



Events

NEXT EVENT

**Oct 29
2007
17:30**

**Burlington House, Geological Society of London, W1J
OBG**

Where was Homer's Ithaca?

For thousands of years people thought that Troy was imaginary. Then the archaeologist Heinrich Schliemann excavated it in the 1870s. It is south-west of Istanbul and its location matches Homer's description in the *Iliad* precisely. Other cities that Homer described have also been discovered: Knossos in Crete, Mycenae south of Corinth; and in 2005 Ajax's palace was identified on Salamis, near Athens. So could Homer's Ithaca also be a real location? And can modern geology combined with classical research and satellite technology help us to locate it?



The Geological Society of London is the world's oldest national scientific and professional society for Earth scientists and is this year celebrating its 200th birthday, marked by a series of public events. The Burlington House Cultural Campus Lectures represent a new joint interdisciplinary initiative organised in conjunction with the Royal Academy and the five learned societies that occupy this historic building. These are the Geological Society, the Linnean Society, the Royal Astronomical Society, the Society of Antiquaries and the Royal Society of Chemistry.



On Monday October 29 the authors of *Odysseus Unbound* will present their proposal and the latest discoveries from the island of Cephalonia. The speakers will also explain how the latest helicopter, marine and land-based geophysical assessment techniques are to be introduced onsite from autumn 2007 onwards, with the sponsorship of **FUGRO**. The topic will be illustrated throughout with slides, satellite photography and computer animations. The content is aimed at a non-specialist audience as well as those who are studying or lecturing in geology, ancient history, classics or archaeology.

The venue will be the Geological Society of London (Piccadilly Entrance). Tea will be served from 17.30 and the talk will begin at 18.00 in the Lecture Theatre. Drinks sponsored by FUGRO will be served afterwards in the Lower Library, where the speakers will be available to sign copies of their book *Odysseus Unbound: The Search for Homer's Ithaca*, available at the special price of £20. For further details of the event, [click here](#). To book your free ticket (subject to lecture room capacity), email Jayne Phenton at jphenton@SAL.org.uk. Press and other event inquiries should be directed to Dr Ted Nield at ted.nield@geolsoc.org.uk

