



TEC - IN BRIEF

This Month

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Discoveries in Kimmeridge

Summer brings new challenges to the fold regarding palaeontology, working in the field here at Kimmeridge becomes less viable and less frequent. As such Steve hasn't collected anything new this month. However, he is still making discoveries through his preparation work. This month Steve has been in his workshop working on something a little different and exciting. He has built himself a new dust chamber and has put into action his new Iron Powder abrasive machine which he is using to prepare a find for a friend. A large slab of rock from the Lias which contains sea urchins but not just one or two but hundreds if not thousands. Each hour Steve spent preparing this specimen he has discovered several echinoids and starfish. As a result, adding more and more creatures to our visible gaze and allowing us to understand the extent of this mass mortality that has gathered in this ancient pool from the ocean floor 180 million years ago.



Welcome to the September edition of our newsletter

Dear Friends,

Digital and social media plays a huge role in what we do here at the museum. Naturally during the pandemic our digital social media platforms became our main channels of communication with our visitors, supporters and people looking for virtual activities to supplement educational materials and entertainment. Since January 2021, Ash Hall has taken up the digital mantle for the museum. Coordinating all in-house media productions and digital media marketing, including content production and outreach on social media as well as managing our digital subscription service and self-produced documentaries. He also accompanies Steve Etches on many of his endeavours, documenting these for future projects. So, if you have ever watched any of our YouTube videos or seen our social media posts you are 99% guaranteed that Ash has played a hand in bringing you that content. Ash brings a wide range of knowledge and experience in media production from his degree and previous employment and is applying this to newly developed contexts here at the museum. Ash describes his role best: "I try to bring our amazing museum to as many people as possible in an informative, educational, and enjoyable way. I create the digital world of The Etches Collection, my work is varied between lots of different things from social media, the website, YouTube, the online lectures, and our online subscription service 'Etches Online'. But it's not just our online content that I create, it's also our in-house media portfolio such as our welcome videos and print media too. My hope is also to reach as many global fossil enthusiasts as possible, and we are starting to achieve this."

Why not join us on Social Media





Message from Steve

It's hard to believe that we are in September already, but things are moving along well here at the museum. Just recently I have taken several people on personal tours of the museum, getting to do these small intimate tours is kind of nice for a number of reasons. We really get to know the people on the tour well and it ignites some incredible conversations. Getting to share my passion with others is nice, it puts things into perspective and really drives home our mission and ethos that encourages lifelong learning. In other news the Children's Fossil Competition ended on August 26th, all the entries were wonderful. I have thoroughly enjoyed looking through the videos, pictures, and descriptions with our team here at the museum, our youngest entrant is 5 years old, the same age as I was when I found my first fossil. The next stage in the competition is judging the entries, which will be interesting and fun. We have a broad range of judges on the panel, and we are ready and raring to go.



Save the Date

Our 6th anniversary is on the 21st October!

The Inaugural Children's Fossil Competition Update!

The Competition Team here at the museum, would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for taking part in the Inaugural Children's Fossil Competition. The competition has been an overwhelming success, and the quality of the entries was absolutely incredible. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful friends at PetroStrat for sponsoring the competition.

There will be 3 winners from each age range (5-10 years and 11-16 years). It is now up to the judges to decide on the 6 winners. All entrants will be informed of the results in due course. To keep up to date please visit our webpage: <https://www.theetchescollection.org/fossil-comp>

Pictured below is one of our entries.



Opportunities to Support the Museum

Etches Collection Friends Membership Package: Support us by subscribing to our Etches Annual 'Friends' Membership package of £49.99. To find out more about this exclusive opportunity and how to purchase, please speak to a member of our team

Etches Online: The Etches Collection Digital Subscription (Etches Online). Your chance to have exclusive virtual access to our amazing museum from wherever you are in the world. Support the museum 'virtually' for a monthly recurring subscription of only £4.99 per month or £54.99 for the full year. To find out more speak to our team or visit our website.

YouTube: You may or may not know that we have a very interesting and rapidly expanding YouTube channel that puts out videos every week. Our YouTube channel is a FREE resource to watch and subscribe to... It is well worth checking out, but don't forget to subscribe to the channel and like our content. This will help us grow our channel and develop new content.