



# Bulletin of the North Staffordshire Group of the Geologists' Association Number 101 : April 2012



## SUMMER FIELD PROGRAMME 2012

Each person attending field meetings does so on the understanding that they attend at their own risk. The NSGGA has public liability insurance through a GA insurance policy that also carries limited personal accident cover for members attending meetings or field trips. Non-members pay £2 to cover temporary membership giving them insurance cover.

A field fee of £2 per head is normally charged for members and non-members to cover leader's expenses.

In the continued absence of a field secretary we are running a number of ad-hoc field trips this summer. We hope to have more dates confirmed by the July Bulletin. If you would like to help the NSGGA by becoming the field secretary please contact the chairman, David Osborn.

## Dudley Museum & Wren's Nest Saturday June 23, 2012



The trip should convene in the reception of Dudley Museum and art Gallery at 10.45am and we'll have a look at the new exhibits and handle some objects from the collection until about 12:45pm when we'll break for lunch while we have access to toilets and the eating opportunities of the town.

We will re-convene at the Mons Hill College car park at 1:30pm where we'll have a walk around the new trails and features that have been installed as part of the Ripples Through Time HLF supported project work that has been happening over the last few months. We will of course also do some fossil hunting and talk about our new discoveries and researches along the way.

Directions overleaf...

## Getting to Dudley Museum and Art Gallery

### From the M5 Motorway

Exit the Motorway at Junction 2. Follow the A4123 towards Dudley for approximately 2 miles/ 3 km . As you approach Dudley you will come to a large traffic island where the A461 crosses the A4123. There is a Tesco superstore, and a 'Toby' carvery directly opposite you on this island. Continue along the A461 towards Dudley. You will come to another large traffic island covered with large works of public art. Carry straight on towards Dudley to a set of traffic lights immediately in front of a large old building (the station Hotel). At these lights there is a store on the right called 'the Trading Post' and a little way ahead on the right you can see a large cinema building which is now a bingo hall. Go straight on through the set of traffic lights and up the hill passing the zoo entrance on your right hand side to a small set of traffic lights at the top of the hill.

All traffic turns to the right at these lights. Ahead of you at the lights is a statue and the high street of the town. To your right as you go through and sweep around to the right is the Fellows pub and restaurant. After a couple of hundred yards you will come to another set of traffic lights with a large open grass area to your left. Across this park (Coronation Gardens) you can see a large civic building which is the main entrance to the Council offices. The museum is at the rear of this building and can be approached by car or foot.

### By Car

Turn left at these traffic lights and go alongside the gardens passing a stone obelisk monument to the war dead of Dudley and arriving at a mini roundabout. Turn left again and drive up past the main entrance to the council offices taking the first right hand turn into Priory Street. (basically you are following the edge of the council building around the block). After about a hundred yards you see the next corner of the block which is a right hand turn into St James Road. The museum is the large red-brick and terracotta building on the opposite corner at this right hand turn. St James Road is a one-way system and parking is limited to 1 hour between 8am and 6pm.

