



23rd February 2024 | Issue 23

Aaand we're back! We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday break and a fantastic New Year. Exciting things have been happening around the department, including some fresh publications, conferences, and a few adventures!

We're looking forward to seeing what everyone gets up to this year and can't wait to hear all about it. See you again next month!

The G(e)ossip will be released every month. Past issues are archived and uploaded on the Geology website which you can access here.

If you have feedback or anything to be added to upcoming newsletter issues, please send us an email at geossip.tcd@gmail.com.

-The G(e)ossip Team

DEPARTMENT NEWS

This January, we said goodbye to **Sarah Guerin** after 7.5 years! While she isn't moving too far, our department will certainly feel emptier without her! It's hard to express everything Sarah has done for the department during her time with us – she's truly been such a delight and will be sorely missed. We wish you the best of luck with your new ventures in the School of Law!



COMMUNITY



As a member of the **Trinity community**, you have the right to study or work in an environment that is **free from bullying, harassment, and sexual misconduct**. [Speak Out](#) provides the opportunity for you to make the University aware of incidents that you have either experienced or witnessed by reporting them anonymously.

GEOLOGICAL MUSEUM SPECIMEN OF THE MONTH

The specimen of the month is...**TCD.2516!**

This trilobite specimen was selected by **Kate Corry** who helped with digitising! This specimen comes from an area of the Czech Republic (Bohemia) famous for its diversity of trilobites. In fact, the town of Jince even includes a trilobite in their coat of arms. This species lived in relatively deep water and is secondarily blind, which means it came from a group which had eyes, and subsequently lost them. Thanks for picking out such a wonderful specimen, Kate!

TCD.2516
Conocoryphe sulzeri (Trilobite)
Cambrian, Jince, Czechia



TCD Geological Museum



1 cm

COMMUNICATION

Quentin Crowley and **Subhash Chandra** are running a pilot community-based education programme in the Midlands of Ireland. This is taking place as part of the IKC3 project, funded by the Higher Education Authority (Human Capital Initiative, Pillar 3). Quentin and Subhash have co-created the pilot programme with Laoise County Council. Together they have recruited around 50 local participants who are guided through three distinct learning phases to develop group projects focussed on decarbonising the Irish Midlands.



WELLBEING

The [Silver Cloud programme](#) provides a great online tool to help you improve and maintain your wellbeing by addressing issues that can have a negative impact on your life. The program is provided by Student Counselling and is available to everyone in the Trinity Community.

COMMUNICATION



Dublin Magmatism Group

at TCD bring together researchers from across different volcanology and magmatism research teams aiming to facilitate collaboration across different institutions invested in volcanological research across Dublin. There are now active social media channels on both Instagram and [X \(Twitter\)](#) please follow [@dublinmagma](#) for updates.

CONFERENCES – COP28

Quentin Crowley was one of two staff who represented Trinity College Dublin at COP28 in Dubai in December last year. Quentin gave an invited presentation highlighting the work underway in Ireland with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, and Climate-KIC. Two Trinity students also attended the COP, in their capacity representing other organisations.



COMMUNITY

The Book of Kells Experience has officially opened – and is conveniently located directly across from the Museum Building. If you look extra close, you may just see our very own **Blanka Kovács** lurking in some of the new digital exhibit!



CHORAL SOCIETY CONCERT

You are cordially invited to the Choral Society's Concert on **27-28th March** in the Exam Hall, where Brahms's Requiem and Mendelssohn's Christus will be performed. Departmental members **Dave Chew**, **Eimear Prendergast**, and **Blanka Kovács** are all part of the choir and would be delighted to welcome you to the Exam Hall for a nice evening of music. You can get your tickets through [this link](#).

Hope to see you there,
Choral Society

Wednesday, 27th of March

Thursday 28th of March

7:30 p.m.



UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN CHORAL SOCIETY PRESENTS

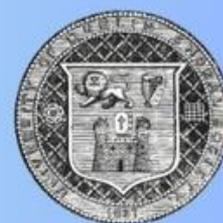


BRAHMS' REQUIEM & MENDELSSOHN'S CHRISTUS

Exam Hall TCD

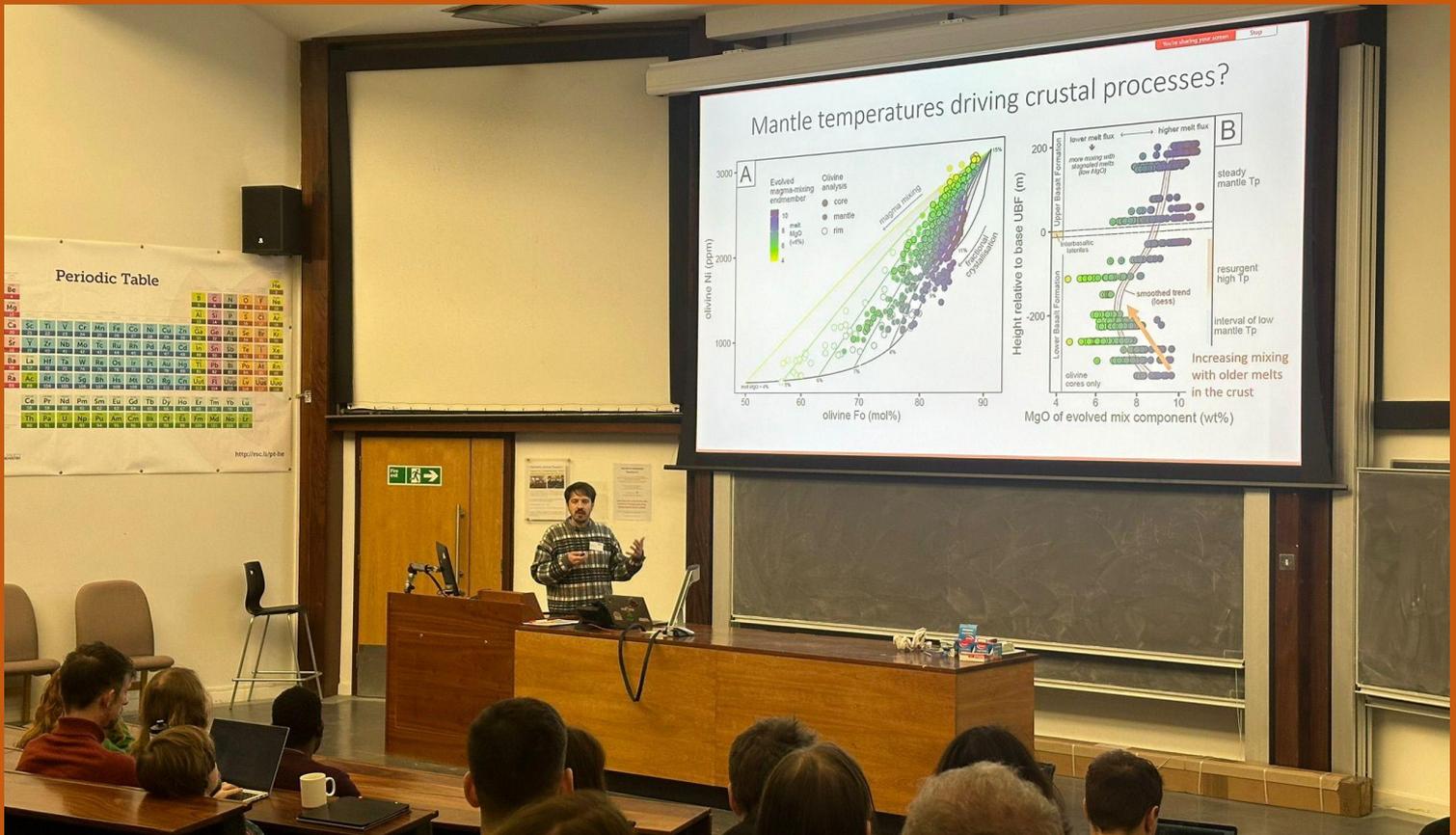
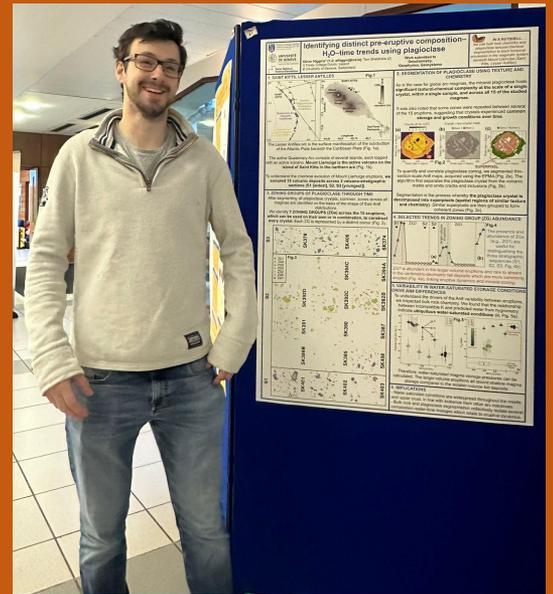
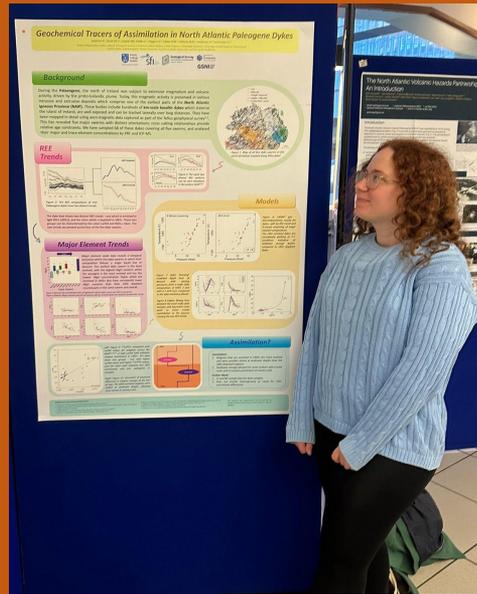
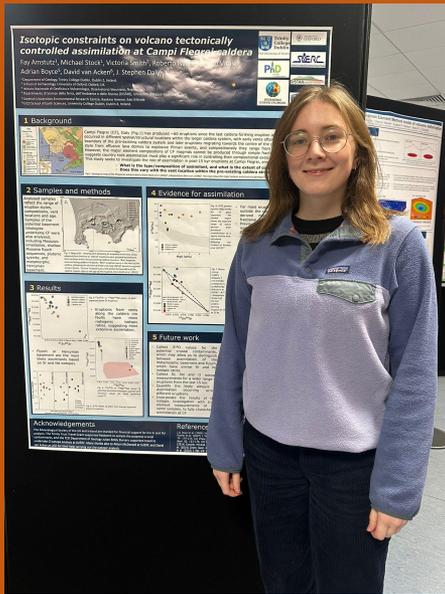
Tickets:

