



**Circular 413
May 2015**

Registered Charity No: 503617

President: Vanessa Banks

www.emgs.org.uk

**SUMMER 2015
FIELD PROGRAMME**

Sunday, 24th May – 2.15 pm

PLEASE NOTE THIS TRIP HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL 2016.

Wednesday, 17th June – 6.45 pm

**Nottingham Building Stones
Leaders: Steve Parry and Graham Lott (both BGS)**

Thursday, 25th June – 6.30 pm

**Holwell Reserve near Melton Mowbray
Leader: Keith Ambrose**

Thursday, 2nd July – 6.00 pm

**Masson Hill
Leader: Colin Bagshaw**

Saturday, 18th July – 10.30 am

**Brassington area.
Leader: Jim Riding (BGS)**

Sunday, 23rd August

**Intra Anglian-Devensian event of Fenland and the Wolds.
Leaders: Allan Straw and Peter Worsley.
(Full details in the next Circular).**

Saturday, 10th October/Sunday 11th October

Field weekend Flamborough area and North York Moors

Leader: Ian Sutton

(Full details in the next circular)

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.

Wednesday, 17th June, 2015 – Nottingham Building Stones

Leaders: Steve Parry and Graham Lott (both BGS)

Meeting time: 6.45 pm

Meeting place: The Robin Hood Statue by the Castle.

Starting at the Castle provides an opportunity to start the walk looking at some of the bedrock exposures (unsuitable for building stone) nearby. From here we will be able to walk towards the Market Square and thereafter on into the Lace Market. If time permits it may be possible to 'loop' back to the Castle area via the northern side of the city centre taking in the Roman Catholic Cathedral and the Park Tunnel.

Thursday, 25th June, 2015 – Holwell Reserve, near Melton Mowbray

Leader: Keith Ambrose

Meeting time and place: 6.30 pm meeting at the quarry entrance, at the top of Brown's hill immediately east of Holwell village. Brown's hill is marked on the 1:50,000 map (SK743235). There is ample parking.

Holwell is one of a number of former ironstone workings in the Marlstone Rock Formation of the area to the south east of the Vale of Belvoir. It was the last operating quarry in the area, closing in 1962 and the only one where mining of the ore also occurred.

The sequence includes the overlying Whitby Mudstone, capped by till that is not exposed. The underlying Dyrham Formation is well exposed.

The sequence exposed is up to 2m. of Whitby Mudstone, mainly of the 'paper shale' facies with more blocky beds at the base; 3.7m. of Marlstone Rock Formation and 0.6m. of Dyrham Formation. Fossils are not common, although brachiopods, common belemnites, ammonites and bivalves may be found.

Thursday, 2nd July, 2015 – Masson Hill

Leader: Colin Bagshaw

Meeting time: 6.00 pm

Meeting place: Ember Lane, immediately north of Bonsall Church (Grid. Ref. 280582).

Evening excursion to Masson Hill to investigate the Carboniferous Limestone and igneous rocks of Masson Hill and remnants of the lead mining industry.

Joint meeting with North Staffs Geological Society.

Saturday, 18th July, 2015 – Brassington Area.

Leader: Jim Riding (BGS)

Meeting time: 10.30 am

Meeting place: Near Bees Nest Pit (SK 24100 54580). *Please park just off Manystones Lane.*

From the south, go through the village of Brassington (NNE of Ashbourne) and turn right onto Manystones Lane. Just after you pass the old brickworks (Hoben's) on the left, there is a small car park (53°09'10.1"N 1°44'13.6"W) where we will park. Please meet there at 10.30 am. From there we will visit Bees Nest Pit. This is an SSSI so no hammering please. We will remain in Bees Nest Pit for the remainder of the morning, and will picnic there.

After lunch we will drive NNW to Kenslow Top Pit (SK 18185 61586 to SK 18289 61420). We will go back towards Brassington but turn right from Manystones Lane towards Longcliffe. When we reach the crossroads with the A5012, we will turn left. Just before Newhaven (and at Old House Farm Cottages), we turn right on to a minor road and proceed past Friden Brick Works on the left. We will park just off this road at a crossroads with two farm lanes at 53°09'10.1"N 1°44'13.6"W. We will then be based in Kenslow Pit for the remainder of the day. This pit is privately-owned and is not an SSSI so hammering/collecting is permissible.

Please wear warm clothing and stout footwear and bring a packed lunch.

