

CAR PARKING

There is a car park at the chapel which you are welcome to use.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

There's a very frequent bus service (every 10 minutes) from the town centre to the chapel.

THE COST...

For the full course of 10 weeks the cost is £50.00, £45.00 for the over 60s and students under 21. For individual sessions the cost is £6.00 each.

CHRISTMAS MEAL

We are hoping to organise a Christmas meal for the week after the last class. Details nearer to the time.

BOOKING

To book your place on this class, simply ring us on 0114 245 5746 and pay with any credit or debit card or send us a cheque payable to Geo Supplies Ltd.

You can also enrol at the first or subsequent class. If you are unable to attend the full series of classes, you may do it on a 'per class' arrangement at £6.00 per session.

It is expected that there will be another geology class at the same time after Christmas. The tutor will discuss possible subject areas with students.

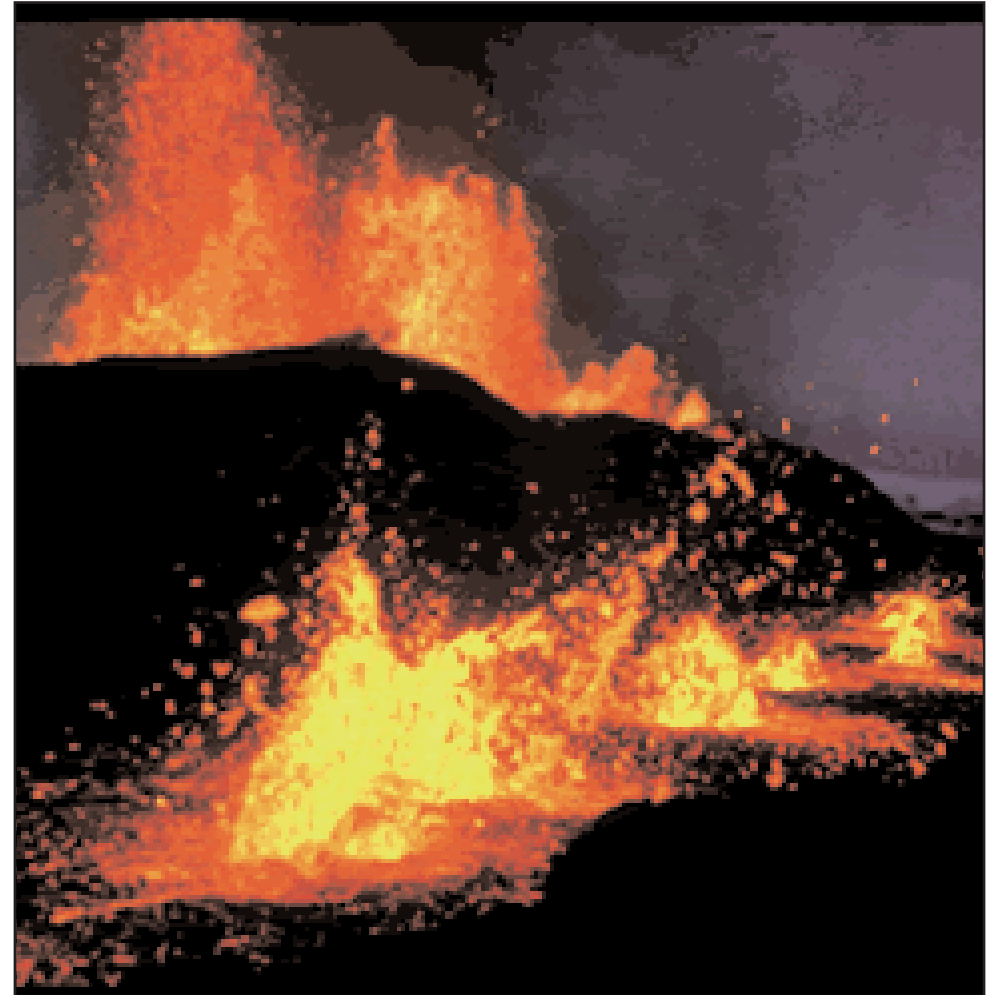
The class will start again on January 12th 2012



Down to Earth

"Earth science learning for all"

