



Bulletin of the North Staffordshire Group of the Geologists' Association Number 116 : April 2016



Summer Field Programme 2016

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.

Friday (evening) 13 May to Sunday 15 May 2016

Anglesey Field Weekend

Leader: Dr Ian Stimpson

Anglesey contains a very wide variety of geological features in a small area and is an internationally recognised geopark "GeoMôn". This field weekend offers just a small taster of some of the highlights.

Accommodation has now been booked but if you are interested in joining us in the field on Saturday and/or Sunday, please contact our field secretary Steve Alcock steves261@aol.com.

Saturday 21 May : 10:30 – 15:30

Lion Salt Works, Northwich

Leaders: Diane Spivey & Nigel Cassidy : RGS-IBG with NSGGA.

Meeting place: Lion Salt Works, Ollershaw Lane, Marston, Northwich, CW9 6ES.

This is a guided visit around Lion Salt Works will be followed by a lecture and Q&A on the geology of the local salt geography and the science behind subsidence.

Places: £10 (optional cafe lunch extra). Contact Diane Spivey telephone 07708 427332 email dianespivey@btconnect.com

Wednesday 15 June : 19:00

Evening Walk Around Buxton

Leader: Albert Benghiat : NSGGA with EMGS

Meeting place: Buxton Opera House.

A town walk to inspect the natural springs in and around Buxton. This is generally a level walk of about 4km lasting about 2 hours, mostly on pavement and road. This is a joint meeting with the East Midland Geology Society.

There are several car parks in the area (usually free after 18:00). The nearest car park is at the Pavilion Gardens but if you are getting there early please note that the under-cover is locked at 6pm and cars cannot be retrieved until the next day. Buxton is usually at it's best at that time of year and there are plenty of pubs and restaurants in town for refreshments if required.

Could you please return the booking form at the end of the bulletin to Steve Alcock at steves261@aol.com or send to Longfields, Park Lane, Cheddleton, Leek, Staffs. ST137JS. Any queries please e-mail or call on 07711501028 or 01538 360431.

Saturday 23 July 2016 : 10:30

Day Trip to Brassington Area.

Leader: Jim Riding (BGS).

Meeting place: Near Bees Nest Pit (SK 24100 54580).

This is a one-day fieldtrip to examine the Brassington Formation of Miocene Age in the High Peak District. Onshore UK is not well known for Miocene sediments and the Brassington Formation is the best example of karstic fills that survived late Neocene and Quaternary erosion.

Please park just off Manystones Lane). From the south go through the village of Brassington (NNE of Ashbourne) and turn right onto Manystones Lane. Just after you pass the old brickworks (Hoben's) on the left, there is a small car park (SK 24322 54840) where we will park. Please meet there at 10:30. From there we will visit the Bees Nest Pit. This is a SSSI so no hammering please. We will remain at the Bees Nest Pit for the remainder of the morning and will picnic there.

After lunch we will drive NNW to Kenslow Top Pit (SK 18185 61586 to SK18289 61420). We will go back towards Brassington but turn right from Manystones Lane towards Longcliffe. When we reach the crossroads with the A5012 we will turn left. Just before Newhaven (at Old House Farm Cottages), we turn right onto a minor road and proceed past Friden Brick Works on the left. We will park just off this road at a crossroads with two farm lanes at SK 17680 61768. We will then be based in Kenslow Pit for the rest of the day.

Please bring warm clothing, stout footwear, a hard hat and a packed lunch.

A copy of the background notes provided by Jim will be available to those attending this trip to an area which adds a very important aspect to our understanding of British Tertiary geology.

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Sunday 11th September 2016 : 10:15

The Ashover Area.

Leader: Colin Bagshaw.

Full details in next bulletin.

Geological Events at Park Hall Country Park

Saturday 25th June 2016 (10.00am - 12.30pm and 1.00pm - 3.30pm)

Landscapes Forgotten at Park Hall Country Park

From hot-house swamp and baking deserts into the freezer - it's a walk in the park! Join us for either a half day walk or come for the whole day. Understand how the Park Hall landscape has changed through 350 million years of Earth history. This landscape and geology walk will highlight places of interest throughout the country park and will (if you come for the whole day) include a stop for lunch. Please wear suitable outdoor clothing and sturdy boots, and if coming for the whole day, please bring along your packed lunch (a small pair of binoculars is also useful on this visit!).

