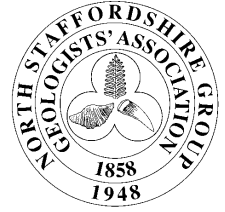




## Bulletin of the North Staffordshire Group of the Geologists' Association Number 104 : January 2013



### WINTER LECTURE PROGRAMME 2013

Lectures are held in room WS0.06 William Smith Building, Keele University

The committee invites you to join them for a meal at 6pm in the Keele COMUS restaurant to entertain the speaker before each lecture (except the AGM). The cost is approximately £9 for a two-course meal not including wine or coffee.

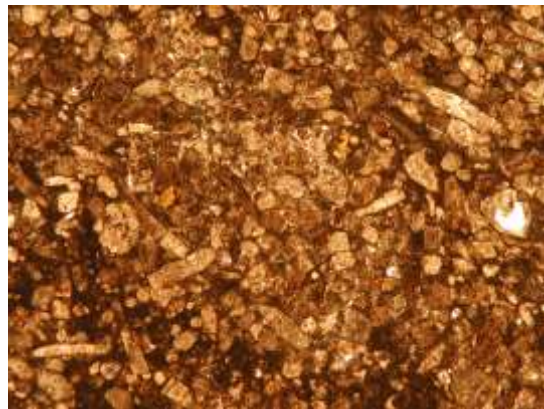
**Thursday 17th January 19:30**

**'The Forensic Use Of Microfossils'**

**Speaker: Hayden Bailey (Network Stratigraphic Consulting Ltd.)**

Dr Hayden Bailey, director of Network Stratigraphic Consulting Ltd. will be the next President of the Geologists' Association

*Image: Hayden Bailey*



**Thursday 7th February 19:30**

**How big is your bang? (Volcanoes)**

**Speaker: Dr Dougal Jerram (Dougal Earth)**

Dr Dougal Jerram, consultant geologist, earth scientist, adventurer and science outreach presenter with a new CBBC series "Fierce Earth" airing in January.

He will be selling signed copies of his book "Introducing Volcanology" for £10

*Image: Durham University*

**Thursday 14 March at 19:00**

**AGM and Chairman's Address. 'How (or how not) to drill an oil well'**

**Speaker: David Osborn (Chair NSGGA)**

*Image: Wikimedia Commons / US Coast Guard*

*Deep Water Horizon, what happens if you don't get the cement job right.*



## SUMMER FIELD PROGRAMME 2013

Each person attending field meetings does so 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. If you would like to help the NSGGA by becoming the field secretary please contact the chairman, David Osborn.

### Headstone Cutting & The Monsal Trail

**Saturday 13th April 2013:**

**Leader: Eileen Fraser**

Meet at Monsal Head Hotel, DE45 1NC at 10:00 a.m.

OS Map 119 or OL24: Grid Ref SK 185 715 (park near the top of minor road opposite the hotel – Little Longstone road) map and details to be sent out nearer the time



The re-opening of the tunnels along the route of the old London-Midland railway has revealed some interesting geology especially at Headstone cutting. Known as the Monsal Trail, this well paved route travels high above the Wye valley through the heart of the Peak District from just outside Buxton to Bakewell. On this fieldtrip we will cross the fields on a good level footpath from Little Longstone (just to the east of Monsal Head), to reach the Trail just north of Hassop Station. From there we will walk west along the Trail examining the successions within the Carboniferous and the Headstone Cutting. The Trail passes through this rail tunnel which has a wide, paved surface and is well lit. We will then walk a short way along the trail beyond the tunnel. If weather permits we then hope to look at the fossils at Hobb's House landslip and return to Monsal Head at about 4 p.m. Those who do not wish to continue to Hobb's House can retrace their way across the fields to the cars (about 3 miles in total).

If you would like to attend please complete and return the booking form at the end of the bulletin **by March 31, 2013.**

**Woore Moraine Evening Field Trip**  
**Thursday May 23, 2012**  
**Leader: Richard Waller**

The Woore Moraine is the eastern part of a large moraine complex that crosses the Cheshire Plain from Wrexham to Bar Hill. This evening trip will examine some of the glacial landforms associated with the moraine and discuss the moraine's origin in the context of the British & Irish Ice Sheet. More details in the April Bulletin.