### By Foot

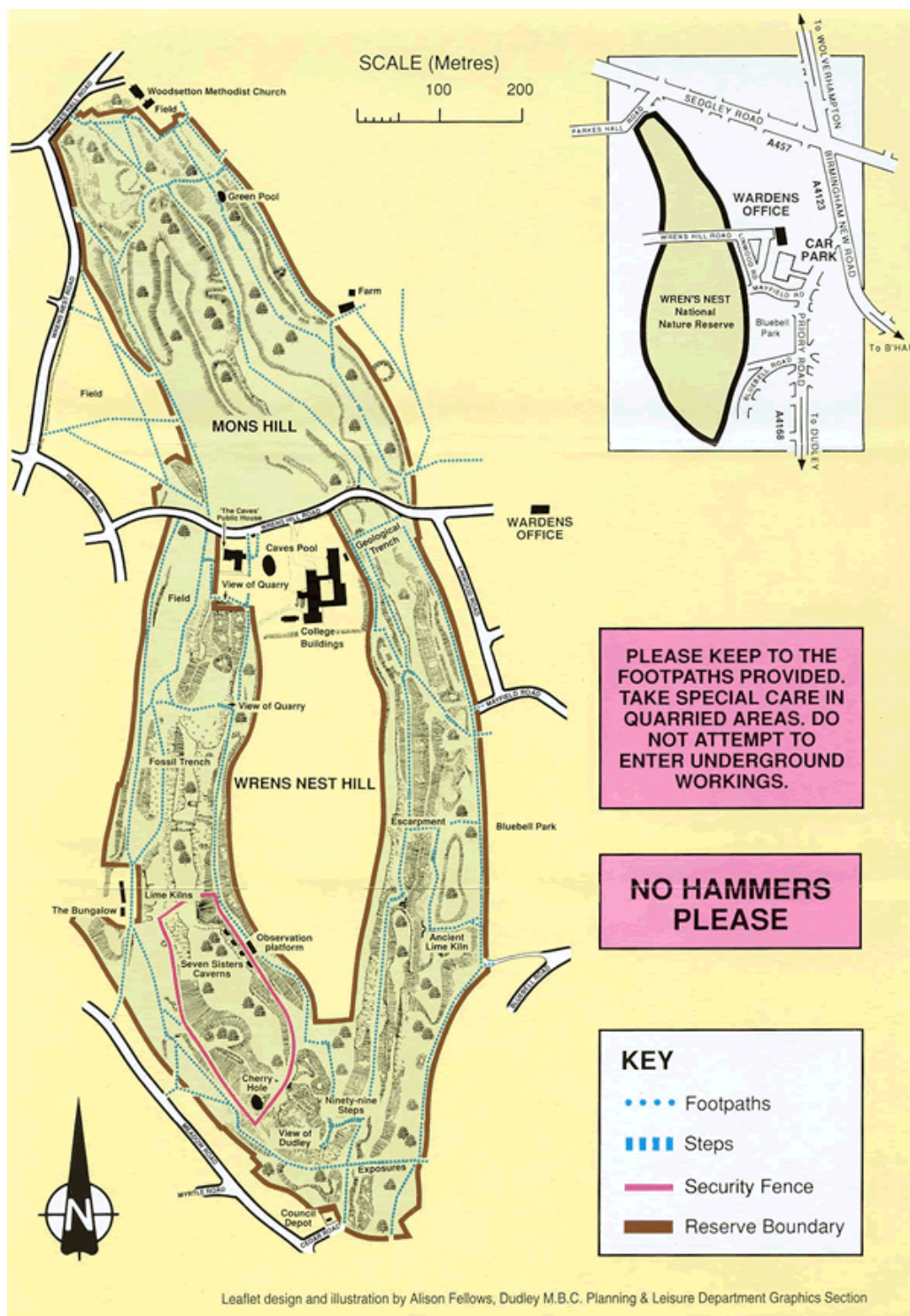
Your best bet is to park the car at the Priory Road car park ( ie Turn left at these traffic lights and go alongside the gardens passing a stone obelisk monument to the war dead of Dudley and arriving at a mini roundabout. Turn right into Priory Road and after about 50 yards there is a large pay and display car park on the left turn in and park)

After leaving the car, walk back up Priory Road across the mini roundabout, past the main entrance to the council building to the next right hand turn into Priory Street going on for a further 100 yards to the museum building on the corner of St James Road.

(basically as in a car, you are following the edge of the council building around the block). After about a hundred yards you see the next corner of the block which is a right hand turn into St James Road. The museum is the large red-brick and terracotta building on the opposite corner at this right hand turn

## Getting to Wrens Nest from Dudley Museum

From the museum go down the slope of St James Road to the first junction and turn right into Ednam Road. Follow Ednam Road along to a mini roundabout. Turn left into Priory Road and follow this down to a larger roundabout which has the ruins of the medieval priory opposite. Take the second exit from this island (which is a continuation of Priory Road) and follow this along for about half a mile. After passing the seventh turning on your left hand side take the next one (Mayfield Road) Follow this uphill until you come to Linwood Road on the right hand side. Take this turning and follow it to its end then turn left onto Wrens Hill Road. Immediately after the summit of the hill Monsh Hill College campus will appear on the left pull onto its car park and gather here.



## Nuneaton Area

### Saturday September 1, 2012

#### Woodlands Quarry: SP 325 947 **NOTE: ABSOLUTELY NO HAMMERING AT THIS SITE**

This disused quarry exposes a sequence of rocks laid down beneath the during late Precambrian to early Cambrian times, and is of international significance because of the early Cambrian fossils which are found here. Fossils of this age are exceptionally rare, and are found at no other locality in Britain, the nearest comparable assemblages being found in Siberia and Scandinavia. The site is of great importance because of the information which it yields concerning the evolution of Britain and Western Europe during this period.

