



Down to Earth *extra*

Issue 146 February 2025

NEWS FLASH...

2025 trips...

- Last 2 rooms on Mull - but book now!
- Summer School - book now!

2026 Iceland...

- September 13-22 - you can book now!

Winter Zoom classes...

- The Wednesday Club - all new lively topics!



A fine plunging anticline on the coast of Pembrokeshire at Newgale in South Wales. This type of simple fold is typical of the competent rocks of the Devonian and Carboniferous close to the Variscan Front.

It's one of those places we hope to visit once again in 2026!
(Image: Chris Darmon)

From the Editorial team...

Have you booked your holiday yet? We ask because for the very first time, we have had to cancel a planned trip this September to Iceland. Last October we booked the first two and the last nights for the trip, but decided to wait before booking the others to see the likely size of the group so that we could confirm the booking and be confident that the trip would run.

Imagine then our horror when in mid-January we tried to book the remaining nights in the North and East of the country. Despite numerous phone calls and countless emails, the best we could manage was one night in Husavik in the north. When you've got a group of 29 people being put on a waiting list for rooms isn't tenable. We had no choice but to cancel the trip and rebook it for September of next year. At least this time, we'll get the best hotels and yes, they are already taking bookings for Autumn 2026!

So what's happened? In many ways it's what's also happening here in the UK. Demand is high, especially from overseas groups (in Iceland's case it's groups from the Far East) and the supply, especially of small family owned hotels is shrinking. Why run a hotel, with its requirement for staff when you can run the same establishment as an airbnb, or an apartment block?

At the current rate of small hotel closures in rural parts of Iceland or the UK, it's going to be virtually impossible to find suitable places for geological field parties. We've heard similar stories from geological societies here who have had to postpone trips or change their plans due to a lack of suitable accommodation.

The lesson has to be, get the accommodation secured really early and then let the bookings come in. It's a hard lesson to learn!

*Chris Darmon & Colin Schofield
The Down to Earth Editorial Team*

Book a residential trip NOW! See pages 8-10!



news update

Scottish court rules that permission for two new oilfields was illegal...



The Jackdaw gas field development is one of two where previous permission has been deemed to have been granted unlawfully. (Image: Offshore Technology)

The Scottish Court of Session, sitting in Edinburgh, has ruled that two new oil and gas fields off the Scottish coast were granted unlawfully. Work on the Rosebank and Jackdaw fields cannot start production and their owners must seek fresh approval from the UK government before any production can begin.

The case was brought by environmental campaigners, Greenpeace and

Uplift. In his ruling, Lord Ericht said a more detailed assessment of the fields' environmental impact was required. This must take into account the climatic effect of burning the oil and gas that was extracted, something that the campaigners had been pressing for.

Whilst this new permission is being sought, he also ruled that work could continue on both fields, but no gas or oil could be produced until such time as the new permission was granted.

Rosebank in particular is seen as the last major untapped field in the North Sea and is seen as vital to the ongoing success of the Shetland oil based economy. It is situated well to the West of Shetland on the very edge of the UK's continental shelf.

The UK government has argued strongly in favour of this being the last chance for the UK to secure its own energy in a world of great volatility. Meanwhile, the Scottish government, headed up by the Scottish National Party disagrees strongly and does not support the new oil and gas extraction. Instead arguing for offshore wind farms and other green solutions.

Down to Earth extra is designed & published by Geo Supplies Ltd.,
49 Station Road, Chapeltown, Sheffield S35 2XE

Editor: Chris Darmon
Assistant Editor: Colin Schofield

Tel: 0114 245 5746 • FAX: 0114 240 3405
Subscribe for FREE: downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk

Material is © Geo Supplies Ltd. 2025
You are welcome to share DtoE extra with others in your group and reproduce items contained here, provided you acknowledge the source.

National Wealth Fund awards £25 million to Cornish Metals in Chancellor's growth statement...

