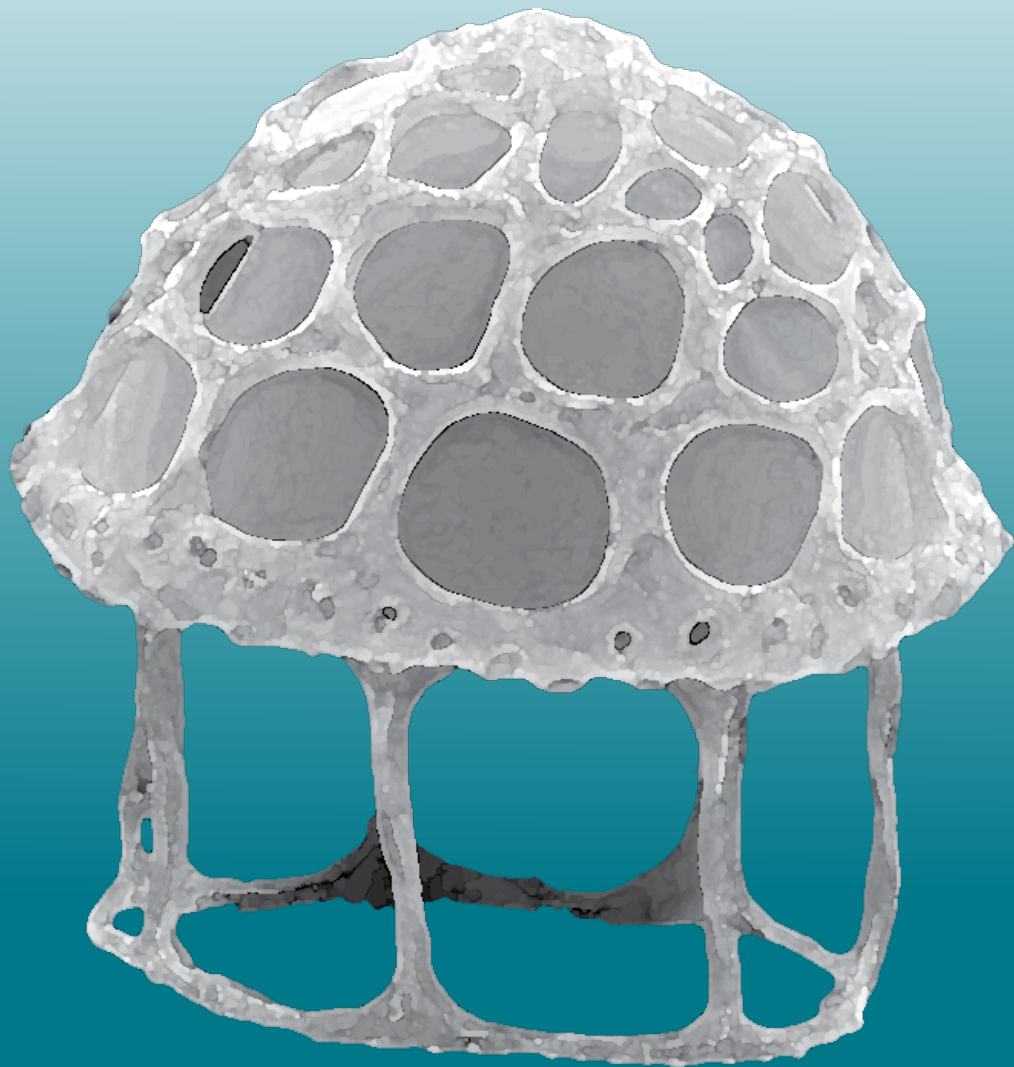


Newsletter of Micropalaeontology

Number 88
August 2013

Edited by Magali Schweizer



Contributions from

The Micropalaeontological Society



The Grzybowski Foundation



The International Nannoplankton Association



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Correspondence

Please send items of news, comments, letters or articles for publication such as conference reports or meeting announcements to the editor. These should be supplied as plain text files or as Word documents. Photographs or illustrations to accompany articles are also welcome. Please send photos as high resolution JPEG images. Please send all correspondence to the editor: Magali Schweizer, School of GeoScience, University of Edinburgh, West Mains Road, Edinburgh EH9 3JW, UK, or by email to newsletter@tmsoc.org.

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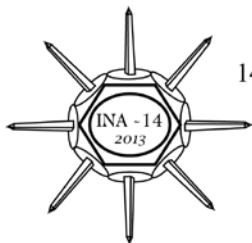
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Newsletter of Micropalaeontology is not deemed to be valid for taxonomical or nomenclatural purposes - see International Codes of Botanical and Zoological Nomenclature

Conference and Course Announcements



14th International Nannoplankton Association Meeting
September 15-21st, 2013
Reston, VA (USA)

The International Nannoplankton Association invites you participate in the upcoming INA14 meeting, to be held in Reston, Virginia. Session Topics include (but aren't limited to) Biogeography, Biostratigraphy, Paleoenvironment, Geochemistry, and Industry Related issues.

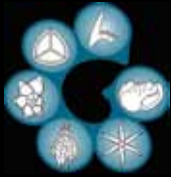
Talks pertaining to all aspects of calcareous and siliceous phytoplankton research will be presented.

The meeting will include:

- Three days of Oral and Poster Sessions
- One day of Workshops
- Pre-Conference Field Trip
- Post-Conference Field Trip
- Keynote Speaker: Dr. Brian Huber
- Plenary Speaker: Dr. Barney Balch

For additional information, go to the official website at <https://my.usgs.gov/ina14/>

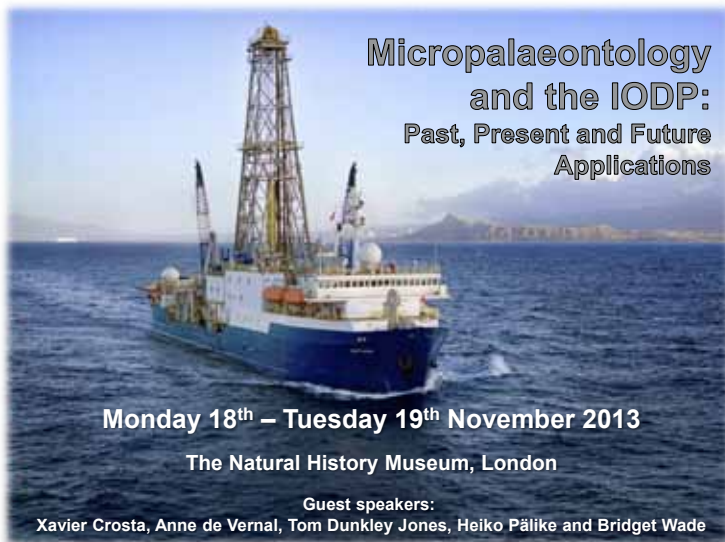
Organizer and Host: Jean M. Self-Trail (jstrail@usgs.gov)



The Micropalaeontological Society

<http://www.tmsoc.org>

Annual Conference 2013



Proposed schedule:

Monday 18th: 'Micropalaeontology and the IODP' symposium and Society AGM

The afternoon symposium focussed on multiple applications of micropalaeontology in the IODP will be reviewed by five keynote speakers, followed by TMS Awards and brief Society business. There will be optional tours of the NHM micropalaeontology facilities and collections in the morning, a drinks reception in the evening, and a conference dinner.

Tuesday 19th: Keynote lecture and open talks on micropalaeontology

The day will include open poster and oral presentation sessions. We welcome the submission of abstracts for posters and short (15min) presentations across all aspects of the discipline. We particularly encourage talks and posters from doctoral students and early career scientists.

UK-IODP funded bursaries will be available through the TMS for postgraduate and early career researchers.

