



Come and join our third Summer School...

**Peak District Summer School
July 20-27 2019**

Reef limestone at the National Stone Centre
Inset - The rural setting of Cliff College



The Peak District - geology and landscape at its best!

It was surely no accident that the Peak District was designated as our first National Park more than 50 years ago. Within the counties of Derbyshire, Staffordshire, Cheshire and South Yorkshire lie some of our finest rocks and scenery. So we are delighted to have secured accommodation at Cliff College, Calver, Derbyshire for our Third Summer School.

From our base at Calver which is on a regular bus route from the nearest railhead at Chesterfield, we expect to visit a wide range of geosites including: The National Stone Centre, Creswell Crags, Nottinghamshire (a World heritage site for Quaternary bones), The National Coal Mining Museum, Poole's Cavern and Ecton Copper Mine - to name just a few! Within a radius of 50 miles we can see a wide range of igneous and sedimentary rocks as well as collect minerals and fossils. There really is something for just about everyone!

We will be accommodated in single en-suite student bedrooms (there are a few double and twins available) and all our catering needs will be met in the College. We will also provide evening activities and a limited daytime indoor programme. Whilst there is no alcohol allowed on College premises, there's an excellent real-ale pub at the bottom of the drive!

Chris Darmon, Colin Schofield & Eileen Fraser
Your Summer School team

View brochure at: www.geosupplies.co.uk
Get a booking form: downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk



Residential and day field trips

If you haven't joined one of our day or residential field trips before, what can you expect?

- Our residential and day field trips are suitable for adults of all levels of interest and geological knowledge.
- Our trips are informal and mostly comprise 15-20 people.
- We usually use comfortable small hotels and guest houses and all meals are included.
- You have the services of Chris Darmon and/or Colin Schofield as field leaders. Both Chris & Colin are highly experienced and knowledgeable field geologists.
- For 2018/19 most residential trips should have the use of either a small coach or minibus.
- Our day trips normally start at 10.30 or 11.00 and finish no later than 5.00, unless shown otherwise.

If you still have any questions or queries, don't hesitate to email us at: downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk or tel: 0114 245 5746

Winter Day Schools

A reminder of our programme of Winter Day Schools. Several are close to being fully booked!

These courses normally run from 11.00 to 4.00 and always involve lots of hands on practical work. They are suitable for people with a range of geological knowledge, including beginners. A discount of £5.00 per person is available for holders of Club Class and groups of 6 or more people.



Devizes Conservative Club, the venue for our day school

Wednesday, February 20 Conservative Club, Devizes, Wiltshire

"Geological Jigsaws" - our brand new fun day comes to Wiltshire - join in the fun of our latest mind-bending exercise involving specimens, pictures and a map, all designed to stretch your knowledge! £35.00 including lunch buffet.

Saturday, March 9 The Commercial, Chapelton, Sheffield

"Every picture tells a geological story 2" - a repeat of our popular day school, using 30 brand new images, accompanied by some super specimens. This is always good fun as you seek to match up the

specimens to the images. Some are easy but others will stretch you! £35.00 including a 'Commie' buffet lunch.

Wednesday, March 13 Lea Valley YHA, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire

"All the time in the world" - takes a long look at geological time and how we divide it up, through the medium of selected geological locations, specimens and maps. We'll also learn about some of the pioneers of our subject. £35.00 including lunch.

Saturday, March 23 The Bridges Centre, Monmouth

"Every picture tells a geological story" - our popular hands on session with geological pictures and specimens. They all tell a story and the fun is interpreting them and matching the specimens and pictures. Suitable for all. £35.00 including lunch.

To book for any Day School go to: www.geosupplies.co.uk or ring us on: 0114 245 5746

For more information email us at: downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk

Day Schools take a break now until the Autumn of 2019. For the intervening period we'll be running a programme of day trips (see the next page for details).

We hope to see you on one of our events soon!

Are you looking for an introductory course in geology? 'Steps towards the Rock face' is your answer...

For those of you looking for a beginners' course in geology, we're delighted to be able to inform you that our popular 'Steps towards the rock face' course is now available 'on demand', at any time of the year.

You are permitted to access the materials at any time for a period of 6 months on our Moodle site, or to receive them in printed form. See below for more details.

"Steps towards the rock face" - our popular course for those new to geology and the Earth sciences. It covers a wide spectrum of basic materials on rocks, minerals and fossils and much more besides. This course has been specifically designed with adult learners in mind. It does not require you to submit homework and you can do it electronically or by post to suit your requirements.
Cost: £75.00 by Moodle/Email, or £100.00 by post.

