

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 26th September
Finmark 2007 - a unique dog-
sledding expedition assessing
climate change
Euan Cameron

Wednesday 3rd October
Tectonic Hazard Mitigation in
LEDC's- Prof. Martin Degg,
Univ. of Chester

Wednesday 7th November
Glaciers and Volcanoes: a
hazardous cocktail- Dr. Fiona
Tweed, Univ. of Staffordshire

Wednesday 5th December
Segregation in British Cities-
Prof. Ceri Peach, Univ. of
Oxford

Wednesday 6th February
Lima's Barridas: Slums of
Hope or Despair: Prof. Bill
Chambers, Liverpool Hope
Univ.

Wednesday 5th March
Flooding and Water Security,
Prof. Tony Jones, Univ. of
Aberystwyth

All lectures will be in the
Ashton Theatre, Shrewsbury
School starting at 7.15pm

CONTACTS:

Chairman:

Rob Morris
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Hon. Secretary

Dr. Tim Foulger

Hon. Treasurer

Sue Townsend

Hon. Membership Secretary

John Lynch

Other members:

Sally Garrington

Shropshire Geographer

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Shropshire GA Branch Launched

After a gap of some 15 years, the Shropshire branch of the Geographical Association has been re-launched.

After being on the committee of both Watford and Manchester branches of the GA, Shrewsbury School Geography teacher Rob Morris approached GA headquarters in Sheffield over Christmas with a view to starting up a Shropshire branch once again.

At a time when Geography is under threat from a number of directions, David Lambert, Chief Executive of the GA was overjoyed at Rob's suggestion. Rob was put in touch with Bob Jones of the North Staffordshire branch and Paul Baker of the Oxford branch. Both of whom have visited Shrewsbury and shared their experiences.

A meeting was held at Shrewsbury School in February when around 20 teachers from both Telford and Shropshire attended.

At that meeting, a fledgling

committee was formed with Rob asked to chair the branch, with Tim Foulger, also of Shrewsbury School acting as secretary.

Sue Townsend of the Field Studies Council at Preston Montford, was elected as treasurer, while Sally Garrington of New College, Telford and John Lynch of Bedstone College are also on the committee.

The branch will be a 'new wave' branch where communication will be electronically and something that GA Headquarters is encouraging amongst all branches as a way of keeping down costs.

This will involve the use of e-mails and attachments such as this newsletter you are currently reading.

The newsletter will be published termly and items of interest to the Geographical community of Shropshire are welcomed. Articles can be of any length and can include examples of good

practice from your own schools, reports of field excursions you have made or even places you have visited.

We also hope to have a website up and running by September where events will be advertised, especially forthcoming lectures! We envisage that PowerPoint's delivered by our speakers will also be found there for future reference. We also hope to have a links page directing members to useful sites to enhance their teaching.

Finally, we hope to have some social events for the local Geographical community. We recently hosted a field trip for over 20 teachers from the North Staffordshire Branch looking at Shrewsbury's flood defences. An informative walk from Frankwell to the English Bridge was enjoyed by all finishing with a well-earned drink on the banks of the River Severn in the Boat House Inn!

Programme for 2007/2008

The final programme for the 2007/2008 season has been finalised. We will be having five lectures aimed at A Level and more able GCSE students as well as an inaugural lecture. Among the speakers confirmed are former GA President, Bill Chambers who is speaking about Squatter Settlements in Lima, Peru, while Prof. Martin Degg kicks off the A level season with a lecture on tectonic hazards in LEDC's. All should provide useful case study material that should enable our stu-

dents to get top grades! Details of the lectures can be found in the panel on the left hand side.

Our inaugural lecture on 26th September is by Euan Cameron, a writer and broadcaster, who spent five weeks dog-sledding across northern Finland assessing the impact of climate change on the Sami reindeer herders. His talk will be illustrated by his photos and music.

Also on the cards is the GCSE Worldwide Quiz to be held in

the second half of the Autumn term with both a North and South Shropshire competition taking place and a Year 8 quiz in the Spring term.

Annual subscriptions for member schools has been set at £25 per school that includes all staff and pupils, while individual membership has been set at £10. This includes entry to all lectures that will take place in the Ashton Theatre at Shrewsbury School in Ashton Road in Shrewsbury. A map will go out with the programme shortly.