Understanding Planet Earth



Eyre Chapel, Newbold Village, Chesterfield

Thursday afternoons, 2.30-4.30

10-weeks commencing September 29 2011

Down to Earth is a division of Geo Supplies Ltd., Sheffield S35 2XE

KEY INFORMATION

COURSE TITLE: Understanding Planet Earth

VENUE: Eyre Chapel, Newbold Village, Chesterfield

TERM DATES: 10 weeks, commencing September 29. 2.30-4.30pm

Half-term October 27th

COURSE TUTOR: Chris Darmon BSc, PGCE

CONTACT: 0114 245 5746, or email: chrisdarmon@geosupplies.co.uk

BACKGROUND

Chris has been involved with the teaching of adults in Sheffield for over 30 years, for the LEA, Sheffield University and the WEA. He has been running the classes independently for seven years in the belief that by so doing he can offer both the best value and education in a relaxed manner with the minimum of administration. He is well known to many in the Chesterfield and Matlock area having taught at Hurst House and speaking at many local meetings.

All are welcome to our classes and no previous knowledge is required or expected. We enjoy a good time together, sharing a learning experience with like minded people. Sit back, relax and have a great learning experience.

OUR EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

Our aim is to provide a relaxed learning environment in which we can all learn both from the tutor and each other. In short, exactly the original WEA learning model! We hope that everyone will want to take part in our activities, though nobody will be insisting that you do. You are free to take notes or make recordings as you wish.

THIS COURSE

The last few years, even recent months, have told us much about how active the Earth is, whether that's manifested in earthquakes, volcanic eruptions or destructive tsunamis. But why, after 4.6 billion years of Earth history does this still happen? In short, how does the Earth work?

This course will try to get at some of the answers to these and many other questions. We'll be looking at earth materials, the minerals and the rocks and outlining some of the key facts about geological time and how Earth processes act. By the end of the course you should be much more familiar with the workings of planet Earth and maybe a little less surprised when something dramatic happens!

COURSE AIMS

- To examine how our view of the Earth has changed over the past 200 years or so
- To understand something of Earth chemistry and how this is reflected in minerals and rocks.
- To appreciate the enormity of geological time and how it is divided up.
- To understand how the theory of plate tectonics explains much about how our planet works.
- To appreciate that scientific hypothesis may not ultimately be scientific fact and that our ideas can (and do) change over time

COURSE CONTENT

What follows is not intended to be prescriptive. We may divert from the order and topics as presented here. Each session will take the form of a mixture of tutor presentation and some form of practical work involving maps, photos or specimens. In some weeks there may also be visual material in the form of a video or cd-rom.

- **Minerals, the Earth's chemistry store** - a look at Earth chemistry. Why rocks are so long lasting. The role of water in our planet.
- **Minerals make rocks** - the three different classes of rocks and how materials are recycled over millions of years.
- **All the time in the world** - early ideas about the age of the Earth, the work of James Hutton and Arthur Holmes, the radio active clock.
- **The rules of the time game** - the work of the pioneers and how we began to tackle strata and the age of the Earth
- **Getting to grips with geological time** - how it was divided up and how eventually we added 'real time'
- **It's all about granite and basalt** - a 'big picture' look at what the Earth is made of and how we began to make sense of it all
- **Discovering patterns on the Earth's surface** - how the early explorers began to see how the continents fitted together
- **Shrivalled Earth** - early ideas on continental drift and how the Earth works, thanks to the pioneers, Arthur Holmes & Alfred Wegener.
- **Post-war science and technology, plate tectonics and the race to the moon** - how advances in technology came to the rescue of global tectonics and how things that had been impossible became part of mainstream thinking.
- **Yet still the questions remain** - despite everything, we still don't have all the answers! Pointers to the future of our planet.

YOUR SAFETY...

Please note the fire exit routes and procedures. In the event of a fire, please evacuate the building quickly and follow any instructions given. Do not attempt to collect your belongings and do not re-enter the building until advised that it is safe to do so. During the time you are studying with Down to Earth, you are covered by a comprehensive insurance policy. but please remember that you are responsible for your own safety.

REFRESHMENTS

We'll take a break roughly half way through the session to enjoy a cup of tea, coffee or hot chocolate and a biscuit. There is a small charge of 30p. to cover the cost.