



NORTH EASTERN GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Newsletter October 2011

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Dear Member,

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Residential Field Course

Yorkshire Rock Mineral & Fossil Day.

Foundations of the Northern Pennines: Rookhope – 50 years on.

- 3. ADMINISTRATION**

With the end of the field trips for the year, we can now look forward to the monthly Friday night lectures.

1. NEGS AUTUMN/WINTER LECTURE PROGRAMME

21st October, 2011 Dr. Phil Manning, Univ. Manchester: Dinosaurs, space shuttles and synchrotrons

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 Dr Lisa Baldini. Univ. Durham, *to be announced*

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

16th March, 2012 Dr. Mike Norry, Univ. Leicester: Shetland; the evolution of geology, language and people

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](#).

2. OTHER NEWS

Possible Residential Weekend Field Trip

A residential weekend field trip has been suggested for next year.

It would be much appreciated if members could give some feedback with regard to localities and potential leader(s) as well as interest in participating.

Please reply to John Waring, Field trip organiser: email – ne.geolsoc@ntlworld.com

Tel. 01642 482553

Address: 12, Epping Close, Marske by the Sea, TS11 6DP

FOUNDATIONS OF THE NORTHERN PENNINES: ROOKHOPE – 50 YEARS ON

‘THE SIR KINGSLEY DUNHAM MEETING’*

Joint meeting of the Natural History Society of Northumbria, the Yorkshire Geological Society and Friends of Killhope

Saturday 28th January 2012.

2.00pm -5.00pm Great North Museum:Hancock

It is now fifty years since the Weardale Granite, the existence of which was first predicted in the 1930s by Kingsley Dunham, then a Durham University post-graduate student, was finally proved by drilling the Rookhope Borehole.

The varied lines of reasoning that first suggested that a granite may lie beneath the Northern Pennines, and the detailed results of the drilling, including the unexpected age of the granite, soon become established as one of the classical stories of British geology. The project was a geological adventure that radically changed perceptions, not just of northern England geology, but which led to major advances in the understanding of ore-forming and related processes worldwide.

Fifty years on, the scientific legacies of the borehole are as relevant as ever, underpinning research into new areas of understanding, some of which may have the potential for economic benefits undreamt of when the granite was first predicted.

To mark this significant anniversary, the **Natural History Society of Northumbria** has joined with the **Yorkshire Geological Society** and the **Friends of Killhope** to hold a joint meeting at the Great North Museum:Hancock on the afternoon of Saturday 28th January 2012.

In addition to reviewing the ongoing significance of the borehole, each of the afternoon’s four talks will focus on an aspect of northern England geology which arises from insights provided by the borehole. Topics will include new interpretations and models for the origins of mineralisation, the possibilities for economically viable geothermal resources and a review of the potential for future mineral exploration and working.

Speakers will include Professor Martin Bott, Professor Jon Gluyas, Professor Joe Cann and others currently involved in research in this varied field.

More details, including details of the talks and speakers will appear in the next issue of the Bulletin.

[In recognition of Sir Kingsley Dunham’s distinguished contributions to geological science, particularly in respect of his seminal work on Pennine ore deposits and his former Presidency of the Society, the Yorkshire Geological Society occasionally dedicates one of its scientific meetings as **The Sir Kingsley Dunham Meeting**. There can be no more fitting a topic for this dedication than the theme of this meeting](#)*

3. ADMINISTRATION

If you receive this newsletter by post and have an email address, then please let me have it.
negssecretary@btinternet.com

Best Wishes,

Judy Harrison, NEGS Secretary

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