



Circular 359

July 2005

Registered Charity No: 503617

President: Ian Thomas

www.emgs.org.uk

PROGRAMME - AUTUMN 2005

FIELD MEETING

Saturday 17th & Sunday 18th September

Weekend Excursion to North Wales & Anglesey

Leader: Allan Brandon (Ex BGS Keyworth)

INDOOR LECTURE PROGRAMME

Saturday 15th October - 6.30 pm

Rocks down the Trent in a Bronze Age Logboat

Speaker: Daryl Garton (University of Nottingham)

Saturday 19th November - 6.30 pm

Gas hydrates - a geological killer in our midst?

Speaker: Dr John Rees (British Geological Survey)

Saturday 11th December - 6.00 pm

Anhydrite to Zinc - a pictorial survey of working mines in the British Isles

Speaker: Paul Deakin

To be followed by the Christmas buffet.

LECTURE VENUE

Indoor meetings will take place in lecture theatre B3 of the Biology building at the University of Nottingham. If you require to use the lift to B3, please speak to the security attendant who will assist you. B3 is equipped with induction loop hearing assistance. If you are attending meetings or joining a coach at the University of Nottingham, enter from the South Entrance on University Boulevard. Cars should be parked in the car park on the bend in the road just beyond the security point after Science Road. The entrance to the Biology building is at the right hand side of the rear of this car park.

Saturday 17th & Sunday 18th September

Weekend Excursion to North Wales & Anglesey

Leader: Allan Brandon (Ex BGS Keyworth)

This weekend trip will be based almost entirely in Anglesey where there is a host of geological interest. The details are as follows:

Saturday 17th September

Meeting point is at 10.00 am at the car park on the B5111 road which runs alongside the Parys Mountain mineral workings. Grid reference: SH 437906 (Ordnance Survey Landranger Sheet 114)

Please bring a packed lunch.

There is an excellent heritage trail at Parys Mountain and the morning will be spent investigating the geology and mineral deposits of this famous location. In the afternoon we will go to the car park at the southern end of Lligwy Bay (SH 496871) for a very pleasant coastal walk towards Moelfre with excellent exposures of Carboniferous strata and glacial features.

Sunday 18th September

Meeting point is again at 10.00 am at the car park near South Stack Lighthouse, Grid reference: SH 211818.

Please bring a packed lunch

On this second day in Anglesey we will be visiting the late Precambrian ? early Cambrian sequence of the Monian Supergroup at South Stack, Rhoscolyn and at Newborough.

If you require information about possible accommodation, please will you contact Ian Sutton. There is a wide range of places to stay on Anglesey from B&B to quality hotels.

Please will members book for this weekend excursion on the enclosed booking form as this gives the leader information he needs for preparation of hand-outs, access permission etc.

Where a member has to cancel a booking it is requested that they contact Ian Sutton (0115 923 2360 or 07795 211761) as early as possible.

Insurance and Safety

Members are reminded that the Society has only public liability insurance and that personal accident insurance is a matter for individual members to arrange as they consider necessary. Up to date hard hats are obligatory for all field excursions involving quarries or cliff faces and strongly recommended for all trips. High visibility clothing is sometimes required in working quarries. High visibility tabards can be obtained from GA Enterprises, 126 Fleetside, W. Molesey, Surrey KT8 2NQ at £4.70 incl. pp. Members without suitable hard hats may be refused access to certain sites! Hard hats can be obtained from many Builders' Merchants, Wickes, B&Q Warehouse etc. for about £4.

Any non-members attending field excursions will have to pay a temporary membership fee of £2.00 and all participants are reminded that they must comply with any instructions from excursion leaders or, for example, quarry managers or their employees on Health & Safety issues.

Saturday 15th October - 6.30 pm

Rocks down the Trent in a Bronze Age Logboat

In 1998 a prehistoric logboat was discovered in the Aston gravel quarry, Derbyshire, where quarrying had been monitored by Dr Chris Salisbury. Some of his interpretations of the overall geomorphological context for the deposits in which the logboat was found will be presented, as well as a description of the logboat itself. Some of the evidence for the landscape of the river valley in the 2nd millennium BC will also be outlined. The logboat is now on display at the Derby Museum & Art Gallery, The Strand, Derby.