UK Chancellor Rachel Reeves in her wide ranging speech about stimulating growth in the economy, singled out Cornish Metals. She announced that the National Wealth Fund would support the Cornish mining company that's seeking to reopen South Crofty Mine at Camborne the sum of £25 million.

This is that the National Wealth Fund says on its website:

"The NWF's commitment is designed to mobilise private capital into the project. Its investment is part of a £56m funding round to further de-risk the South Crofty tin mine by commencing early project works, placing orders on long-lead items and completing key work programmes including the shaft refurbishment and mine dewatering. South Crofty is a fully permitted underground tin mine with more than 400 years of recorded production prior to its closure in 1998, and hosts one of the highest grade tin resources in the world.



The headgear at South Crofty Mine, where work underground is moving ahead with the help of the National Wealth Fund.

The financing supports the continued growth and sustainability of Cornwall's mining sector, building on the NWF's investment into nearby Cornish Lithium in August 2023, with both lithium and tin considered by the UK government as critical minerals, and essential for the net zero transition. Solar panels, wind turbines, electric vehicles (EVs), semi-conductors and energy storage all require a supply of tin, with demand for these components set to outstrip supply in the coming years, driven in part by increased use across the renewables sector."

Rachel Reeves said:

"Growth is this Government's number one mission, and we're going further and faster to kick start our economy so that we can put more money in people's pockets. This is just the kind of investment that will help us do that, not only supporting the growth of the Cornish mining sector, but creating high-quality jobs and opportunity for the region and beyond."

Protests at Northern Ireland gold mine enquiry...

A public enquiry into plans for a controversial gold mine in Northern Ireland's South Tyrone is taking place in Omagh. Outside are protesters from groups opposed to the plans by Dalradian Gold to develop a mine that they say be the largest single investment into the Northern Ireland economy, which they estimate at £5bn. They also say it's the biggest investment by a US owned company.



*Inside the Curraghinalt mine, where Dalradian have carried out significant work over the last 15 years.
(Image: Dalradian Gold)*

Dalradian Gold has been working on the Curraghinalt mine site near Greencastle in the Sperrin Mountains since 2009 with the aim of developing an underground mine. The mine is said to contain one of the world's most significant undeveloped gold deposits as well as substantial quantities of silver, copper and other minerals. Over the past 15 years extensive underground work has been carried out and at least 10 veins have been discovered.

Dalradian believes the site could yield 100 tonnes of gold, 48 tonnes of silver and 15,000 tonnes of copper in its 20 to 25-year lifetime. But the plans have been divisive, with some in local community

Volcanic Experiences 2025

Small group tours to areas of superb geological interest

Santorini, Greece May 8th to 15th

The island giving rise to the legend of Atlantis

Sicily & the Aeolians June 5th to 12th

Includes visits to Etna, Vulcano & Stromboli

Iceland ~ the North Sept 1st to 8th

Myvatn, Krafla and the Askja Caldera

La Palma ~ Nov 24th to Dec 2nd

Including site of the recent major eruption

www.volcanicexperiences.co.uk

tel 01527-832578 or 07790009098

email volcanicexperiences@aol.com





Is this what the Curraghinalt site might look like if the planning application for the gold mine is accepted? It's certainly a rural scene at the moment.

(Image: Dalradian Gold)

welcoming the prospect of jobs and investment while others remain concerned about the impact on health and the environment.

The mine is located in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, close to the Owenkillew and Owenreagh rivers which contain several protected species. Amongst the protesters are Friends of the Earth and the Save our Sperrins Group.

The public enquiry is expected to make its decision in the coming months. We'll keep you informed.

Head to Oxfordshire for an amazing dinosaur 'super highway'...

It has been described as Britain's 'dinosaur highway' - hundreds of dinosaur footprints have been uncovered in an Oxfordshire limestone quarry.

The Jurassic footprints, the largest such find ever recorded in the UK were uncovered by a team of scientists from the Universities of Oxford and Birmingham. They cover an enormous expanse of quarry floor and are from at least two different dinosaurs, allowing

GEOLOGY - ISLE OF ARRAN

Understanding The Earth



LOCHRANZA CENTRE CIC

Arran Geopark

Why not escape to Arran this Summer & learn about its fascinating Geology with like minded people?

