

Alumni Day and Dinner returns after 3 year hiatus

The Department welcomed Alumni back through the doors on 14th May 2022 for the first Alumni Day since 2019. The programme gave Alumni the chance to hear from current staff and students, walk the halls once again, visit the library, the museum and choose from a number of tours.



Staff, students and Alumni settle into the Physiology lecture theatre for our opening talk.

Dr Sanne Cottaar's open talk was an overview of why we are interested in the core/mantle boundary and what seismology has seen so far. Unlike past years, when students presented on their mapping projects, the recent restrictions meant no mapping projects have been undertaken in the past year. However, we were fortunate to have two of our students, Imogen Shaw and Felix Davison, to speak about their research projects.



Iris describes the use of one of the analysis tools on in a tour of the Microanalysis Suite

Alumni then had a choice of tours – the Godwin Lab, the Microanalysis Suite and Nigel's building stones – or to see the Smiths Map in the library (along with archive facsimiles and a chance to reminisce over naps taken in years gone by), visit the Sedgwick Club photos or enjoy reconnecting with peers over refreshments or browsing the student posters on display in the Watson Gallery.



Alumni get up close and personal to analyse the stones used to build the stairway to the Sedgwick Museum

Our closing talk featured the newest display in the Museum – the Arthropleura fossil. Dr Will McMahon brought the discovery of the largest millipede fossil into sharp 3D.

The programme closed with drinks in the museum (an excellent opportunity to see the millipede in real life) and dinner at Downing College. The dinner gave us the opportunity to have Sedgwick Club members and all of our student speakers and volunteers mix with Alumni, share student experiences and also explore what their future in Earth Sciences might hold.



Guests enjoying the Dinner at Downing College

More photos from the day are [available on Flickr](#) and a slideshow of selected photos can be [viewed on YouTube](#).

Each year we strive to engage with all our Alumni with a particular focus on those graduating year groups who will be celebrating a special (ie 10th, 20th or even 50th) anniversary of their graduation from the Department. Welcoming you back to celebrate your time together as students or researchers is a key reason for running the Alumni Day and Dinner. Please get in touch if you would like help to gather your year group together.