

**Dorset Geologist's Association Group (DGAG) is hosting a GEOFEST on the Saturday 26 October 2024.**

**Theme:** A festival celebrating Geoscience: Fossils, Rocks and Earth Science. A DGAG inaugural event that is a small part of October's two global events:

→ International Geodiversity Day sponsored by Oxford University Museum of Natural History (#GeodiversityDay) and

→ Earth Science week organized by The Geological Society and American Geoscience Institute.

Selected DGAG members and some invited guests will exhibit their collections and share their Geoscience/Earth Science knowledge.

Anyone is welcome to come and see what is on show. If there are any Geoscience questions or puzzling rocks/fossils that people want advice on, these would be welcome also.

**Time:** The GEOFEST will start at 10.00 am; finish 4.00 pm

**Entry Cost:** Free

**Booking:** There is no need to book.

**Event Contact:** DGAG events at email: [cwebb48578@aol.com](mailto:cwebb48578@aol.com)

**Note:** Food or drink **is not** being supplied at the venue, but there are plenty of nearby cafés etc.

**Venue:** The main Hall at the United Church, 49/51 Charles Street, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1EE (postal address and rear entrance to church buildings). South Street, Dorchester,

Dorset DT1 1BY (front entrance to church 29 South St, Dorchester DT1 1BY)

Entrance can be from either of the 2 entrances: (See map at the end)

- Perhaps easiest for pedestrians will be from the alleyway entrance on the South street pedestrian zone where we will hopefully have a colourful advertising board (image below) pointing the way to the GEOFEST. Exact location using what 3 words:

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(link to free app <https://what3words.com/about>).

- Otherwise enter from the Charles Street opposite to the Dorchester Library and car parks.



**Event Description:** (Nearly final list of presenters and their displays and this will be updated on the DGAG website nearer the date of the event, if required)

**TABLE 1:** One highlight will be a special display by Phil James of the Dorset Geologist's Association Group and the Southampton Mineral and Fossil Society. Phil has been collecting fossil corals for over 50 years. The photo shows a major display of over 70 specimens put on at the London "Festival of Geology" in November 2023. A smaller display in table top cases and a few larger specimens will be on show at this year's Dorset Geologists "GEOFEST" in Dorchester on 26th October.



**TABLE 2:** Ammonites plus extravaganza! Andy Steadman & Jackie Steadman. Good selection of various fossils from the Inferior Oolite of Middle Jurassic age (163-174 million year old). Plus some neat small models of what the living creatures may have looked like in colour! Photo from 2023 DGAG workshop.



**TABLE 3:** Igneous Rocks (University/ school teaching set). Giles Droop (In 2023 had a really neat set covering various igneous type rocks, the olivine rich basalts were cool! Photo from 2023 DGAG workshop.



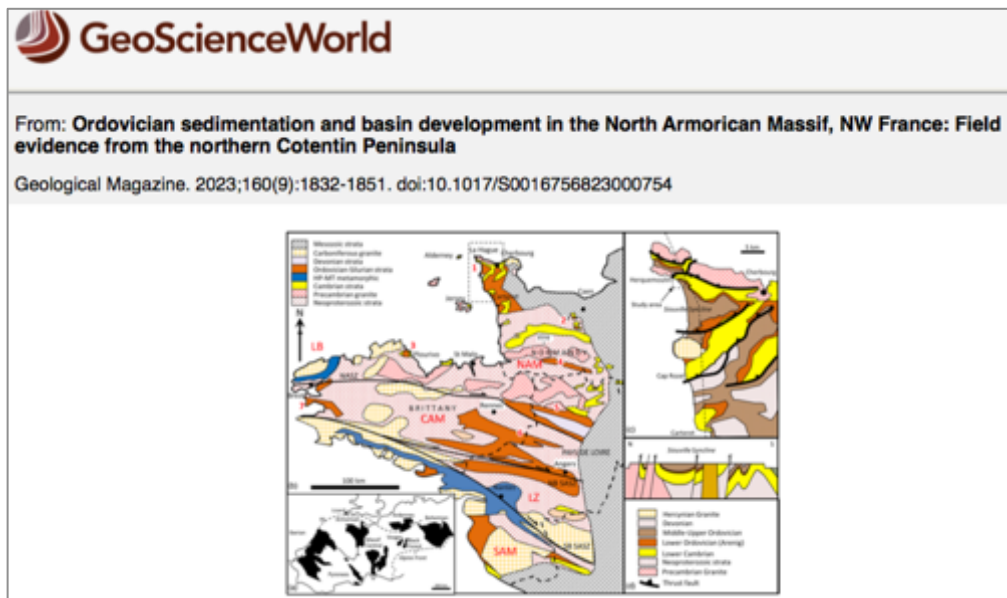
**Table 4:** Etches Collection Table: some leaflets and some selected fossils (Nick Nugent – Museum Education Coordinator from The Etches Collection: Museum of Jurassic Marine Life. Jurassic (Kimmeridge Clay) 148-157 million year old.



