

# Thomas Henry Huxley P.C., D.C.L.(Oxon), LL.D.(Cantab. Edin. and Dublin), M.D.(Wurzb), Ph.D.(Breslau), F.R.C.S., F.R.S., F.L.S., F.G.S., F.Z.S. etc.

From Earthwise

[Jump to navigation](#) [Jump to search](#)

**Pioneers of BGS - Home** [A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

□

## Contents

- [1 Images](#)
- [2 Timeline](#)
- [3 Biographies and obituaries](#)
- [4 Publications](#)
  - [4.1 Survey publications](#)
  - [4.2 External publications](#)
- [5 BGS archives](#)

## Images



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## Timeline

Date

Details

- 1825 Born May 4th at Ealing. Sent to school of Dr. Nicholson at Ealing, where his father was second master. Apprenticed to brother-in-law, Dr. Salt, at London practice when only 13 or 14.
- 1842 Entered Charing Cross Hospital with scholarship.
- 1845 1st class M.D., Hon. in physiology.
- 1846 Appointed Assistant Surgeon to H.M.S. "Victory", then H.M.S. "Rattlesnake" commissioned to survey passage within Great Barrier Reef, 1847-50. Initiation of scientific career (results published in Transactions Royal Society and Linnaean Society).
- 1850 Returned to England.
- 1851 Elected F.R.S.
- 1852 Received Royal Medal of Royal Society.
- 1854 Appointed Professor of Natural History, including palaeontology, in Royal School of Mines, and Curator of Fossils in Jermyn Street Museum, (Also appointed Fullerian Professor of Physiology and Comparative Anatomy to London University). Commenced coast surv
- 1856 Accompanied Tyndall in first visit to the Alps; produced joint paper on "Glacial Phenomena" (Phil. Trans.1857).
- 1858 Appointed Croonian Lecturer to Royal Society. Subject "The Theory of the vertebrate skull".
- 1859 Monograph on "Ocean Hydrozoa", published by Royal Society.
- 1860 Course of lectures to working-men, Jermyn Street, subject: "The relation of man to the lower animals".
- 1862 Secretary to Geological Society, President of section D, British Association.
- 1863 "Evidence of man's place in nature" published - excited great popular interest.
- 1863 Hunterian Professor of Comparative Anatomy in Royal College of Surgeons (held till 1870).
- 1869-1870 President Ethnological Society.
- 1870 President of British Association.
- 1871-1880 Secretary of Royal Society.
- 1872 Elected member of the London School Board, retired 1872.
- 1872 Elected Lord Rector of Aberdeen University for 3 years, installed 1874.
- 1875-1876 Lectured at Edinburgh University in absence of Wyville Thompson.
- 1876 Visited America and lectured there. Received Wollaston Medal.
- 1881-1885 Inspector of Salmon Fisheries.
- 1883 Appointed Rede Lecturer at Cambridge.
- 1883-1885 President of Royal Society.
- 1887 Trustee B.M. (Elected 1887).
- 1888 Copley Medal from Royal Society.
- 1892 Member Privy Council.
- 1894 Darwin Medal from Royal Society.
- 1895 Died June 29th.
- Dean and Honourable Professor of Biology in Royal College Science; South Kensington.  
For honours conferred and list of published works: Geological Magazine (1895) p. 340, also Appendix III and IV. Life and Letters of T.H. Huxley.  
Government and Royal Commissions - Science; Fisheries; Contagious Diseases; Vivisection; Scottish Universities; etc.  
Fellow Governor of Eton College.

Member of Senate, University of London.

## Biographies and obituaries

Obituary - Thomas Henry Huxley, P.C., D.C.L.(Oxon), LL.D., M.D. (Wurzb), Ph.D., (Breslau), F.R.C.S., F.R.S., F.L.S., F.G.S., F.Z.S., Trustee British Museum, etc. Born 4th May 1825, died 29th June 1895. Geologists Magazine. New Series. v. 2 p.337-341. 1895

Woodward, H. Obituary - Thomas Henry Huxley. [In Anniversary Address.]. Proceedings of the Geological Society in Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society. v. 52 p.lxiii-lxx. 1896

Proceedings Royal Society LXX (1896) p. xlvi

[Also typescript letter attached to ms.]

[Thomas Henry Huxley](#) — Wikipedia article (an extensive article and list of works about him)

## Publications

Memoirs: Figures and descriptions illustrative of British organic remains: Dec No.10 Fishes..... (1861)

Memoirs: Figures and descriptions illustrative of British organic remains: Dec No.12 Fishes..... (1866)

Memoirs: Figures and descriptions illustrative of British organic remains: Dec No. 13 Fishes..... (1872)

Monographs: No. I. On the genus Pterygolus (1859) with J.W. Salter.