**Pembrokeshire Weekend 21-23 June 2013**  
**Leader: Ian Stimpson**

The NSGGA weekend field trip for 2013 will be the weekend of Friday 21 – Sunday 23 June, 2013. The itinerary is provisional but should include a lecture on the geological evolution of Pembrokeshire on the Friday evening, a day on the spectacular Marloes Sands on the Saturday examining the Silurian volcanics and sediments and Sunday morning on the beach at Broad Haven looking at the Upper Carboniferous sediments and the intense Variscan deformation. We already have nearly 30 people signed up and accommodation at the Silverdale Inn, Johnston is filling fast. Could anyone who wishes to attend the field meeting please complete the flyer at the end of the bulletin **by January 11, 2013**.

**British Geological Survey, Keyworth**  
**Tuesday 23 July 14:00**  
**Leader: David Bailey**

An afternoon visit to the BGS at Keyworth. A guided tour of their facilities should last for an hour or so followed by the opportunity to browse the new geology walk at your leisure. More details in the April Bulletin.



*Image: BGS*

## The Local Groups Meeting of the GA at the Festival of Geology

Ian Stimpson attended the Local Groups Meeting of the Geologists' Association on behalf of the NSGGA at University College, London during the annual Festival of Geology on November 9, 2012.

As usual, there was an interest in making the GA less London-centric. It was suggested putting GA talks online for members as the Geological Society of London does with their Shell Series. This may be possible but could be costly. However, it would be useful for those GA members outside London who cannot attend in person.

The GA continues to address the regional bias by attending events outside of London. This started with the Worcestershire Three Counties Show and Lyme Regis which were successful. This year they will be attending an event in Newark and next year an event in Manchester. Ideas are required for other regional events that could be attended.

As the GA receives enquiries about groups that people can join in their local area it was decided to provide a listing of groups in regions, based on the geological regions of the BGS. Some groups fall on region boundaries, such as NSGGA, and it was agreed to list these in more than one region (e.g. NSGGA in both Central England and Pennines & adjacent areas). It was suggested that a better subdivision might be on government regions rather than geological ones.

GA Guides can be bought online and some thought is being given to selling of individual itineraries / locality descriptions on line. GA magazine distribution now costs more than production and it was suggested that GA should consider more advertising in magazine or offering reduced subscriptions for those taking the magazine in electronic format only. Many groups are moving to email addresses based on position rather than personal ones (e.g. secretary@nsgga.org.uk [not a real address]) so don't have to update websites / promotional material every time committee changes.

There were no applicants for GA research grants (up to £600) for fieldwork or museum visits. Also for GA New Researchers Awards which are designed to increased student membership. These are suitable for conference attendance and undergraduate or postgraduate research project funding (but not mapping). Students eligible as long as they are a GA member. Grants of up to £350 are also available for collaboration for organising regional meetings.

### *Upcoming Events:*

Lyme Regis Fossil Festival: Next festival is May 4-6, 2013. They are producing a self-learning mobile phone geology app, with augmented reality and wifi access extended to the beaches. There will also be a flight simulator with people 'flying' the Jurassic coast.

Fred Broadhurst Lecture Day: January 12, 2013 at Manchester University on 'The Palaeontology of China'

GA conference at Durham. September 21-22, 2013. Onshore-offshore geology - the vital link.

Hertfordshire Puddingstone Event: May 2014. Talks on links between geology and archaeology with field trips both sides of Channel.

*Ian G. Stimpson*

## NSGGA NEWS



NSGGA member Prof. Chris King was awarded the 2012 Halstead Medal by the Geologists' Association awarded for outstanding merit, deemed to further the objectives of the Association and to promote geology.

Congratulations also to Keele's Dr Jamie Pringle who was awarded the 2012 William Smith Fund by the Geological Society of London awarded for excellence in contributions to applied and economic aspects of the science for work within ten years of the commencement of their research career.



### NSGGA 2012 Christmas Social

The NSGGA Christmas Social was held on December 17 where David Osborn entertained us with an illustrated tour of European geology. Patrick Cossey also provided an intriguing geology quiz based on a variety of geological samples which was won by Peter Floyd. Pictures of the event are shown below. Do join us in 2013 for another entertaining evening with good food, good entertainment and good company.



