

WESTMORLAND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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November Lecture

Next month's lecture is about Haematite Mineralisation at the margins of the Irish Sea. Economic haematite mineralization occurs at several sites located on the margins of the East Irish Sea basin, including Cumbria. The origins of the ore deposits have long been the subject of controversy with a written record stretching back over 180 years. In 1977 the British Geological Survey (BGS) published a speculative genetic ore deposit model that attempted to explain the formation of this iron mineralization. This lecture examines the veracity of the BGS model by subjecting its components to critical scrutiny using simple geological principles. The outcome leads to some surprising conclusions regarding the possible origins of these Cumbrian ore deposits. The speaker is Dr Steven Crowley who manages the Stable Isotope Geoscience Laboratory at the Department of Earth Sciences, University of Liverpool. He has published over 30 peer-reviewed papers focusing mainly on low temperature geochemistry.

The meeting is on 20th November at the Abbot Hall Social Centre and starts at 8pm.

Kendal Museum

Kendal Museum has improved its displays, especially of the Hamer and Bill Shaw mineral collections which are now housed in new display cases. Opening hours are now Thu – Sat 9.30am to 4.45pm, last entry 4.00pm. The entry price has been increased to £5.

GA Festival of Geology

The Geologists' Association annual Festival of Geology is to take place at University College, London on Sat 2 November. There are talks, exhibits, stalls and tours of the college geology labs. Field trips have been organised for the Sunday. For more details see the GA website:-

www.geologistsassociation.org.uk

UCL is near Euston Station.

Lakeland Rocks

This is the title of society member Alan Smith's new book which was published earlier this month. It is in full colour and costs £16.99. It is available in book shops, and from Amazon and there is also a Kindle version.

Exceptional Cambrian Fossils: Prof Derek Siveter.

There are two opportunities to follow up the story of the lecture earlier this month.

If you follow the link below it is possible to view pictures of these fossils and to read some of the text from the recently published book on the subject which Prof Siveter co-authored.

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Cambrian-Fossils-Chengjiang-China-Flowering/dp/1118896386/ref=sr_1_1?qid=1571307381&refinements=p_27%3ADerek+Siveter&s=books&sr=1-1#reader_1118896386

It is also possible to see some of these fossils which are currently on display in the Museum of Natural History in Oxford. Entitled 'Early Animals', it features charnia from the Ediacaran as well as from the early Cambrian from the Sirius Passet site in Greenland, the Changjiang area in China and the Burgess Shale in Canada. Unlike Kendal Museum, this one is free! And if you can't make it to Oxford there is lots of information on the museum's website.

December Members' Evening

For the benefit of new(ish) members, Members' Evening is an opportunity for members to give short presentations, bring their samples, maps or any other items which might be of interest. Despite the name, guests are welcome – it's a good opportunity to meet the members. If you would like to make a brief presentation please let Chris Anderson know. Email at chrisanderson.wgs@gmail.com or on 07505527154.

And remember that on this occasion we start at 7.30pm.

U3A Geology course at Portinscale.

Chris Wilson, a retired OU geology lecturer, runs a course on the 3rd Friday of the month on 'The Geology of the Lake District'. There are still one or two places available. See U3A Skiddaw for details of how to join.

Geoweeek 2020

The Society hopes to put on some events during Geoweeek (9-17th May 2020). If you think that you might be free to help during these dates please let Chris or Brian know. More details will be circulated nearer the time.