

Summary Write Up of the DGAG Holiday Rocks Workshop: Saturday 21 October 2023

A good meeting with about 19 people in attendance was held from 2 to about 5 pm with some good discussion. As an example round some hand specimens bought by Janet and Roger Brown. A few of us puzzling over a volcanic fragment with dark/amber crystals in the vesicles /amygdules identified as likely sphalerite and with associated other sulphide indications (Photo 1).



Also were intriguing fossil fragments recovered west from Ringstead Bay in loose landslip material (Note Clay?) of shiny diamond shaped fossil scales. Shown in Photo 2



They are likely from scattered remains of armoured fish that are known from the Jurassic age sequences in this part of the coast (see Etches Collection).

In addition there were very interesting presentations of rocks seen on holidays by 2 speakers:

Pat Snelgrove: A Exploration of Turkey; Covered 3600km on a coach tour by Explore In depth company. There were three highlights that included:

Cappadocia including its geology that included air fall tephra/ tuffs and ignimbrites with spectacular geomorphology (fairy chimneys/hoodoos) as in photo 3.

Photo 3: From www.bbc.com/travel/article/20220810-derinkuyu-turkeys-underground-city-of-20000-people.



The eternal flames (burning for at least a millennia or two) . The gas apparently coming out of weathered ophiolites but likely via a source carbonate system deeper and thrust over by the ophiolites.

Hierapolis-Pamukkale: Silica travertine hot spring (volcanic) terraces and a world heritage site

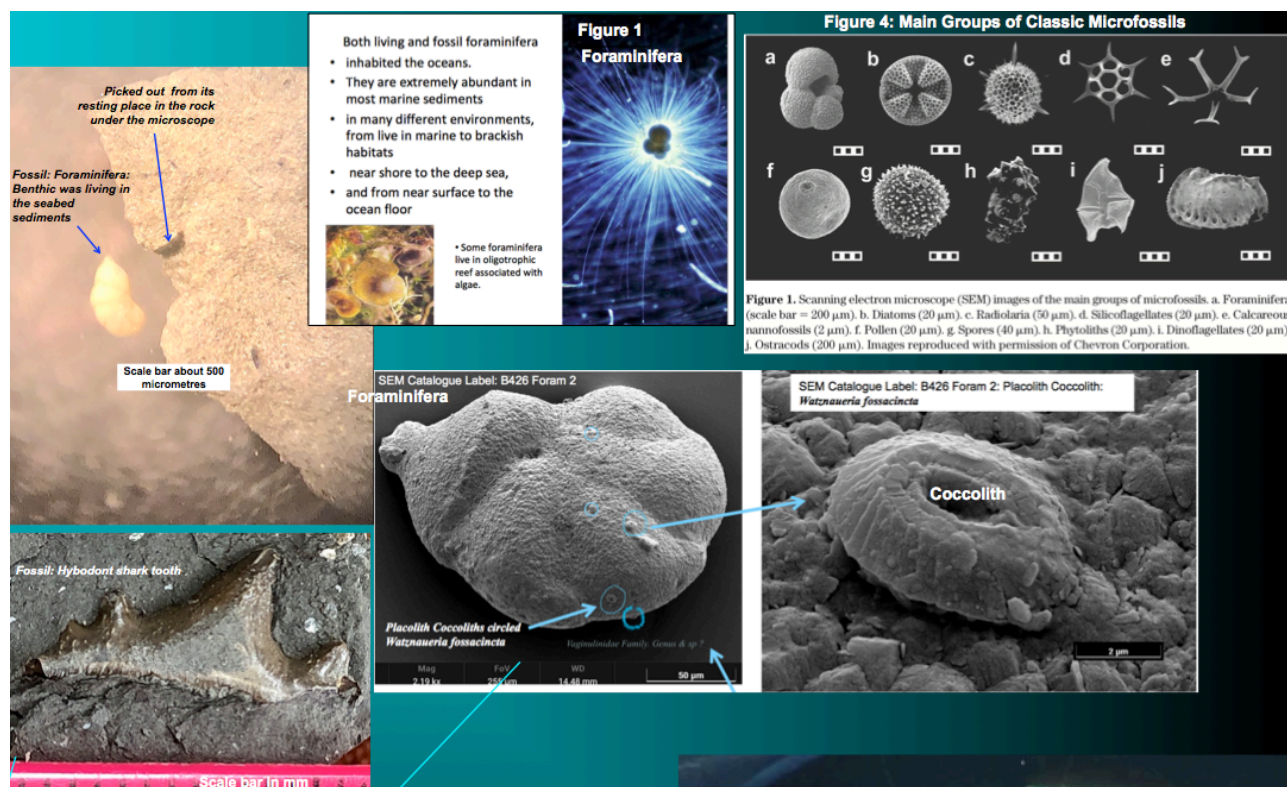
Alan Holiday: Tour of the Azores with Volcanic Experiences group .

We were treated to a several spectacular photo vistas once the fog had cleared from one of the volcanic peak named appropriately Fogo! Neat photos of pyroclastic flow depositional layers that contained volcanic ejecta debris impacts e.g. Photo 4 below from Alan.



Potential fiamme texture of vesicles in a basalt lava flows were well illustrated and explained. There were many other volcanic features and rocks illustrated.

Chris Webb: Gave a quick outline of some of the microfossil work (microscopic images and photos) he is doing with several collaborators such as Jeremy Poole (DGAG member) on samples supplied by Steve Etches from excavations of larger fossils in the Etches Collection. Large posters of optical and SEM (Scanning Electron Microscope) photos of the microfossils are best seen as actual posters at the Etches Collection, Kimmeridge Bay.
Screen shot of part of 1 of 4 posters



The next DGAG talk will be Tuesday, 21 November as shown on the DGAG website and Facebook page. More speakers are required for 2024, so please ask your networks and let me know who may be interested.

The next DGAG field trip is at Weymouth on Saturday 25th November contact Jeremy Cranmer for details and to register should you wish to attend. Details as to how to register for this field trip are in the DGAG website and also all future events and also in the DGAG group Facebook and in the DGAG newsletter.

Some other the groups activities (DIGs etc.) are also listed on our sites so please check out the DGAG website and Facebook groups for those.

Chris Webb
DGAG Events -Editor