**Table 5:** Chris Webb and Jurassic age (Kimmeridge Clay (148-152 million years old) microfossils shown as images on posters, including additional display courtesy of Sheila Alderman/Jeremy Cranmer: Somerset stones that were donated at the OUGS 2024 symposium held in Bath (Photo)



**Table 6:** Wessex OUGS (Open University Geological Society). Bill Hinton. With small display of some interesting items from a four day field trip (Wessex OUGS) to Cap de la Hague on the Cotentin peninsula (Baie d'Ecalgrain) in Normandy. Including some enlarged photos of amphibolite gneiss of age approximately 2,000 million years old. These are from rock outcrops of Precambrian to Silurian age exposed within a huge syncline.



**Table 7:** Alan Driscoll: will be displaying a selection of fossils amassed over more than sixty years of collecting, selected to illustrate the fossil record from the late Precambrian (over 600 million years old) to Pleistocene (less than one million old). The fossils ranging in age from the late Precambrian (a stromatolite), taking in a range of fossils through the Palaeozoic, Mesozoic and Cenozoic up to the Pleistocene.

**Table 8 & 9:** Roger and Janet Brown For 2024: What promises to be a new (for DGAG) and sure to be a delightful outing of Folkestone area fossils mainly from the Gault Clay (Lower Cretaceous (Albian) 100-112 million years old).

In 2022: Impressive collection including a large slab with *Saccocoma pectinata* (Pelagic "Floating" Crinoids /Sea Lilies) from the Solnhofen Limestone of Bavaria. In 2023 some very nice Jurassic age fossil fish scales from Ringstead Bay, Dorset

**Table 10:** Richard Barrett (Selection of guide books, building stone guides, founded maps and micro-mount specimens)

**Table 11:** Alan Holiday (Posters, photos, maps for sale: DGAG, DIGS presentation boards and material)

Jonathan Stiby: (Assistance at all stalls)

**Table 12:** Geoff Rowland: A very interesting review of the Geology Ham Hill partly as a follow-up to the field trip on 19 October.

Stand will have a few hand specimens, leaflets and a rolling PowerPoint on a screen.

**Possible Contributors**

**Table 13:** Adrian Smith: In 2023 we had great display of well preserved Mollusca fossils from the Barton Group of Late Eocene age (~40 million years ago)

## References & Website links:

1. Dorset Geologists Association Group (DGAG) website

<https://dorsetgeologistsassociation.org/index.php/event/geofest-dorchester/>

DGAG Facebook group : <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1706340262955772>

2. International Geodiversity Day website (#GeodiversityDay)

<https://www.geodiversityday.org/#:~:text=OCTOBER%206,the%20many%20aspects%20of%20geodiversity.>

3. Earth Science week website

<https://www.geolsoc.org.uk/ESW24>



# Location Map

DGAG GEOFEST – United Church Main Hall, Dorchester – venue entrances & parking

