



**Circular 419
March 2016**

Registered Charity No: 503617

President: Vanessa Banks

www.emgs.org.uk

SUMMER 2016 **FIELD PROGRAMME**

Wednesday, 11th May 2016

Leader: Richard Hawkes

Meeting time: 2.00 pm

Meeting place: Sherwood Forest Arts and Crafts Centre, Forest Corner, Edwinstowe NG21 9RN.

From Nottingham take the A614 to Ollerton roundabout and turn left along the A6075 into the village of Edwinstowe where the centre is located near the junction with the B6034 (grid Ref : SK 626668).

This is a follow up after the excellent talk that Richard gave us at the Christmas lecture. Richard will demonstrate the fine techniques used in the preparation of museum quality fossil specimens and we will also be able to see a very wide selection of prepared specimens some of which are for sale.

Weekend, Saturday 21st May/Sunday 22nd May 2016 – The Llŷn Peninsula

Leader: David Bate

Meeting time: 10.30 am

Meeting place: on Saturday in parking area at Porth Ysqaden (SH 219 374) NW of Tudweiliog

On Saturday we will examine the Gwna Group melange, a giant submarine slide deposit magnificently exposed along the north coast of Llŷn. Previously thought to be late Precambrian in age, it now appears more likely to date from the late-Cambrian to early Ordovician – although there remains some controversy both as to the age and mode of formation of the melange. There is plenty of evidence of glacial (Devensian) activity along this stretch of coast, including cliff-sections and ice-moulded and striated rock surfaces. We will follow an established coastal path, with occasional descents to the beach, depending on the tide.

On Sunday we will explore the central upland area of the peninsula around Garn Fadryn, a sub-volcanic microgranitoid of mid-Ordovician age, along with its associated andesitic lavas. A visit to the summit (our first port of call) will provide an opportunity to examine the pre-Roman to medieval hill-fort settlement, including a fortress or 'stone castle' recorded as newly built in 1188 – though now visible to none but the initiated! The walk to the top of Garn Fadryn involves a 15-minute climb up a well-used zigzag pathway – but the view from the summit is simply unmissable! We will then retrace our steps to a col to look at a remarkable tourmalinite, and fossiliferous sediments of Longvillian age. Depending on time, it may be possible to visit the nearby Gledrydd gorge to examine the hinge area of the Llŷn Syncline, which is not at all as shown on the published BGS Pwllheli sheet!

There will be occasions (mostly optional) for walking over loose rocks or uneven surfaces, so good footwear is advisable. We will hopefully be able to stop for a pub lunch on the sea front at Morfa Nefyn on Saturday but it will probably be necessary to bring a packed lunch on the Sunday. Finishing time on Sunday is negotiable, and can be designed to allow people to depart mid to late afternoon.

Wednesday, 15th June 2016 – Buxton Springs Walk

Leader: Albert Benghiat

Meeting time: 7.00 pm

Meeting Place: Buxton Opera House

There are several public car parks in the area (usually free after 6pm). The nearest car park is at the Pavilion Gardens but if you are getting there very early please note that the under-cover section is locked at 6pm and vehicles left cannot be retrieved until the next day. Buxton is usually at its best that time of year and there are plenty of pubs and restaurants in town for refreshments if required.

A town walk to inspect the natural springs in and around Buxton. Generally level walk of about 4km lasting about 2 hours, mostly on pavement and road.

Wednesday, 29th June 2016 – The Shepshed Area

Leader: Keith Ambrose

Meeting Time: 6.30 pm

Meeting Place: Grace Dieu Abbey (SK (41NW) 443 318

This fieldtrip will examine a variety of rocks ranging over 600 million years from the Precambrian to the Quaternary. We will be looking at the c.600 million year old volcanic breccias of the Charnwood Lodge Volcanic Formation and the Grimley Andesite, which forms the blocks in the breccias. Jumping forward to around 350 million years ago, we will examine the Carboniferous Peak Limestone Group Ticknall Limestone Formation dolostones and dolomitic Limestones exposed at Grace Dieu quarry on the edge of Charnwood Forest. These rocks are also well exposed at Breedon and Cloud Hill quarries. Jumping another 100 million years forward takes us into the Triassic period where we will be looking at the Shepshed Sandstone Member of the Helsby Sandstone Formation (formerly the Bromsgrove Sandstone Formation). This member was recognised and named as it contains scattered pebbles of Charnian rocks, reflecting a feeder tributary to the main Triassic river that flowed across England from Northern France. And finally we jump forward to around 450,000 years ago to examine glaciofluvial deposits that formed as outwash during the retreat of the Anglian ice sheet.

Saturday, 23rd July, 2016 - Day Trip to the 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, 14th August 2016 – Monsal Head

Leader: Vanessa Banks

Time: 10.15 am

Meeting place: Monsal Head Car Park (MR. SK18494 71501)

The aim of this visit is to investigate formational influences on styles of mass movement in the Peak Limestone Group. It will provide the opportunity to consider data in the National Landslide Database, how individuals might contribute and how the British Geological Survey classifies and maps landslides. We will conclude the day by comparing mass movement in the limestone with that in the Millstone Grit Group.

We have a member who lives in Mansfield Woodhouse who is unable to attend meetings due to disability. If anyone could offer a lift to meetings, please could they contact the secretary to offer assistance.

Sunday, 11th September 2016 – The Ashover Area

Leader: Colin Bagshaw

Time: 10.15 am

Meeting place: Ashover Village Hall

(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.

EMGS Council

At the AGM on the 19th March 2016 the following members were elected to serve on Council for the coming year:

President - Vanessa Banks
Vice-President - Brian Jones
Secretary - Janet Slatter
Treasurer - Colin Bagshaw
Editor - Tony Waltham

Ordinary members of Council: Mike Allan, Keith Ambrose, David Bate, Albert Benghiat, Tim Colman, Richard Hamblin, Paul Nathanail and Sue Miles..

New Member

Mr Simon Wylde, Broadgate Park, Nottingham.

Transport Help Needed

We have a member who lives in Mansfield Woodhouse who is unable to attend meetings due to disability. If anyone could offer a lift to meetings, please could they contact the secretary to offer assistance.

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.

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 into the webpage one year after they appear in the paper issues of the Mercian. All papers 2000 to 2014 are already in the online free archive.

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 2016

The next Council Meeting will be held on 12th May 2016.

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 2016

Please book me/us for the following excursions:

Wednesday, 11 th May	Sherwood Forest Arts & Crafts Centre
Weekend 21 st /22 nd May	The Llyn Peninsula
Wednesday, 15 th June	Evening walk – Buxton's Spring Waters
Wednesday, 29 th June	Evening walk – The Shepshed Area
Saturday, 23 rd July	Day excursion – Brassington Area
Sunday, 14 th August	Day excursion – Monsal Head
Sunday, 11 th September	Day excursion – The Ashover Area

(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
