



**Yorkshire Philosophical Society, The Lodge, Museum Gardens, York, YO1 7DR**  
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**Registered Charity No: 529709 An affiliated society of the British Science Association**

## NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2014

You may already have noticed something different about the paper you're reading (it will be less obvious to those who have received this by email) ...

**Welcome to our first Newsletter in full colour!**

After ten years of service the photocopier in the Lodge was feeling its age and has been replaced with an up-to-the-minute machine which will enable us to include photographs in our newsletter and, importantly, reproduce our lecture posters in full colour, bringing our publicity into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

You should find the following with your Newsletter. If anything is missing, please contact Frances at The Lodge.

- Invitation to President's Evening
- Visit to Yorkshire Museum Fossil Collection
- Visit to the Mansion House
- Visit to Historic Newcastle (second announcement)

And of course

- Our 2014-15 Lecture Programme

### The coming year's lecture programme

Members will have received details of the 2014-15 lecture programme along with their copy of this newsletter. We hope that you will be pleased with the wide variety of lectures and also the quality of the speakers. Last year our lectures attracted increasingly large audiences and we expect this to continue.

We think that one of the current programme of lectures, Jim Al Khalili's 'Life Scientific', on September 30 has the potential to be extremely well attended, given Professor Al Khalili's media profile on TV and radio. On the same evening we have the Stemet/Nuffield award event which, as you will see from Margaret Leonard's piece later in this newsletter, will involve a drinks reception and poster presentations in the atrium. So September 30 will be a very busy evening. We will operate on a 'first come, first served' basis for the lecture, so please do make sure that you arrive in good time.

Judith Glover, Lecture Secretary



*Dragons: Myth or Reality?* by Dr Peter Hogarth is this year's pre-Christmas lecture

**But first ...**

## **Special YPS pre-season event on Tuesday September 2nd**

Prior to the beginning of the main programme, we will be holding a pre-season lecture together with the Hull York Medical School which will be attended by international delegates to a conference on Vertebrate Palaeontology and Comparative Anatomy being held at the Medical School.

The lecture, on *Yorkshire, Palaeontology and the Yorkshire Museum*, on September 2, at 7.30 pm in the Tempest Anderson Hall will be given by Stuart Ogilvy of the Yorkshire Museum.

Drinks, which are being sponsored by the Hull York Medical School, will be served in the Atrium from 6.45pm.

## **Nuffield Pre-lecture Poster Reception**

As you may already know, our lecture on September 30<sup>th</sup> will be rather special, as Jim Al Khalili, the well-known physicist and broadcaster will be invited to share with us his own 'Life Scientific'. This lecture will be preceded by what has become an annual event for us, when we have the opportunity to view the posters made by a group of Yorkshire sixth formers describing the research they undertook on summer Nuffield placements. The young people will also be presented with awards recognising their achievement at the start of the lecture.

All members are invited to the reception, with a complimentary glass of wine, before the lecture. **Please note that wine will only be served from 6.45 to 7.10 pm.**

Margaret Leonard

## **President's Evening**

We hope you will join us for our annual President's Evening on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. This is always a sociable occasion, combining good company, conversation and food, in the friendly surroundings of the Churchill Hotel. The price has been held from last year - only £25 - so please do send in your booking.

## **YAT Bookfair**

A reminder that this annual event will be held on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October in the Guildhall.

As usual we will have a stand, selling our publications and spreading the word about our activities. Do come along to say Hello and look at the other stalls.

## **“Historic Newcastle” - Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2014**

John Bibby is organising this trip. Please contact him direct with any queries – he is on [jb43@york.ac.uk](mailto:jb43@york.ac.uk) or 01904-330334.

**If you have already booked, please do not re-book: John Bibby will contact you further.**

This trip is being organised in collaboration with YPS's 'older sister', the Newcastle Lit & Phil (f.1793), whom we hope to invite to York in 2015. We shall use their fine building (illustrated) as a base, meeting at 10.30 for 11am to start a day of talks and tours. We finish at 6pm with a lecture on William Armstrong of Cragside, the Newcastle industrialist, ship-builder, and arms manufacturer, by Ken Smith, author of his biography.

The total cost will be £20 (£3 extra for non-members). This includes snacks etc. but lunch and travel to and from Newcastle will be self-arranged. (We can advise.)

Please tell your friends, especially non-members of YPS who may thereby be attracted to join. Further details are on the enclosed booking form – please email John Bibby ([jb43@york.ac.uk](mailto:jb43@york.ac.uk)) for further copies.



## Geological Map Project – The Museum Gardens

The Museum Gardens are embarking on a major phase of expansion with three new gardens being developed by York Museums Trust – the Artists' Garden, the Edible Garden and the Garden of Yorkshire Flowers. YPS has a particular interest in the latter as it is there that we will be constructing, in collaboration with the York Museums Trust, a walk-on geological map of Yorkshire. This will be based on William Smith's revolutionary map-making, which was the subject of Simon Winchester's book 'The Map that Changed the World'.

Scheduled for completion in 2015, this exciting project has two main objectives:

- To be an early first phase of the YPS Bicentenary Celebrations, culminating in 2022.
- To be part of the national bicentenary celebrations of William Smith's geological map of 1815.

A fund-raising strategy is being worked out and details will be in the next newsletter, together with information on how members can make donations.

The project team already has four core members (Alison Pringle of YMT, Vivien Irish, Margaret Leonard, and myself), but we are still looking for expertise in Yorkshire geology, in architectural or drawing office skills and equipment, and in Photoshop software. Please contact me if you would like to help.

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### Delivering newsletters - help needed

Around 60% of our Newsletters are hand-delivered to members by our team of volunteers, making considerable savings in postage every year. We do, of course, have many members living outside York and beyond the reach of our deliverers, but there are also a few areas closer at hand which are not at present covered by our network:

- Aldwark/Goodramgate area
- Osbaldwick
- Copmanthorpe

If you live in one of these localities, are able to come into the town centre on a weekday to collect a batch of newsletters, and would enjoy a walk around your local area, please consider helping us. The newsletters only come out four times a year, and you are welcome to "edit" your list of deliveries to avoid long distances, difficult letter boxes and over-friendly dogs. If you'd like to know more, please contact Frances at The Lodge.

### Programme card

You may notice that we have changed the format of our Programme Card to one suitable for pinning up on a notice board. We hope you find it useful.

### Yorkshire Gardens Trust - Small Grants Scheme 2015

The YGT's annual Small Grants Scheme is now open for applications for 2015. As always grants will be awarded towards the cost of various types of work on new or existing gardens or parks of particular interest or importance within Yorkshire. Full details and an application form are available at The Lodge or on the YGT website:

[www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk](http://www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk)

The closing date is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2014.



### Office closure

The Lodge will be closed on the following dates, when Frances will be on holiday:

- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> to Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October inclusive