



**Circular 414  
July 2015**

**Registered Charity No: 503617**

**President: Vanessa Banks**

[www.emgs.org.uk](http://www.emgs.org.uk)

**SUMMER 2015  
FIELD PROGRAMME**

**Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> August**

**Intra Anglian-Devensian event of Fenland and the Wolds.  
Leaders: Allan Straw and Peter Worsley.**

**Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> October/Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October**

**Field weekend Flamborough area and North York Moors  
Leader: Ian Sutton**

**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, 23<sup>rd</sup> 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.

The excursion will commence at 10.00 at Blossom Hill just north of Uffington some 3 km east of Stamford (NGR TF 063 088).

The objective will be to examine evidence which supports the concept of a glaciation between the classical Anglian (MOIS 12) and late Devensian (MOIS 2) glacial events. This will be achieved by undertaking a road traverse from Blossom Hill to Welton-le-Wold some 5 km west of Louth. The planned principal stops are :- Blossom Hill (deltaic proximal fluvio-glacial outwash), the Casewick railway cutting (interglacial channel), Baston (periglacial fan), Kirkby on Bain (Kirkby Moor Sands and the River Bain sub-floodplain sands and gravels) and finally Welton-le-Wold (three tills –

Welton, Calcethorpe and Marsh and 'preglacial' fluvial sediments). The aim will be conclude the meeting at 17.00

In eastern England, since the new millennium, the consensus of opinion has swung in favour of identifying a distinct glacial event of possible Marine Oxygen Isotope Stage (MOIS) 8 age (c 250 ka) occupying a cold stage which earlier had been called 'Wolstonian'. Some have argued that this glaciation is of MOIS 6 age. Such an event has long been argued for by Allan Straw and the recent work of the 'Trent Valley Palaeolithic Project' has brought forth strong support for this concept. A relevant stratigraphic site is at Welton-le-Wold near Louth where evidence provided by tills, artifacts and a mammalian fauna have enabled the reconstruction of environmental change during several glacial/interglacial cycles. During the last decade evidence from Welton has, it can be argued, been misconstrued and this field meeting hopefully will provide a 'correct' interpretation. We hope that potential attendees will, in part, be drawn from non-specialist Quaternary workers since we shall make an effort to explain the nature and significance of the field evidence in the context of global climatic change. Further, it should be noted that the leaders may not always be 'singing from the same hymn-sheet'!

Background reading.

Straw, A. 2005. Glacial and pre- glacial deposits at Welton-le-Wold, Lincolnshire. (reviewed in *Mercian Geologist* 16, 222-223)

Straw, A. 2008. The last two glaciations of east Lincolnshire. (reviewed in *Mercian Geologist* 17, 65)

The above two publications are now freely available as pdf files for downloading from the 'The Collection Art & Archaeology in Lincolnshire' web site.

Bridgland, D.R. *et al* eds. 2014. *Quaternary of the Trent*. Oxford, Oxbow Books, 434 p. This new book is a 'must have' for all interested in the development of the East Midlands landscape.

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

**Leader: Ian Sutton**

Meet on Saturday at Sewerby (TA 202687) adjacent to the Ship Inn at 10.30 am.

The Flamborough area displays the Cretaceous Chalk in its full glory. Although there are generally shallow dips in this sequence we will be able to see some excellent structures, very good coastal geomorphology and the impact in this area of the Pleistocene glaciation. Sewerby is a superb locality to start where a buried chalk cliff line is excellently displayed with overlying tills and outwash deposits. In the pre-lunch period a number of other localities will add to the detail of the geology of the Flamborough area. After a late lunch we will retreat from the incoming tide to inspect the geological features of the Forge Valley where the Upper Jurassic oolites are well displayed and where the last glaciation had profound effects on the drainage of the area.

On the Sunday we will take advantage of a low morning tide to see the superb sequence of Lower Jurassic (Lower and Middle Lias) at Staithes where we will be able to review the variety of rock types, abundant fossils and tectonic structures of this much visited sequence. The remainder of the day will be spent inland on the North York Moors with visits to localities in the Tertiary Cleveland Dyke, further examples of a landscape influenced by the Pleistocene glaciation and possibly a final stop on the west facing escarpment of the moors, overlooking Lake Gormire, across to the Vale of York and further afield.

### **AUTUMN/WINTER 2015 LECTURE PROGRAMME**

**Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

**David Harper, Professor Palaeontology at Durham University – Cambrian Explosion**

**Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2015**  
**Paul Nathanail, Professor at Nottingham University**

**Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> December 2015**  
**Richard Hawkes – Stone Treasures**  
**(followed by Cheese & Wine evening)**

**Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> January 2016**  
**Ian Williamson, BGS retired – Inner Hebrides lava fields**

**Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> February 2016**  
**Vanessa Banks, BGS – Nepal earthquakes and landslides**  
**Followed by the Annual Dinner**

**Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> March 2016**  
**Rory Mortimore, Professor at Brighton University – Chalk of the Paris to London fast railway route**

**April 2016** – date, speakers and title to be confirmed in next Circular.

### **CHANGE OF LECTURE VENUE**

Indoor meetings will, from this September, be held in the School of Geography on the Nottingham University campus which is in the Sir Clive Granger Building. Enter the University by the North Entrance, off the A52, and follow signs to the main Visitor Car Park. As you enter the car park, the Sir Clive Granger building is on your left.

The Society is indebted to the School of Geography at the University, who are sponsoring our lectures, for the use of these facilities.

### **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 1<sup>st</sup> 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**

Miss Jade Lewis, Derby

Professor P & Mrs J Nathanail, Bramcote, Nottingham.

### **Society Publications**

- (1) **East Midlands Field Guide;**
- (2) **Sandstone Caves of Nottingham** (3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto: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.

### **Geologists Association Events and Conference**

The following field trips organised by the Geologists Association may be of interest to you:

#### **Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> July 2015.**

**WEALDEN EXCURSION – joint meeting with the Hastings & District Geological Society**

**Leaders: Ken Brooks, Peter Austen and Ed Jarzembowski.**

#### **Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> August 2015**

**GEOLOGICAL HIGHLIGHTS OF MARTLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE – joint meeting with the Teme Valley Geological Society.**

**Leaders: John Nicklin and others**

#### **Friday 9<sup>th</sup>/Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

## **BUILDING OUR FUTURE**

**Geologists Association Annual Conference to be held at British Geological Survey, Keyworth, Nottingham – the programme comprises:**

**Friday morning session, 9<sup>th</sup> October – Rocks and stones: curating urban geology – Ruth Sidall;**

**Friday afternoon session, 9<sup>th</sup> October – The Global Heritage Stone Initiative – Brian Marker**

**Saturday field trips – (1) The building stones of Nottingham led by Tony Waltham and Graham Lott, and (2) The Devonshire marbles of Birmingham led by Gordon Walkden.**

**Full details and registration can be found on the GA website:**  
<http://www.geologistsassociation.org.uk/ukfield.html>

## **EMGS Website**

The publications page on the Society website ([www.emgs.org.uk](http://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](mailto: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 September 2015.**

**The next Council Meeting will be held on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015.**

**Secretary:** Mrs Janet Slatter, 100 Main Street, Long Whatton, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE12 5DG e-mail: [janet.slatter@btinternet.com](mailto: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](mailto: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:

Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> August

Day excursion – Fenland and the Wolds.

Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> October/  
Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> October

Weekend visit –Flamborough & North York Moors

*(Please delete those you will NOT be attending)*

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](mailto:ian.sutton035@btinternet.com)

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