



# Cumberland Geological Society

[www.cumberland-geol-soc.org.uk](http://www.cumberland-geol-soc.org.uk)

President: John Rodgers

## Summer newsletter 2019

### FROM THE PRESIDENT

There are two particularly important issues currently being considered by CGS Council. The first is the simple fact that if we continue as we have been doing for the last few years, income is exceeded by expenditure. Rather than raise subscriptions we are seeking to reduce costs and one obvious way is to print the Proceedings in a cheaper format (probably A4 size) while still retaining the type of content we have been used to.

The second is the future of the library. We are most grateful for the way in which David Powell laboriously brought a selection of appropriate material along to our meetings, but his resignation from the role of librarian and the loss of our space in Whitehaven Library has led to all books, maps and magazines now being stored in boxes in the homes of various members. We are still trying to find another place for the collection but we would also need to find another librarian. One solution to this problem is to abandon having a library and sell off the contents, giving first choice to members. Another possibility is to carefully select material that is most likely to appeal to members, divide this into smaller sets and ask our county libraries to take them. We could publish a list of what was where and members could then use the inter-library loan service. This would make our collection much more accessible but secure. We would be pleased to hear of any opinions from members about these things, or any practicable ideas. I am happy to receive any thoughts and can be contacted at [jro300945@gmail.com](mailto:jro300945@gmail.com).

### BROWN HOWE QUARRY Worth a visit

This is a disused quarry on the west side of the A5084 at the southern end of Coniston Water (GR SD288910). Cumbria GeoConservation have done a great job in putting in an information board explaining the geology of the site, and have been given a special award by the Geologists' Association for their efforts. Do try and get to see it if you are in that part of the county.

### BOOK RECOMMENDATION

Geology in the Lake District National Park by Phil Davies (2018) ISBN: 978-1-5272-2888-7

This is a really useful addition to existing works on Lakeland Geology. Its chief selling point for me is the 30 geosites that are spread around the district and which are clearly explained and well-illustrated with photos, maps and diagrams. Helpful information is given regarding location, access, parking and difficulty. If you want to learn about local geology by getting out and looking at rocks and landscape, this is a bargain. (I paid £10 for my copy).

### FIELD EXCURSION NOTES

The first trip to the BVG on Harter Fell was arduous (for some of us) but thoroughly worth-while and excellently led by Clive Boulter. Our next programmed outing to Threlkeld Knotts was postponed due to inclement weather but ran successfully on 10th July. Unfortunately, a misunderstanding about the 23<sup>rd</sup>

June visit to glacial sediments on SW Cumbrian coast led to cancellation 3 days before the event. However, this will be organised for next year at a time also suitable for the WGS. There was good support for the evening excursion to Wythop Woods and for the Saturday at Nenthead Mine Heritage Site. Huge thanks to Rosemary Vidler and the team there for their leadership and hospitality.

At the time of writing there are 2 remaining trips on the sent-out programme – Sat. 17 Aug. to the Hardendale Limestone Quarry on Shap Fell and Sun. 8 Sept. to Brough and N. Stainmore. **THE MEETING TIME FOR THE LATTER OF THESE TWO IS 10.30** at Helbeck Quarry.

### **AN EXTRA EVENING TRIP, NOT ON THE ORIGINAL PROGRAMME**

Details are as follows:

**THURSDAY 29 AUGUST SEDIMENTARY STRUCTURES IN THE SANDSTONES OF WHITEHAVEN HARBOUR**  
Leader Margaret Bennett Meet at 6pm in car park between Tesco and the north wall of Whitehaven Harbour GR972186. We will finish at about 8pm and hope to then extend the occasion for those who want to with a meal at a local pub/restaurant.

*Members of CGS entering one of the mine tunnels at Nenthead Heritage Site*



### **SKYE FIELD TRIP**

There are two places available on the CGS trip to Skye on 9<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> May 2020.

The trip will be led by Dr Ian Williamson, ex BGS who knows the area well.

If you are interested in joining us please contact Susan Beale on 016974-78353 or email [susan.lowrow@gmail.com](mailto:susan.lowrow@gmail.com) for further details.

### **WINTER LECTURE PROGRAMME**

All meetings commence at 7.30 pm

#### **2019**

**18<sup>th</sup> September:** Dr Challands, Edinburgh University. "Scotland's Jurassic Park: The Isle of Skye and New Fossil Discoveries."

Sandgate Room, Penrith Methodist Church, Wordsworth Street, Penrith, CA11 7QY

**23rd October:** Dr Graham Leslie, BGS Edinburgh. "From Plates to Cityscapes – geological impacts in modern urban settings, lessons from Southeast Asia."

Egremont Room at Kirkgate Arts Centre, Kirkgate, Cockermouth CA13 9PJ

**13th November:** Prof. Andy Chadwick BGS Hon. Professor, University of Edinburgh. "Underground Carbon Storage: the key to mitigating climate change."

St. Benedict's School, Red Lonning, Whitehaven, CA28 8UG

**18<sup>th</sup> December:** Members' Evening

Friends' Meeting House, Elliot Park, Keswick, CA12 5NZ

**2020**

**8<sup>th</sup> January:** Dr Dunning, Newcastle University. "From small rockfalls to entire mountainside collapses – how landslides shape the landscape and pose a (growing?) risk."

Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery, Castle Street, Carlisle CA3 8TP

**12<sup>th</sup> February:** *Climate Change Debate/Discussion* with Terence Sloan, Emeritus Professor of Physics, Lancaster University and Howard Dewhurst, FGS.

Harvey Davies Room, Braithwaite Institute, Braithwaite CA12 5RY

**25<sup>th</sup> March:** AGM and President's address.

Friends' Meeting House, Kirkgate, Cockermouth, CA13 9PH