

Bulletin

Number 60

January 2002



NSGGA Programme of evening lectures for 2002

Thursday 10th January 2002

7 30 pm in Room 324 of the Mellor Building, Staffordshire
University, College Road, Stoke-on-Trent

Jonathan O'Dell:

An Insight into the Geology of Central Iran

Thursday 14th February 2002

6 00 pm in the Westminster Theatre of the Chancellor's Building
University of Keele

Professor John Winchester (Keele University)

Construction of a Continent: European Union in the Palaeozoic

This is an event being run by Keele University to which members of the
NSGGA have kindly been invited.

Thursday 14th March 2002

7 30 pm at the Dept. of Earth Sciences, University of Keele

Annual General Meeting and Chairman's Address

The sea lilies of Hope

Bill Fone's address is about the lower Ordovician crinoids found in the
Shelve Formation of the Shropshire borderlands.

For more details about the talks please contact:

NSGGA Secretary: Dorothy Wright,
24 Elm Tree Lane, Bignall End, Stoke-on-Trent ST7 8NG ☎ 01782 721576

Field trip programme 2002

Sunday 14th April

Charnwood Forest, Leicestershire.

A chance to study Pre-Cambrian rocks and search for Charnia Supergroup metazoan fossils.
This will be a joint meeting with the West Midlands Open University Geological Society.

Weekend 27th / 28th April

A weekend field trip to the **Gower Peninsula, South Wales.**

Leader: Geraint Owen (University of Swansea).

Sun, Sand, Sea and Sedimentary rocks. Folded, faulted, uplifted and eroded Devonian and Carboniferous sedimentary rocks. Why not also bring the family along; there are lots of activities for non-geologists. Gower Heritage Centre, Stembridge Mill, Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust and the National Botanical Gardens of Wales at Carmarthen. [Further details available here](#)

If you are interested in attending, please contact Janet or Carol

Sunday 9th June

Ercall Quarry, Shropshire.

Leader: Ian Stimpson (University of Keele).

Be prepared to do some active geology. The opportunity to learn about Pre-Cambrian rocks (volcanic lavas, pink granophyre, steeply dipping quartz bedding, an unconformity, slickensides and ripple beds).

Sunday 21st July

Clent Hills and St George's Land, West Midlands.

Leader: Graham Worton (Keeper of Geology at Dudley Museum).

From the Carboniferous to Glacial Deposits - this is the next instalment of Graham's geological story of the West Midlands. It is hoped that we can arrange a pub lunch on this occasion for those who are interested.

Sunday 18th or 25th August

Castleton Area in the Peak District, Derbyshire. Leader: Chris King (University of Keele).

Problem Solving in the Peaks using rocks in the Castleton area to teach about the Earth.

Be prepared to work!

September

Cotton Dell, Oakamoor, Staffordshire.

A visit to this Staffs RIGS site to study Ken Rout's guide to its geology.

October

We have some plans for a visit to the **Malvern Hills, Worcestershire.**

For more information about the field trips please contact either
Janet Fairclough ☎ 01782 641812 Email: jfair1sc@btinternet.com or
Carol Burnett ☎ 01782 713227 E-Mail: carol@burnett40.freemove.co.uk

Worth Prize of the Geological Society of London

David Thompson, long-time and Honorary Member of the NSGGA, has been awarded the R.H. Worth Prize by the Geological Society of London. It is awarded annually "in recognition of meritorious geological research carried out by amateur geologists, or for the encouragement of geological research by amateurs". In David's case it is the latter criterion that holds, as evidenced by his outstanding record in training geology and other science teachers and his support of amateur geologists through both the Geologists' Association and the British Association.

David will be presented with his Prize at the Geological Society's Award Ceremony, which is scheduled for 2nd May, 2002.

Gilbert Kelling

subscriptions are now due!

Subscriptions 2002

The membership subscriptions for the Group are now due and there is a reminder form to complete [Form available here](#). Please contact Membership Secretary Mike Brown if you have any queries.

Geowatch

Since our last Bulletin the RSNL has withdrawn its support for Rockwatch, which to all intents and purposes has ceased to

operate. Our committee has decided that we should continue to offer a programme of geology meetings for children under the name "Geowatch".

The main aim will still be to introduce the children to geology in such a way as they will find it fun to learn and leave them wanting to know more.

A programme of events for National Science Week 2002 (9th March: Potteries Museum and 16th March: Eccleshall Library) has already been prepared. See the separate flyer for details. [Further details available here](#)

We have also agreed dates with the Potteries Museum for events during 2002. Make a note in your diary of the following dates: 10th August 2002 and 12th October 2002.

