

Council's Report and Financial Statement: year ending 31st August 2010

Society Proceedings, 2010

YORKSHIRE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY: REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 220014

COUNCIL'S REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT: YEAR ENDING 31ST AUGUST 2010

(A) LEGAL AND ADMINSTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

CONSTITUTION AND OBJECTS

The Yorkshire Geological Society, founded in 1837, is an unincorporated membership society and a registered charity. It is governed by Officers and a Council (who serve as Trustees of the Society) elected annually in accordance with the Rules of the Society, which were last revised and updated on 8th October 2005, and with relevant charity law.

The Objects of the Society are to promote and record the results of research in Geology and its allied sciences, more especially in Yorkshire by holding meetings for the reading of original papers and the delivery of public lectures and by field meetings; to extend knowledge of the science by demonstration and publication and by contributions to a library at the University of Leeds for the benefit of members and such other means as the Council may from time to time determine.

The Council is satisfied that the Objects and activities of the Society all fall within relevant definitions of charitable purpose in Section 2(2) of the Charities Act 2006: (b) the advancement of education, (f) the advancement of science and particularly of geoscience, and (i) the advancement of environmental protection and conservation.

In terms of public benefit, the Society actively promotes without restriction both specialist and public education and information in relation to the geology and allied earth sciences in general and particularly in relation to Yorkshire and adjacent regions. This work includes organising and promoting meetings, public lectures, field excursions, the Society's support for the annual Yorkshire Geology Month, and the Society's publications and website. Another high priority of the Society is the promotion and advancement of science through the encouragement and publication of scientific research by both members and non-members equally, and it is actively involved in giving advice and comments on environmental protection and conservation matters to both planning and other public bodies and more generally.

LIST OF COUNCIL MEMBERS WHO SERVED AS TRUSTEES DURING THE YEAR

(Unless otherwise stated elected or re-elected at the 28th November 2009 AGM)

Prof. P. Wignall, President – elected
Dr. N.E. Worley, Vice-President (also Programme Secretary) – elected
Dr M.A. Whyte, Vice-President – elected
Dr. T. Morse, General Secretary – elected; resigned July 2010
Mr W.B. Watts, General Treasurer - elected
Dr. S.G. Molyneux, Editor, *Proceedings* - elected
Prof. P.J. Boylan, Website Editor – elected
Mr. K.J. Dorning – elected
Mr. J.R. Ford – elected
Dr. C. Foster – coopted by the Council, June 2010
Mr P. Hildreth – elected
Dr. I.A. Kane – elected
Dr. J. A. Knight – elected
Mrs. R. Levell – elected
Ms. C. Nichol – elected
Mr W.J. Paley – elected
Dr. J.H. Powell – elected
Mr. S.J. Price – elected
Dr. H.J. Reeves - elected
Mr. S. J. Swann – – coopted by the Council, January 2010
Dr. D.C. Turner – elected
Mrs. A.M. Tymon - elected

OTHER OFFICERS (appointed by the Council)

Mr K.D. Park – Circular Editor
Ms C. Jennings-Poole – Membership Secretary

OFFICIAL ADDRESS

(Temporary, during vacancy for General Treasurer): Prof. Patrick J. Boylan (Charity Correspondent), 2a Compass Road, Leicester LE5 2HF

Website: <http://www.yorksgeolsoc.org.uk>

BANKERS

Barclays Bank plc, Sheffield City Office, Sheffield S1 1NG

INVESTMENT TRUSTEES

Charities Official Investment Fund, 80 Cheapside, London EC2V 6DZ

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER OF THE ACCOUNTS

Mr Ian Read, Woodend Creative Workspace, The Crescent, Scarborough, YO11 2PW

**(B) REPORT OF THE COUNCIL (TRUSTEES) FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST AUGUST 2010**

GOVERNANCE AND DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

The Yorkshire Geological Society, founded in 1837, is an unincorporated membership society and a registered charity. It is governed by Officers and a Council (who together serve as Trustees of the Society) which is elected annually in accordance with the Rules of the Society, most recently revised and updated on 8th October 2005, and with relevant charity law. The Officers and Council receive no remuneration of any kind for their services, though approved out-of-pocket expenses incurred on behalf of the Society may be reimbursed.