Registration will be £20/£10 for waged/unwaged TMS members, £40/£20 for non-members

Poster/Presentation Abstract deadline 30th September 2013. Further information regarding conference fees, accommodation options and transport etc. will be available at www.tmsoc.org/agm2013.htm

For further information please contact:

micropalaeontology@nhm.ac.uk

NHM conference convenors:
Tom Hill, Steve Stukins & Giles Miller



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Book Review

Hayward, B.W., Kawagata, S., Sabaa, A., Grenfell, H., van Kerckhoven, L., Johnson, K. and Thomas, E., 2012. *The last global extinction (Mid-Pleistocene) of deep-sea benthic foraminifera (Chrysalogoniidae, Ellipsoidinidae, Glandulonodosariidae, Plectofrondiculariidae, Pleursostomellidae, Stilostomellidae), their Late Cretaceous-Cenozoic history and taxonomy. Cushman Foundation for Foraminiferal Research Special Publication, 43*

CHRIS SMART, PLYMOUTH UNIVERSITY

This Cushman Foundation for Foraminiferal Research Special Publication provides details of a key event in the history of deep-sea benthic foraminifera, the Last Global Extinction (LGE), which occurred in the late Pliocene to middle Pleistocene. During this interval, ~20% of deep-sea benthic foraminiferal species became extinct. Some 105 species and 30 genera belonging to seven families were affected. Five families (Chrysalogoniidae, Ellipsoidinidae, Glandulonodosariidae, Pleursostomellidae, Stilostomellidae) became extinct and the family Plectofrondiculariidae was almost wiped out with only one species (*Mucronina resigae*) continuing to the present day, although today it has only been reported occurring in low numbers in several parts of the Southwest Pacific. During the mid-Pleistocene Climate Transition (MPT, 1.2-0.55 Ma), the majority (76 species, ~72%) of the 105 species became extinct. Hayward and his colleagues have published many important papers on these so-called Extinction Group (Ext. Gp) species over the last decade or so, which I have followed with interest. This most recent publication brings together much of this work in one excellent,

comprehensive volume. They state that the aims of their study were to unify the taxonomy within the families Chrysalogoniidae, Ellipsoidinidae, Glandulonodosariidae, Plectofrondiculariidae, Pleursostomellidae, Stilostomellidae, and some uniserial Nodosariidae in order to assess, document and understand the causes of the LGE. These aims have undoubtedly been achieved and it is clear that a huge amount of very careful work has been carried out.

The publication is primarily organised into three main parts: Part 1: LGE in the deep-sea; Part 2: Late Cretaceous-Cenozoic history of the Ext. Gp; and Part 3: Taxonomy of the Ext. Gp. Prior to this there is an extensive Abstract covering these three parts, a short introductory section followed by a section on terminology, materials and methods.

Part 1 covers the LGE and summarises previous work, and work by Hayward and others since 2001, very well. Various aspects are considered, including, for example, the implications of using different size fractions; extinction of specific morphotypes

and apertural types; palaeobiogeography and palaeoecology of the Ext. Gp.; and a particularly interesting, and well-argued, section on the possible causes of the LGE. In the latter, various factors are considered and discussed as possible causes, including, changes in physical properties of deep water masses (colder bottom water temperatures, increased oxygen, impact on microbial food, and increased carbonate corrosiveness); interspecific competition, predation or pathogens; changes in abundance or rapidly fluctuating food supply; and major decline or loss of the Ext. Gp's specific phytoplankton food supply. Part 1 concludes with a helpful one and a half page summary. Part 1 comprises 50 pages and almost every page has one or more tables and coloured figures showing stratigraphic ranges, abundance graphs, maps, etc. It is nice to see lots of colour figures scattered throughout the text, although the format is not consistent with some graphs/stratigraphic ranges having black backgrounds and others having white backgrounds.

Part 2 deals with the late Cretaceous-Cenozoic history of the Ext. Gp. Many topics are covered, including previous work; abundance records; species richness, turnover and durations; faunal composition; biogeography; impact of global climatic events on the Ext. Gp (from the K/Pg event to the Pleistocene); biostratigraphic and palaeobathymetric value of the Ext. Gp; and a summary. At the end of Part 2 there are some useful colour figures which show the regional time ranges of all Ext. Gp species from the late Cretaceous to Recent. As in Part 1, Part 2 is richly illustrated with coloured figures on most pages (with black and white backgrounds) and there are a number of tables.

The taxonomy of the Ext. Gp comprises a significant proportion of the publication.

The detailed descriptions (in Part 3) and the accompanying 39 Plates (in the Appendix) together make up about 50% of the publication. The Plates contain around 1100 high quality scanning and light microscope images of types and representative specimens. A total of 253 species from 38 genera in the Ext. Gp and eight species that became extinct or declined significantly during the LGE are reviewed and illustrated. Some new genera (12) and new species (26) are also described. For those working on this group of foraminifera, to have detailed taxonomic information and plates of these taxa contained in one volume will be invaluable. Apart from the Plates, the Appendices comprise colour diagrams showing the stratigraphic and abundance records of the Ext. Gp species, and tables of time ranges, highest occurrences and abundances of the Ext. Gp and Die-Back Group species. Reference to on-line appendices of census data of Ext. Gp species, etc. is also provided.

Overall, this is an excellent publication and represents a very important contribution to our understanding of the LGE of deep-sea benthic foraminifera, their history and taxonomy. It is clear that a great deal of very careful and thoughtful work has gone into this publication and credit should be given to the authors for it. I can strongly recommend this publication to anyone interested in benthic foraminifera, the deep-sea environment, palaeoceanography and evolution.

The Micropalaeontological Society News

Report from the Secretary - SEV KENDER

The last six months has seen steady progress for TMS. The Foraminifera and Nannofossil Groups had a very successful joint meeting in Prague in June, themed "The micropalaeontological record of global change: from epicontinental seas to open ocean" (see report on page 18). Numerous awards have been made to students and scientists in our field (see below), the list of university courses registered for Student Awards has grown, the TMS Educational Trust has been funding various student activities, and the Journal has continued to attract good quality papers and maintained its impact over the last 12 months. Membership numbers have remained steadily high at 507, with 38 new members which we warmly welcome to the Society. Plans are in place for a Silicofossil Group meeting in Cambridge this August (for information please contact the Silicofossil Secretary Claire Allen), and the TMS Annual Conference which will be held at the Natural History Museum this November (see below).

NEWSLETTER GOING ONLINE – DON'T PANIC!

As many of you are aware the current Newsletter, including all past issues, is available for download on our website at www.tmsoc.org/newsletter. At the last committee meeting I proposed moving to an 'online-only' format, principally to redirect resources towards other causes such as student funding. At the moment we dedicate 30% of our annual expenditure to the Newsletter (over £6,000 pa), which is now the single biggest cost to the Society partially due to significant increases in postal charges in recent years. With more and more of our members active online each year, I believe that this is a fantastic opportunity to shift our modest resources to where they may make the biggest difference to our science – funding for students and early-career researchers. We do want to continue increasing the impact and relevance of

the Newsletter, and so it will in future be sent to members via email as soon as it is finalised, removing the inevitable lag-time between final draft and arrival in the letter box after printing. However, in order to acknowledge the diversity of our member's needs and requirements, we will be offering existing members the option of continuing to receive a printed version. You will all be receiving letters about this due course.

AGM 2013

After the great success of the 3-day TMS Annual Conference at the British Geological Survey in November 2012, we are delighted to announce that the 2013 TMS Annual Conference will be held at the Natural History Museum, London (18th–19th November), following a similar format to last year. There will be five guest speakers on day 1 (Xavier Crosta, Anne de Vernal, Tom Dunkley Jones, Heiko Pälike and Bridget Wade) on the theme of 'Micropalaeontology and the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program', followed by Society Business (including awards and elections), a drinks reception and an evening meal. Day 2 will start with a keynote lecture, and be followed by short oral presentations open to all conference delegates. Posters will be on display for the duration of the conference.

We are also delighted to announce that sponsorship has been provided by UK IODP. This means that bursaries will be available to post-graduates and early career researchers, providing financial support for conference attendance. Further details will be available on the conference website shortly (www.tmsoc.org/agm2013).

Additional conference details can be found on page 3, and further information will be continuously added to the website, including recommendations for accommodation. If you require any additional information, please contact the

conference organisers Tom Hill, Steve Stukins and Giles Miller either directly or at micropalaeontology@nhm.ac.uk.

ALAN HIGGINS AWARD

The Alan Higgins Award for Applied Micropalaeontology is given to a young scientist, less than 10 years from graduation, in recognition of a significant record of achievement in the field of applied and industrial micropalaeontology, as documented by publications, software, patents, leadership or educational activities. The committee will award the 2013 Alan Higgins Award to Erik Anthonissen at the 2013 TMS Annual Conference in recognition of his extensive published work in biostratigraphy and industrial micropalaeontology.

Nominations for the 2014 Alan Higgins Award should be sent to the Secretary by 28th February 2014 using the appropriate nomination form available from our website.

CHARLES DOWNIE AWARD

The Charles Downie Award is an annual award made to a member of the Society who, in the opinion of the Committee, has published the most significant paper in any journal based on their postgraduate research. The committee will awarded the 2013 Charles Downie Award (best paper published in 2012) to Phillip Jardine at the 2013 TMS Annual Conference, for his paper entitled: Jardine, P.E., Harrington, G.J. and Stidham, T.A. 2012. Regional-scale spatial heterogeneity in the late Paleocene paratropical forests of the U.S. Gulf Coast. *Paleobiology*, 38(1), 15–39.

