



The  
Geological  
Society

North West Regional Group

# Newsletter

Autumn 2021



**Your guide to Geological Society events in the North West -  
2021/22**

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## COMMITTEE NEWS

During the AGM on 21st January 2021, we thanked Nik Reynolds for all he has done for the Group over nine years as Secretary and then as Chair. After four dedicated years as our Secretary, Catherine Kenny handed the baton on to Andy Moore as she moved to the Chair. We welcomed Foz Jammal and Caroline Jones to the Committee. The current roles within the Committee are:

<b>Chair:</b>	Catherine Kenny
<b>Secretary:</b>	Andy Moore
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Rob Hunt
<b>Outreach Officer:</b>	Katherine Harrison
<b>Early Careers Officer:</b>	Molly Brown
<b>Social Media:</b>	Phil Patterson
<b>Chartership/Mentoring Contact:</b>	Marie Convery
<b>A-Level Lecture Coordinator:</b>	Nik Reynolds
<b>Programme Co-ordinator:</b>	Foz Jammal
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	Caroline Jones

The AGM will be held in January, so if you would like to join the committee or have any ideas for events, trips and lectures then please email the secretary!

*The photograph used on the cover of this year's newsletter is from Phil Patterson and features Bow Fiddle Rock in Moray, quartzite beds tilted in the Caledonian orogeny, more micaceous beds preferentially eroded.*

## LOOKING BACK AT 2019/20

The restrictions on public gatherings and social events due to the pandemic resulted in all our lectures being undertaken on Zoom this year. Due to uncertainty on when social distancing measures would be relaxed, with regret, no field trips were planned in our region this summer.

Regretfully the schools geo-challenge competition did not go ahead in the north-west in 2021.

## Lecture Series 2020/21

We hope you all enjoyed our previous season of fascinating on-line lectures:

"The Lost Meteorites of Antarctica" presented by Dr Jane MacArthur from Manchester University on 19th November 2020.

Shaun Richardson, Chartership Officer, did a lecture on Chartership for the NWRG on 6th October 2020.

"The Last Day of the Dinosaurs" by Phil Manning of Manchester University on 3 December 2020, after a slight delay caused by a mix-up with the zoom rooms at Burlington House!

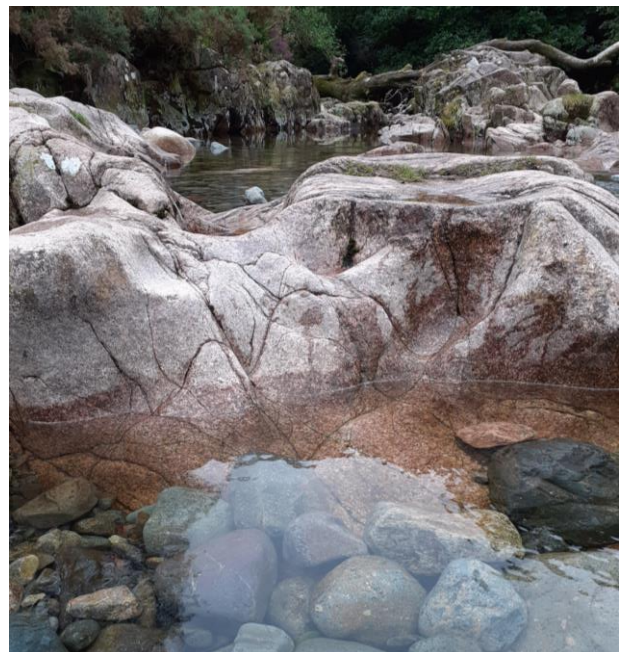
"An Introduction to Horizontal Wells" by Rick Brassington on 13 May 2021.

We hope you all enjoyed these lectures! Huge thanks to our lecturers and to Catherine Kenny for chairing the Zoom Rooms!

**We're always open to ideas for fieldtrips and lectures so if you have a topic you are keen to hear something on, or have a lecture you would like to deliver, or a field trip, please contact the Secretary!!**

## HOLIDAY GEOLOGY

*In-lieu* of official NWGS field trips this summer, it looks like our intrepid Fellows have been going on their own trips!



Granite in the River Esk complimented by cobbles originally deposited by glaciers (Catherine Kenny)



Last volcanic activity in Fuerteventura occurred between 4,000 and 5,000 years ago (Foz Jammal)



Potential Obsidian (Foz Jammal)



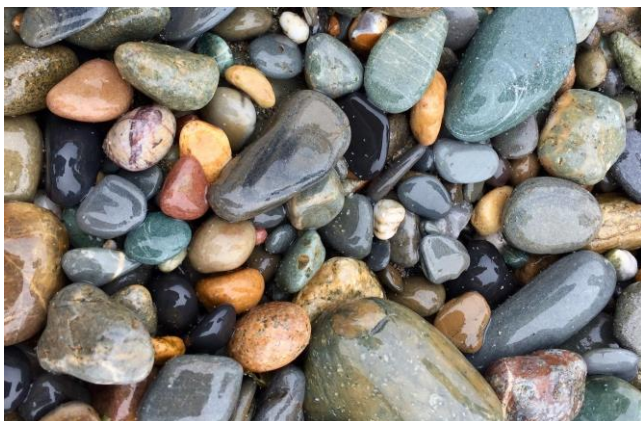
Green dolerite(?) at Aberdaron (Phil Patterson)



Pitchstone inselberg of An Sgùrr on Eigg (Phil Patterson)



Triassic Sandstone at Hilbre Island with a Chirotherium footprint (fake news alert!) (Catherine Kenny)



Pebbles on the shore of Loch Ness (can you identify the rock types?) (Phil Patterson)



Ammonites in the Jurassic Bituminous Shale in Saltwick Bay, Whitby (Caroline Jones)



## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN 2021/22

### Lectures 2021/2022

The Regional Groups are “pooling” their virtual lectures and the GSL has the ability to livestream the lecture on YouTube or Facebook if demand is sufficient. The “zoom room” has a capacity of 100 at the moment.