The full Council meets seven or eight times a year, and the five Committees and Subcommittees of the Council (External Affairs, Finance, Membership and Science Committees and the Programme Subcommittee) meet as required, usually two or three times a year. The Council is currently reviewing its administrative arrangements and responsibilities of Trustees in the light of recent and proposed developments in charity law and good practice, and has established a Charity and Governance Working Group to assist the Council in this work with the intention of further strengthening such procedures and practices over the coming year.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH RELATED PARTIES AND CONNECTED CHARITIES AND ORGANISATIONS

For a number of years the Society has had a contractual relationship with the Geological Society of London (a Registered Charity) under which the Geological Society has produced and published the Society's main publication, *Proceedings of the Yorkshire Geological Society*, for an agreed payment by the Society per half-yearly Part. The Society has entered into a new seven year agreement with the Geological Society from January 2010 on much improved terms under which, in addition to the printed version, both the current Parts of the *Proceedings* and the whole of the back run of volumes from 1839 are now publicly available on the Geological Society's online "Lyell Collection". The Council is satisfied that both the previous and new financial and contractual arrangements with the Geological Society of London are fair, appropriate and advantageous to the Society.

The Society employs no staff, but two members of the Society, neither of whom are Trustees, might perhaps be regarded as having a beneficial interest through their relationship with the Society. The Membership Secretary receives a modest annual honorarium in relation to the considerable administrative work involved, and another member of the Society is a Director of the specialist printing company which produces the Society's regular *Circular* and other occasional printing work. The Council considers both arrangements to be appropriate and to represent very good value for money.

The Society also works closely with a number of "Corresponding Societies" - local geological and related societies and other organisations - most of which are registered charities. The current list of these is maintained on the Society's website. The Society seeks to support and cooperate with the Corresponding Societies through the mutual promotion and publicising of activities, arranging joint meetings and field excursions, and working together in the annual Yorkshire Geology Month.

**(C) FINANCIAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR 1ST SEPTEMBER 2009
TO 31ST AUGUST 2010**

The Society's financial year runs from 1st September to 31st August. The last year has been one of transition as the Society moves in to the new publishing arrangement with the Geological Society of London for the Society's *Proceedings*, our largest item of regular expenditure. Although it is still early in the new arrangement, it seems clear that the Society will be substantially better off, but unfortunately these accounts and next year's accounts will not fully reflect the eventual savings due some delayed transactions in both expenditure and institutional subscription income between the Society and the Geological Society. The accounts presented below include notes on any major changes or exceptions.

**YORKSHIRE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY (Charity Reg. 220014)
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2010**

1. RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

<u>RECEIVED £</u>		<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Subscriptions:	Ordinary	14,844.00	14,321.75
	Institutional (note 1)	0.00	7,185.00
Tax refund:	Gift Aid (note 2)	0.00	0.00
Publications:		650.60	2,067.24
Interest/Div:	National Savings (note 3)	0.00	0.00
	COIF	602.40	610.60
Donations:	Individual	0.00	152.00
Annual Dinner		931.00	219.00
Total:		<u>17,028.00</u>	<u>24,555.59</u>
<u>DISBURSED £</u>			
Proceedings:	(note 4)	0.00	10,143.00
Circulars:	Print	3,461.49	2,156.32
	Despatch	2,307.66	1,450.27
Office Exps.	Post/Stationery etc.	52.66	429.30
Data Base	Memb. Records etc.	900.00	1,200.00
Meetings	Lecturers Exp etc.	414.50	1,997.58
Publications	Despatch	70.00	150.47
Direct Debit	Bank Chg.	168.72	169.69
Other Exps. (see Table 3 below)		1,049.99	2,366.13
Total:		<u>8,425.02</u>	<u>20,062.76</u>
CASH SURPLUS/DEFICIT		<u>8,602.98</u>	<u>4,492.83</u>

1. Under the new agreement with the Geological Society for publishing the proceedings, the YGS receives no institutional subscriptions but the Society is owed around £6000 from the Geological Society for previous sales: these will appear in next year's accounts.
2. A large gift aid claim will be made next year.
3. A single National Savings interest claim will be made this year.
4. No payment was made to the Geological Society this year but a final bill of £17,052 will be paid next financial year. This has been allowed for in the reserves detailed later in the accounts.

2. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Note: This is a summary of Receipts & Payments Account adjusted by Reserves for following years' Publications.

INCOME £	2010	2009
Subscriptions plus Gift Aid	14,844.00	21,506.75
Publication sales	650.60	2,067.24
Interest/ Dividends	602.40	610.60
Donations	0.00	152.00
AGM Dinner Receipts	931.00	219.00
	17,028.00	24,555.59
EXPENDITURE £		
Proceedings	0.00	10,143.00
Less Reserve from previous year	17,640.00	23,520.00
	-17,640.00	-13,377.00
Circulars	5,769.15	3,606.59
Data Base	900.00	1,200.00
Office Exps. & Meetings	467.16	2,426.88
Publications	70.00	150.47
Miscellaneous	1,218.71	2,535.82
	-9,214.98	-3,457.24
SURPLUS BEFORE RESERVES	26,242.98	28,012.83
Less Reserve for Proceedings ¹	17,052.00	17,640.00
SURPLUS /DEFICIT AFTER RESERVES	9,190.98	10,372.83

5.

1. This is the final payment to the Geological Society to be made in 2010/11 accounts.

3. OTHER EXPENSES

£		2010	2009
Insurance(3rd party/Pers. Accident)	(note 1)	0.00	168.00
Annual Dinner	(note 2)	0.00	1,168.13
Display Boards		179.99	-
Subs: Geol.Assoc. Affiliation	(note 3)	0.00	30.00
Yorks W/life Trust		30.00	30.00
Refunded Subs	(note 4)	840.00	820.00
Fearnshides Prize		0.00	150.00
		1,049.99	2,366.13

1. Insurance was in place for the year but was paid after 31 August.
2. Annual dinner bill after 31 August.
3. Affiliation fee to GA was paid after 31 August.
4. Direct Debits continue to be an issue, the management of these will be taken on by the membership secretary after Jan 2011.

4. SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS (£)

Charities Official Investment Fund (COIF)

	Cost	Market Value		
		31.08.10	31.08.09	31.08.08
994.47 COIF INC. Shares	5,181.81	9427.97	8,875.05	10,253.48
4558.24 COIF Fxd Int. Shares	5,181.81	6086.62	5,977.68	5,718.77
	10,363.62	15,514.59	14,852.73	15,972.25

5. ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

£	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>Incr/Decr</u>
INVESTMENTS at Valuation:	15,514.59	14,852.73	661.86
CASH			
Bank Current A/c	18,240.03	9,665.83	8,574.20
COIF Dep. A/c	4,826.65	4,797.87	28.78
Nat. Savings A/c	13,062.55	13,062.55	0.00
TOTAL CASH	36,129.23	27,526.25	8,602.98
TOTAL ASSETS	51,643.82	42,378.98	9,264.84

CASH ALLOCATION FOR NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR: £

Reserve for Proceedings:	17,052.00
General Reserve	19,077.23
Total Cash	36,129.23

FUND MOVEMENTS: £

Total Assets 31.8.09	42,378.98	General Res' 31.8.09	14,592.52
Increase in Investments	661.86	Surplus after Reserves	4,484.71
Cash Surplus	8,602.98		
Total Assets 31.8.10	51,643.82	General Res' 31.8.10	19,077.23

- Notes:**
1. No account is taken of unpaid subscriptions, the value of unsold publications or unawarded medals.
 2. The Society owns no property.

