



## INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTER 11: JANUARY 1996

The purpose of these *International Newsletters* is to communicate news about activities in structural geology and tectonics from all over the world, and to provide a mouthpiece for the *International Association of Structural/Tectonic Geologists* (IASTG), as below. Readers of the *Journal of Structural Geology* are encouraged to copy newsletters to interested colleagues, so that we can achieve a good world-wide circulation of news about the IASTG, and about international activities in structural geology and tectonics. The *International Newsletter* is now also accessible on the *World Wide Web (WWW)* through the *IASTG Homepage*: <http://info.mcc.ac.uk/Geology/IASTG>.

The *International Newsletter* is open to contributions from everyone, and is currently twice-yearly. It provides conference organisers with a world-wide means of communicating their 'first circulars', provides regular 'slots' for national groups to report their activities (past and future), and can give reports or short notices of various kinds. However, direct advertisements of services or items for sale, with prices, are not accepted. Information, articles and suggestions can be submitted at any time, and secretaries of national structural/tectonic groups are urged to send information on a regular basis. Conference organizers should send their notices as early as possible, and include the abstract deadline date, to be of most use around the world.

*Newsletter* 11 provides a summary report on the IASTG, with information for new members, and is followed by the calendar of international meetings and regional/national activities. Meetings reported in detail in the previous newsletter (*Newsletter* 10; *Journal of Structural Geology* Vol. 17 No. 7, 1995) are advertised in shortened format. The final section gives brief information and contact addresses for the many and various regional structural and tectonic groups, in alphabetical order of country.

### INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STRUCTURAL/TECTONIC GEOLOGISTS (IASTG)

#### Background and update

The 'International Association of Structural/Tectonic Geologists' (IASTG) has now reached its fifth birthday, and enrolments are 1080+. Launched in November 1990 from an article in the *Journal of Structural Geology* (Vol. 12 No. 8, 1990) by S.H. Treagus, and with the support of an international backing committee, the IASTG's purpose was/is to encourage international communication among structural and tectonic geologists. Membership is open, without subscription.

Communication among IASTG members is achieved in two ways. (1) *International Newsletters* published in the *Journal of Structural Geology*, approximately twice-yearly, bring together progress reports on the IASTG, news of meetings around the world, and short submitted items. (2) A *Membership Directory* in booklet form is provided for members, giving names, phone/fax/addresses, and research interests of all members. This

puts individuals in touch with others in the same research field, or region. IASTG Directory Edition 2 was mailed in April 1995 to newly enrolled members and those who confirmed their membership in 1994/5.

The IASTG was affiliated to the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) in August 1992. The IASTG currently works in collaboration with national structural/tectonic groups in the U.K., Japan, Australia, Canada, U.S.A., South Africa, Argentina, India and Portugal. Running costs of the IASTG have, to date, been covered by sponsorship and donations from companies, regional structural/tectonic groups and many individuals. Continued contributions to the 'IASTG Fund' via S.H. Treagus, to support future activities and secretarial costs, are welcome.

There is now an 'IASTG Homepage' on the *WWW*, giving a résumé of the Association and providing access to current *International Newsletters*. The URL for the IASTG is <http://info.mcc.ac.uk/Geology/IASTG>.

#### New members

People interested in joining the IASTG, who have not already done so, can complete a membership form, copied from *International Newsletter* 5 (*Journal of Structural Geology* Vol. 15 No. 1, 1993) or obtained from the IASTG Coordinator (details at end of this section). Alternatively, IASTG membership details can now be sent by email: send your names, title, address, telephone, fax and email numbers, and a short (<20 words) description of research interests, to the address, [iastg@man.ac.uk](mailto:iastg@man.ac.uk)

With enrolment, new members receive an offer to subscribe to the *Journal of Structural Geology* at a personal member rate.

*IASTG Coordinator*: Susan H. Treagus, Department of Earth Sciences, Manchester University, Manchester M13 9PL, U.K. Fax: 44 161 275 3947; e-mail: [iastg@man.ac.uk](mailto:iastg@man.ac.uk).