SUNDAY 27TH JULY 2025

6 nights full board accommodation in twin or single rooms. Transport provided. 4 days of guided walks (1 free day) including some of Arran's classic locations.

TO BOOK:

Email: info@lochranzacentre.co.uk

www.lochranzacentre.co.uk

www.facebook.com/lochranzacentre

CALL: 01770830637



**Geology that does not cost the earth
£575.00 per person**

An unusual present idea - limited edition...

'The Cream of the Crop 2024'

As part of their work for Geo Supplies, your editorial team, Chris Darmon and Colin Schofield go to some very interesting places around the British Isles. Whilst they are in these places they often pick up rock specimens, most of which go to students and institutions both here and even around the world.

However there are also some rare or unusual rocks that don't form part of our regular stock and it is these that we've gathered together into a limited edition collection that we are offering as our 'Cream of the Crop 2024'.

The set comprises 12 carefully chosen specimens from around the British Isles including examples of sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rocks. We'll be putting the sets together now and they will be available from March, when the exact list will be named. Each set comes boxed with notes and costs £49.95 including postage.

Purchase online at: geosupplies.co.uk or ring us on: 0114 245 5746.

Down to Earth *extra* 146 February 2025

researchers to sequence the events and work out was going on, over perhaps several days or weeks around 180 Ma.

The excavation was filmed by BBC TV and was broadcast on BBC Two's **'Digging for Britain'** - if you missed it, you can catch it on the i-player. It also features in a special exhibition **'Breaking Ground'** at Oxford University's Museum of Natural History.

This is what Oxford's Museum of Natural History had to say:

The dig, carried out at Dewars Farm Quarry in Oxfordshire, uncovered five extensive trackways with evidence of more in the surrounding area. The longest continuous trackway measured more than 150 metres in length.

Four of the trackways were made by gigantic, long-necked, herbivorous dinosaurs called sauropods, most likely to be *Cetiosaurus*, an up to 18-metre-long cousin of the well-known *Diplodocus*. The fifth trackway was made by the carnivorous theropod dinosaur, *Megalosaurus* which had distinctive, large, three-toed feet with claws. One area of the site shows the carnivore and herbivore tracks crossing over, raising questions about whether and how the two were interacting.



Fine Megalosaurus footprints uncovered in the quarry.
(Image: Caroline Wood OUMNH)

Megalosaurus was the first dinosaur worldwide to be scientifically named and described in 1824, and kick-started the last 200 years of dinosaur science. The new trackways add to the significance of the area, and even though the discoveries are separated by just thirty years, modern techniques and technology mean the prints can be recorded much more comprehensively than ever before.

Prof. Richard Butler, Professor of Palaeobiology at the University of Birmingham, said: "There is much more that we can learn from this site, which is an important part of our national Earth heritage. Our 3D models will allow researchers to continue to study and make accessible this fascinating piece of our past for generations to come."

During the new excavation, more than 20,000 images were created of the prints. These will provide a wealth of material for further study and education and could yield valuable insights into how these dinosaurs walked, including speeds, how large they were, and if and how they interacted.

There's more information online at the Oxford Museum's website.

43rd Annual
ESSEX GEM & MINERAL SHOW
Saturday 22nd February 2025
10am to 4pm
North Romford Community Centre
Clockhouse Lane, Collier Row,
Romford RM5 3QJ
Within the ULEZ
TWO HALLS of: Minerals, Fossils, Gemstones, Jewellery, Books, Rock & Fossil ID
Serpentine Egg, The Lizard, Cornwall.
Free Parking
Refreshments Available
Adults: £2
Accompanied Children: Free
Organised by:
THE ESSEX ROCK & MINERAL SOCIETY
WWW.ERMS.ORG
For more information about the show please email: show@erms.org



Down to Earth - by e-mail...