Peter, Ian & Stuart listen attentively to David's talk



Pat, Gerald and Vicky catch up on events



Pat gives the answer to one of the quiz samples



Carol and Mike tuck in to the magnificent spread

## Membership Renewal 2013

If you haven't renewed your 2013 subscription yet, please do so as soon as possible using the form at the end of the bulletin.

At the March AGM we shall be electing the committee for 2013/14. We are in particular in urgent need of a Field Secretary, but if you are interested in standing for any position then please contact the chair, David Osborn, before the committee meeting on January 24.

*Ian Stimpson*

## GeoConservation Staffordshire : Geoconservation Opportunities

Geoconservation Staffordshire has a field site clearance event in March to which members of the NSGGA are more than welcome to attend.



### Brown End Quarry, Waterhouses. GeoConservation Day : Saturday 23 March 2013

GeoConservation Staffordshire are hosting a site clearance event at Brown End Quarry near Waterhouses on Saturday 23rd March. There will also be an opportunity to find out more about the mechanics behind geoconservation site condition monitoring and site management.



300 million years ago Staffordshire Wildlife Trust's Brown End Quarry reserve in the Staffordshire Moorlands was a tropical sea, teeming with life. Numerous fossils of exotic sea creatures have been discovered in the steep rock faces surrounding the reserve, and you can learn all about the fascinating geology of the site and help to uncover more fossils at a special event being run by GeoConservation Staffordshire on March 23, 2013.

**Brown End Quarry, Waterhouses:** Image: Ian Stimpson

Volunteers are needed to help clear vegetation at the foot of the rock face to improve access to the rocks and fossils, and there will also be a chance to join the geologists in action. Sessions at 10am - 12.30pm and 1pm - 3.30pm. Book your place by emailing [s.l.taylor@keele.ac.uk](mailto:s.l.taylor@keele.ac.uk) or call 01782 733025.

## Other Societies

### Black Country Geological Society

Indoor meetings are held at Dudley Museum & Art Gallery, St James's Road, Dudley

**Monday 21 January @ 20:00**

The Mineralogy of Scotland by Roy Starkey, President of the Russell Society

**Saturday 2 February @ 10:30**

Conservation day: Rowley Hills. Meet at St Brades Close.

**Saturday 2nd March @ 10:30**

Conservation day: Return to Barr Beacon. Meet at the southern entrance to Barr Beacon.

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

### East Midlands Geological Society

Indoor meetings are held at lecture theatre B3, Biology building at the University of Nottingham

**Saturday 26 January @ 18:00**

Thermal and structural evolution of the Himalayan and Karakoram continental crust - Mike Searle (Oxford)

**Saturday 9 February @ 18:00**

The age of tsunamis - David Tappin (BGS)

**Saturday 13 April @ 18:00**

The problems of Chirotherium and the Triassic Environment – Geoff Tresise (Honorary Curator Geology of the National Museums Liverpool)

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

### East Midlands Regional Group of the Geological Society

Indoor meetings are held at BGS, Keyworth

**Tuesday 22 January @ 19:00**

Cambrian Fossils of the Chengjiang Lagerstätte, China: The Flowering of Early Animal Life – Prof David Siveter (Leicester)

More details at [www.geolsoc.org.uk/en/Groups and Networks/Regional Groups/East Midlands](http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/en/Groups%20and%20Networks/Regional%20Groups/East%20Midlands)

### Liverpool Geological Society

Indoor meetings are held at James Parsons Building, Liverpool JMU, Byrom Street, Liverpool, L3 3AF

**Tuesday 22 January @ 19:00**

More Gaps Than Record - Joe Crossley.

**Tuesday 26 February @ 19:00**

Diamonds - Jeff Harris.

**Tuesday 19 March @ 19:00**

Distinguished Visitor's Address: Bright Lights & Dinosaurs.- Phil Manning

**Friday 24 March**

National Science and Engineering Week Event - Fossils Without Bones.