Monographs: No.II. On the structure of the Belemnitidae (1864).

Monographs: No.III The crocodilian remains found in the Elgin Sandstones... (1877).

## Works listed in the BGS Library catalogue

### Survey publications

Newton, E.T. ; Huxley, T.H. ; Geological Museum (1878). A catalogue of the Cambrian and Silurian fossils in the Museum of Practical Geology. London : HMSO.

Huxley, T.H. ; Etheridge, R. ; Geological Museum (1865). A catalogue of the collection of fossils in the Museum of Practical Geology. London : HMSO. Huxley, T.H. (1863). On our knowledge of the causes of the phenomena of organic nature : Being six lectures to working men, delivered at the Museum of Practical Geology. (1863).

Huxley, T.H. ; Geological Survey of the United Kingdom (1859-1878). On the anatomy and affinities of the genus Pterygotus. In: Geological Survey of the United Kingdom. Memoirs (Palaeontology) of the Geological Survey of Great Britain: Monographs. London : HMSO. 105.

Huxley, T.H. ; Geological Survey of the United Kingdom (1859-1878). On the structure of the Belemnitidae; with a description of a more complete specimen of Belemnites than any hitherto

known, and an account of a new genus of Belemnitidae, *Xiphoteuthis*. In: Geological Survey of the United Kingdom. Memoirs (Palaeontology) of the Geological Survey of Great Britain: Monographs. London : HMSO. 22.

Huxley, T.H. ; Geological Survey of the United Kingdom (1859-1878). The crocodilian remains found in the Elgin Sandstones with remarks on the Ichnites of Cummington. In: Geological Survey of the United Kingdom. Memoirs (Palaeontology) of the Geological Survey of Great Britain: Monographs. London : HMSO. 2, vols, 58p + plates.

Huxley, T.H. (1849-1875). Figures and descriptions illustrative of British organic remains, Decade 10, Preliminary essay upon the systematic arrangement of the fishes of the Devonian epoch. In: Memoirs (Palaeontology) of the Geological Survey of UK: Figures & Descriptions of British Organic Remains Decades. London : HMSO. 71p + plates.

Huxley, T.H. (1849-1875). Figures and descriptions illustrative of British organic remains, Decade 12, Illustrations of the structure of the Crossopterygian Ganoids. In: Memoirs (Palaeontology) of the Geological Survey of UK: Figures & Descriptions of British Organic Remains Decades. London : HMSO. 44p + plates.

Egerton, P. ; Huxley, T.H. ; Gunther, A. (1849-1875). Figures and descriptions illustrative of British organic remains, Decade 13 (New genera and species of extinct fishes). In: Memoirs (Palaeontology) of the Geological Survey of UK: Figures & Descriptions of British Organic Remains Decades. London : HMSO. 29.

## **External publications**

Huxley, T.H. ; Darwin, C. ; Geikie, A. (1882). Charles Darwin : memorial notes. (Nature series). London.

Huxley, T.H. (1893). Darwiniana : essays. (Collected essays; v.2). London : Macmillan and Co..

Huxley, T.H. ; Hawkins, B.W. (1864). An elementary atlas of comparative osteology. London : Williams and Norgate.

Desmond, A. ; Huxley, T.H. (1994). Huxley : the devil's disciple. London : Michael Joseph.

Huxley, L. ; Huxley, T.H. (1900). Life and letters of Thomas Henry Huxley. London : Macmillan and Co..

Huxley, L. ; Huxley, T.H. (1903). Life and letters of Thomas Henry Huxley. 2nd ed. London : Macmillan and Co..

Owen, R. ; Huxley, T.H. ; Sherborn, C.D. (1894). The life of Richard Owen. London : J. Murray.

Huxley, T.H. (1906). Man's place in nature and other essays. (Everyman's library, Science). London : Dent.

Huxley, T.H. (1859). The oceanic hydrozoa : a description of the Calycophoridae and Physophoridae observed during the voyage of H.M.S. "Rattlesnake" in the years 1846-1850 .... London : Ray Society.

Huxley, T.H. (1884). Physiography : an introduction to the study of nature. new ed.. London : Macmillan and Co..

Huxley, T.H. (1880). *Physiography : an introduction to the study of nature*. 3rd ed. London : Macmillan and Co..

Huxley, T.H. (1877). *Physiography : an introduction to the study of nature*. London : Macmillan and Co..

Laing, S. ; Huxley, T.H. (1866). *Pre-historic remains of Caithness*. London : Williams and Norgate.

Pingree, J. ; Huxley, T.H. ; Huxley, H.A. ; Imperial College of Science and Technology (1969). *Thomas Henry Huxley : list of his correspondence with Miss Henrietta Anne Heathorn, later Mrs. Huxley, 1847-1854*. London : Imperial College of Science and Technology.

