis

by Hammer and Harper

A new book is now available from Blackwell. It covers most of the functions in PAST, and all the examples in the book are done with PAST, a free to download software package for the statistical analysis of palaeontological data. View the web page at Blackwell:

<http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/book.asp?ref=1405115440>

The PAST home page contains all the data files used in the book, and also an important errata:

<http://folk.uio.no/ohammer/past/>

The Unpublished Plates of Alcide d'Orbigny. The dawn of Micropaleontology

Marie-Therese Venec-Peyre, 2005, *Les Planches inedites de foraminiferes d'Alcide d'Orbigny. A l'aube de la micropaleontology. [The Unpublished Plates of Alcide d'Orbigny. The dawn of Micropaleontology]*. Publications Scientifiques du Museum, Paris. 302 p.

This beautiful book reproduces in full color the original plates of d'Orbigny meant to accompany his *Tableau Methodique de la classes des Cephalopodes*, which established the study of foraminifera and d'Orbigny's historical role as the "Father of Micropaleontology".

The plates and ancillary drawings have never been published before. **M.-T. Venec-Peyre** has carefully assembled them and provided up-to-date taxonomy for each one. The text is in both French and English.

Available from from Museum national d'Histoire Naturelle, Publications Scientifiques, CP 39, 57, rue Cuvier, F-75005 Paris

Methods and Applications in Micropalaeontology

Edited by J. Tyszk, M. Oliwkiewicz-Miklasiska, P. Gedl and M. A. Kaminski
Studia Geologica Polonica, vol. 124, Kracow 2005

For further details please visit the link to *Studia Geologica Polonica*: <<http://www.ing.pan.pl/stud4www/>>. The book was prepared by a team of 4 editors and 39 authors from 8 countries. The book is 412 pages long, includes 24 reviewed original papers and has 150 figures, mostly enclosing sets of microfossil illustrations. It includes contributions on small and large foraminifers, nannofossils, dinoflagellate cysts, radiolaria, crinoid remains, and conodonts. Red-blue stereoscopic glasses are attached to the cover back of every book to supplement the chromo-stereoscopic contribution describing procedures of 3D documentation.



Retirement

After the wine reception at the last AGM , there was a gathering of the colleagues of **Dr John E. Whittaker** who witnessed the ceremonials that go together with retirement from the Natural History Museum, London. These, of course, included much good food and wine, but also the reading of poems. One of which, by Wm McGonagall no less, is here reproduced.

*Let there be lamentations all along the length
and breadth of the River Fleet!
And in the ELECTRON MICROSCOPE UNIT let
there be laid out a wide selection of good things
to eat*

*For J.E.P. Whittaker – palaeontologist extraordi-
naire and microscopist without peer –
Is reaching his sixty years today thereby prompt-
ing much imbibition of beer;*

*And indeed there will be many toasts drunk, I
wean, for which we make no apology
Especially among the worthies of the Society of
Micropalaeontology!*

*For surely one who has contributed so much to
the study of the Globigerina ooze
Is rightly to be sent upon his way with liberal
quantities of booze;*

*Nor can it be gainsaid that one who has per-
formed such bonny wonders upon the Ostracoda
Does merit something more stentorious for his
departure than ice cream soda;
And truly he has made known Globotruncana,
Globorotalia, Globigerina and a host of other*

globs

*Which is why, among the foraminiferal commu-
nity, his departure will provoke so many sobs.
Amongst whom his colleagues in micropalaeon-
tology will doubtless be the longest sniffers
Because when Whittaker is gone who will iden-
tify the foraminifers?*

*(Although he might insist they rather be called
foraminiferan or foram*

*Which almost but not precisely rhymes with our
Scottish traditional dress, the sporran)*

*But all his many friends who wander far and
wide among the bones*

*Will surely above all else miss his soft and dulcet
tones!*

*But there is more! Ay, yet more praise I ken to
give*

*For Dr Whittaker of all palaeontologists is the
most philoprogenitive*

*Producing so many male bairns I had'nae
counted them for a while*

*Although I know there are enough to populate a
middling-sized Hebridean Isle!*

*And moreover I am sure we all do most pro-
foundly hope*

*That he will be rewarded in having a specially
minted medal from the Pope!*

So farewell then to Whittaker J.E.P.