If you've enjoyed reading this Down to Earth extra, you'll love our quarterly Down to Earth! It's a 32-page quality magazine in full colour that's packed with up to the minute geological news and articles. You can get your hands on this either in print or electronic formats. Why not request a FREE sample electronic copy of the current issue?

For 2025 why not treat yourself or a loved one to a gift subscription? Go to: www.geosupplies.co.uk and enter the online shop or ring us on 0114 245 5746.

Down to Earth is published quarterly and is available as a PDF e-subscription for just £10.00 for 1 year or £25.00 for 3 years. If you prefer a paper copy that is available for £17.00 for 1 year with back issues for 2024 included as well.

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE - Go online at: www.geosupplies.co.uk • Tel. 0114 245 5746 and quote any major card • or send a cheque (payable to Geo Supplies Ltd.) to: 49 Station Road, Chapeltown, Sheffield S35 2XE

Extra February 2025



Down to Earth

"Earth science learning for all"

Announcing our seventh Summer School...

Cliff College, Curbar
August 9-16 2025



Peak District geology at its very best!

- 6 full days of field work with a choice on some days
- A visit to a Castleton cavern
- A visit to the Peak District Mining Museum in Matlock Bath
- The Triassic rocks of Alderley Edge
- Visit to Wollaton Hall Museum, Nottingham
- The Torrs at New Mills - by train from Grindleford
- Geology of Matlock and Matlock Bath
- Geology of Monsal Head & Dale (see image above)
- Coach/minibus transport to field locations
- Full board accommodation in single ensuite rooms (can also be double rooms)
- Evening talks and activities from visiting speakers and our own team
- Social events and opportunities for down time

Everyone is invited to join us for our annual Summer School. The cost is £1395.00 per person whether you are in a single or shared room.

See the brochure & book online at www.geosupplies.co.uk
Email downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk or ring us on 0114 245 5746
Geo Supplies Ltd 49 Station Road, Chapeltown, Sheffield S35 2XE

Great geo-adventures in 2025 begin here...



Columnar basalt on the island of Staffa, off Mull. A real must to see on any trip to Mull.
(Image: Seaview B&B Fionnphort)

We have two final rooms available on our trip to the Isle of Mull in June and we have just two weeks to sell them - there's a twin and a double room!

We were unable to secure sufficient hotel beds for our September Iceland trip and have rescheduled it for September 2026. Bookings are already being taken at the 2025 price!

To view a brochure, go to our website at:
www.geosupplies.co.uk or Tel: 0114 245 5746

Remember that booking forms are only available direct from us:

Email: downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk

Residential Field trip programme 2025/6...

2025

- Isle of Arran, March 30-April 6
- Troodos Mountains, Cyprus, April 24-May 1
- Scarborough, Yorkshire Coast June 1-6
- Mull & Ardnamurchan, June 11-18
- Western Lake District, June 25-30
- Heart of Wales, July 9-16
- Peak District Summer School, August 9-16
- Torbay, South Devon, October 8-15

2026

- Iceland North & East Fjords, September 13-22

Early booking is advised, especially if you are looking for a single room.



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

- *Our residential field trips are suitable for adults of all levels of interest and geological knowledge.*
- *Our trips are friendly and informal and usually comprise 15-20 people. Overseas trips are usually larger.*
- *We usually make use of comfortable small hotels and guest houses and all meals are included.*
- *You have the services of Chris Darmon and Colin Schofield as field leaders. Both are highly experienced and knowledgeable field geologists.*
- *For some trips we have a hired minibus but on other trips we will use shared cars, or even public transport.*
- *Dates shown in this listing are the start and finish dates.*
- *Where prices are quoted, they are per person in a shared twin/double room.*

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

Before you book for 2025...

We are always pleased to welcome new people along on our trips. So if you are thinking about it, what do you need to know before you 'take the plunge'?

Who are the trips aimed at?