The events for the 2021/2022 will probably be via the “Zoom” app and will be posted here: <https://www.geolsoc.org.uk/events?pg=2>.

Download the Zoom app here - its free: <https://zoom.us/download>



You need to **register** for the events in order to receive a Zoom Link. This will also enable a record of attendance to be kept for CPD.

#### Zoom Room FAQs

- How do I get a link?*  
Click on the registration link. This link will be on the lecture’s flier, on my email, or on the Geol Soc’s website. You will be sent an email after you have registered with a link and a password to join the meeting.
- Can I give my link to all my mates?*  
The link is unique for each person, please do not share it. We will be able to see who has shared their link. We will record your CPD using your registration details, so if you have shared the link then this isn’t possible.
- What happens if the registration is full?*  
We will try to arrange a livestream if demand is sufficient. Contact the secretary if you have problems with registration.

I strongly encourage you to have a look at the events page and sign up for any lectures that take your fancy!!

Below is a selection of lectures scheduled by various Groups, the majority of which are via Zoom. Please look in the regional groups area on <https://www.geolsoc.org.uk/regional> for details of how to register to attend the lectures.

Date	Title / Speaker	Group
16 Nov 21	Ground Engineering of the Liverpool Docks (Anthony Clarke)	L
23 Nov 21	Carbon capture and storage: why we need it, what it is and what is holding it up (Professor Richard Worden, University of Liverpool)	L

Date	Title / Speaker	Group
8 Dec 21	Curiosity at Gale Crater, Mars: Investigating an ancient lake (Dr Susanne P. Schwenzer, The Open University)	TV
12 Dec 21	Hinckley Point C: Slope stability check - liquifiable soil conditions (Hamish Strachan - Atkins and Ryan Beech - Jacobs)	WM
11 Jan 22	Subsurface engineering and water resources of Greater London (Dr Jonathan D. Paul, Royal Holloway, University of London)	WM
8 Feb 22	A new understanding of Pleistocene glacial events as revealed from mega-merge seismic data in the North Sea (Prof. Mads Huuse, The University of Manchester)	WM
8 Mar 22 TBC	Cenozoic Climate Change (Dr Tom Dunkley Jones (university of Birmingham))	WM
12 Apr 22 TBC	Diversity in Geoscience (Lisa Pinney, The Coal Authority)	WM

GS Groups: WM - West Midlands, TV - Thames Valley, L - Liverpool

These episodes of “In Our Time” on BBC Sounds are also definitely worth a viewing:

Late Devonian Extinction

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m000sz7x>

1816, The Year Without a Summer (Tambora)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/b077j4yv>

The Geological Formation of Britain

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/b00n8t48>

## Chartership and Mentoring

If you are going for chartership take a look at the “Events” page on the Geological Society.

There is also a group on LinkedIn for **Mentoring**. If anyone is looking for a mentor, or would like to volunteer to be a mentor, please check it out!

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8777938/>



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For Chartership and Mentoring queries, please contact Marie Convery from our Committee! You can email the Secretary and he will pass the message on.

## Thanks

We wish to extend our thanks once again to all the speakers who delivered our programme last year and we hope you enjoy the programme for the up and coming year.

Best regards to you all on behalf of the Committee,

**Caroline Jones, Newsletter Editor**  
North West Regional Group of the  
Geological Society of London



The North West Regional Group is YOUR society - If you have any comments or questions, or you have a brilliant idea for a lecture or field trip that you would like us to organise, or if you could offer to lead a field trip, then please feel free to make contact using [geologicalsociety.northwest@gmail.com](mailto:geologicalsociety.northwest@gmail.com)

## Social Media

We have an active Facebook webpage which we encourage you to visit. We try and keep these sites up to date with information regarding meetings and other relevant interesting geological bits and bobs we find!!!



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## Our Friends in the North West

**LGS: Liverpool Geological Society**  
<http://www.liverpoolgeologicalsociety.org/>

**MGA: Manchester Geological Association**  
<http://www.mangeolassoc.org.uk/indoormeetings.php>

**ICE: Institution of Civil Engineers North West**  
<https://www.ice.org.uk>

**CLA: Geological Society Contaminated Land Group**  
<https://www.geolsoc.org.uk/contamland>

## Geological Society Code of Conduct for Meetings and other Events (inc. Online)

- *The Geological Society of London is a professional and learned society, which, through its members, has a duty in the public interest to provide a safe, productive and welcoming environment for all participants and attendees of our meetings, workshops, and events regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, ethnicity, religion, disability, physical appearance, or career level.*
- *This Code of Conduct applies to all participants in Society related activities, including, but not limited to, attendees, speakers, volunteers, exhibitors, staff, service providers, representatives to outside bodies, and applies in all GSL activities, including ancillary meetings, events and social gatherings.*

### Breach of the Code of Conduct

- *If an incident of proscribed conduct occurs either within or outside the Society's premises during an event, then the aggrieved person or witness to the proscribed conduct is encouraged to report it promptly to a member of staff or the event's principal organiser.*
- *Once the Society is notified, a member of staff or a senior organiser of the meeting will discuss the details with the individual making the complaint. Any witnesses who have been identified, and then the alleged offender will be consulted before determining an appropriate course of action.*
- *Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent that it does not compromise the rights of others.*