W. B. Watts 25.11.10 (General Treasurer)

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have examined the Society's accounts and from the books and records as presented to me no matter has come to my attention:

which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 41 of the Charities Act 1993; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met:

OR

to which in my opinion attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Ian Read, 26/11/2010
Woodend Creative Workspace, Scarborough

(D) SOCIETY PROCEEDINGS 2010

(Read at the Annual General Meeting, Leeds, 4th December, 2010)

1.1. General Secretary's Report

Annual General Meeting. The Annual General Meeting was held in York on Saturday, 28th November 2009. As there were no postal nominations for Council, the new Officers and Council proposed by Council itself were elected to serve for 2010 as indicated in Section A above. In addition, Mr S. Swann and Dr C. Foster were co-opted onto Council during 2010.

The President, Prof. P. Wignall, then presented the John Phillips Medal to Dr Dave Millward of the British Geological Survey in recognition of his outstanding contributions to our understanding of the geology of northern England. This has included contributions on the Carboniferous geology of NE England and especially to our understanding of the igneous rocks of the Lake District.

The President next delivered the first of his two presidential addresses entitled 'Permian Mass Extinctions'.

The meeting was attended by 72 members and their guests.

The Annual General Meeting was, for the second time, followed by the President's Reception and Buffet, which was held at the University of York St. John.

Membership. At the end of October 2010, the membership comprised **473** (482) Ordinary, Life and Honorary Members, **45** (49) Associate Members and Honorary Associate Institutes, **13** (16) Student Members and **64** (64) Institutional Members, making a total of **595** (611) Members. This figure includes **18** (23) new enrolments for 2010. The total membership for 2010 shows a decline in membership of **16** (56) from the 2009 total of **611** reported at last year's Annual General Meeting. Christine Jennings-Poole is thanked for her efforts in maintaining our membership records.

It is with regret that the Society was informed of the deaths of the following members during 2010.

Mr D. Coates
Mr D.H. Land (Treasurer, 1970-1976)
Mr Derek Learoyd
Dr M.R. Talbot
Mr D.F. Trowbridge

Other matters. As reported in previous Annual Reports and with reference to the Five Year Forward Plan, Council Members have attended additional committee and sub-committee meetings throughout 2010.

The **External Affairs Committee** met on one occasion during 2010 and, in particular, addressed the recurrent issue of the relationship between the Society and those organisations which, in recent years, have undertaken responsibility for geodiversity and geoconservation in our region. The Society is fortunate that a number of Council members serve in such

organisations under other affiliations, and the role of the Society has thus far been that of an observer and unofficially as a forum for exchange of information. It is relevant to note that, in the light of recent funding cut-backs, concerns on the future effectiveness of organisations undertaking geodiversity and geoconservation initiatives have been the subject of discussion in full Council. It has been recognized that the Society should maintain an active and formal review of geoconservation issues and should consider whether it can be more pro-active in this area while adhering to the objectives of the Society. Through recommendation of this Committee, the Society undertook a more active role in the co-ordination of Yorkshire Geology Month in 2010, and Council appointed one of its members, Mr Ken Dorning, to undertake a central co-ordinating role for Yorkshire Geology Month in 2011.

The Charity Commission Governance Working Group was set up in the Council meeting of October 2009 to undertake a review of the Society's rules, objects and administrative structure, and their compliance with the requirements and guidelines of the Charity Commission, and to report to Council with any recommendations. At the June 2010 Council meeting, held in Sheffield, the working group reported recommendations that had been developed over four prior meetings of the group as follows:

- a) A suitable text was required on the Charitable Objects and Purposes of the Society as an introduction to the Annual Report of the Trustees which the Society is obliged to submit to the Charity Commission. Professor Patrick Boylan prepared a draft which was submitted to Council with recommendation for approval from this Working Group. It should be noted that Professor Boylan has subsequently undertaken the preparation and submission of the Annual Charities' Return and the Yorkshire Geological Society Annual Report and Accounts to the Charity Commission; members may wish to note that this information is in the public domain and can be inspected through the Charity Commission web-site.
- b) Members of Council are in fact the Trustees in the context of the charitable status of the Society. In line with recommended practice, all elected members of Council will be required to sign a standard Charity Commission form declaring their eligibility to act as a Trustee.
- c) The good governance of the Society requires that the administrative functions of the Society are performed not only with regard to those aspects covered in our Rules, but also in line with general good practice with respect to the performance of the duties of the Officers of the Society, covering uniform procedures, succession planning and maintaining administrative continuity at hand-over between successive incumbents in any post. The Working Group has recommended that the Society should maintain, as active documents, a set of Procedural Guidelines to cover all tasks and responsibilities undertaken by its Officers and Council.