Nominations for the best paper published in 2013 should be sent to the Secretary by 28th February 2014.

TMS STUDENT AWARDS

TMS Student Awards are given to those nominated for their outstanding performance on one of our TMS-approved micropalaeontological courses, and consist of free membership for 2013. So far this year six of our new members are recipients of TMS Student Awards. These

are David Cox (Keele University), Simon Jost (IFM-GEOMAR, Kiel), Tamsin Leaver (University of Southampton), Daniela Röhnert (Universität Bremen), Thomas Steeman (University of Ghent - K.U. Leuven) and Georgina Wright (University of Birmingham). Congratulations to them all. The TMS Student Award scheme now has 16 approved micropalaeontological courses, and I encourage any TMS Members to consider nominating their taught micropalaeontological courses for the scheme to encourage their best students to continue with a micropalaeontological career.

TMS GRANTS-IN-AID

The committee decided to award four applications for Grants-in-Aid, for costs towards attendance at specific micropalaeontological conferences/training. There were: Kirsten Meulenbroek (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam) to attend the Foraminifera and Nannofossil group Spring Meeting, Prague, 19-22 June 2013; Haytham El Atfy (Senckenberg Forschungsinstitut und Naturmuseum Frankfurt) to attend the 46th Annual Meeting of AASP (The Palynological Society), San Francisco, USA, 20-24 October 2013; Cherry Newsam (University College London) to attend the Foraminifera and Nannofossil group Spring Meeting, Prague, 19-22 June 2013; and Alistair Cutler (University of Birmingham) to attend the MEDGATE Network Training Event in Rabat in 2013.

I would encourage all of our student members to consider applying for a Grant-in-Aid. Grants-in-Aid are awarded annually to help student members of the Society in their fieldwork, 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, neither can they be awarded retrospectively. A maximum of £300 can be awarded to each successful applicant. Awardees are expected to write a short report for the Newsletter once their grant has been used. Applications forms can be downloaded from the website (www.tmsoc.org), or obtained from the Secretary. The next deadline is 28th February 2014.

Alan Higgins Award for Applied Micropalaeontology

Alan Charles Higgins (1936–2004), a British micropalaeontologist and expert on conodonts, made major contributions to Paleozoic biostratigraphy and helped firmly establish the value of micropalaeontology in hydrocarbon exploration. He was a founding member of TMS, its past Chairman and Honorary Member. The award of £300 is given to a young scientist, less than 10 years from graduation, in recognition of a significant record of achievement in the field of applied and industrial micropalaeontology, as documented by publications, software, patents, leadership or educational activities. The award was established with the help of Alan's family and friends, to commemorate his contribution to micropalaeontology and encourage young researchers in the field. It is presented in person at the Society's AGM in November. The first award was made in 2010.

Nominations can be made by any TMS member using the nomination form available on the website or from the Secretary, and sent by the end of February of each year to the Secretary of TMS. The nominees need not be members of TMS. The award is normally given each year, resubmission of unsuccessful nominees is possible.

TMS Grants-in-Aid

TMS Grants-in-Aid are awarded annually to help student members of the Society in their fieldwork, 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 these), nor can they be awarded retrospectively.

A maximum of £300 can be awarded to each successful applicant. Awardees are expected to write a short report for the *Newsletter of Micropalaeontology* once their grant has been used. Application forms may be downloaded from TMS website or obtained from the Secretary.

Deadline for application is 28th February 2014

Charles Downie Award

The late Charles Downie was one of the pioneers of palynology in the UK 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 been established to recognise 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 2013 and will be presented at The Micropalaeontological Society AGM in November 2014. Nominations for the best paper published in 2013 should be submitted to the TMS Secretary by 28th February 2014.

The Brady Medal

The Brady Medal is the highest award of The Micropalaeontological Society. It is named in honour of George Stewardson Brady (1832-1921) and Henry Bowman Brady (1835-1891) in recognition of their outstanding pioneering studies in micropalaeontology and natural history.

The Medal is awarded to scientists who have had a major influence on micropalaeontology by means of a substantial body of excellent research. Service to the scientific community may also be a factor for consideration by the Award Committee. The medal was commissioned and was awarded for the first time in 2007.

The Medal is cast in bronze from original sculptures commissioned by The Micropalaeontological Society in 2007. The sculptor is Anthony Stones, Fellow of the Royal Society of British Sculptors and President (1999-2004) of The Society of Portrait Sculptors. The Medal is hand crafted by the leading sculpture foundry Pangolin Editions of Chalford, England.

Mechanism for making a nomination:

All nominations must be made on the TMS “Brady Medal” pro-forma which can be downloaded from TMS website. Nominations must have a Proposer and Seconder, both of whom should be Members of the Society and not be affiliated to the same institute as the person they nominate. Nominations should be made in strictest confidence and in no circumstance should the person nominated be informed. The completed nomination form should be returned to the Secretary of the Society. Nominations may be made at any time of the year.

Committee Vacant Offices

At the 2013 AGM, the following TMS Committee positions will become available for election:

PRESIDENT
INDUSTRIAL LIAISON OFFICER
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY
NEWSLETTER EDITOR
OSTRACOD SECRETARY
SILICOFOSSIL CHAIR

Nominations for these positions should be submitted to the Secretary by 30th September 2013. Nominees, proposers and seconds should all be members of the Society. Those who consider standing for any of the offices are welcome to contact the Secretary for information on what duties these posts entail.

Industrial Liaison Officer's Report July 2013

HAYDON BAILEY

I'm pleased to report that the TMS Educational Trust is in receipt of a further grant from Shell International and there is the possibility of further funding over the next few weeks. The strength of feeling expressed by TMS in support of training has contributed to both BP and RPS agreeing to fund studentships at the University of Birmingham during the next academic year.

Post graduate funding will remain a major issue over the few years and we will need to maintain as much effort as possible to continue raising support for training. The need has been recognised elsewhere as the Petroleum Exploration Society of Great Britain is also urging companies to subscribe to a fund which they are managing in order to support training in petroleum related subjects. This could be seen as a threat to our own limited financial support and I have written to the current President of the PESGB expressing both my concerns and also the hope that both societies might co-operate in order to maximise funding to biostratigraphy. We have had a positive response and I will try to promote further co-

operation. Last year the PESGB fully funded one of the Birmingham MSc students thereby indicating their support.

I have had a letter published in the PESGB Newsletter indicating that the TMS Educational Trust is fully functioning, but still in need of further financial assistance. Efforts will be continued to try and raise further support. It was good to see a report in the PESGB newsletter on the Birmingham course by Laura Hubbard, the student who is in receipt of a PESGB grant this year.

Finally, this should be my last newsletter entry as Industrial Liaison Officer for the Society and so I'm taking the opportunity of thanking everyone who has helped me over the last four years. It was a new and exciting role which didn't have a job description when I started, but I trust I've fulfilled the task that the society had in mind. It's a really fulfilling position knowing that you're able to put something back into micropalaeontology at a time when the discipline needs as much support as it can get.

The Micropalaeontological Society Educational Trust

The Trust is in a position to receive applications for financial support towards Post Graduate training in micropalaeontology. To date a number of awards have been made to the current tranche of students on the University of Birmingham course in Applied and Petroleum Micropalaeontology and a grant was also made to a student from the University of Lille studying with Taniel Danielian.

Last year we were extremely grateful to have received donations from Shell International

and from BG. Again this year Shell International have repeated the generous grant they made to us last year and we are in a position to pass these funds on to students registered on accredited micropalaeontological courses. The Trust has now established the process of making available up to 50% of its available funds in grants and the Trustees will be in a position to do this again this year.

Applications should be made to the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Dr Haydon Bailey at

haydon.bailey@btconnect.com, providing details of the course on which the student is registered, together with a letter of endorsement

from the course director. Applications should be made as soon as possible if funding is requested for the next academic year.

Journal of Micropalaeontology Report July 2013

ALAN LORD, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Geological Society has reviewed its publishing practices and has introduced policies to enable authors who choose to do so to publish articles Open Access in its online journals, Special Publications, Engineering Geology Special Publications and Memoirs.

Journal of Micropalaeontology now offers authors the choice to publish under either the Gold Open Access model or the Green Open Access model. Gold Open access requires the payment of an Article Processing Charge (APC) of £1000/\$2000 on acceptance and the article will be free to all immediately on publication. Green Open Access requires no fee and allows authors to post their accepted manuscript online after an embargo period of 12 months. Full details of our Open Access policy can be found on our website at: <http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/Open-Access>

Authors will be given the opportunity to choose to publish Open Access once their paper has been accepted and the production editor will manage the publication process and organise

invoicing.