€5 student / €15 concession / €20 general



CONFERENCES - VMSG 2024

Fay Amstutz, Elliot Carter, Eshbal Geifman, Ollie Higgins, and Mike Stock attended VMSG 2024 early this January in Bristol to share their research and represent Trinity College Dublin as well as the Dublin Magmatism Group. Amazing work everyone!



UPCOMING CONFERENCES

- **IGRM 2024**, 67th Irish Geoscience Research Meeting (1-3 March, Galway)
- **Environ 2024**, 34th Irish Environmental Researchers Colloquium (25-27 March, Waterford)
- **Geographic Perspectives on Climate Change Mitigation in Urban and Rural Environments Conference 2024** (25-27 June, Italy)

FIELD TRIP

In January, **Emma Tomlinson**, **Zuko Qashani**, and **Gary O'Sullivan** travelled to Johannesburg and Cape Town to sample kimberlites. The purpose of the trip was to collect xenoliths and xenocrysts from the mantle carried in kimberlite diatremes – which we will use to constrain changes in the thickness of the Kaapvaal craton through Earth history. And to develop novel thermometers and barometers for the lithospheric mantle.



We were very warmly welcomed in the Geology Department at the University of Cape Town (UCT), and also at the scientific facilities in De Beers SA in Johannesburg. All in all, it was a very successful trip and we're looking forward to getting some results from our kimberlites!



COMMUNITY

This year's Christmas party was an absolute blast and we were so happy to see the big turn out! We all enjoyed mulled wine and a pub quiz before heading over to Lincoln's to finish out the night. Congratulations to the winners of the pub quiz, we hope you enjoyed your well earned drinks. And of course, thank you so much to everyone who attended! On a side note totally unrelated to the aforementioned pub quiz, we did learn that some of you might need to brush up on your geologic history...specifically the location of the Iapetus Suture...



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

EPOS-NL, the Dutch research infrastructure for solid Earth sciences offers [free-of-charge](#) access to top Earth scientific research labs in the Netherlands.

These labs offer capabilities for a.o. A) rock mechanics and fluid transport testing at crustal conditions, on samples ranging from mm to meter-scale, B) analogue modelling of tectonic processes, and C) a wide range X-ray tomography techniques, for 3D imaging down to sub-micrometer resolution. Access includes lab use, scientific support and financial support for travel, accommodation, or sample shipment.

[Apply now](#) – the call for (max 2-page) proposals is open from **1 February to 17 March**.



COMMUNITY

Eshbal Geifman, Blanka Kovács, Amanda Perera, Andrea Pierozzi, Eimear Prendergast, and Dani Vitarelli attended the annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony on campus and enjoyed some mulled wine and Christmas carols together!



MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

TCD's Student Counselling Services is open and available to all registered students.

Check out their website [here](#) to read about the services they provide, email them at student-counselling@tcd.ie to request an appointment, and follow them on Instagram at [@tcd_headspace](#) for mindfulness and mental health awareness tips. They now offer [PhD research support groups](#) to keep you on track!

COMMUNICATION

In December, **Erica Krueger** appeared on 10 Things to Know on RTE1 as one of two iCrag researchers to discuss cold water corals and her PhD research. Way to go, Erica!



PUBLICATIONS

Aghdam, M.M., **Crowley, Q.** Application of GIS and spatiotemporal analyses in viral infection modelling using multiple datasets—A case study on the SARS-CoV-2 epidemic, *Medicina de Familia. SEMERGEN*, 50 (4), 102159.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.semerg.2023.102159>

Bond, A.D., Dickson, A.J., **Ruhl, M.**, Bos, R., & van de Schootbrugge, B., Globally limited but severe shallow-shelf euxinia during the end-Triassic extinction. *Nat. Geosci.* (2023).

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41561-023-01303-2>

DaPelo, S., Aghdam, M., Dentoni, V., Loi, A., Randaccio, P., **Crowley, Q.** 2024. Assessment of natural radioactivity and radon release potential of Silurian black shales, *Radiation Physics and Chemistry*, 111347.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.radphyschem.2023.111347>

Kovács, E.B., Ruhl, M., Silva, R.L., McElwain, J.C., Reolid, M., Korte, C., Ruebsam, W. and Hesselbo, S.P., 2024. Mercury sequestration pathways under varying depositional conditions during Early Jurassic (Pliensbachian and Toarcian) Karoo-Ferrar volcanism. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*, 637: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.palaeo.2023.111977>

Wu, D., Li, S., Dias, A. N. C., & **Chew, D.** (2023). Coupling between exhumation and subduction: A case study from the southern Great Xing'an Range, NE Asia. *Geophysical Research Letters*, 50(24), <https://doi.org/10.1029/2023GL105321>

SAFETY AND ENERGY SAVING

Turn off the light!



