Cumberland Geological Society

http://www.cumberland-geol-soc.org.uk/

President: Phil Davies and Helen James

Newsletter, January 2025

From the Co-presidents:

Annual General Meeting

12 March 2025, 19.30 In person, not Zoom.

Crosthwaite Parish Room, Main Street, Keswick CA12 5NN (next to the Co-op car park).

Society AGM business then, at 8pm, one of our Council members, Danny Clark-Lowes, will give a talk on Himalayan Geology.

A table has been booked at the Casa Bella restaurant in Keswick for the speaker before the lecture. Anyone can organise their own table (max 6) at www.casabellakeswick.co.uk. The booking form has a 'Notes' box so do fill it in to ask for a table near the speaker's table. (Quote the Booking Reference RTQ3FG in the name of Helen James from 17.45pm)

The AGM agenda is set out at the end of this newsletter, Attachment 1. The report on the last AGM is Attachment 2. CGS financial accounts will follow. The draft President's report is Attachment 4.

The Cumberland Geologist no 5

Thanks to Ian and all the authors for making another interesting edition of TCG5. It is currently being printed and we expect your copy to be available at the AGM.

Next meeting 7.30PM 12 February

Dr David Schofield, Chief Geologist at Nuclear Waste Services will give us an update on geological investigations to underpin development of the UK GDF.

Payment of annual of subscriptions in January

We have had an excellent result from the appeal to complete all subscription payments in January. There are still a few outstanding. Anyone who has not paid and is intending to remain a member should pay as soon as possible and either arrange or make a note to make the 2026 subscription in January 2026.

Winter meetings schedule

The talk at the AGM ends the 2024/25 season. The last newsletter mentioned that we were developing ideas for a conference in autumn 2025 to cover the very latest developments in the understanding of the geological history of the Lake District. However gatherings speakers in Cumbria for a one day event doesn't appear to be feasible. Therefore Council, in particular Phil and Danny, are now looking to find speakers for themed 2025/26 Winter meetings on the latest findings about Lake District and Cumbrian geology, the closure of Iapetus and the formation of the Lake District.

Summer field trips programme

An outline trips program and dates for the diary is in Attachment 5.

CGS field trip to Snowdonia, 4 to 8 August 2025

All places are booked and deposits have been paid. But anyone wanting to be placed on the reserve list should let Phil know (tpdavies@gmail.com).

Attachment 1
Cumberland Geological Society
Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 12 March 2025
at 7.30pm
in Crosthwaite parish Room

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the AGM 2024
3. Matters arising
4. Presidents Report
5. Treasurers Report and adoption of Accounts
6. Election of Officers for 2025-2026
7. Any other business

(Close of AGM business will be followed by the talk by Danny Clark-Lowes: Himalayan Geology)

Officers of the Society

The nominations for 2025/26 are as follows.

President	Ben Johnson
Senior Vice President	Helen James and Phil Davies
Junior Vice President	Vacant
Treasurer	Fi Harwood
Field Trip Secretary	Helen James
Lecture Secretary	Vacant
General Secretary	Susan Beale
Proceedings editor	Ian Francis
Librarian	Vacant
Membership Secretary	Lesley Wornham
Council Secretary	Phil Davies
Website Officer	Ben Johnson
Website Admin	Steve Rozario
Council members	Danny Clark-Lowes

As you can see there are several vacancies, if you would like to serve on the Council in one of these roles, or as a general member please contact Phil or Helen before the AGM.

Attachment 2
Cumberland Geological Society
Report of the last Annual General meeting
Wednesday 13th March 2024

Before the meeting started the Charles Edmond's Prize was presented to Phil Davies. This prize is presented to someone who has made a contribution to Cumbrian geology. It was last presented in 2021 and previous recipient have included Alan Smith and Clive Boulter.

26 Members present.

Apologies Dave Kelly.

Minutes from last year were previously circulated - agreed

Presidents Report

A full year of field trips took place and a week long trip to Islay.
Lectures - a mixture of face to face and Zoom with the latter being open to other groups and societies.
The society had a stand at the GA conference in Kendal last August.
There was a Membership Survey with the results previously circulated. One was that Zoom meetings were preferred but a few liked physical meetings.
Members Evening - face to face. - was well supported.
A weekend trip has been suggested and will be discussed.
The web site is being refreshed.
The library has been rationalised and is being looked after by D. Powell. There are some valuable books. Need to find a home for it.
Membership - steady, fees to be paid from 1st and by end January, if paid in Dec go into wrong year.
Recent mineral day was a great success.
Bursary has been awarded to a research graduate working on Carrock Fell. Excellent application and will give talk/article to Society.
New members of Council always welcome.

