

WESTMORLAND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

E-MAIL NEWSLETTER No. 83 July 2023

Field Trips

Swindale - 16th July

Our next field trip is to Swindale and will be led by Sylvia Woodhead. Meet at 10:30am at NY 522 143 in a lay-by on right before the cattle grid (sign no parking beyond this point). An attachment describes the glacial features which will be encountered.

Eden Valley - 6th August

The trip, which will be led by Stuart Monro, follows, as far as possible, the excursion that took place on 5th August 1973, so this one is 50 years and one day later.

Members can find details of the 1973 trip in the Proceedings now available within the Members area of the WGS website.

We will meet at 10 am at the little quarry about 2 km N of Orton on the B6260 at NY 627 099. This is not one of the sites (but those arriving early can have a peep at the limestones and enjoy a super view). We'll leave some cars there as we need to travel in as few cars as possible, because of very limited parking elsewhere. We'll then work north, up the B6260 ending up in Appleby. There'll be 4 main locations to visit (roughly the first 4 from the 1973 trip). The Hilton Beck sites (the other sites from the original trip) are very overgrown and access is difficult/impossible, so we will finish at the quarry near Bongate Church in Appleby.

If you're definitely going to come on the excursion, please let Bob know (entwistle.bob@gmail.com) and we'll know to wait for you at the quarry.

GA Conference

Bookings are now open for the Geologists' Association which is being held in Kendal in September - [here's](#) the link to the GA Conference where you will also find the programme of events. GA, WGS and CGS members are eligible for a reduced price of £45 compared with £50 for non-members

Books and Maps

Don Burnett's map collection has now been catalogued and the listing is attached with this Newsletter. The maps are currently in Lancaster and Vic Parsons has offered to post them unless you can to some other arrangement. This will incur an additional charge of £2 for folded editions and £5 for flat versions if they have to be sent in a tube. If you wish to make an offer please contact Vic at vic.parsons@mac.com

Geology From Your Sofa

This year the Geologists Association are getting local groups to sponsor each month's edition of 'Geology From Your Sofa' The WGS has volunteered to provide the

information for September, to coincide with the GA Conference in Kendal and our 50th anniversary. We've decided the theme of our edition will be 'From Volcanoes to Coral Seas' and we are looking for suggestions for online content that will support this theme based on the geology of Cumbria.

If you have a look at what has been done in previous months using [this](#) link to the Geology from your Sofa you can see examples that have been produced so far. As you will see its a mixture of local geology, geological processes, learning modules, quizzes etc.

Clive Boulter's website of course will be pretty prominent as a fantastic resource. Apart from that, there's our own website, some of our [lectures on YouTube](#), [Cumbria GeoCon](#), [Westmorland Dales](#) and no doubt lots of other things. We would welcome any suggestions for content that members may have.

Please send your ideas and proposals to David Haselden (davidbeckstones@gmail.com) by the end of July so that the edition can be produced in August for 'publication' in September."

Kendal Museum

A project to revamp the 'Sedgwick and Ruthven Room' at Kendal Museum as part of the WGS 50th Anniversary celebration has been approved. The Geologists' Association's Curry Fund has kindly granted £2000 to the project, and the History of Geology Group a further £300, all of which comes on top of the £1000 allocated from Museum funds. Elizabeth Pickett and Marcus Byron, whose interpretative work (e.g. at Brown Howe Quarry) will be well known to many members, have been engaged and have joined Audrey Brown and Peter Lincoln in a preliminary 'scoping' visit to the Museum. More on this as the project progresses...

Down to Earth

The July edition of Down to Earth Extra has not yet been published – it will be forwarded as soon as it becomes available.

Reading Geological Society

Reading Geological Society is running a Lakes and Pennines field trip from Sunday 24th until Saturday 30th September and have invited members of other societies to join them. The leader is Bernard Skillerne de Bristowe.

The details of the trip are at:

[Reading Geological Society Field Meeting: 24 September 2023 The Lake District and Northern Pennines \(readinggeology.org.uk\)](http://readinggeology.org.uk)

[Field Meeting Registration](#)

This week-long trip will visit some of the classic geology of the Lake District and the nearby Alston and Askrigg blocks in north Yorkshire. The provisional itinerary is as follows:

- Day 1, Contact metamorphism of the Skiddaw granite. The best example in England.

- Day 2, The world's first described layered mafic intrusion, Carrock Fell, and the early Ordovician Eycott volcanic series.
- Day 3, The Causey Pike fault and sediments and intrusions along it plus volcanic/ glacial scenery and a visit to a slate quarry in the Borrowdale volcanic series.
- Day 4, The Alston Block of the Pennines including a visit to the Killhope Mining Museum.
- Day 5, The Askrigg Block of the Pennines around Ingleborough.

Tour de France

If, like me, you follow the Tour you can check the geology of the day's route on this website:- <https://www.geo-sports.org/>

Changes to Programme

Changes to the published programme are sometimes unavoidable, often at the last minute, so please check the Society's website before setting off to attend any event.
