

BSG sponsored session at the 5th International Alluvial Fans Meeting (AF2015), Christchurch, New Zealand (30 November – 4 December 2015)

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The Alluvial Fans Conference is the fifth in a series of international conferences held approximately every 4 years. It is a specialized meeting for scientists interested in all aspects of alluvial fans with discussions of new ideas encouraged by the small, interdisciplinary, and focused nature of the meeting together with the integrated field trip format. The conference brings together an international and interdisciplinary group of scientists interested in various aspects of alluvial fans, including geology, sedimentology, geomorphology and hazard management. This series of conferences started in 1995 in Death Valley, USA, and have since been held in Sorbas, Spain (2003), Banff, Canada (2007) and Ras Al-Khaimah, United Arab Emirates (2012). In 2015 the meeting was held at the University of Canterbury in Christchurch, New Zealand; this was the first time the meeting had been organising in the Southern Hemisphere and enabled the exploration of the dynamic environment of New Zealand and the range of active alluvial fans found here, as well as supporting the recovering Christchurch economy following the Darfield Earthquake in 2010/2011.

The BSG sponsored a session at AF2015 on geomorphological hazards. This included a keynote speech by Professor Tim Davies of the University of Canterbury examining *Processes, hazards and land-use planning on alluvial fans and debris-flows* which provided an insight into the hazard associated with these landforms in the New Zealand context and gave an ideal background to the associated field days. Richard Williams (University of Glasgow, UK) also gave an interesting talk on *Quantifying the delivery and dispersal of sediment from the Te Horo alluvial fan* showing how innovative techniques could be used to derive geomorphological data to quantify landscape response following an abrupt change, and Rupert Bainbridge (University of Northumbria, UK) discussed the rock-avalanche distribution within the Southern Alps of New Zealand and a novel method for *fingerprinting* the sediment associated with these within fluvial systems.

The conference organisers – Lucy Clarke (University of Gloucestershire, UK), James Driscoll (Monash University, Australia) and Philip Giles (Saint Mary's University, Canada) – would like to express their thanks to the BSG for their support of this meeting.



Figure 1 Photograph of the BSG sponsored session as part of the AF2015 Meeting



Figure 2 The conference delegates during the field day to the Canterbury Plains as part of AF2015