

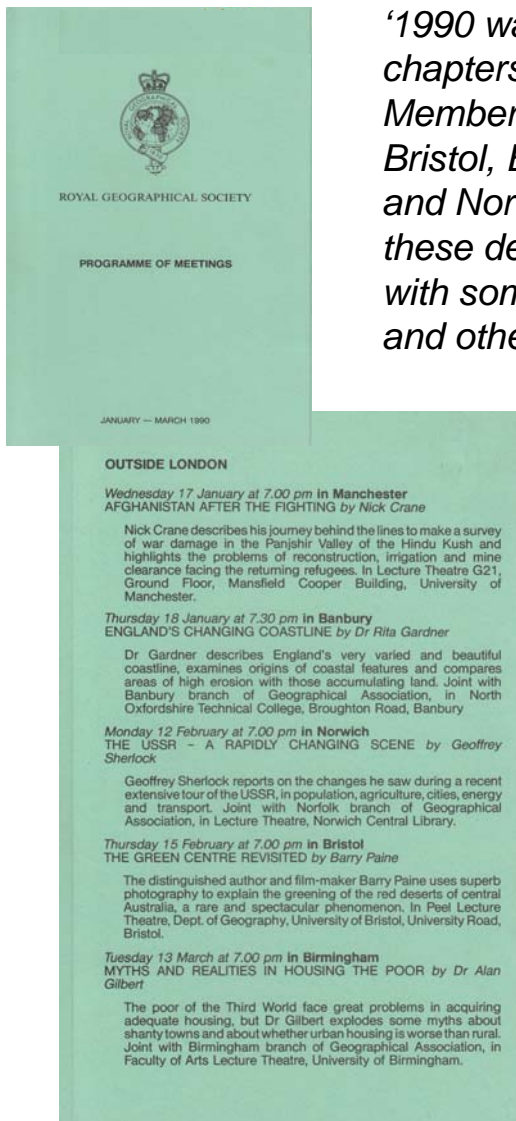
20th Anniversary of the Regions

The Society is delighted to be celebrating 20 years of the Regions during 2010. The regional branches offered for the first time a lively programme of events for members living outside London. The Regions were started in 1990 by enthusiastic groups of members led by Dr Rita Gardner who was seconded to the Society for a year to establish the regions.

16 regional events were organised between January and December 1990, as reported in the Annual Review and included in the programme of meetings.

'1990 was the first year of the new regional chapters. Enthusiastic groups of Fellows and Members have established chapters in Bristol, Birmingham, Manchester, the South and North-East. Guided by Dr Rita Gardner, these developed fine lecture programmes, with some meetings of national importance and others of regional interest.'

Extract from the Annual Report, 1990



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On 17 January 1990 the first regional lecture was given by Nicholas Crane in Manchester '**Afghanistan after the fighting**'.



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The day after in Banbury Dr Rita Gardner spoke on '**England's Changing Coastline**'.



Looking to the future...

**Royal
Geographical
Society**
with IBG

Advancing geography
and geographical learning

During 2009 over **85 events** including lectures, field trips, seminars and social evenings were organised across the English and Welsh regions, contributing to more than **180 events** organised by the Society. The Society is also proud to have a Hong Kong branch.

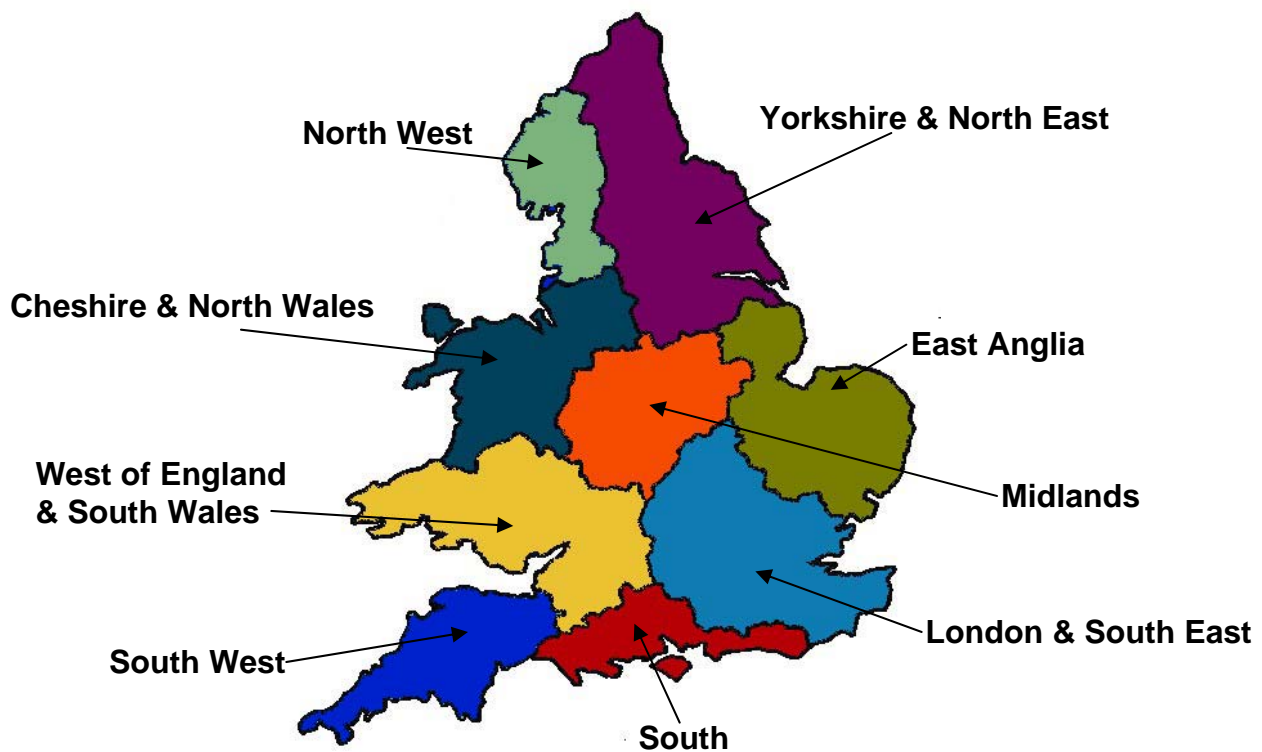
The Society's President, **Michael Palin** recently visited Southampton and Leeds to meet RGS-IBG Members and Fellows and to celebrate the regional anniversary. He will **visit the Midlands** during the autumn and other regions thereafter.



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Regional membership (May 2010)

We look forward to piloting a new volunteer regional branch in Northern Ireland following a positive initial meeting held in May of this year.



For further information on events or to contact your local regional committee, please visit our website www.rgs.org/regions