

WELCOME

Welcome to the inaugural newsletter for the **International Association for Military Geosciences**.

You have received this newsletter as you have previously attended, or have previously expressed an interest in attending, the **International Conference on Military Geosciences**. Or I might know that you have an interest in the Military Geosciences. In any case, I hope you'll enjoy reading the newsletter but if you do not want to receive this in the future, please use the **Unsubscribe** link in the footer below. Please also feel free to use the **Profile Update** link to keep us informed of your contact details.

The International Association for Military Geosciences is a not-for-profit organization, administered by its members and represented by a Coordinating Committee. Membership in the Association is free and open to researchers and practitioners of military geology and geography and associated fields. Membership is open to all with no distinction of religion, nationality, gender or language.

If you have any recommendations or suggestions for the group and this newsletter, please get in touch. Equally, please feel free to forward this newsletter to anyone whom you know who might be interested.



11th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MILITARY GEOSCIENCES

US Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland, 15-19 June 2015

The primary theme for this event was: **The Future of Military Geosciences: Scientific**

Capabilities, Global Security, and Sustainability.

Sub-themes included these and other topics:

- International security: borders to natural resources
- Sustainability: from military training areas to deployed settings
- Coastal and marine environments: warfare to environmental impacts
- Climate and conflict: military response to predictive climate change
- 21st Century military hotspots: Future conflict - past warfare
- Beyond warfare: Pandemics to providing vital resources

Field trips included:

- Fort McHenry National Monument
- Antietam National Battlefield
- The US Naval Academy
- Roedown Research farm

Sincerest thanks once more, on behalf of all the delegates, for the hard work that Eric and Barbara did on the organisation, as well as the support from the Desert Research Institute (DRI) and the hospitality of the US Naval Academy.

Link to the DRI hosted event pages, [click here](#).

12th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MILITARY GEOSCIENCES Stellenbosch University, Western Cape, South Africa, dates tbc 2017

Details to follow from the organisers of this event in due course. However, what it certain is that this will be a unmissable opportunity to visit an incredibly diverse and interesting country, steeped in military history and with some stunning geology. As well as the opportunity to attend the main conference, the organisers are preparing options for field trips; visiting the famous battlefields of Isandlwana, Rorke's Drift and Spion Kop; spotting the African safari 'Big Six' and sampling the finest that the renowned Stellenbosch vineyards have to offer.

For more information of what you might expect around the Western Cape, [click here](#).
For more information about the host town, Stellenbosch, [click here](#).

NEWS

Geoscience in the news

My goal here is simply to flag up some recent news and publications that might be of interest on the geoscience front. Of course the potential list of links here could be endless so you'll have to forgive some flexibility on what I can add. Of course, if you have a link to an article or paper that you feel is suitable for this slot, please do email me at the address below and I'll endeavour to add it to the next edition. But for now, onto a few news:

- Timing and climate forcing of volcanic eruptions for the past 2,500 years - [LINK](#)
- Seismic signals used to track above-ground explosions - [LINK](#)
- Towards disaster resilience: A scenario-based approach to co-producing and integrating hazard and risk knowledge, International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction - [LINK](#)
- WW1 trenches to be reconstructed in Pollok Park - [LINK](#)

- Volcanic ash detector network to be installed around UK - [LINK](#)
- Face of Defense: 'Map Geek' Finds Way to New Geospatial Unit - [LINK](#)
- 'Mini ice age' coming in next fifteen years, new model of the Sun's cycle shows - [LINK](#)

Disclaimer: The links above are included purely for potential interest. The research, activities and contents of these links are not sponsored or endorsed by IAMG. The IAMG accepts no responsibility for the content accessible via these links and links are visited at the risk of the reader.

CALENDAR

Conferences, Events and Meetings

British Cartographic Society & Society of Cartographers - Symposium 2015

08 - 10 September 2015, York, UK - [LINK](#)

An established three-day training event that provides delegates with the opportunity to gain mapping knowledge from a wide range of world class presentations and interactive workshops. This enlightening three-day event attracts specialists from private, academic, and government organisations whose common interest lies in using and promoting maps as a valuable communication device. Includes a Historical Military Mapping Group Workshop.

Geological Society of Italy - At War with the Eagles - Geologists and Cartographers on the Alpine fronts of the First World War

17 - 20 September 2015, Trento, Italy - [LINK](#)

The Alpine environment, and particularly the Dolomites, represents the most extreme environment in which the Italian and Austro-Hungarian troops fought during the First World War. The difficulties they faced arose not only from the topography of the Dolomites, but also from geological and geomorphological features of the territory. The conference intends to explore, both historically and geologically, the places, events and people involved in the conflict, during the commemoration of the centenary of Italy's engagement in the hostilities. The conference (17-18 Sep) is free to attend. The follow-up field trip (19-20 Sep) fees will be specified in the second circular. Follow the link to register.

Geological Society of America Annual Meeting - Topical Session 22: Geology and Warfare

01 - 04 November 2015, Baltimore, MD, USA - [LINK](#)

Geology has had an influence on war throughout history. This session will explore aspects such as locations of fortified positions, use of terrain in battle, and how tactical decisions often include an understanding of geology.

Military Aspects of Engineering Geology: Past and Present

16 November 2016, The Geological Society, London - [LINK](#) to follow

A whole-day meeting at Burlington House is being convened for next year under the auspices of HOGG, the GSL's Engineering Group and potentially also the Institution of Royal Engineers. It will follow the precedent of a meeting in November 2009 on Military Aspects of Hydrogeology. Like that meeting, it is hoped that it will generate manuscripts to be worthy of peer-reviewed publication as one of the GSL's Special Publications.

Papers on any aspect of military engineering geology, both historical and topical, will be considered for presentation and/or publication. Suitable subjects include fortification, tunnelling, quarrying, military construction projects (e.g. ports, airfields) and terrain assessment. Papers describing work in the two World Wars will be particularly welcome; also later conflicts and recent work relating to redundant or ageing military facilities.

Those interested in contributing a talk or poster, and/or an article for publication, are asked to make early contact with one of the convenors, Edward P.F. Rose (e-mail ted.rose@earth.oxon.org; home telephone: +44 (0)1425 279124) or Judy Ehlen (e-mail judyehlen@hotmail.com).

SOCIAL MEDIA

Connecting people and ideas

We now have a dedicated website. I've just put up a basic holding page for the time being but in due course hope to have a WordPress site established which will serve us for the purposes of the Association and the ICMG. To visit the site, [click here](#).

We also now have a Facebook group and LinkedIn group presence. Links via the buttons below:

Facebook 

LinkedIn 

Drew Craig

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