



Bicentenary Symposium: 'Enormous Fossil Animal and Almost Perfect Skeleton'

Wednesday 21st February 2024
At Oxford University Museum of Natural History



Museum of
**Natural
History**
University of Oxford

To mark the first detailed accounts of the
Megalosaurus (Buckland) and *Plesiosaurus* (Conybeare),
read at the Geological Society meeting of February 20th 1824

Organised by the History of Geology Group
and the Oxford University Museum of Natural History.

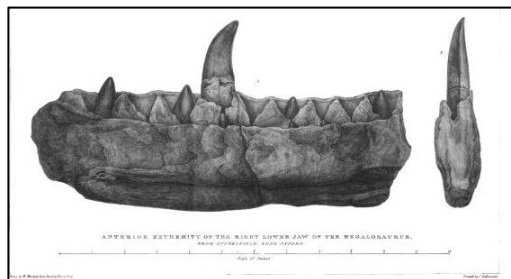
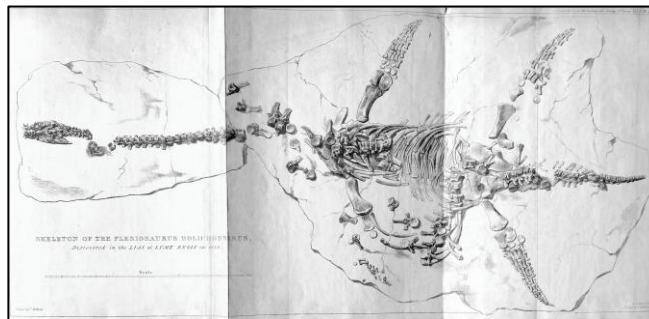


Image: courtesy of the Trustees of Natural History Museum



Symposium Programme

Presentations are 20 minutes (15 minutes, plus 5 minutes for questions and discussion).

10.00	Registration	
10.20–10.30	Welcome, introduction, house arrangements	
10.30–11.30	<p>Session 1</p> <p>1.1 The meeting at the Geological Society of London on February 20th 1824</p> <p>1.2 A trio of plesiosaurs for Christmas: the three plesiosaur skeletons discovered by Captain Waring and Miss Anning of Lyme Regis in December 1823</p> <p>1.3 'The most wonderful wonder ever discovered': Mary Anning's 1823 <i>Plesiosaurus</i></p>	<p>3 papers</p> <p>Duncan Hawley</p> <p>Dr Mark Evans & Dr Michael Taylor</p> <p>Tom Sharpe</p>
11.30–11.50	Break (tea/coffee + biscuits)	

11.50–12.50	<p>Session 2</p> <p>2.1 Bones before Buckland: discoveries of dinosaur bones in Stonesfield before the 19th century</p> <p>2.2 <i>Megalosaurus</i>: curating a global icon</p> <p>2.3 Unearthing the Buckland Archive at OUMNH: an archivist's insights</p>	<p>3 papers</p> <p>Philip Powell</p> <p>Dr Emma Nicholls</p> <p>Danielle Czerkaszyn</p>
12.50–13.40	Lunch	
13.40–15.00	<p>Viewing Session – Delegates will rotate, with the opportunity to see all four collections:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Megalosaurus</i> type material: presented at the 1824 meeting, by William Buckland 2. Archive material: related to William Buckland, W.D. Conybeare and Mary Morland 3. <i>Plesiosaurus dolichodeirus</i>: contemporary cast, by Sir Frances Chantrey, of the specimen displayed at the 1824 meeting 4. Stonesfield Quarry, beyond the <i>Megalosaurus</i> 	<p>4 sessions</p> <p>Divided into 20 minute slots, including 5 minutes within each slot for changeover</p>
15.00– 16.20	<p>Session 3</p> <p>3.1 The Ammon Knight and the Phat Duke: William Buckland's sociability, social connections and science</p> <p>3.2 Mary Morland and <i>Megalosaurus</i>: the task of making Illustrations for William Buckland</p> <p>3.3 Four big lizards, four big egos and the roles played by 'outsiders' in the discovery, description and naming of fossil reptiles in southern England in the 1820s</p> <p>3.4 Richard Owen and his interpretation, classification and naming of 'Dinosauria'</p>	<p>4 papers</p> <p>Dr Peter Lincoln</p> <p>Dr Susan Newell</p> <p>Martin Simpson</p> <p>TBC</p>
16.20–16.40	Break (tea/coffee + biscuits)	
16.40–17.40	<p>Session 4</p> <p>4.1 Plesiosaurus as represented in <i>Duria antiquior</i> and its derivatives</p> <p>4.2 Waterhouse Hawkins' dinosaurs at Crystal Palace: legacies of <i>Megalosaurus</i> and <i>Plesiosaurus</i></p> <p>4.3 The Evolution of the Fictional <i>Megalosaurus</i>, 1836–1912</p>	<p>3 papers</p> <p>Prof. Renee Clary and Tom Sharpe</p> <p>Dr Mark Witton</p> <p>Dr Richard Fallon</p>
17.40–17.45	Closing Remarks	

For registration and further details, please visit:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/historyofgeologygroup/1071297>

General registration = £40

HOGG members = £30



Registration closes 9th February 2024

Registration includes a symposium abstracts booklet, refreshments (tea/coffee/biscuits), and a buffet lunch, with fruit drinks.