Saturday 19th November - 6.30 pm

Gas hydrates - a geological killer in our midst?

Gas hydrates are ice-like compounds in which gas molecules are trapped within a cage of water molecules. They are only found in very cold environments at low pressures or warmer settings at very high pressures, and are believed to be abundant in permafrost regions and around the deeper continental margins. The most common form, methane hydrate, is estimated to contain about ten thousand billion tonnes of organic carbon, which could be twice as much as in all the known other fossil fuels put together. Whilst a major interest in methane hydrates in some parts of the world is as a source of energy, most interest is as a potential driver for climate change. This is because the release into the atmosphere of large amounts of methane as a consequence of destabilization could be catastrophic; methane has about twenty times the warming potential of carbon dioxide as a greenhouse gas. Because of the physical and chemical properties of hydrates, the mechanisms of release are complex, but it is likely that hydrates have contributed to major climatic change in the past. Consequently, research into understanding how hydrates destabilize is important, particularly when we are warming our oceans and polar regions through climate change. Geological hydrate research does not only cover such issues but also the future potential for society to store greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide, within hydrates. It is important that we understand these very common, but rarely seen, minerals better in the future.

Saturday 11th December - 6.30 pm

Anhydrite to Zinc - a pictorial survey of working mines in the British Isles

Paul Deakin is a well known cave and mine photographer. A fellow of the Royal Photographic Society, he has an extensive library of photographs gathered over a period of nearly 40 years at sites in the UK and throughout Europe. The mining images provide a unique and comprehensive history of the mining industry past and present. His photographs have appeared in many articles and publications, and have won many accolades as well as several prestigious awards.

www.paul-deakin.freeserve.co.uk

Subscriptions

A final reminder that subscriptions were due on 1st February 2005. The rates remain the same as last year. If you have not already paid, please send your subscription to the Treasurer as soon as possible to ensure you continue to receive notice of Society Lectures and Field Meetings and your copy of the Mercian Geologist. Please also consider paying your subscription by way of a Standing Order and with Gift Aid declaration. It costs you nothing but benefits the Society considerably and helps to keep our subscription rates down. Copies of both forms are available from the Treasurer.

Subscription rates are: £12.00 ordinary
 £15.00 joint membership
 £ 5.00 student membership

New Members

Ms C Wallett, Nottingham
Mr M Pearson, Wilford Village, Nottingham

EAST MIDLANDS FIELD GUIDE

Members of EMGS may purchase these at a discount price of **£6.00.** To non-members the price is **£8.00.**

Copies are available for sale from the Secretary or other Council members, or at the Society's Indoor or Field Meetings.

GA REGIONAL LECTURE

The first GA Lecture to be held outside London is to take place at Keele University on Thursday, 10th November 2005. The lecturer is Professor Richard Fortey FRS of the Natural History Museum, who is a renowned international author and researcher.

His topic is "The Earth an intimate history" - the big Earth Science picture, a life story of our planet.

The meeting is to take place at Keele University, Staffordshire, on 10th November at 7.30 pm in the Huxley Building and will be preceded by a buffet at 6.30 pm in the William Smith Building.

Everyone is welcome to attend, but entry is by ticket only and applications need to be made on the enclosed booking form by Tuesday, 25th October, at the latest.

Lectures & Field Meetings of Other Organisations

The Secretary or the Circular Editor have contact details for the representatives of other local Geological Societies who organise field trips and indoor meetings. Please ask one of them for details.

e-mail addresses

We would very much like to send you your Circular by e-mail. If you have not already done so, please send your e-mail address to the Circular Editor, sue.miles@freethcartwright.co.uk.

Please can you also confirm your name and address when sending your e-mail so we can correlate these details with our membership listing.

The next Circular will be published in September/October 2005.

The next Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 15th September 2005.

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