



**Down to Earth**

*"Earth science learning for all"*

# Eastern Lakes & Howgill Fells

## June 11-16



**The fabulous Howgill Fells**

### **A word from your leaders...**

This is an area we've wanted to visit for several years and now we've finally got around to it! A couple of things galvanised us into action, firstly the publication of a guide to the geomorphology of the Howgill Fells and secondly, the availability of a suitable hotel at which to base our trip, in the form of the Shap Wells.

During this 5-night short break we'll range from the rocks of the Eastern Lake District around Shap itself, including the famous granite and its environs, plus the Howgill Fells, the western part of the Yorkshire Dales and the Vale of Eden. In the course of this, we'll be seeing rocks that range in age from the Ordovician through to the Triassic. There are folded greywackes at Tebay, amazing landscapes in the Howgills, lientone scenery in the Dales and desert environments around Appleby.

The Shap Wells Hotel has long had a reputation for hosting groups of geologists, including field parties from the University of Durham and the Open University. In recent years several geological societies have also been based there for residential field trips. They will provide us with comfortable accommodation and all our main meals.

As this is the first time that we have visited this area, we expect there to be high demand for this trip. You are advised to book as soon as possible, especially if you are requiring a single room.

**Chris Darmon & Colin Schofield**  
**Course Organisers/Leaders**

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### **Getting to the field area**

The Shap Wells Hotel is quite close to the village of Shap that can be reached by bus from Penrith. However it would be a fair walk from the nearest bus stop. However, if you arrive by train at Penrith, we can arrange to pick you up in our minibus. Those of you arriving by car will find that you can come via the M6 and A6, making this area very accessible from much of the country.

### **Getting around on the trip**

As usual, we'll have the use of a 17-seater minibus, driven by 'our Colin'. There may also be a need for a couple of extra cars, so we may be looking for a couple of volunteer drivers! This will only happen if the total number of participants exceeds 15.

## Walking

This is not an area of particularly difficult terrain, although we will be walking over rough ground in hilly country. We'll get you as close as possible to the relevant sites and will, in almost every case, involve minimal walking distances. Everything therefore should be within the capabilities of all of the party.

However, if at any time you wish to 'opt out' that will be fully acceptable and understood. In view of the uncertainties of the weather, and the fact that is an area of high rainfall, you are strongly advised to bring all waterproofs and walking boots/shoes.

## Why come to this area?

Geologically, this is an area of great contrasts. The eastern part of the Lake District has a much 'softer' landscape than that of the Central Lakes, comprising rocks from both the Borrowdale Volcanics and the Wndermere groups. The former are ashes and the tuffs and the latter mainly greywackes sandstones and silts. In the Tebay area we'll be able to examine some classic sedimentary structures and folds in the greywackes. In the Howgill Fells we'll be able to see the landscape that these sediments give us, with superb views over the area.

At Shap we'll encounter the famous granite with its metamorphic aureole. The granite quarry has recently reopened and it is hoped that we can arrange a visit. At the eastern edge of the Yorkshire Dales, we'll encounter the distinctive landscape of the Carboniferous Limestones, via a pleasant walk following the route of the Sedgwick Trail.

In the Vale of Eden, we'll examine various rocks from the Permian and Triassic and also see something of the varied rocks of the Cross Fell inlier and even a glimpse of the former lead mining of the district.

## Accommodation & Food

We usually prefer to be based in a small family run hotel, but this has not proved possible in this instance. Instead, we have turned to the long established Shap Wells Hotel. They can accommodate all of our group in a variety of different en-suite room options. The Hotel will provide us with breakfast and evening meals and we'll be taking a packed lunch for each field day.

Single rooms are limited and subject to a fairly modest extra charge. We are happy to help anyone looking for someone to share a twin bedded room – simply indicate on the booking form.

## Itinerary

The following is not intended to be prescriptive, but to give you an idea of what we hope to cover during this trip, weather permitting and taking in the wishes of the group:-

- Rocks and landscape of the Howgill Fells
- Folding and sedimentary structures of the Tebay area.
- The Shap Granite and its environs
- Geology of the Vale of Eden around Appleby and the Cross Fell Inlier
- The limestones and structures of the Sedgwick Trail
- The Shap Wells unconformity

In order to get the most out of your short trip, we'll finish around 12 noon on the final day.

## Cost



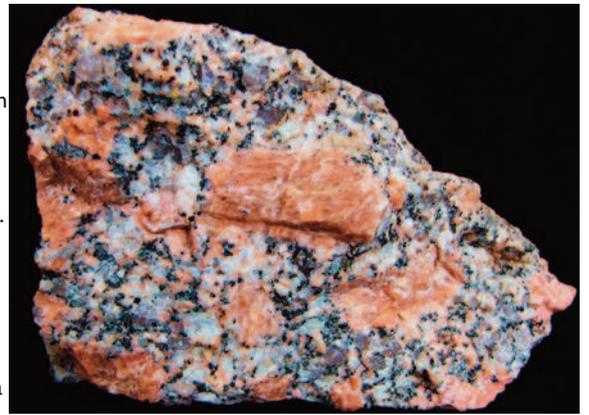
**For 2 people sharing a double or twin room, the cost of the 5-night trip will be £595.00 per person; for single occupancy, the cost will be £695.00 per person and is limited to a maximum of 3.**

If you are willing to share, but don't have a companion, just indicate on the form and we will try to help you.

## What's included in the cost?

- The services of Chris Darmon & Colin Schofield as tutors, who will be available to you at all reasonable times
- Accommodation and meals as specified here
- The cost of all transport used during the trip
- Admission to any museums, exhibitions etc. as visited by the group

**Folded greywackes near Shap**



## What's excluded from the cost?

- The cost of travel between your home and Shap Wells
- Travel insurance - strongly recommended
- Incidental expenditure

## Insurance

Everyone booking a place and paying a deposit is strongly advised to take out holiday insurance. This can cover you against loss of money in the event of cancellation etc. Cover is often included in with your credit card or bank account.

## Booking

*Please fill in and return a completed booking form.. Your booking will be confirmed upon receipt of either a deposit of £200.00 per person or the full payment. The balance of the brochure price will be due by March 31st 2019.*

*This trip will run provided a minimum of 12 people have booked by December 31st. 2018*

## Your money...

Upon receipt, all monies paid for these trips are placed in a specific 'client trust account' where it cannot be drawn by us until after completion of the tour. This is in accordance with EU Directives and ensures that your money is safe in the unlikely event of corporate failure by Geo Supplies.

## What happens next?

As soon as we are in a position of confirming that the trip will run - pretty soon judging by the number of people who have shown an interest already - we will let you know. You will then be free to start making your own travel plans and to take advantage of any advance fares on train.

Please don't make any such arrangements until we have been in touch with you.

*Please also see information contained in our 'Residential Field Trips 2019'*