The short answer is that they are not aimed at any particular group of people. Our participants are mainly older retired people who want to keep their minds and bodies active, but younger people are welcome.

Some people have lots of geological field experience whilst others are complete beginners. As one person put it to us "I've forgotten all I once knew and need to come along to hear it again." Our UK trips are all small groups of 15 to 20 people maximum so we can make lots of what we say personal to you.

Will I be able to manage the walking?

We always try to keep walking to a minimum, but, almost by definition, some walking will be involved. If you can't manage a particular walk, just tell us and it will never be a problem for you not to do it. We have one person who really enjoys sketching - she's done some amazing sketches while the rest of us visit a quarry!

How do we get about on trips?

It varies a lot from trip to trip. Sometimes we hire a minibus, on other occasions we use public transport and at other times we'll make use of shared cars. Look at the details for each trip to find out.

What about accommodation?

We always try to use hotels or guest houses that have ensuite rooms as standard. Most of our accommodation will provide breakfast and evening meals, but sometimes we eat in local restaurants. We include the cost of all food, including a packed lunch for each field day.

We prefer to use small family run hotels and guest houses but they are getting harder to find, so sometimes we use larger hotels such as Premier Inns and hotels in the Leisureplex group. Once again, see the individual trip brochures for details.

Are your bookings safe with us?

Yes indeed they are! We've been in the business of running trips a long time and ensure that all the money you pay us is safe in a client trust account until your trip is completed.

The 2025/6 programme...

We are delighted with the way that our 2025 programme has been received, with a number of trips now fully booked. Unfortunately we've been forced to cancel our September trip to Iceland because we are unable to get sufficient hotel beds at the required times.

We've now fixed Iceland for September 13-22 2026 and we've also taken our first look at the 2026 season - see later in this section.

To make a booking email us at:

downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk or ring us on: 0114 245 5746
Whilst the brochures are, or will be, available on our website, booking forms are only available from us. You can then arrange to pay the deposit and we'll send you the booking form.

Isle of Arran, March 30-April 6

£1395

Welcome to the Isle of Arran that is the original geologists' paradise. James Hutton was probably the first person to study the geology of Arran in 1786 when he described an unconformity at Lochranza. Since then, thousands have trod the paths to examine the rocks! Arran is currently going down the path to become a full geopark.



Arran on a beautiful day showing the landscape and a magnificent raised beach. (Image: Scottish Geology Trust)

This trip is based at the very comfortable (and warm) Best Western Kinloch Hotel at Blackwaterfoot on the Island's quiet west coast. We spend a leisurely week examining most parts of Arran, making full use of unlimited travel on the local buses - the terminus of the main route is right outside our hotel.

We may be able to fit you in - contact us now!

NEW! Scarborough, on the Yorkshire Coast June 1-6 £895

Amazingly, we have never based a trip at Scarborough the 'queen' of the Yorkshire Coast, for the simple reason that we've never found suitable accommodation! Based at the comfortable Cumberland Hotel, we'll spend 5-nights in and around the town, taking in field visits to places like Filey, Forge Valley, Robin Hoods Bay and Whitby to mention just a few. This will allow us to examine rocks from the Jurassic and also the Cretaceous with lots of fossils and sedimentary structures that give us clues to ancient environments.

At the time of writing we have single and double rooms available.

Welcome to our exciting world!



The Cumberland Hotel in Scarborough. (Image: Leisureplex)

Isle of Mull & Ardnamurchan June 11-18 £1695

We have managed to secure reasonably priced accommodation at the Park Lodge Hotel in Tobermory and this trip replaces the one previously advertised to Raasay.

The Isle of Mull and Ardnamurchan will put two Tertiary igneous centres at our disposal with that on Mull being one of the most imposing, whilst that on Ardnamurchan is the most accessible. We also hope to be able to take in a visit to the tiny Isle of Staffa with its famous basalt columns, depending on the weather. Another highlight will be a visit to the Island of Iona with its Precambrian rocks.