SPECIAL OFFER: Add in the course textbook and a home kit of specimens, hand lens etc. for an additional £30.00 (saving £10.95)

Details for our Autumn distance learning courses will be published in the August issues of *Down to Earth* and *Down to Earth* extra.

They'll also be on our website: www.geosupplies.co.uk

Or for more information email: downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk



Spring Day Trips are coming...

Our Spring programme of day trips will commence in late March. For 2019 we are continuing the two price levels we introduced in 2018, in an attempt to make more trips viable, whilst at the same time seeking to offer good value for money. Day trips are suitable for all levels of knowledge, unless shown otherwise.

The standard price will be £15.00 per person, with some trips at the lower rate of £10.00 per person. All trips offer a £3.00 discount for holders of Club Class, students under 19 and groups of 5 or more people booked together.

Saturday, March 16

Rocks & Landscapes of Penistone Hill, Haworth, W. Yorkshire

This is a well laid out geological trail of some 4 km taking in public paths and tracks around the hilly ground to the west of Haworth village. Along the trail you'll encounter several former building stone quarries in the sandstones of the Upper Carboniferous. The same rocks have provided brick clays and even a little coal. There are stunning landscape views and excellent sedimentary structures.

Meeting: Haworth Church on Main Street, at 10.30, standard prices

Wednesday, March 27

Rocks, landscapes and mines of the Porter Valley, Sheffield

The Porter Valley is one of Sheffield's 'green fingers' - a delightful walk along one of the city's smaller rivers. From the earliest times of human habitation the River Porter has been harnessed to power water mills for a host of different purposes. Perhaps the most famous were some of the earliest iron forges. Along the way you'll be able to see a collection of natural and man made rock exposures. You'll also learn to read the landscape for faults and changes in rock types. Finally there are the remains of several mines and quarries.

Meeting: Forge Dam cafe at 10.30, standard prices

Wednesday, April 17

Geology & building stones walk around Old Kenilworth, Warwickshire

Some areas of our country abound with excellent building stones with freestone blocks and roofing material. Yet in other areas builders struggled to find anything with which to build using local materials. That's where bricks and tiles came into their own. But, as you will see, people were very inventive and others had the money to bring in exotic materials from far away. Join as we stroll through Old Kenilworth looking at the buildings and determining the geology beneath our feet.

Meeting: Kenilworth Castle car park at 12.00, lower rate prices



Kenilworth Castle

Saturday, May 4

Geology & landscape around St Davids

This is an opportunity to examine Ordovician sediments and igneous rocks in a fabulous coastal setting close to the tiny city of St. Davids. There are numerous headlands and bays along this stretch of the coastal footpath. We go as far as St Davids Head where we can examine quartz gabbros. A real treat is in store!

Meeting: Whitesands Bay car park, West of St Davids at 11.00, standard prices

Wednesday, May 22

Rocks & landscapes of Boston Spa, Yorkshire

We rarely offer trips that cover itineraries in the Permian rocks, so this is something a little different. The walk is alongside the River Wharfe and there are numerous river cliffs to be seen. You'll find evidence that this was a major route for meltwaters at the close of the last glaciation.

Meeting: Millennium Gardens car park, Boston Spa at 11.00, standard prices

More trips will be listed in the May issue, including some in the South of England - we promise!

We are always open to your suggestions for field trips and visits, contact us at: downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk



**Become a Club Class
or Club Class Duo
member for 2019**

**CLUB
CLASS**

We are once again offering 'Club Class' for 2019. Don't forget you can choose between a 'solo' and a 'duo', which allows a second person discounted rates on day field trips and day schools, provided the named member also attends. The discount on Day Schools has also increased to £5.00 per person.

- Join any geological day trip in 2019 and save £3.00 on standard prices
- Save £5.00 on the advertised price of any day school
- Take out any **Down to Earth** subscription renewal or new subscription and save £2.00 on the advertised price
- Enrol for any **Down to Earth** distance learning course in 2019 and save £5.00 on the full advertised price.
- Save 10% on books and maps from BGS when ordered from Geo Supplies - only available to callers or telephone orders.
- Additional offers that we may make available from time to time.

Terms & Conditions

- The benefits are only available to the named 'Club Class' member.
- Holders of 'duo' can claim discount rates for a second person on day schools or day trips.
- It is the 'Club Class' member's responsibility to draw to our attention that fact that you are entitled to any discounts at the time of ordering.
- Club Class cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer to obtain multiple discounts on a product or service and neither can it be used retrospectively for something already booked, or purchased.