#### Jee's Quarry: SP 333 940

A very large roadstone quarry situated on the west side of the B4111 some 3.5 km north west of Nuneaton. Five members of the Hartshill Sandstone Formation are represented. These are the Park Hill, Tuttle Hill, Jee's, Home Farm and Woodlands members. Numerous trace fossils have been found in these rocks that are beneath undisputed Tommotian shelly fossils. Collectively, these provide some of the oldest Cambrian fossils to have been found in Europe. The overlying Purley Shale Formation of the Stockingford Shale Group is also exposed which yields Middle Cambrian trilobite fossils.

## Cheddleton Area

### October 2012 - to be confirmed

The area around Cheddleton Railway Station includes the unconformity between the Permo-Triassic sandstones and the Carboniferous Millstone Grit, which can be mapped to show its considerable relief - the Cauldon Canal provides a very convenient datum! An actual exposure of the unconformity can be viewed a mile or so from the Station.

## WINTER LECTURE PROGRAMME 2012/13

The winter lecture programme is still being finalised but please reserve the second Thursday of the month for October to March in your diary for evening talks.

## Other Societies

### Black Country Geological Society

Lectures at Dudley Museum & Art Gallery, St James's Road, Dudley

**Tuesday 19 June @ 18:00**

Canal trip into Dudley Limestone Mine. Meet at 6pm, followed at 7.30pm by 'Grey Pays un Baercon' at the Park Tavern Woodsetton

**Saturday 30 June @ 08.40**

Visit to Haughmond Hill Quarry (nr. Shrewsbury) and The Ercall (nr. The Wrekin) Led by Bob Bucki.

More details at [www.bcgs.info](http://www.bcgs.info)

### East Midlands Geological Society

Lectures in room B3, Biology Building of the University of Nottingham

**Sunday 20 May @ tbc**

Wren's Nest, Dudley and the Saltwells Local Nature Reserve. Leader: Graham Worton

**Wednesday 23 May @ tbc**

Evening Walk - Alstonefield area

Leader: Albert Benghiat

**Wednesday 20 June @ tbc**

Evening Walk - The Rock Cemetery, Nottingham

Leader: Tim Colman and Neil Turner

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

### East Midlands Regional Group of the Geological Society

**Wednesday 20 June**

London 2012 Olympic Park 3D model

Dr Kate Royse (BGS) at BGS Keyworth

**Tuesday 3 July**

Soft ground tunnelling through London

Speaker: Ursula Lawrence (CrossRail) at BGS

Keyworth

More details at [www.geolsoc.org.uk/gsl/groups/regional/emrg](http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/gsl/groups/regional/emrg)

### Liverpool Geological Society

Meetings are held in the James Parsons Building, Liverpool John Moores University, Byrom Street Campus at 7.30 pm in Lecture Theatre 137

**Saturday/Sunday 28/9 April**

North Wales Field Trip. Led by Jacqui Malpas

More details at [liverpoolgeologicalsociety.org.uk](http://liverpoolgeologicalsociety.org.uk)

### Manchester Geological Association

Lectures at the Williamson Building, University of Manchester

**Saturday 12 May @ 13:30**

Rowarth - Lantern Pike. Leader: Jane Michael

**Saturday 9 June @ 11:00**

Dangerous Dinosaurs and Fabulous Fossils: at Park

Bridge Visitor Centre, Ashton-under-Lyne

Leader: Chantal Johnson

**Sunday 24 June @ tbc**

Conwy Area. Leader: Jonathan Wilkins.