As you know the Geological Society is committed to developing its publishing services for authors.

- Indexing Special Publications in Elsevier's Scopus and Thomson Reuters Web of Science Book Citation Index
- Online First – our publish-ahead-of-print system which ensures fast publication of papers
- Mobile sites for journals – allowing greater portability and phone/tablet access from any location
- Open Access publishing choices

Above all, with your help, the Geological Society will continue its policy of publishing high-quality peer-reviewed research outputs, on a not-for-profit basis.

If you have any questions about Open Access or any of our other services please email open.access@geolsoc.org.uk or contact your production editor.

Publicity Officer's Report July 2013

TOM HILL

A number of promotional activities have been under way over the last six months. They are designed to use a variety of media in promoting and advertising micropalaeontological news, resources and events, whilst also helping in our mission to increase Society membership.

Firstly, an updated version of the TMS Publicity

Flyer has been printed and is now available for distribution. Batches of the flyers have already been sent to a number of recent micropalaeontology conferences including Microfossils III (Houston) and the Diatom Taxonomy and Ecology Workshop (Cardiff). We ask for any conference convenors to get in touch with me so that flyers to be sent out for distribution in

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M. C. Cabral & I. M. Loureiro

Overview of Recent and Holocene ostracods (Crustacea) from brackish and marine environments of Portugal

K-H. Baumann & B. Boeckel

Spatial distribution of living coccolithophores in the southwestern Gulf of Mexico

S. N. Brandao & M. Yasuhara

Challenging deep-sea cosmopolitanism: taxonomic re-evaluation and biogeography of "*Cythere dasyderma* Brady, 1880" (Ostracoda)

M. B. Hart, A. De Jonghe, A. J. Rundle & C. W. Smart (Notebook)
Staloliths: neglected microfossils

J. Schönfeld, E. Golikova, S. Korsun & S. Spezzaferri

The Helgoland Experiment - assessing the influence of methodologies on Recent benthic foraminiferal assemblage composition

M. Ciummelli & I. Raffi

New data on the stratigraphic distribution of the nannofossil genus *Catinaster* and on evolutionary relationships among its species

L. Zheng, T. Danelian, Q Feng, T. Servais, N. Tribovillard & M. Caridroit

On the Lower Cambrian biotic and geochemical record of the Hetang Formation (Yangtze Platform, south China); evidence for biogenic silica and possible Radiolaria

H. El Atfy, R. Brocke & D. Uhl

A fungal proliferation near the probable Oligocene/Miocene boundary, Nukhul Formation, Gulf of Suez, Egypt

H. Iwatani, T. Irizuki & M. Yasuhara (Notebook)

Occurrence of a rare puncioid ostracod, *Promanawa konishii* (Nohara, 1976), in Recent sediments of the East China Sea

Journal of Micropalaeontology

Vol 33 (1), January 2014

The part contains a set of thematic papers on radiolarian taxonomy and history of radiolarian studies. Guest Editors: Dave Lazarus and John Gregory.

Thanks to the Editorial Board and to Sarah Gibbs, Production Editor, Geological Society.

conference packs etc.

TMS also commissioned the design and printing of two roller banners, to be displayed at TMS sponsored conferences. If you attended the Joint Foraminifera and Nannofossil Groups Spring Meeting in Prague, you may have seen one of the banners on its first outing! At the time of writing, the banners are already scheduled to be displayed at the Polar Marine Diatom Taxonomy and Ecology Workshop (Cardiff), the Silicofossil Group Meeting (Cambridge) and the International Nannoplankton Association Meeting (Virginia). Again, we ask you to get in touch if you are hosting a conference, or if TMS is to sponsor a conference, so that we can send a banner to the venue.

Finally, TMS now has a presence on social media. We have created a Facebook Group page as well as a Twitter account. Simply search for The Micropalaeontological Society in both Facebook and Twitter and please join/follow/tweet us! We can be found on Twitter using @MicropalaeoSoc. We encourage you to use these social platforms as mechanisms to promote and advertise any micropalaeontology activities, conferences, meetings, results and news. They will provide a great route through which conferences and meetings can be publicised to a global audience. The success of such social media use will be in the hands of Society members, so please take advantage of these online opportunities.



TMS Student Awards

In order to support the teaching of micropalaeontology at all BSc, MSc and equivalent levels, as well as to encourage and reward student engagement and achievement in this field, The Micropalaeontological Society has established TMS Student Awards. Each award consists of one year's free membership of the Society, including two issues of *Journal of Micropalaeontology* and *Newsletter of Micropalaeontology*, discount on TMS and GSPH publications, discounted registration fees at TMS specialist group meetings, and eligibility for awards and grants-in-aid.

The awards are given annually by tutors of registered micropalaeontology courses. Only one award per year per institution may be given. Nominating tutors must be members of TMS and in order to register a course they must submit a completed form to TMS Secretary who will confirm in writing that the given course is approved for the award. The Secretary will keep a list of registered micropalaeontology courses, conferring with the Committee when necessary. Course tutors of registered courses may then give the award at any time of the year on the basis of any criteria to students deemed to have achieved meritorious grades. The tutor reports the name and address of the awardee, as well as a brief statement on the criteria used to select the awardee, to the Secretary, who will collate a list of citations to be tabled each year at the AGM and printed in the *Newsletter*.

Each year, one TMS Student Award will be awarded in memory of Brian O'Neill.

Eleven courses are currently registered:

EA2009 Microfossils

School of Earth and Ocean Sciences, Cardiff University

500016 Foraminiferen im Schleswig-holsteinischen Wattenmeer

IFM-GEOMAR, Kiel

Advanced Micropalaeontology

Department of Geology, University of Leicester

Microfossils, environments and time

School of Ocean & Earth Science, University of Southampton

Mikropaläontologie

Institut für Geowissenschaften, Eberhard-Karls Universität Tübingen

Micropalaeontology

University of Bristol

Micropalaeontology: Principles and Applications

Keele University

16199 Micropalaeontology

Universidad del País Vasco

GLY 5102 Marine Micropalaeontology / GLY 5104 Applied Micropalaeontology / GLY 5207 Case Histories in Marine Micropalaeontology / research project involving micropalaeontology

Environmental and Marine Masters Scheme in the Faculty of Science, University of Plymouth

ESCM 320/440 Micropalaeontology

School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Birmingham

Introduction to Micropalaeontology

Masters in Geology, University of Ghent – K.U. Leuven

Information for Tutors: In order to register a micropalaeontology course at your institute, please fill in the form below and send it to TMS Secretary. You only need to do this once, unless the course has changed or you wish to report a different course for the award scheme. Tutors are welcome to submit the form electronically.

TMS Student Award – Course Registration Form

Nominating Tutor:

TMS Membership Nr:

University/Higher Education Institution:

Course Name:

Course Description (level, number of students, hours of instruction etc.):

Date:

Please return by mail or electronically to TMS Secretary

The Micropalaeontological Society
<http://www.tmsoc.org>

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Specialist Group News

Foraminifera Group Report

BILL AUSTIN, KIRSTY EDGAR

The Foraminifera and Nannofossil spring meeting themed "The micropalaeontological record of global change: from epicontinental seas to open ocean" was held on the 19th-22nd June 2013 at Charles University in Prague and had 52 attendees including 16 posters and 27 oral presentations. Sessions covered a wide range of themes encompassing both molecular and fossil data. Many thanks to Katarína Holcová and colleagues for organizing a most enjoyable meeting, field excursion and guided walk of the city of Prague.

The 2014 joint Foraminifera and Nannofossil spring meeting will be held on the island of Texel at the Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research (NIOZ) with a provisional theme of "Foraminifera and Nannofossils through time; qualification and quantification". The proposal is led by Els Ulkes from the University of Amsterdam along with Prof. G.-J.A. Brummer; Dr C. Cléroux, Dr L.J. de Nooijer, Dr G.-J. Reichart, Dr G.M. Ganssen and Dr F.J.C. Peeters.

Forams 2014: The International Symposium on Foraminifera will be held at the University of Concepcion, Chile from 19-24 January 2014. The website is now open and abstracts for the six thematic sessions are being accepted at <http://www.udec.cl/forams2014/>.

European Geosciences Union - Malcolm Hart (Plymouth University), Lennart de Nooijer

(NIOZ), Gerald Ganssen (Amsterdam University), Joan Bernhard (Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution) and William Austin (St Andrew's University) are intending to submit a proposal to the EGU Programme Committee for a session at the General Assembly (27th April - 2nd May 2014) on the theme of "Ocean acidification: past, present & future" with a view to bringing together those working on modern environments and the fossil record. In many cases (T/J boundary and K/Pg boundary) acidification is being identified as one of the causes of faunal change and is important that the various communities come together to share ideas and concerns. Offers of talks, posters and other forms of presentation must be made through the EGU website in the autumn.

