

Bulletin Autumn 2011

**Royal
Geographical
Society**
with IBG

Advancing geography
and geographical learning

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Opportunities

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**Journey of a
Lifetime**

About the Society

Need to know

The Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) is a leading world centre for geographers and geographical learning dedicated to the development and promotion of knowledge together with its application to the challenges facing society and the environment. Founded in 1830, it has been one of the most active learned societies ever since. Today, the Society supports and promotes geographical research, education, fieldwork and expeditions, and geography in society; it also advises on policy issues. The Society has substantial Collections, accessible to all.

The Society is a charity with a broad-based membership that supports its mission and aims. The Society welcomes professional geographers, geography graduates and all those with an enthusiasm for geography, travel and exploration to join. Please contact the Membership Office **E** membership@rgs.org **T** +44 (0)20 7591 3080. To find out more visit **W** www.rgs.org



A message From the President

After a lively summer, an even livelier autumn lies ahead for the Society. While *Britain from the Air*, the hugely successful street exhibition, moved from Bath to Oxford Castle in June, work was firmly underway back at headquarters developing the Society's brand new walks website, *Discovering Britain*. Due to be up and running in September, it will offer fresh, tailor-made opportunities to enjoy and understand our landscape.

In early autumn, all looks set for a major addition to the Society's facilities with the completion of the new Members' Room. It's scheduled to be opened for members and Fellows in time for the first lecture of our new Monday night season, on 26 September.

Passing on our love of geography to a new generation is hugely important, so why not consider giving nephews, nieces, god-children, sons or daughters a perfect gift

for a new school or university year – the Society's Young Geographer membership.

It offers all sorts of encouragement including access to lectures online, expedition and careers advice and much more – ideal for A level and undergraduate students.

To all of you planning walks or travel in the months ahead, good luck. Show the world that in these gloomy economic times, geographers know how to get more out of life! Talking of which, I myself will be out and about this year and early next year, filming a four-hour BBC series on Brazil. I may not be able to make quite as many Monday lectures, but I should have some good stories to tell.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Michael Palin'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Michael Palin President

Geography Ambassadors talked to more than 100,000 pupils across England during the Action Plan and, thanks to Esri UK, will continue this vital work.



Report : **Action Plan for Geography** : **The completion of a five-year** : **programme of support for schools**

Schools that were involved in the 'Action Plan for Geography' provided some of the best geography teaching according to the Ofsted report published earlier in the year.

The Action Plan aimed to provide a clear vision of geography as a relevant 21st century subject and to equip teachers with the professional skills and support they need so that pupils enjoy and succeed in geography. In order to do this the Society and the Geographical Association worked together to run the Action Plan on a joint and equal basis between 2006 and 2011. This was the first time these two organisations had worked together for such a sustained period and it has left a legacy of collaboration.

The Action Plan was funded (£3.8m) by the government for a total of five years, recognising the need to boost the teaching and learning of geography at school. It had

some challenging targets, almost all of which were met or exceeded and it achieved some notable successes. The Society worked with 1,700 secondary schools (more than 50% of the English secondary school network); provided training to 5,000 teachers; and developed the *Geography Teaching Today* website (that saw 1.25 million user sessions).

The Society's specific responsibilities also included the roll-out of the professional accreditation Chartered Geographer (Teacher). These 'CGeogs' are now at the heart of 40 regional teacher networks. During the course of its work, the Society published 46 online resources for the Key Stage 3 (11-14) curriculum and 24 resources supporting fieldwork both in the local area and further afield.

The Society was particularly pleased to see Ofsted, the schools' inspectorate, in 2011 identify that some of the best geography



Geography teacher Simon Clive FRGS (centre) from New College in Stamford joins Ambassadors Emmeline Topp and Eddie Golding on a *Going Places with Geography* training day at the Society.

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“Geography Ambassadors visit schools from universities across the country and this lets young people hear a voice they can really relate to. But Ambassadors also come from the workplace and they really demonstrate the diverse range of careers that are open to geography graduates,” Simon Clive (above) said.

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was to be found in schools involved in the Action Plan. However Ofsted also found, in its sample of schools, that there is more work to do as a significant number fail to reach good or outstanding levels of geography teaching.

Arguably most important was the development of the Society’s Geography Ambassador programme, from an idea into a national network. Ambassadors talked to more than 100,000 pupils across England about the value of geography for further study and careers. To achieve that, more than 1,000 Ambassadors from some 50 universities and employers were recruited, and their presentations helped inspire the next generation of geographers to choose geography at GCSE and A Level. The Society is delighted that Esri UK will sponsor the Geography Ambassadors programme until 2013, giving continuity for the future.

W www.rgs.org/schools

Launch : **New season, new projects** : **Discovering Britain** : **and Walk the World**

This year saw the Society develop two new projects: *Discovering Britain* and *Walk the World*. Both encourage people to get out and enjoy the UK: one focuses on its links to the 205 Olympic nations; the other concentrates on Britain’s diverse landscapes.

Walk the World

As part of the Discovering Places Cultural Olympiad programme, the Society is leading a project to encourage everyone to explore and understand the links between the UK and the 205 Olympic nations. From street names to monuments

and from architecture to plant species, there are a myriad of connections to be found in the UK’s built and ‘natural’ landscapes. These will be showcased on the *Walk the World* website together with 20 walks that tell the stories behind the international links of some particular places.

Six walks are already in development. Two are in Liverpool: one explores UK-international connections through trade and power while another explores links through immigration, cultural diversity and religion. Created in partnership with the Heritage Alliance, *Walk the World* is a great opportunity for Fellows and members to contribute to an Olympic



DISCOVERING BRITAIN

HOME WALKS ABOUT CONTACT

Royal Geographical Society with BGS

THE STORIES OF BRITAIN'S LANDSCAPES DISCOVERED THROUGH WALKS
Find out more about how this project is developing

LANDSCAPE
SETTING
REGION
WALK THE WORLD

Michael Palin says...
All too often we forget that travel doesn't have to include trains and buses and planes. As *Discovering Britain* shows, some of the world's most varied, spectacular and accessible landscapes are only a strong pair of boots away.
Discovering Britain brings our country to life, beneath your feet.
Michael Palin, CBE

Featured Landscape
Shaping the Landscape
The missing river
Discovering why one of Durham's rivers completely changed its course.
OTHER: Imprints in the cliffs
The invasion coast
MORE LANDSCAPES

Latest walks
Tyranny and treason
Re-living the drama of the English Civil War in the heart of London.
REGION: Greater London
Neither land nor sea
Discovering the mudflats and tidal creeks of the Thames Estuary.
REGION: East of England

Walk of the Month
From castle to county town
The fascinating story of Warwick's development.
REGION: West Midlands

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Royal Geographical Society The Royal Geographical Society is a Registered Charity, No. 208791.

The home page of the new Discovering Britain website. © Pavilion

project and help others to discover the international links in their area, as well as find out about links across the UK.

When *Walk the World* formally launches in September the Society will invite Fellows and members to try one of the first few walks and add a link from their local area. If anyone would like to try their hand at creating a walk please get in touch.

W www.walktheworld.org.uk

E walktheworld@rgs.org

Discovering Britain

Whether out walking in towns, in the countryside or by the seaside, people often wonder how, when and why the landscape came to look the way it does. *Discovering Britain's* website contains a series of free self-led geographical walks that will help explain the stories behind the UK's built and 'natural' landscapes. Piloted during the summer, the project will develop steadily over the next two years. Using expertise from Fellows, members and others, stories told through the walks are designed to reveal the wonders of the landscape and bring Britain's geographical and historical heritage alive for all who visit.

Director of the Society Dr Rita Gardner, who has overseen the project, says the walks are much more than a catalogue of just what is en route: "The walks are designed to be story-led and focus on one or two of ten themes. They offer rich, high-quality content and the interpretation provides a geographical insight for anyone interested in Britain. Think of it as field studies for enthusiasts!"

One of the first walks is called *Neither land nor sea* and explores mudflats and tidal creeks in the Thames Estuary. Another walk, *Bees, berries and beans*, in the London Borough of Hackney, discovers how dense urban areas are being used in innovative ways for food production.

A number of Fellows and members have helped to create the first batch of walks, due online in September, and the *Discovering Britain* team now welcomes suggestions of possible walk themes and locations and is looking for volunteers to go out and try the walks too, so please do get in touch.

E discoveringbritain@rgs.org

W www.discoveringbritain.org



Collaborative studies Using the Collections today for research

“Some 150 years ago, the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets were cartographic voids that resided outside of our knowledge and vision – all scientists could do was imagine. But now, those blanks on the map have been filled in, explored, drilled, scanned, photographed from space, and their future projected in graphs and computer models,” said Jean de Pomereu from the University of Exeter.

Funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), Jean is one of three PhD students using the Society’s Collections for research. Supported by ‘Collaborative Doctoral Awards’, bridging the gap between purely academic institutions and non-academic organisations, the awards enable researchers to be at the heart of archival materials.

Jean’s project, supervised by Dr Kathryn Yusoff and Dr Simon Naylor from the University of Exeter, explores how information about climate was recorded by expeditions across the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets from the beginning of the 19th century to the most up-to-date of scientific research.

“Today, ice sheets are a treasure trove of information – they provide us with snapshots in time that allow scientists to look back and see the world as it was, but also to predict how it might change,” Jean said. “Working with the Society to use its archival material, I’m focusing on scientific and other images that were recorded and brought back by ice sheet expeditions, and I’m looking at how these shaped and continue to influence public thinking about climate change,” he said.

The Society’s Collections, which comprise more than two million documents, maps,

© RGS-IBG



photographs, paintings, periodicals, artefacts and books, and span 500 years of geography, travel and exploration, provide an unparalleled resource for research. Each year more than 18,000 enquiries are made, both in person at the Society’s headquarters and online through its catalogue, to help write books and papers, plan trips, study family histories, and more.

The other two collaborative projects, in their initial stages, are *Terra Incognita: women in the expedition archives 1913-1986* undertaken by Sarah Evans (University of the West of England) under the direction of Dr Avril Maddrell and Professor Alison Blunt; and *Geographical Projections: Lantern slides, science and popular geography, 1860-1960* to be supervised by Dr James Ryan and Dr Simon Naylor.

www.rgs.org/rhed



Planning expeditions and fieldwork

Geography Outdoors

If you are looking for expedition safety management advice, Land Rover driver training, or how to use geographical information systems (GIS) in the field for humanitarian projects, the Society's Geography Outdoors team can offer training and advice for all levels of fieldwork and expeditions.

Shane Winser, who leads the *Geography Outdoors* team, says: "Most important is to identify the central purpose of a trip and to ensure that the activities are safely planned and undertaken. Our support can advise on these factors and more. We do encourage everyone to enjoy, learn from and share their experiences."

Geography Outdoors' regular programme of training events plus the thousands of reports written and available online by previous expedition teams provide an

invaluable planning resource, alongside the Society's Collections of maps, images and journals. If a project has a more extensive planning requirement, such as the provision of specific research or training, *Geography Outdoors* is able to undertake a limited number of commissions to develop this work on a bespoke basis. For younger members who might be planning a gap year overseas, the online *Gap Year Toolkit* is full of useful advice and guidance (and it's a good read for parents too).

The highlight of the Society's expedition and fieldwork advisory service is the annual *Explore* weekend. Held at the Society's, headquarters in London it provides lectures, workshops, presentations and contacts for the next generation of expeditioners and field researchers. The date for this year's event is 18-20 November.

