



**Circular 409
August 2014**

Registered Charity No: 503617

President: Brian Jones

www.emgs.org.uk

**SUMMER 2014
FIELD PROGRAMME**

Saturday 6th/Sunday 7th September

Weekend Trip to the Yorkshire Dales near Ingleton

Leader: Tony Waltham

UNFORTUNATELY, DUE TO UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES, THIS TRIP HAS HAD TO BE CANCELLED. We hope to reschedule for next year.

Sunday, 28th September

Day excursion around Nottingham

Leaders: Keith Ambrose and Oliver Wakefield

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.

Sunday, 28th September – Day excursion to the geology of the local Nottingham area

Leaders: Keith Ambrose and Oliver Wakefield

Meeting time: 11.15 am

Meeting place: In the car park at the end of Holgate in Clifton Village (Grid Ref: SK539 348) (follow Village Road round and its run into Holgate).

You are advised to bring a picnic lunch.

During the day we will be examining the sequence of Permo-Triassic rocks in and around Nottingham. In Clifton we will examine the Gunthorpe and Cotgrave Members of the Sidmouth Mudstone Formation which are sequences of predominantly laminated mudstones with some structureless mudstone, beds of greenish grey siltstone and good gypsum veins. We then proceed to the University of Nottingham where we will visit exposures of the Chester Formation (formerly Nottingham Castle Sandstone Formation) of the Sherwood Sandstone Group, Tarporley Siltstone (formerly Sneinton Formation) of the Mercia Mudstone Group and the Lenton Sandstone Formation. We will then proceed to Park Tunnel to look at probably the best exposure of the Chester Formation in the city. If time is available there are other possibilities within the city centre area including Castle Rock.

AUTUMN/WINTER 2014 **LECTURE PROGRAMME**

Saturday, 11th October 2014 – 6.00 pm
Dr John Bridges – The Geology of Mars

Saturday, 15th November 2014 – 6.00 pm
Dr Kirstin Lemon - Geotourism in the UK: Celebrating our natural landscapes

Saturday, 6th December 2014 – 6.00 pm
Members evening followed by Cheese & Wine

Saturday, 17th January 2015 – 6.00 pm
Dr Philip Wilby – Charnwood

Saturday, 14th February 2015 – 6.00 pm
Dr Hugh Torrens – Celebrating the Bicentenary of William Smith – followed by the Society's Annual Dinner

Saturday, 21st March 2015 – 6.00 pm
Ekbal Hussain – The North Anatolian Fault – followed by the AGM

Saturday, 18th April 2015 – 2.30 pm
Phil Harding – Confessions of a Flint Napper

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, 11th October 2014 – 6.00 pm

The Geology of Mars

“What we have learnt from Mars Science Laboratory”

For over one martian year, since its landing in August 2012, we have been exploring Gale Crater with the Curiosity Rover. We have discovered mudstones, signs of flowing water and a habitable ancient environment. This talk describes our discoveries, the experiment we have done on Mars and our future plans.

Saturday, 15th November 2014 – 6.00 pm

Geotourism in the UK: Celebrating our natural landscapes

Geotourism has a long and successful history in the United Kingdom, with evidence of geological heritage tourism dating as far back as the 17th century. The majority of our key tourism destinations are geotourism based including the Scottish Highlands, the Lake District, and the Causeway Coast, with most people who visit giving the landscape as their main reason for choosing that destination.

Our national tourism authorities are slowly waking up to the economic benefits of geotourism. All it takes is to visit the website of Visit England, look at the poster campaigns for Discover Northern Ireland, or watch the television adverts for Visit Scotland to see what a powerful image our landscapes can convey and the volumes that they speak to potential visitors to the area.

But there is still a lot of work to do and it is up to us to educate the relevant decision makers when it comes to marketing our geology and landscapes. Initiatives such as the Global Geoparks Network are making significant headway when it comes to promoting our landscapes and sustainable tourism, and the two geological World Heritage Sites in the United Kingdom are also helping to spread the message of geology as a tourism resource. Geotourism is a wonderful natural asset that the entire United Kingdom can tap into, as long as it is done in a sustainable fashion.

Aside from the obvious financial benefits brought by geotourism, by developing local projects such as Charnwood and National Forest, awareness can be raised of geological heritage enabling a mutually beneficial relationship between geotourism and geoconservation. A careful balance is needed to ensure that important geological sites get the attention and the care that they deserve, but at the same time celebrating these important aspects of our geological heritage.

Geotourism is already moving away from being seen as a niche tourism market, and with help and support from both local and national geological organizations it is inevitable that this will become one of the key tourism growth areas in the next decade.

Saturday, 6th December 2014 – 6.00 pm

Members Evening followed by Cheese & Wine

Dr Vanessa Banks - “Wad deposits in the White Peak”

Drawing on the findings of a small research project funded by the University of Derby this presentation will describe the physical and chemical characteristics; origin, and (former and potential future) uses of wad deposits.

