



**Circular 425  
March 2017**

**Registered Charity No: 503617**

**President: Vanessa Banks**

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

## **WINTER 2017** **LECTURE PROGRAMME**

**Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> April 2017 – 6.00 pm**

**Dr Julie Prytulak, Imperial College, London – The Biggest Volcano on Earth**

### **LECTURE VENUE**

Indoor meetings are now 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.

**Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> April 2017 – 6.00 pm**

**London – The Biggest Volcano on Earth**

**Dr Julie Prytulak**

What images are evoked with the phrase “super-volcano”? Large explosions? Catastrophic damage? Perhaps even the extinction of species? Many television programmes preach the devastating effects of an eruption of the Yellowstone ‘supervolcano’. In this talk I will guide you through the discovery and critical importance of the Earth’s largest volcano (and it’s not Yellowstone ....). It is in a rather unfamiliar location and its discovery required years of concerted effort from a group of scientists from diverse backgrounds. It has, and continues to, yield invaluable information about the deep interior of the Earth.

## **SUMMER 2017** **FIELD PROGRAMME**

**Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2017 – 2.00 pm**

**Leader: Frank Ince of the Russell Society**

### **Charnwood Rocks – an exhibition. Organised by the Russell Society.**

An exhibition of rocks, minerals and fossils from the Charnwood area to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first academically verified report of the Late Precambrian fossil in Charnwood Forest.

**Meeting place at 2pm is: outside the Charnwood Museum, Granby Street, Loughborough LE11 3DU**

### **Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> May 2017 – 2.00 pm**

**Leader: Tim Colman**

### **Sedgwick Museum, Cambridge - World-class geological museum**

Visit to this famous geological museum. We will have a welcome and short introduction from the museum staff. Use this opportunity to see some more of Cambridge.

**Meeting place at 2pm is: Sedgwick museum entrance, Downing Street, Cambridge CB2 3EQ.** If you are coming by car it is probably best to use the Maddingley Road Park and Ride **CB3 0EX** (just off the A14) to St Andrew's Street – close to the museum in Downing Street.

### **Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2017 – 2.00 pm**

**Leader: TBA**

### **Creswell Crags - Permian Dolomitic Limestone with sedimentary features and Prehistoric habitation**

We will examine the well exposed Cadeby Formation dolomitic limestones in the gorge formed during Pleistocene glaciation. Access to the crags and visitor centre, which includes a café, is free. However the 'Life in the Ice Age' tour, which includes entry to the caves, has been provisionally booked for the group. This is an additional £7.50. *When booking for the general Crags please indicate whether you would like to go on the caves tour with the additional cost (payable on the day).*

**Meeting place at 2pm is: Creswell Crags Car Park (MR SK 538 744) £3 car park charge.**

### **Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> June 2017 – 10.30 am**

**Leader: John Carney**

### **Nuneaton Precambrian/Cambrian inlier sediments and intrusions**

The visit will examine the well exposed Cambrian sandstones and shales, with Caledonian igneous intrusions, in abandoned quarries around Nuneaton. We may also be able to see late Precambrian volcanic rocks of similar age to Charnwood.

**Meeting place at 10.30 am is: car park of the Anchor Inn, Mancetter Road, Hartshill CV10 0RT.**

### **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>/Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2017 – 10.00 am**

**Leader: Tim Colman**

### **Weekend Outing – Ravenstonedale. Carboniferous Limestone Pavements and Structure**

On Saturday we will start with a walk from the garden centre along a disused railway to the Swardale Gill Nature Reserve to see the Lower Carboniferous limestone and sandstone succession in a scenic gorge with limekilns and historic railway viaduct. 4-5 km walk. This will be followed by a visit to the nearby Ash Fell Edge which is the type locality and best exposure of the

Lower Carboniferous Ashfell sandstone and Ashfell limestone. The day will finish with a visit to the Skenfrith Bridge near Kirkby Stephen to see the basal Permian Brockram breccia.

Sunday will start at Great Asby where we will walk over the limestone pavement of Great Asby Scar, one of the best remaining pavements in Britain. 4-5 km walk. We will then drive past Fell End Clouds, near Ravenstonedale, with views of Wild Boar Fell to the east and west across the Dent Fault to the Howgill Fells (Silurian greywackes). If time permits we may walk up the steep slope to see an unusual inclined and well exposed pavement. The day will end with a walk along the Adam Sedgwick Trail in Garsdale, east of Sedbergh, examining the 2km stream section across the Dent Fault from Carboniferous Limestone with increasingly steep dips to Silurian Brathay Flags. Members may wish to end the day by visiting Adam Sedgwick's birthplace at Dent where there is a Shap Granite memorial and section in the local museum.

This field trip will involve walks of up to 5km over limestone grassland and along stream banks.

