

## Dave was the Very Model of a Student of Geology

*A tribute to the life and times of Dave Clark - a life long friend*

Here is a rhyme of rocks and ale, lecture learning, & old field trip tales  
Hammer here and hammer there, smashing outcrops everywhere  
Isle of Wight, Dorset coast and Arran geomorphology  
Dave was the very model of a student of geology

Earth science teaching of varied kinds, educating our mixed up minds  
Hard rock labs with hand specimens, birefringence in cross polar lens  
In matters of petrology, crystals and mineralogy  
Dave was the very model of a student of geology

Sediment types of sand and lime, plus muds laid down, then burial time  
Diagenesis sets in and complicates things, toughens rocks up,  
hammers make 'em ring  
In matters of erosion, deposition and chronology  
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Fossil drawings Dave made a lot and filled a book with useless grot  
Trilobites, ammonites, brachiopods and graptolites  
In matters of ichnology, bugs and palaeontology  
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Geophysical incantations, magnetic fields, gravitation  
Turgid tech terms, maths strain a brain,  
picking wiggles making eyes strain  
In matters of calculation and squinted seismology  
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Making maps and correlations, integrating with cross sections  
Creative thinking in 3D, drinking too much and needing a pee  
In matters of stratigraphy, tectonics and cartography  
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Field trip capers or out on the town, pub stops for lunch drinking  
Newcastle Brown  
Back to college yes penniless, had to home brew, beer in bath mess  
In matters of fermentation, consumption and oenology  
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Lifelong college mates that Dave had made, geologists all,  
we made the grade  
Exams over, shredded nerves mend, degrees confirmed,  
get a job my friend  
In matters of graduation, occupation and wealth technology  
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Stuart Harker