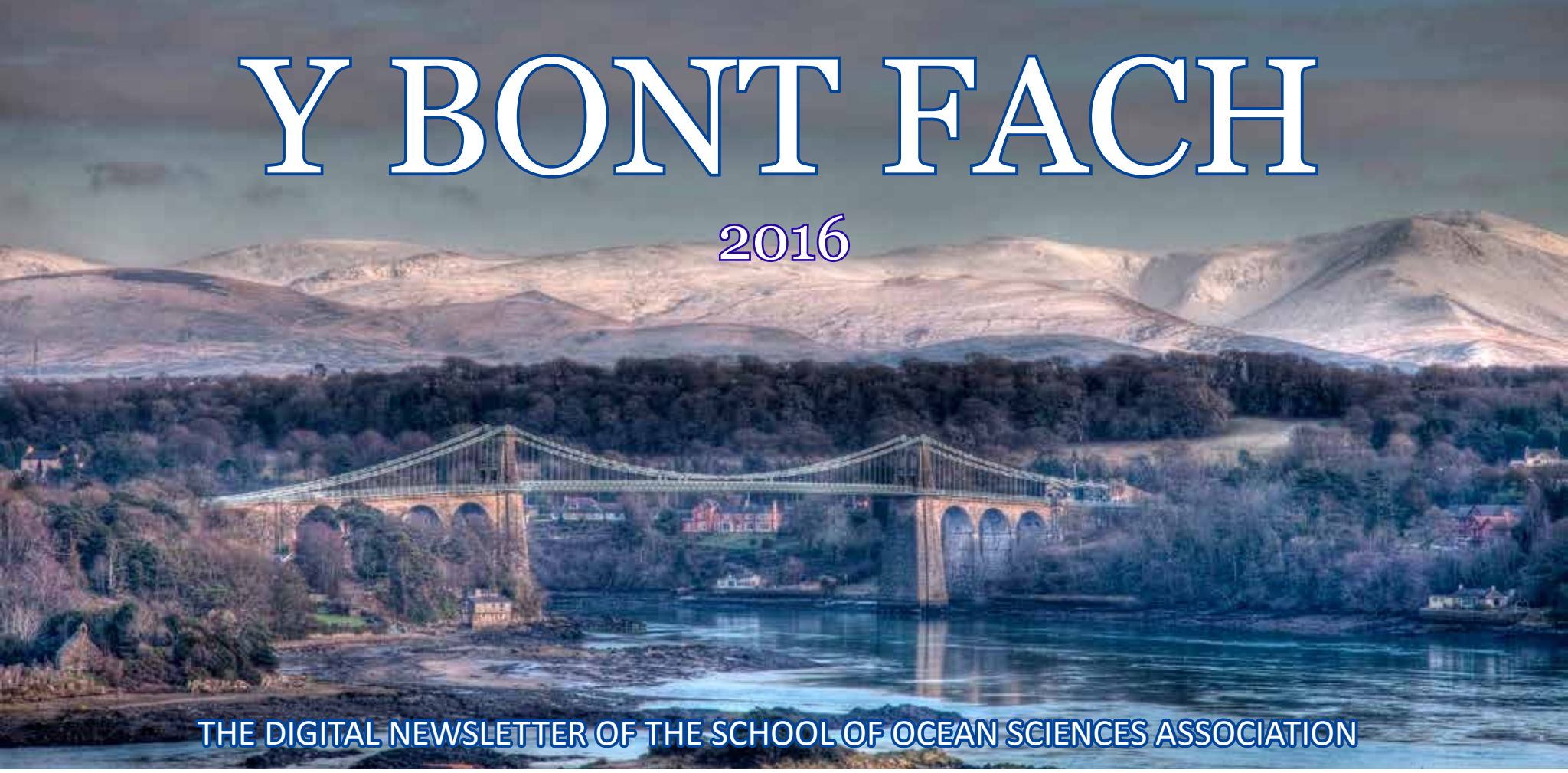
Y BONT FACH

2016



THE DIGITAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SCHOOL OF OCEAN SCIENCES ASSOCIATION

Against the odds

Gemma Godwin (2010s)

In 2007 I began studying marine vertebrate zoology at the School of Ocean Sciences. During my first year I became very poorly and discovered that I had fibromyalgia and M.E. Due to these debilitating conditions it took me five years to complete my degree, a 2.2.

I wanted to do a Masters but my grades were not good enough. After speaking with Stuart Jenkins, I decided to try and get some voluntary experience so that one day I might be able to do the MSc course at Bangor. Fortunately, Professor Mike Kaiser said I could help the EFF team on the fisheries funded projects.

A week with the team eventually led to a part-time job, which took me to the English Channel and the Isle of Man on the Prince Madog. I decided to do my Masters and was offered a place on the Marine Environmental Protection MSc because of the experience I had gained working for the EFF team.

I started in 2014 and, although it was very hard at times and I had to work at three jobs and deal with my illness, I completed the course and received a distinction! I never dreamed it would be possible, but it was the help and support of all the staff at SOS that brought me to this point. I am currently looking at PhDs and have a bright future thanks to SOS.

gemma.l.godwin@hotmail.co.uk

Give us a kiss!

Croeso!

Welcome to the SOSA winter newsletter, which is only produced in a digital format.

Its main objective is to try and publish relatively short articles and bits of information about the alumni — where they are now and what they have done since leaving Menai Bridge.

I hope that you enjoy it and, hopefully, read about old friends and colleagues.

Editor: Kevin Deeming

kevin@kevjen.com

On top of the world

Anna Glueder (2010s)

I'm finally settled into Corvallis, and started school at Oregon State University. Oregon State is a fantastic choice for me so far - the paleo department seems to be really friendly and keen to push their graduate students, and Corvallis itself is just beautiful!

