THE RECORD

Our individual membership now stands at 165 together with 59 joint members and 30 institutional members and we welcome the new members who have joined the Society during the year.

Indoor Meetings

Our annual lecture programme took us to Sinking Cities with Tony Waltham, explored other worlds in The Geology of Mars with Susanne Schwenzer, and visited underworlds on the Members' Evening with Vanessa Banks, Richard Hamblin and Geoff Warrington. We then heard about the effects of Geotourism in Britain from Kirstin Lemon, and the exciting new fossil finds in Charnwood Forest from Phil Wilby.

We celebrated the Bicentenary of William Smith with a lecture by Hugh Torrens, when we had the opportunity to compare two original copies of William Smith's map kindly lent to us by BGS and Nottingham University for the occasion.

Field Excursions

An excursion to Dudley Canal and the Wren's Nest Hill quarries was a return visit to the site of the Society's very first field trip in 1964. Other one-day and evening visits were to the Nottingham caves, Dorket Head, the Bonsall area and the Permo-Triassic rocks around Nottingham. The long-awaited visit to see the 'volcano' at Nottingham University, courtesy of Prof Barry Azzopardi, also came to fruition.

Council

Council met on six occasions during the year to discuss matters for the Society's benefit and where possible to contribute to wider geological issues. The latter included support for retention of the Connesby rock store. Most discussions revolved around the marking of the Society's 50th anniversary, but were also looking to the future. Albert Benghiat, on behalf of the Society, has begun to investigate what would be involved in the making of a Peak District Geopark.

Janet Slatter, Secretary

Awards to Society members

The Society congratulates two of its leading members who have recently been recognised by academia for their significant contributions to geological science.

One of the Society's founder members, Dr Trevor Ford, has been awarded an Honorary Doctorate by the University of Derby, in recognition of his long and outstanding contributions to the geology of Derbyshire. He will receive his award at the University's meeting in Buxton in November of this year. Though only one part of Trevor's wide-ranging geological expertise, his work in the Derbyshire Peak District, on its geology, mineralogy, mining and karst geomorphology, has established a bank of data that is now, and long will be, a standard source and background for geological studies within the region.

The Society's honorary editor, Dr Tony Waltham, was presented with the Yorkshire Geological Society's W.S. Bisat Medal at a Society meeting at Keyworth in March of this year. The medal is awarded as acknowledgement of distinguished contributions to applied geology in northern England, and the President, Dr John Knight, drew attention to Tony's contributions in both engineering geology and karst geomorphology, and also to his output of text books, guides and photographs that have disseminated geology far beyond the professional community.

The editor has also been awarded the 2015 Glossop Medal by the Engineering Group of the Geological Society. This is the most prestigious award in the engineering geology calendar, and comes with an invitation to deliver the Glossop Lecture in London in the coming November. Tony's lecture will be titled "Control the drainage: the gospel accorded to sinkholes",reflecting his contributions to engineering geology through his researches in karst subsidence and through his lectures and publications that are widely recognised within the profession.

Alan Filmer