



# Bulletin of the North Staffordshire Group of the Geologists' Association Number 109 : April 2014



## SUMMER FIELD PROGRAMME 2014

Friday to Sunday 23-25 May 2014 : **Weekend Field Trip to Norfolk**

Leader: Richard Waller. *Booking deadline for this field trip has passed*

Thursday 26 June 2014 : **Evening Field Trip of the Geology of Keele**

Leader: Ian Stimpson.

**Meet at 7pm Outside the William Smith Building on Keele Campus.**

This will be a gentle perambulation of about three miles around Keele Campus discussing the geological features such as the Carboniferous Keele Beds, the active faults, building stones, and interpreting the geological views across North Staffordshire. The walk will conclude with a close examination of fluid inclusions in amorphous silica at the Sneyd Arms in Keele Village. There is no need to book but if you could e-mail [i.g.stimpson@keele.ac.uk](mailto:i.g.stimpson@keele.ac.uk) if you are coming, Ian can then try to reserve some tables in the village hostelry.

The Otter Rock:  
microgabbroic  
glacial erratic,  
Keele Lakes.



**Saturday 13 September at 11am : Scunthorpe**  
**Leaders: Paul Hildreth** *Booking deadline: July 9.*

Meet at Scunthorpe Museum (GR.892108) (Sign posted).  
Comfort break, refreshment and excellent fossil display.

This visit is to an interesting area of Jurassic and Cretaceous sediments. It will provide an overview of the Geology of the area and an opportunity to collect fossils.

The provisional itinerary is:

Conesby Quarry, Scunthorpe. Exposure of the Frodingham Ironstone (Lower Jurassic) and rock store.

Manton Quarry. Kirton Lindsey. Good exposures of the Middle Jurassic with oolites, cementstone and rare coral reefs.

After lunch we should be able to visit two localities in the Lower Chalk.

We shall be travelling by private cars, hard hats, high viz jackets and a packed lunch will be needed.

There is limited walking but we will be in old quarry working.

More details will be available from Steve Alcock nearer the visit

**Please return the booking form to:**

Steve Alcock (Field Secretary) as soon as possible, either by e-mail (steves261@aol.com), or by post to Steve Alcock at Longfields, Park Lane, Cheddleton, Leek ST13 7JS.

Any queries please contact Steve by e-mail or on 01538 360431 or 07711 501028.

**Please return the form by July 9, 2014 at the latest.**

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I would like to attend the field excursion to Scunthorpe on Saturday September 13, 2014

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): \_\_\_\_\_

Enquiries regarding field trips should be addressed to:  
Steve Alcock, Longfields, Park Lane, Cheddleton, Leek, Staffs, ST13 7JS  
Tel: 01538 360431 or 07711 501028. Email: [steves261@aol.com](mailto:steves261@aol.com)

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 the leader's expenses.

### The NSGGA on Social Media



The NSGGA is finally embracing the digital social media age. You can now 'Like' us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/NorthStaffsGA> or follow us on Twitter @NStaffsGA

### Membership Renewal 2014

If you haven't renewed your 2014 subscription yet, please do so as soon as possible using the form at the end of the bulletin. Please note that David Osborn has taken over from Gerald Ford as Membership Secretary. The NSGGA thanks Gerald for all his work in the role.

*Ian Stimpson*

## NSGGA PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION 2014

The theme for our second photographic competition is UK and Irish Geological Sites (Geosites). The Geological Society of London and partner organisations are celebrating our geo-heritage by launching a list of 100 Great Geosites across the UK and Ireland as part of Earth Science Week 2014.

So what is a 'Geosite'? A Geosite could be a classic outcrop or a beautiful landscape. It could also include geo-engineered sites of economic importance, museums, structures featuring striking building stones or sites of significance to the history of geology or our geological industrial heritage. The only rules are that the site is in the UK or Ireland, and can be visited by the public.

**Torres del Paine, Patagonia by Liz Hurst – Last Year's NSGGA / GCStaffs Photographic Competition Winner**



You can find out more about the GSL initiative at [www.geolsoc.org.uk/100geosites](http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/100geosites), their Facebook page [www.facebook.com/100geosites](http://www.facebook.com/100geosites), on Flickr [www.flickr.com/photos/99330142@N05/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/99330142@N05/) or search for the #100geosites hashtag on Twitter.