*IASTG Committee*: P. Bankwitz (Germany), K. Birkenmajer (Poland), J.-L. Bouchez (France), J.-P. Burg (Switzerland), R. Butler (U.K.), S. Cloetingh (The Netherlands), S.F. Cox (Australia), G.A. Davis (U.S.A.), S.K. Ghosh (India), P.L. Hancock (U.K.), V. Kale (India), A.K. Khudoley (Russia), X. Ma (China), S. McCourt (South Africa), W.D. Means (U.S.A.), D. Plasienska (Slovakia), R.A. Price (Canada), J. Selles-Martinez (Argentina), T. Shimamoto (Japan), J. Tullis (U.S.A.), T. Uemura (Japan), E. Wallbrecher (Austria), K. Weber (Germany), P.F. Williams (Canada).

### INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

#### Tectonic, Magmatic and Depositional Processes at Passive Continental Margins

20–22 February 1996; Burlington House, London, U.K.

This joint meeting of the Tectonic Studies Group and the Petroleum Group of the (British) Geological Society,

the Norwegian Geological Society and the Norwegian Petroleum Society will be held at the Geological Society, London. This 3-day meeting will provide a forum for discussion of the tectonic, magmatic and depositional processes responsible for the formation of passive continental margins, and their resulting structure and stratigraphy.

*Contact:* N. Kuszniir, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Liverpool, Liverpool L679 3BX, U.K.

### **International Conference on Environmental Geology and Land-Use Planning**

*24–27 April 1996; Granada, Spain*

This international conference doubles as the 6th Spanish Congress of the Spanish Society of Environmental Geology and Land-Use Planning (SEGAOT), and will be held in the Congress and Exhibitions Centre of Granada. The topics will include natural hazards, global changes, natural resources and regional environments.

*Information:* Clemente Iligaray Fernández, Dpto de Ingeniería Civil, Fac. de Ciencias, Universidad de Granada, Spain. Fax: 34 58 243367; e-mail: jchacon@ugr.es.

### **30th International Geological Congress**

*4–14 August 1996; Beijing, China*

The 30th IGC will focus on continental geology, with emphasis on continent-related tectonics and structures, energy and mineral resources, environmental protection, and geological hazards reduction. The scientific programme will comprise colloquia, special symposia, symposia, poster sessions, short courses and workshop. The eleven subjects chosen for Special Symposia include origin and history of the earth, structure of the lithosphere and deep processes, contemporary lithosphere motion, global tectonic zones, orogenic belts, and basin analysis. Progress of international geoscience projects (e.g. ILP, ODP, IGCP) will be reported. A comprehensive range of field trips is available.

*Third Circular:* March 1996.

*Information:* 30th International Geological Congress, P.O. Box 823, Beijing 100037, China.

### **Structure and Properties of High Strain Zones in Rocks**

*3–7 September 1996; Verbania, Italy*

From the scale of plate tectonics to small-scale structures observable in the field, the localization of strain into narrow planar zones is a process of special geodynamic and petrologic significance. Such high strain zones are often characterized by particular microstructural and paragenetic evolutions, which are likely to be reflected in their physical properties. High strain zones can focus the large-scale transport of volatiles, which give these zones importance beyond the scope of tectonics. In the exploration of the lower crust by deep seismic sounding and other techniques, the problems of identification of high strain zones have attracted particular attention. It seems timely, therefore, to bring together scientists working on all aspects of high strain zones, from the geological and geophysical communities.

This international conference is convened by E.H. Rutter and K.H. Brodie (University of Manchester, U.K.) and A. Boriani and L. Burlini (University of Milan, Italy). It will be held at the Hotel Castagnola, in the scenic Alpine town of Verbania, on the shores of Lake Maggiore. This venue

is located within the Ivrea–Verbano and Serie dei Laghi terranes (lower–mid crust), with easy access to the Pennine Alps. Two days of post-conference field trips will be scheduled in these areas. The scientific sessions will involve both oral and poster presentations, and each thematic session will begin with a keynote contribution. Contributions are welcome on a wide range of topics concerning high strain zones.