**Meeting place at 10am is: Lune Spring Garden Centre, Newbiggin-on-Lune CA17 4NS – on the A685 Kirkby Stephen-Tebay road.**

**Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> August 2017 – 10.15 am**

**Leader: Vanessa Banks – Joint visit with North Staffordshire Geological Society**  
**Monsal Dale Quaternary features and hydrology.**

This visit will explore some of the hydrological features in Monsal Dale and consider formational influences on both the hydrogeology and 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.

**Meeting place at 10.15 am is: Monsal Head Car Park (MR SK 18494 71501)**

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2017 – 10.00 am – 4.00 pm**

**Leader: Ken Nye of Stamford Geological Society**  
**Jurassic Limestones – Ketton Quarry. Joint visit with Stamford Geological Society**

The quarry shows the finest section of Bajocian (Jurassic – 175mya) to Bathonian (Jurassic – 165mya) strata currently available in inland Britain. Current and temporary exposures have allowed the whole of the Great and Inferior Oolite (Aalenian to Bathonian), and the Kellaways Beds (Callovian) to be seen and the strata are nearly horizontal.

The lower quarry exposes the Lincoln Limestone Formation (Bajocian), while the floor of the upper quarry is formed by the top of this formation. The upper quarry is in the Rutland Formation. At the very top of the exposures is the base of the Oxford Clay, meaning that the entire of the Middle Jurassic can be seen at Ketton Quarry. (Note that recently a sump hole in the middle of the quarry has revealed Upper Lias mudstones and more).

**NOTE: Mandatory Equipment:** Eye protection, Hard Hats, boots or wellies suitable for quarries, Orange Hi-Vis Vests.

**Meeting place at 10.00 am is: Pit Lane, Ketton, near Stamford PE9 3SZ – exact location to be advised.**

## **Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017 – 2.00 pm**

**Leader: Adam Smith**

### **Major Dinosaur Exhibition**

World-class exhibition of a range of dinosaurs from China, including feathered examples and holotypes – which have never before left China. We will have a personal guided tour by the Wollaton Hall Curator, Adam Smith, who has been instrumental in organising the exhibition.

**Meeting place at 2pm is: Wollaton Hall main entrance.**

### **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 11<sup>th</sup> March 2017 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 Allen, Peter Beastall, Albert Benghiat, Tim Colman, Richard Hamblin, Peter Jones, Paul Nathanail, Sue Miles and Ian Sutton.

### **Fresh Exposures in Charnwood Forest**

Colonel Martin at The Brand, Woodhouse Eaves, has reported that there is much to see with new bedding planes now exposed caused by vegetation clearance. This is a golden opportunity to see basal Cambrian Rocks possibly going into Precambrian. Members of the East Midlands Geological Society can go to see The Brand on an excursion organised for Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April at 10.00 am.

**Please phone Helen Boynton on 0116 270 6806 or e-mail [info@birdhouse.co.uk](mailto:info@birdhouse.co.uk)**

### **Post Graduate Diploma in the Geology of Yorkshire and Northern England**

The University of York is setting up this new mainly online Diploma course which also includes a mandatory residential week in York.

If you are interested please contact Emily Limb on 01904 328482 or e-mail [Emily.limb@york.ac.uk](mailto:Emily.limb@york.ac.uk)

## **Other Societies**

### **The Russell Society ([www.russellsoc.org](http://www.russellsoc.org)) Charnwood Rocks:Our Geological Heritage**

An exhibition of rocks, fossils and minerals from the Charnwood area.

April-May 2017 at Charnwood Museum, Queens Park, Granby Street, Loughborough LE11 3DU.  
The exhibition will coincide with the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first academically verified report in May 1957, of a Late Precambrian fossil in Charnwood Forest by a Leicester schoolboy.  
Contact Charnwood Museum for more details on 01509 233754

## **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.*

## **Transport Help Needed**

We have several long standing members of the Society who can no longer attend meetings due to transport difficulties. If anyone would be prepared to offer help with this, please could they let the Secretary have their details.

## **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.

## **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 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](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 late May/early June 2017.**

**The next Council Meeting will be held on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017.**

**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 2017**

|   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Wednesday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> May  | Afternoon visit – Charnwood Museum |
| Thursday, 25 <sup>th</sup> May  | Afternoon visit – Sedgwick Museum  |
| Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> June  | Afternoon visit – Creswell Crags   |
| Optional 'Life in the Ice Ages' tour with caves £7.50 (please tick if required) |                                    |
| Saturday, 25 <sup>th</sup> June   | Day visit – Nuneaton               |
| Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> /Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> July                           | Kirkby Stephen, Cumbria            |
| Sunday, 13 <sup>th</sup> August   | Day visit – Monsal Head            |
| Saturday, 9 <sup>th</sup> September   | Day visit – Ketton Quarry          |
| Tuesday, 19 <sup>th</sup> September   | Afternoon visit – Wollaton Hall    |

*(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:

Tim Colman, at 1 Rose Hill, Keyworth, Nottingham NG12 5GR

Tel. no: 0115 937 4734 e-mail: [timcolman@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:timcolman@tiscali.co.uk)

***Mobile (only for use on field trip days if delayed) 07729 955658***