The field season in Greenland was fantastic too — going from Physical Oceanography to Glacial Geology/Morphology was definitely a jump, but, so far, I really enjoy it! I attach 'photo evidence'. The picture was taken on Bessel Fjord ~ 81°07'N.

Now classes have started and being a PhD student does not feel all that much different from being an MSc student. I enjoy the pace though, and get to 'technically assist' for an undergraduate Geology class. So even though my actual research is happening on the side at the moment, I really can't complain about not being busy.

gluedera@oregonstate.edu

A picture paints a thousand words

Tom Carefoot (1960s)

I've been retired for 12 years and spend most of my "computer" time on two educational websites. You should be able to click on the icons below to see them…if not, let me know and I'll send you the URLs.

Presently, I'm engaged with a colleague in a project to digitise my large collection of underwater slides to high resolution and present them in a website for our Beaty Biodiversity Museum (University of British Columbia). The site would be open access, with all images available free of charge to anyone for use for any purpose. It's a big job. I look forward to writing a longer article on my great 3 years in Menai Bridge in the 1960s for The Bridge in July.

carefoot@zoology.ubc.ca

http://www.virtualcoralreefdive.com/index.php

Wise words

Mike White (1990s)

"We will teach you to become producers of knowledge". I never forgot those words welcoming us as new undergraduates at Bangor. It is for each of us to fulfil this promise. I'm a Marine Zoologist and specialist in remote atoll research. Our world contains many rarely visited treasures; if you open your eyes and leave densely populated areas, you will find places with little or no scientific data: you can fill these gaps!

My passion is Ethnozoology: learning traditional skills and knowledge of indigenous islanders; and with permission from the Wisdom-Keepers, I teach this knowledge to their children, supporting it with modern science. A particular strength of cultural practices is to close the harvest of resources if they seem less abundant or of poorer quality; this is a lesson the industrialised world has yet to learn.

I'm a member of IUCN Species Survival Commission: Marine Turtle Specialist Group. These days I'm deeply involved in reforesting degraded nesting beach habitats at Tongareva Atoll -- mitigating both coastal erosion and climate-change impacts. www.honucookislands.com

My research team: we've just tagged & DNA-sampled a juvenile green turtle at Tongareva

crwban681@yahoo.co.uk

A Welsh Puff

Anthony Roberts (1990s)

After studying Marine Biology at Menai Bridge, I have followed a very enjoyable career in the environment sector with The Environment Agency and now Natural Resources Wales. This is my latest venture. I have recently published my first children's book, which follows the adventures of a little boy who has to learn the magic language of dragons to speak with the dragon, who lives under Holyhead Mountain. I am giving readings in Bangor to groups of children at local primary schools and libraries. Try the link. *https://www.facebook.com/alfieandthedragon/*

anthony.roberts33@btinternet.com

It's capturing the water that matters

Tony Heathershaw (1970s)

When I retired (back in 2004) I took up water colour painting. I have painted several versions of this view of the bridge over the River Frome at Moreton in Dorset. It may not be in the same league as Telford's famous bridge over the Menai Strait, but it's a bridge I have crossed both as an artist and a keen walker! Most of the time I paint seascapes, boats and harbour scenes (as you might expect, being an oceanographer) but also dabble in landscapes.

On another note, **Richard Soulsby (Alumnus 1970s)** and I met a couple of times last year and, in particular, we joined former Institute of Oceanographic Sciences (IOS) colleagues at a reunion to mark 30 years since the closure of the IOS Taunton Laboratory — after which I went on to work for the (then) Admiralty Research Establishment at Portland, and Richard joined Hydraulics Research at Wallingford.

AHeathershaw@aol.com

Bridge over the River Frome

Pons Fractus

John Ramskill (1970s)

My home town has no specific bridges spanning water courses; drainage seems to cope through culverts. Having three railway stations, somewhat remarkable for the size of the town, it's not, however, short of typical bridges of that type.

An artist's impression of Pontefract Castle

But it's all in the name. The Romans knew it as Pons Fractus, the Normans Pontefracto and Pomfret in Shakespeare's time: 'Broken Bridge'. It obviously must have had some significance in its day as did Pontefract's once spectacular castle. Sadly little remains of the latter which is a shame because I believe few are aware even of its existence. An artist's impression and its importance in history can be found on the Internet.

margaret.ramskill@btinternet.com

Another one hangs up his boots

Ian Bellamy (1970s)

Well, what a glorious and memorable day it was! As we pootled our way along the River Thames through the picturesque Oxfordshire countryside the weather was a forecaster's dream: a mix of sun, cloud, heavy rain and mild temperatures all packed into the space of a few hours, so no forecaster that day could be accused of "getting it wrong". In fact, it was entirely appropriate weather for the leaving do for one of the UK's leading metocean system specialists.

Ian Bellamy was retiring from his post as Technical Manager of the Sea Systems Division of Fugro Geos — the world's largest oceanographic service company. Whilst there, he had played a considerable role in delivering over 400 offshore metocean systems worldwide and had worked with most of the major oil and gas companies.

During his 40 years in commercial oceanography he worked for many well known companies: Fugro Geos, Installocean, Space Technology Systems, Hunting Surveys, Oceaneering, and, first but not least, Marine Investigations and Services.

He was awarded the Alan Greig (another illustrious SOS Alumnus) Memorial Prize for Operational Oceanography by the Society of Underwater Technology in 2005.