The recommendations of this Working Group were approved at the June 2010 Council meeting, when it was noted that a Working Group with a different or modified remit was required to undertake the preparation of Procedural Guidelines. It was suggested, and Council approved, that the Charity Commission Governance Working Group should become the Governance Working Group, with the same chair and membership and with primary responsibility to draft Procedural Guidelines to be submitted for discussion and approval by Council.

The Governance Working group has since met on two occasions. At the October Council meeting, it was recommended that Council should create the post of Assistant General

Secretary, to work in conjunction with the General Secretary, to ensure a manageable workload for both posts and to ensure that there should always be back-up to maintain continuity of the secretariat task.

The Programme Sub-Committee has met on one occasion during 2010 to discuss and organise the Society's programme from late 2010 to the AGM of 2011, and to discuss ideas for 2012.

The General Secretary was not able to produce version 3 of the Induction CD for new Council Members, which was initially produced in 2006 and reported in the 2006 Annual Report, because of a close family bereavement. However, it is hoped that the Induction CD will be brought up to date during 2011 for the new General Secretary. This version will contain a much enlarged archive section from the digital Secretariat (1998 through to the present day).

Acknowledgements. The YGS Council would like to thank all those members of the Society and their guests who have supported the programme of meetings during 2010. Council always welcomes comments on the programme and suggestions for future meetings.

Dr John Powell and Dr Trevor Morse are retiring from Council. They have both contributed in many ways to the successful and efficient running of the Society and we are grateful for their support. We especially thank Dr Morse for his many years of devotion and hard work in his role as General Secretary of our Society. He has done a sterling job in organising numerous Council meetings and AGMs and in maintaining an essential continuity on the Council. He has had to step down due to close family bereavement and we send him both our condolences and sincere thanks for all his efforts.

Finally, we offer our thanks to all those who, over the last year, have worked hard in promoting our Society and have supported and facilitated its smooth running, especially the local organizers and speakers at our indoor meetings and the leaders of field meetings, and all those helpers and providers of refreshments at General Meetings. Council would also like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Keith Park and Dr. Trevor Morse for organizing the Presidential Reception and Buffet, which will be held at Weetwood Hall, Leeds, following this AGM.

1.2. Programme Secretary's Report

The year has seen the Society provide a full programme of meetings on a variety of new topics as well as covering afresh some more familiar ground. The objective has been to meet a range of member's interests and the focus has therefore been mostly in the application of geology. The Programme comprised 8 meetings divided equally between indoor and outdoor venues and continued to be well supported.

The Indoor Programme for 2010 commenced in Sheffield with a meeting entitled 'Landscapes, Archaeology, and Geology in Urban Environments'. This interdisciplinary assembly held jointly with the Sorby Natural History Society examined the geological influences upon the social and economic development of the Sheffield City region. The event was very well attended and attracted a varied audience illustrating the depth of interest in this subject area. The February meeting on 'Deep Water Marine Sedimentation' was held for the second time at Leeds University's Weetwood Hall hotel and conference facility with Leeds Geological Association. The importance of understanding the processes involved has become

more important in oil and gas exploration. This interest has stimulated and supported new lines of research, the results from which were skilfully presented. Members were particularly interested to see how these had been applied to a fresh interpretation of the formation of the Pendle Grit. In March, the Society met at the British Geological Survey Keyworth where the topic was 'Planning for Climate Change'. Geology has an important role to play in the provision of critical information associated with the future planning management of infrastructure and resources that may be at risk from the effects of climate change. The applied theme continued with the last indoor meeting of the session that was held jointly with the Hull Geological Society in October at Hull University. This was entitled 'Modern Geological Techniques'. A wide range of subjects from the emerging science of Geoforensics to modern geoscience teaching techniques was covered.