D.J. Carter DFC (1922-2013) - It is with some sadness that we report, via Malcolm Hart, the peaceful death of Dave Carter in June 2013. He retired from Imperial College in 1982, where he had been a member of staff since the 1950s. He taught many generations of undergraduate students and a number of postgraduate research students, including Martin Norvick, Graham Williams, John Murray and Malcolm Hart. He made a significant contribution to micropalaeontology over the years, including the site investigation of both the Channel Tunnel and the Thames Barrier. A full obituary is in preparation.

Nannofossil Group Report

MATTHEW HAMPTON, SIMON COLE

The recent 10th Annual TMS Joint Foraminifera and Nannofossil groups Spring Meeting, hosted at the Charles University in Prague on June 19th – 22nd continued to build on the success of previous meetings and our thanks go to Katarína Holcová and team for organizing such a good meeting, field trip and accompanying social events. The meeting was entitled "The micropalaeontological record of global change: from epicontinental seas to open ocean". A report on this meeting has been prepared separately for

this newsletter by Cherry Newsam and Kirsten Meulenbroek (p. 18).

The venue for the Joint Foraminifera and Nannofossil Group Spring Meeting next year will be the island of Texel, at the Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research (NIOZ), with the date set provisionally for 25th-28th June 2014. The meeting theme will be 'Foraminifera and Nannofossils through time; qualification and quantification'. We would encourage all nannofossil

workers, researchers and students to attend and present at this meeting in order to ensure a strong TMS Nannofossil Group component to this meeting. For further details please look at the TMS website, The Micropalaeontological Society Facebook Group page or follow the TMS on Twitter (search for TMSoc or @MicropalaeoSoc).

Another event to have taken place in the nannofossil community was the Coccolithophore geochemistry workshop on 30th-31st May, held at Imperial College, London. Thanks to Tom Dunkley Jones for providing the following report:

This workshop brought together 18 attendees from Spain, France, Sweden, Germany and the UK to discuss current research in coccolithophore geochemistry. With a good mix of PhD students, post-docs and experienced researchers, and across the disciplines of palaeontology, modern biology and geochemistry, this focused on the use of coccolithophore-based proxies for understanding past biological and environmental change. It is hoped that this initial meeting will foster links between European researchers working on various aspects of coccolithophore geochemistry in both modern and ancient systems. Topics discussed at the meeting included:

- 1) fundamental understandings of biomineralisation and the causes of isotopic and trace metal variability in coccolith calcite;
- 2) culture studies as the basis for proxy calibration;
- 3) geochemical studies on modern plankton samples and bioassays;
- 4) future core top calibrations of coccolith proxies;
- 5) modes of preservation of fossil coccolith calcite and geochemical implications; and,
- 6) analytical methodologies and the interpretation of coccolith palaeoproxy data.

TMS support was greatly appreciated in helping international and UK student participants to attend.

With regard to other activities, we are in the process of planning a 'Gault Clay' themed weekend field trip for Autumn 2013. This trip will be open to all TMS members and more details will follow. However, if you are interested in attending then please contact us for more infor-

mation (matt@network-stratigraphic.co.uk) or simon.cole@petrostrat.com).

TMS is also affiliated with the International Nannoplankton Association and the current INA President, Paul Bown has prepared the following report on INA news:

The INA is preparing for its 14th international meeting, to be held in September this year. It's still not too late to sign up! With over 95 presenters from as many as 25 countries representing industry, academia, and government, the INA14 meeting is shaping up to be one of the most well-represented nannoplankton meetings to date. The meeting will be organized and hosted by Jean Self-Trail at the USGS in Reston, Virginia (USA), only a short trip on the subway from Washington D.C. The meeting has a lot to offer the visiting scientist, including two conference field trips (one to learn about the Triassic basins of the East Coast as well as the wines produced there, and one to visit the world famous Calvert Cliffs of Maryland), four conference workshops, that are included in the registration fee, and talks on a variety of nannoplankton topics including: modern coccolithophore ecology, Triassic to Pleistocene biostratigraphy, new preparation techniques, taxonomy, and much more! Our keynote speaker, Dr Brian Huber, will discuss correlation between calcareous nannofossils and foraminifera, and our plenary speaker, Dr Barney Balch, will discuss geochemistry and ocean acidification. So, if you haven't done so already, go check out the official website (<https://my.usgs.gov/ina14/>) and set aside the dates (September 15th-21st, 2013) and join us in beautiful Northern Virginia for INA14!

INTERNATIONAL NANNOPLANKTON ASSOCIATION ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

It's that time again! Paul Bown will be stepping down as INA President and passing over the reins to a new, incoming person at INA14. You will be shortly receiving a ballot via email (also available on the INA website) asking you to choose who you would like to be the next INA president. Please take the time to read over the candidate's qualifications and make an informed decision. This is your organization - please VOTE!

TMS Grant-in-aid Reports

The Micropalaeontology Society Foraminifera and Nannofossil Groups Joint Spring Meeting 2013, 19th-22nd June 2013, Prague, Czech Republic

KIRSTEN MEULENBROEK, VU UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM

CHERRY NEWSAM, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

The 10th TMS Foraminifera and Nannofossil Groups Joint Meeting was held this year in Prague, with a focus on 'The micropalaeontological record of global change: from epicontinental seas to open ocean'. We (Kirsten and Cherry) were fortunate to be awarded TMS Grants-in-Aid to attend the conference and we would like to give a short summary of the wonderful time we had to the other TMS members.

The conference started with an afternoon city tour; after riding the funicular we strolled through the park, which had brilliant views across the city and we received an overview of Prague's interesting history including the appearance of a correlation between the 'Golden Ages' of the city and periods of climatic warming. A walk round the castle to the senate gave us a real feel for the cobbled streets and historical beauty of Prague. An evening Welcome Reception with a delicious buffet was held in the basement of the department where the hosts unveiled a natural history museum full of palaeontological wonders. Be sure to visit the top floor whenever passing by, a display of paintings gives a beautiful impression of the changes



in environment throughout earth history.

The first day of the lecture series was packed full of 15 interesting talks across four sessions. The first talk of the conference, by Magali Schweizer on DNA genotyping of benthic foraminifera, was a great start to the 'molecular data and its applications' session, followed up with Angela Roberts combining innovative molecular results with her morphological studies of the benthic foraminifer *Elphidium*. After the talks focusing on foraminifera themselves, the rest of the day was spent on talks about the different types of proxies used and their possible applications. Despite the heat (~35°C!) the great talks kept coming with Juliane Steinhardt discussing how eddy and non-eddy periods in the Mozambique Channel affected planktic foraminifera Mg/Ca results and Claudia Lupi reviewed carbonate production and preservation at Chatham Rise

during glacial/interglacial cycles. Some proxies were shown to give improved results and an exciting new proxy (Na/Ca) for reconstructing ocean salinity was presented. We had a mid-afternoon break for a poster session, where all participants presented a short overview of their research, followed by time to view the posters and ask any further questions on the research presented. Magdalena Holcová showed that, with her high school graduation project on different microscopic applications, contributions to our field with promising results can be done at young age. The final session of the day included a talk from Kirsty Edgar on the long-term issue of diagenetic alteration in benthic foraminifera. After excellent talks and record-breaking temperatures, the conference group headed to U Bansethu, a traditional family Czech restaurant. There we sampled the local cuisine, the very local beer from the microbrewery in the restaurant and filled the evening with more talks, of a social nature this time.

The second day of lectures kicked off with a talk by Michael Hesemann on the excellent work enthusiastic amateur foraminifera workers are carrying out to produce a user-friendly foraminifera image database (www.foraminifera.eu). Talks for the rest of the day then followed through geological time from the Cretaceous into the Quaternary and where the first day was focused on foraminifera alone, now some nannofossils were mixed into the talks. Presentations by Eiichi Setoyama on the late Cretaceous Voring Basin fan system and Palaeocene Eocene Thermal Maximum research by Daniel Austin looking at exceptionally well-preserved calcareous nannoplankton, proved that despite their age, older, well preserved materials



can provide really solid records. Mike Kaminski discussed the unusual deep-sea benthic foraminifera in the North Atlantic at the Eocene Oligocene Transition and José Pérez-Asensio presented Messinian palaeoproductivity changes using foraminifera relating to the closure of the Atlantic Mediterranean gateway. Overall there was a great variety in the talks throughout the two days, with Cretaceous through to present day studies and topics ranging from molecular data to geochemical records and palaeoenvironmental interpretations. The conference was closed with a presentation by Lennart de Nooijer with an overview of next years conference, which will be held at the Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research (NIOZ) entitled: 'Foraminifera and Nannofossils through time: Qualification and Quantification', on the island of Texel, a location where the coastal mudflats provide us with a great opportunity to practise our sampling methods and see the workings of an analytical lab up close.