W www.rgs.org/go

Events

Lectures at a glance

Monday evening

London lectures

6.30-7.45pm at RGS (with IBG), 1 Kensington Gore, SW7 2AR

Date	Open to	Title	Speaker(s)
26 September	M+G	Western Australia: Exploring the secrets of an ancient land	Professor Lyn Beazley
3 October	M	Into the Silence: The Great War, Mallory and the Conquest of Everest	Wade Davis
10 October	M+G	Town: The Making of Urban Britain	Nick Crane
17 October	M	The Middle East – Caught in the Crossfire	John Simpson
24 October	M+G	Columbus, America and the Flat Earth	Terry Jones
31 October	M	Explorers of the Nile	Tim Jeal
7 November	M+G	The World Heritage Convention: Conservation at a Crossroads?	Tim Badman
14 November	M+G	Flood risk in the 21st Century: is it going to get worse?	Professor Stuart Lane
21 November	B/M	To a mountain in Tibet	Colin Thubron
28 November	M+G	Challenging countries – challenging perceptions	Jane Labous / Dr Helen Findlay
5 December	M+G	Walking on a dream – on foot, solo across Iran	Mark Kalch
12 December	M	Frozen Planet	Alastair Fothergill

London City lectures

7.00pm at The Clothworkers' Hall, Mincing Lane, EC3R 7AH

27 September	M+G	Explorers of the Nile	Tim Jeal
25 October	M+G	Walking on a dream – on foot, solo across Iran	Mark Kalch
22 November	M	To a mountain in Tibet	Colin Thubron

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London & South East

Society London events

RGS-IBG members are reminded to bring their membership cards to gain entrance to RGS-IBG events. To book events please use the booking form on page 38, book online **W** www.rgs.org/whatson **T** 020 7591 3100. Please note that all tickets are non-refundable.

Suppers

Come and enjoy a two course candlelit supper in the Main Hall following a Monday night lecture – a great opportunity to meet other members (and their guests on M+G nights). Supper is served at 8.00pm and priced at £25 per head (two courses, two glasses of wine and coffee). **Please book by midday the preceding Friday** (please advise of any dietary requirements). *Any cancellations must be received by noon on the preceding Friday otherwise a full charge will apply.* Please refer to the booking form on page 38 or **T** 020 7591 3100.

Accessibility

Wheelchair spaces are available in the Ondaatje Theatre. A toilet is also provided for wheelchair users. A personal assistant or carer can usually be accommodated. Please contact the Events Office in advance on **E** events@rgs.org Registered assistance dogs welcome. The Ondaatje Theatre has an induction loop for those with hearing impairments.

Key to events

- B** Prior booking required
- B/M** Ballot prior application required
- M** Members only
- M+G** Members plus one guest
- FR** Fundraising event

Saturday 17 September from 10.00am–5.00pm

Architectural Festival

Open House London

The Society will reopen the doors to the general public as part of the capital's biggest celebration of excellence in architecture. Showcases from the Collections in the Foyle Reading Room at 10.00am, 12.30pm and 3.00pm; maximum 25 visitors per tour. Plus a chance to admire the renovations to the North Elevation and the new Members' Room. **W** www.londonopenhouse.org

M+G Monday 26 September at 6.30pm

Lecture – RGS-IBG members + one guest

Western Australia: Exploring the secrets of an ancient land

Professor Lyn Beazley

Colonised less than 200 years ago, Western Australia is just beginning to reveal her age-old secrets. Lyn will explore the evolution of its extraordinary geology and biodiversity and their relevance to our world past, present and future.

M+G Tuesday 27 September at 7.00pm

City Lecture – RGS-IBG members + one guest

Explorers of the Nile

Tim Jeal

Tim – Livingstone's and Stanley's biographer – tells the epic story of the Victorians' search for the Nile's source, and reveals many fascinating new aspects of the complicated lives of six of Britain's greatest land explorers. **Venue: The Clothworkers' Hall, London, EC3R 7AH. This lecture will be repeated at the Society's premises in Kensington on 31 October.**

M Monday 3 October at 6.30pm

Lecture – RGS-IBG members only

Into the Silence: The Great War, Mallory and the Conquest of Everest

Wade Davis

Wade vividly recounts the epic attempts to scale Everest in the 1920s and goes beyond the mountain, to the trenches of World War I, to show how the Everest expeditions became a symbol of Britain's national redemption.

M+G Monday 10 October at 6.30pm

Lecture – RGS-IBG members + one guest

Town: The Making of Urban Britain

Nick Crane

Using material drawn from a new BBC series, Nick will explore the dynamic, unpredictable and visionary nature of some British towns – the building blocks of Britain and models for our communities of the future.

Thursday 13 October at 6.30pm

Annual E.G.R. Taylor Lecture

Instruments, geography and scientific enquiry: guides to travellers and method in nineteenth- century Britain and France

Charles W. J. Withers, Professor of Historical Geography, University of Edinburgh

Drawing upon work in book history, geography and the history of science, the lecture will illuminate the key but under-explored role of instruments and instrumental training in understanding geography's many narratives of exploration. **Lecture tickets: Lecture attendance free, no booking required. Supper tickets: £25 must be purchased in advance (by midday on 7 October)** **T** 020 7591 3100.

M Monday 17 October at 6.30pm

Lecture – RGS-IBG members only

The Middle East – Caught in the Crossfire

John Simpson

John recaps on recent turbulent events in the Middle East. Reflecting on his own experiences during the uprising and revolts in Tunisia, Egypt and most recently Libya.

B Tuesday 18 October at 7.00pm

21st Century Challenges

Educating for tomorrow

Living in an increasingly globalised society offers both opportunities and challenges. How can education best prepare young Britons to fulfil their potential in a rapidly changing world? **Tickets: RGS-IBG members £7, non-members £10.** **W** www.21stcenturychallenges.org

M+G Monday 24 October at 6.30pm

Lecture – RGS-IBG members + one guest

Columbus, America and the Flat Earth

Terry Jones

Terry argues passionately that the medieval world was a vibrant and innovative age. People did not believe the world was flat and Columbus knew full well that he wouldn't sail off the edge of the Earth.

M+G Tuesday 25 October at 7.00pm

City Lecture – RGS-IBG members + one guest

Walking on a dream – on foot, solo across Iran

Mark Kalch

Uncover the rich contradictions of the Islamic Republic of Iran as Mark recounts his solo expedition from the Caspian Sea to the Persian Gulf. **Venue: The Clothworkers' Hall, London, EC3R 7AH. This lecture will be repeated at the Society's premises in Kensington on 5 December.**

B Wednesday 26 October from 7.00-9.00pm

(Kensington Gore doors open at 6.30pm)

Discovering Places travel evening

Discovering Belize

An informative evening for travellers wishing to experience Belize for the first time, discover more at the exhibitor stands and ask questions of our expert panel including Her Excellency Ms Kamela Palma, High Commissioner for Belize. **Tickets: RGS-IBG members £10, non-members £15. Price includes wine and an information pack.** **W** www.rgs.org/travel

M Monday 31 October at 6.30pm

Lecture – RGS-IBG members only

Explorers of the Nile

Tim Jeal

Tim – Livingstone’s and Stanley’s biographer – tells the epic story of the Victorians’ search for the Nile’s source, and reveals many fascinating new aspects of the complicated lives of six of Britain’s greatest land explorers. **This lecture is a repeat of the City lecture held on 27 September at the Clothworkers’ Hall, London.**

M+G Monday 7 November at 6.30pm

Lecture – RGS-IBG members + one guest

The World Heritage Convention: Conservation at a Crossroads?

Tim Badman

As it reaches 40, is life beginning or a crisis looming for UNESCO’s World Heritage Convention? Tim Badman from IUCN, the Convention’s independent advisors, looks at the achievements and challenges facing our most emblematic natural heritage sites.

M+G Monday 14 November at 6.30pm

Lecture – RGS-IBG members + one guest

Flood risk in the 21st Century: is it going to get worse?

Professor Stuart Lane

Is there a trend towards a wetter and riskier future, perhaps linked to climate change, or are natural variations of the climate more significant? Stuart discusses whether policy makers are missing the real reasons why areas are at risk from flooding.

B/M Monday 21 November at 6.30pm

Lecture – RGS-IBG balloted lecture members only

To a mountain in Tibet

Colin Thubron

One of our greatest living travel writers explores Tibetan culture during an intimate personal voyage. He recounts his pilgrimage by foot to the holy mountain of Kailas in Tibet, whose peak is the most sacred place on earth to a fifth of humankind. **Please note that this lecture is balloted. One ticket entry per member. Entries submitted by post only using the form on page 38. Closing date for applications is Monday 24 October.** This lecture is repeated at our City branch on 22 November.

M Tuesday 22 November at 7.00pm

City Lecture – RGS-IBG members only

To a mountain in Tibet

Colin Thubron

One of our greatest living travel writers explores Tibetan culture during an intimate personal voyage. He recounts his pilgrimage by foot to the holy mountain of Kailas in Tibet, whose peak is the most sacred place on earth to a fifth of humankind. **Venue: The Clothworkers’ Hall, London, EC3R 7AH. This lecture is a repeat of the 21 November lecture held at the Society’s premises.**

B Friday 25 November at 7.00pm

Younger Members’ event

Ceilidh

A fun-filled opportunity to mix and mingle at the popular Scottish celebration dinner with Ceilidh dancing. No dancing skill necessary – come and have fun! All welcome. **Tickets: RGS-IBG members £35, non-members £40. Limited places, book early (max 4 tickets per booking).** Dress code: black tie.

M+G Monday 28 November at 6.30pm

Lecture – RGS-IBG members + one guest

Challenging countries**– challenging perceptions**

Jane Labous and Dr Helen Findlay

Two of the Society’s grant recipients – one a journalist and one a field scientist – each report their findings from two very different places – the Arctic and Mali.

B Wednesday 30 November at 7.00pm**Discovering People**

Please visit **W** www.rgs.org/discoveringpeople

or contact the Events Office **E** events@rgs.org

T 020 7591 3100 for details of our autumn event.

Tickets: RGS-IBG members £7, non-members £10.

M+G Monday 5 December at 6.30pm

Lecture – RGS-IBG members + one guest

Walking on a dream – on foot, solo across Iran

Mark Kalch

Uncover the rich contradictions of the Islamic Republic of Iran as Mark recounts his solo expedition from the Caspian Sea to the Persian Gulf. **This lecture is a repeat of the City lecture held on 25 October at the Clothworkers’ Hall, London.**

B Tuesday 6 December**21st Century Challenges**

Please visit **W** www.21stcenturychallenges.org for full details of our December event.

Tickets: RGS-IBG members £7, non-members £10.

B Saturday 10 December at 2.30pm

Children’s lecture

Tiny, Wet and Huge Caves

Andy Eavis with his son Robert and cave diver Brian Scofield take us on an exciting journey of original exploration going where ‘no man has gone before’ beneath the world (including Britain). Our Giant Map will be out in the Pavilion and Geography Ambassadors will be running fun activities after the event over tea, coffee, squash and biscuits. **Tickets: free to RGS-IBG members (max 5 tickets per member).**

M Monday 12 December at 6.30pm

Lecture – RGS-IBG members only

Frozen Planet

Alastair Fothergill

In a highly illustrated lecture, Alastair Fothergill, the series producer of *The Blue Planet* and *Planet Earth*, will tell the epic story behind the making of his latest BBC series which looks at the natural history of both polar regions.

B Wednesday 14 December at 7.00pm

Younger Members’ event

Christmas quiz

Come on your own or bring a team (max 5 people) to test your general and geographical knowledge at a festive quiz organised by the Younger Members’ Committee. All welcome. **Tickets: RGS-IBG members £8, non-members £10 (includes cold buffet).** Limited places, book early (max 5 tickets per booking).

Courses and conferences

Unless otherwise stated, the courses and conferences listed below are held at the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG), 1 Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AR.