Near the lighthouse at Ardnamurchan Point

With at least one full day on Ardnamurchan we'll be able to take in the fossiliferous Jurassic sediments as well as the basement metamorphics from the Moinian and the Tertiary igneous rocks.

We have one twin and one double room left, but get in NOW!

Western Lake District, June 25-30 £895

The Lake District is renowned for its superb landscape and scenery, but access to the central part is limited and accommodation is very expensive. We have previously stayed at Summergrove Halls in Whitehaven, but this is no longer available to us. Accordingly we've turned to Workington and the comfortable modern Premier Inn.

From Workington we'll be able to access all of the Western Lakes,

with trips to see places like Eskdale, Lake Windermere, the iron mines of West Cumbria and St Bees Head.

At the time of writing we can accommodate about four more people in double rooms.

Heart of Wales. July 9-16

£1295

This is one of the most unusual offerings in our 2025 programme, for the simple reason that's an area that very few people know about. Mid-Wales, or as we prefer to call it, the Heart of Wales is a sparsely populated area set in the county of Powys.

We'll be based in the quirky Neuadd Arms in the quiet village of Llanwrtyd Wells, which offers excellent food, including an afternoon tea and cake, and even an onsite brewery!

From here we'll explore the surrounding area, taking in Llandrindod Wells with its fossils, Builth Wells with its volcanic rocks, Llandeilo and its famous Ordovician rocks. We take in the local Elan Valley rocks and scenery, the minerals of Cwmystwyth and the fine cliffs of Aberystwyth.

At the time of writing we have vacancies for two more people.

What is our Summer School?

Our Summer School is modelled on those that used to be run by the Open University a number of years ago. All are based on a campus of one sort or another where we can sleep in largely single, en-suite study bedrooms and enjoy on site meals. They are also more than just field trips with dedicated transport each day. There's an evening programme of talks from local experts and also social events. In short - something for everybody, including those with limited mobility!

Summer School Peak District, August 9-16

£1395

For the first time in the 7-year history of our Summer School weeks we're actually returning to a place that we've visited before. Cliff College in the Peak District of Derbyshire is a well known Methodist theological college. It provides excellent ensuite bedrooms and lovely home cooked food, and makes for an ideal summer school base.



The beautiful grounds of Cliff College (Image: Cliff College)

We'll be sampling lots of the excellent local geology and giving you those added summer school bonuses of evening talks and special visits to places of cultural and historic interest as well as geology.

We can accommodate lots more people at this stage, including people looking for a single room.



Distinctive Red Permian rocks of South Devon

The South Devon Riviera coast has been a holiday destination for more than 150 years and we will be staying in the family run Hotel Balmoral in Torquay. From here we will be exploring the local area that lies within the UNESCO world geopark. This is an area of great coastal scenery, with lots of Devonian sediments, plus some volcanics. As the geology is best seen from the sea, we'll ensure that we have at least one boat trip out into Torbay to get up close and personal with the cliffs and their fabulous structures. We also hope to take a trip on the Paignton and Kingswear steam railway and combine it with another boat trip on the River Dart at Totnes.

Don't miss out on an Autumn break - come and join us in sunny Torquay!

2026

Iceland - the North & East Fjords, September 13-22 £2695

Get in now, to secure your place in September 2026 after we were forced to cancel our previously advertised trip.



*The Eastern Fjords are beautiful in any season!
(Image: Chris Darmon)*

These days a lot of people go to Iceland, but they very rarely visit the north and east of country. In this trip with our usual guide and driver Ingi, we'll begin at Keflavik near the airport and then travel to Akureyri before working our way clockwise to Myvatn to the volcano Krafla before heading to the beautiful east Fjords.

We'll stop in the amazing geo-village of Borgarfjarðar Eystri to see Iceland's most colourful rhyolitic rocks. The last time we were here we did see the Northern Lights in all their glory!

We travel back from Hofn to Keflavik completing our circuit of Iceland. There's an option of an additional night at the end to have a day looking at the most recent volcanic activity on the Reykjanes peninsula and viewing the recent lavas, which will still be hot!

