

YORKSHIRE GEOLOGY MONTH

Yorkshire Geology Month is being launched on May 3rd at the National Coal Mining Museum near Wakefield and heralds six weeks of interesting and different geological events in May and early June. These include a dinosaur footprint walk in Scarborough, two walks in Weardale to see waterfalls and quarries and an outing to Salthill Quarry near Clitheroe to see fossil reefs.

In the West Yorkshire area, there is a guided walk around the geological trail on Todmorden Moor, a visit to Hetchell Woods near Leeds to see disused limestone quarries and sandstone crags and a walk in the Boston Spa/Thorp Arch area to see the Permian yellow limestones. Details of these events can be found in this newsletter.

Full details of all the events will be available on the Yorkshire Geological Society website at www.yorksgeolsoc.org.uk



A group finding fossil plants on Todmorden Moor in May 2013

Yorkshire Geology Day - The Landscape and Geology of the Yorkshire National Parks

Saturday 3rd May 2014 10.00 - 5.00

National Coal Mining Museum, Wakefield WF4 4RH

Organised by the Yorkshire Geological Society

All day - Identification desk, so bring your rock, mineral and fossil specimens to be identified by experts. Geological exhibits and poster displays from geological companies, local societies and mining groups. Sales of geological leaflets

10.30 to 1.30 - Short talks by experts on Yorkshire's dinosaurs, times when hyaenas roamed Yorkshire and coal forest plant fossils.

11.00, 11.30 and 12.00 - Underground walks into the drift mine to be booked on the day at the NCM Reception. Be prepared for a long and steep descent so wear walking boots.

11.00 and 12.15 - Short guided geology walks on the Museum site.

2.00 to 5.00 - Short introductions by the president and secretary

14.25 - 14.25 - 'The Yorkshire Dales' by Tony Waltham

15.50 - 16.50 - 'The North Yorkshire Moors' by John Powell

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

www.yorksgeolsoc.org.uk

WEST YORKSHIRE GEOLOGY TRUST NEWSLETTER 16 SPRING 2014



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

The three year Watershed Landscape project, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, came to an end in the autumn. The work focused on the Pennine Moors in the Bradford, Calderdale and Kirklees areas. The West Yorkshire Geology Trust has been able to add much geological information to the project website. There is a podcast which is available for download and seven geological leaflets for interesting places to visit in the area. We have also helped to produce two geological trails and been involved in the Riches of the Earth project about stone quarrying and coal mining on the high Pennines. There is plenty of information for downloading from the website at <http://www.watershedlandscape.co.uk/resources/geology-and-archaeology-resources/geology-resources/>

Thanks to everyone who has helped with the geological interpretation over the last three years. Without the West Yorkshire Geology Trust, there would be far less available information about the rocks and landscapes of the Pennines for the general public to enjoy.

Alison Tymon



Walk around Pule Hill, Marsden Moor

In October, WYGT led a walk for the National Trust to see the fossil goniatite site at Mount Road, Marsden, and examine the sandstone features in Pule Edge Quarry. Fifteen visitors enjoyed good views and pleasant weather on the four mile walk. Thanks to the NT volunteer and to Jan Scrine of the Milestone Society who accompanied us and added to our knowledge of the area. The photo shows a local milestone on the path up to the summit of Pule Hill

CONTACT DETAILS

Geological Records Office,
Thewlis Lane
Crosland Hill,
HUDDERSFIELD
HD4 7FL

01289 305842

alison@wyorksgeologytrust.org.uk
www.wyorksgeologytrust.org

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Rocks and Fossils of Roundhay Park, Leeds

Saturday 8th March 1.30 – 4.00

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.



Shales and siltstones have been eroded by the river in Roundhay Gorge. Sandstones are found in small quarries on the valley sides.

Building Stones in the centre of Halifax

Sunday 6th April 2.00 – 3.30

Calderdale Council

Meet Alison Tymon at Halifax Parish Church (Minster), Kirkgate by the main porch (SE 097 252) finishing at the Piece Hall. A gentle walk of less than 1 mile around the centre of Halifax to see the variety of local and imported decorative rocks used in the buildings.

Halifax has an amazing selection of sandstone buildings, using the two local rocks, the Elland Flags and the Rough Rock. The building on the right is the old railway station. Wealthy companies also imported decorative materials from other places. Bring a lens if you have one, so that you can look closely at some of the rocks we will see.



Rocks and Landscapes of Todmorden Moor, Calderdale

Sunday 4th May 1.00 – 4.00

Calderdale Council

Meet Alison Tymon for a walk of about 3 miles following the 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 10th May 1.30 – 4.00

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.

Hetchell Wood, Scarcroft and Thorner

Sunday 11 May 1.30 - 4.00

Leeds Geological Association

Meet Bill Fraser to visit three sites which show that, between 320 - 280 million years ago, conditions in this part of West Yorkshire changed from a tropical delta to a hot dry desert to evaporating seas. Total walking distance is approx. 3 km on unmade woodland paths and disused railway line so come suitably clothed and shod. Meet at the roadside parking area on Milner Lane, 2 km north of Thorner village church. (SE 380 424)



Hetchell Crag

Thorp Arch and Boston Spa

Saturday 31st May 2.00 - 4.00

Meet Alison Tymon and members of the Boston Spa and District Geological Researchers at the Thorp Arch end of the Wharfe bridge at Boston Spa (SE 433 457) for a walk around the River Wharfe valley to see limestones and fossils. This area lay on the shoreline of a salty sea in a desert climate and we can look at the evidence which tells us about the environment and how life struggled to exist in difficult conditions. Wear good boots or shoes for the walk of about 1 mile along muddy paths on the river bank and an old quarry. Dogs are not permitted because there will be cattle in the fields. Families welcome.