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

### Manchester Geological Association

Indoor meetings are held at the Williamson Building, University of Manchester

**Saturday 12 January @ 10:30**

The Broadhurst Lectures: The Palaeontology of China (at University Place, University of Manchester)

**Wednesday 13 February @ 19:00**

AGM followed by Presidential Address: The Middle Jurassic of Ketton, Rutland - Peter del Strother MBE (Manchester Geological Association)

**Tuesday 12 March @ 18:30**

Now that the dust has settled... The Impacts of Icelandic Volcanic Eruptions – Prof. Fiona Tweed (Staffordshire University)

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

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

Indoor meeting held at The Centre, Birchwood, Warrington

**Thursday 17 January @ 18:30**

The British Gas Industry - Considerations for the use of Environmental Forensics – Dr Russell Thomas

More details at [www.geolsoc.org.uk/en/Groups and Networks/Regional Groups/North West](http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/en/Groups%20and%20Networks/Regional%20Groups/North%20West)

**Shropshire Geological Society**

Indoor meetings are held at The Shire Hall, Shrewsbury

**Wednesday 9 January @ 19:30**

The threat of methane hydrate deposits and CO2 sequestration - Dr Chris Rochelle

**Wednesday 13 February @ 19:30**

Seeing inside the stones: viewing fossils in rock courtesy of the latest scanning technology and red-green 3D glasses (supplied) - Dr Imran Rahman

**Wednesday 13 March @ 19:30**

Mesozoic marine monsters - Dr Adam Smith

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

**Warwickshire Geological Conservation Group**

Indoor meetings are held at The Lammas Room, Hill Close Gardens, Bread and Meat Close Warwick, CV34 6HF

**Wednesday 16 January @ 19:00**

Volcanoes around the world - Alan Clewlow (Volcanic Experiences Tours)

**Wednesday 20 February @ 19:00**

Mining the Heritage Seam - Graham Worton (Keeper of Geology at the Dudley Museum)

**Wednesday 20 March @ 19:00**

Snowball Earth- Dr Emily McMillan

**Wednesday 17 April @ 19:00**

The syenite intrusion of Ben Loyal - Thomas Barrett, a Birmingham MSci student and first holder of the WGCG Holloway Bursary

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

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

**Tuesday 12 February**

Geohazards in the UK – at Lapworth Museum, Birmingham University

More details at [www.geolsoc.org.uk/en/Groups and Networks/Regional Groups/West Midlands](http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/en/Groups%20and%20Networks/Regional%20Groups/West%20Midlands)

**Western Institute of Mining and Minerals**

Indoor meetings are held at William Smith Building, Keele University

**Monday 21 January @ 19:00**

¿Dónde está el agua? – A comparison of water resources at two mines in Mexico - Lauren Ballarini (Wardell Armstrong International)

**Monday 4 February @ 19:00**

Chernobyl Blanket – Tony Kinsella (CERAM)

**Monday 4 March @ 19:00**

Forensic Geology – Dr Laurence Donnelly (Wardell Armstrong International)

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



**NSGGA - Next Committee Meeting:**

**Thursday 24 January @ 19:00**

In room WS1.44, the William Smith Building, Keele University

**Contacts List: NSGGA Committee 2012-13**

**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**

Tel. 01270 872002

e-mail: [patrick.cossey@yahoo.com](mailto:patrick.cossey@yahoo.com)

**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,**

Tel. 07779 083243

e-mail; [i.g.stimpson@keele.ac.uk](mailto:i.g.stimpson@keele.ac.uk)

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

Tel. 07779 083243

e-mail; [i.g.stimpson@keele.ac.uk](mailto:i.g.stimpson@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; 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)

# NSGGA weekend in Pembrokeshire Booking Form

## Saturday 22nd - Sunday 23rd June 2013

Leader: Dr Ian Stimpson

This weekend field excursion will explore the geology in the spectacular Pembrokeshire coastline. The first day will focus on the Silurian rocks exposed at Marloes Sands. The second day will look at the sedimentology and Variscan deformation of the Carboniferous at Broad Haven. There may also be an opportunity to visit the Triassic wadis at Ogmore for those travelling down early on the Friday and a look at the interaction between Caledonian and Variscan structures at Druidston Haven for those staying over on Sunday night.

Accommodation has been reserved for the group at The Silverdale Inn, Johnston, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA623NZ. Tel: 01437 890943. Note that Johnston has a train station with a direct line from Crewe through mid-Wales (c 5 hours).

The double/twin rooms are £45 per room per night. The 3-course Dinner and Breakfast package is £30 p.p.per night. Packed lunches are £7 p.p per day. If anyone wishes to stay an extra night on the Sunday this will be at the same rates but please indicate this on the booking form. Note that the single rooms have all been taken.