Book before June 30th 2025 and you pay less - the 2025 price!

Other trips planned for 2026

We are currently working on our programme for 2026 and hope to include some, or all of the following:

The Northwest Highlands of Scotland
Central Cornwall
The Shetland Islands
The Isle of Anglesey
The Jurassic Coast
Pembrokeshire
The North Pennines

*For further information or to book,
email: downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk
or ring us on: 0114 245 5746*

Learning with us is FUN...

We've been offering online and distance learning since before Covid and over that time hundreds of people have taken part in our learning programmes from the UK and around the world.

All our learning programmes are created and delivered by our in house team of Chris Darmon and Colin Schofield. Both are experienced teachers of distance learning over many years.

We deliver online education that's enjoyable and stimulating whilst at the same time being informative and educational. No one is required to carry out any sort of assessment and there's no entry requirements or formalities. Just sign up and go!

The Wednesday club...

Join us on a live Zoom session each Wednesday for an hour, either at 2pm or 7pm - the choice is yours! Each topic comes with background written material and, if you are unable to join us live, you can even access a recording of the session, via our online learning platform Moodle.

February 5	Portland limestone - the Cenotaph rock
February 12	Roderick Murchison - pioneer geologist
February 26	Radiometric dating as applied to rocks
March 5	The Permian/Triassic extinction event
March 12	Millclose - a Derbyshire lead mine
March 19	Hard rock aggregates in the UK
March 26	UK marbles - the genuine and the look alike!

Cost: Individual talks £10.00 or £15.00 for 2 people, or take the final five sessions for £40.00 or £55.00 for 2 people.

*To register interest, email us at:
downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk or ring us on: 0114 245 5746*

You can enrol via our online shop at: www.geosupplies.co.uk



Learning with us is FUN...

We've been offering online and distance learning since before Covid and over that time hundreds of people have taken part in our learning programmes from the UK and around the world.

All our learning programmes are created and delivered by our in house team of Chris Darmon and Colin Schofield. Both are experienced teachers of distance learning over many years.

We deliver courses that are enjoyable and stimulating whilst at the same time being informative and educational. No one is required to carry out any sort of assessment and there's no entry requirements or formalities. Just sign up and go!

Announcing our new courses for winter!

The Geology of the British Isles

This course continues for a further 7-weeks in the new year. If you would like to join us this is still possible - contact us NOW to find out how you can catch up over the Christmas break.

Course dates: Starts Monday January 13 for a further 7 weeks.

Cost: Contact us for details

Zoom sessions on Mondays at 2.00 and 7.00 pm (you choose)

Hot Rocks!

In this 10-week course you'll learn all about igneous rocks and processes and how they link into plate tectonics. Igneous rocks define how our Earth works and have been around since the dawn of time.



Dykes and cone sheets at Kilchoan pier Ardnamurchan (Image: Chris Darmon)

This course will be pitched at both those who already have a body of knowledge as well as those just setting out upon their geological journey.

Course dates: Starts Thursday January 16 for 10-weeks.

Cost: Ten hour-long Zoom sessions with electronic background papers £80.00 for one person or £100.00 for 2-people studying together. Printed background papers cost an additional £20.00. Zoom sessions on Thursdays at 2.00 and 7.00 pm (you choose)



Perryfield Quarry, Isle of Portland (Image: Wikipedia)

The Wednesday club...

We're building upon the success of our Autumn series of talks with a further offering of up to ten sessions this coming Winter. Join us for an hour on a Wednesday afternoon or in the evening - it's your choice!

As you'll see, we've got an eclectic mix of subjects for you to choose from. All are designed to educate and inform you in an informal and entertaining way.