Please make sure when you're leaving your office for the day to close the door properly, turn off all the lights and appliances. This includes the hallway lights as well.

POSTGRAD STUDENT SUPPORT

GRAD CHATS

FOR ALL POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS

To equip students with the skills to manage stress, work-life balance, increase self-care practices, communication and assertiveness skills, and look at how best to negotiate the supervisory relationship

Mondays from 2pm - 3:10pm in-person at the Student Counselling Service offices (3rd floor, 7-9 Leinster Street South, Dublin 2)

With: Tom Adams (SCS) and Martin McAndrew (Postgraduate Advisory Service)

Scan me to sign up 

Learn more on the PG Grad Chats [webpage](#) and pre-register [here](#).

COMMUNITY

Friday Beers bingo night was a hit! Congratulations to our bingo winners, **Anna Morrison** and **Dani Vitarelli**! Anna won half the entry pot and Dani won a framed picture of a gabbro.



COMMUNITY

Fay Amstutz, Eshbal Geifman, Blanka Kovács, Amanda Perera, Dani Vitarelli, and Lydia Whittaker attended ANNA at the Samuel Beckett Theatre here on campus and nearly claimed a whole row of seats to themselves.



CONFIDENTIAL HELPLINE

[NiteLine](#) is a non-profit, non-judgemental, non-directive, anonymous and confidential listening service run by students for students. Our service is completely free and open every night of term from 9pm to 2.30am through instant messaging and over the phone. We are run by a team of dedicated volunteer students who have undergone rigorous training with the intention of supporting our peers. Our motto is "no problem is too big or too small."

 **NiteLine**
Free
Anonymous
No problem too big or too small

Freephone: 1800 793 793
Instant messaging: niteline.ie
9pm - 2:30 am every night of term

STUDENT 2 STUDENT PEER SUPPORT

Student 2 Student Peer Support is back!

Thanks to the support of Trinity Trust, Student 2 Student is delighted to announce the return of our Peer Support Programme after 4 long years! **This is not the same as our Mentoring Programme.** S2S Mentors are student volunteers who offer group support to every incoming undergraduate student. Peer Supporters are student volunteers who provide **face-to-face, confidential listening and support to any TCD student** on request!

Peer Supporters have undergone over 35 hours of intensive training in active listening, emotional support and self-care. They are highly confidential, non-judgemental and are willing and ready to help! Students don't need to be in distress or crisis to talk to a Peer Supporter, but they can help with the larger problems as well as the smaller things.

[Request a Peer Supporter here!](#)

Please do not fill out a request on anyone else's behalf – but please do encourage any student you know who might need a listening ear to fill this link out themselves.

Peer Supporters aim to respond to requests within 48 hours (excluding weekends). They'll suggest a few possible times and organise an initial meeting. The new S2S space in [House 47](#) has a private room where students can meet for a chat, or Peer Supporters can arrange to go for a walk around campus or meet at a public spot nearby. Meetings can be once off, or as frequent as once a week.

You can find [more information about the Peer Support programme here](#) or email student2student@tcd.ie with any questions.

S2S  **Peer Support**

Student2Student

Over holiday break, **Kefan Su** attended the ANZIC masterclass in Brisbane, Australia.

From deep sea drilling to Mars rover designing, the ANZIC masterclass in Brisbane, Australia was an inspiring journey to marine science and edge-cutting techs. In the 10-day masterclass, we went through core cutting and logging, microfossil workshops, data analysis/visualization training, and many other activities at UQ and QUT. Later, field trips on North Stradbroke Island offered a closer look at the ecological and sedimentary systems on the margin of the Coral Sea. Also, we bumped into some iconic animals of Australia, definitely a unique experience! Snorkeling at Moreton Bay (top), and, if you look closely, a napping Koala (bottom).



CONTRIBUTIONS

We want to hear from you! Did we miss something? Have you got any news to share with the department? Any conferences, talks, publications or fieldwork you've been involved in?

Please let us know at geossip.tcd@gmail.com to be featured in the next newsletter. We would love to hear from you!