Treasurers Report

Accounts discussed, £16,500 in current accounts and reserves, £6,500 bursaries etc. subs same for 2023 as 2022. Insurance shown as paid twice in 2023 as 'disappeared ' from 2022.
Acceptance of accounts proposed and seconded.

Election of officers.
If any one would like to join Council they can do so at anytime in the year. Can get information from any Council member.

As there we no objections the following officers were elected.

Senior Vice President	Vacant
Joint Presidents	Helen James and Phil Davis

Junior Vice President	Ben Johnson
Treasurer	Fi Harwood
Field Trip Secretary	Helen James
Lecture Secretary	Vacant
General Secretary	Vacant
Proceedings editor	Ian Francis
Librarian	Vacant
Membership Secretary	Ben Johnson
Council Secretary	Rosemary Vidler
Website Officer	Ben Johnson
Council members	Susan Beale
	Peter Sapsford
	Lesley Wornham
	Steve Rozario

No other business so AGM closed.

It was followed by refreshments and a talk by Ian Jackson of the BGS titled

Ditches to Digital

The work of a field Geologist

Attachment 3

Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2024

To follow

Attachment 4

Draft President's report, 2025

CGS President's Review for 2024-25, for presentation at 2025 AGM.

Our two year term as co-presidents seems to have sped by and yet it feels a long time ago that we stood for the post.

So to review the past year we have continued our Summer Field Trip program aiming to provide something for everyone. This year trips were on various days of the week, requiring different levels of fitness and covering aspects of Cumbrian geology. There was also an evening trip and a trip for those in the early stages of learning on their geology journey, both of these were enjoyed by the participants but were rather poorly attended. Phil organised two longer trips which were very popular, a week trip to Arran in late April and a weekend trip in June to investigate the ophiolite at Ballantrae. This trip was led by Con Gillen who also gave us a talk in January on the geology of the Western Isles of Scotland illustrated with his superb photographs.

This year we had no Lecture Secretary so Council compiled a programme of talks focussing on the geology of Cumbria and the surrounding area with local speakers, many of them members. During the year Phil and Danny led an investigation into the feasibility of finding speakers who could cover the latest thinking on the geological history of the Lake District post 'Woodcock & Strachan 2012' and the intention is that this will form the basis for the next Winter Lecture Series.

Ian has continued as editor of The Cumberland Geologist. His first edition last year was much appreciated and so I am sure you are all looking forward to reading the current edition which is being distributed. You may have seen from the Newsletters that we have agreed to put all The Cumberland Geologists and the old Proceedings on our website as open access, and this is in progress.

We sponsored a student on an undergraduate project on Carrock Fell and a Cumbrian student on a Tenerife Field trip, and another application is expected.

Membership numbers appear to have remained fairly stable at just over 100 and we were pleased to welcome new members during the year.

At the AGM two years ago we were surprised to find ourselves as co-presidents. We have worked well together, enjoyed the learning and it has been good fun. We are most grateful to the field trip leaders, the lecturers, the authors of TCG and Council members who enable the Society to continue to flourish. There are some anticipated changes on Council. Peter is stepping down. Susan is happy to take on the General Secretary role. Rosemary has been Council Secretary for almost 20 years and will be handing over to Phil in the next year. Lesley is taking on the Membership Secretary role and Steve is assisting Ben on some of the IT administrative issues, so this leaves Ben in a good position to take the CGS forward. Ben has been Junior Vice President for some years, and we are pleased to support his nomination for President.

Attachment 5

Outline CGS Field Trip Program-Feb 2025

Dates for the diary are below. Further details of the field trips will be posted on the website

Monday 31 March- Mark Hatton CATMHS - Mines of the Newlands Valley. This will involve an underground trip and so numbers will be limited to 10 or 15 if the member has their own helmet and light. Booking essential with Helenjames42@yahoo.co.uk.

Monday 28 April at 9.30 am half day-Colin Woollard CATMHS An underground trip into Carrock Mine. Numbers will be limited. Booking essential with Helenjames42@yahoo.co.uk

Tuesday 3 June -Follow Clive Boulter Field Itinerary Volcanological Lessons from Iron Slag at Workington
https://englishlakedistrictgeology.org.uk/users/UserFiles/File/Field%20Itineraries/2020%20Workington%20Slag%20Volcanology%20Field%20Itinerary%20PDF.pdf

Wednesday 18th June- Dave Hasleden -Side Pike-joint trip with WGS.

Saturday 19 July- Emrys Phillips and Jon Merritt-Glaciotectonics at St Bees

Wednesday 27 August - Steve Rozario-Geological and Mining History around Garrigill

Saturday 13 September at 2pm- Ian Francis-Eycott Hill and Fairy Knot