New talks for 2025

January 15	Lagerstatte - exceptional fossil sites in the UK
January 22	Gold rush! - gold mining in the UK
January 29	Bowen's reaction series for igneous rocks
February 5	Portland limestone - the Cenotaph rock
February 12	Roderick Murchison - pioneer geologist
February 26	Radiometric dating as applied to rocks
March 5	The Permian/Triassic extinction event
March 12	Milliclose - a Derbyshire lead mine
March 19	Hard rock aggregates in the UK
March 26	UK marbles - the genuine and the look alike!

Cost: Individual talks £10.00 or £15.00 for 2 people.

New talks for 2025: Take the first five sessions for £40.00, the second five for £40.00 or all ten for £70.00 or £100 for 2 people. Timings: Wednesdays at 2.00 or 7.00pm - your choice.

To register interest, email us at:

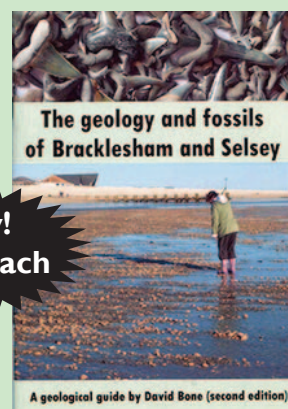
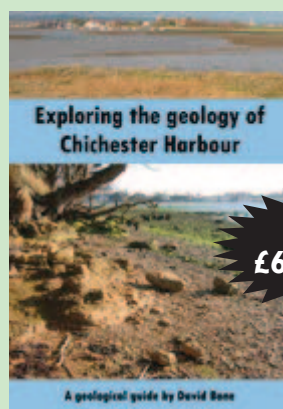
downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk or ring us on: 0114 245 5746

You can enrol via our online shop at: www.geosupplies.co.uk or ring us on: 0114 245 5746

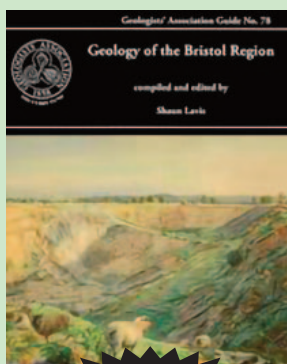
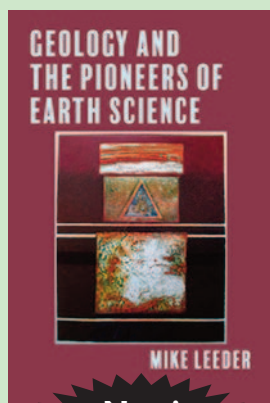
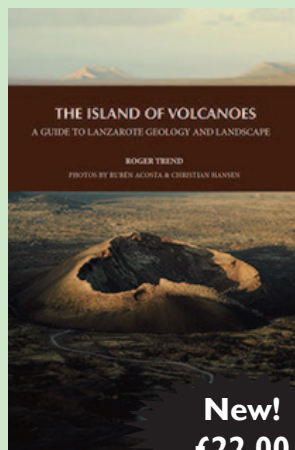
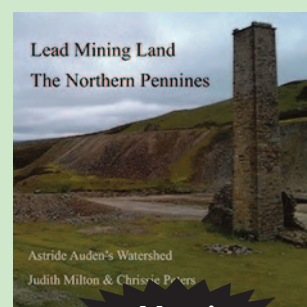
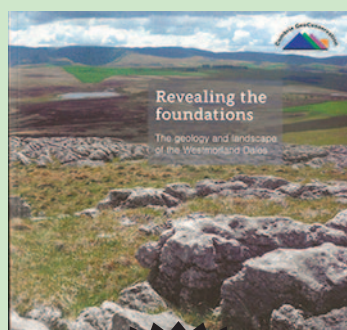
What are you waiting for? Enrol now!

Featured books for February 2025

In each issue we are pleased to be able to introduce you to a range of featured books. Where they are being offered at reduced prices, these will be current to the end of February 2025 provided that stocks are available. Please note, all prices include UK postage.



Buy both of the above for £10.00



Order online at www.geosupplies.co.uk or ring us on 0114 245 5746
Geo Supplies Ltd 49 Station Road, Chapeltown, Sheffield S35 2XE