## BGS archives

Ref No	Title	Description
GSM/DC/A/C/2	Letter Book	Letter Book with administrative papers: annual reports of Museum, Mining Record Office and Survey...
GSM/DC/A/C/5/182,404	T H Huxley: Mentioned in letters of De la Beche.	
GSM/DC/A/C/6	Letter Book:Entry book for in/out letters of Geological Survey Office	Includes: Annual reports for 1852 -3, 1853-4, 1854-5, reports of the Pal. Dept 1852-1854, correspondence on staffing matters inc. appointment of T.H.Huxley, a range of geological issues including palaeontology and fossils, soil surveys, the Survey in Scotland, mapping in Ireland, work in South Africa, specimens collected by C.Babbage and others.
GSM/DC/A/C/6/138,180	T H Huxley: Mentioned in minutes of De la Beche.	
GSM/DC/A/C/6/141,159	T H Huxley: Letters concerning Huxley's appointment.	
GSM/DC/A/C/6/141-142	T H Huxley: Letters on his appointment.	
GSM/DC/A/C/7/38	T H Huxley: Letter on Morris' collection.	
GSM/DC/A/C/7/53	T H Huxley: Mentioned in letter of Murchison.	
GSM/DC/A/C/7/184	T H Huxley: Letters about the purchase of fossils.	
GSM/DC/A/C/7/273	T H Huxley: Letter on Lycett's collection.	
GSM/DC/A/C/7/298,301-303	T H Huxley: Mentioned in connection with pearl fishing in Ceylon.	
GSM/DC/A/C/8/69	T H Huxley: Letters to and from J.W. Salter.	

GSM/DC/A/C/8/69-70	J W Salter: Letters to H.T. Huxley.	
GSM/DC/A/C/8/303	T H Huxley: Letters about the appointment of E.T. Newton.	
GSM/DC/A/C/8/396	T H Huxley: Letters on leave of absence.	
GSM/DC/A/C/12/173	T H Huxley: Letters about his appointment as lecturer	
GSM/DC/A/C/14/2	T H Huxley: Letters about his appointment as lecturer	
GSM/DC/A/C/14/32	T H Huxley: Annual Report for 1856	
GSM/DC/A/C/19/83,86	T H Huxley: Letter on metallurgy exam	
GSM/DC/A/C/19/84	T H Huxley: Letters to F W. Rudler about J Percy	
		Charles Bone joined the Survey as Artist in 1845. In 1849 De la Beche initiated a series of publications known as 'Decades' - 'Figures and Descriptions of British Organic Remains'. Each part contained 10 plates which were initially engraved onto copper but later lithographed. The first five of these were written by Edward Forbes and published between 1849 and 1856. Salter also published three Decades on Trilobites. Huxley produced two on Fossil Fishes. Bone and W.H. Baily were employed to draw the illustrations for these.
GSM/GL/Bo	C.R. Bone	
GSM/GL/Bo/2	Original drawings of vertebrate and invertebrate fossils prepared for monographs by T.H. Huxley	
GSM/GL/Hx	T.H. Huxley	Thomas Henry Huxley was appointed Naturalist to the Museum in 1854 and became Professor of Biology to the School of Mines in the same year.
GSM/GL/Hx/1	Correspondence with T. Reeks, F.W. Rudler	16 Letters to T Reeks, 1856-1871 and 1 letter to F W Rudler, 1879. Also includes 4 letters to Rudler, 1895 and 1 to Reeks, and from Henrietta Huxley.

GSM/GL/Ww/12

Geological Autographs

Book containing the autographs of a large number of geologists, palaeontologists, naturalists etc. Includes Murchison, De la Beche, Thomas Huxley, and Charles Darwin. It is inscribed "H B Woodward 1865" and underneath is written "Given to L Davies Sherborn by his daughter, 1914, & by him given to C P Chatwin as a thanks offering for his first "Geol Lit", 1914"

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Category:

- [Pioneers of the British Geological Survey](#)

## Navigation menu

### Personal tools

- Not logged in
- [Talk](#)
- [Contributions](#)
- [Log in](#)
- [Request account](#)

### Namespaces

- [Page](#)
- [Discussion](#)

### Variants

### Views

- [Read](#)
- [Edit](#)
- [View history](#)
- [PDF Export](#)

### More

## Search

## Navigation

- [Main page](#)
- [Recent changes](#)
- [Random page](#)
- [Help about MediaWiki](#)

## Tools

- [What links here](#)
- [Related changes](#)
- [Special pages](#)
- [Permanent link](#)
- [Page information](#)
- [Cite this page](#)
- [Browse properties](#)

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- [About Earthwise](#)
- [Disclaimers](#)

