



NORTH EASTERN GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Newsletter. 11th July 2011

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Dear Member,

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1. FIELD TRIPS

Future trips:

July 16th: Glaciation and geomorphology around Kisdon, Upper Swaledale. **Leader: Jon Barber, Ph.D.,** University of Leeds. By kind invitation we are joining Craven and Pendle Geological Society for this field trip.

Time and Date: **10:00 am**, (NB change of time). Meeting at: the Resource and Heritage Centre in Keld, 10:00 am. Parking is available at the nearby farm at a cost of £2 per vehicle. Carry packed lunch but there is a pub with access to sandwiches. There is a section of approximately 50 metres where it could be fairly boggy so the usual stout footwear should be worn and be prepared for the vagaries of inclement summer weather.

Purpose: To examine landforms and sediments in the valleys and on the valley-side slopes around Kisdon, upper Swaledale, noting the effects of glaciation and glacier wastage, and how the landscape was later modified by fluvial and slope-forming processes. The effects of 19th century mining activity will be noted also. The area is a SSSI and is located in the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

Aug. 6th. The Ferryhill Gap. **Leader: Derek Teasdale, Consultant Geologist.**

The Ferryhill Gap is a huge incised valley cutting through the Magnesian Limestone escarpment south of Durham. It is the largest glacial meltwater channel in North East England. Extensive sands, gravels and lake deposits occur to the south. This visit will examine questions surrounding the gap's formation, whilst exploring this spectacular landscape feature. More details later.

Sep. 17th. (Provisional) "Geology South of the Wear." **Leader Andy Lane, .** More details to follow.

2. OTHER NEWS

1. Open University Summer School

All members of NEGS are cordially invited to attend the guest lectures at the O.U. Summer School at the University of Durham.

This year the lectures are as follows and are all held in the Geography Building, the Appleby Lecture Theatre from 7.30pm.

<http://www.dur.ac.uk/about/location/>
<http://www.dur.ac.uk/map/ss3d/>

- 13 July** **‘How to build a volcano’**
Ed Llewellyn (Durham University)
- 20 July** **‘Life on the rocks’**
Prof. Stuart Monro (Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh)
- 27 July** **‘Ripping Yarns: volcanism at plate margins’**
Colin McPherson (Durham University)
- 3 August** **‘Keeping the lights on: energy for the future’**
Tony Grindrod (Consultant)

2. NEGS Autumn Lecture Programme

Please make a note of these dates in your diary.

21st October, 2011 *to be announced*

18th November, 2011 Dr. Rachel Wood, Univ. Edinburgh: The dawn of biomineralisation

16th December, 2011 Prof. Richard Davies, Univ. Durham: The Lusi mud volcano disaster, Indonesia: Why and what next?

20th January, 2012 *to be announced*

17th February, 2012 Prof. Philip Gibbard, Univ. Cambridge: The last glacial cycle in lowland England

16th March, 2012 *to be announced*

Please remember Professor Gillian Foulger, our Lecture Coordinator, has a website which gives details about the lectures, lecturers and their websites. To access it, [click here](#). She also has her own website which members might like to view: [click here](#).

3. Linear Geological Walk: Dartmoor to Bolt Trail

We have received an email from Nick Chidlaw, he is running a 3 day linear walk
Sunday 11th September – Tuesday 13th September Inclusive

I have run the above 'linear walk' field trip several years ago, and in view of discussions with potential attendees in the last year or so, am offering it again early this autumn.

Please see outline information below, for your reference. If you find the proposal of interest and are able to attend, please let me know, *sending in your tuition fee by **Sunday 24th July***. In order for the trip to be viable and to work effectively, enrolled numbers will need to be a minimum of 10, and a maximum of 20.

I will contact those who have enrolled shortly after Sunday 24th July, to inform them whether the trip can be put on or not; if the former, arrangements will need to be made soon after for overnight accommodation, and transport (see below); if the latter, cheques will be returned to those who have sent them in shortly afterwards.

I hope you find the proposal of interest, and can attend. Any queries, do let me know.

Regards,

NICK CHIDLAW

Linear Geological Walk: Dartmoor to Bolt Tail

* This is a privately-arranged trip and does not involve any other organizations (e.g. a University) – no question paper at the end!!

* Dates: Sunday 11th – Tuesday 13th September inclusive. Three-day format.

* Reason for these specific dates: on the 2nd day, we cross the River Erme at low tide c. 1 pm using the established 'South West Coastal Path'. On the 3rd day we cross the River Avon by small passenger ferry (available only until end of September). Saturday 10th

September can be used as a travel day to get to the start point of the walk, but those in work will need to take holidays Monday 12th, Tuesday 13th (and possibly Wednesday 14th if home area is some distance from the field area).

* Reason for 'linear walk' format: very effective way of studying landforms and underlying geology in areas where there is plenty of change in these aspects; a fuller understanding of the landforms and geology can be gained by walking a route essentially at right-angles to the grain of the 'country' rock an examining exposures *en route*. This is a format that has been tried out with adult ed. students at Bristol University, is popular and has worked well. Idea is that you carry your overnight belongings etc in a rucksack –

contents would be lightweight and kept to a minimum. Water bottles can be replenished each night. Pubs / café's are included for short breaks during each day.

* The proposed walk crosses the 'grain' of part of the Variscan Orogenic Belt in South Devon: beginning near the S end of Dartmoor, and working south to the coast at Bigbury Bay, then along the coast to Bolt Tail west of Salcombe.

* Geology covered: Hemerdon Ball Granite (offshoot of Dartmoor Granite), metamorphic aureole / metallic mineralization around margin of the latter; deformed basinal metasediments (mainly turbidite sandstones and slates) and interbedded mafic bodies; major

strike-slip fault of the Start-Perranporth Line; mica schists and hornblende schists of the

Start Complex (possibly lateral equivalent of part of the Lizard Complex).

* Logistics: 3 day walk. Approx total distance walked 15 – 20 miles; many stops *en route* to examine geology / landforms. Vehicles would be left at a secure location (arrangement made in advance) near the beginning of the walk. Coach / minibus and driver

arranged in advance to pick up field party at a stated location and return to the secure parking location. B&B accommodation to be arranged in advance: in / near Yealmpton (end of 1st day); in /near Ringmore / Bigbury village (end of 2nd day).

* Tuition fee: £69.00 per person. Cost of hired coach / minibus and driver would be divided between attendees and paid in advance. There is a small charge for the Avon passenger ferry which is paid on the day of the crossing.

* Attendees would be insured against accident for the duration of the trip.

Best Wishes,

Judy Harrison
NEGS Secretary

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