

## **Short Narrative of C. G. St. C. Kendall's Professional Career and Life**

Christopher George St Clement Kendall has published a total of 497 publications, including 9 books, 121 refereed papers, 165 abstracts of talks and posters at both national and international meetings, as well as 18 unpublished reports and 220 published book reviews. Kendall's work has been widely recognized in the US and International academic community.

He is married to Diane Lynn, and they have two children together. Their eldest daughter, Alda Elizabeth, is married to Deec Cummings-Kendall, while their younger daughter, Emma Sarah, is married to D.J. (Darryl Joel) Davis who have two children, Amy Leigh, and Connor Owen.

Kendall's publications in geology span a wide range of interests, particularly focusing on conceptual depositional models. These publications provide details and predictions on the surface and subsurface geometries, composition, and textural character of carbonate, evaporite, and siliciclastic sedimentary rocks. His work covers various geological time periods, including Holocene through Mesozoic, Paleozoic, and Proterozoic aged rocks located in regions such as the Arabian Peninsula, North, Central and South Africa, SE Asia, Australia, the Gulf of Mexico, Central and South America. He has also published computerized sequence stratigraphic simulations of carbonate and clastic systems, exploring their relationship to eustatic, tectonic, and sedimentation controls.

Throughout his career, he has worked in both the oil industry and academia, conducting research, and teaching sedimentary stratigraphy and the effects of relative sea level rise and fall on marine and coastal sediments, with a focus on their relationship to petroleum occurrence. From 2010 to 2017, he served as the chief editor of SEPM's STRATA, a premier web site on sequence and sedimentary stratigraphy, which included slide-show presentations for the industry and academia. he built and maintained the site, which is visited by thousands of people worldwide each month.

Christopher Kendall 's life began on January 22, 1938, when he became the first white baby to be born at the Lady Margaret Hospital in New Delhi. With the expectation of war with Germany looming, his family sailed from Bombay on May 20 aboard the P&O SS Britannia bound for Liverpool. From 1938 to 1942, from the age of 4.5 months to 4 years, He lived with his grandparents at Llyn Hall in Anglesea and later at Lordship Park in London. As the Nazi Blitzes swept through London, he was evacuated at the age of 4 to a unique nursery school in Burnham on Sea, run by Miss Margaret Gwendolen Lewis and Mrs. Sanders, which catered to pupils from middle-class professional families from Bloomsbury. He spent his time from 1942 to 1946, aged 4 to 8, playing with a bucket and spade on Burnham beach, digging trenches and building sandcastles. Simultaneously his forehead bore scars from collisions with lampposts during walks and other injuries that required sutures at the local hospital.

He wrote letters to his mother, sending her artwork that he had produced and preserved to this day, while also writing begging letters for toys he needed. He was also visited by his Aunt Margery and Uncle Keith Matthews, though tragically, Uncle Keith died in a plane crash shortly after their visit. Meanwhile, his father, William G. St.C. Kendall, an electrical engineer, served in the army from 1942 to 1945 in North Africa and Italy in 1945, while his mother, Daphne S. Kendall, worked as a UK mail censor.

His father was demobilized from the army in 1946 and sailed with Kendall, aged 8-9 (1946-7), and Daphne to Iraq. Kendall's great uncle, Conrad M. de Courcy, had founded the Faiha trading company to exploit Iraq's booming oil industry and income. Kendall's father was employed to sell electric generators

and extend the electric power grid of Baghdad. Arriving on the Iraqi Shatt al Arab delta, Christopher ate a date given him by an Arab in a small boat, and overnight succumbed to amoebic dysentery. Alarmed by his diarrhea, fever, and rapid descent into incoherence, his mother saved his life by quickly moving him to hospital in Basra by motor-boat. Recovered, he enjoyed the life of an expatriate kid in 1946 swimming every day at the Alalawya Club and mixing with the offspring of diplomats.

In mid-July with his maternal grandmother, Edith Matthews, Kendall left Iraq for the UK by sea. From Suez, the ship turned north, ignorant of any danger, to dock at Haifa. Over-night gunfire and explosions could be heard as Zionists battled the British Army and local Police, marking a notable and particularly violent moment in Jewish and Palestinian history. Arriving in England, Kendall's schooling at Dean Close School in Cheltenham began. He attended Junior School through ages 9-13 (1947-51), and the Senior School through ages 13-18 (1951-56).