Meet at the main visitor centre car park (OS grid reference SJ 930447), off Hulme Road, Weston Coyney at 10.00 or 1.00pm. Note each half-day walk last approximately 2.5 hours and each follows a different route. No booking required. No cost involved!

Saturday 12th November 2016 (provisional date) (10am-12noon and 1pm-3pm)

Geoconservation Day in Hulme Quarry National Nature Reserve at Park Hall

Join us for a day (or half a day) of practical conservation work to help maintain Park Hall's nationally important rock faces. Please wear outdoor clothes, boots and gloves. All tools and full supervision will be provided. Meet at the main visitor centre car park (OS grid reference SJ 930447), off Hulme Road, Weston Coyney at 10am and 1pm.

Sessions last approximately 2 hours. Bring a packed lunch if you would like to stay all day! No booking required. No cost involved! Short tours of the site and explanations of geological features within it provided to all those interested - just ask!

Winter Lecture Provisional Programme 2016/17

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

Thursday 13th October 2016

'Landslides and the work of the British Geological Survey'.

Dr Helen Reeves / Dr Vanessa Banks (British Geological Survey)

Thursday 10th November 2016. Wolverson Cope Lecture

'Diversity's Big Bang: Early Palaeozoic radiations and the history of life'.

Professor David Harper (Durham University)

Either Thursday 1 December or 8 December

'Christmas Social'

Thursday 26th January 2017.

'Medical Geology' (exact title to be announced).

Dr Mark Cave (British Geological Survey)

Thursday 9th February 2017

'Geological Mapping' (exact title to be announced).

Leanne Hughes (BGS and Vice-President of the Geologists' Association)

Thursday 9th March at 19:00

AGM & 'Geoengineering'

Dr Ian Stimpson (Chair's Address)

News From The AGM

Two motions were passed at the AGM relating to membership. The first was that the NSGGA annual period of membership will run from October 1st to October 1st, commencing October 1st 2017 to match the academic year rather than the calendar one. To transition to the new annual cycle, the current 2016 membership period will run from January 1st 2016 until September 30th 2017 at no additional charge and new members joining from January 1st 2017 until September 30th 2017 will receive free membership until September 30th 2017.

If you haven't renewed your 2016 subscription yet, please do so as soon as possible, remember it will then be valid until October 2017! Please use the form at the end of the bulletin.

The second motion related to student membership. Individual Student Membership will now cover the period from their membership fee payment until the graduation from their academic programme, commencing October 1st 2016.

Dr Stuart Egan has been elected as Vice-Chair of the NSGGA for the coming year and will then serve as Chair 2017-2019.

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 6 May @ 18:00

Foraminifera II: Planktonics - The free floating story
- Dr Haydon Bailey

More details at www.geologistsassociation.org.uk

Black Country Geological Society

Indoor meetings are held at Abbey Room at the Dudley Archives, Tipton Road, Dudley, DY1 4SQ

Saturday 21 May

Geoconservation Day – Portway Hill, Rowley.

Sunday 5 June

Geoconservation Day – Rubery Cutting

Saturday 11 June

Oxford University Museum of Natural History.

More details at www.bcgs.info

East Midlands Geological Society

Indoor meetings are held at the Geography Department (Sir Clive Granger Building) at the University of Nottingham

More details at www.emgs.org.uk

East Midlands Regional Group of the Geological Society

De La Beche Conference Suite, British Geological Survey, Keyworth, Nottingham

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 Lecture Theatre 137, James Parsons Building, Liverpool JMU, Byrom Street, Liverpool, L3 3AF

More details at liverpoolgeologicalsociety.org

Manchester Geological Association

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

Sunday 19 June

Upper Goyt to Shining Tor

Thursday 23 June

Penmaenmawr Dolerites

Wednesday 20 July

Mam Tor

More Details at www.mangeolassoc.org.uk

North West Regional Group of the Geological Society

Indoor meetings at Manchester University unless otherwise specified

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 at 19:30

Saturday 11 June Nescliffe Hall

Wednesday 13 July Corndon and Hyssington

Thursday 21 July South East Shropshire Churches

More details at www.shropshiregeology.org.uk/SGS/SGSintro.html

Teme Valley Geological Society

Indoor meetings are held at Martley Memorial Hall B4197 by Sports Ground

Monday 16 May @ 11:00 The town and its relationship with its geology

Sunday 22 May @ 11:00 Penny Hill Quarry

Saturday 25 June @ 18:00 Scar Cottage – Vineyards & Climate Change

More details at www.geo-village.eu

Warwickshire Geological Conservation Group

Indoor meetings are held at St Francis Church Hall, Warwick Road, Kenilworth CV8 1HL