Fieldwork & gap year opportunities

The Society's 'Learning and Leading' programme provides funded opportunities for young geographers as well as fieldwork master-classes for teachers. A2 geographers can apply for a scholarship to undertake a meaningful overseas gap year experience (apply by 30 September 2011). First year undergraduates can apply for a bursary to take part in a summer overseas field project. **W** www.rgs.org/learning&leading

Wednesday 28 September at 5.00pm

Subject Knowledge Update
UK flood hazard management
Dr Simon Oakes

Subject Knowledge Updates are evening sessions for teachers covering basic information for teaching topics and up to date case study material and resources.
Tickets: RGS-IBG members £30, non-members £40.
E c.wheeler@rgs.org **W** www.rgs.org/teacherpcpd

Wednesday 5 to Friday 7 October

Fieldwork and Expeditions Event
Humanitarian Mapping course
Geographical information systems (GIS) and related tools are becoming crucial in disaster preparedness and response. This innovative 3-day course developed and delivered by the international NGO MapAction provides training in methods proven in the field.
Cost: £460 incl. VAT. Includes notes and lunch.
Accommodation is not provided. To book:
W www.rgs.org/GOseminars

Tuesday 11 October

Fieldwork and Expeditions Event
Vehicle Safety workshop
The competence of supervising staff to assess and manage vehicle safety is vital. This one-day workshop, delivered by Fieldskills, will look at pre-planning vehicle safety, what vehicle checks can be done in the field, and how to develop practical and effective risk management strategies for the use of vehicles outside UK. **Cost: £190 incl. VAT includes notes, lunch and refreshments. To book: T** 020 7591 3030 **E** go@rgs.org **W** www.rgs.org/GOseminars

Tuesday 18 October from 10.00am – 3.00pm

Education Event
A2 Study Day
A study day for A2 students to learn from geographical experts and to update their knowledge and skills in key areas of study, appropriate to all exam specs.
Tickets: RGS-IBG Schools Members and Young Geographers £10. Others £15. (including sandwich lunch and refreshments) Free places for staff.
Details: W www.rgs.org/study **E** education@rgs.org
T 020 7591 3045

Wednesday 19 October from 5.00pm – 8.00pm

Education Event
Training for geography ambassadors
An interactive session of training to equip volunteers to go out into schools as ambassadors for geography. Email or call to discuss the project or see the website for alternative training dates and venues.
Tickets: Free but must be booked in advance.
Details: W www.rgs.org/ambassadors
E ambassadors@rgs.org **T** 020 7591 3050

B Monday 24 and Tuesday 25 October

Eastnor Castle, near Ledbury
Land Rover Driver Training
Geography Outdoors has teamed up with our corporate benefactors Land Rover to provide a practical driver training course covering key driving and safety techniques for people undertaking expeditions or fieldwork in remote areas. **Cost: £150 incl. VAT. To book: T** 020 7591 3030 **E** go@rgs.org
W www.rgs.org/GOseminars

Saturday 29 October

Conference (Sheffield)
Back from the Edge – the Rise and Fall of Yorkshire Wildlife
Please see our Yorkshire and North East regional events on page 30 for details.

Thursday 10 November

CPD for Teachers
Stepping up to EBacc Geography
Speakers to be confirmed
Helping geography departments meet the challenges and reap the rewards offered by the EBacc. Ideas for working with all ability groups and promoting geography at GCSE. **Tickets: RGS-IBG members £100, non-members £180 E** c.wheeler@rgs.org
Further details: W www.rgs.org/teacherpcpd

Friday 18 November at 6.30pm

Fieldwork and Expeditions Event
Pre-Explore lecture: Atlantic Rising
Lynn Morris, Tim Bromfield and Will Lorimer
The winners of the Land Rover Go Beyond bursary set off to drive through 21 countries around the edge of the Atlantic. This the story of their journey and how Atlantic communities are experiencing

climate change in different ways. **Tickets: Free to pre-registered Explore delegates. All others £5 on the door. To book: W** www.rgs.org/explore

Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 November

Fieldwork and Expeditions Event
Explore 2011 – Expedition and Fieldwork Planning Seminar
Over 100 field scientists and explorers will give lectures, run workshops and exhibits, providing inspiration, contacts and practical advice on projects in a variety of environments and research disciplines. **Cost: From £55 for the weekend. Book before 14 October 2011 for 'early bird' discount. To book: T** 020 7591 3030 **E** go@rgs.org **W** www.rgs.org/explore

Monday 21 November from 10.30am – 2.30pm

Education Event
Going Places with Geography for Year 9 pupils
An opportunity for pupils who are considering geography as a GCSE option to find out more about the subject, progression and careers. Workshops will be lively and hands-on, led by our geography ambassadors. Places are limited to 25 per school. **Tickets: Free but must be booked in advance. Details: W** www.rgs.org/study
E ambassadors@rgs.org **T** 020 7591 3050

Monday 28 November from 10.30am – 2.30pm

Education Event
Going Places with Geography for Year 9 pupils
An opportunity for pupils who are considering geography as a GCSE option to find out more about the subject, progression and careers. Workshops will be lively and hands-on, led by our geography ambassadors. Places are limited to 25 per school. **Tickets: Free but must be booked in advance. Details: W** www.rgs.org/study
E ambassadors@rgs.org **T** 020 7591 3050

Tuesday 29 November

Fieldwork and Expeditions Event

Educational Visits Coordinator training

Essential training for EVCs in the importance of forward planning and proper risk management helping to fulfill Health & Safety obligations for out-of-school visits. **Cost: Standard: £190 / Member: £171 incl. VAT. Includes notes, lunch and refreshments. To book: T** 020 7591 3030 **E** go@rgs.org **W** www.rgs.org/GOseminars

Wednesday 30 November

Fieldwork and Expeditions Event

EVC Update course for existing Educational Visits Coordinators

Safety management practices and procedures evolve over time. This course gives trained EVCs the opportunity to look at recent materials and share good practice through scenario-based discussion. **Cost: Standard: £190 / Member: £171 incl. VAT. Includes notes, lunch and refreshments. To book: T** 020 7591 3030 **E** go@rgs.org **W** www.rgs.org/GOseminars

Tuesday 6 and Wednesday 7 December

Fieldwork and Expeditions Event

Off-Site Safety Management Course

This course is a must for those involved in planned visits in the UK or overseas. It covers the safety management issues involved in planning, managing and evaluating local visits, fieldtrips, residentials and exchanges. **Cost: £240 incl. VAT. Includes notes and lunch. Accommodation is not provided. To book: T** 020 7591 3030 **E** go@rgs.org **W** www.rgs.org/GOseminars

Friday 9 December from 10.30am – 2.30pm

Education Event (London)

Going Places with Geography for Year 9 pupils

An opportunity for pupils who are considering geography as a GCSE option to find out more about the subject, progression and careers. Workshops will be lively and hands-on, led by our geography ambassadors. Places are limited to 25 per school. **Tickets: Free but must be booked in advance. Details: W** www.rgs.org/study **E** ambassadors@rgs.org **T** 020 7591 3050

B Tuesday 13 and Wednesday 14 December

Eastnor Castle, near Ledbury

Land Rover Driver Training

A practical driver training course covering key driving and safety techniques for people undertaking expeditions or fieldwork in remote areas. **Cost: £150 incl. VAT. To book: T** 020 7591 3030 **E** go@rgs.org **W** www.rgs.org/GOseminars

Advance diary date

Tuesday 17 January from 10.30am-2.30pm

Going Places with Geography for Year 9 pupils

Booking details as above.

Exhibitions

Unless otherwise stated, the exhibitions listed below can be found in the Pavilion of the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG), 1 Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AR. Please use the Exhibition Road entrance. All exhibitions in the Pavilion are free and open to members of the public from Monday - Friday, 10.00am - 5.00pm. For special events, including Society Collections' displays linked to exhibitions, please visit our website **W** www.rgs.org/whatson

Wednesday 7 September – Friday 30 September Machu Picchu and the Camera

One hundred years ago the American explorer Hiram Bingham discovered the Inca city Machu Picchu. This exhibition marks the centenary of his discovery, displaying Bingham's photographs, together with images taken of Machu Picchu in the 1930s by Martin Chambi, one of the most important Latin American photographers.

Monday 3 October – Friday 11 November

Rivers of Ice:

Vanishing Glaciers of the Greater Himalaya

Depicts the work of photographer and mountaineer David Breashears, Executive Director of GlacierWorks. Since 2007, David has led eight expeditions to the region, retracing the steps of the early photographic pioneers Major E.O. Wheeler, George Mallory, and Vittorio Sella. The exhibit matches Breashears' contemporary photographs with historical images, revealing dramatic glacial loss in the Greater Himalayan region.

Friday 21 October – Friday 25 November

The Everest Generation

In celebration of the 90th anniversary of the first British expedition to Mount Everest in 1921, the Society presents a major photographic exhibition and fine art sale of 40 limited edition photographic prints chosen across the nine attempts to reach the mountain's summit from 1921-1953. **Venue: Hoopers Gallery 15 Clerkenwell Close, London, EC1R 0AA. Open Tuesdays to Fridays 11.00am until 4.30pm. Late night opening Thursdays until 6.30pm W** www.hoopersgallery.co.uk **T** 020 7490 3907

Monday 14 – Sunday 20 November

Land Rover Global Conservation Partners

An exhibition highlighting Land Rover's support of global conservation partners. Further details will be available in September. **Visit W** www.rgs.org/externalevents

Monday 21 November 2011 – 11 January 2012

Society Exhibition

Revisited

Visiting eight countries on four continents, Nick Danziger supported by the Society's Neville Shulman Award returns to the same people he photographed five years ago to see how the United Nations Millennium Development Goals are transforming their lives.

Travel Photographer of the Year Festival of Photography and World Travel

Sunday 25 September from 9.30am – 4.30pm

TPOTY - Exploring Photography and Travel Day

For beginners to passionate enthusiasts and professionals alike, this day-long event combines expert, informative travel and photography lectures. 'How to' workshops, photography and HD video panel discussions, networking and advice sessions on equipment, technique and book-able portfolio critiques complete the day. Speakers include Steve Bloom, Amanda Marks, Nick Meers, Michelle Jana Chan and many others. **Full programme available at W** www.rgs.org/TPOTY **Book online or contact the Events Office T** 020 7591 3100 **E** events@rgs.org. **RGS-IBG members and students £40, non-members £55.**

Sunday 2 October from 9.30am – 4.30pm
TPOTY - Wild Day

For beginners to passionate enthusiasts and professionals alike, this day-long event combines expert, informative wildlife, aerial and adventure photography lectures, plus panoramic, pinhole and wildlife photography workshops. 'How to' photography workshops, photography and HD video panel discussions, networking and advice sessions on equipment, technique and book-able portfolio critiques complete the day. Speakers include Tim Allen, David Noton, Jason Hawkes, Martin Hartley and many others. Full programme available at **W** www.rgs.org/TPOTY. Book online or contact the Events Office **T** 020 7591 3100 **E** events@rgs.org. RGS-IBG members and students £40, non-members £55.

Sunday 16 October from 9.30am – 4.30pm
TPOTY – People and Cultures Day

From beginners to passionate enthusiasts and professionals alike, this day-long event combines informative lectures by experts on historical and contemporary photography of people, plus street and reportage photography, stock photography and images for publication. 'How to' photography workshops, photography and HD video panel discussions, networking and advice sessions on equipment, technique and book-able portfolio critiques complete the day. Speakers include Mary Robert, Philip Lee Harvey, Alexander Maitland, Dave Rotchelle and many others. Full programme available at **W** www.rgs.org/TPOTY Book online or contact the Events Office **T** 020 7591 3100 **E** events@rgs.org. RGS-IBG members and students £40, non-members £55.

A 3 day festival pass costs £108 for RGS-IBG members and students, £140 for non-members.

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Foyle Reading Room

Courses and Society showcases

A popular range of daytime courses and showcases open to all and providing an ideal way to learn more about the Society's unique Collections. All events start at 2.30pm and last for approximately 2 hours. Tickets: Free to members and educational users, non-members £5, payable in advance. Meet at the Exhibition Road reception. These events are led by a member of the Collections team. Booking essential, refreshments provided. To book: **T** 020 7591 3044 **E** showcase@rgs.org

Monday nights 5.30 pm – 8.30pm

Lecture-related Collections displays
Pre- or post-Monday night lecture why not visit the Foyle Reading Room to see a lecture-themed Collections display: **3 October Mallory and the conquest of Everest; 31 October Explorers of the Nile; 21 November To a Mountain in Tibet**

B Women travellers

Explore women's early involvement with the Society through the lives of three intrepid women travellers who between them explored America, the Far East, Africa and the Middle East. Isabella Bird, said to have helped spark the 'Ladies question', and one of the first women elected in 1892, Mary Kingsley a deliberate non-Fellow, and Gertrude Bell, 1917 Society medal winner. Touching on these women's backgrounds we explore their travels and the pressures and demands Victorian society placed on women. **Mondays** 3 October, 10 October

B How to use the Foyle Reading Room course
An excellent introduction to the Foyle Reading Room, showing users how to get the best out of the Society's Collections. **Thursdays** 6 October, 13 October, 20 October

B Everest
Starting with George Mallory's exploits in the 1920s and concluding with John Hunt's triumphal 1953 expedition when Hillary and Tensing stood on the summit of the world's highest peak, explore the triumphs and tragedies of Britain's mountaineering history through artefacts, maps, photographs and original documents. **Mondays** 7 November, 14 November

B How to use the Foyle Reading Room course
An excellent introduction to the Foyle Reading Room, showing users how to get the best out of the Society's Collections. **Thursdays** 10 November, 17 November, 24 November

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Be inspired

A series of afternoon talks based on the Society's Collections from 2.30-4.00pm
This series of Collections-specific, monthly afternoon talks, given by speakers who have used the Collections to inspire their writing, travel or personal researches, intended to kindle interest from members and non-members alike in using our rich resources for their own projects. Tickets: free to RGS-IBG members and educational users. Non-members: £5 payable in advance. Venue: Education Centre, Lowther Lodge. Pre-booking required: **T** 020 7591 3044 **E** showcase@rgs.org

Monday 31 October
Patrick Leigh Fermor: An Appreciation
Alexander Maitland, FRGS

Monday 5 December
Robert Byron: His Life and Times
James Knox

James talks about Robert Byron whose book *The Road to Oxiana* has been described as the greatest pre-war travel book and the first example of great travel writing.

