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Front cover illustration
On the south-east coast of Mull near Malcolm’s Point, the aptly named Pulpit Rock features one of several sedimentary units within the otherwise volcanically-dominated Palaeogene Staffa Lava Formation. It comprises a pale-weathering, cross-bedded, flint-clast fluvial conglomerate and a darker basalt-clast debris flow conglomerate overlying massive basaltic lava flows. The cliffs to the skylene beyond expose higher stratigraphical units of the Formation; a succession of columnar-jointed lavas and hyaloclastite breccias separated typically by beds of sandstone-siltstone-mudstone and minor coal. Such sequences illustrate the complex interplay between volcanism and sedimentation during the early development of the Mull volcano.