

# Hugh Falconer

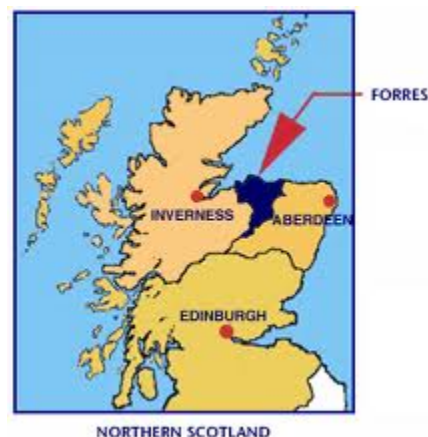
Hugh Falconer was a Scottish geologist, botanist, palaeontologist and paleoanthropologist born on the 29<sup>th</sup> February 1808 in Forres, Scotland.

Falconer graduated at the University of Aberdeen, where he studied natural history in 1826. He also studied medicine in the University of Edinburgh, gaining a degree of M.D. in 1829 and during that time he attended botanical and geology classes.

Hugh Falconer was the first to suggest the modern evolutionary theory of the punctuated equilibrium.

Falconer became widely known for his studies of fossil mammals. He observed long periods of evolutionary stasis in these mammals with short periods of rapid evolutionary change throughout geological time. His research showed much of what could be used to discover much more in the future. A century later other scientist discovered the same basic theory.

In Forres, Scotland where Hugh Falconer was born is The Falconer Museum.



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