Graham Worton, Keeper of Geology at Dudley Museum, is very keen to enlist our involvement in activities at the Dudley Museum; it is likely that we will repeat any activities that we do at the Potteries Museum.

meetings co-ordinator: **Mike Fereday**

☎ 01782 713227, email: carol@burnett40.freemove.co.uk

John Myers Fund and Awards

On the subscription renewal form, members will see a request for donations to the John Myers Fund. For newer members, an explanation is perhaps in order.

John Myers was a founder member of NSGGA, and in his memory an award of £100 is made each year to one student from Keele and one from Staffs University, with runners up receiving £20. There is also a medal for the two winners, which is highly prized.

For the past 5 years, John Myers' daughter, Ann Myatt has provided the prize money, and the Group is indebted to her for her generosity.

Your committee thinks it appropriate to boost the present fund in preparation for the time when Mrs Myatt feels unable to continue her financial support.

Through pressure of other work, I will be handing over the Chairmanship to Mike Fereday. Thank-you all for your support over the years.

John Reynolds, Retiring Chairman.

Articles & Publications

King, C. 2001 **

A survey of secondary teachers of Earth science

Teaching Earth Sciences 26, pp. 59-67

NSGGA committee member from the Earth Science Education Unit at Keele University summarises the results of surveys into teaching Earth Sciences and includes recommendations as to how a generally poor picture can be improved.

Thompson, D.B. 2001 **

Still on the Trail of the Provenance of the Keele University Borehole Core bearing Triassic

Isochirotherium Footprints and Tracks

Bulletin of the North Staffs. Group of the Geologists' Association 60 Appendix 15, pp. 1-4 [Paper available here](#)

Further information is revealed as to the source of the Triassic footprints at Keele.

** items are available for reference (by prior appointment) in the Natural History unit,
The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent ST1 3DW ☎ 01782 232323

Staffordshire RIGS Group

* **SRIGS AGM: Tuesday, 18 June at 7.30pm**

at the Staffs. Wildlife Trust offices, Coutts House, Sandon. Contact Sue Lawley at the SWT for details ☎ 01889 508534 or contact SRIGS Chairman, Ken Rout ☎ 01785 662291

NSGGA - Next Committee Meeting

Thursday 24 January 2002 at 7.00pm in room CBA1.077, Chancellor's Building, Education Department, Keele University

Contacts List: NSGGA Committee 2001-02

Chairman: Bill Fone,

23 Mill Farm Drive, Randlay, Telford TF3 2NA ☎ 01782 294284 (work) ☎ 01952 596656 (home)

email: w.fone@staffs.ac.uk

Vice-chairman: Alastair Fleming,

1 Vicars Close, Oulton, Stone, Staffs ST15 8UQ ☎ 01785 816862 email:

alastair_fleming@talk21.com

Secretary: Dorothy Wright,

24 Elm Tree Lane, Bignall End, Stoke-on-Trent ST7 8NG ☎ 01782 721576

Treasurer: Carol Burnett,

28 Brookside Close, Newcastle-under-Lyme ST5 2HX ☎ 01782 713227 email:
carol@burnett40.freeseve.co.uk

Membership Sec.: Mike Brown,

6 Spring Close, Rode Heath, Stoke-on-Trent ST7 3TQ ☎ 01270 878130 email:
michael.a.brown@lineone.net

Field Sec.: Janet Fairclough

140 Mayne Street, Hanford, Stoke-on-Trent ST4 4QY ☎ 01782 641812 email:
jfair1sc@btinternet.com

Conservation Sec.: Keith Harrison,

21 Grove Avenue, Heron Cross, Stoke-on-Trent ST4 3BA ☎ 01782 331699

Bulletin Sec.: Don Steward,

Natural History, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Bethesda Street, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent ST1
3DW ☎ 01782 232323 email: don.steward@stoke.gov.uk

Executive Committee (honorary):

Dr. Colin Exley; Terry Jones; David Thompson; Ted Watkin.

Executive Committee (elected):

Mike Fereday; Chris King; Phil Pye; John Reynolds; Ken Rout; John Winchester.

Executive Committee (co-opted):

In addition a representative from the Staffs. University Geol. Soc. and the Keele Geol. Soc. is
invited to attend committee

Why not visit the NSGGA web pages: www.esci.keele.ac.uk/nsgga