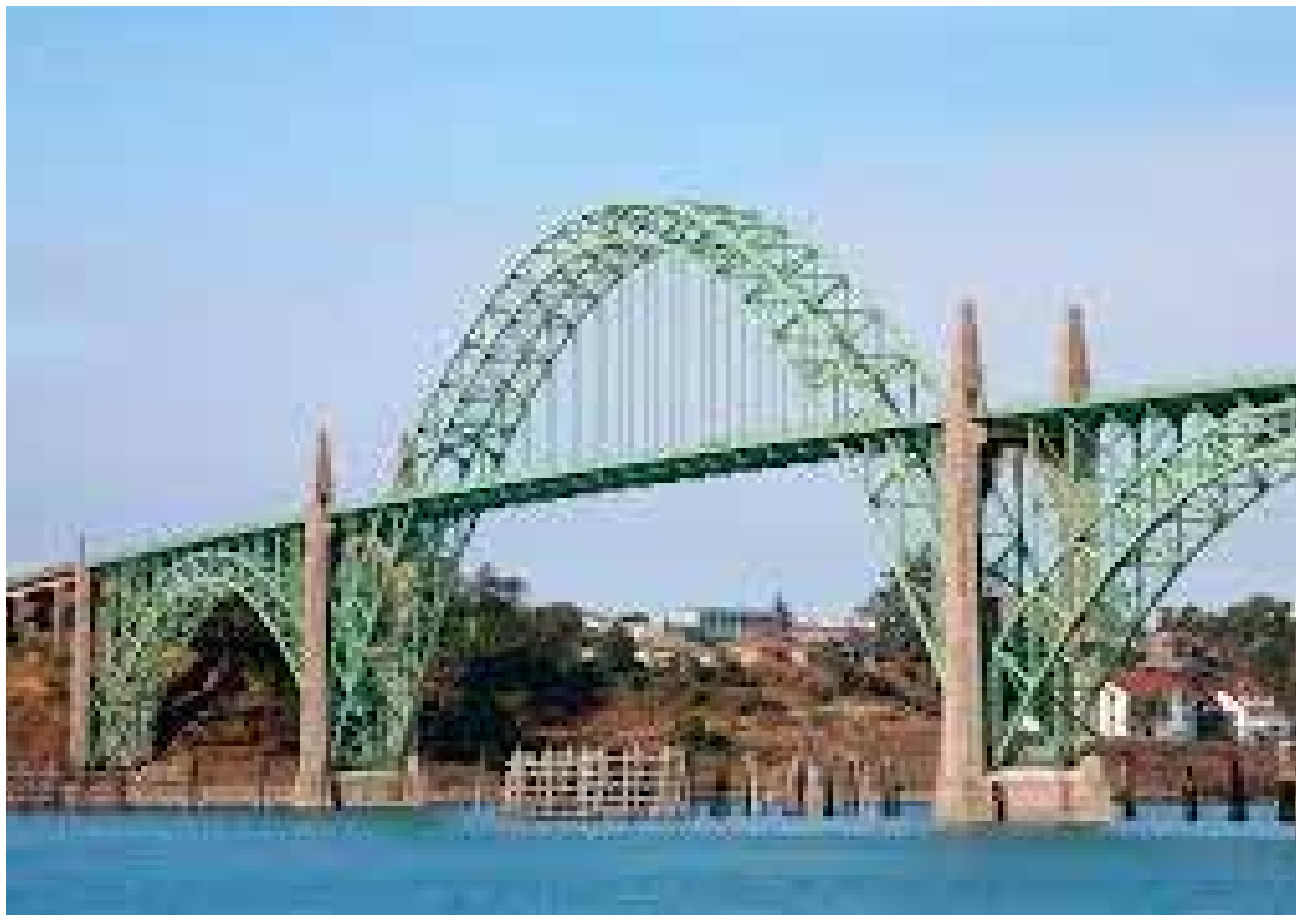
ian.bellamy@marinetechsoft.com

I am not really retiring. The Mafia have offered me a job.

The world is his oyster

Chris Langdon (1970s/80s)

I was a Masters and PhD student at Menai Bridge and MAFF, Conwy, from 1975 to 1981. Under the guidance of Dennis Crisp, Peter Gabbott and Peter Walne, my research was on the development of microencapsulation techniques for feeding oysters. At that time, there was considerable interest in developing an artificial diet for suspension-feeding molluscs as an alternative to expensive algal diets. After 40 years of research, we still rely on algae to rear oysters and other shellfish, so the challenge is still there for the next generation of marine scientists!



Bridge over the River Yaquina

After completing my PhD, I took a post-doctoral position at the University of Delaware, USA, and continued my work under the direction of Ellis Bolton. I also worked closely with Roger Newell who was based at the University of Maryland and was a student of Brian Bayne, Marine Biological Laboratories, Plymouth, to address the role of detritus and bacteria in the nutrition of marsh-inhabiting mussels.

In 1985, I took an Assistant Professor position at the Hatfield Marine Science Centre, Oregon State University and have remained there ever since. Luckily, the Pacific oyster, *Crassostrea gigas,* is farmed in both North Wales and Oregon, so I have been able to continue my work on nutrition with the same species as my PhD research. Meanwhile, I have diversified my research into topics ranging from shellfish genetics and breeding more resilient oyster strains to the effects of ocean acidification and global warming.

I have found an American version of Menai Bridge at Hatfield. The Centre is quite small and consists of about 350 marine science personnel, including a small number of graduate students. The climate is mild and damp during the winter, and the coast's scenery is dramatic with rocky headlands impacted frequently by Pacific storms. There is even a nearby local brewery and pub call "The Rogue" which makes excellent beer. It is near a spectacular bridge over the adjacent Yaquina estuary, which compares in beauty, but not in age, to the Menai Bridge. It's a great place to sip beer while watching oysters grow.

chris.langdon@oregonstate.edu

Now hear this !