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Regional events

Society regional events
RGS-IBG members are reminded to please bring their membership cards to each event. A bar serving drinks and/or tea and coffee is available at some regional lectures. As a variety of venues are used, please contact the venue directly to ascertain the level of facilities available and disabled access. **W** www.rgs.org/regions

We have **40 regional CPD networks for teachers** throughout the country, for more information please contact Claire Wheeler **E** c.wheeler@rgs.org

For events in Singapore please contact the Events Office in London **T** 020 7591 3100 **E** events@rgs.org

For events in Hong Kong please contact Rupert McCowan **T**+852 2583 9700 **W** www.rgshk.org.hk

For events in Scotland please contact RSGS **T** +44 (0)1738 455050 **W** www.rsgs.org

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Cheshire & North Wales

Unless stated otherwise, events in this region are organised by the Society's Cheshire and North Wales Regional Committee. Local RGS-IBG contact: Claire Maclaine, 57 Churchward Close, Chester, CH2 2BG
E c.maclaine08@gmail.com
W www.rgs.org/cheshireandnorthwales

Friday 7 October at 7.30pm

Lecture (Wilmslow)

Scott. Hero or Loser?

Geoff Somers

Accomplished Polar traveller, Geoff Somers, has recently been involved with two re-enactments of Scott's fateful, yet fascinating journey. His experiences give an important perspective on early expeditions to Antarctica. Joint lecture with Wilmslow Guild. **Venue:** Wilmslow Guild, 1 Bourne Street, Wilmslow, SK9 5HD
Tickets: RGS-IBG members **T** 07810 411587 (limited to 20 places).

Tuesday 18 October at 7.30pm

Lecture (Chester)

A New Eden

Tim Smit

2011 sees the 10th anniversary of the Eden Project, Tim Smit will talk about his life and work, in particular the founding of the Eden Project and the restoration of the Lost Gardens of Heligan. Joint lecture with Chester Literature Festival. **Venue:** To be confirmed, please check **W** www.chesterfestivals.co.uk **Tickets:** RGS-IBG members **T** 07810 411587 (limited to 20 places).

November 7.30pm (date to be confirmed)

Lecture (Chester)

Topic and speaker to be confirmed

Joint lecture with Fauna and Flora International. Full details will be available from local contact at the start of the autumn programme and online at **W** www.rgs.org/cheshireandnorthwales
Venue: Lecture Theatre, Chester Zoo (main entrance, on A41), CH2 1EU. **Tickets:** RGS-IBG members.
T 07810 411587 (limited to 20 places).
Buffet costs £3.50

Monday 12 December at 7.30pm

Lecture (Chester)

Abyssinia – 3,000 Years of Ethiopian History

Chris Bradley

From Solomon and Sheba to Haile Selassie, Chris Bradley explores ancient traditions in this stunning beautiful county, rich in unique art, architecture and religion. **W** www.rgs.org/cheshireandnorthwales
Venue: The Grosvenor Museum, Grosvenor Street, Chester, CH1 2DD. **Tickets:** RGS-IBG members
T 07810 411587 (limited to 20 places).

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East Anglia

Unless stated otherwise, events in this region are organised by the Society's East Anglia Regional Committee. Local RGS-IBG contact: Mike Hand
T 01603 616427 **E** hands.on@talktalk.net
W www.rgs.org/eastanglia

Wednesday 28 September at 8.00pm

Regional Theatres Programme (Stamford)

Swimming on top of the world

Lewis Pugh, OIG

A riveting account by swimmer and environmental campaigner Lewis Pugh of undertaking the first long distance swim across the North Pole and across a glacial lake on Mount Everest. **Venue:** Stamford Arts Centre, 27 St Mary's Street, Stamford, Lincs, PE9 2DL. **Tickets:** RGS-IBG members and one guest £9 (quote membership number) **T** 01780 763203

Monday 17 October at 7.30pm

Lecture (Norwich)

Norwich to North Cape and Marrakech

Martin Philpot

An illustrated presentation by adventure cyclist Martin, who describes two very different journeys he recently undertook. Joint event with Norfolk GA. **Venue:** Norwich High School for Girls Lecture Theatre, 95 Newmarket Road, Norwich NR2 2HU

Thursday 27 October at 7.30pm

Lecture (Norwich)

A Shackleton Odyssey

Roger Smith

Sir Ernest Shackleton's epic journey into Antarctica in 1914 – 1916 has been described as one of the most astonishing feats of exploration and human courage ever recorded. Earlier this year, an expedition party retraced some of the original journey made by Shackleton's Endurance Expedition. **Venue:** Sir Edmund Bacon Room, Assembly House, Theatre Street, Norwich, NR2 1RQ

Thursday 17 November at 7.30pm

Regional Theatres Programme (King's Lynn)

To a mountain in Tibet

Colin Thubron

Colin recounts his pilgrimage on foot to the holy mountain, Mount Kailas, sacred to a fifth of humankind. A personal voyage, he explores exotic landscapes, alien faiths and modern Tibetan culture. **Venue:** King's Lynn Arts Centre (presented by King's Lynn Festival and the RGS-IBG), 27-29 King Street, King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE30 1HA. **Tickets:** RGS-IBG members and one guest £9 (quote membership number) **T** 01553 764864

Thursday 1 December at 7.30pm

Lecture (Norwich)

Syke to Smithfield

Vyv Wood-Gee

On a solo ride lasting eight weeks, Vyv followed the traditional drovers' route from the Outer Hebrides to London via Norfolk without back-up. She endured torrential rain in the Highlands, traversed bogs, forded rivers and had to chase after her own ponies to complete the 900 mile ride. **Venue:** Kent Room, Assembly House, Theatre Street, Norwich, NR2 1RQ

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Midlands

Regional Chair: Martin Haslett 16 Beverley Road, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire CV32 6PJ
T 01926 429254 **E** rgsmidlands@o2.co.uk
W www.rgs.org/midlands

Thursday 29 September at 7.30pm

Lecture (Worcester)

'Seeing the World My Way'

Tony Giles

Tony has visited all of the World's continents independently despite being totally blind and 80% deaf. Hear his thoughts on dealing with disability whilst living life to the limit. Joint lecture with 'Share the Vision'. Tickets £10 (£8 concessions) available from John Moore Theatre Box Office, King's School, Worcester WR1 2LL. **T** 01905 721794 **E** ccrosswell@ksw.org.uk (Regrettably electronic payment cannot be accepted and tickets can only be posted with the inclusion of a self stamp addressed envelope.)

Friday 14 October at 7.30pm

Lecture (Worcester)

In the footsteps of Mallory and Shackleton

Roger Smith

This is the story of two modern expeditions following the routes taken by Mallory in 1921 to Everest and Shackleton's epic (1914-16) journey to Elephant Island and South Georgia. Joint event with King's Himalayan Club. Tickets £10 (£8 concessions) available from John Moore Theatre Box Office, King's School, Worcester WR1 2LL. **T** 01905 721794 **E** ccrosswell@ksw.org.uk (Regrettably electronic payment cannot be accepted and tickets can only be posted with the inclusion of a self stamp addressed envelope.)

Thursday 3 November at 7.30pm

Lecture (Worcester) King's Himalayan Club Presents

Natures Images

Mark Sisson

Join one of the UK's leading wildlife and landscape photographers celebrating 50 years of the Shropshire Wildlife Trust. From river banks to urban environs, Mark has captured it all. Joint event with King's Himalayan Club. Tickets £10 (£8 concessions) available from John Moore Theatre Box Office, King's School, Worcester WR1 2LL. **T** 01905 721794 **E** ccrosswell@ksw.org.uk (Regrettably electronic payment cannot be accepted and tickets can only be posted with the inclusion of a self stamp addressed envelope.)

Northern Ireland

Unless stated otherwise, events in this region are organised by the Society's Northern Ireland Regional Committee. Regional Chair: Steve Royle **E** rgsni@hotmail.co.uk **W** www.rgs.org/northernireland

Thursday 15 September at 7.30pm

Lecture (Belfast)

Rising Seas – Shifting Shores:

The impact of Global Sea Level Rise

Orrin H. Pilkey, Professor Emeritus of Earth Sciences, and Founder and Director Emeritus of the Program for the Study of Developed Shorelines (PSDS), Duke University, North Carolina
Professor Pilkey discusses his research centred on both basic and applied coastal geology, focusing primarily on barrier island coasts. Venue: OG-029, School of Geography, Archaeology and Palaeoecology, University Belfast, BT7 1NN. Booking: Free, please email **E** rgsni@hotmail.co.uk to indicate attendance.

North West

Unless stated otherwise, events in this region are organised by the Society's North West Regional Committee. Regional Chair: Robin Ashcroft. For all events please contact the organisers listed below. **W** www.rgs.org/northwest

Saturday 3 September 6.00 – 9.00pm

Lake Trip and Lecture (Coniston Water and Brantwood)

The geography of Arthur Ransome

A water-borne exploration of the area most closely associated with the fictional landscapes of *Swallows and Amazons*, followed by a seminar exploring maps and mapping in the *Swallows and Amazons* series. Joint event with the Arthur Ransome Trust and Brantwood Trust. Venue: Brantwood, LA21 8AD. Further details: 6.00pm at Brantwood jetty for the lake cruise, returning to Brantwood for light refreshments after 7.00pm and seminar at 8.00pm. Booking essential: £12 adult; £8 children **T** 015394 41396

Friday 30 September at 6.45pm

Discovering People in the Northwest (Penrith)

Afghanistan Working

Anthony Fitzherbert and Fiona Armstrong

Fiona and Anthony discuss his experiences working in rural Afghanistan over the last 25 years of political upheaval and the agricultural development projects he is continually involved with. Accompanied by an exhibition of Afghan images by Malcolm MacGregor. Venue: Upfront Gallery, Nr Hutton-in-the-Forest, Unthank, Penrith, Cumbria CA11 9TG. Details: Reception at 6.45pm and the Discussion starts at 7.30pm. Tickets: (including wine and cheese) RGS-IBG members £5, non-members £10. Discussion only: RGS-IBG members Free, non members £5 (at the door)

Places limited so please book at Upfront

T 017684 84538 **E** info@up-front.com For information only, please contact Hokey Bennett-Jones **T** 017684 84641 **E** hokey.bj@virgin.net

Friday 14 October at 7.30pm

Lecture (Carlisle)

'Using 21st century mapping technology to protect our heritage'

Nick Seal, Dr Andrew Lowerre

Abby Hunt (English Heritage)

Hear experts explore how GIS supports much of English Heritage work, from identifying important sites to aerial photography and survey data plus warnings about vulnerable areas such as North Pennines. Venue: Tullie House Museum, Carlisle CA3 8JE. Tickets: RGS-IBG members free, non-members £5. Booking: **T** 01228 618700

Saturday 15 October

Field Trip (Yorkshire Dales)

Underground Overground

Led by leading caver Matt Burke

An above-the-ground overview – using latest GPS technologies – of recent explorations and breakthroughs in the Three Counties Cave System, which straddles the borders of Lancashire, Cumbria and North Yorkshire. Access and full details will be sent on request. Will involve walking open moorland/crossing stiles so sensible clothes and strong footwear advised (no dogs). Fee: £5. For full briefing sheet contact Alex Barbour **T** 01931 716001 **E** alex@ydfc.co.uk

Sunday 30 October at 7.30pm

Regional Theatres Programme (Keswick)

An adventurer's tales

Mark Kalch

From kayaking the Amazon and Omo rivers to walking solo through Iran; explorer and adventurer Mark recounts journeys of discovery through some of the most diverse regions on the planet. **Venue:** Theatre by the Lake, Lakeside, Keswick, CA12 5DJ. **Tickets:** RGS-IBG members and one guest £9.50 (quote membership number) **T** 017687 74411

Thursday 3 November from 7.00 – 9.00pm

Windermere

An evening with the President

A special evening for Fellows and Members. There will be a brief update on the Society followed by a talk from Michael Palin; there will be plenty of time to chat over wine and nibbles afterwards. **Venue:** Merewood Country House Hotel, Ecclerigg, Windermere, Cumbria LA23 1LH. This event is open to all our Fellows and Members in the North West region (and one guest). Tickets cost £5 each with all proceeds going towards the President's Appeal. To book: **T** 020 7591 3100 (or fill in the booking form enclosed with the North West regional bulletin mailing). **Places are limited, please book early.**

Thursday 10 November at 7.30pm

Organ Recital with Slide Lecture (Kendal)

Mountains and Music:

The Himalayas are Alive...