On the Saturday, members of the conference party set off on a field excursion to study outcrops close to the historic town of Kutná Hora. There were three Cretaceous outcrops to visit, with plenty of fossils to hunt for and even sampling possibilities. The first locality consisted of Upper Cretaceous sediments of bioclastic limestones with overlying siltstones; many sponges were found by the group, including a new species, as well as echinoderm spines and brachiopods. The second locality provided a transgressive sequence of conglomerates overlain by bioclastic limestones and calcareous marlstone at the top of the section. The site yielded similar





fossils as the first one, but also included oysters and pecten shells. The final locality was a sinkhole, formed due to a collapse caused by tunneling from miners. We were given an overview of the outcrop from the edge and the field guides had kindly taken samples for anyone in the previous week to take home. In the afternoon we were able to visit some of Kutna Ho-

ra's cultural sights; Sedlec Ossuary, St Barbara's Cathedral and chapel, all built with fossil-filled stones mined from the surrounding area. The ossuary with art made out of human bones in particular struck quite a nerve.

All in all, the meeting was very interesting on a scientific and cultural level as well as a nice social gathering, welcoming new members of the scientific community with open arms, encouraging them to share their contributions and lift their enthusiasm to a new high.

We would like to thank the sponsors, our field guides Radek Vodrazka, Miroslav Bubik and Lilian Svabenicka all from the Czech Geological Survey, the TMS committee for supporting our participation at the conference, but most of all we would like to thank Katarína Holcová for her organization of the 10th meeting.

MEDGATE Network Training Event in Rabat (2013)

ALISTAIR CUTLER, UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

In March 2013 I applied to TMS for a grant-in-aid to go towards a fieldtrip related to my MSc. dissertation. One month later I was leaving behind the Artic spring of Birmingham for the sunnier climes of Morocco, using my £300 grant towards the cost of flights. The aim of my study is to re-examine a hypothesis proposed in the early 90s. This event is an influx of psychrospheric ostracod assemblages in the event strata, in NW morocco, where the one of the two passages linking the Mediterranean to the Atlantic would have been, 6Ma, in the lead up to the Messinian salinity crisis, which saw desiccation of the Mediterranean Sea. This assemblage indicates a current reversal from outflow, to inflow in the bottom waters at the time. The event requires re-examination as recent studies of geochemical water mass tracers conflict with the hypothesis.

The project is in association with MEDGATE, an EU Marie Curie funded training network,

whose primary remit is to train future academic and industrial scientists through PhD and post-doc projects. The first of three days in Morocco was spent hearing presentations from MEDGATE researchers on recent developments. This provided me with valuable background knowledge for my dissertation, and showed how my research fitted into the aims of the net-



Louja Quarry



Bou Rereg Valley

work as a whole. Presentation topics covered organic biomarkers in Messinian pre-evaporites to high resolution biostratigraphic studies in the Rifian corridor and numerical modelling of gateway exchange. It was encouraging to see how many studies depended on biostratigraphic data to greater or lesser extent.

The second day was spent in the field, looking at sections with well-developed sedimentary cyclicity, I took samples from two sites, Oued Akrech (Tortonian-Messinian boundary), and Ain al Beida (Messinian-Pliocene). We also logged the section for cyclicity, and compared results to published interpretations. Frits Hilgen led the ensuing discussion and demonstrated the sedimentary response to all three elements of orbital forcing (precession, obliquity and eccentricity).

The third and final day began with a computer based cyclostratigraphy workshop, also led by

Frits. This involved tuning the regular sedimentary alternations present in deep marine continuous Ain el Beida section, to astronomically forced insolation. The aim was to take a biostratigraphic age range and use the known cyclicity from that period to tune the layers. This results in an age model with a resolution of the order of 3kyr. The ability to tune these sedimentary sequences to the astronomical curve not only permits very high temporal resolution studies to be undertaken, but allows bed by bed correlation right across the Mediterranean.

Finally I would like to thank TMS for approving my grant-in-aid, without which it would not have been possible for me to attend. To Rachel Flecker and Carla Sands, of Bristol University for organising the fieldtrip, their hospitality, and my invitation.

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The Grzybowski Foundation

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GF

A note from the Chairman's desk

MIKE KAMINSKI, KING FAHD UNIVERSITY OF PETROLEUM & MINERALS

With the publication of this summer's Newsletter, the Grzybowski Foundation is pleased to announce its continuing collaboration with The Micropalaeontological Society, the Czech-Slovak-Polish paleontological meeting, and the Romanian Society of Paleontologists to bring news items to the attention of Micropalaeontologists in Central Europe. We also wish to thank our dues-paying members worldwide for their continued support of our activities.

This autumn we have two events planned. Our MIKRO-2013 meeting will be at the AGH University of Science & Technology in Kraków November 13-15, 2013. For the first time, the MIKRO meeting is held in conjunction with the Czech-Slovak-Polish Paleontological Conference. If this venue works out well, then we see no reason why the two meetings should not be a combined event in the future. After all, what is the sense in having two competing meetings? To make the meeting more accessible, the GF is sponsoring the meeting in the form of giving MIKRO-grants to students and people who have no access to travel funds from their institution (which seems to be the norm these days in this time of austerity). The MIKRO-grant pays the registration fee of the conference. The day before the plenary sessions (November 13) will be devoted to satellite meetings, working group meetings, and the Grzybowski Foundation board meeting. See the advertisement on the following page. The abstract volume of the combined conference will be published as a Grzybowski Foundation Special Publication, and this publication will be sent to all the GF members and made available to download from the GF website. We are once again indebted to Anka Waskowska and Marta Bak for organizing this year's meeting at AGH.

The other meeting this autumn is the 9th Romanian Symposium on Paleontology, which will be

held at the Department of Geology in Iasi, Romania, October 25-26, 2013. In the past, the GF has sponsored the micropaleontological session at this conference, and we will do so again this year. Our custom is to organise a reception following the Micropaleontological session. I understand that the city of Iasi is a beautiful place to visit, and I'm looking forward to seeing it this autumn.

This spring, a GF-reunion (of sorts) took place in Saudi Arabia at King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals. In April, KFUPM hosted the 10th Saudi Geosciences Conference, and for the first time in anyone's memory a whole afternoon session was devoted to the subject of Micropalaeontology. No fewer than five GF members took part in this conference (Al-Dhubeeb, Gradstein, Kaminski, Kender, and Setoyama), and we were even wondering if we could set up a regional chapter of the GF in the Middle East. On April 14th, Felix Gradstein taught a pre-conference short course entitled „The Geological Timescale, 2012”, which was well-attended by KFUPM students and visitors from abroad (see photo). Now we are thinking about the next GF activity in the Middle East – we will have to plan some kind of regional get-together to coincide with the GEOS meeting in Bahrain in 2014. Travelling to Bahrain is quite easy – no advance visa is required – and it should be possible to organize a satellite meeting at the conference.

The GF is pleased to announce the recipient of this year's „Brian J. O'Neill Memorial Scholarship” is Zofia Dubicka, who just began her new position as a Lecturer at the University of Warsaw. It has been quite some time since any new PhD graduates in have been hired to do Micropaleontology at a University in Poland – especially in these times when universities are mostly reducing their academic staff numbers. It has

also been some time since Warsaw University had a foraminiferal expert in their department. We extend our congratulations to Zofia, and we hope that the grant will be useful for setting up your new laboratory at WU. Our warmest congratulations are also extended to GF members Ellen Thomas, who received the Maurice Ewing Award of the AGU, and to Erik Anthonissen, who is the recipient of this year's Allan Higgs Award of the Micropalaeontological Society. These awards are given based on scientific achievement, and are very well-deserved!

Finally, we would like to thank our talented young webmaster Michael³ Kaminski, who has given the GF website a fresh new look. As a TMS-affiliated organisation, our new site gf.tmsoc.org is now being hosted on the same server as the TMS web pages. Not only does the website have a new format, but you can now download pdfs of articles that appeared in the out-of-print Special Publications. Abstract vol-

umes and the „Italian GF volumes” have been made open-access, and can now be downloaded in their entirety. We have also set up a dropbox for GF members that contains complete pdfs of the old IWAF volumes. To access this dropbox, please contact me directly. These initiatives should increase readership and citations to the articles in the GFSP volumes, which can only be a „good thing” for our micropalaeontological community. Please visit our new site and check out the new features, and help us promote the tmsoc.org site by linking to us from your pages. Our web designer is urging us to become more active in the use of social media, so if there is positive feedback from the community we will set up a page on facebook, or on the other popular sites. We will continue to think of ways that we can increase our outreach through the GF website.