This is a one-day field trip to examine the Brassington Formation of Miocene age in the high peak of Derbyshire. The onshore UK is not well known for Miocene sediments (there is a major hiatus between the Oligocene and the Pliocene in southeast England) and the Brassington Formation is the best example of sediments in karstic fills which survived Late Neogene and Quaternary erosion.

A copy of the background provided by Jim will be available to all those attending this trip to an area which adds a very important aspect of our understanding of British Tertiary geology.

**Sunday, 23rd August, 2015 –
Intra Anglian-Devensian event of Fenland and the Wolds**

Leaders: Allan Straw and Peter Worsley

Day trip starting near Stamford and finishing at Welton le Wold.

Full details in the next Circular.

**Saturday, 10th October/Sunday, 11th October, 2015 -
Field Weekend Flamborough Area and North York Moors**

Leader: Ian Sutton

Full details in the next Circular.

Geopark in Derbyshire

The EMGS is conducting a feasibility study to examine the options for creating a geopark in the Peak District. A geopark is a unified area with geological heritage of international significance that promotes geo-conservation, geo-tourism and sustainable development. Many of you may already be familiar with other geoparks in the UK including NW Scotland and GeoMon in Anglesey.

The Peak District has geological features of importance where the influence of the underlying geology on the landscape, history and economy of the area is very well demonstrated and is easily accessible to a large urban population, making it an ideal location for a geopark.

At the moment, we are assessing the level of support from potential partners and looking at the likely costs of the project, working closely with the Peak District National Park Authority. Alongside, we are also co-ordinating the production of a Geodiversity Action Plan for the Peak District. We hope to conclude this work by the autumn of this year, so that a final decision can be taken whether or not to proceed with the project with a view to seeking accreditation by the European Geopark Network within two or three years. Please get in touch with Albert Benghiat (albert@ajb12.plus.com) if you would like any further information and/or a copy of the prospectus.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

A reminder that these were due on 1st February

Subscription rates remain unchanged and are as follows:

Ordinary members - £18.00

Joint members - £22.00

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

We are also trying to ensure that as many of our subscriptions as possible are gift aided. This costs you absolutely nothing but means that the Society will receive much needed extra funds by way of tax rebates, so if you haven't already completed a Gift Aid declaration, please contact the Treasurer and request one.

New Members

Mr DM Barrett & Ms G Martin, Chilwell, 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.

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@freeths.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 July 2015.

The next Council Meeting will be held on 8th July 2015.

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 2015

Please book me/us for the following excursions:

Wednesday, 17 th June	Evening walk – Nottingham Building Stones
Thursday, 25 th June	Evening walk – Holwell Reserve
Thursday, 2 nd July	Evening excursion – Masson Hill
Saturday, 18 th July	Brassington Area
Sunday, 23 rd August	Day excursion – Fenland and the Wolds.
Saturday, 10 th October/ Sunday, 11 th October	Weekend visit –Flamborough & North York Moors

(Please delete those you will NOT be attending)

Name(s):

Address:

.....

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

Open Day BGS Keyworth 27 June 2015

Formed by Royal Charter in 1965, the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) marks its 50th anniversary in 2015. The British Geological Survey will be holding an Open Day at its Environmental Science Centre in Keyworth on Saturday 27 June 2015 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

BGS is planning a packed day illustrating the wide scope and applications of its research activities.

There will be something for rock lovers of all ages — from newbies to experienced earth scientists.

All of the activities will be under cover, so rain or shine, it should be a good day out for all the family.

To celebrate NERC's 50th anniversary, several sister institutes will be joining the BGS, including the British Antarctic Survey, the National Centre for Atmospheric Science and the National Centre for Earth Observation. Plus demonstrations from the Royal Society of Chemistry and Plymouth University.

Activities include:

- * 'dancing dinosaurs'
- * explore giant maps
- * a replica research aircraft cabin
- * fossil displays and 3D fossil printing
- * landslide and mountain building demonstrations
- * make your own earthquake
- * walk like a dinosaur

There is a booking form if you would like to attend the BGS Open Day on 27 June 2015: <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/news/events/openday/form.cfm>

Note: This is a 'drop-in' event, so you can arrive any time between 10 a.m. and about 3 p.m; the booking form helps BGS to plan for the busiest periods of the day.

Please provide enough information for BGS to contact you – in case any of the arrangements change. An e-mail address is ideal, but please ensure it is entered correctly.

Tweet about it using #BGSOpenDay2015.