A message from our Chairman

The School of Ocean Sciences (Alumni) Association (SOSA) is 21 years of age in 2016. To date, SOSA has been run on a voluntary basis by the SOSA committee with funding of the newsletter, The Bridge, by the SOS in the early years. In recent years, such support has been provided by industry — primarily companies employing SOS alumni in the oil and gas sector paying for advertisements in The Bridge. The current contraction of this industry, resulting from low oil prices, has resulted in a drying up of this funding source. So, we are now in a position where we have to consider methods by which SOSA can be independently sustainable from now on in and into the future.

The SOSA committee has agreed to undertake a full review of its remit and funding and a part of this will comprise an electronic survey (e.g. Survey Monkey) of SOSA members. This survey will be addressed to all those alumni for whom we hold e-mail addresses (some 2200 out of 4500). In order for us gain feedback from a statistically significant number of the membership we would very much appreciate your participation. We aim to carry out this survey in February /March 2016 and hope to report the findings in March/April. The findings will form a core of the SOSA review, which we hope will shape SOSA for the next 21 years. Please help to shape the future of your association.

Mick Cook ***mick@mickcook.com***

Still running

Bill Rees (1980's)

Alas I quit the world of oceanography immediately after completing my degree (1986), to become first a reporter and then a book dealer/writer. After years of buying and selling books, I began to write a few of my own: a book dealer's memoir (*The Loneliness of the Long Distance Book Runner* in which there is a reference to an oceanography field trip), a travel book (*Rebel Land: A Portrait of the Cévennes*) and a quirky biography of *Dic Aberdaron, a polyglot tramp (1779 -1843.)*

Now I live between Bangor (North Wales) and Le Vigan (South of France) and endeavour to write about both places with affection and insight.

http://www.amazon.co.uk/Loneliness-Long-Distance-Book-Runner/dp/1906998922

info@bills-books.com

Oh I be pert viddy, me boody

Norman Babbedge (1970s)

I have many fond memories of my time in the 1971 Physical Oceanography class at Menai Bridge, headed up by Jack Darbyshire and John Simpson. Fellow Students on that course included Brenda Topliss, Phil Clark and Emlyn Jones.

After several years working in commercial oceanography and marine consultancy with Kevin Deeming, Rick Lailey and Bill Prior-Jones (to name but a few), I settled in the West Country, working for the NRA/Environment Agency. I retired in July 2014 after 25 years, during which time the improvements made to the quality of our rivers, estuaries and coastal waters was quite astonishing. I married Julie in July 2012 and we live in Exeter.

I love Devon, with its coasts, rolling countryside and of course Dartmoor and Exmoor. My picture is of a beautiful 'bont fach' over the River Bovey, Dartmoor. There are many of these old bridges, including much older clapper bridges.

If anybody, who remembers me from those days at Menai Bridge, is ever down in Devon, please do contact me and pay a visit. ***normanbabbedge@gmail.com***

Bridge over the River Bovey

Get your teeth into this!

Cristine Mincheff (1970's)

I graduated with a General Degree in Marine Biology/Marine Zoology in 1973. I moved home to the USA shortly after that and, eventually, went back to school to earn my doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from Iowa State University.

I have been a general practitioner for many years and have treated many exotics. In fact, at the top of my "Weird Things I Have Done" list is giving an enema to a goldfish....twice! Ten years ago I took an interest in veterinary dentistry and am preparing to take my certification exam next year. In the meantime, I have had the privilege of performing dental procedures on sea lions, sea otters, lions, hyenas, wolves, bears, tigers, chimpanzees, and many other zoo animals.

My experiences at Bangor taught me never to lose my fascination with the diversity and beauty of life. I miss the wild shores. Best thing I ever did was to attend UCNW Bangor.

novacris@earthlink.net

The winds of change

Jim Pyrah (1990s), Roger Birchall (1990s), and Will Miller (2010s)

Will Miller (Applied Marine Geosiences, 2015) has recently joined a strong team of Bangor alumni working at the "coalface" of renewable energy. He joins Jim Pyrah (PhD, 1996, Geological Oceanography, 1992) and Roger Birchall (Marine Geotechnics, 1993) in DeepOcean's Survey and GeoEngineering department.

SOS can now boast a role in the education of a substantial part of the Survey and Geo team. In turn, this team supports DeepOcean's ongoing operations (e.g. the Western Link Cable Installation in the Irish Sea) as well as the engineering work currently ongoing on recently secured contracts, including a range of studies for inter-array, export and inter-connector cable installation projects. Against a generally gloomy backdrop of the current oil and gas downturn, DeepOcean continue to expand their geoscience team as a result of strong demand from the renewables and interconnector market.

Will, Jim and Roger

The balance of shallow geophysics, geotechnics and oceanography taught at Bangor proves to be an ideal preparation for employment in the growing offshore wind sector. Despite their experiences of SOS being spread over a quarter of a century and many changes occurring in the school over this time one constant has been the ever youthful Dr Dei Huws. Diolch yn fawr iawn!

JPyrah@Deepoceangroup.com

Change the world

Ian Hackett (1970's)
It is 45 years since "feed the world" idealism and vague ideas about harvesting the oceans took me to Menai Bridge as a mature post-graduate student of Chemical Oceanography under Dr Peter Spencer at the Marine Sciences Department.

Before I had finished my MSc, however, I decided that the world needed political rather than technological fixes and changed my career direction. However, I stayed on in Bangor for two more years: the first to write up the MSc and to get a PGCE (1971-2); and the second to teach at Ysgol Dyffryn Ogwen in Bethesda (1972-3).

Then, after a year at the University of Saskatchewan, I moved to London for a life in political activism, education, and writing -- including 5 years as Director of the One World Trust (www.oneworldtrust.org) (1994-99) and 12 at the International School of London (www.islschools.org) before retiring from the Headship of ISL in the summer of 2001.