Birgit Wildeman and Stuart Hepburn

Stuart uses images across the Himalaya Divide to illustrate many similarities and some differences between peoples inhabiting the World's highest mountains. International concert organist, Birgit,

plays music to slide sequences within the presentation. **Venue:** Kendal Parish Church, Kirkland, Kendal LA9 5AF. **Tickets:** (including tea and nibbles) RGS-IBG members Free, non-members £10 (at the door). **Booking:** please contact Hokey Bennett-Jones **T** 017684 84641 **E** hokey.bj@virgin.net **For further information, please contact Stuart Hepburn** **T** 01228 538473 **E** stuarthep@yahoo.co.uk

Monday 14 – Friday 18 November

Expedition Filmmaker Training (Kendal)

Adventure Film Academy

Kendal Mountain Festival

A unique opportunity to learn the fundamentals of expedition, documentary and adventure filmmaking. **RGS-IBG members will receive a 10% discount on course fee.** **Venue:** The Arts & Media Campus, Allen Building, Beezon Rd. Kendal, LA9 6EL. **Entry:** to receive a prospectus and enrolment form quote your membership number and send your contact details to **E** info@mountainfest.co.uk

Thursday 1 December at 6.00pm

Lecture (Kendal)

'From Dreamtime to machine time'

Rebecca Hossack

The former Australian Cultural Attaché, talks about her passion for Australian Aboriginal art and culture, from its ancient creation myths and unique views of the land, to its engagement with contemporary Australian life. **Venue:** Abbot Hall Gallery, Kirkland, Kendal LA9 5AL. Drinks at 6.00pm, lecture starts at 6.30pm. **Booking:** RGS-IBG members Free, non-members £9 **T** 01539 722464

South

Apart from lectures in the Regional Theatre Programme, events listed are organised by the Society's Southern Region Committee. Local RGS-IBG contact: John Leonard CBE, 15 Elan Court, Kings Worthy, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 7LN. **E** jp.leonard@btinternet.com **T** 01962 886 380 **W** www.rgs.org/south. When tickets are required in advance, please enclose s.a.e. and make cheques payable to 'RGS-IBG'.

Thursday 29 September at 6.30pm

Lecture and supper (Canford School, Dorset)

The mystery of Genghis Khan's Tomb

John Man

As author of the definitive and best-selling book on perhaps the greatest leader in history, John will clear up the mystery of where Genghis Khan was buried – or will he? **Venue:** Layard Theatre, Canford School, Wimborne, Dorset, BH21 3AD. Optional supper to follow. **Tickets:** Lecture tickets free to members of RGS-IBG and the school, non-members £7.50. Supper tickets £14 must be booked in advance. **Contact:** David Palmer, 5 Banister Gardens, Southampton, SO15 2LX **E** drtpalmer@hotmail.com

Tuesday 11 October at 7.00pm

Lecture (Winchester)

Deep-sea Hydrothermal Vents: Hotspots in a Cold Ocean

Laura Hepburn and Leigh Marsh

1977's discovery of hydrothermal vents changed oceanography forever. Laura & Leigh will talk about their recent cruise in the Scotia Sea and the discovery of totally unique biological specimens. Joint lecture with GA. **Venue:** Science Centre, Peter Symonds College, Bereweke Road, Winchester SO22 6RX.

(Use northern entrance). **Tickets:** free to RGS-IBG and GA members (non-members £5) but to ensure space please book in advance. **Contact:** Moya Grove, Reynards, Branksome Avenue, Chilbolton, SO20 6AH **E** mgrove@chilbolton.freeserve.co.uk

Thursday 20 October at 7.00pm

Lecture (Southampton)

Submerged Landscapes and the early Hominin occupation of NW Europe

Dr Justin Dix

Justin will review archaeological work done in the Outer Thames Estuary & southern North Sea & the evidence provided about the presence of our early ancestors in this part of the world. **Venue:** National Oceanography Centre, European Way, Southampton, SO14 3ZH. **Tickets:** No tickets required. **Contact:** Dr Travis Mason at above address or **E** Travis.Mason@noc.soton.ac.uk **T** 02380 598467

Thursday 3 November at 7.00pm

Lecture (Winchester)

Jordan's arid Badia – Life on the margin

Tony Escritt

Working regularly in Jordan since 1987 Tony is well qualified to talk about its geography and people. He will focus on the eastern Badia region, and the magnificent desert around Wadi Rum. Joint lecture with GA. **Venue:** Science Centre, Peter Symonds College, Bereweke Road, Winchester SO22 6RX. (Use northern entrance). **Tickets:** free to RGS-IBG and GA members (non-members £5) but to ensure space please book in advance. **Contact:** Dr Debbie Milton, 12 Heathlands Close, Chandler's Ford, Hampshire SO53 1GY **E** milton.debbie@googlemail.com

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Wednesday 9 November at 7.00pm

Lecture (Southampton)

From the Domesday Book to 2011

– a brief history of the Census in the UK

Ian White (Office of National Statistics)

Ian, Head of ONC's Parliamentary & Legal Support Team, will bring to life some of the leading characters who have helped to shape the modern census and its geography. **Venue:** Lecture Theatre A, School of Geography, University of Southampton, SO17 1BJ (Use South Entrance). Tickets on the door: Free to members of the RGS-IBG and the University. Non-members £5. Contact: Prof. Steve Darby, School of Geography, University of Southampton, Highfield, Southampton, SO17 1BJ **E** s.e.darby@soton.ac.uk

Tuesday 15 November at 8.00pm

Regional Theatres Programme (Southampton)

To a mountain in Tibet

Colin Thubron

Colin recounts his pilgrimage on foot to the holy mountain, Mount Kailas, sacred to a fifth of humankind. A personal voyage, he explores exotic landscapes, alien faiths and modern Tibetan culture. **Venue:** Turner Sims Southampton, Highfield Road, Southampton, SO17 1BJ. Tickets: RGS-IBG members and one guest £12 (quote membership number) **T** 023 8059 5151

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South West

Unless stated otherwise, events in this region are organised by the Society's South West Regional Committee. Local RGS-IBG contact: Derry Corey, 47 Glenfield Road, Glenholt, Plymouth PL6 7LN. **T** 01752 703354. For ticketed events, please enclose a s.a.e. and make cheques payable to 'RGS-IBG South West region'. **W** www.rgs.org/southwest

Tuesday 27 September at 7.00pm

Lecture (Wellington)

India's urbanisation:

the paradoxes of modern development

Dr Robert Bradnock

As Visiting Research Fellow, King's College London, Bob will explore the origins of the paradoxes of Indian urban development and the challenges for the future. **Venue:** Wellington School, Alan Rogers Building, South Street, Wellington TA21 8NT. Joint organisers: Helen Sail of the Geographical Association and Chris Brightman **T** 01392 877630

Wednesday 5 October at 7.45pm

Regional Theatres Programme (Taunton)

Inca Stone 100 Years Of Machu Picchu

Hugh Thomson

Join Hugh for a celebration of the tremendous achievement of the Incas, during this centenary year of the rediscovery of Machu Picchu by Hiram Bingham. **Venue:** The Brewhouse Theatre, Coal Orchard, Taunton, Somerset TA1 1JL. Tickets: RGS-IBG members and one guest £11 (quote membership number) **T** 01823 283244

Tuesday 1 November at 4.30pm

Lecture (Exeter)

Building sustainable communities

in an age of climate change and peak oil

Dr Stewart Barr

Global climate change and 'peak oil' present major challenges for the resilience and sustainability of contemporary human societies. Stewart explores responses to such issues and the potential for developing a low carbon future. **Venue:** Exeter College, Queen Street, Exeter EX4 3SR (opposite Central Station, parking adjacent to the venue). Organiser: Pat Wilson **T** 01626 772506

Tuesday 8 November at 7.45pm

Regional Theatres Programme (Taunton)

To a mountain in Tibet

Colin Thubron

Colin recounts his pilgrimage on foot to the holy mountain, Mount Kailas, sacred to a fifth of humankind. A personal voyage, he explores exotic landscapes, alien faiths and modern Tibetan culture. **Venue:** The Brewhouse Theatre, Coal Orchard, Taunton, Somerset TA1 1JL. Tickets: RGS-IBG members and one guest £11 (quote membership number) **T** 01823 283244

Tuesday 22 November at 7.00pm

Lecture (Tiverton)

Cool earth: saving rainforest from the ground-up

Jemma Woodman

Jemma talks about the challenge of creating barriers to deforestation in some of the world's most intensely logged forests drawing on her experiences in Peru and Borneo. **Venue:** Ondaatje Hall, Blundell's School, EX16 4DN. Meal after talk at Tiverton Hotel EX16 4DB, book with Alison Nelson **T** 01884 855276 Organisers: Peter Offord **T** 01884 855511 and Guy Bucknell.

.....

West of England & South Wales

Unless stated otherwise, events in this region are organised by the Society's West of England and South Wales Regional Committee. Regional Committee Chair: Dr Kathryn Monk **E** west_swales_chair@btinternet.com. For tickets and event details please see below. **W** www.rgs.org/westandsouthwales

Land Rover Driver Training see our Courses and Conferences section on page 16 for details.

Wednesday 26 October at 7.30pm

Lecture (Bristol)

Trees, conservation and people, Bristol to the Mara and back again

Dr Michael Thompson & Dr Kathryn Monk

Having worked in conservation in both Africa and the UK, Mick and Kathryn compare and contrast the successes and challenges of conserving large (Maasai Mara) and small (Blaise Estate) areas. Joint event with Friends of Blaise. **Venue:** Blaise Castle House Museum, Henbury Road, Bristol, BS10 7QS. Tickets: £7.50 for RGS-IBG members and Friends of Blaise, £9 for non-members. Fran Greenfield, 43 Meadowland Road, Henbury, Bristol BS10 7PW **E** frangreenfield@blueyonder.co.uk

Thursday 3 November at 7.45pm

Regional Theatres Programme (Brecon)

An adventurer's tales

Mark Kalch

From kayaking the Amazon and Omo rivers to walking solo through Iran; explorer and adventurer Mark recounts journeys of discovery through some of the most diverse regions on the planet. **Venue:** Theatr Brycheiniog, Canal Wharf, Brecon, LD3 7EW. Tickets: RGS-IBG members and one guest £8.50 (quote membership number) **T** 01874 611622

Thursday 10 November at 7.30pm

Lecture (Bath)

Technology research for the study of weather in Antarctica

Professor Cathryn Mitchell and Joe Kinrade, Department of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, Bath University
Researching the technologies required to advance weather studies in Antarctica and their impact on weather around the world. Joint event with the Bath Royal Literary and Scientific Institution (BRLSI) Geography Group. Venue: BRLSI, 16-18 Queen Square, Bath BA1 2HN. Contact Bill Ruthven **T** 01761 472998. Tickets at the door: £2 for RGS-IBG members, BRLSI and students, £4 for others.