Mentored by the Headmaster of the Junior School, he developed skills as a birdwatcher and bird song identification. More extrovert, and unafraid to speak out, he was beaten at irregular intervals at both schools, killing little respect he might have had for authority. Lacking hand eye coordination, he was useless at ball games, but he extended his knowledge of Physics, Chemistry, and preparing him to go to university.

After they arrived in the UK, Kendall and his grandmother first stayed with her son Dudley Matthews and his family. living in Dudley's mother-in-law's home One Cook's Folly Road in Clifton, Bristol. Dudley had recently been repatriated from a Japanese prisoner of war camp. Away from Dean Close School Kendall mostly spent time with Edith Matthews. She, gypsy like, lived wherever close relatives invited her to stay, when in 1951 her son Dudley purchased her 30 Ridgeway Road, Long Ashton to the west of Bristol.

Also, early after their arrival, Kendall and Edith Matthews spent a short visit to Kendall's paternal grandmother Phillis Kendall, her sister Charlotte Beardsmore and their cousins William and Lizzie Crosse at 40 Park Road in Hunstanton in Norfolk. Edith then moved in with her sister, Kendall's Great Aunt Alice Wallace-Cox's flat 3 in 20 Redcliffe Square in Earl's Court of London.

In 1948 Edith Matthews became nanny to the children of her son in law's sister Olwen Brogan, for a month or two living in the Georgian home of 5 Belvoir Terrace in Cambridge. Kendall joined her during one of his holidays living with his uncle, aunt, and four children. This and other visits exposed him to his irascible uncle, Denis Brogan, who was the world's first professor of political science with a lifelong transatlantic career which helped the Anglo-American war effort against Nazi Germany. Denis was rewarded with a Knighthood from Queen Elizabeth for public service, and the French Legion of Honor. His wife, my father's sister Lady Olwen Phillis Frances Brogan meanwhile was an archaeologist who excavated Roman ruins in Libya, North Africa, and France.

Due to the declaration of Israel's independence in 1948 and the resulting turmoil, Christopher's mother returned to the UK. She pursued a career as a fashion model for Charles Creed and Vogue, and caused a stir when she attended Kendall's school Speech Day dressed in full model regalia, leaving his fellow pupils in awe. In July to August 1950, Kendall's mother took him on a holiday to Madrid, Spain, where they stayed with her enamored host, Colonel William Ewen Shipp Jr., a former US military attaché in Baghdad. During their trip, Kendall developed a taste for Spanish cuisine, particularly scrambled eggs mixed with olive oil and butter, and Spanish cold cut meats. He also attended many Madrid Bullfights and

became an expert on art, visiting the Prado Museum and viewing the works of famous artists such as Goya, Rembrandt, Dürer, Titian, Murillo, Velasquez, El Greco, Hieronymus Bosch, and Peter Bruegel.

On their flight back to the UK, Kendall ate food at the Bordeaux airport restaurant that resulted in him suffering from amoebic dysentery. He was taken directly from the plane to the London Isolation Hospital, where he was identified as a carrier of the disease and confined for approximately six months until he was cured.

Following his schooling, at the age of 18-20 (1956-58), Kendall was drafted into the UK military for National Service. His first year of service was spent in Cyprus, where he guarded military camps under construction and patrolled for EOKA, Greek Cypriots seeking to join Cyprus to Greece. During his time in Cyprus, he carried a valuable childhood lesson with him, which was to stay still and patient like a rabbit, inconspicuous out in the open if one kept stock still. His second year of military service was at Bulford Camp on Salisbury Plain, where he was the battery office clerk, while most of the regiment of the 16th Light Ack-ack, focusing on training with Bofors anti-aircraft guns.

Kendall's journey towards his academic and professional pursuits was not smooth. After his A and O level exams, he was hopeful for financial support from the London County Council to pursue university studies at Imperial College (I.C.) but was rejected on the assumption that the physical demands of field geology were too much for him. Initially dismayed, Kendall remembered his ex-headmaster's admonition he would recommend qualified pupils from Dean Close to Trinity College Dublin (TCD). He visited his headmaster, who assured him that he would be accepted at TCD within a week. True to the headmaster's word, in October 1958, at the age of 20-24 (1958-62), Kendall embarked on his journey to TCD, where he ultimately obtained a 1st class honors degree in geology.

