



IRISH ASSOCIATION FOR QUATERNARY STUDIES

IQUA NEWSLETTER

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Edited by Peter Wilson

INTRODUCTION

By now most members of IQUA will know that Bill Carter passed away on 17th July 1993. Bill was a good friend of IQUA and contributed to our meetings on a regular basis. An appreciation can be found later in this Newsletter.

In this issue we have details of the forthcoming November symposium - entitled **Glacial Events**. As no other notification of this meeting will be circulated it is important to put the date in your diary now.

Peter Wilson (University of Ulster).

REPORTS OF RECENT MEETINGS

IQUA Annual Field Trip - South Fermanagh, 1st-3rd October 1993

The annual field excursion, organised by Valerie Hall, was based in Co. Fermanagh. The trip centred on the Marlbank area near Enniskillen, an area previously unexplored by many of the group but deserving of much attention.

Saturday dawned overcast but dry as we assembled at the County Museum, where we were welcomed by Greer Ramsay, resident archaeologist. After a short slide presentation and a wander through this lovely museum, packed with informative, high quality displays on the archaeology of the region, we followed our excellent guide, Tim Fogg, below ground to explore the fascinating 70,000 year old Marble Arch cave system.

After a welcome hot-soup lunch in Blacklion we travelled through time with Janie Crone, visiting a Neolithic court tomb, a site of Bronze Age rock art and an Early Christian rath, before finishing the day at the

Medieval church of Killesher, where, in addition to observing some early grave slabs, some mausoleum exploration was carried out.

Sunday saw us in the Ross Lough area, where, although the weather was against us, the enthusiasm of Fred Carroll never once waned as he described exciting finds of giant Irish deer and red deer remains, both occurring together in sediments ascribed to the Late Glacial period. Further finds of the latter species occur in peat deposits and are linked to Mesolithic activity. This site was immensely interesting, with indications of occupation from the Mesolithic to the Early Christian. There was certainly plenty of points of discussion and speculation before we were driven indoors by rain.

Thanks to the excellent organisation by Valerie Hall, this trip was both varied and interesting, with something in it for everyone.

Karen Molloy (University College, Galway).

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

IQUA Annual Symposium - Friday 26th November 1993

The annual symposium will be held at the Geological Survey of Ireland, Haddington Road, Dublin, and will start at 10.00hrs. The theme of the meeting is **Glacial Events** and has been organised by Dr. Peter Coxon. Admission is free. The programme will include the following speakers/topics:

Dr. Jane Hart (University of Southampton) - Subglacial erosion, deposition and deformation associated with glaciers moving over deformable beds.

Drs. Chun Chang Huang and Michael O'Connell (University College, Galway) - Fresh evidence for vegetation and climate at the end of the Midlandian glaciation.

Dr. Robert Devoy and Ms. Anne Sinnott (University College, Cork) - Lateglacial environments in Co. Cork: patterns and processes of change.

Dr. Lewis Owen (Royal Holloway and Bedford New College, University of London) - Title to be announced.

Professor Brian Whalley (Queen's University, Belfast) - Rock glaciers, moraines and similar forms: Ireland and Iceland.

Dr. Peter Wilson (University of Ulster) - Protalus landforms of Nahanagan/Loch Lomond Stadial age in Ireland and Britain.

Ms. Mary Smyth (University College, Galway) - Quaternary geology of Clara and Raheenmore Bogs, Co. Offaly.

Ms. Catherine Delaney (University College, Cork) - Aspects of deglaciation of the Irish midlands.

Dr. Eric Farrell (Trinity College, Dublin) - Engineering aspects of glacial deposits.

In addition there will be a demonstration of the role of GIS in utilising Quaternary geological data in groundwater protection studies by **Dr. C.E. Coxon, Mr. Paul Mills, Ms. Susan Pipes and Dr. Krysia Rybaczuk** (TCD STRIDE GIS Group).

Posters on the broad topic of **Glacial Events** will be displayed and more offers of posters are welcomed.

Peter Coxon (Department of Geography, Trinity College, Dublin).

NEW POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS IN QUATERNARY RESEARCH

University of Ulster at Coleraine

Jasper Knight - Glacial sedimentology and the conservation of sand and gravel resources in the Omagh basin, Co. Tyrone.