Entries in a digital format will be accepted via email to Ian Stimpson at [i.g.stimpson@keele.ac.uk](mailto:i.g.stimpson@keele.ac.uk) together with your details in the format specified below, to arrive by the 31 October, 2014 closing date. A 'judging panel' will select '12 best photographs', these to be presented at the Christmas Social where all attending will have the opportunity of voting for the eventual winner(s). A small prize will be awarded to the winner of the competition and to the runner up.

## COMPETITION RULES

1. Entry restrictions: This year the competition is only open to NSGGA members and GeoConservation Staffordshire volunteers. The competition is not open to professional photographers. Entries cannot have either won a previous competition or been previously sold. Members of judging panel are excluded from the competition.
2. Electronic editing: Images may be cropped, enlarged and digitally enhanced to remove spots and scratches only but any further digital manipulation of images will be regarded as unacceptable.
3. Entry format: Digital images in jpg/jpeg format only. Images should have a minimum dimension of at least 500 pixels in either height or width but there is no maximum size.
4. Number of entries: Three maximum.
5. Entry submission: Images should be sent as email attachments to Ian Stimpson at [i.g.stimpson@keele.ac.uk](mailto:i.g.stimpson@keele.ac.uk) with the body of the email containing your details and your image details as set out below.
6. Judging: A judging panel of three (the NSGGA chairman, a representative from GCStaffs and one other invited person) will select the '12 best photographs' from anonymised entries. The competition winner(s) will be determined by participants (members, GCS volunteers and guests) voting at the Christmas Social. All attending the 'Social' will be eligible to vote at this meeting. Entrants (and family members of entrants) whose images have been 'shortlisted' as a potential winning entry will be barred from voting for their own entries (or those of family members). In the event of a draw the Chairman (or the Chairman's nominee) will have a casting vote. The judging panel reserves the right to exclude any entry they consider in breach of the competition rules. The judges' decision will be final.
7. Copyright matters. Entrants will retain copyright to their images but by entering them into the competition they grant permission for the NSGGA and GCStaffs to reproduce the photographs free of charge in/on any NSGGA/GCStaffs bulletin, website, calendar, geotrail or other publicity material. Due acknowledgement of the copyright holder (photographer 's name) will appear alongside any images used in this way.

## COMPETITION ENTRY

Please copy the following text into the body of your email entry and complete with your details, your photograph details and send, attaching up to three photographs, to [i.g.stimpson@keele.ac.uk](mailto:i.g.stimpson@keele.ac.uk) with the subject "NSGGA Photographic Competition 2014" by 31st October 2014

Name:

NSGGA Member / GCStaffs Volunteer [state which]:

I understand that by entering this competition I retain copyright to the images but grant permission for NSGGA / GCStaffs to publish any photograph, with due attribution, free of charge.

Entry 1 : Title

Entry 1 : Location

Entry 2 : Title

Entry 2 : Location

Entry 3 : Title

Entry 3 : Location

## Other Societies

### Geologists' Association

Lectures are held at Geological Society of London, in Burlington House, Piccadilly but the lectures are available to view by members of the GA online via their website.

**Friday 9 May @ 18:00 (AGM)**

Presidential Address: A walk on the Chalk Side  
Part 2: Flint, basins and the end of the Chalk in  
the British area – Rory Mortimore

**Friday 16 – Monday 19 May**

Puddingstone and related silcretes of the Anglo-  
Paris Basin geological and archaeological  
perspectives – Burlington House

**Wednesday 21 May**

Woodward 150: Fossil Fishes and Fakes – Natural  
History Museum

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

### Black Country Geological Society

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

**Saturday 10 May @ 10:00 (field)**

Oxford University Museum of Natural History -  
Professor Paul Smith (Museum Director)

**Tuesday 13 May @ 18:30 (indoor)**

Monitoring Active Volcanoes' - Professor Hazel  
Rymer (Open University) at Wolverhampton  
University

**Sunday 15 June @ 10:30 (field)**

Lickey Hills - the Lickey Hills Geo-Champions.

