



**NORTH EASTERN GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**  
**Newsletter. 25<sup>th</sup> June 2011**

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Dear Member,

**1.FIELD TRIPS**

**2.OTHER NEWS**

- 1. Do you have any topics/ideas for the autumn/winter lecture programme?**
- 2. Formation of a Durham RIGS group**

**1. FIELD TRIPS**

Full reports of the following the Field Meetings, May 8<sup>th</sup> (Tynemouth –Hartley) and June 19<sup>th</sup> (Saltwick Bay – Whitby) can be accessed by clicking on the following page of our website, <http://northeast-geolsoc.50megs.com/pages/page3fieldvisits.htm>

Below are brief summaries.

**May 8th:** **Upper Carboniferous and Permian, Tynemouth.** An interpretation of the deltaic sediments of the Upper Carboniferous as seen at the North Tyneside coast. The excursion examined the Tertiary dyke at Tynemouth intruding the Carboniferous material, noting the Permian Unconformity and the interpretation of the sediments. The ballast beach at Tynemouth allowed some exotic material to be seen. The party moved their transport to the Cullercoats area, about 1 mile north. Here the 90 Fathom Fault was examined together with the effects on the intruded sediment. An extension to the day was to Hartley, about 2 miles North, to examine the local effects of faulting.  
**Leader: Gordon Liddle.**

**June 19th:** Visit to Whitby - Saltwick Bay, led by **Dr. Martin Whyte** of Sheffield University. The main purpose of the visit was to identify and interpret prints left by dinosaurs and other reptilians within the Middle Jurassic (Saltwick Formation). Consideration was also given to the succession and depositional environment of the Lower and Middle Jurassic Formations exposed there as well as identifying other fossils.

**Future trips:**

**July 2nd:** Upper Tees Drumlins: Members of N.E.G.S. are cordially invited to this event organised by the Natural History Society of Northumbria.

Time: 1030am. Meeting place: Cow Green Reservoir Car Park NY811308. Length of visit: 4-5 hours

This trip will examine the drumlins that can be observed within the upper Tees valley, particularly around Cow Green Reservoir. These drumlins indicate the former existence of an ice centre over Cross Fell and adjacent parts of the Pennine escarpment. From the presence of a number of superimposed drumlins, this ice divide can be demonstrated to have migrated from a more northerly restricted location over westwards towards Cross Fell and Dufton Fell. Understanding the ice dynamics of such centres has been important in developing more accurate reconstructions of the last ice sheet to cover the British Isles. Type of terrain: Rough –be prepared for Pennine weather.

Distance to be walked: 12 km. Food- bring your own packed lunch. **Leader:** Wishart Mitchell, Honorary Research Fellow, Department of Geography, Durham University.

**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

### Autumn Lecture Programme

Is there any thing you would like covered, do you have any good ideas for a lecture topic this coming autumn/winter please let me know. We are meeting on Thursday evening to discuss the topics.

### Formation of a Durham RIGS Group:

Communication from Derek Teasdale:

There are moves afoot to try and revive an active RIGS /Geoconservation Group within County Durham by:

Lesley Dunlop - Northumbria Univ. and Berkshire Geoconservation Group

Brian Young - Honary Research Fellow, Durham Uni, ex-BGS email: [brian.young@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:brian.young@hotmail.co.uk)

Eric Johnson - Independent Consultant, ex-BGS

[eric\\_w.johnson@btinternet.com](mailto:eric_w.johnson@btinternet.com)

Derek Teasdale - Independent Consultant.

[d.a.teasdale@gmail.com](mailto:d.a.teasdale@gmail.com)

We recognise that the geology of Durham is a subject of interest to N.E.G.S. members and we would welcome any input members may wish to put into the proposed Geoconservation Group. The group is planning an initial meeting in June (date and venue to be confirmed) and details of this will be announced in due course.

If any members have any ideas that they would like to give the group then please feel free to contact anyone of us, (email addresses above). One of our initial thoughts was to do something for the 50th anniversary of the Rookhope borehole.

If any NEGS members know of anyone who would be interested, please contact them.

Best Wishes,  
Judy Harrison, Secretary

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