My latest project is to launch a new political party. The World Federalist Party seeks to work with existing parties in the UK (Labour, Liberal Democrat, SNP, Plaid Cymru, Green etc.) and with Green and Federalist parties globally to create a federal democratic world governance that builds on the supranational democracy of international unions, such as the EU. It seeks to control MNCs and arms production and protect humanity from global pollution, climate change and extremes of inequality.

ianhackett123@gmail.com

A letter from a Corinthian

John Theodorou (1990s)
I am a Shellfish Biologist living in Greece and looking to further expand my shellfish research on the flat oyster population recovery, conservation of endangered Pinna through aquaculture farming techniques, and post–harvest quality management.

Specialising in Aquaculture, (MSc, Bangor, 1991) and in Fisheries Product Quality Management & Marketing (Hull 1995), I have 25 years of industrial experience in Mediterranean Marine Aquaculture (seabass, seabream and mussels).

I have participated in 26 research (EU and national) and industrial projects with emphasis on innovation, training and technology transfer. Since 2001, I have been a lecturer in bivalve shellfish production, purification technologies, and marketing in the Department of Fisheries & Aquaculture Technology at the Technological Educational Institute (TEI) of Epirus (now Western Greece).

Based on my experience in mussel aquaculture, my PhD Thesis has been on 'Risk Analysis of Mediterranean Mussel Farming in Greece' at Ghent University (Belgium) in order to meet the industry's demands for risk sharing strategies, an especially 'hot topic'. The results of this effort, together with some applied shellfish research, have been published in www.researchgate.net/profile/John_Theodorou. I can provide further information to anyone who is interested in my research via the email address below.

This bridge is the 'Rio-Antirrio' (2,880m long), which I have to cross to reach the head offices of the TEI. (www.tay.teiwest.gr). Officially called the Charilaos Trikoupis Bridge after the statesman who first envisaged it, it is one of the world's longest multi-span cable-stayed bridges and the longest of the fully suspended type. It crosses the Gulf of Corinth near Patras, linking the town of Rio on the Peloponnese peninsula to Antirrio on mainland Greece by road.

jtheo@teimes.gr

Bridge over Gulf of Corinth

Remembering Professor Denzil Taylor-Smith

Denzil was born in November 1926 into a close-knit South Walian coal mining community. His early upbringing and experiences fostered an active interest in engineering which led him to study for a wartime diploma in mechanical engineering at Newcastle University. On leaving Newcastle he joined a radar team in the Royal Navy experimenting with a radar-controlled Bofors gun until 1948 when he returned to university at Aberystwyth to take a degree in physics and geology. In 1952 he became a research student and subsequently lecturer in mining and engineering geophysics in the Department of Geophysics at Imperial College.

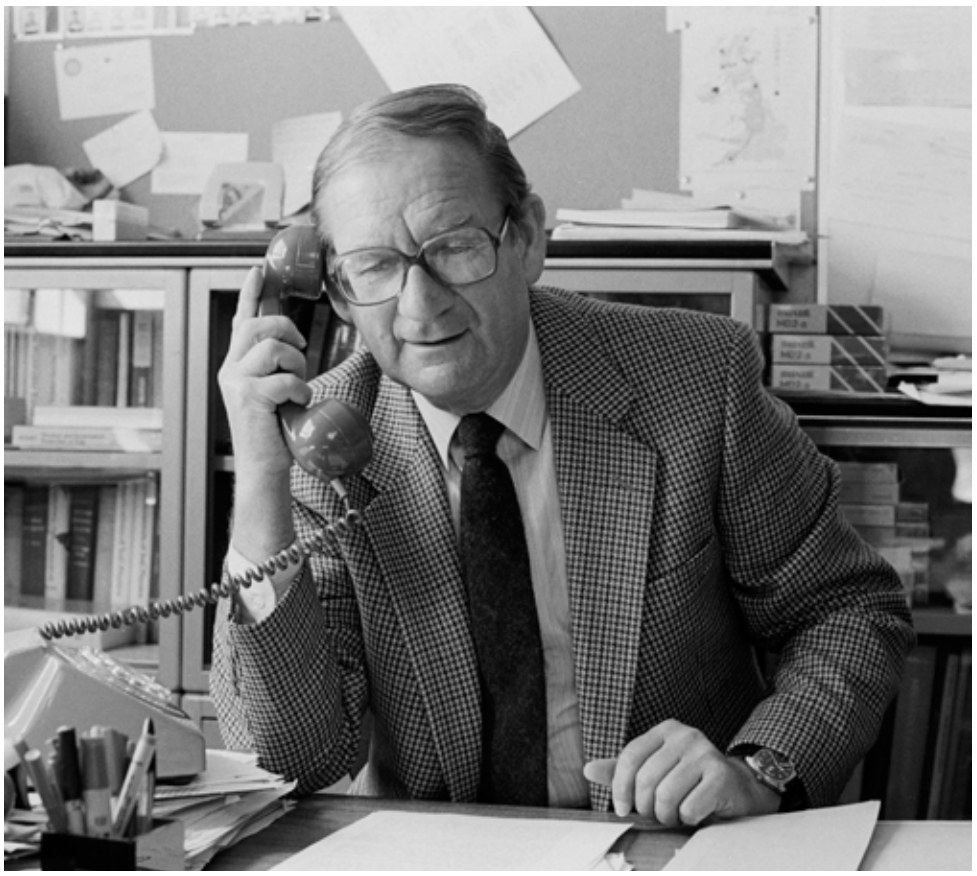
In 1964 Denzil moved back to Wales to take up a lectureship in the Department of Physical Oceanography at the then University College of North Wales (now Bangor University). Over the years his work and effort provided a steady stream of students, research projects and research backers and created wonderful career opportunities for many of his students.