Wednesday 18 May @ 19:00 Brondon Geology Wall

Sunday 19 June Severn Valley Railway

Saturday 16 July Cross Hands Quarry and Burton Dassett Hills

More details at www.wgcfg.co.uk

West Midlands Regional Group of the Geological Society

Indoor Meetings at Lapworth Museum of Geology, 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 the William Smith Building, Keele University

More details at www.iom3.org/wimm

NSGGA - Next Committee Meeting:

Thursday June 23, 2016 @ 19:00

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

Contacts List: NSGGA Committee 2016-17

Chairman: Dr Ian Stimpson,

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

e-mail: i.g.stimpson@keele.ac.uk

Vice-Chairman: Dr Stuart Egan

Geography, Geology & the Environment, Keele University Tel. 01782 733174

e-mail: s.s.egan@keele.ac.uk

General Secretary: Barbara Kleiser,

email: barbara.kleiser@gmail.com

Treasurer: Tony Marks,

4 Scarratt Drive, Forsbrook, Stoke-on-Trent, ST11 9AN

email: welsh_tony@tiscali.co.uk

Membership Secretary: David Osborn,

Stretton, 2 Croyde Place, Meir Park, Stoke-on-Trent, ST3 7XD. Tel 01782 396692

email: david.d.osborn@talktalk.net

Speakers Secretary: Peter Jones,

e-mail: p.f.jones@derby.ac.uk

Field Secretary: Steve Alcock

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

Tel. 01538 360431 or mobile 07711 501028

e-mail: steves261@aol.com

GeoConservation Staffordshire Liaison Officer: Dr Ian Stimpson,

e-mail: i.g.stimpson@keele.ac.uk

Bulletin Secretary: Dr Ian Stimpson,

e-mail: i.g.stimpson@keele.ac.uk

Honorary Life Member: Ann Myatt

Executive Committee (honorary):

Dr. Colin Exley; Terry Jones.

Executive Committee (elected):

Dr Lloyd Boardman; Dr Patrick Cossey; Janet Osborn (Minutes Secretary); John Reynolds

Executive Committee (co-opted):

Don Steward, Diane Lawrence (John Myers Awards); Amy Elson (Keele GeoSoc).

NSGGA web pages: www.esci.keele.ac.uk/nsgga

Buxton Field Trip Booking Form

Wednesday 15 June 2016 at 19:00

BUXTON

Leader: Albert Benghiat (EMGS)



If you would like to attend, please return the booking form below

to:

Steve Alcock (fieldsecretary)

by either e-mail (steves261@aol.com) or by post to Steve Alcock, Longfields, Park Lane, Cheddleton, leek, ST137JS)

Any enquires please contact Steve on 07711501028 or 01538360431.

I/We would like to book ____ places for the Buxton Excursion on **Wednesday 15 June 2016**.

Name/s

Address

Telephone

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

Name

Contact Number

Brassington Field Trip Booking Form

Saturday 23 July 2016 at 10:30

Brassington

Leader: Jim Riding (BGS)



If you would like to attend, please return the booking form below

to:

Steve Alcock(fieldsecretary)

by either e-mail(steves261@aol.com) or by post to Steve Alcock, Longfields, Park Lane, Cheddleton, leek, ST137JS)

Any enquires please contact Steve on 07711501028 or 01538360431.

I/We would like to book ____ places for the Brassington Excursion on **Saturday 23 July 2016**.

Name/s

Address

Telephone

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

Name

Contact Number

NSGGA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOW DUE FOR 2016



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

Name

Address

Telephone

e-mail address

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

Ordinary (Full)	£13.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family *	£15.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Retired/Unemployed	£10.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student **	£ 3.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

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. e-mail: 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.