The outdoor programme was more extensive than in some previous years with two full weekend meetings and an additional September excursion. The Society's support for Yorkshire Geology Month comprised a week-end visit to the Ingleborough District during May led by John Knight and David Turner. It is pleasing to see that these meetings are popular with non-members. This year the Society also publicised in the Circular all of the other complementary events held throughout the area and hopes to continue to do this in future years. During June, again over the week-end, Brian Young took the Society into Teesdale to demonstrate his new ideas about mineralization and the relationship with the Whin Sill. This was an excellent opportunity to enjoy the scenery of the Upper Tees AONB and see rare and unusual minerals. Minerals, but this time Jurassic ironstone, formed the theme of the visit to Cleveland led by Jon Ford, Simon Price and Rebecca Levell in July. The relationship between geology, landscape and history was examined and included a visit to the Skinningrove Mining Museum. The final excursion in September was led by Martin Whyte and Mike Romano involving tracking dinosaurs in Burniston Bay. This was a very well attended meeting and examined the excellent exposures of the Mid Jurassic Scalby Sandstone containing dinotubation features, including a range of imprints and trackways, from small tridactyl forms to large saurian footprints.

It would not be possible without the support of the speakers, field trip leaders and local meeting organisers to hold successful meetings. All those who contributed are gratefully thanked for their efforts on our behalf. Special thanks are due to the British Geological Survey and its staff whose support for the Society's indoor and field programme is gratefully acknowledged.

Regrettably this will be my last report as Programme Secretary. I am delighted that John Knight has kindly agreed to take over and I am confident that the Programme will be in very capable hands.

Noel Worley

1.3. Publication Committee Secretary's Report

Two parts of the *Proceedings* were published in 2010. Volume 58 part 1 was published slightly behind schedule, in June, and Volume 58 part 2 on schedule in November. The two parts comprised respectively 80 and 64 pages, making a total of 144 pages for the year. This is slightly less than the two 80 page parts per year that we should be aiming for. Copy flow remains an issue for the *Proceedings*.

Volume 58 part 1 was the first part to be published online as well as in print. There were one or two teething problems with this part, but these have now been ironed out and publication

of Volume 58 part 2 online and in print went through more smoothly. Publication of the online version of Volume 58 part 2 preceded print publication. The part was published online soon after it was approved by the editors and was available to subscribing members from mid November; the printed version was distributed later in the month. Since January 2010, subscribing members have also had online access to the entire archive of the *Proceedings* from Volume 1 onwards.

The impact factor of the *Proceedings* (for 2009) was 1.0, an improvement on previous years. This is not due to its online presence, however, as that will only start to exert an influence in the impact factor from 2011, i.e. the impact factor to be reported in 2012.

Many people are involved in the editorial process for the *Proceedings* and I wish to record my thanks to all of them, particularly referees and members of the Editorial Board, who give so freely of their spare time. I would especially to thank Jessica Pollitt, our Production Editor at the Geological Society Publishing House, for all the hard work she has put into helping produce the *Proceedings* this year.

The Circular Editor, Keith Park, has provided the following report.

I have been lucky enough to be able to include a few short articles in the circular this Session. These articles, while on the subject of geology, are often of general interest or too short for the YGS Proceedings. They have enlivened the circular over the Session and I am more than grateful to those Society members who have provided them. The circular is always looking for this type of general geological interest subject matter and I would remind all members that their fieldtrip information or their pet geological subject can be considered for publication in the circular just by submitting it to the Circular Editor.

While reminding members of the inclusion of short articles, can I also remind all members that if there is anything they would like to see in the circular, be it a new feature or a new way of presenting something we are already doing, just let me know. We are always open to a fresh approach on ways to improve the circular.

I hope the aims of keeping YGS members informed of the workings of the Society and providing articles of interest have been achieved this session. I will, as always, try to improve the delivery of the circular to YGS members.

The Web Editor, Professor Patrick Boylan, reports as follows:

Now that the Society has its own dedicated web server with direct access for maintenance and updating, we have been able to increase considerably the frequency of updates to the Society's web pages. Throughout 2010, the main home page was updated around two dozen times, compared with the seven issues a year of the YGS Circular. The updating facility is particularly valuable to members during the five summer months covered by the annual Field meetings Circular.