Dr Richard Hamblin - “Ironstone mining in Norfolk”

A surprising number of ancient iron smelting sites are now known from the Cromer Ridge in north Norfolk, and most if not all are situated on glacial gravels of the Britons Lane Formation. Detailed

consideration of the local geology suggests that the iron ore more likely came from the Wroxham Crag, which crops out at beach level along the coast and was extracted by winter storms.

Dr Geoff Warrington - “Lost (Under)worlds”

‘Revisiting’ underground workings in which a range of ores and other materials was investigated or mined but which, following abandonment, are now partly or wholly inaccessible as a result of flooding or other causes. Examples to be ‘visited’ are in the Erzgebirge and at Jachymov, Krupka and Harrachov in the northern Czech Republic, and in England, at Dudley in the West Midlands, Ecton in Staffordshire and Camborne in Cornwall.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Were due on 1st February.

Subscription rates remain unchanged and are as follows:

Ordinary members - £18.00

Joint members - £22.00

Please send you subscriptions to the Treasurer as soon as possible and if you pay by standing order please ensure this is for the correct amount.

New Members

David Oliver-Williams, Ashby de la Zouch.

Edward Sillandy, Bramcote, Nottingham.

Society Publications

- (1) **East Midlands Field Guide;**
- (2) **Sandstone Caves of Nottingham** (3rd edition)
- (3) **Leicester Building Stones Guide**

Copies available by contacting the Secretary or at Indoor Meetings.

Mercian Geologist – Back numbers

Do you need any back numbers of the Mercian to fill a gap in your collection ?

The scanning of every single issue of the Mercian Geologist that the Society has published is now complete. As soon as they are all accessible through the Society’s website the stocks of back numbers that the Secretary currently holds will be disposed of although a complete set of hard copies will of course be kept for archive purposes. So please contact the Secretary Janet Slatter at secretary@emgs.org.uk or on 01509 843297 if you have any gaps that you want to fill

Information for Other Societies

We hold information of lectures and field meetings for other local societies such as the NSSGA, Black Country Geological Society and Leicester Lit & Phil Society. If you would like details of any of these, please contact the Secretary.

EMGS Website

The publications page on the Society website (www.emgs.org.uk) has been tidied up and updated. It now includes links to two archives:

One is the archive of the early Mercian Geologists where the huge task of diligently scanning and preparing copies of all the back issues has now been completed thanks to the hard work of David Bate. These will soon, if they are not already, all be accessible through the Society's website.

The other is the archive of papers and reports in the more recent issues. These will go onto the webpage two years after they appear in the paper issues of the Mercian. Files will be extracted and posted, working backwards as far as 1992, and this all takes time. Files for 2010 onwards are already prepared and will go online on their second birthday.

GA Conference

Saturday & Sunday, 6th/7th September

This year's GA Conference: "Paleo to the People! Fossils in the Service of Man" is taking place at Leicester University. There is an excellent conference programme with the choice of two field excursions on Sunday:

You can book through the GA Website

<http://www.geologistsassociation.org.uk/conferencebooking.html> and click here for the full and up-to-date programme:

https://gallery.mailchimp.com/b3ea23a6951bcf5950bddd925/files/Conference_programme

There is a reduced registration fee for Students.

The GA is also holding a field trip "The Geology of the Isle of Man" led by Dave Quirk and Dave Burnett from **Friday 19th to Monday 22nd September**. You can book and pay for this trip through the GA website <http://www.geologistsassociation.org.uk/ukfield.html> and these will be acknowledged. If this is not possible leave an e-mail address and message on the GA phone and this will be answered when picked up.

Costs of the Circular

To minimise postal costs and photocopying charges which amount to approximately £4.00 each year for every member who still receives their Circular by post, 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 October 2014.

The next Council Meeting will be held on 11th September 2014.

Secretary: Mrs Janet Slatter, 100 Main Street, Long Whatton, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE12 5DG e-mail: janet.slatter@btinternet.com . tel. no. 01509 843297.

Treasurer: Mr Colin Bagshaw, 150 Scalpcliffe Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE15 9AD, e-mail: Colin.bagshaw@yahoo.co.uk tel. no. 01283 564520

EAST MIDLANDS GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

BOOKING FORM - FIELD EXCURSIONS 2014

Please book me/us for the following excursion:

Sunday, 28th September

Day Excursion - Nottingham

Name(s):

Address:

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Tel:

e-mail address:

I/we do/do not have a car available.

I/we would be prepared to offer transport.

Please send completed booking forms to the Field Secretary,
Ian Sutton, at 30 Alford Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 6GJ
Tel. No: 0115 923 2360 e-mail – ian.sutton035@btinternet.com
