

# Shell London Lecture Series - Geology in the Age of Man

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Geological Society of London

## Rocks and Climate Change: How we can stop pulling the carbon trigger

SPEAKER: *Bryan Lovell (GSL President)*



On 11 May 2011, amidst much publicity, the Geological Society hosted a meeting on the Anthropocene, the proposed new epoch of geological time that marks the impact of Homo sapiens on the planet. The international geological community has a formal process for identifying stratigraphical boundaries: what happens if the Anthropocene does not meet the criteria for establishing a new epoch? We may imagine that those who deny that we are having a deleterious effect on our environment will have a field day, particularly those who deny the scientific evidence for the potential danger of our dumping of carbon dioxide into Earth's atmosphere. Does it matter what the so-called sceptics say? Not very much, provided we can marshal effectively for a global public the broad range of observational science that so strongly supports the case for concern about human-induced climate change: not least evidence from rocks. Now is the time to start telling the story written in the rocks in many different ways - in verse, in film, in song. Proof in the Puddingstone is a tale about a rock that just happens to be 55 million years old. You can't argue with a rock.

*Date: Wednesday 15 February 2012*

*Timings: This lecture will be given at 3pm and 6pm on this day (with tea/coffee served for half an hour before each), so please let us know, when applying for tickets, which talk you would like to attend.*

*Venue: The Geological Society of London, Burlington House*

Entry to this lecture is free to all, but by ticket only. Please call at reception (to your right) or contact the Society by post, phone, fax or email (see below).



For further information, please contact:  
Conference Office, The Geological Society,  
Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J 0BG  
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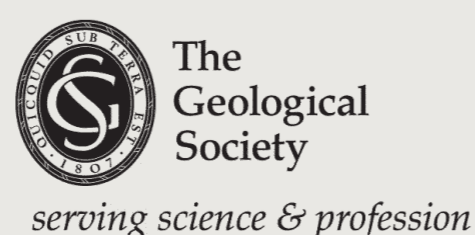
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All past lectures can be viewed on our website at [www.geolsoc.org.uk/shelllondonlectures11](http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/shelllondonlectures11)

## 2012 Programme

18 January	<b>Earthquakes and tsunamis in the modern world</b>	<i>James Jackson, University of Cambridge</i>
15 February	<b>Rocks and climate change: How we can stop pulling the carbon trigger</b>	<i>Bryan Lovell, GSL President</i>
28 March	<b>Life at the edge: Sinking deltas</b>	<i>James Syvitski, University of Colorado</i>
18 April	<b>Reconciling past and future worlds: Geology and ground engineering</b>	<i>Jackie Skipper, Geotechnical Consulting Group</i>
9 May	<b>Unconventional gas</b>	<i>Melvyn Giles, Shell</i>
27 June	<b>Sustainability of groundwater in a changing world</b>	<i>Paul Younger, University of Newcastle</i>
26 September	<b>Volcanoes and man</b>	<i>Sue Loughlin, British Geological Survey</i>
10 October	<b>Pollutants and human health in the age of man</b>	<i>Jane Plant, Imperial College London</i>
14 November	<b>Geological aspects of renewable energy</b>	<i>Bruce Levell, Shell</i>
19 December	<b>Incoming: Learning to love the meteorite</b>	<i>Ted Nield, GSL</i>



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