To enrol for 'Club Class' for just £10.00 or Club Class Duo for £15.00, go to: www.geosupplies.co.uk or ring us on: 0114 245 5746

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We've still got some great locations available for 2019 field trips...

Spend Easter in Jersey, Channel Isles April 20-27

Come and spend Easter with us on the fabulous Island of Jersey! Come and enjoy a bit of French geology! There's a basement of igneous and metamorphic rocks that date back 2 billion years, along with some more recent sedimentary formations.

The scenery, along with the beaches make for an excellent backdrop to our studies. Add in a good quality, family run hotel, and the hoped for warm weather that is so characteristic of the Channel Isles and we are set for a great week! If you want to join us - make that booking without delay!

Eastern Lakes and Howgill Fells, June 11-16

The title of this trips says it all - you are sandwiched between the Lake District in the west and the Yorkshire Dales in the East and right there in the middle lies our base at Shap Wells and the nearby Howgill Fells. The Shap Wells Hotel has been welcoming geologists for more than a hundred years, including some of the people who mapped the area. It provides us with the perfect base from which to explore the local area.



Folded greywackes, at Tebay, Cumbria

Summer School, Derbyshire Peak District, July 20-27

For our third annual Summer School we're heading for Britain's first National Peak in the beautiful Peak District of Derbyshire. Our base, in the village of Calver, is Cliff College where we will be well looked after in en suite single (and a few twin) rooms. During a packed week we'll be taking in a superb limestone cavern in Buxton, an ancient copper mine in the Manifold Valley and a world heritage bone cave in Nottinghamshire - just to name a few! We'll also have a programme of indoor talks and activities for the evenings, as well as a choice of field excursions on several days. Now all we need is for YOU to make a booking!

The Northumberland Coast, September 22-27

Come and join us as we visit a new section of the Northumberland Coast, this time the section from Seahouses down to Sunderland. You'll be able to see fine sections in the Great Whin Sill as well as sedimentary rocks from the Carboniferous and the Permian. This is an area where you can come to expect the unexpected as we take you to see some excellent rocks and some fine structures. Top of the list are the Permian cannonball limestones of Seaham, near Sunderland, where there will definitely be more questions than answers. We promise, you'll not be disappointed by this trip!



The Whin Sill at Cullernose Point, Northumberland

The beautiful Llyn Peninsula, October 11-16

The remote Llyn Peninsula sits between Anglesey in the west and Snowdonia in the east, but the geology is different to both places. Come and enjoy great Welsh hospitality and excellent rocks and scenery. We can offer you serpentines, basalt pillow lavas, granodiorites as well as slates and some really exotic rocks, the like of which you may not have seen before! All of this on a fine stretch of coastline that's completely unspoilt. This trip is already proving to be popular, so book up early so you're not disappointed.

Are you looking to join a trip on your own, but don't mind sharing a twin room with someone else of the same sex?

If the answer to the above question is yes, then we can accommodate you! Currently we have vacancies on several of our prime trips during 2019, including SW Scotland and the Far North of Scotland. Contact us for details NOW!

Bookings & enquiries...

Brochures for all these trips can now be viewed on our website:
www.geosupplies.co.uk

To obtain a booking form for any of the above trips, please contact us by email: downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk or telephone us on

Our first thoughts for 2020...

As usual, Colin and Chris have been putting their collective heads together to come up with ideas for 2020 for our residential field trips. We have a mixture of new venues and places that have once again come around, some after more than five years. For some of the venues we've already found the accommodation and made the booking, others are at the early stages of planning.

- Arouca Geopark, Portugal (March)**
- Norway, fjords and GeaNorvegica Geopark (April 4-13)**
- Isles of Raasay & Skye (April 25-May 2)**
- Isles of Rum & Eigg (May - very limited numbers)**
- Dingle Peninsula, Ireland (May/June)**
- Shetland Isles (June 20-27, St Magnus Bay)**
- Lake District (July 4-11, Summergrove Hall)**
- Summer School, Bristol area (July/August)**
- Pembrokeshire (September)**
- Isle of Arran (September)**
- Yorkshire Dales (September)**
- Malvern Hills (October)**
- Forest of Dean & Wye Valley (October)**

We'll keep you informed as our planning continues and we expect the first brochures to be ready by Easter of this year. In the meantime, stay patient and await our invitation to book!