

# Vestiges of the Young Earth

Tuesday 17 April, 15:00 – 16:00

The Hadean Eon (4.5-4.0 billion years) is the dark age of Earth history; there is no known rock record from this period. However, zircons from Australia as old as nearly 4.4 Ga provide evidence for the formation of continental crust 4.4 billion years ago. This radically changes our ideas about the Earth in its infancy and suggests that our planet operated then much as it did now, with oceans and possibly plate tectonics.

**Mark Harrison** will be talking about his sensation find of 4.4 billion years old zircons.

**Euan Nisbet** will report on his recent discoveries about the early evolution of life on Earth.

**Bernard Marty** has news about the first atmosphere of the Earth.

**Stéphane Fauve** explains the history of the Earth's Dynamo