Wednesday 16 November at 7.00pm

Lecture (Cardiff)

Doing it differently:

Wales, Mbale and climate change

Prof. Hilary Thomas

Hear how Wales and SE Uganda have been twinned over five years in one of eight UNDP pilot projects to build resilience to climate change in developing areas. Venue: Wallace Lecture Theatre, Main Building, Cardiff University, Park Place, Cardiff, CF10 3AT. Directions can be found online at **W** www.cardiff.ac.uk/locations Further details: Simon Jones **E** s.jones@wales.ac.uk

Yorkshire & North East

Unless stated otherwise, events in this region are organised by the Society's Yorkshire and North East Regional Committee. Local RGS-IBG contact: Dave McEvoy **E** D.McEvoy@ljmu.ac.uk Please check the website for details of other forthcoming events. **W** www.rgs.org/yorkshirenortheast

Saturday 1 October at 11.15am

Walk and talk around a UNESCO

World Heritage Site (Bradford)

Saltire then and now: life, work and tourism

Professor David McEvoy

An urban geographical perspective on continuity and change between the mid-19th century and the present in a magnificently conserved mill and model industrial settlement. Cost £2.50 per person. Walk approx. 2 hours (allow further time for lunch, exhibitions, David Hockney's art and cultural shopping). Further details & meeting point: David McEvoy **E** d.mcevoy@ljmu.ac.uk **T** 01274 511382

Saturday 29 October at 9.45am

Conference (Sheffield)

Back from the Edge

– the Rise and Fall of Yorkshire Wildlife

A day-long conference comprising ten events looking at the changes that have affected Yorkshire's landscape and wildlife over the last fifty years. Joint event with PLACE. Venue: Centre in the Park, Norfolk Heritage Park, Sheffield. Tickets: RGS-IBG members £45 Contact: Margaret Atherden **E** margaret@atherden.orangehome.co.uk

Wednesday 9 November from 5.30-7.30pm

The Tyneside Geographical Lecture (Newcastle)

Environmental Geopolitics in the Twenty First Century

Professor Simon Dalby, Carleton University, Ottawa

Professor Dalby will consider how rapidly changing environmental circumstances and the extraordinary development of human capacities to remake the nonhuman world is producing a new environmental geopolitics. Venue: Herschel Lecture Theatre 1, Newcastle University **E** nick.megoran@newcastle.ac.uk

Thursday 10 November at 8.00pm

Regional Theatres Programme (Darlington)

To a mountain in Tibet

Colin Thubron

Colin recounts his pilgrimage on foot to the holy mountain, Mount Kailas, sacred to a fifth of humankind. A personal voyage, he explores exotic landscapes, alien faiths and modern Tibetan culture. Venue: Darlington Arts Centre, Vane Terrace, Darlington, DL3 7AX. Tickets: RGS-IBG members and one guest £8.50 (quote membership number) **T** 01325 486555

Tuesday 15 November at 7.30pm

Lecture (York)

Letters from America

Dr Michael F Hopkinson

Based on documents from West Yorkshire archives, a lecture on letters home to Yorkshire from nineteenth-century emigrants to the United States. Joint Lecture with PLACE. Venue: Tempest Anderson Hall, Museum Gardens, York YO1 7DR. Tickets: RGS-IBG Members £3 (quote membership number, one guest per Member). Margaret Atherden **E** margaret@atherden.orangehome.co.uk

Wednesday 23 November 7.15pm

Lecture (York)

No development without security and no security without development

Dr. Adrian Leftwich, Honorary Fellow

in the Politics Department of York University

Joint event with York Branch of Geographical Association. Venue: Bootham School, 51 Bootham, York, YO30 7BU. Contact: John Brown **E** john@jrkbrown.plus.com

Non-Society events

The following events are not organised by the Society but are held on our premises (1 Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AR). **For further information and tickets please contact the organisers listed directly.**

Thursday 8 September at 7.00pm

IQ² Cycling Festival

Including Will Self, Geoff Dyer, Bella Bathurst, Graeme Obree and Patrick Field

The bicycle. It's a passion, an obsession, a career, an instrument of self-torture. The most articulate amateur and professional cyclists celebrate this extraordinary partnership between man and machine. **W** www.intelligencesquared.com/events **E** info@intelligencesquared.com **T** 020 7792 4830

Monday 12 September at 7.00pm

Southern Roman Frontiers

Don McCullin and Barnaby Rogerson

Don McCullin's reputation as the greatest photographer of conflict has been replaced recently with an image of McCullin as the great traveller. Tonight he will discuss his recent book Southern Frontiers with author Barnaby Rogerson. **FR** World Monuments Fund Britain. Tickets: £10 WMF members; £15 non members. **W** www.wmf.org.uk **T** 020 7730 5344

Tuesday 13 September 9.30am – 4.30pm

Universities Safety and Health Association Conference

Safety in Fieldwork: a big adventure, a safe journey

The event launches the revised higher education sector guidance. **W** www.fieldsafety.usha.org.uk **T** 01273 641882

Tuesday 13 September at 7.00pm

Film premiere

The Lost World

Stewart McPherson (BBC 2 *Decade of Discovery*)

Join Ibex Earth for the premiere of *The Lost World* film. A documentary that looks to safeguard the long-term future of Arthur Conan Doyle's 'lost world' and promote worldwide conservation to a global audience.

Not for profit Ibex Earth **Tickets: see website**

W www.ibexearth.com/projects/lost-world

T 020 7609 6775

Wednesday 14 September at 7.00pm

Reporting Galapagos: a news team's challenges

David Shukman

The BBC's Science and Environment Correspondent visited the Galapagos Islands as part of the Darwin 200 celebrations. He will share his experience with the audience and, with a visual component, will discuss the issues of Galapagos and the challenges of reporting these Enchanted Islands. **FR** Galapagos Conservation Trust. **Tickets: £30 lecture only; £105 with dinner.**

W www.savegalapagos.org **E** abigail@gct.org

T 020 7629 5049

Friday 16 September

Maggie's London Night Hike 2011

A through-the-night hike of 20 or 10 miles, taking in new buildings and old, including an opportunity to visit the Society's public rooms and enjoy a cup of tea, a biscuit and take the weight off your feet, whilst raising funds for Maggie's Cancer Caring Centres.

FR Maggie's Cancer Caring Centres

W www.maggiescentres.org/londonnighthike

Saturday 17 September from 10.00am – 5.00pm

Architectural Festival

Open House London

The Society will reopen the doors to the general public as part of the capital's biggest celebration of excellence in architecture. Showcases from the Collections in the Foyle Reading Room at 10.00am, 12.30pm and 3.00pm; maximum 25 visitors per tour. Plus a chance to admire the renovations to the North Elevation and the new Members' Room.

W www.londonopenhouse.org

Tuesday 20 September at 7.00pm

The Spectator Debate

Details to be confirmed on *The Spectator's* website.

W www.spectator.co.uk **E** events@spectator.co.uk

T 020 7961 0044

Thursday 22 September at 7.00pm

Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust Evening

The Durrell Lecture

Dr Lee Durrell MBE

Celebrating 25 years of conservation in Madagascar.

Suggested donation from non-Durrell members: £10

W www.durrell.org **T** 01534 860013

E anne-marie.neale@durrell.org

Tuesday 27 September at 6.45pm

IQ² Debate

Democracy is India's Achilles heel

Including Patrick French, William Dalrymple and Mani Shankar Aiyar

We assume democracy is a good thing, but some say that in India the competition for votes fosters corruption and hampers what could be even greater economic growth. **W** www.intelligencesquared.com/events

E info@intelligencesquared.com **T** 020 7792 4830

Wednesday 28 September at 7.00pm

UK Premiere

The Boy Mir – Ten Years in Afghanistan

Director Phil Grabsky and others to be confirmed

Save the Children, Afghan Aid and Seventh Art Productions present the UK Premiere of *The Boy Mir*

– *Ten Years in Afghanistan* **FR** see above **Tickets: see**

website **W** www.seventh-art.com **T** 01273 777678

E lgibson@seventh-art.com

Thursday 29 September at 7.00pm

On location at the Country House

Julian Fellowes

As an Oscar-winning writer, Julian Fellowes ensured that his gripping historical narratives were filmed in ideal historic locations. Here, Julian describes the joys of working in these environments, in conversation with Jonathan Foyle and the audience. **FR** World Monuments Fund Britain **Tickets: £10 WMF members; £15 non members** **W** www.wmf.org.uk **T** 020 7730 5344

Tuesday 4 October at 6.30pm

Lecture and pay bar

Rivers of Ice: Vanishing Glaciers of the Greater Himalaya

David Breashears

Since 2007, mountaineer, photographer and filmmaker David has led eight expeditions to the Greater Himalayan region, retracing the steps of the early photographic pioneers Major E.O. Wheeler, George Mallory and Vittorio Sella. He will discuss the powerful and breathtaking images comprising the current exhibition at the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG), see page 19 **FR** All proceeds to benefit GlacierWorks.

Tickets: £15 non-members; £10 RGS-IBG

members **W** www.glacierworks.org **Book online**

W www.rgs.org/whatson **click on Non-Society events.**

Wednesday 5 October at 6.30 for 7.30pm

National Trust for Scotland Annual London Lecture

Is the world becoming more dangerous?

General The Lord Guthrie of Craigiebank

The speaker was Chief of the General Staff, then Chief of the Defence Staff under two Prime Ministers and subsequently created a life peer. He is Colonel of the Life Guards and Gold Stick to HM the Queen. He served with both the Welsh Guards and the SAS. **FR** NTS.

Tickets: £40 reception & lecture / £25 lecture only

E camitchell@nts.org.uk **T** 01799 584167 (also fax)

Friday 7 October at 7.00pm

DSWF Evening – Conservation Debate

Mark Carwardine and guests

Join Mark Carwardine, zoologist, wildlife photographer and honorary vice president of the David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation, for an evening of discussion with special guests about the plight of our planet. Can we stop the destruction? **FR** David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation (DSWF) **Tickets: £15**

W www.davidshepherd.org **T** 01483 272323

Tuesday 11 October at 7.00pm

Wanderlust World Guide Awards 2011

Hosted by Bill Bryson, Mark Carwardine and Lyn Hughes

The winners of the annual *Wanderlust World Guide Awards*, the world's only independent award celebrating the work of tour guides, will be announced.

Invited guests only **W** www.wanderlust.co.uk

E topguide@wanderlust.co.uk **T** 01753 620 426

Thursday 13 October at 6.00 for 7.00pm

The Earthwatch Debate: 40 years of Earthwatching, 40 days to save the planet

Earthwatch has been protecting the planet for 40 years, but imagine we had just 40 days left to save it – what would you do? Five speakers, one debate; you decide! **Tickets: free but please book**

W www.earthwatch.org/europe/debate

E events@earthwatch.org.uk **T** 01865 318856

Thursday 13 October at 5.30 for 6.30pm

1 Kensington Gore entrance

Annual E.G.R. Taylor Lecture

Instruments, geography and scientific enquiry: guides to travellers and method in 19th century Britain and France

Charles W.J. Withers, Professor of Historical Geography, University of Edinburgh

Lecture attendance free; no booking required.

Supper tickets: £25 must be purchased in advance (by midday on 7 October) **T** 020 7591 3100

Friday 14 October at 6.30pm

My life with gorillas

Rachel Hogan, Director of Ape Action Africa

Rachel makes a rare appearance in Britain to talk about her heart-wrenching work with endangered gorillas and chimpanzees. She gives a voice to the magnificent animals she knows so well after working for 10 years in Cameroon, rescuing great apes from the illegal bushmeat trade. **FR** Ape Action Africa **Tickets: £25**

W www.apeactionafrica.org **E** info@apeactionafrica.org

T 07870 682454

Thursday 20 October at 7.00pm

An evening with Alex Steffen & Ellen MacArthur

The Ellen MacArthur Foundation and Bradford University are happy to welcome Alex Steffen, editor of the best selling book *Worldchanging* and leading futurist, to an evening lecture around innovative business practices and positive 21st century perspectives. **FR** The Ellen MacArthur Foundation **Tickets: £15** **W** www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org **T** 01274 233217

Friday 21 and Saturday 22 October

WildPhotos 2011 photography symposium

A two-day event bringing together some of the world's best wildlife and environmental photographers – for inspiring and unforgettable presentations, practical tips and the opportunity to discuss topical issues. A must for everyone with an interest in imagery of the natural world. **Single day £110/£90 concessions; both days £180/£140 concessions** **W** www.wildphotos.org.uk **T** 0117 328 5975

Wednesday 26 October at 7.00pm

Britain's buildings, lost and saved

Philip Davies and Gavin Stamp

This evening features an account of WMF's 2012Watch, followed by presentations from prominent authors on vanished buildings: Philip Davies (*Lost London*) and Gavin Stamp (*Lost Victorian Britain*), concluding with an audience-led debate. **FR** World Monuments Fund Britain **Tickets: £10 WMF members; £15 non members**

W www.wmf.org.uk **T** 020 7730 5344

Thursday 27 October at 6.45pm

IQ² Debate

The baby boomers have stolen the family silver

Including David Willets MP, Laurie Penny, Frank Furedi and Ed Howker

Should the baby boomers be blamed for grabbing all the goods and hauling them up the ladder?