His unique geological philosophy and vision rapidly gained international recognition and put Bangor in the forefront of applied marine geosciences. He was awarded a range of prestigious research contracts and grants with significant funding provided by the Natural Environment Research Council, Ministry of Defence, NATO and others.

His contribution to the University was immense. He was largely responsible for the creation of the School of Ocean Sciences through the merger of the separate departments of marine biology and physical oceanography. One of his major priorities was to forge interdisciplinary links within the School and create new opportunities both within teaching and research – not an easy task! The outcome of his efforts can clearly be seen in the continuing success of the School.

He was appointed the first Head of School and was greatly appreciated for his excellent man management skills, care and compassion. In addition to his academic and research activities, he was also extremely active in the commercial sector, generating large amounts of income for the College and the School.

After a short period serving as Dean of the Faculty of Science, Denzil retired in September 1994. For a few years he and Meg, his wife, enjoyed their caravanning expeditions in UK and on the continent, and Den managed to devote time and effort to the Parys Mountain Project, essentially a return to his mining engineering roots. Sadly, ill health soon prevented him from pursuing his interests in retirement and he died in September 2015.



Editor: A giant among his peers. A fuller remembrance by Angie Davis will follow in the summer newsletter, The Bridge.

Brass monkeys

This breath-taking and rather chilly-looking picture shows the Chairman of SOSA, Mick Cook, pictured on the Snowdon field trip in 1979. The 'meteorological field trip' was operated each Easter, for many years, by Sinclair Buchan, who always hoped that the students would have 'plenty of weather' to measure.

The coaches, carrying students, staff and post-graduate demonstrators (including the future SOSA Chairman), would stop for a brief visit to the sea shore in Bangor, to zero the altitude gauges and then it was on to Pete's Eats in Llanberis for a slap-up breakfast, before the groups were deployed on the slopes of Snowdon.

The cold weather, which was often still lingering at altitude at Easter (as the photo shows!) was a bit of a shock to some of the overseas students from tropical climes but was also considered an invigorating challenge to the hardy souls who would take a dip in the near-freezing water of their station lake (after first carefully recording the water temperature in their log books so they knew what they were letting themselves in for!).

Submitted with intent by Dr David Bowers

Remembering Professor Roger Hughes

Roger Hughes, who has died of pulmonary fibrosis aged 71, was the Lloyd Roberts Professor of Zoology at Bangor University.

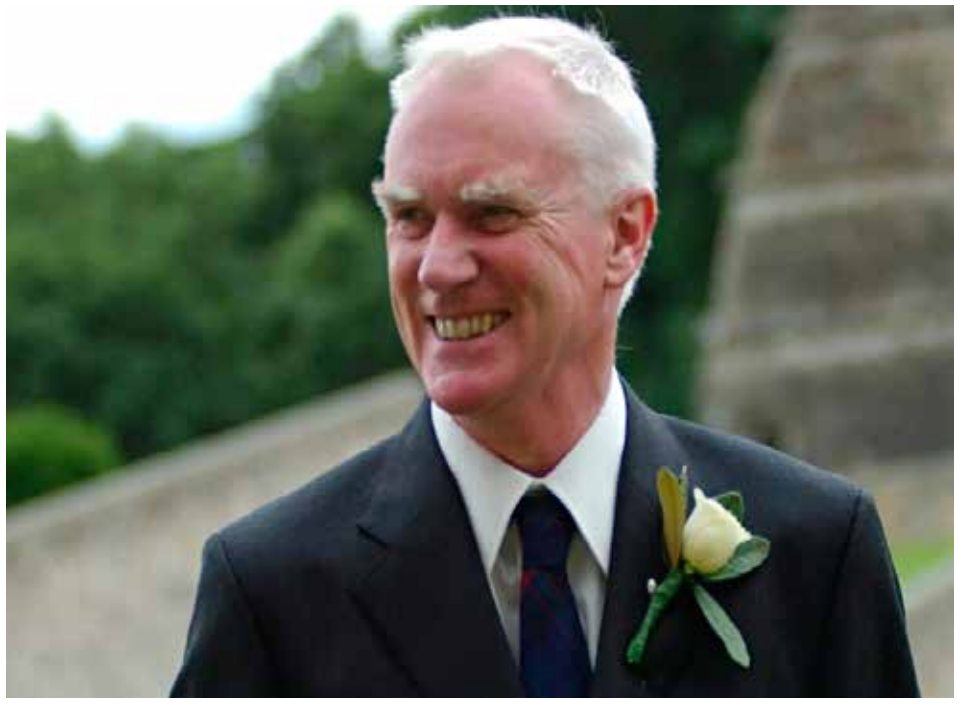
He was born in Padiham, Lancashire, attended Accrington grammar school and then the University College of North Wales (now known as Bangor University). He was awarded a first-class honours in zoology in 1965. At the university's marine laboratories he gained a PhD for research into the feeding and reproduction of bivalve molluscs.
There he met and married in 1968 Helen Holmes, also a marine scientist.

His first appointment was at Dalhousie University, in Canada, on a Killam postdoctoral fellowship, where he researched the classification of marine benthic communities. In 1971, he returned to Bangor to lecture in zoology.

During his career, which also took him to research and teaching posts in the US, Chile, South Africa, Kenya, Saudi Arabia and many other places, he wrote 199 scientific papers and three influential books on marine organisms, including 'An Introduction to Marine Ecology (1982)'. His research into the feeding ecology of gastropod molluscs, crabs and sticklebacks resulted in his being awarded a DSc.

Roger was also a generous and helpful colleague and supervisor to 63 postgraduate students and many postdoctoral fellows. He was appointed reader and then to a personal chair.

