

Scottish Geodiversity Forum Annual Report 2018



This has been a year of recovery and consolidation, after the intense activity of 2017. Work has continued on our key aims: *to promote Scotland's geodiversity, widen the profile of geodiversity and influence national and local policies*. We have worked to promote Scotland's Geodiversity Charter, now supported by 88 signatories. Our email forum has shared news, information and events with members, and we have maintained the scottishgeology.com website and an active twitter presence.

The Forum has continued its membership of Scottish Environment LINK, contributing to the Landscape sub-group, and maintained representation on the GeoConservation UK Executive Committee and the Geological Society's Geoconservation Committee. We have engaged with a range of other organisations, including the Scottish geological societies, museums, universities and geoparks, to consider the creation of a successor organisation to the Forum, a sustainable membership charity that will promote and celebrate Scotland's geology and its value to society.

The 2nd Hugh Miller Writing Competition and Conversations In Stone book

The second Hugh Miller Writing Competition gathered in rich, diverse and inspiring prose and poetry entries. This unique writing competition is organised by Lara Reid on behalf of the Forum and the Friends of Hugh Miller. It is open to all, and this year invited prose and poetry entries inspired by recent fossil discoveries made in Scotland. Prizes were awarded in a well-attended ceremony at the Scottish Poetry Library in Edinburgh. We are grateful to Scottish Natural Heritage for funding in association with promotion of Scotland's Fossil Code.

The Forum and The Friends of Hugh Miller, together with generous support from The Andrew Tannahill Fund for the Furtherance of Scottish Literature, Edinburgh Geological Society and Scottish Natural Heritage, have prepared an anthology – *Conversations in Stone: A Celebration of Hugh Miller's Legacy* – that brings together all of the winning entries from the first two competitions, along with new writings by leading authors including James Robertson and Robert Macfarlane, and Miller experts Bob Davidson and Michael Taylor.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee, elected at the AGM on 10 March 2018, is Angus Miller, chair; Mike Browne, vice-chair; Gavin Eardley, secretary; Kate Saunders, assistant secretary; Hugh Lockhart, treasurer; Margaret Greene, membership secretary; ordinary members Beverly Bergman, Simon Cuthbert, Andrew McMillan (resigned 14 August 2018), John Gordon, Neil Clark, Jennifer Roberts, Jim Blair, Lara Reid, Robina Barton and Jen Brooke. Organisations are represented as follows: Scottish Natural Heritage (Colin MacFadyen), Royal Scottish Geographical Society (Mike Robinson), British Geological Survey (Sarah Arkley) and Dynamic Earth (Hermione Cockburn). The committee conducted its business mostly by email, and met once in 2018.

Accounts

I, as treasurer of the Scottish Geodiversity Forum, present these accounts below as an accurate representation of transactions during the calendar year 2018, including the balances at the beginning and the end.

Hugh Lockhart Treasurer, Scottish Geodiversity Forum 10/01/2019

Opening Balance 31/12/2017		2539.11
Income 2018		
Donations		691.04
SNH: Promotion of Fossil Code (Hugh Miller Writing Competition)		1000.00
51 Best Places Project		100.00
Total Income		1791.04
Expenditure 2018		
Website costs		172.80
Membership of Scottish Environment LINK		125.00
Hugh Miller Writing Competition		629.65
51 Best Places Project		44.23
General – meeting costs, etc		165.84
Total Expenditure		1137.52
Closing Balance 31/12/2018		3192.63
Funds at 31/12/2018		
	General	1300.21
	Hugh Miller Writing Competition	790.45
	Charter	1101.97