



Quaternary Research Association

CIRCULAR HIGHLIGHTS

JUNE 2022

1. QRA Executive Committee Nominations

Three members of the QRA Executive Committee will complete their terms of office in January 2023. The following positions will become vacant: **President, Publicity Officer and Ordinary Member**. The QRA Executive make the following nominations for these roles: Professor Jane Hart (President), Dr Jenni Sherriff (Publicity Officer) and Dr Katy Roucoux (Ordinary Member). Further nominations for **any** of these posts are invited from members and should reach the Secretary (secretary@qra.org.uk) by **Friday 26th August 2022**. Candidate nominations must be supported by two existing members of at least one year's standing. If further nominations are received the additional names will be published in the October 2022 Circular and if more than one person is nominated for each post a ballot will be arranged.

2. Call for Nominations for QRA Medals and Honorary Membership

The QRA sponsors several prizes in recognition of excellence in the field of Quaternary research. The **Lewis Penny Medal** is awarded to a young or new research worker who has made a significant contribution to our understanding of the Quaternary stratigraphy of the British Isles. Our senior award, the **James Croll Medal**, is awarded to a member of the QRA who has not only made an outstanding contribution to the field of Quaternary science, but whose work has also had a significant international impact. Nomination forms can be downloaded from the Awards webpage (qra.org.uk/prizes/); the deadline is **15 September 2022**.

Nominations for **Honorary Membership** will also be considered by the Executive Committee in the autumn. Honorary Membership of the QRA is bestowed on individuals who have given distinguished and career-long service to Quaternary science and/or effective contributions to the activities and development of the QRA itself, and who are on the cusp of professional retirement or who have recently retired. *Nominations are welcome from any QRA member, though we ask that the nominees are NOT informed that their names have been put forward: we want awards to be a pleasant surprise!* Please make suggestions to the President, Simon Lewis (president@qra.org.uk), the Secretary, Adrian Palmer (secretary@qra.org.uk) or the Awards Officer, Will Fletcher (awards@qra.org.uk). A current list of Honorary Members can be downloaded from the 'Grants & Prizes' area of the QRA website.

3. QRA Awards: qra.org.uk/grants-awards-prizes/

The next deadline for QRA Awards applications is **15 September 2022**. In this round we welcome applications for the following schemes: **New Research Workers Award (NRWA)**, **Postgraduate Quaternary Conference Fund (PQCF)**, **Quaternary Conference Fund (QCF)** and the **Quaternary Research Fund (QRF)**. Eligibility criteria and application procedures are detailed on the Awards webpages. Please also note that as part of the commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion, we are pleased to announce that from the September 2022 round applications to all of these funds can include caring costs (e.g. childcare, at home or in the field, care costs for an elderly or ill relative) in the application

budgets. The upper limit for these awards has been raised by £150 accordingly. *If you have any queries about the awards please contact the Awards Officer, Will Fletcher (awards@qra.org.uk).* For details of the QRA's **Geoconservation Award** see Section 6 below.

4. QRA Outreach: Undergraduate Dissertation Prize: qra.org.uk/prizes/

The QRA, in association with the RGS-IBG, would like to recognise the achievements of undergraduates in Quaternary science by awarding the QRA Undergraduate Dissertation Prize (£250) for a thesis demonstrating flair and originality. This prize is open to any undergraduate enrolled at a British or Irish university; membership of the QRA or RGS-IBG is not a requirement for entry. The submission deadline is **15th September 2022**; further details can be found on the QRA website (qra.org.uk/prizes/). The winner will be announced at the AGM in January 2023 and the abstract of their dissertation published in an issue of *Quaternary Newsletter*.

5. QRA Outreach Fund: qra.org.uk/outreach/

The QRA encourages its members and others to promote and foster engagement between Quaternary Science and a wide and diverse audience. In support, we operate an **Outreach Fund** from which grants of up to £1000 are awarded. Larger requests may also be considered. *We would welcome applications that will aid delivery of virtual fieldwork or laboratory-based activities with a view to improving accessibility and/or bring Quaternary science to a broader audience.* For more details, please contact the Outreach Officer, James Lea (outreach@qra.org.uk). The next deadline is **1st September 2022**.

6. QRA Geoconservation Award: qra.org.uk/geoconservation/

QRA members and organisations who promote and deliver the conservation of our Quaternary geoheritage are invited to apply for the **QRA Geoconservation Award**. Grants will normally be up to £1000, although larger requests will be considered. Awards are open to individuals and organisations to deliver conservation projects, activities and organise conservation themed events, as well as share good practice on Quaternary geoconservation. Please contact the Conservation Officer, Michael Dempster (conservation@qra.org.uk) for details. The next deadline is **1st September 2022**.

7. Calendar of QRA Meetings: qra.org.uk/meetings

Further details of forthcoming meetings are available from the QRA website.

Sept. 2022 27th QRA Postgraduate Symposium

Location: Sheffield Hallam University

Contact: Sarah Walton and Gwyn Rivers (Sarah.Walton2@student.shu.ac.uk)

Details: 2nd & 8th September 2022

This meeting will be hosted online on two days in consecutive weeks, with a poster competition and two keynote speakers.

Oct. 2022 GLWG and QRA Engineering Group field training course in sedimentology, engineering geology and geohazard significance of glacial and periglacial sediments

Location: The Conway Centre, Anglesey, Wales.

Contact: D. Evans, P. Fish, J. Murton, S. Price (Paul.Fish@Jacobs.com)

Details: 27th to 30th October 2022

Registration is now open – a link is available via the QRA website for further details.

Annual Discussion Meeting 2023:

Jan 2023 Applications of Quaternary Geoscience to Engineering: process, properties and behaviour.

Location: Burlington House, Geol. Soc.

Details: 5th - 7th January 2023

Contact: P. Fish, J. Davis, R. Briant, S. Price, J. Murton, C. Mellett
(Paul.Fish@Jacobs.com)

This is joint meeting with the Engineering Group of the Geological Society and invites participants from both academia and industry.

Field meeting:

May 2023 QRA Field Meeting; The Quaternary of Wester Ross: glacier dynamics and post-LGM evolution of glaciated mountainous terrain

Location: Kinlochlewe.

Leaders: Colin Ballantyne and Doug Benn

Details: May 2023

Contact: Colin Ballantyne (ckb@st-andrews.ac.uk)

If you have any suggestions for meetings, workshops, or other activities - particularly events that can be hosted online, or in compliance with social distancing regulations - please contact the Meetings Officer, Emrys Phillips (meetings@qra.org.uk) or the Secretary, Adrian Palmer (secretary@qra.ac.uk) - ***we would be delighted to hear from you!***

This flier identifies key upcoming activities within the QRA. Further details can be found on the QRA website. For any enquiries regarding QRA activities please consult qra.org.uk or contact the Honorary Secretary: Adrian Palmer (secretary@qra.org.uk).