*Second circular:* February 1996.

*Abstract deadline:* 1 April 1996.

*Information:* L. Burlini, Centro di Studio Geodinamica, CNR Milano, via Botticelli, 23 – 20133 Milano, Italy. Fax: 39 2 70638681; e-mail: Burlo@R10.terra.unimi.it.

### **3rd International Symposium of Andean Geodynamics (ISAG 96)**

*17–19 September 1996; St Malo, France*

This 3rd Symposium on Andean Geodynamics follows the 2nd ISAG at Oxford (1993), by providing a forum for geoscientists to present and discuss recent work on the Andes from Venezuela to southern Chile. It is organized by the Institut Français de Recherche Scientifique pour le Développement en Coopération (ORSTOM, Paris) and by Géosciences, CNRS, University of Rennes. It will be held in the beautiful historical city of St Malo on the north Brittany coast.

Contributions are sought from earth scientists interested in Andean geodynamics and the crustal structure of the Andes. Any aspect of regional geological and geophysical studies are welcome. The official languages will be French, English and Spanish.

*Abstract deadline:* 1 April 1996.

*Information:* D. Gapais and P. Roperch, ISAG 96, Géosciences Rennes, Université de Rennes 1, 35042 Rennes Cedex, France. Fax: 33 99 28 61 00; e-mail: isag96@seth.univ-rennes1.fr.

### **Continental Transpressional and Transtensional Tectonics**

*5–6 March 1997; London, U.K.*

Many present-day and ancient continental deformation systems appear to have formed by oblique relative plate motions, with deformation partitioned into systems of strike-slip and dip-slip displacements. This meeting, convened by Bob Holdsworth, John Dewey and Rob Strachan, at the Geological Society, Burlington House, London, will act as an international forum for the discussion of recent advances in understanding transpression and transtension zones in both ancient and modern continental settings. It is hoped that a thematic set of papers will be published, arising from the meeting.

*Abstract deadline:* 30 September 1996.

*Papers:* 6 March 1997.

*Contact:* R. Holdsworth, Department of Geological Sciences, University of Durham, Durham DH1 3LE, U.K. Fax: 0191 374 2510; e-mail: R.E.Holdsworth@durham.ac.uk

## **CANADA**

### **GAC–MAC Annual Meeting, Winnipeg '96**

*27–29 May 1996; Manitoba, Winnipeg*

The University of Manitoba Fort Garry campus is the setting for the 1996 joint Geological Association of Canada and Mineral Association of Canada meeting, hosted by the Department of Geological Sciences and the

Manitoba Department of Energy and Mines. Scientists from all over the world are welcomed. A wide variety of symposia are on offer in the 3-day technical programme, complemented by short courses and pre- and post-conference field trips. The GAC Structural Geology Division is convening a symposium on 'Reactivated basement structures: recognition, dating and significance', which will examine long-lived structures and their identification.

*Contact:* L. Ayres, Department of Geological Sciences, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3T 2N2. Fax: 204 261 7581; e-mail: ld\_ayres@umanitoba.ca.

### TSG MEETINGS, BRITAIN

#### The Role of Basement Reactivation in Continental Deformation

6–7 March 1996; *Burlington House, London*

Pre-existing heterogeneities and the reactivation of basement faults and shear zones are thought to influence the large-scale deformational response in overlying continental lithosphere, but understanding of these processes is incomplete. This meeting, convened by Rob Butler and Geoff Lloyd, aims to bring together fault-zone rheologists, field-based structural geologists and geophysicists, so that theoretical predictions and real examples can be compared and assessed.

*Abstract deadline:* 15 October 1995.

*Contact:* R. Butler/G.E. Lloyd, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT. E-mail: tsg@earth.leeds.ac.uk.

