59th Symposium of Vertebrate Palaeontology and Comparative Anatomy

20th Meeting of the Symposium of Palaeontological Preparation and Conservation

Geological Curators' Group

Lyme Regis – 12th to 17th September 2011

Third Circular

Booking and Abstracts

Don't forget that the deadline for booking and abstract submission is 4th July. We've had a good start, but need more to make the conference a success. In particular, the SPPC/GCG days are rather under subscribed, so even if you have already booked, twist the arms of your colleagues vigorously until they give in an agree to come and give a presentation.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could get your payment in as soon as possible. Because of the venue, and other aspects of organising the conference without the backing of a university, there are rather more up front costs than is perhaps usual.

http://svpca.org/years/2011_lyme_regis/bookingForm.php.

Once you have made a booking, you can submit an offer for a talk or poster presentation here:

http://svpca.org/years/2011_lyme_regis/abstractSubmission.php

Offers of papers should be accompanied by a short abstract of not more than 250 words. Your abstract will form the basis of our decision as to whether or not your paper will be included. Abstracts will be evaluated by an academic committee whose members are posted on the web site here:

http://svpca.org/years/2011_lyme_regis/abstractsCommittee.php

Your preference as to a poster or oral presentation will be taken into account as far as possible, depending on the availability of platform talks. Note that the abstract submitted will also constitute a submission for the symposium abstracts volume, which will be made available in PDF format from the SVPCA website.

In view of the theme of the meeting, we would like to get as many papers which refer to fossils from the Dorset and East Devon Coast World Heritage Site as possible, although this should not discourage authors from submitting offers of other papers.

The deadline for bookings and abstract submission is 4th July 2011.

Auction

The auction raises money for the Jones-Fenleigh Memorial Fund which supports delegates with no institutional backing who wish to attend the conference. Please make bring along items for the auction. Not only is this a very enjoyable event, it raises money for a cause close to our hearts.

T-Shirt

A design for the conference T-shirt, based on one of Bob Nicholl's paintings will be posted on the web site shortly.

Preliminary Programme:

Monday 12th September	Marine Theatre	SPPC/GCG Talks and Posters
Tuesday 13th	Marine Theatre	SPPC/GCG Talks and Posters
…afternoon	Lyme Regis	Field trip to classic localities
…evening	Venue to be decided	Icebreaker for SVPCA
Wednesday 14th	Marine Theatre	SVPCA Talks and Posters
…early evening	Marine Theatre	Public Lecture
…evening	Philpot Museum	Reception
…followed by		Auction for JFMF
Thursday 15th	Marine Theatre	SVPCA Talks and Posters
…late afternoon	Dorchester Museum	SVPCA Talks
…early evening	Dorchester Museum	Public Lecture
…evening		Reception in Dorchester museum
Friday 16th	Marine Theatre	SVPCA Talks and Posters
…early evening	Marine Theatre	Public Lecture
…evening	Marine Theatre	Conference Dinner
Saturday 17th		Field Trips

Field Trips

The Heritage Coast gives so many possibilities for field trips that it has been hard to decide where to go! Three trips are planned:

1. Lyme Regis-Charmouth: the classic trip, covering the exposures of the Lower Lias made famous by centuries of discoveries. This trip will be run in the late afternoon of the Tuesday of the week, after the SPPC/GCG conference so that delegates attending the SVPCA can have the opportunity to join.

We are planning two alternative trips for the Saturday of the conference.

2. Kimmeridge and the surrounding area. This will be a chance to visit Steve Etches collection of Kimmeridge Clay fossils, one of the finest private collections from anywhere in the world.
3. Sidmouth and area. The Dorset and East Devon Coast World Heritage Site extends west of Lyme Regis, and includes lesser-known Triassic deposits. This will be a chance to go to some less familiar localities for those already familiar with the more recent deposits.

…and, of course, given the location for the conference there will be ample opportunity to stroll down to the shore during lunch breaks to collect fossils!

Conference Dinner

The conference dinner will be held in the Marine Theatre, and provided by Sweetlands, a local catering company who specialise in home produced and locally sourced organic food. Details of the menu will be posted on the web site when they are available. Cost will be £37.50/head.

More about them here: http://www.sweetlands.co.uk/

Accommodation

Delegates will need to make their own arrangements for accommodation, but if they are made in good time there should be little problem in finding B&Bs, hotels, shared flats and houses or caravans. The Tourist Information Centre is a good first point of contact.

Lyme Regis Tourist Information Centre
Church Street, Lyme Regis, DT7 3BS
Telephone: 01297 442138
E-mail: lymeregis.tic@westdorset-dc.gov.uk
Website: www.westdorset.com

Other contacts are posted on the svpca.org web site.

Getting there

Lyme Regis is easily accessible by road and public transport. Axminster station is 5 miles away on the main Waterloo to Exeter line. Buses or taxis can be used to complete the journey.

More details can be found on the svpca.org web site.

Organisers
Richard Forrest (Electronic ether)
Richard Edmonds (Dorset)
Steve McLean (GCG)