Eleanor Ballard - Environmental impacts and management of sand dune machair systems in the northwestern British Isles.

Queen's University, Belfast

Jane McKenzie - Ecology of sub-fossil pine.

Trinity College, Dublin

Rosemary Stewart - Palaeoecology and human impact in the Boyne Valley.

Alyson Heery - Holocene vegetation development on midland eskers.

University College, Dublin

Robert Meehan - Quaternary geology and glacial history of Co. Meath.

University College, Galway

Steffen Wolters - Investigations towards the reconstruction of the palaeoenvironment at pre-bog stone wall sites in Corca Dhuibhne, Co. Kerry.

University College, Cork

Charles Roche - Geomorphology of the greater Castlemaine Harbour area.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS ON QUATERNARY RESEARCH IN
IRELAND

COXON, P. 1991-92. Dublin in the grip of an Ice Age: the Quaternary geology of the Dublin region. *Geographical Viewpoint* 20, 35-52.

McCABE, A.M. 1993. The 1992 Farrington Lecture: Drumlin bedforms and related ice-marginal depositional systems in Ireland. *Irish Geography* 26, 22-44.

McCABE, A.M., BOWEN, D.Q. & PENNEY, D.N. 1993. Glaciomarine facies from the western sector of the last British ice sheet, Malin Beg, County Donegal, Ireland. *Quaternary Science Reviews* 12, 35-45.

McCABE, A.M. & COXON, P. 1993. A resedimented interglacial peat ball containing *Carpinus* pollen within a glacial efflux sequence, Blackwater, Co. Wexford: evidence for part of the last interglacial cycle in Ireland? *Proceedings of the Geologists' Association* 104, 201-207.

SWEENEY, J. 1991-92. Reconstructing past climates: implications for the future. *Geographical Viewpoint* 20, 23-34.

WILSON, P. 1993. Description and origin of some talus-foot debris accumulations, Aghla Mountains, Co. Donegal, Ireland. *Permafrost and Periglacial Processes* 4, 231-244.

BILL CARTER - AN APPRECIATION

Bill came to the New University of Ulster at Coleraine in 1968 as a research student to study the coastal geomorphology of Magilligan Foreland. He was awarded his D.Phil. in 1972. After a year away from Coleraine, spent lecturing at the City of London Polytechnic, he returned in 1972 to a lectureship in the School of Biological and Environmental Studies. His skills as a lecturer and researcher were rewarded by rapid promotion. He was promoted to a Chair in the Department of Environmental Studies in 1991. Professor Bill was loved and respected by colleagues and students alike.

Bill was widely known and admired in Irish environmental circles for his committee work with the Ulster Countryside Committee, National Trust, and Geographical Society of Ireland. He was a previous editor of *Irish Geography*. His international standing was recognised in 1992 when he was elected President of the European Union for Coastal Conservation, the largest coastal research group in Europe. He published in excess of 100 research papers and authored, edited or co-edited several books.

Bill had been a member of IQUA from the beginning. He contributed to many of the discussion meetings and organised the meeting held in Coleraine in 1986. He was joint editor of two IQUA Field Guides - No. 4 Wexford and No. 7 Donegal and Londonderry - and contributed to several others.

Although Bill's interests encompassed all aspects of coastal studies, his publications on sea-level change and coastal dunes are probably the ones of most interest to IQUA members. However, he also published on glacial topics.

Two memorial conferences for Bill have already been convened - the British IGCP-274 meeting in December and a special session at the AAG meeting in San Francisco next March/April. Many tributes have been paid and continue to be paid to Bill. Our organisation was enriched by his membership and his contribution to discussion and field meetings.

If there are coastlines in the hereafter, I know that Bill will be exploring them.

Bill Carter 1946-93 Scientist, teacher and friend.

Peter Wilson.

OTHER NEWS

Dr. Peter Coxon has been asked by the National Committee for Geography to be the Irish Corresponding Member of the International Geographical Union's (IGU) Commission on Frost Action Environments (International Permafrost Association Working Group on Periglacial Processes and Environments). Peter will receive copies of their circulars and their news bulletin *Frozen Ground*. If any IQUA member would like copies of this material sent on to them, they should contact Peter at the Department of Geography, Trinity College, Dublin.
