

- **Limey lagoons and equatorial forest** - the Carboniferous story of Britain
- **An orogeny by any name** - the Variscan Orogeny and its affect on SW England
- **Alluvial fans, wadis and dunes** - the Permian and Triassic rocks and environments
- **The break up of Pangea begins** - the Jurassic and early Cretaceous of Britain
- **I'm a Coccolith get me out of here** - the amazing story of the Upper Cretaceous chalk environment
- **Palm trees on Sheppey, volcanoes on Skye** - the story of the Tertiary and the beginnings of the Atlantic Ocean
- **Violence on the Isle of Wight** - the Alpine crunch hits Britain
- **The ice man cometh** - the complex story that is the last 2 million years of our history
- **Where do we go from here?** - a look at our current geological setting and where we might be heading

#### **PRACTICAL POINTS**

- For this course you'll need a computer with access to the internet. You'll also need an email address - please supply it at the time of enrolment.
- There are two books that would be very useful for this course "*The Geology of the British Isles, an introduction*" (Toghill £16.99) and the Open University Unit "*The Geological history of the British Isles*" (Hunter & Easterbrook £19.95)
- If you are doing the course by post, there will be a small additional charge of £15.00 to cover postage and printing costs.

#### **FIELDWORK**

Although, there's no requirement to carry out any fieldwork as part of this course, it is hoped that you will want to join us as we look at geology, especially if we are near to your home area. As a learner enrolled on one of our courses, you can attend any of our day trips at a discount of £2.00. We also run a series of residential field course around the UK and overseas. - look out for details.

#### **THE COST**

The online cost is £80.00 and covers all the tutorials and the face to face session (with refreshments). For students who wish to have materials posted to them the cost is £95.00.

#### **BOOKING**

To book your place on this course you can do so via our website: [www.geosupplies.co.uk](http://www.geosupplies.co.uk) or you can ring us on 0114 245 5746 or you can send a cheque to the following address (made payable to "Geo Supplies Ltd"): Geo Supplies Ltd., 49 Station Road, Chapeltown, Sheffield, S35 2XE

**For further details email:**  
[downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk](mailto:downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk)



# **Down to Earth**

*"Earth science learning for all"*

## **The Geology of the British Isles**



**A distance learning course for adults  
commencing January 2014  
Tutor: Chris Darmon BSc, PGCE**

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

## KEY INFORMATION

**COURSE TITLE:** The Geology of the British Isles

**LEVEL:** The course is designed for adult learners who already have a basic knowledge of geology, and have an interest in learning more about the geology of Britain

**TERM DATES:** The course will begin in January and end at Easter

**COURSE TUTOR:** Chris Darmon BSc, PGCE

**CONTACT:** email: [downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk](mailto:downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk)  
or tel. 0114 245 5746

### BACKGROUND

The tutor is a trained teacher with extensive experience of teaching adults in a variety of settings including The University of Sheffield, WEA and local authority over a period spanning 30 years. He is particularly at ease working with adults in a relaxed atmosphere without the need for large amounts of administration and assessment. He firmly believes that learning can, and should be, fun!

This course is a natural extension of that work with potential students based anywhere in the UK and even beyond. This course will be hosted on MOODLE, a free to use learning platform, which you will be able to access by use of a password. You can also opt to receive materials by email or by post.

### 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 complete the tasks we set you, though nobody will be insisting that you do. Feedback and positive encouragement will always be given - we want you to gain knowledge and confidence from everything you do!

We encourage you to share ideas and experiences - if you are happy to do this, it can be facilitated on MOODLE quite easily in a forum. Once again, this is down to your choice - nobody will be insisting that you do.

***To protect our materials, we must ask you to agree not to share them with anyone not enrolled on the course by any means, including email. This is a condition of you enrolling on this course.***

### THIS COURSE

If you look at a map of the world, you can immediately see that the British Isles are little more than a dot compared to the size of many other countries. Whilst this is true geographically, we are in the premier league when it comes to the range of our geology. Indeed, there's nowhere else on the globe where you can find such a rich variety of rock types and ages in such a small area.

It is this rich geological pond that we will be fishing in as we seek to unravel the geological web that is our past and which gives us our rich variety of rocks and landscapes.

### COURSE AIMS

- To show the range and diversity of British Isles geology.
- To illustrate the wide variety of rock types that exist in Britain.
- To appreciate the enormity of geological time and how it is divided up.
- To present the different environments that have existed in Britain in the geological past.
- To appreciate how our view of Britain's geology has changed and is continuing to change.

### COURSE CONTENT

*What follows is not intended to be prescriptive. We may divert from the order and topics as presented here. Unlike our previous courses, this one does not include a face-to-face day school, but will include a free field day of your choice from our 2012 programme*

- **Glorious landscapes, amazing rocks** - an overview of British geology in pictures
- **In the beginning** - a look at the ancient Lewisian rocks of Scotland
- **Ancient rivers, ancient life** - the Torridonian sediments of Scotland
- **Japan here we come** - the foundations of England & Wales
- **The calm before the storm** - the Cambrian rocks of Britain
- **Himalayan sized mountains, violent volcanoes and trilobites** - the story that is the Ordovician
- **Re-arranging the continents** - a modern assessment of the Caledonian orogeny
- **United Kingdom** - the story of the Devonian continent, rivers, lakes and seas