#### Forced (Drape) Folds and Associated Fractures

11–12 May 1996; *Burlington House, London*

A forced or drape fold is a structure whose overall geometry and dimensions are controlled by those of a forcing member underneath, e.g. basement block faulting, igneous intrusion, pre-existing topography in a sedimentary basin. This meeting, convened by J. Cosgrove and M.S. Ameen, to take place at the Geological Society, aims to discuss mechanisms of forced folding, associated stress/strain patterns, fracture characterization and macroscopic fault patterns.

*Contact:* J. Cosgrove, Geology Department of Imperial College, London SW7 2BP. Fax: 0171 5898544; e-mail: dsorg@ic.ac.uk.

#### Faulting, Fault Sealing and Fluid Flow in Hydrocarbon Reservoirs

23–25 September 1996; *University of Leeds*

This 3-day conference with the Petroleum Group aims to highlight recent progress in understanding of faulting and fault-related processes, and to assess the impact of faults on fluid flow in hydrocarbon reservoirs.

*Abstract deadline:* 15 May 1996.

*Contact:* Greg Jones, Rock Deformation Research Group, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT. Fax: 0113 2335208.

#### Continental Transpressional and Transtensional Tectonics

5–6 March 1997; *London, U.K.*

See International Meetings section.

### SG&T DIVISION, GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

A report on the Structural Geology and Tectonic Division business arising from the November 1995 GSA Annual Meeting in New Orleans will appear in the next *Newsletter*.

#### GSA Annual Meeting, 1996

28–31 October 1996; *Denver, Colorado*

The theme of the next Annual Meeting is 'Earth System Summit', to emphasize that the Earth is a complete system whose processes are complexly interrelated on a variety of scales. There will be special emphasis on the Rocky Mountain, High Plains and Western Interior regions, with some symposia integrated with field trips.

*Further information:* The Meetings Department, GSA, PO Box 9140, Boulder, CO 80301, U.S.A. E-mail: mball@geosociety.org.

#### Active Tectonics Initiative

The SG&T Division has an 'Active Tectonics Initiative' Mosaic home page on the WWW. The address is: <http://www.muohio.edu/tectonics/activetectonics.html>.

### SGTSG, AUSTRALIA

#### Report on Clare Valley Field Conference

The Specialist Group in Tectonics and Structural Geology of the Geological Society of Australia held its recent conference from 25–29 September 1995, in Clare Valley, South Australia. The organizing committee were Ron Vernon (Chair), June Hill (Editor), Nick Cook (Secretary) and Scott Johnson (Treasurer), from Macquarie University, Sydney, with help from Brian Marshall, Paul Lennox, Dick Glen and Colin Wilkins. The conference attracted 150 participants, an unusually large number of whom were from overseas.

The fun began two days early for the 40 people on the pre-conference field trip through the Mount Lofty Ranges. This trip, run in conjunction with the Specialist group in Geochemistry, Mineralogy and Petrology, was led by Mike Sandiford, Thomas Flöttman and Nick Oliver. The conference itself consisted of 4 days of sessions, with a mid-conference field trip to the Mintaro Slate Quarry and a famous old winery for lunch. Dinners and poster sessions were held in the cask room of another winery, which turned out to be a successful arrangement.

One of the highlights of the conference was the initiation of a Bruce Hobbs Medal (to mark his 60th birthday) for excellent contributions to structural geology. The first medal was awarded to Mike Etheridge for his important and lasting contributions. Ron Vernon ran the presentation ceremony, which included 'historical' slides focussing on Bruce Hobbs, with a commentary which had the audience laughing much of the time. Most of the people who had influenced or worked with Bruce were featured, from Bruno Sander to recent colleagues, and the famous partners, Win Means and Paul Williams, were both present.

After the conference, another 40 people spent 2 days on a post-conference field trip examining relationships between deformation, granite magmatism, low-pressure metamorphism and partial melting, in the Proterozoic Olary Block. This trip was led by Nick Cook, June Hill and Scott Johnson.