**Saturday 28 July @ 10:00**

Cefn Mawr and Moel Findeg. Leader: Peter del Strother

More Details at [www.mangeolassoc.org.uk](http://www.mangeolassoc.org.uk)

**North West Regional Group of the Geological Society**

**Thursday 24 May @ 18:30**

Shale Gas in the UK: What, Where, Why, How? By Ed Hough (BGS) at Birchwood Park

More details at [www.geolsoc.org.uk/gsl/groups/regional/nwrg](http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/gsl/groups/regional/nwrg)

**Shropshire Geological Society**

Lectures in the Shire Hall, Shrewsbury

**Saturday 21 April**

Earls Hill, led by David Pannett

**Saturday 5 May**

Around Caradoc, led by Keith Hotchkiss

**Tuesday 22 May @ 18:00**

Rockhop: Cardington, led by David Pannett

**Saturday 9 June @ 14:00**

Rockhop: Bridgnorth, led by Andrew Jenkinson and Mary Steer

**Saturday 7 July**

Lower Levels, Snailbeach Mine, led by Chris Rayner. An opportunity to visit deep underground. Special insurance arrangements will apply and be aware that tight squeezes will be involved

More details at [www.shropshiregeology.org.uk/SGS/SGSintro.html](http://www.shropshiregeology.org.uk/SGS/SGSintro.html)

**Warwickshire Geological Conservation Group**

Field programme to be confirmed.

More details at [www.wgcg.co.uk](http://www.wgcg.co.uk)

**West Midlands Regional Group of the Geological Society**

More details at [www.geolsoc.org.uk/gsl/groups/regional/wmrg](http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/gsl/groups/regional/wmrg)

**Western Institute of Mining and Minerals**

Lectures at the William Smith Building, Keele University

Lecture programme will re-commence in October

More details at [www.iom3.org/wimm](http://www.iom3.org/wimm)

**NSGGA - Next Committee Meeting:  
Thursday 17 May @ 19:00**

In F34, the William Smith Building, Keele University

**Contacts List: NSGGA Committee 2011-12**

**Chairman: David Osborn**

Stretton, 2 Croyde Place, Meir Park, Stoke-on-Trent, ST3 7XD. Tel 01782 396692  
email: [david.d.osborn@talktalk.net](mailto:david.d.osborn@talktalk.net)

**Vice-Chairman: Dr Patrick Cossey**

Applied Sciences, Staffordshire University, College Road, Stoke-on-Trent, ST4 2DE  
Tel. 01782 294438  
e-mail: [p.j.cossey@staffs.ac.uk](mailto:p.j.cossey@staffs.ac.uk)

**General Secretary: Eileen Fraser,**

47 Longdown Road, Congleton, Cheshire CW12 4QH Tel. 01260 271505  
email: [fraser@fraserco.co.uk](mailto:fraser@fraserco.co.uk)

**Treasurer: Brenda Kay,**

9 Copthorne Drive, Audlem, Crewe, Cheshire, CW3 0EQ Tel. 01270 811650  
email: [r.peter.k@gmail.com](mailto:r.peter.k@gmail.com)

**Membership Sec.: Gerald Ford,**

Woodville, Tower Road, Ashley Heath, Market Drayton, Shropshire TF9 4PU Tel. 01630  
673409  
e-mail: [gford@btinternet.com](mailto:gford@btinternet.com)

**Speakers Sec: Diane Lawrence,**

9 Brickfield Close, Hixon, Stafford, ST18 0NY Tel. 01889 207195  
e-mail: [diane.lawrence1@gmail.com](mailto:diane.lawrence1@gmail.com)

**Field Sec.: Vacant**

**GeoConservation Staffordshire Liaison Officer: Dr Ian Stimpson,**

24 Sorrell Gardens, Newcastle-under-Lyme, ST5 3FA Tel. 07779 083243  
e-mail; [i.g.stimpson@esci.keele.ac.uk](mailto:i.g.stimpson@esci.keele.ac.uk)

**Bulletin Sec.: Dr Ian Stimpson,**

24 Sorrell Gardens, Newcastle-under-Lyme, ST5 3FA Tel. 07779 083243  
e-mail; [i.g.stimpson@esci.keele.ac.uk](mailto:i.g.stimpson@esci.keele.ac.uk)

**Executive Committee (honorary):**

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

**Honorary Life Member: Ann Myatt**

**Executive Committee (elected):**

Dr Lloyd Boardman; Dr Stuart Egan; Carol Fereday; Mike Fereday; Dr Peter Floyd; Janet Osborn (Minutes Secretary); Vicky Tunstall (John Myers Awards);

**Executive Committee (co-opted):**

Don Steward, John Reynolds; Michael Kelly (Keele GeoSoc).

**NSGGA web pages: [www.esci.keele.ac.uk/nsgga](http://www.esci.keele.ac.uk/nsgga)**