In anticipation of your visit to the Holy See!

*And may you perchance survive until you are a
hundred and three!*

*But may I also wish that when you and Christine
climb the stairs to Nirvana*

*That you discover that the Angel Gabriel bears a
remarkable resemblance to Globotruncana.*

Missing members

Eccles, C. Kearsley, A.T.

Would anyone who knows of the current addresses of these TMS members please notify the Secretary, Michal Kucera, <michal.kucera@uni-tuebingen.de>

Change of Address

Prof. Martin J. Head

Department of Earth Sciences
BROCK UNIVERSITY
500 Glenridge Avenue
St. Catharines, Ontario L2S 3A1
CANADA
Tel 905-688-5550 ext. 5216
Fax 905-682-9020
Email mjhead@brocku.ca

Professor John W. Neale

Sadly, news has just been received of the death of John Neale on 20th January 2006. A full obituary will appear in the next edition.

Micropalaeontology Diary

2006 Feb 15	Lyell Meeting: <i>Millennial-scale events</i> . Burlington House
Feb 26	deadline for nominations for the Charles Downie Award
Feb 28	deadline for application of Grants In Aid
March 9-10	Joint Palynology/Silicofossil Group meeting, Utrecht
March 19-24	INTERRAD XI, New Zealand
March 19-20	Pander Society Symposium, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
April 2-7	Applied Palynology Session EGU Vienna
April 19-22	ROLF, Tetuan, Maroc
May 19-21	Ostracod Group spring meeting, Drongen, Belgium
May 25-28	Joint Foram/Coccolith Group meeting, Liverpool
June	Progressive Palaeontology - Cambridge
June 12-20	Climate & Biota of the Early Paleogene, Bilbao
July 12-13	1st International Conodont Symposium, Leicester
Aug	19th International Diatom Symposium, Russia
Sept 6-11	7th European Palaeobotany-Palynology Conference, Prague
Sept 10-15	International Symposium on Foraminifera, Natal, Brazil
Oct 22-25	AASP 39th Annual Conference, Philadelphia
October	Nominations for TMS committee positions
Nov	TMS AGM

TMS Membership application / renewal form

Membership is open to individuals as student, ordinary or retired members and to libraries on payment of the appropriate annual subscription **due on 1st January**.

Rates for 2006 are:

Library Membership: contact Geological Society Publishing House, Unit 7, Brassmill Enterprise Centre, Brassmill Lane, Bath BA1 3JN, UK

Student Membership: £20 per annum (please have this form countersigned by student's supervisor)

Individual Membership: £35 per annum

Retired Membership: £20 per annum

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☐ I would like to become a TMS Foundation Member (suggested minimum donation: £25)

I would be interested in receiving details of the following specialist groups

☐ -Foram ☐ -Microvertebrate ☐ -Nannofossil ☐ -Ostracod ☐ -Palynology ☐ -Silicofossil

☐ I enclose cheque / money order / bankers draft for the sum of

☐ I wish to pay by credit/debit card (£1 surcharge) Total Sum

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N.B. American Express cards not accepted

Signed Date

Student's Supervisor

Please make all cheques payable (in GBP) to: "The Micropalaeontological Society" and send with this application form to: Dr S.R. Packer, TMS Treasurer, 17 Brewhouse Lane, Rowsham, Buckinghamshire, HP22 4QT, U.K.
Tel/Fax: +44 (0)1296 681265 www.tmsoc.org Email: s.r.packer@btinternet.com

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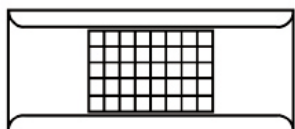
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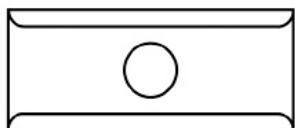
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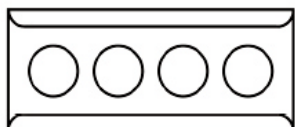
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