

62nd Symposium on Vertebrate Palaeontology and Comparative Anatomy
23rd Symposium of Palaeontological Preparation and Conservation
with the Geological Curators' Group

York: 1st to 6th September 2014

Second Circular

Registration for the 2014 SVPCA and SPPC/GCG is now open

Please visit the SVPCA website (www.svpca.org) to register for either or both of the conferences. Once registered, you will receive a confirmation email directing you to the secure online payment page of the University of York website. **The deadline for registration is Friday 20th June 2014.**

As discussed at the previous symposium in Edinburgh, the registration fees have had to rise significantly this year, owing to the increasing cost of booking lecture theatres. We have endeavoured to keep the rise in fees to the absolute minimum and in particular have tried to keep student registration low. Many thanks must be given to The Palaeontological Association for a generous grant towards the running of the conference this year, which has eased some of the financial pressure.

Fees

	Full rate	Student rate
SVPCA	£75	£35
SPPC	£20	£10
Both conferences	£80	£40

Conference banquet £35

Conference T-shirt £9

Field trips £10 each

Abstracts

Abstracts for oral and poster presentations can be submitted after registration via the SVPCA website. Abstracts should be no more than 250 words in length and will be evaluated by an abstract committee. We are aiming to have a dedicated poster session this year and would particularly like to encourage poster submissions. Your preference for an oral or poster presentation will be taken into account as far as possible, but we are restricted in how many oral presentations it is possible to fit into each day. Submitted abstracts will be collated into a symposium abstracts volume which will be made available in PDF format on the SVPCA website.

The deadline for abstract submission is Friday 20th June 2014

T-shirts

The conference logo this year has been designed by Hester Baverstock and represents *Rhomaleosaurus zetlandicus* from the Whitby Mudstone Formation. Conference T-shirts with this logo will cost £9 and can be ordered at the same time as registration (the online payment page will allow you to select your size). All T-shirts must be pre-ordered – no T-shirts will be available for sale during the conference.

Field Trips

There will be two field trips available this year. Each trip costs £10 (to cover coach travel). Places must be reserved at the same time as conference registration.

Monday 1st Sept - The first trip, owing to tide times, will precede the symposium. This will be a fossil-hunting trip to Saltwick Bay and will be run by Dean Lomax, author of *Fossils of the Whitby Coast* and assistant curator of palaeontology at the Doncaster Museum & Art Gallery. It is estimated that the coach will leave York around 10.30am and return around 6 or 7pm.

Saturday 6th Sept - The second trip, in the more traditional slot, will be to see a disused Alum Quarry, the Whitby Museum and the Rotunda Museum in Scarborough, and is being organised by Will Watts, formerly of Scarborough Museums Trust. Delegates may also be interested to know that the Scarborough Museums Trust will be holding a fossil festival on the weekend of 13th and 14th September. For more information, contact Will: will.watts@hiddenhorizons.co.uk

Events

Tuesday 2nd Sept - The evening registration and ice-breaker event will take place in the Yorkshire Museum and will be run jointly with the Yorkshire Philosophical Society. There will be an opening talk as well as the opportunity for delegates to look round the exhibitions.

Wednesday 3rd Sept - Following on from the highly successful whisky tasting in Edinburgh last year, we are aiming to play to Yorkshire's strengths and run a real ale tasting evening.

Thursday 4th Sept - The evening event will, as always, be the SVPCA auction in aid of the Jones-Fenleigh fund. Please could anyone with any items for submission to the auction inform the organisers at york2014@svpca.org

Friday 5th Sept - The SVPCA banquet will take place on the evening in the historic Merchant Taylors' Hall in the centre of York. Places at the banquet should be booked at the same time as registration via the online payment page.

Jones-Fenleigh Award

The Jones-Fenleigh fund awards grants covering registration fees, accommodation costs and basic subsistence to help delegates with no institutional financial support to attend the SVPCA. Applications should be sent to york2014@svpca.org before **Friday 30th May, 2014**. These should include an abstract, a covering letter explaining your circumstances and need, and (where appropriate) a letter from your employer/institution supporting your application and confirming that you will not be financially supported by them. Selection of successful candidates will be made on the basis of the relevance, originality and the general quality of the abstract. For more information click on the Jones-Fenleigh tab on the SVPCA website.

Museum visits

The SPPC will include a tour around the stores of the Yorkshire Museum. If anyone would like to arrange a research visit to the Yorkshire Museum during the SVPCA, please can you contact Sarah King (Sarah.King@ymt.org.uk) with as much advance notice as possible.

Accommodation

Delegates should make their own arrangements for accommodation.

University accommodation can be booked via York Conferences at:

http://www.yorkconferences.com/Bed_and_Breakfast_York_BB_in_North_Yorkshire_.aspx

However, please note that all university accommodation is on campus, which is two miles from the conference venue. There is a regular bus service between the university and the city centre (£1.50 for a single).

Alternatively, there are many hotels, guesthouses and self-catering apartments in the centre of York just a few minutes' walk from the conference venue. Availability and prices can be found at:

<http://www.visitork.org/book/>

Host Committee

Centre for Anatomical and Human Sciences, Hull York Medical School

Phil Cox

Sam Cobb

Laura Fitton

Paul O'Higgins

Karen Swan

Andrew McIntosh

Phil Morris

If you have any questions about SVPCA 2014, please contact the organisers (york2014@svpca.org)