

Location:	Northumberland
Event Title:	Haltwhistle Burn - The Geology of the Northumberland Basin
Date:	May 01, 2016
Event Type:	Day Trip
Summary:	Whole day field trip led by Dr Paul Williams, studying and mapping aspects of the Carboniferous geology and sedimentation, and later igneous events in the Northumberland Basin.
Further info:	<p>Meet: Cawfields quarry car park, Haltwhistle (GR: NY713666) (off B6318 Military Road at Milecastle Inn) (pay and display). Meet at 10.00 am</p> <p>Duration of trip: 10.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.</p> <p>Safety: The trip is mainly on grassy paths which could be slippery if wet, when due care must be exercised. There are some inclines to negotiate; the walk down to the burn from the Military Road descends about 20 m, which needs to be climbed on return. Also some steep sections of path will have to be negotiated if additional sections are to be examined, although the trip does stay generally within the level confined of the burnside, on gravel paths. Total walking distance to the farthest locality is around 2.0 – 3.0 km. If there has been rain the paths are likely to be very muddy. Trekking poles would be a useful asset if you have them. Packed lunches will be needed, and warm and waterproof clothing carried as well. Footwear needs to have good grip.</p> <p>Details of the Trip: The Haltwhistle Burn cuts through a series of limestones, sandstones and shales belonging to the lower part of the Upper Carboniferous succession typical of the sedimentary infill of the Northumberland Trough. Some spectacular sections are exposed alongside the burn displaying a series of interesting sedimentary features, allowing facies interpretations to be developed. We will then</p>

extrapolate these data across the basin as a whole to generate a broad understanding of Carboniferous sedimentation and palaeogeography for the Northumbrian Basin.

We will also take the opportunity to engage in field mapping of the area which will enable us to build our own geological map of the strata exposed in the Haltwhistle Burn . Compass-clinos and handlenses will be needed for this activity.

The trip starts in the Cawfields car park, wherein exposures of the Whin Sill are found which display a number of interesting features. We will begin with an investigation of these before moving out along the footpath alongside the Haltwhistle Burn. Once across the Military Road a path leads us alongside the stream, where excellent sections are exposed amongst the primroses and bluebells in the birch woods. We will take luncheon with us, and eat out in the field at a convenient point during the day.

The trip aims to finish at around 4.00 pm, when we return to the carpark. Note that the carpark ticket machine is especially tiresome, taking good quality £1 and £2 coins only, and nothing else. The carpark Gestapo are also particularly officious, so do ensure that your ticket is properly displayed and visible.

Afterwards there is the opportunity to repair to the nearby Twice Brewed Inn for refreshments, should that be your desire.

Contact #1:

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Booking Form:

Please contact the organiser of this event for further information.

Itinerary and Risk Assessment:

Please contact the organiser of this event for further information.