



TEC - IN BRIEF

This Month

Discoveries in Kimmeridge | Message From Steve | Bay Tours are Back
Opportunities to Support the Museum

Discoveries in Kimmeridge

Throughout February collecting conditions haven't been the greatest. Kimmeridge is not the easiest place to find fossils in normal conditions, often due to the erosion rates being slow. With milder February weather there has been seaweed, algae or other sea plants obstructing the ledges. There is also a build-up of silt, shingle, and sand on the ledges where it has slowly washed down from the cliffs. This is obstructing the view of any fossils that may be there. It's interesting that once every 4 years or so, you will see a ledge completely clear of all debris and that's when it can get exciting. Last month's challenging environment did deliver some fossils, however they were few and far between. We added a few new finds that have been useful for our education programme too. These additions include a coprolite full of bones (see picture) and pieces of an ichthyosaur rib that can be shown to visiting school children and may be given as prizes for our 'design-o-saur' drawing competition during school visits.



Why not join us on Social Media



Welcome to the March edition of our newsletter

Dear Friends,

For this month's Meet the Team slot we are highlighting Catherine Smith who is one of our Front of House team members. Affectionately known as Cath to the museum family, she has worked as a member of the front of house team for 4 years now. When working Cath never stands still, she is constantly on the go. When she is not welcoming and looking after museum guests, she is pricing incoming stock, straightening up and re-stocking the displays, cleaning, and learning new skills. Cath is a very compassionate and kind person, who really looks after everyone here and cares deeply about the museum. Outside of work Cath is heavily involved with projects related to the environment, nature, and animals.

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01929 270000

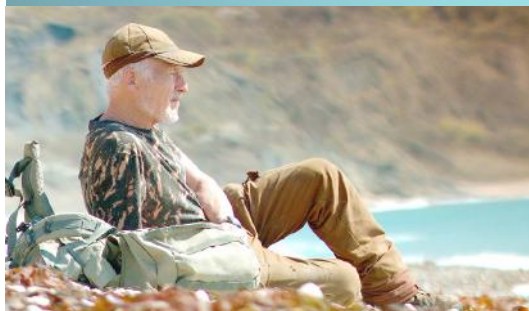


<https://www.theetchescollection.org/>



Message from Steve

On February 19th we held our first Kimmeridge Bay tour since 2019. I had forgotten how much I enjoyed doing them to be honest with you. It's always good to get down to the bay but doing it with a group of visitors is always special. The tours are a good mixture of geology, history, and of course fossil hunting. We had a wide variety of people from all different backgrounds and age ranges on the first tour, which was really nice. As a hands-on experience the bay tours are a very important part of the museum's core philosophy to educate, grow and support further knowledge and understanding of the prehistoric world. I'm really looking forward to carrying on with the tours over the next couple of months. I hope to see you on the next tour.



Check out our Online Shop!

The Etches Collection Online Shop has all your needs covered when it comes to all you geology, fossil and dinosaur needs. Discover something for all ages from fossils, clothing, toys and educational items.

Don't forget that if you become a friend of the museum you receive 15% off all shop purchases.

<https://www.theetchescollectionshop.org/>

Bay Tours are Back

The long awaited and much anticipated Kimmeridge Bay Tours are back on!

Join the world-renowned fossil collector and palaeontologist Dr. Steve Etches, MBE on a tour that will take you back 157 million years into the past, when Kimmeridge Bay was a tropical sea teeming with marine reptiles.

The tour of the bay usually takes around two hours, and you will need to purchase a ticket in advance. For more information please click [HERE](#). To purchase tickets on our online shop, click [HERE](#).

The next available date is:

March 25th, 2023 at 2:30pm – SOLD OUT!

April 23rd, 2023 at 2:30pm – Book your tickets now!

Volunteer Opportunities

Are you looking for a volunteer opportunity to help a small independent and modern museum with a whole host of fun, exciting and meaningful activities on day-to-day operations? Then why not become part of our team at The Etches Collection – Museum of Jurassic Marine Life? You don't have to be an expert in geology or palaeontology; just be passionate, supportive, reliable, fun, and enthusiastic about making the visitor experience as enjoyable as possible.

For more information, please email: Info@theetchescollection.org or call us on 01929 270000.

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.

Unique opportunities to help grow the imaginative, inquisitive, and wonderful minds of children: We welcome many school groups for educational visits each year, where children learn about geology and palaeontology. With a generous donation towards our education fund many more children could learn with us. The museum also hosts many wonderful activities throughout the year, such as the Children's Fossil Competition. We are continually looking for sponsorship opportunities and donations to promote earth sciences. For more information, please visit our website.