

North Eastern Geological Society

Why do these rocks look like this?



Out on a Field Trip



The North Eastern Geological Society is for everyone interested in rocks, minerals and fossils. Outdoor field trips are arranged in the summer to various areas in the North East and further afield. In the winter season we have lectures at Durham University on various topics. Come along to a meeting and see what we do. Visit our website at: www.northeast-geolsoc.50megs.com

Below, as a taster, was the programme for 2009

Sat. May 30th: Berwick Town Shoreline. Middle Limestone Series from Green's Haven Fault in the north to Meadow Haven Fault in the south. Possibly also the sequence along the Tweed inside the pier and Partenhall shore and cliffs or Spittal Shore. Good references for intending excursionists would be Northumbria Rocks and Landscape by Colin Scrutton. Meet at car park (G.R. NU005529) past the pier at 1100 hrs. **Leader - Dr. Ken Patterson**

Sun. June 28th: Burniston Dinosaur Footprint Beds: Meet at 10.30 am at Grid Ref. TA0255 9360 (Crookness), i.e. near end of the minor road which goes northeast then south east from "The Jolly Sailors Pub" in Burniston. The small road is called 'Rocks Lane' and is sign-posted as that by the pub." **Leader - Dr. Martin Whyte**

Sat. July 25th: Title: "Hot and even Hotter!" A new look at the Whin Sill intrusion. Recent research on the Low/High Force area. Meeting place and time: 10.30 am Bowlees car park. It will involve a few stops around Bowlees and a walk from Low Force to High Force and back with stops around Low force. **Leader - Dr. Stuart Jones**

Sun. Aug. 9th: Penshaw Hill - Castle Eden Dene (Permian) Meet at 10.30 am **Leader: Dr. Eric Johnson** (More details re meeting place later cf. website).

Sun. Sep. 6th: Title: "A fluvial conundrum- Pinglehole Syke plus the development of the Silurian - Devonian - Carboniferous geological activity of Saughtree, Roxburgh" Meet at 10.30 am at NY 556962 some 1 mile SW of Saughtree village. (cf. the OL Explorer sheet 42 (Kielder Water & Forest). Journey takes about 80 - 90 minutes from Tyneside by car. The place is called Pinglehole. We will be looking at the Davisian fluvial cycle illustrated by the Pinglehole Syke in addition to the railway cutting exposure. The group will walk from the B6357 (close to Liddel Water) to the track of the abandoned railway to the North West. The topographic evidence of the erosive cycle modelled by Davis will be examined and an explanation sought. On the rail track the group will examine igneous and sedimentary evidence, much deformed in places, to develop a sequence of geological events as recorded by the exposure. The route has a gentle climb to the railway. Lunch will be taken near the railway cutting allowing the group to marvel at the engineering prowess of past railway builders. Clothing should be warm and waterproof strong shoes (with a change as it can be muddy). **Leader - Gordon Liddle**

Sun. Oct. 25th: Cyclothems, mineralisation and landscape in Weardale. Meeting time: 10-30am. Meeting point: in layby on N side of A689, immediately west of Westgate in Weardale [NY906 381]. Walking distance: up to 4 miles along good footpaths and minor roads. The walk will include a traverse through several excellent Carboniferous cyclothems within the Alston Formation. Good sedimentary structures, depositional and structural features will be seen, together with important mineralisation. The varied impact of these on the local landscape will also be demonstrated. Please bring packed lunch. **Leader - Brian Young**