



North Eastern Geological Society

Newsletter August 2017

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday August 12th 2017

NORTHUMBRIA OUGS FIELD EVENT

Bentyfield, and Nenthead, the North Pennine Orefield

NEGS members are welcome to join NOUGS members on this interesting field trip. Just let the leader Karl Egeland-Eriksen know and he will forward trip notes.

egeland-eriksen@hotmail.com

Meet at **10.00 am** at roadside parking area at Bentyfield on B6277 3.5 miles south of Alston. NY750424

The area contains some of the most productive mines in the North Pennine Orefield worked for over 200 years until the late 20th century.

Heritage Open Days September 2017

Two public walks were arranged to view 'The Building Stones of the City'; one in Newcastle and one in Sunderland on separate evenings. There has been an error in the production of the HODS booklet and both events are listed for the Friday evening.

Dr Andy Lane was going to lead both walks but this is not now possible, however NEGS member Christine Taylor is to lead the Newcastle walk.

Original volunteers for the Thursday are unable to assist on the Friday and thus support is required (backmarker role) for

Friday 8th September in Newcastle. Contact: negsec@gmail.com

Thursday 31st August

Join the Peregrini Lindisfarne Landscape Partnership Scheme Community Geologist, Dr Ian Kille and fossil amphibian expert Dr Nick Fraser for a fascinating walk and talk about the ancient environment early amphibians lived in.

12:15 – 17:00 BST

Berwick Parish Centre, Parade, Berwick-upon-Tweed, TD15 1DF

PLACES ARE FEW AND YOU NEED TO REGISTER AT:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-age-of-amphibians-tickets-36650435439>

The event will include:

- a short talk by Dr Ian Kille to summarise the work carried out during the Age of Amphibians project
- Lunch, a finger buffet provided by Livvy Cawthorn featuring local food
- A talk by Dr Nick Fraser of the National Museum of Scotland on the nature of fossil amphibians and their early development
- A trip out to Cocklawburn Beach to look at the ancient environment which early amphibians lived in.

Dr Nick Fraser is an international expert on ancient amphibians

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

These should appear in a fuller version of your Newsletter in the Autumn.

FIELD TRIP PROGRAMME

Sunday 8th October 2017

SUNDERLAND'S COASTAL GEOLOGY NORTH OF THE WEAR

Leader: Dr Andy Lane, with Derek Teasdale

Meet at 10.00hrs at the pay car park behind Latimer's fish palace at Whitburn. Buy parking ticket for 3 hours.

(NGR 408613, Landranger sheet 88)

Low tide, Port of Sunderland 11.58 hrs

PART A) Walk North by shoreline to the southern limit of the old Whitburn range. Return south along the beach to the Car Park. Viewing:-

- Concretionary Limestone (Upper Magnesian Limestone) with GIANT cannonballs.
- Glacial deposits of Devensian age (courtesy of Derek Teasdale)
- Possible indications of the early Tertiary Hebburn Dyke.

Time for lunch, either here or at the next destination. If here, you can get a good ice cream! Drive south along the seafront past Morrison's and the Marriott Hotel. Just beyond the latter, park somewhere on the roads around the grassed field called the Seaburn Showground (NGR406599) – free at my last visit! Meet by the steps down to the sand in front of the hotel. PLEASE NOTE: Sunderland is a dire place for toilets – there's never a guarantee they will be open, especially late in the year. I recommend calling in at Morrison's during the transfer!

PART B) Walk south from the "Hotel" steps to the Cat and Dog steps (total distance c 500m) along the beach if the conditions - *including the tide*- are safe. Even so, the sand will give way to slippery uneven rocks going round Parson's Rocks – be aware. A safer route follows the promenade – still within view and shouting distance of the rocks! To view and examine:-

- Cannonballs of all shapes and sizes and other concretionary structures in the Concretionary Limestone.
- Collapse structures and pipes.
- Virtually undisturbed Magnesian Limestone (presumably Roker Dolomite) – cross bedded in places - adjacent to the above. Do we need a fault?

This will probably be the end of the itinerary, but if anybody who has not seen the Sunderland tufa (almost Sunderland's youngest rock) and wishes so to do, then we can drive down to the Marina (NGR 407586) as long as there is still good daylight!

Also, **NEGS members** are also invited to join the Northumbria Open University Geological Society on some of their field trips
<http://ougs.org/northumbria/>

Coming up are:-

Saturday 12 August - Nenthead

Sunday 10 September - St Abbs

23-24 September - Whitby Weekend

Saturday 21 October - Blackhall Rocks

Sunday 5 November - Shaftoe Crags

ADMINISTRATION

The 2017 winner of the **NEGS student prize has been announced as Edward. A. Ffrench.**

Gordon Liddle presented a cheque to Edward at Durham on Sunday 2nd July before he left for home, and then some travelling.



Winter season Lecture Series

Professor Gillian Foulger works hard at providing members with a varied and interesting lecture programme every year. If anyone has any suggestions for speakers, please do let Professor Foulger know.

Also

The December meeting is Members Evening where YOU the member can give a 20 to 30 minutes presentation on your chosen geological topic.

Do give it some consideration and let Professor Foulger know at: -
<http://community.dur.ac.uk/g.r.foulger/>

NEGS requires a representative to the **GEOLOGISTS ASSOCIATION**, this person needs to be a member of the Geologists Association who will report back from meetings. GA pays some expenses.