In his final year at TCD, Kendall, along with Sir Patrick Alexander d'Estotenville Skipwith, 12th Baronet, and Jalik Kaulback, planned an expedition to Kharg Island in the Northern end of the Persian Gulf. With Jalik's father's connections as a contractor for the Oil Terminal on Kharg Island, they secured housing and local transportation for the expedition. They raised funds for their journey and acquired dive equipment and underwater cameras to document their efforts. Traveling by the Orient Express across Europe to Istanbul, then by train and bus to Tabriz and Tehran, and finally by plane to Kharg, they spent the summer diving around Kharg and Khargu, mapping the marine settings and surface geology.

As students of Professor D.W. Gill at TCD and through their expedition to the Persian Gulf, Patrick and Kendall were invited to pursue PhDs at IC. So, aged 24-28 (1962-1966), they mapped parts of the Holocene Geology of Abu Dhabi, contributing to the major advancements in understanding carbonate and evaporite geology in the 1960s. Their work enabled the determination of depositional settings of modern and ancient carbonate and evaporite facies, as well as the causes of their diagenesis. These new paradigms associated with sabkha cycles of stacked intertidal and supratidal sediments in ancient sediments aided the search for hydrocarbon reservoirs in the Middle East and world-wide.

Christopher, aged 29-30 (1966-68), was in the process of acquiring a PhD when he was awarded a Harkness Post Doctoral Fellowship to the University of Texas (UT). At UT, he applied concepts he had learned at IC and studied the Permian strata of West Texas and New Mexico. Upon his arrival at UT, Kendall rented an apartment overlooking the east of the UT Football Stadium, which is now the site of LBJ's fountain. He then moved into Mrs. Hillsborough's house at 1900 Rio Grande with Roger Kolvoord,

Robert H. Fakundiny, and John Gries. Subsequently, they moved to another house owned by Mrs. Hillsborough on Congress St, just 5 minutes from Scholz's Garten in Austin.

Later that year, Kendall's mother joined him in Austin, and they rented a house in SW Austin. On August 1, 1966, during lunchtime on the Austin UT campus, Kendall was introduced to America's preoccupation with guns when Charles Joseph Whitman, the "Texas Tower Sniper", spent over 96 minutes indiscriminately shooting people. Whitman killed 16 adults, an unborn child, and wounded 31 others before police Sergeant Ramiro Martinez and Patrolman Houston McCoy reached the top of the UT Library Tower. They killed Whitman and carried his bloody body past a cheering Kendall and other UT students.

Aged 31-32 (1969-1970), Kendall acquired a Sydney University Post Doctoral Fellowship, and studied the Holocene marine settings of Edgcombe Bay to the lee of the Great Barrier Reef, Bass Straits, Shark Bay, and the Gulf of Carpentaria. As with the locals, he used to body surf at Whale Beach and even made a terrifying surf boat trip. He was a patron of Martin's Bar on Oxford Street in Sydney, frequented by artists, their students, and evolving to actors from theater groups, their production crew, filmmakers, journalists, and the middle-class hoi polloi of Sydney, like Kendall, an academic geologist and hipster who thought he was living beyond the fringe, enjoying its ambiance. He lived across Paramata Road from the university in an apartment in Glebe, then moved a year later to a tiny exotic one-room apartment on Musgrave Street overlooking Mosman Bay.

Kendall, aged 32-35 (1970-73), became an Assistant Professor at Ohio State University, where he studied coal measures and carbonates in the Appalachians, the Permo-Triassic boundary of Nevada and Utah, Triassic carbonates of the Bergmasch Alps in Italy, the Great Bahamas Bank, and the Jurassic of Morocco. He spent most evenings at Larry's Bar, close to his home at 189 E 14th Street. It was at Larry's Bar that he met his future wife, Diane Bowman, and proclaimed that she would be his favorite girlfriend. They got married on Bastille Day in 1973.