However, the YGS Circulars remain a most valuable source not just of current information, but also provide a growing archive of abstracts of papers given at Society indoor meetings, summaries and illustrations of past field meetings and much other information. We now have full PDF format copies of the past 50 Circulars (from October 2003 onwards) on the website, with a summary index of all the indoor meeting themes, and the locations and outline programmes of all summer field meetings from that date. As the online copies of the Circulars are fully searchable, individual events and locations can already be found using web search engines, such as Google, but the longer-term aim is to simplify searching by setting up more detailed indexing of the often extremely valuable contents of the YGS Circulars on our own website.

There have been two very important new Internet developments during the 2009-10 Society year. One of these - making available the whole of the Society's proceedings from the first volume of 1839 through to the present (and continuing) - is reported under the section of dealing with the Proceedings. The second new development has been the creation of an e-mail-based online YGS Members Forum. Through this, all YGS members who register their e-mail address with the Society can receive and exchange news and other information likely to be of interest to members, in relation to the work of the Society, our Corresponding Societies or more generally to the Earth Sciences, with special reference to Yorkshire and adjacent areas of the north of England.

Stewart Molyneux

2. MEDAL PRESENTATIONS (Leeds, 4th December, 2010)

2.1 Presentation of the Moore Medal by the President to

MR JACK MORRELL

The Society's Moore Medal is awarded not more frequently than biennially as an acknowledgement of services to geology in the north of England. The medal was established in 1988 by former students of the late Professor L. R. Moore of the University of Sheffield, in honour of Professor and Mrs Moore. The terms of the award are deliberately wide, and the award is not necessarily restricted to geologists. The person selected by Council to receive the 2010 Moore Medal is an outstanding example of someone who has contributed greatly to the understanding of the geology of northern England, and not least of our own Society, though he is a very distinguished historian rather than a geologist. It is my great honour to present the Moore Medal for 2010 to Mr Jack Morrell.

Jack Morrell was born in east Bradford 77 years ago and gained a First Class Honours BSc in Chemistry at the University of Birmingham. He then moved straight to Oxford University, where took a degree in English, proving that it was perfectly possible to bridge the two cultures identified by C.P. Snow in his notorious 1959 Rede Lecture.

Jack Morrell's first career was that of a schoolteacher, first at the Haberdashers' Aske's School in Elstree, and then at the Queen Elizabeth Grammar School in Wakefield, where he developed his interest in teaching and researching the history of science. In 1964, what was then the Bradford Institute of Technology, soon to become the University of Bradford, advertised for a Lecturer in the History and Philosophy of Science. Jack Morrell was appointed to this post, spending 30 years in the University through to his retirement in 1994 as Reader in the History of Science. Quite soon after his Bradford appointment, he began what has so far been a forty-four year (and continuing) close association with the distinguished History and Philosophy of Science Department of the University of Leeds as an Honorary Visiting Lecturer.

Within the history of science, Jack has for many years had an international reputation for his research and teaching, holding among other distinctions a Visiting Professorship at the University of Pennsylvania, a Fellowship at Brasenose College, Oxford, and a Leverhulme Emeritus Fellowship. He was also President of the British Society for the History of Science for 1980-1982, and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society in 1984.

Jack Morrell's first major research relating to the geology of Yorkshire and beyond began more than 40 years ago. As the 150th anniversary of the 1831 inaugural meeting in York of the British Association for the Advancement of Science approached, Arnold Thackray and Jack Morrell began what proved to be a ground-breaking major study of the founding and early years of the British Association and the men behind it, which was published in the anniversary year as *Gentlemen of Science*. This work and a second volume published in 1984 brought Jack Morrell face to face with the many professional and amateur geologists who were central to the development of the British Association and the general promotion of science. Some were famous names, others little known; many had Yorkshire or wider northern England associations, not least within the Yorkshire Philosophical Society which summoned the BA's inaugural meeting.