**Sunday 13 July @ 10:30 (field)**

Snailbeach and the Stiperstones - Andrew  
Jenkinson

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

**Wednesday 7 May @ 19:25 (field)** Broadmarsh Caves, Nottingham - Tony Waltham

**Wednesday 14 May @ 19:25 (field)** Broadmarsh Caves, Nottingham - Tony Waltham

**Sunday 18 May @ 10:30 (field)** Dudley Canal, Tunnel & Wrens Nest Hill - Graham  
Worton (Dudley Museum)

**Wednesday 18 May @ 18:30 (field)** Evening walk around the National Stone Centre -  
Albert Benghiat

**Sunday 6 March @ 10:30 (field)** Day trip to the Bonsall Area - Colin Bagshaw

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 13 May @ 19:00**

The Caves of Nottingham: engineering  
characteristics of the Castle sandstone – Tony  
Waltham

**Thursday 19 June @ 19:00**

The Role of Geologists in World War I – Andrew  
Morrison (BGS)

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

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

### **Manchester Geological Association**

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

**Sunday 1 June @ 10:00 (field)** Fred Broadhurst Memorial Field Trip: Tegg's Nose – Jane Michael

**Saturday 14 June @ 10:00 (field)** Macclesfield Building Stones – Jane Michael

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

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

Indoor meeting held at Williamson Lecture Theatre, Manchester University, Oxford Road, Manchester

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

**Thursday 10 July (field day)** Hampton Loade – Andrew Jenkinson

**Saturday 12 July (field day)** Haughmond Abbey – David Pannett

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 St Francis Church Hall, Warwick Road, Kenilworth CV8 1HL

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

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

Indoor Meetings at Lapworth Museum of Geology, Birmingham & University of Wolverhampton, Telford Campus, Shifnal Road, Priorslee, Telford, Shropshire, TF2 9NT

**Tuesday 13 May @ 18:30 (indoor)** Monitoring Active Volcanoes' - Professor Hazel Rymer (Open University) at Wolverhampton 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 the William Smith Building, Keele University

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

**NSGGA - Next Committee Meeting:****Thursday 19 June @ 19:00**

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

**Contacts List: NSGGA Committee 2014-15****Chairman: Dr Patrick Cossey**

22 Heath End Road, Alsager, Cheshire, ST7 2SQ. Tel. 01270 872002

e-mail: [patrick.cossey54@gmail.com](mailto:patrick.cossey54@gmail.com)**Vice-Chairman:** Vacant**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.: 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)**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.: Steve Alcock**

Longfields, Park Lane, Cheddleton, near Leek ST13 7J

Tel. 01538 360431 or mobile 07711 501028

e-mail: [steves261@aol.com](mailto:steves261@aol.com)**GeoConservation Staffordshire Liaison Officer: Dr Ian Stimpson,**

Geography, Geology &amp; the Environment, Keele University Tel. 01782 733182

e-mail: [i.g.stimpson@keele.ac.uk](mailto:i.g.stimpson@keele.ac.uk)**Bulletin Sec.: Dr Ian Stimpson,**

Geography, Geology &amp; the Environment, Keele University Tel. 01782 733182

e-mail: [i.g.stimpson@keele.ac.uk](mailto:i.g.stimpson@keele.ac.uk)**Honorary Life Member:** Ann Myatt**Executive Committee** (honorary):

Dr. Colin Exley; Terry Jones; Ted Watkin.

**Executive Committee** (elected):

Dr Lloyd Boardman; Dr Stuart Egan; Janet Osborn (Minutes Secretary); John Reynolds; Barbara Kleiser; Christina Bourne; Tony Marks; Peter Jones

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

Don Steward, Vicky Ward (John Myers Awards); Becca Wiltshire (Keele GeoSoc).

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



**NSGGA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOW DUE FOR 2014**

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

**Name**

**Address**

**Telephone**

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

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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:  
 David Osborn, NSGGA Membership Secretary,  
 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)

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

\*\*\* Two John Myers Awards are presented annually to students at Keele University. John Myers gave a 60-year contribution to the understanding of Geology in North Staffordshire and beyond. From 1927 he taught at Wolstanton Grammar School for 40 years and began evening classes at "Stoke Tech" [now Staffordshire University], encouraging members to join the Geologists' Association of London. Thus was born the NSGGA in 1948. In the 1950s and 60s he helped Keele University Postgraduate Certificate of Education students with a teaching methods course, joining the staff of the Education Department in 1967 on his retirement from teaching. Also in 1967, he was a Founding Father of the Association of Teachers of Geology that had its inaugural meeting at Keele, at which he was elected Treasurer, a post he held for 10 years. His daughter Ann has generously funded the John Myers Awards in his memory.