After retiring in 2011, Roger was appointed emeritus professor and continued as editor of three publications: the Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology, Marine Ecology Progress and Oceanography and Marine Biology: an Annual Review.
In his final public lecture, to SOS students, he explained how bubbles trapped in the plumage of Emperor penguins enable them to leap from the sea onto the ice – no mean feat for such a heavy, flightless bird. Afterwards Roger was mobbed for selfies by the students, therefore achieving his ultimate ambition: rock-star status!



Back in Wales, he was overtaken by illness, but even in his final weeks he played lead guitar with his rock band, the Scapegoats. Roger's other passions were fishing on the River Ogwen and mountain walking in Snowdonia.

He is survived by Helen, their daughters, Ruth and Anne, and three grandsons; and by his brother, Michael.

Remembering Chris Shaw

Chris Shaw died in October 2015, after a long and courageous battle with cancer. He completed a Masters in Physical Oceanography at UCNW in the 1970s and initially worked for the oceanographic company, Marex, on the Isle of Wight. Subsequently, he moved to Shell in The Hague, Holland, and became the head of Shell Metocean worldwide.

He was one of the founding members of the prestigious International Association of Oil & Gas Producers (IOGP) Metocean Committee and was one of the IOGP's longest serving Chairpersons, having chaired the committee for some 15 years.

Chris mentored many metocean scientists at Shell during his career and was very supportive of metocean scientists in other companies. He led the development of the first edition of the IOGP's Guideline document for HSE in Metocean Surveys. He was also the leader of the group, which developed the first international metocean standard (ISO 19901-1) in 2005.

A year of joy

Manuel Nicolaus (2010s)
2015 has been a great year for me. Firstly my daughter Esme was born on the 17th April, which brought us a lot of joy.

Secondly, work here at Cefas in Lowestoft was also very successful for me. I submitted the Marine Monitoring Programmes and Sub-programmes for the 11 MSFD descriptors to the European Commission and published my first peer reviewed papers on near-shore contaminants in sediments around England and Wales, and Imposex in the dogwhelk *Nucella lapillus* around England and Wales.

I am still very grateful to have studied at the School of Ocean Sciences, as you have given me the foundation for my current job.

manuel_nicolaus@yahoo.com

Twinning with Bristol?

Bob Hickman (1960s)
Six years after arriving in New Zealand in 1969 to start a forty year career in fisheries research for the NZ Government, I married Jenny who had grown up on a sheep farm in western Southland.

The farm was bordered by the once mighty Waiau River and Jenny and her father before her had often played on the bridge that crossed the river at Clifden. Built in 1898-99 at a cost of £5007, the suspension bridge, which at 111.5 metres was the longest span in the country at that time, played an important part in opening up the area to farming. The single lane bridge is constructed of steel cables attached to concrete pillars (clad to resemble stone pillars) and still has its original hardwood decking.

The bridge was closed to traffic in 1978, when its care was vested in the NZ Historic Places Trust, and closed to pedestrians because of safety concerns in 2010. We were happy to contribute, albeit very modestly, to the cost of renovation of the bridge by the Trust and to have this part of the history of New Zealand, and of Jenny's family, brought back into use in November 2013 as a footbridge and valued local landmark.

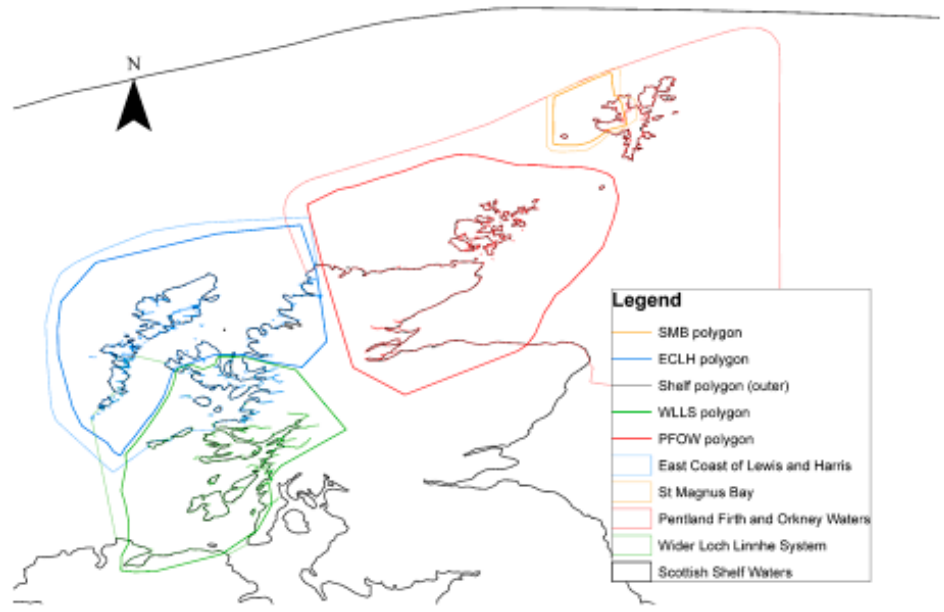
oysmusturbut.man@xtra.co.nz

Jenny, with our son Ben and daughter Rosi, by the stone-clad concrete pillars of the Clifden Suspension Bridge.