To book, a cheque for £30 per person is required. (£20 hotel deposit + £10 field fee)  
Enquiries and booking forms to Brenda Kay Tel: 01270 811650 r.peter.k@gmail.com  
Please return the form and cheque **by 11th January 2013** at the latest.

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**Complete and enclose with a cheque payable to NSGGA for £30 per person return to: -**

Brenda Kay, 9 Copthorne Drive, Audlem, Crewe, Cheshire. CW3 0EQ

I/We wish to book \_\_\_\_\_ place/s for the Field Trip for Friday 21st and Saturday 22nd June 2013 at: The Silverdale Hotel, Johnston, Pembrokeshire  
and enclose a cheque made payable to NSGGA for £ \_\_\_\_\_

NAME (S) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Double/twin room at £45 (per room per night).....YES/NO

Sole occupancy of twin room at £45 (per room per night).....YES/NO

Are you willing to share a room..... YES/NO

Do you wish to stay the Sunday night..... YES/NO

Do you wish packed lunches (you can choose filling each night and there is fruit, cake, pork pies, mousse etc - very good!)..... YES/NO

Please indicate whether you have any special dietary requirements.

Emergency Contact number while away.....

## NSGGA Fieldtrip to the Monsal Trail and Headstone Cutting Booking Form

### Saturday 13th April 2013

Leader: Eileen Fraser

Meet at Monsal Head Hotel, DE45 1NC at 10:00 a.m.

Grid ref Map 119 or OL24: SK 185 715 (park near the top of minor road opposite the hotel – Little Longstone road) map and details to be sent out nearer the time

The re-opening of the tunnels along the route of the old London-Midland railway has revealed some interesting geology especially at Headstone cutting. Known as the Monsal Trail, this travels high above the Wye valley through the heart of the Peak District from just outside Buxton to Bakewell.

<http://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/visiting/cycle/monsaltrail>

On this fieldtrip we will cross the fields on a good level footpath from Little Longstone (just to the east of Monsal Head), to reach the Trail just north of Hassop Station. From there we will walk west along the Trail examining the successions within the Carboniferous and the Headstone Cutting. The Trail passes through this rail tunnel which has a wide, paved surface and is well lit. We will then walk a short way along the trail beyond the tunnel. If weather permits we then hope to look at the fossils at Hobb's House landslip and return to Monsal Head at about 4 p.m. Those who do not wish to continue to Hobb's House can retrace their way across the fields to the cars (about 3 miles in total).

Can you please return the booking form to me Eileen Fraser at [fraser@fraserco.co.uk](mailto:fraser@fraserco.co.uk)

Or send to 47 Longdown Road, Congleton, Cheshire. CW12 4QH

Any queries please contact me by e-mail or on 01260 271505 or 07712 446417

Please return the form **by 31 March 2013** at the latest.

I would like to attend the field trip to the Monsal Trail on Saturday 13th April 2013

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and details of person to be contacted in case of emergency during the trip:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

## Remember to renew your NSGGA membership for 2013

### NSGGA Membership Form 2013



**Fossils, Rocks & Minerals**  
**Summer Field-Trips**  
**Winter Talks**  
**Site Conservation**  
**Regular Newsletters**

**Name**.....

**Address**.....

.....

.....

**Postcode**..... **Telephone**.....

**e-mail address** .....

Would you be willing to receive your Bulletins by e-mail yes  no

- Ordinary (Full) £13.00
- Family \* £15.00
- Retired/Unemployed £10.00
- Student \*\* £ 3.00

John Myers Award Fund\*\*\* contribution of £.....

*\* For insurance purposes, please list the names of all members of the household to be included:*

*\*\* Students please name your **full-time** course:*

Cheques should be made payable to the: "**NSGGA**" and sent to:  
Gerald Ford, NSGGA Membership Secretary,  
Woodville, Tower Road, Ashley Heath, Market Drayton, Shropshire TF9 4PU  
**Telephone** 01630-673409 **e-mail** gford@btinternet.com

For our records, are you currently a member of the national GA ? yes  no

\*\*\* Two John Myers Awards (together with runners up) are presented annually to students at Keele University who produce the best piece of coursework in the view of the independent NSGGA awards committee.