*Scott Johnson, School of Earth Sciences, Macquarie University, Australia.*

## ANNOUNCEMENT

Dave Johnston, Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland

On Monday, 2 October 1995, Dave Johnston was working on a wavecut platform at Annagh Head in NW Mayo, Ireland. It appears that he was washed off by a wave, whilst making observations on the gneisses there. His body remains missing. Dave will be remembered as an accomplished structural geologist with particular interests in Caledonian tectonics and mineral exploration. He will also be remembered by all who knew him as a warm, caring individual who had a great appetite for life, and a love for geology in all its forms.

*Ken McCaffrey, School of Earth Science,  
Kingston University, U.K.  
30 October 1995*

## INFORMATION: NATIONAL AND REGIONAL STUDY GROUPS

### Argentina

The Asociación Geológica Argentina has recently organized a Tectonic Commission, consisting of President, V. Ramos, Secretary, J.M. Cortez, and a 19-member Committee. The contact person for the IASTG, as before, is J. Selles Martinez, Dpto de Geología, Universidad de Buenos Aires, 1428 Buenos Aires, Argentina. Fax: 54 1 781 1253.

### Australia

The Specialist Group in Tectonics and Structural Geology (SGTSG) of the Geological Society of Australia holds field conferences at different venues in Australia, every 2 or 3 years. At each conference, a new committee is set up to run the SGTSG and organize the next conference. At the recent Clare Valley Meeting (reported earlier), it was determined that the next organizing committee would comprise members of the Victorian Institute of Earth and Planetary Sciences, chaired by G. Lister of Monash University. The next SGTSG field conference is likely to be held during 1998. Contact: G. Lister, VIEPS, Monash University, Clayton, Victoria 3168, Australia. Fax: 61 390 55062; e-mail: gordon@artemis.earth.monash.edu.au.

### Britain (U.K.)

The Tectonic Studies Group of Britain is an informal study group affiliated to the Geological Society of London. Its Annual General Meeting, held in December, is open to all interested participants, and particularly encourages contributions from research students. The AGM is at a different university location each year, and the TSG also sponsors thematic meetings at other times, and combined meetings with other specialist groups.

For information on meetings, see earlier section. For full information, consult *Geoscientist* (*Geol. Soc. London Newsletter*), or contact R.E. Holdsworth, TSG Secretary, Department of Geological Sciences, University of Durham, Durham DH1 3LE, U.K. Fax: 091 374 2510; e-mail: R.E.Holdsworth@durham.ac.uk.

### Canada

The Structural Geology and Tectonics Division of the Geological Association of Canada (GAC) sponsors special

sessions at the annual GAC meeting in May, and publishes its news in a newsletter called *The Main Thrust*. The Canadian Tectonics Group (CTG) is an informal group, allied to the GAC SG&T Division, and meets annually in October. For further information, contact K. Benn, Division Secretary, Department of Geology, University of Ottawa, 161 Louis Pasteur, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 6N5, Canada. Fax: 613 564 9916; e-mail: kbenn@acadvm1.uot-tawa.ca.

### France

For information on structural and tectonic activities in France, contact J.-L. Bouchez, CNRS URA067, Laboratoire de Petrophysique et Tectonophysique, Université Paul Sabatier, 38 rue des 36-Ponts, 31400 Toulouse Cedex, France.

### Germany and German-speaking countries

The TSK is a study group for tectonics, structural and crystalline geology, in the German-speaking countries of Europe. It meets every two years, to provide opportunities for structural geologists to present and discuss their research. Information from K. Weber, Institut fuer Geologie und Dynamik der Lithosphaere, Universitaet Goettingen, Golschmidstr. 3, D-37077 Goettingen, Germany. Fax: 49 551 39 9700.

### India

An Indian Tectonic Studies Group (ITSG) was initiated in October 1993, to be informal with no subscription and financial commitments. The Chairman is S.K. Ghosh (Jadavpur), and Secretaries are K. Naha (Kharagpur) and D. Mukhopadhyay (Calcutta). Contact K. Naha, Department of Geology and Geophysics, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur 721302, West Bengal, India.