Have a good summer!



Felix Gradstein and participants of the short course on the Geological Timescale held at KFUPM, April 2013.

GF Secretary's Report from the Alfred Wegener Institute

JAROSLAW TYSZKA

INSTITUTE OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES, POLISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

GF

There are very few places in the world where you can see and investigate living foraminifera running across laboratories, or actually speaking more precisely, moving in little aquaria and Petri dishes stored in incubators. The Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research is one them, where Jelle Bijma with his team carries out a whole suite of various experiments on calcification processes and the pathways of Mg, Sr, Ba, U, and B within foraminiferal shells. It is not surprising that this place is ideal for studying living foraminifera. When having lunch in the canteen in the main AWI building, Am Handelshafen 12, you see water through all four glassy walls. The main seaside view is towards the Weser River estuary, which opens to the North Sea. Instead of going for lunch, there is another option to go foraminifera hunting that can also be done with a soup spoon. Nevertheless, the favoured site for in vivo foraminifereologists is Dorum Neufeld, a small village 25

km north of the AWI. I went there last year during a high tide when I saw something what was expected, the sea till the horizon. When I came back this year with Markus Raitzsch to collect fresh samples, we precisely arrived at the low tide when the sea was completely gone till the horizon. I did not expect that. The mud flats were "nearly" dry, very walkable for dozen of kilometers. Foraminifera, mostly *Ammonia*, *Elphidium* and *Haynesina*, are nearly air exposed, hiding in mud and waiting for the next tide to come in.

Well, it looks like I have to finish I run to the lab to next catch chamber formation in *Amphistegina lessonii*, which is not from here, but from Burger's Zoo (!) in Arnhem, the Netherlands. This is another story I may tell you next time. Nevertheless, I cannot stand not sharing a photograph of my first chamber formation observed in my life. I have actually been hunting for chamber formation since 2009. This is not that easy you might expect.



First phase of chamber formation in *Amphistegina lessonii* d'Orbigny. Such tropical large foraminifera are happy to grow and reproduce in 25°C in the North Sea water thanks to Karina Kaczmarek who looks after the culture while working on her PhD.

Going back to the Grzybowski Foundation activities, please do not miss the 9th Polish Micropalaeontological MIKRO-2013 Workshop, as a joint meeting with the 14th Czech – Slovak – Polish Paleontological Conference held at the AGH University of Science & Technology in Kraków, on November 13-15, 2013. This new experimental venue will bring together both macro- and micropalaeontologists. If you have MSci or PhD student eager to join the meeting, let them know that the Grzybowski Foundation will sponsor their registration fees. Students should simply apply to the GF and propose presentation of their research results. More information is available from this site: http://www.kgos.agh.edu.pl/konf_paleo/index_en.html All meetings focused on foraminifera are listed

on the eForams site: <http://eforams.org/index.php/FORAM-Events>

At the end I still owe you an explanation, what the GF secretary is doing at the AWI. This part of the ATLAB Project funded under 7th Framework Programme to enhance collaboration. We really have a lot in common.

Unfortunately, I will have missed the TMS

Spring Meeting in Prague, but I am looking forward to seeing you in Kraków at MIKRO-2013 and at Concepción at FORAMS-2014.

9th Micropalaeontological Workshop MIKRO-2013 14th Czech-Slovak-Polish Paleontological Conference 13-15 November 2013

On November 13-15, 2013 in the University of Sciences and Technology AGH UST in Kraków will organize the 9th Micropalaeontological Workshop MIKRO-2013 in conjunction with the 14th Czech-Slovak-Polish Paleontological Conference.

There are planned two days of plenary sessions, including oral and poster presentations (Nov 14-15). The presentations will be in Slavonic languages – the native languages of the participants. The various paleontological problems will be discussed e.g., the leading topics concerning preparation methods, biostratigraphy, taxonomy, and paleoecology of fossils.

The main purpose will be presentations of new results of the latest paleontological studies.

The abstracts written in English will be published in a conference abstract book as the next volume of Grzybowski Foundation Special Publications. The Grzybowski Foundation is one of the official sponsors of the conference and will sponsor 10 “MIKRO-grants” for people who need support to attend the conference. Satellite meetings of working groups and other activities will accompany the conference. The Grzybowski Foundation Annual Board Meeting, and the annual Meeting of the Working Group on Foraminiferal Classification will be on 13th November 2013, the day before the plenary sessions of conference.

Further details, conference declaration and the abstract form are available on the home page of Conference http://www.kgos.agh.edu.pl/konf_paleo.

The conference Secretary - Justyna Kowal-Kasprzyk (e-mail: justyna.kowal@uj.edu.pl) – can answer any questions connected with the meeting.

For the Organising Committee, Anna Waskowska & Marta Bak

Beagle Forums

WOJCIECH MAJEWSKI (INSTITUTE OF PALEOBIOLOGY, POLISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, WARSAW)

When in early 2007, together with Jan Pawłowski (University of Geneva), we were sorting forams at Arctowski Station on King George

Island and watching cyclonic storms crossing over the Drake Passage bringing nasty weather from South America, we were wondering what



Collecting samples in the Beagle Channel.

are the connections, recent and ancient, between shallow water benthic foraminifera living in the Antarctic and in Patagonia; both so close but also so distant biogeographically areas. On the way back, we had another week or so for contemplating this problem, laying dead flat on tight bunks in the middle of stormy seas, swearing never to go with a small boat to a big ocean again.

After a few years, we are actually starting coming closer to answer our biogeographical dilemma. Just earlier this year, we managed to do some fieldwork in Chilean southern Patagonia. Along with a group of students, we were joined by Tomas Cedhagen (Aarhus University), more than curious about any allogromiid, Sergei Korsun (St. Petersburg University), who came to confront his knowledge on forams living in Arctic fjords with those living in similar habitats across the globe, as well as by Tatiana Hromic (Universidad de Magallanes), who was our guide not only through Chilean foraminifera but also through the customs of her native country. At this point, I must acknowledge a great help we got from another Chilean, Maria Angelica Godoi (Universidad de Magallanes), without whom it would have been rather impossible to get on time all authorizations required for our sampling. We needed them badly, and we got them just a few days before our field work began.

Nevertheless, we were fortunate to combine our resources and hire the sailing boat *Northanger* with a very skilled and scientifically curious crew of two: Keri and Greg. They have been sailing southern seas for two decades or so now, but have been looking for something more recently, and this something extra was work with scientists. Keri's and Greg's openness towards science made them to adapt their sailing home to our needs and cope with muddy guys running all over their neat boat enthusiastically carrying something they could not even see.

With considerable effort from all hands, we collected sediment samples from sixty locations within the area of Beagle Channel, which is mythical for every naturalist. We could reach down to 250 meters of water depth and were very happy to find diverse still living foraminiferal communities in almost all the samples. As we were a big crowd of a dozen or so, work on the boat and in the laboratory onshore in Chilean Puerto Williams had to be done in shifts. We all had to hurry to extract and preserve as many living foraminifera from surface sediment as possible for molecular studies, which are already under way. The studies are to show not only morphological but also genetic differences between benthic foraminifera from the two coastal areas across the Drake Passage. In the longer run, they are to be supplemented by



*Our "Research Vessel" the *Northanger*, with its able crew.*

the fossil record from both regions in an attempt to tell the timing and environmental context of drifting the two communities apart. Along with this major effort, we have also secured set of samples for a mass sequencing environmental

survey as well as for a classical ecological study, which will hopefully show some exiting outcomes during the upcoming FORAM meeting in Concepcion, Chile.

And this time, the seas were favorable...

A new Palaeontology Journal: Acta Palaeontologica Romaniaae

IOAN I. BUCUR (BABES-BOLYAI UNIVERSITY, CLUJ-NAPOCA)

Dear colleagues,

You are welcome to publish in *Acta Palaeontologica Romaniaae*, a peer-reviewed palaeontological journal supported by the Romanian Society of Palaeontologists.

Acta Palaeontologica Romaniaae was established in 1997, joint with the first edition of the Romanian Symposium on Palaeontology. Conceived



as a conference proceedings volume, edited and published by the organizers of the succes-

sive palaeontological symposia held under the auspices of the Romanian Society of Paleontologists (RSP), *Acta Palaeontologica Romaniaae* continued its biannual apparitions in parallel with the symposia taking place in Cluj, Iasi, and Bucharest, respectively. In 2011, it reached its 7th published volume. At the latest, 8th National Symposium on Paleontology, organised in Bucharest in September 2011, a decision was reached by the members of the RSP to transform the proceedings volume into a regular journal with 2 issues per year, aiming to breach the limitations of a proceedings volume and to open towards the entire palaeontological scientific community, while still offering a publication platform for the papers presented at forthcoming National Symposia.

