

Tools of the Trade¹

A display showcasing a selection of the Sedgwick Museum's unique historic collection of geological hammers.

Amongst these iconic 'tools of the trade' are hammers belonging to eminent 19th Century British geologists such as William Buckland and Adam Sedgwick, and more recent figures, such as Harry Whittington.

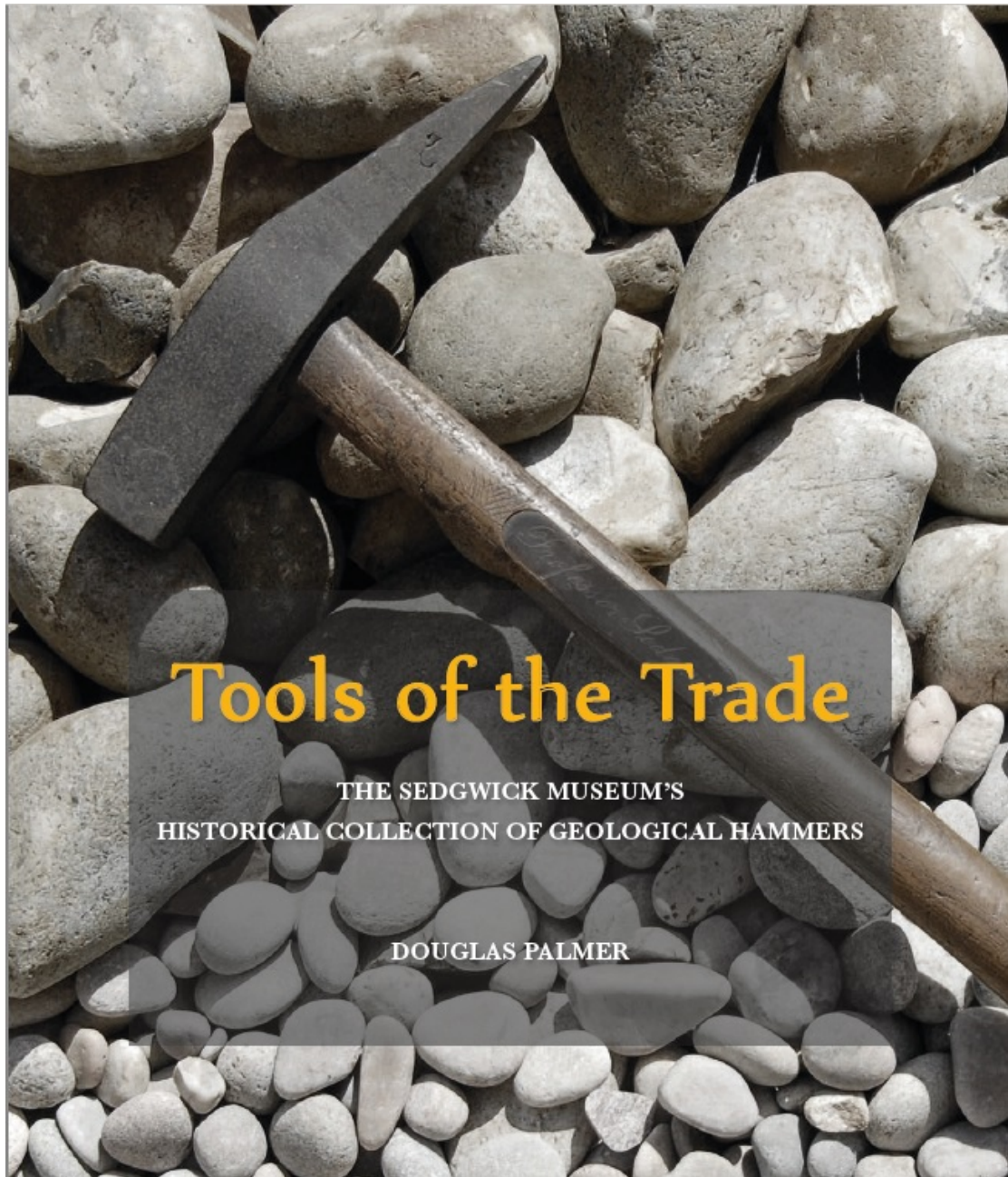
The display features a 'hammer of the month', which will rotate between historical geological hammers from the collection that are not on display and more modern hammers owned by past members of the University's department of Earth Sciences.

The exhibit has attracted two new hammer donations. The archaeologist and Cambridge alumnus Christopher Sparey-Green has kindly given a hammer, which belonged to the London-based geological dealer the late Edgar Percy Bottley (1905 – 1980), who was well known to many generations of geologists and collectors of rocks, minerals and fossils. The other hammer belonged to the late Professor Jack Callomon (1928-2010), palaeontologist, spectroscopist and professor of chemistry at University College, London. Jack Callomon's hammer is kindly donated by Robert Chandler, a high school science teacher and keen palaeontologist whose skills and enthusiasm have been awarded with the R.H. Worth Prize from the Geological Society of London.

Preparation of the booklet ('Tools of the Trade'), which accompanies the exhibit stirred a number of geological hammer related stories from members of the Department of Earth Sciences and some of these anecdotes found their way into the booklet.

Do get in touch if you have a hammer related story to tell.

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An illustrated booklet 'Tools of the Trade' is available from the Museum Shop