Or applauded for building our wealthy society and pulling out the stops for their children?

W www.intelligencesquared.com/events

E info@intelligencesquared.com **T** 020 7792 4830

Tuesday 1 November at 7.00pm

IQ² Great Minds Lecture

Stephen Pinker

The great cognitive scientist takes us on a tour of everything from art to religion, trade to table manners, to explain how man has become less violent and more civilized. **W** www.intelligencesquared.com/events

E info@intelligencesquared.com **T** 020 7792 4830

Wednesday 2 November at 7.00pm

The Spectator Debate

Details to be confirmed on *The Spectator's* website.

W www.spectator.co.uk **E** events@spectator.co.uk

T 020 7961 0044

Thursday 3 November at 7.00pm

Big Walls: Faces and Friends

Doug Scott and Leo Houlding

Doug was an outstanding Big Wall climber in the Dolomites, Norway, Yosemite, Baffin Island and the Himalaya. Joined by current 'Big Waller' Leo, they'll focus on the mile high, vertical Arctic Mount Asgard and illustrate developments – from eliminating 'aid' to BASE jumping the face. **FR** Mount Everest Foundation **Tickets: £20** **W** www.worldexpeditions.co.uk **T** 020 8545 9030

Tuesday 8 November at 6.30pm

The evolving role of forestry; Malawi an example

Professor Jeffrey Burley CBE

Professor Burley will consider changes in conservation policy and management over the last 50 years with the emphasis moving from plantation forestry to the importance and roles of natural forests.

FR The Nyika-Vwaza (UK) Trust **Tickets: £18**

W www.nyika-vwaza-trust.org **T** 01752 892632

E stowsfoots@southdevon.org

Thursday 10 November at 7.00pm

Transglobe Expedition Trust Annual Lectures

Ranulph Fiennes, Ray Mears, John Hare and guests

Another 'Mad but Marvellous' evening includes 'bushcraft', Bactrian camels and a tribute to the late Charlie Burton. **See** **W** www.transglobe-expedition.org **for latest details** **FR** Transglobe Expedition Trust (TET) **Tickets: £25** **E** TGExpedition@aol.com **T** 01728 604434

Tuesday 15 November at 7.00pm

Land Rover Partnership Lecture

Speaker(s) to be confirmed

Further details including booking will be confirmed in September. **Visit** **W** www.rgs.org/externalevents

Wednesday 16 November from 10.00am-9.30pm

First on K2 Nazir Sabir, Naoe Sakashita, Jim Wickwire, Chris Bonington, Doug Scott, Jim Curran, Mike Searle, Isobel Shaw and Jennifer Jordan

The greatest ever assembly of K2 pioneers gather to celebrate significant ascents on the 'Savage Mountain', the world's second highest. **FR** Community Action Nepal **Tickets: £15-£40** **W** www.worldexpeditions.co.uk **T** 020 8545 9030

Thursday 17 November at 6.45pm

Tusk American Express Conservation Lecture

Dr Iain Douglas Hamilton OBE & Dr John 'Tico' McNutt

Two leading scientists discuss the use of cutting-edge technology and bio-chemistry to unravel migration patterns of elephants and territorial behaviour of large predators in Africa. **FR** TuskTrust **Tickets: £15 for lecture, £30 for lecture and reception** **W** www.tusk.org
E info@tusk.org **T** 01747 831005

Tuesday 22 November at 7.30pm

Stanfords Travel Lecture

Empire

Jeremy Paxman

Tickets: £10 **W** www.stanfords.co.uk/events

E sales@stanfords.co.uk **T** 020 7836 1321

Thursday 24 November at 7.00pm

My Brilliant Career

Paul Rose

Best known as the presenter of BBC TV's *Britain's Secret Seas and Oceans*, Paul is literally the renaissance man of exploration: professional diver, sailor, polar explorer and mountaineer. He talks engagingly about his amazing life. **FR** Porters Progress UK **Tickets: £12.50**
W www.worldexpeditions.co.uk **T** 020 8545 9030

Friday 25 and Saturday 26 November from 9.00am–5.00pm

IQ² "If...Conference"

Including Professor Baroness Susan Greenfield, Stephen Bayley, Tom Chatfield, Dr Rachel Armstrong and Dr Ian Pearson

Big thinking about the future of cities and city-living.
W www.iq2ifconference.com **T** 020 7792 4830

Thursday 1 December at 7.00pm

Triumph and tragedy on the Eiger

Sir Chris Bonington and Ueli Steck

Of all the great challenges of the Alps, the North Wall of the Eiger stands supreme. The speakers tell tales of extreme climbing and the extraordinary media circus accompanying Sir Chris's first British ascent in 1966, and Ueli setting a new – and staggering – speed record in 2008. **FR** Mountain Heritage Trust **Tickets: £25**
W www.worldexpeditions.co.uk **T** 020 8545 9030

Thursday 8 December at 7.00pm

Snow & Rock and Ski Club of Great Britain

An evening with Chris Davenport – Extreme Ski Mountaineer

For further details, please check the website.

W www.skiclub.co.uk **T** 020 8410 2013

Tuesday 13 December at 7.00pm

IQ² Great Minds Lecture

Bernard-Henri Levy

Frances's best-known philosopher and public intellectual will be talking about the causes he passionately believes in and campaigns tirelessly for. **W** www.intelligencesquared.com/events
E info@intelligencesquared.com **T** 020 7792 4830

Wednesday 14 December at 7.30pm

Stanfords Travel Lecture

My Heroes

Sir Ranulph Fiennes

Tickets: £10 **W** www.stanfords.co.uk/events

E sales@stanfords.co.uk **T** 020 7836 1321

RGS-IBG members

Booking form autumn 2011

Book online

Visit our website
for online booking

W www.rgs.org/whatson

Non-Society event bookings

Refer to the organiser's contact details as listed

Book by post

Fill in the booking form
overleaf and return to

Events Office

RGS-IBG

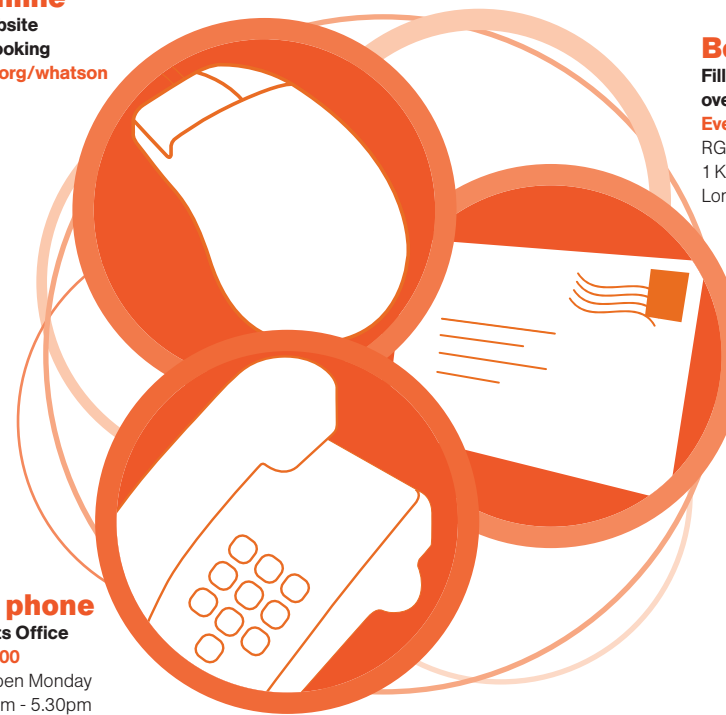
1 Kensington Gore
London SW7 2AR

Book by phone

Call the Events Office

T 020 7591 3100

The office is open Monday
to Friday 9.30am - 5.30pm



RGS-IBG members' booking form Autumn 2011

Ballot details

To be included into the ballot to the Colin Thubron lecture on Monday 21 November please tick the box below. The closing date for entries is Monday 24 October. You will be sent either your balloted lecture ticket or notification that you were unsuccessful after this date.

21 Nov **Colin Thubron (Ballot)**
Max. 1 ticket per RGS-IBG member

Please indicate the **quantity** and **costs** of the tickets you wish to purchase. Tickets are non-refundable.

Date	Event	No.	Cost	Total
13 Oct	EGR Taylor supper <small>Please list any dietary requirements</small>	.....	£25	.....
18 Oct	21st Century Challenges Educating for tomorrow			
	Member	.....	£7	.....
	Non-member	.....	£10	.....
26 Oct	Discovering Places Belize			
	Member	.....	£10	.....
	Non-member	.....	£15	.....
25 Nov	Younger Members' Ceilidh <small>Max. 4 tickets per booking</small>			
	Member	.....	£35	.....
	Non-member	.....	£40	.....
30 Nov	Discovering People			
	Member	.....	£7	.....
	Non-member	.....	£10	.....
6 Dec	21st Century Challenges			
	Member	.....	£7	.....
	Non-member	.....	£10	.....
10 Dec	Children's Lecture <small>Max. 5 tickets per RGS-IBG member</small>		Free	.....
14 Dec	Younger Members' Quiz <small>Max. 5 tickets per booking</small>			
	Member	.....	£8	.....
	Non-member	.....	£10	.....
	Total	.....		.....

To book **Foyle Reading Room** courses and showcases see page 20

Monday evening suppers

For Monday suppers please book by midday on the preceding Friday. Please check the status of the lecture as bookings can not be taken for guests when the lecture is for members only. We regret we cannot take bookings on the day or evening of the supper. To cancel a booking at no charge please inform us by midday on the preceding Friday otherwise a charge will need to be made.

Date	Status	No.	Cost	Total
.....	£25 each	.....
.....	£25 each	.....
.....	£25 each	.....
.....	£25 each	.....
.....	£25 each	.....
.....	Total	.....

Please list any dietary requirements and whether you would like fruit salad or pudding for dessert.

Please complete the address details below

RGS-IBG Membership No.
 Name
 Address
 Postcode
 Daytime Tel Number
 Email address

Please complete the payment details below

Please note tickets are non-refundable

Payment

- I enclose a cheque (payable to RGS-IBG)
 Please debit my VISA (debit & credit)/MASTERCARD/ MAESTRO (not AMEX)

Card No
 Valid from date Expiry date Issue No.
 Security code 3 digits on reverse

The information you have given on this form will be held by the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) on a computer file in accordance with the Data Protection Act, 1998 and will be used for administrative purposes only in relation to events held at the Society. We will not disclose your details to any third parties.

Please return form to Events Office, RGS-IBG, 1 Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AR
T +44 (0)20 7591 3100 **F** +44 (0)20 7591 3001

News Society



North Face © Julian Fenwick/Taylor

North face unveiled

In mid-April the restored north façade of Lowther Lodge was revealed. The ornamental brickwork on the gables, the fine balustrade, the box down-pipes, and the freshly-painted woodwork and rendering to a colour scheme similar to 1913 combine to recreate its former glory.

Honours

Congratulations to Helen Alexander (DBE), David Mayhew (CBE); Professor Ron Johnston (OBE), Gerrard Moss (MBE), and Sarah Outen (MBE) for their recognition in the Birthday Honours 2011; and to any other members and Fellows so honoured.

Rex Walford Award

Following the sad and untimely death of Dr Rex Walford, the Society's first Vice-President for Education and a long-term supporter, the Society is delighted that Rex's indomitable spirit and his love of teaching will live on in a new award. Thanks to his widow, Wendy, and to the generous donations of the many hundreds of people who attended his thanksgiving service, the award will be a new addition to the Young Geographer of the Year Awards. It will be presented to the newly-qualified teacher who produces the best teaching materials on the chosen topic of the year.

