



a recognised centre of geoscience excellence



GWL Cluster Meeting
Thursday 22nd February 2018 - 6:00 for 6:30pm

Modern seismic imaging of Zechstein deposits fringing the Mid North Sea High.

Presenter - Jim Henderson

The Abstract

Looking back to the start of exploration in the UK sector of the Southern North Sea in the early 1960s, by far the greatest share of attention has been devoted to the reservoirs of the Rotliegendes, Triassic and Carboniferous. From time to time, hydrocarbons have been found in the Zechstein but these encounters have been mostly regarded as a drilling hazard rather than as prospective targets. Their distribution has been patchy and somewhat unpredictable, and the nature of the reservoir and trapping mechanisms has been poorly understood.

Historically, seismic coverage over the southern margin of the Mid North Sea High has been entirely 2D, and it was not until 2010 that the first significant 3D survey was shot in this most northerly part of the Gas Basin. Through the acquisition of 3D seismic, much higher spatial sampling and improved seismic imaging has allowed Zechstein build ups to be mapped in detail for the first time.

This presentation will examine the seismic evidence for reefal buildups, particularly within the Hauptdolomit in the northern part of UKCS Quadrant 42. Regionally significant analogues will also be reviewed and the case made for a potentially important new reef play fairway within the Zechstein.

If it looks like a reef and quacks like a reef, then it might just be a reef!

The Speaker

Jim Henderson is a consultant geophysicist with nearly 40 years of experience in E&P geophysics. He is predominantly a seismic interpreter, working in exploration, development and production geophysics both internationally and within the UK. He has worked in a wide variety of geological provinces, mostly in Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

Jim's career commenced at GSI in 1978, working on seismic processing and interpretation projects from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. He joined Ranger Oil in 1986 and spent 12 years based in the UK and Angola working on projects in the North Sea, West Africa and Pakistan. Jim founded Trace Editors Limited in 1997, a consultancy specializing in seismic interpretation. In 2005, Jim was invited to join, as co-founder, Fairfield Energy where he worked as Principal Geophysicist with overall responsibility for geophysical activities. He returned to consulting with Trace Editors in 2011, and has subsequently worked for Sterling Resources, Europa Oil and Gas, Horizon Petroleum, Tethys Oil and most recently through GWL for MPCL on the Mari Gas Field in Pakistan.

Jim was 1st Vice President of the Petroleum Exploration Society of Great Britain (PESGB) from 2008 to 2010 and was awarded Honorary Membership in 2016. He graduated from the University of Aberdeen in 1978 with a BSc in geology. He also holds honorary positions at Imperial College and Durham University and is a member of the External Advisory Board for the Geophysics MSc at the University of Leeds.

Venue: It will be held at The Royal Cambrian Academy, Crown Lane, Conwy, LL32 8AN (located behind Plas Mawr) and will begin at 6:30pm promptly. Refreshments will be served from 6pm

For further information please contact us: on 01492 592425 or admin@geoscience.wales