

North Staffordshire Group Geologists' Association Bulletin 49 : April 1999

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ARTICLES & PUBLICATIONS

Barnatt, J. 1999 **

Prehistoric mining at Ecton

Mercian Geologist 14(3) p.109

A brief report on the finding of an antler tool dated 1880-1630 BC in Dutchman Mine; this find confirms that there was Bronze Age mining at Ecton Hill.

Roberts, D.E. 1998 **

Elephant country: an update

Teaching Earth Sciences 23 pp.188-190

Details are provided of the outcome of some of the alleged fraud cases mentioned in his early article (see [NSGGA Bulletin 48](#)).

Roberts, D.E. 1998 **

Review of Geology of the country around Stoke-on-Trent (BGS Memoir of Sheet 123)

Teaching Earth Sciences 23 pp.196-197

The reviewer, pointing out his personal preferences, suggests that the Memoir is heavily biased to traditional geology of an academic nature and is light on the practical value.

*** items are available for reference (by prior appointment) at the Geological Records Centre, Natural History, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent ST1 3DW Tel. 01782 232323*

VOLCANIC EXPERIENCES

If you are interested in geology and would like to be part of a small tour group especially looking at volcanic features, then it may be worth enquiring about these:

29 May to 5 June, 1999 - **Sicily and Aeolian Island Tour** - cost £575 (half-board), £515 (self-catering)

24 to 31 July, 1999 - **Sicily and Aeolian Island Tour** - cost £655 (half-board), £595 (self-catering)

7 to 14 August, 1999 - **Iceland Tour** - cost £850

23 to 30 October, 1999 - **Southern Italy Tour, based in Sorrento** - cost £550

For further details contact the organiser: Alan Clewlow, Volcanic Experiences, 19 Manor Court Road, Bromsgrove, Worcs. B60 3NW Tel. 01527 832578

FROM THE LOCAL PAPERS

The Sentinel reported on 24.2.1999 that progress in the construction of the new Lorne Street stand at Port Vale's Burslem ground had been hampered by the discovery of old mine shafts and coal seams. Although the geology maps for the area do not confirm a coal seam outcrop at this point, it is likely that it is around the Spencroft seam of the Westphalian C Coal Measures.

The Apedale Mining Museum at Chesterton (Sentinel 26.2.1999) is due to open at the end of this year. Features planned include a trail explaining the Apedale Valley's past from Roman times, its brickmaking history and mining heritage, and an 'underground experience' exploring the unused drift mine tunnels.

NSGGA FIELD DAYS - join in the fun this season

Last June I enjoyed a NSSGA field weekend on the Lleyn Peninsula. The weather may have been mixed but the company was good. Our guest house was run by welcoming hosts who made use very comfortable. Our field leader, the well-known enthusiast Reg Bradshaw, showed us plenty of unusual rocks and we discussed them to a greater or lesser extent according to individual taste, as we surveyed the scene, the wild flowers and the birds. Reg distilled much of the detail to an appropriate level for newcomers as well as experienced field-geologists.

Then in the autumn I joined the NSGGA field day above Llangollen, ably led by Ros Todhunter. She showed us a file of clear maps and sections, all fortunately laminated against the showers. The day ended at a local tea-room which was much appreciated.

Geology is a field subject, so having enjoyed the winter lecture season, why don't you join a NSSGA field day this summer? Those who go regularly will make you most welcome!

Zoë Fleming

WORLD of the SEA DRAGONS

In a special exhibition until 4 September, 1999 Dudley Museum are displaying specimens of Jurassic marine reptiles and fish which 'takes visitors into the ocean depth to encounter these long-extinct sea monsters and their prey'. The Museum, (St. James's Road, Dudley) is open from 10.00am to 4.00pm Monday to Saturday, and admission is free! For further details ring 01384 815575

NSGGA DISPLAY - OLD PHOTOS WANTED

The Group is aiming to produce a display of our activities over the years and we would be interested to see any photographs of activities and places visited that you may have which were taken on organised NSGGA trips. Any material old or new could be relevant so please contact Don Steward at the Potteries Museum (01782 232323) if you think you may be able to help out. The display will be used to promote the Group at the Earth Alert conference in Brighton next year, but will also be available for other publicity opportunities.

NSGGA WEB PAGE ADDRESS

Dr. Ian Stimpson of Keele University has created and will maintain a WEB site for the NSGGA You can find us at: www.asrp.esci.keele.ac.uk/nsgga

This address is likely to change this summer when the new School of Earth Sciences and Geography at Keele University gets a new web server. We will let you know of any change.

SHROPSHIRE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY FIELD TRIPS

For further details of the following contact: Gordon Hillier, SGS Field Secretary The Smithy, Maesbrook, Oswestry SY10 8QW Tel. 01691 682484

Sunday **6 June** - Glacial geology of the Shrewsbury area - leader: Prof. Peter Worsley

Sunday **27 June** - Silurian sedimentation west of the Church Stretton Fault in Shropshire - leader: Martin Allbutt

Wednesday (evening) **21 July** - Leaton Quarry near Wellington - leader: David McClelland Sunday **8 August** - Rock and the landscape of Clee Hill

Weekend **3-5 September** - Dinosaurs and sea-dragons (Jurassic of the Yorkshire Coast) - leader: Dr. Philip Manning

SRIGS GROUP AGM

The AGM of the Staffs. Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Sites Group will be held on: **Tuesday, 8 June 1999 at 7.30pm**

At the Staffs. Wildlife Trust Headquarters, Coutts House, Sandon, Staffs

If you need further details please contact Sue Lawley at the SWT Tel. 01889 508534

BGS BARGAINS!

The Sales Desk, British Geological Survey, Keyworth, Nottingham NG12 5GG Tel. 0115 936 3241 are offering the following reductions in price Mineral Resources Series publications:

WF/95/3 **Derbyshire**: Resources and constraints (was £70.00, now £45.00)

WF/95/4 **Peak District**: Resources and constraints (was £70.00, now £45.00)

WF/95/3 **Staffordshire**: Resources and constraints (Report + 1 map - was £70.00, now £45.00, Report + 2 maps - was £125.00, now £70.00)

NEXT NSGGA COMMITTEE MEETING

- **Wednesday, 14 April, 1999 at 7.30pm**
in the Tutorial and Staff Coffee Room, Dept. of Earth Sciences, Keele University.
- Beforehand, there will be a meeting of the **John Myers Awards sub-committee at 7.00pm**

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[NSGGA Home Page](#)

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