Continuously published under the auspices of the Romanian Society of Paleontologists and keeping with its former profile, the new journal *Acta Palaeontologica Romaniaae* is poised to publish papers in the wider areas of Palaeontology and Palaeoecology, as well as in such related topics as Stratigraphy, Sedimentology, or Geological Heritage Conservation. In order to accomplish this aim, a new permanent Editorial Team supported by an international Editorial Board was formed, covering a wide range of palaeontological disciplines. Papers will be published following a rigorous peer-review process in order to raise the content of the journal to higher international standards. Furthermore, in the near future the Editorial Team will be also

working toward the goal of submitting APR to an evaluation process that aims to include this journal into the ISI Web of Science, thus further increasing its international impact and recognition in the field.

Details on the journal as well as free content can be accessed at: <http://www.geo-paleontologica.org/actapalrom/index.html>

Grant Report: “The Brian J. O’Neill Memorial Student Grant-in-aid for PhD Research in Stratigraphic Micropalaeontology, 2011”

RALUCA BINDIU (BABES-BOLYAI UNIVERSITY, CLUJ-NAPOCA)

Starting in October 2010 my micropaleontological work focused on the analysis of the assemblages of foraminifera from the Upper Cretaceous – Palaeogene turbiditic sequences in the northern part of the Tarcau Nappe (External Flysch - Eastern Carpathians, Romania).



A total of 213 samples were collected from 32 outcrops located between the Suceava and Moldova Valleys (Suceava district). After the sample processing (taxonomy) a wide variety of foraminifera assemblages containing over

200 taxa were identified. The results of the micropaleontological analysis (morphogroups of agglutinated foraminifera, diversity, biostratigraphy etc.) allowed correlation between the fossil foraminifera assemblages and palaeoenvironmental settings. In 90% of the sections, well represented deep-water foraminiferal assemblages (containing mainly “flysch type” taxa) were identified; together with the sedimentological features, they indicate bathyal to abyssal environments for the studied area. By analyzing the distribution of the agglutinated foraminifera the following foraminiferal zones were defined: *Caudammina ovula gigantea* Zone (Upper Cretaceous deposits from the Putna, Suceava 1 and Brodina de Jos 2 sections), *Rzehakina fissistomata* Zone (Paleocene deposits from Putna, Frasin and Palma sections), *Glomospira* div. sp. Zone (Early Eocene from Putna, Straja and Brodina de Jos 1), *Reticulophragmium amplexans* Zone (Middle Eocene - Brodina section) and *Spiroplectammina spectabilis* Zone (Upper Eocene – Brodina section).

The results were disseminated as follows: participation in the Annual TMS Foraminifera/Nannofossil Group Meeting – 2011 (Kraków), the 8th Romanian Symposium of Paleontology – 2011 (Bucharest), the 9th International Workshop on Agglutinated Foraminifera – 2012 (Zaragoza), the Annual Scientific Session “I. P. Voitești” – 2010, 2011 (Cluj Napoca) and in two published

papers:

Bindiu, R. & Filipescu, S., 2011. Agglutinated Foraminifera from the Northern Tarcu Nappe (Eastern Carpathians, Romania). *Studia UBB Geologia*, 56 (2), 31-41;

Bindiu, R., Filipescu, S., Balci, R., 2013. Biostratigraphy and paleoenvironment of the Upper Cretaceous deposits in the northern Tarcu Nappe (Eastern Carpathians) based on

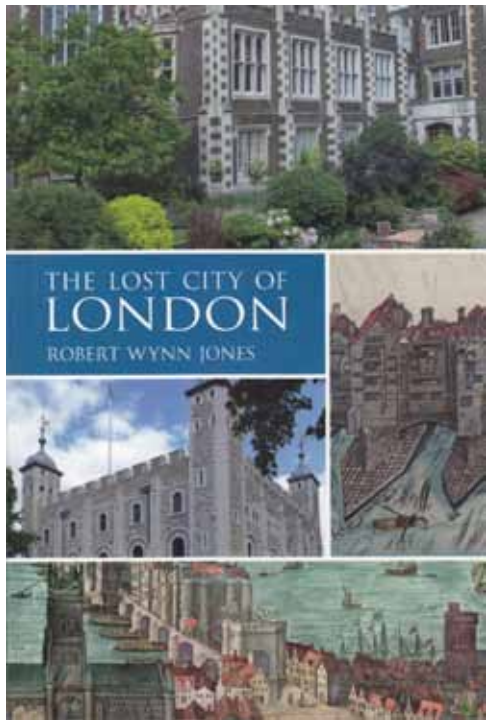
foraminifera and calcareous nannoplankton. *Geologica Carpathica*, 2013, 64 (2), 117-132.

My research was financially supported by the Grzybowski Foundation through the “Brian J. O’Neill Memorial Student Grant-in-aid for PhD Research in Stratigraphic Micropalaeontology”, by S.N.G.N ROMGAZ (contract 18/2011) and by the European Social Fund (POS DRU/107/1.5/S/76841).

GF

Book Review: The Lost City of London by Robert Wynn Jones [Amberley Press, ISBN 978 1 4456 08488]

MIKE KAMINSKI (KING FAHD UNIVERSITY OF PETROLEUM & MINERALS)



Having lived in North London for the past 20 years, it never occurred to me that the city of London had been lost – I would normally board the London Underground at Hendon Central, and 25 minutes later I would find myself in the city. Having said this, I was aware of the fact

that walking down the streets of London one is surrounded by history – the blue plaques on buildings remind us that famous people like Charles Darwin or Charles Dickens once lived there, and haphazard patch-like repairs to some stone buildings serve as reminders of the Blitz. It takes a micropalaeontologist with an eye for detail and a proclivity for perpetuating pensive penmanship to uncover the fossilised fragments of an ancient city that can still be viewed without a microscope and record them for posterity.

The book begins with a concise historical account of the history of London – and the section on “bedrock” is a clear give-away that the author is a keen geologist. The first 45 pages give an account of the history of the city from its beginning, through Celtic, Roman, and Anglo-Saxon times, and in pre-modern times until the Great Fire of 1666. The author devotes sections of the introduction to “social history”, “religion”, “trade and commerce”, and even “food and drink”. It is a little-known fact that London once had a staggering 1,153 drinking establishments in 1656, six of which survived the Great Fire and are still open to this very day (now it seems there are at least this many branches of Starbucks). The historical chapter ends with an

account of the Great Fire and its aftermath.

The next chapter gives a detailed inventory of the streets and structures that wholly or in part survived the Great Fire. The subsequent history of the buildings (mostly churches) are of interest. Many were damaged during the Blitz, some were subsequently pulled down. The history of St. Augustine Watling Street is typical (Saint Augustine was the missionary that converted King Ethelbert to Christianity in 597 AD) – originally built in the 12th century, the church was burnt down during the Great Fire, restored by Sir Christopher Wren, utterly destroyed in a bombing raid the night of Jan 11-12, 1942, and now only the rebuilt tower survives. The inventory is richly illustrated with modern photos and historical woodcuts that portray some of the places

mentioned in the book.

The Appendix gives an itinerary for suggested walks through “Lost London”. Personally, I am looking forward to doing some of these walks (as soon as it stops raining), with Bob’s guide-book in hand. I hear that RWJ himself leads walks around the city, and it’s possible to book a walk with the expert. Thanks Bob! - I enjoyed reading the book so much that I bought two copies (the second one is for the Grzybowski Library, and it will be shelved next to “Challenger Foraminifera” and “Applied Palaeontology”). I highly recommend buying a copy or two of this book (it’s a great read, and it makes a great gift). If the GF ever gives out a book award to one of its members, you would have my nomination....



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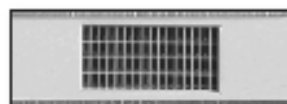
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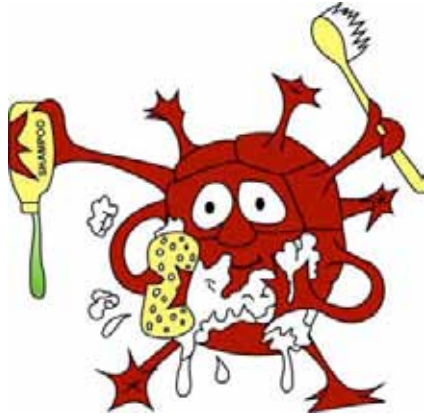
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