

WESTMORLAND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

E-MAIL NEWSLETTER No. 34 - March 2017

March Lecture

The final lecture of the winter will take place on Wednesday 15th March when the speaker will be Tim Tranter who is of course is a member of the Society. After leaving Cambridge, Tim initially worked for the British Antarctic Survey before moving into the oil industry. His talk is entitled Rocks to Reserves.

This meeting will be held at the Castle Street Centre, Kendal, as the Abbot Hall SC will be closed because of building works.

As usual there will be a meal at the Wakefield Arms before the meeting – if you would like to go please let Chris Anderson know (see below).

The Proceedings for 2016 plus the Programme for the coming season of field trips and next winter's lectures will be available at this meeting. If you can't wait till then the summer programme is now available on the Society's website (www.westmorlandgeolsoc.co.uk)

Committee

At the AGM in February there were a number of changes to the Committee. Emrys Phillips announced his retirement as President and no replacement has yet been found. Audrey Brown stood down and Chris Anderson has taken over as Chairman. The Proceedings team of Geoff Brambles and Melville Thomson have also retired having done a magnificent job for over 20 years. Vic Parsons has taken on the role of Editor and Peter Standing will undertake the production. Ann Allwright retired from the Committee after serving her three years but will produce the Programme, help with the Proceedings if time permits as well as continuing to look after the website. Gwynneth Lindley-Jones replaces Ann on the Committee and finally John Wood is replacing Peter as Independent Examiner.

New Members

Two new members have joined since the last Newsletter - Beverley Reade and Michael Bengé. Michael has discovered geology through an interest in dry stone walling.

Water Mills of South Lakeland.

Although not directly related to geology, members might be interested in a recently published book about the water mills which once proliferated in this area. Details can be found at www.hayloft.eu

Landscape Trust Field Trips in April 2017

There are a few places still available on these field trips. Places must be pre-booked by emailing LTevents@arnsidesilverdaelaonb.org.uk

W3 Saturday April 8th 1.30pm - 4 pm 'Building Stones of Arnside' - led by **Geoff Brambles**.

W4 Sunday April 9th 1.30pm - 4 pm 'Folded Rocks of Storth' - led by **Clive Boulter**

Open University Whitbarrow Field Trip Sun March 19th 2017

Sunday March 19th Gather at 10.15 for prompt start at 10.30 am. Finish by 4 pm
Leader **Peter Standing**

This trip will start at Raven's Lodge and explore the Great Slab, the cemented screes, the tufa boulders and resurgences on the west side. Depending on the weather we may have a short excursion onto the plateau after a lunch stop at the Hikers Rest. At present ten OU members are booked. Permission has been given for a small number of guests. Contact Peter Standing 015395 63112 or peterstanding@btinternet.com if you are interested.

Arnside Geotrail Guide

Publication date is Tuesday March 14th so sales will be launched at the WGS meeting on March 15th. All the profits from these geotrails are donated to Cumbria GeoConservation and other local conservation charities. This 32 page guides covers six geological walks and includes information about the estuary plus a little ecology and landscape history. WGS members can buy the guide on Wednesday at a special price of £2.50. It will cost more in Arnside shops.

A Note from the Chairperson

As the new Chairperson of the Society, I am pleased to be able to tell you that Mike & Ray have arranged an interesting & varied programme of field-trip & lectures for you to enjoy over the next twelve months. Audrey started the process of including more members in the work of the Society, through different people being asked to give the vote of thanks. I hope that some of you will feel able to get a bit more involved in these, perhaps by writing one of the reports (with the help of an experienced contributor). So if a committee member sidles up to you, try not to run in the opposite direction! As they have been very popular in the past, we will also be looking again at the viability of doing a weekend-long field trip. Finally, I look forward to seeing some of you at the meal before the next lecture. Please email me if you want to join us marychrisanderson@hotmail.co.uk or text/phone 07505527154.