### New Zealand

The Tectonic Studies Group (TSG) of the Geological Society of New Zealand promotes communication between structural and tectonic geologists who are conducting research in New Zealand. Information is exchanged in a biannual newsletter, and meetings are yearly at conferences of the Geological Society of New Zealand. TSG NZ periodically sponsors workshops on special topics. Contact T. Little (newsletter editor), Geology Department, Victoria University of Wellington, P.O. Box 600, New Zealand. Fax: 64 4 495 5186.

### Norway

The Tectonics and Structural Geology Studies Group of the Norwegian Geological Society (TSGS) arranges annual meetings, focussing on topics of interest to both university and industry geologists, with onshore as well as offshore applications. For information on TSGS activities, contact A.G. Koestler (Chairman), Geo-Recon A.S., Bernhard Herresvei 3, N-0376, Oslo, Norway. Fax: 22 83 85 29.

### Portugal

The Grupo de Geologia Estrutural e Tectónica (GGET) was established in April 1994, as a structural geology and tectonics specialist group of the Geological Society of

Portugal. For information contact R.M.S. Dias, GGET Secretary, Dep. Geologia, Fac. Ciencias, Bloco C2, 5 Piso Campo Grande, 1700 Lisbon, Portugal. Fax: 351 01 7597716.

#### Russia

For general information on activities in Russia, contact A.K. Khudoley, All-Russian Geological Research Institute (VSEGEI), 199026, St Petersburg, Sredny Pr. 74, Russia. E-mail: vsg@sovam.com.

#### Slovakia

The Structural Geology Group of the Slovak Geological Society organizes annual meetings and excursions, and aims to coordinate structural and tectonic research in the Western Carpathians and in Slovakia. International communication and cooperation are welcomed. Contact O. Samuel or D. Plasienska, 817 04 Bratislava, Mlynska Dolina 1, Czechoslovakia.

#### South Africa

The Tectonic Division of Geological Society of South Africa (T'DOGS), has changed its base from the University of Pretoria to the University of Durban-Westville, due to the move of TDOGS Chairman, S. McCourt. Contact address: TDOGS, Department of Geology, University of Durban-Westville, Private Bag X54001, Durban 4000,

South Africa. Fax: 27 31 8202650; e-mail: smccourt@pixie.udw.ac.za

#### Spain

The Spanish Tectonic Studies Group of the Geological Society of Spain (Grupo de Tectonica de la Sociedad Geologica de Espana), has President, M.A. Diez Balda, and Secretary, G. Gutierrez-Alonso, based at the University of Salamanca. For information contact G. Gutierrez-Alonso, Grupo de Tectonica de la S.G.E., Departamento de Geologia, Universidad de Salamanca, 37008 Salamanca, Spain. Fax: 34 23 294514; e-mail: gabi@gugu.usal.es.

#### U.S.A.

The Structural Geology and Tectonics Division of the Geological Society of America elects a Chairman on an annual basis, and holds its annual business meeting at the GSA Annual Meeting in October. The 1995 Chairman is E. Beutner; the Secretary/Treasurer is A. Goldstein, Department of Geology, Colgate University, Hamilton, NY 13346, U.S.A. Fax: 315 824 7187; e-mail: agoldstein@center.colgate.edu.

For general news on the SG&T Division, consult the *Structural Geology and Tectonics Division Newsletter*, edited by G.A. Davis & S. Paterson, Department of Geological Sciences, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 90989-0740, U.S.A. Fax: 213 740 8801.

---

Thanks to all who have contributed information to this Newsletter.

Susan H. Treagus *Newsletter Editor*  
 Department of Earth Sciences  
 University of Manchester  
 Manchester M13 9PL, U.K.  
 Fax: 44 161 275 3947  
 E-mail: iastg@man.ac.uk