From this emerged the first major research study for 96 years of the origins and early years of our own Society, originally called the Geological and Polytechnic Society of the West Riding of Yorkshire, and his study was published in 1983 in the book *Metropolis and Province: Science in British Culture 1780 – 1850*, which Jack Morrell also co-edited. This was followed in 1987 by a major paper in *Annals of Science* about the early years of the Society, with particular reference to our first Secretary and Treasurer, Thomas Wilson of Barnsley. The research for all these studies made him realise just how important John Phillips, nephew of William Smith, had been in both geology and the organisation of 19th century science. More than 20 years of research on Phillips followed, much of it undertaken despite growing serious health problems, resulting in one of the most important books on the history of the earth sciences of the past two decades or more: *John Phillips and the Business of Victorian Science*, published in 2005, for which Jack was awarded the Geological Society of London's Sue Tyler Friedman Medal for the History of Geology in 2007.

Not content with all this, he is now working on the relations between professional and amateur geologists in Yorkshire, not least in our own Society, in the early years of the 20th century, with a special focus on the work of Herbert Wroot, co-author with Percy Fry Kendall of the monumental *Geology of Yorkshire* of 1924, and this Society's Secretary from 1918 to 1927.

Jack Morrell: geology is among other things an historical science, and within it we need to understand the history of the previous research in our fields of interest. For 30 years or more you have been making major contributions to the understanding of the history of geology in our region and beyond across almost two centuries. The Yorkshire Geological Society honours you with the award of the Moore Medal, and at the same time we feel that you are honouring the Society in agreeing to accept it.

3. SOCIETY ACTIVITIES, 2010

3.1. Indoor Meetings

January 23rd: Sheffield: Joint Meeting with the Sorby Natural History Society

Landscapes, archaeology and geology in urban environments

J. CARNEY. Geology of the Sheffield City Region.

A BADCOCK. Archaeological perspectives on the geology and landform of the River Don.

J. CRIPPS. Instability of selected rock slopes in the Sheffield urban area.

C. FOSTER. Landslides of the eastern Peak District: regional patterns and individual case studies.

February 27th: Leeds: Joint Meeting with the Leeds Geological Association

Deep water sedimentology

C. JACKSON. 3D seismic analysis of submarine slope systems, offshore Norway.

W. McCAFFREY. Control on submarine channel levee development.

D. HODGSON. Influence of extrinsic and intrinsic controls on the architecture of basin floor to shelf edge stratigraphy, Lainsberg Karoo Basin, South Africa.

I. KANE. Submarine channel response to intra-basinal tectonics: the control of lateral tilt – the Pendle Grit.

March 27th: Keyworth

Planning for climate change

D. GUNN. An overview of the EPSRC FUTURENET Project.

A. WARRINGTON. Climate change adaption planning in highways management and maintenance.

M. WHITEMAN. Planning for climate change – a regulator’s perspective.

M. CULSHAW. Environmental information systems for planners.

October 23rd: Hull: Joint Meeting with the Hull Geological Society

Modern geological techniques

M. ROGERSON. Applying new geochemical methods to old geological problems: three examples.

P. KENNETT. Is this the way you were taught Geology? Recent developments in methods of teaching Earth Sciences in schools

L. DONNELLY. The role of geoforensics in policing and law enforcements: how do geologists help the Police investigate crime?

M. BATEMAN. Understanding bioturbation in sandy sediments.

December 4th: Leeds: Annual General Meeting

Annual General Meeting and Presidential Address

P. WIGNALL. Presidential Address 2: The end-Permian mass extinction; death by fire.

3.2. Field Meetings

May 8-9th

The Ingleborough district.

Leaders: J. K. Knight & D. Turner

June 12-13th

Mineralization and the Whin Sill in Upper Teesdale.

Leader: B. Young

July 10th Cleveland Ironstone Mining Museum: Ironstone Mining in North Yorkshire – an exploration of the rocks, history and landscape.

Leaders: J. Ford, S. Price & R. Levell

September 11th

Tracking dinosaurs at Burniston Bay.

Leaders: M. Whyte & M. Romano.