Kendall's second encounter with the US's preoccupation with guns was during the aftermath of the tragic events on May 4th, when the National Guard inexplicably killed four unarmed students and wounded nine others at Kent State. A small group of less than 50 OSU students gathered to protest, with other students coming out of their classrooms as innocent bystanders to view the National Guard presence on campus at the Oval. Kendall and Dr. Jim Collinson were administering a lab exam for a graduate-level sedimentary petrology course when the National Guard tear-gassed the student onlookers, causing chaos. They heard shouting outside but didn't realize the severity of the situation until tear gas started wafting through the windows. The exam ended abruptly, and some students were arrested as they left the front entrance of Mendenhall.

Aged 35-38 (1973-76), Kendall was employed as a carbonate sedimentologist and petrographer with the Carbonate Facies Group at Esso Production Research in Houston. He worked on the Jurassic Smackover and Arab D formations, while also instructing in the field on the geology of largely carbonate outcrops of Texas and New Mexico, as well as the Recent of the Bahamas and Florida. He and Diane lived in the West University district and socialized mostly with colleagues from the Esso Lab.

Aged 38-39 (1977), he became the Associate Director of the Earth Science Resources Institute at the University of South Carolina. He and Diane made short visits to Egypt and Tunisia, and then he managed the geological study of a series of outcrops in Libya, mentoring students studying regional geology.

Aged 39-45 (1977-83), he worked at Gulf Oil Research where he studied the acoustic properties of the Mission Canyon carbonates of the Little Knife Field in the Williston Basin, as well as Permian Basin oil field geology. He lived on 9th Street in Oakmont, Pennsylvania, and during this time, his wife gave birth to their daughters Alda Elizabeth and Emma Sarah via premature Caesarean section. The babies were kept in isolation incubators, and Kendall spent considerable time dandling Alda Elizabeth before Diane took over. The dramatic arrival of their babies had a profound impact on their lives.

From the age of 45 to 70 (1983-2008), prompted by the downturn in the oil industry, he became a Professor at the University of South Carolina. He and his family settled into 2800 Gervais St. At the university, he taught a variety of subjects including Sedimentology, Basin Analysis, Petroleum Geology, and Introductory Physical Geology. Additionally, he collaborated with computer scientists to develop software that simulated the sedimentary and thermal history of basins, while conducting research on the Carbonates of the Middle East, Gulf of Mexico, and sediments of offshore Korea, with a focus on their hydrocarbon potential.

During this period, he also joined forces with his MSc student Nassir Alnaji of Saudi Aramco to build the Strata Website. This collaborative effort resulted in the creation of a world-class website on sequence and sedimentary stratigraphy. In recognition of its significance, the Strata Website was later donated to SEPM, and Kendall assumed the role of chief editor of SEPM's STRATA from 2010 to 2017. The website attracted thousands of visitors from around the world each month, establishing it as a premier resource in its field.

Now, aged 70 to 85 (2008-present), he is a Distinguished Emeritus Professor at the University of South Carolina. He continues to share his knowledge and experience, consulting and teaching for Schlumberger in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE. His expertise spans high-resolution sequence stratigraphy, facies analysis, petrophysics, and the study of carbonates, evaporites, and clastic systems from the Holocene through Mesozoic and Paleozoic eras, with a specific focus on the Arabian Peninsula and Gulf region. Additionally, he is currently working on a narrative that chronicles his personal life and professional career, further contributing to his legacy in the field of geology.

The loosely translated fragments of the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam by the English poet Edward Fitzgerald aptly capture Kendall's view of the vagaries of life.

The Moving Finger writes, and having writ,  
Moves on: nor all your Piety nor Wit  
Shall lure it back to cancel half a Line,  
Nor all your Tears wash out a Word of it.

The sphere upon which mortals come and go,  
Has no end nor beginning that we know;  
And none there is to tell us in plain truth:

Whence do we come and whither do we go.

And, as the Cock crew, those who stood before  
The Tavern shouted--"Open then the Door!  
You know how little while we have to stay,  
And, once departed, may return no more.

Myself when young did eagerly frequent  
Doctor and Saint, and heard great argument  
it and about: but evermore  
Came out by the same door where in I went.

But if in vain, down on the stubborn floor  
Of Earth, and up to Heav'n's unopening Door  
You gaze To-day, while You are You--how then  
To-morrow, You when shall be You no more?

Strange, is it not? that of the myriads who  
Before us pass'd the door of Darkness through,  
Not one returns to tell us of the Road,  
Which to discover we must travel too.