New and re-elected Council Members

The following Council members were elected in June: Mike Ashby, Robin Ashcroft, Dr Georgina Endfield, Stephen Henwood, Justin Marozzi, Professor Chris Philo, Paul Rose, Peter Smith, Professor David Thomas and Cheryl Willis.

Geography News

Fieldwork in higher education

The Universities Safety and Health Association and the Universities and Colleges Employers Association will be launching their new *Guidance on Health and Safety in Fieldwork* at the Society on 13 September 2011. It provides institutions with a way to demonstrate that they are following good practice to deliver fieldwork. It aligns good practice in the higher education sector with the British Standard 8848 for the provision of fieldwork activities outside the UK.

Geographers in policy

Geographers have been involved in a major new independent report – the UK National Ecosystem Assessment (UK NEA) – which reveals that nature is worth billions of pounds to the UK economy. Former President of the Society and chair of the Living with Environmental Change Partnership, Lord Selborne, launched the

report: “From enclosed farmland to open mountains and from freshwater streams to the seas, the terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems of the UK support a wealth of wildlife and contribute a range of services on which we ultimately depend. Yet too often we have paid insufficient attention to how these ecosystems should be managed.”

Meanwhile, the EU's Directorate General for Regional Policy has commissioned Professor John Goddard of the Centre for Urban and Regional Development Studies at Newcastle University to write a guide to help the managing authorities of the European Regional Development Fund's Operational Programmes to improve the contribution of universities to regional development.

W www.rgs.org/policy

Geography For everyone

Programmes

The Society thanks members for the many appreciative comments about the lecture programme so far this year. As ever, different lectures appeal to different people, and the autumn programme provides a good range of topics, selected from among the many requests received.

Nick Crane, Terry Jones and Colin Thubron are among the 12 Monday lectures at Lowther Lodge. For Fellows and members unable to reach London, most of the lectures will be available online in the *Members' Only* section of the website.

The varied programme in the regions includes lectures on Shackleton (p.23 & p.24) and Australian Aboriginal art and culture (p.26). Lewis Pugh, Mark Kalch and Colin Thubron are speaking in the Regional Theatres Programme. The President and Director will be visiting the North West region on 3 November 2011.

Fellows, members and guests who live or work within easy reach of the City can also make use of the City lectures, kindly hosted at the magnificent Clothworkers' Hall.

W www.rgs.org/city

Special events for those with a passion for travel include Belize in the *Discovering Places* series. There will be further news of a *Discovering People* event in the monthly e-update and on the website.

To keep ahead of some of the biggest challenges facing society today, the 21st Century Challenges discussion series will hold two events, the first being on education.

W www.21stcenturychallenges.org

New journeys have also been added to the *Hidden Journeys* website including Los Angeles to Vancouver.

W www.hiddenjourneys.co.uk

Education Excellence



Benjamin Alamy, Young Geographer of the Year 2010, and James Peck

Young Geographer of the Year

This term sees the annual celebration of the *Young Geographer of the Year* competition, which gives young people the chance to demonstrate their geographical expertise by answering this year's question: "What should all good geographers understand?"

The deadline for entries is 7 October 2011, with the awards being presented at the Society on the 18 November. More details of age categories and prizes, together with the entry forms that must be completed, can be found online.

W www.rgs.org/ygoty

A new element of the competition – the Rex Walford Award – will be given to a PGCE student, or teacher in the first year of their career (p.39). The winner will receive a Society Fellowship for one year and £150; and their materials will be hosted on the Society's education web pages.

Continuing professional development

The autumn has a full complement of CPD events, including a day on *Geography in the English Baccalaureate* and subject updates on hydrology and UK flood management. There are also courses for teachers who act as the school Educational Visits Coordinators or who are responsible for off-site safety management.

For students, the Society is running a *Going Places with Geography* careers and further study event, and a study day for A2 students (p.16).

W www.rgs.org/cpd

Journeys and challenges Projects supported by grants

Autumn grant deadlines

The Society selects a wide range of projects each year to support through a grants programme that currently awards some £180,000 per year. The grants are wide-ranging: from supporting desk- and field-based researchers and expedition teams, to independent travellers and school teachers. Many of the application deadlines are in the autumn.

W www.rgs.org/grants

Journeys and challenges

The Society is now accepting applications for: the *Journey of a Lifetime Award*, for budding radio journalists interested in undertaking a truly inspiring journey and sharing their experiences through a Radio 4 broadcast; and for the *Neville Shulman Challenge Award* for individuals or groups wanting to push themselves through physical or mental challenges. The application deadline is 26 September.

To learn more about this year's *Journey of a Lifetime* by Jane Labous listen to Radio 4 at 11.00am on 5 September 2011. To read about this year's *Neville Shulman Challenge Award*, go online to the *In Society* article from *Geographical* magazine and find out about geographical challenges in the Zanskar Valley.

W www.rgs.org/press

Programmes review

Work continues steadily to implement the recommendations of the programmes review. For latest developments see the call for the new Field Centre Grants and the educational resources *From the Field* online in the *Members' Only* section of the website.

W www.rgs.org/members

Research and higher education Networking



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Join a Research Group

The Society's research and working groups bring together active researchers and those with a professional interest in a particular aspect of geography. There are 27 active groups across the breadth of geography – from social and cultural to coastal and marine geography. Throughout the year the groups organise seminars, conferences, workshops, reading days, award prizes and more. The most recently formed working group, on *Energy Geographies*, has just been established.

Joining a research group offers the chance to network with colleagues with similar interests; keep up to date with the latest research in that field; and receive information on conferences, workshops and funding opportunities.

W www.rgs.org/researchgroups

Access to open data resources

Over the last year the Society, with Horizon Digital Economy Research (University of Nottingham), in partnership with Ordnance Survey, GeoVation and Esri UK, has been offering a series of free one-day *Open Data Master Classes*. With guest lectures and practical sessions these provide participants with the opportunity to use open datasets from various government departments and public sector organisations including from higher education, healthcare, transport and environment. The resources and dates for future events are available online.

W www.rgs.org/opendata

Venue hire Support the Society

Fellows and members who visit the London headquarters will be familiar with the 'home of geography' as being at the heart of the Society's face-to-face activities, whether lectures in the Ondaatje Theatre; conferences and workshops throughout the ground floor spaces; smaller events, meetings, training courses and class groups in the education suite; or using the Collections in the Foyle Reading Room.

But this historic premises also plays a vital role in generating income to support the Society's activities, and the unique and flexible spaces are used intensively by others in similar ways, particularly for major conferences, fundraising lectures, AGMs, launch events, networking and social occasions, school prize givings and weddings.

The House Team recently made some changes to the venue hire section of the website to make it easier to appreciate

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what is on offer, so please take a look and remind yourself about what makes the rooms special. Please do bring the venue to the attention of friends, family and work colleagues whether in business, education, government, or the not-for-profit sector and support the Society's charitable work.

W www.rgs.org/venuehire

Collections

New perspectives



Rivers of Ice

This autumn sees a development in the use of images from the Society's photographic collection in a new exhibition at the Society.

Rivers of Ice: Vanishing Glaciers of the Greater Himalaya (3 October -11 November) showcases the work of mountaineer, photographer and filmmaker David Breashears FRGS. With the Glacier Research Imaging Project (GRIP), he has retraced the steps of renowned mountain photographers of the past century to recapture images of these mountains and their glaciers from exactly the same vantage points. *Rivers of Ice* displays

his recent photographs alongside the corresponding historic images, revealing the loss in ice mass that has taken place during the intervening years. Since 1978 David has combined his skills in climbing and filmmaking to complete more than 40 film projects, regularly using the Society's unique collection of Himalayan photography to plan and research for his work. The comparative historical images include work by George L. Mallory, Major Edward O. Wheeler and other members of the 1921 British Mount Everest Reconnaissance Expedition Team; and Vittorio Sella, the Italian photographer and mountaineer.

W www.rgs.org/collections

Policy

Influence

Making the case for geography

The Society works hard to secure and promote the position of geography in education, field science and research, and to champion how geographical expertise contributes to government policy and the economy.

The General Election in 2010 has led to a dramatic increase in new policy development. The Society's responses are varied and include: regular meetings with ministers and civil servants; responding to consultations; nominating key people onto committees; publishing briefing papers; and organising conferences on topics where research and policy come together.

In recent months the Society has advised: the Department for Education on why geography must remain at the core of the English national curriculum; the House of Commons' Education Select Committee on geography in the English Baccalaureate;

and the House of Commons' Science and Technology Select Committee on the importance of fieldwork. In all, the value of geography is stressed as the subject through which young people learn about the contemporary world – its people, places and environments.

In higher education, there are changes in funding for research and teaching. Both the Higher Education Funding Council for England and House of Commons' Skills Select Committee were provided with evidence on the employment benefits to the UK of training geographers. Other important consultation responses have been made to the European Commission, and the Economic and Social Research Council. The Society will respond this autumn to the Higher Education White Paper and the Research Excellence Framework's criteria on working methods.

W www.rgs.org/consultations

Development Support

The Society is delighted to announce continuing support from its Corporate Benefactors and Project Partners. Many of the three-year sponsorship contracts came to an end in late 2010 or early 2011 and all of them have been successfully renewed recently.

Sponsorship from Land Rover will continue to support the Society's *Geography Outdoors* fieldwork and expedition advice centre, including the *Explore* weekend, and the *Go Beyond* bursary that forms part of the Society's grants programme.

Ordnance Survey will continue to support, in particular, the Society's education work with schools, teachers and pupils and in making the case for geography in the school curriculum.

Sponsorship from Trailfinders will continue to support the Society's work with the public and members alike in raising

awareness and understanding of the world and promoting learning through travel.

A new three-year project partnership is close to completion with Shell UK to support the continuation and development of the *21st Century Challenges* project. This series engages the public in understanding issues that affect all our lives; the topics are chosen by the Society.

As previously announced, Esri UK has been supporting the Society's Ambassador programme since January 2011; and Rolex is currently mid-term and continues to provide valuable support to the Society's Collections, specifically the Picture Library.

The Society thanks all its supporters for their commitment, interest and, in many cases, longstanding support for its work.

W www.rgs.org/supportus

Membership And ideas for Christmas...

Membership for students

Young Geographer membership provides access to essential resources for geography GCSE, A level, and undergraduate university students or those planning a gap year. For £40 a year (£72 for two years, £99 for three), membership includes the monthly *Geographical* magazine and online access to the scholarly journals, the topical *Geography in the News* website; and use of the Foyle Reading Room's extensive Collections of maps, books and travel guides. And as for all members, the *Members' Only* section of the website includes select Monday evening lectures online, access to travel-related and other resources not available on the main web pages, and discounts on outdoor equipment and books from the likes of Cotswold Outdoors, Stanfords and Nomad.

W www.rgs.org/joinus

Gift membership

Share your enthusiasm in supporting the work of the Society with a gift of a one year *Young Geographer* membership or the standard *Ordinary Membership* (£112 a year) for Christmas or other special occasion for a family member or friend. (Please note that Fellowship cannot be gifted).

W www.rgs.org/gift

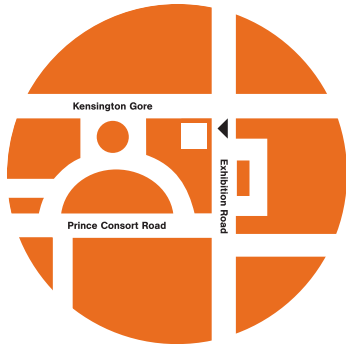
Society merchandise

Christmas cards and a **2012 calendar** will be available later in the year.

Ties in two designs featuring the traditional crest are also available (100% plain silk, £15.00 each+p&p). Find more details online.

W www.rgs.org/members

How to find us



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Cover image Jane Labous interviews a sand digger on the Niger River, Mali, as part of the *Journey of a Lifetime 2011 Award*



This Bulletin was produced using electricity generated from 100% renewable sources and 100% vegetable oil based inks.

The Society is the learned society and professional body for geography. We support and promote geographical research, education, fieldwork and expeditions, and geography in society; we also advise on policy issues. The Society has substantial collections available to all.

Corporate Partners

