

BOSTON SPA NEWS

Volunteers in Boston Spa have published a leaflet explaining the geology of the Boston Spa area, now available in local libraries. It tells you about the Permian yellow limestones (called dolostones) which form the cliffs in the Wharfe gorge. The group is continuing to research the Hampole Beds, which are an important geological boundary within the Permian Cadeby Formation. Thin layers of clays within the dolostones show that the level of the salty Zechstein Sea was dropping, so exposing the surrounding shorelines. The clay beds have been identified in a quarry at Thorp Arch and new sites are being found in the Wetherby area. These have to be carefully measured and sampled so that the rocks can be compared.



Yorkshire Rocks and Minerals Day

175th Anniversary of the Yorkshire Geological Society

Saturday 27 April 2013 10.00 - 5.00

National Coal Mining Museum, Wakefield

All day - Geological exhibits and poster displays from geological companies, local societies and mining groups. Sales of geological leaflets.

10.30 to 1.30 Morning session - short talks by experts on fossils, landslides, industrial history, oil exploration, fossils and 3D geology.

10.30 and 12.00 Short geology walks on the Museum site.

11.00 Underground Tour of Caphouse Colliery

To be booked ON THE DAY at the NCM Reception Desk

The tourist tour, which includes a geological display, geared for children.

1.00 to 5.00 Afternoon session - 35 - 45 min. lectures on the main industries in the North of England, such as coal resources, metal mining, potash, Cleveland ironstone, aggregates and quarrying.

The event is open free of charge to all members of the public.

www.yorksgeol.org.uk

<http://www.ncm.org.uk/what's-on/2012/12/03/yorkshire-rocks-and-minerals-day>

WEST YORKSHIRE GEOLOGY TRUST NEWSLETTER 14 SPRING 2013



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

The Trust has been involved in a three-year project, the Watershed Landscape project, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. This is centred on the South Pennine moors of Lancashire and Yorkshire. The Trust has been able to add geological interpretation, such as geological trails, information panels and leaflets, to seven sites. A group of archaeological enthusiasts has been studying mining and quarrying remains on the Pennine moors and a booklet containing their survey findings, called 'Riches of the Earth' will be available in mid-March.

There is a geology resources section on the website which will contain plenty of information on the seven geological sites and it has a link to a 20-minute podcast about the geology of the Marsden Moor area. The website is at <http://www.watershedlandscape.co.uk/resources/geology-and-archaeology-resources/geology-resources/>

Alison Tymon

NEW GEOLOGICAL TRAILS

Two new geological trails can be found in West Yorkshire. The trail over Penistone Hill is explained in an illustrated booklet now available from Visitor Centres in Haworth and Hebden Bridge. Four stone carvings showing geological features are already in place on Penistone Hill.

The geological trail over Todmorden Moor will have six interpretation panels, with information about the rocks, landscape and the mining and quarrying industries which were so important on the Moor during the 19th century. It should be completed during the spring.



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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Rocks and Fossils of Roundhay Park, Leeds

Saturday 9th March 1.30 – 4.00 Leeds Geological Association/Friends of Roundhay Park
Meet Bill Fraser outside the Mansion House Visitors Centre, LS8 2JL, (SE 330 383) in Roundhay Park. A guided walk of approximately 2.5 miles around a marked Geological Trail taking about 3 hours, with stops for discussion. Features seen are shales and several different types of sandstone (some of which contain fossils), as well as sedimentary and tectonic structures. Footpaths are graded for easy walking but can be muddy in wet weather.

Upton Country Park, near South Elmsall, Wakefield

Sunday 17th March 1.00 – 3.00 Wakefield Council
Meet Alison Tymon at the car park at the side of the Library, Upton (SE 483 137) WF9 1FE

A short walk of about 1 mile around Upton to find out the story of the amazing rocks laid down in tropical seas and deltas during Carboniferous times, which make up the landscape and gave Upton the coal on which its mining heritage was founded. Bring a magnifying glass, so that you can look closely at some of the rocks we will see.

Rocks and Fossils of Frickley Country Park, South Elmsall, Wakefield

Saturday 20th April 2.30 – 4.30 Wakefield Council

A short walk of less than a mile to see the landscaped Frickley Colliery site, now the country park. Find out about the rocks and fossils found in the mine shafts, as well as other rocks and landscapes in the South Elmsall area. See the new rocks and landscapes interpretation panel. Bring any interesting rocks or fossils that you have found, to be identified by experts. Meet Tony Felski at the Doncaster Road car park WF9 2JU (Grid Reference SE 477 100) on the B6422 about half a mile south of South Elmsall railway station. Footpaths are graded for easy walking.

Rocks and Fossils of Todmorden Moor, Calderdale

Saturday 4th May at 1.00 – 4.00 Calderdale Council
Meet Alison Tymon for a walk of about 2 miles following the new Todmorden Moor Geological Trail along roads, tracks and paths, to see old coal mines and quarries, with a chance of finding coal balls and other fossils. Park on the road near Sourhall Cottages, Sourhall Road, Todmorden (SD 917 247) Todmorden Moor is high and exposed so bring waterproofs, wear good shoes or boots and warm clothing, if needed. Bring a magnifying glass to see the fossils clearly.

Rocks and Fossils of Roundhay Park, Leeds

Saturday 11th May 1.30 – 4.00 Leeds Geological Association/Friends of Roundhay Park
Meet Bill Fraser outside the Mansion House Visitors Centre, LS8 2JL, (SE 330 383) in Roundhay Park. A guided walk of approximately 2.5 miles around a marked Geological Trail taking about 3 hours, with stops for discussion. Features seen are shales and several different types of sandstone (some of which contain fossils), as well as sedimentary and tectonic structures. Footpaths are graded for easy walking but can be muddy in wet weather.

Rocks and Landscapes of Penistone Hill, Haworth

Wednesday 22nd May 1.30 – 4.00 Bradford Countryside Volunteers
Meet William Varley at the Haworth Brontë Parsonage Car Park (SE 029 373) for a 2½ mile circular walk following the new Penistone Hill Geology Trail. A booklet is available in the Haworth Visitor Centre at £2.00. Footpaths are fairly level, but uneven in places. You will see disused quarries with sandstones, mudstones and a coal seam, as well as find out more about the quarrying history of Penistone Hill. If the weather is good, views across the Upper Worth Valley and the Pennine Moors will be excellent.

Geology and Quarrying on Ilkley Moor

Wednesday 29th May 10.30 Bradford Countryside Volunteers
Meet William Varley at the Cow and Calf Car Park, Ilkley (SE 131 468) for a 5 mile circular walk to the top of the moor looking at the geology and quarrying remains. Bring a packed lunch and wear suitable footwear and windproof clothing.



A group of keen people looking at the brightly-coloured sands and clays at Upton Country Park. These rocks represent a major break in geological time of about 60 million years when Britain was part of a desert land-mass with mountains, sand-dunes and salty seas.