Scottish 3-D

John Debenham (1980s)
I'm delighted that a major project to model all of Scotland's shelf seas has just been completed and is due to be reported on the Scottish Government website in early 2016. The project's steering group was chaired by Marine Scotland and the work led by a team from engineering consultancy CH2M which, in conjunction with the National Oceanographic Laboratory (Liverpool), developed the 3-dimensional FVCOM model, with freshwater inputs provided by the Centre for Ecology & Hydrology. The model uses between 10 and 20 layers, and includes four detailed case study areas: East Coast of Lewis & Harris; Loch Linnhe; Pentland Firth & Orkney Waters; and St. Magnus Bay.

debenhamj@hotmail.com



Model extents (outlines) and polygons within which results are interpolated on to the new particle tracking mesh

The heart of the matter

James Green (2000s)
After a long learning gap, I started an MSc in Sustainable Aquaculture at St Andrews in 2014. My interest had been re-kindled after doing pro-bono work on an oyster project in Sierra Leone with the charity, EJF. I am going back out at the end of January with members of a team from Stirling University, which has obtained funding from the Darwin initiative for a similar yet more expansive project in the area. It is looking especially at increasing the value chain for local oyster fisherwomen in several communities in the area of the Sherbro River.

james@green3311.fslife.co.uk

Taking sediment samples and water parameter readings to establish suitable sites for oyster cultivation.

Lindo maravilhoso!

Marina Duarte (2010s)

In 2014, I studied Geological Oceanography at Bangor University as an exchange student from the 'Science without Borders Programme (Brazil)'. The year brought me many opportunities -- both in my professional life, as well as in my social life.

I came back to Brazil in January 2015 in order to finish my BSc course in Geology at Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil. In Wales, I fell in love with coastal and marine geology and decided to learn more deeply about these subjects. Currently, I am preparing my dissertation on beach evolution using geophysical methods, supported by the Centre of Coastal and Oceanic Geology (CECO) and I will graduate by the end of 2016.

Bangor University was great for me for many reasons: I have learnt not only oceanography but also about dedication, respect and friendship. I am very grateful for meeting wonderful teachers and friends. Diolch Prifysgol Bangor a Cymru!!

mduartegeo@gmail.com

Bridge over the River Guaiba at sunset. Behind it are the lights of Porto Alegre city.

Brazil geological field trip. Minas do Camaquã-RS, Brazil.

Jason Dingley (1990s)

It has been 20 years since I graduated with my joint honours in Biochemistry and Marine Biology. For the majority of this time, I was employed at Aberystwyth University undertaking cell and developmental biology practical preparation, as well as helping look after the aquarium.

In 2011, my wife and I took the plunge to move to Australia. I moved into an admin-type role within the University of Melbourne. The only 'science' I do is related to health and safety matters.

Besides my joint honours degree, I also gained a Masters in Environmental Management from the University of London as well as a diploma in Purchasing and Supply from CIPS.

warpdrive_1999@yahoo.co.uk

David Dixon (1980's)

After my MSc Physical Oceanography, I was involved with theUNESCO- Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, GLOSS OdinAfrica programme in Africa and the Middle East. This was related to sea level research in Mauritania, Cameroon, Congo, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Morocco, in collaboration with POL (PSMSL) NOC.

djdixon@btinternet.com

Ed: Sorry about the acronyms.

Kevin Caley (1990s)

I graduated in 1990 in joint Zoology/Marine Biology. I am moving to this new address, where I am hoping to develop my own butterfly farm & reserve complex (yes - open to the public).
Former address: Nottingham
New address: 'The Downs', Amroth Road (A477), Llanteg, Narberth, Pembs., SA67 8QE

kevinJcaley@hotmail.co.uk

The wild and woolly west.

Mark Fletcher (2000s)
I'm living and working in the Great Bear Rainforest in British Columbia.

Here's a "bridge" that I built over the salmon river on our property to study wildlife, including grizzlies.

Looking back from the bridge towards the cabin...winter shrouding our home

All things by immortal power, near and far.
Hiddenly, to each other linked are.
Thou canst not stir a flower, without troubling of a star!

markfletcher72@hotmail.com

A prodigal son returns

Paul Taylor (1990s)
I graduated in 1996 (Physical Oceanography MSc), and did a bit of offshore seismic surveying for a couple of years (through Dr. Mitchelson-Jacob's contacts – thanks Gay!), but since 1998 I've been working as an environmental consultant, undertaking hydrodynamic and water quality modelling for the oil and gas, renewables and water sectors. I am now a Principal Consultant at Intertek — formerly Metoc (Kevin Deeming's old company) — where I have worked (more or less) since 2003, along with my fellow Bangor graduate Kevin McGovern, and a number of other ex-Bangor oceanographers, who have come and gone.

I've been with my wife, Gabby, since our undergraduate days in Newcastle, and now live with her and our four children in Havant, on the south coast of England. We 'emigrated' to Australia in 2009, where I worked for the federal government assessing the risk and impact of natural hazards, including climate change and storm surge.

I met John Hunter, another ex-Bangor oceanographer, whilst over there. We had a great time, and had some fantastic holidays (especially in Tasmania – see picture). However, we missed the inclement weather (and modelling sewage discharges), so returned to the UK (and to Intertek) after only 15 months.

paul.taylor@intertek.com

A bunch of Tasmanian Devils on a bridge

Our annual main newsletter, The Bridge, is scheduled to be sent out in early July this year. Why not send us an article about yourself or something relevant to the School of Ocean Sciences? Anything up to 1000 words. Good photographs would also be appreciated. Closing date is mid-June.

b.w.perkins@bangor.ac.uk or kevin@kevjen.com

If your organisation/company would like to advertise in the main newsletter, please contact Mick Cook, mick@mickcook.com, for further information.

If this is your first time to see one of our newsletters, take a look at back issues on https://www.bangor.ac.uk/oceansciences/newsletter.php.en

STOP PRESS! STOP PRESS! STOP PRESS!

Gwynedd Council have submitted plans for a 3rd road bridge between the mainland and Anglesey to ease traffic congestion. It is based on one already operating in Japan and is likely to be in the Caernarfon - Brynsiencyn area.