Cumberland Geological Society

Field trip Information and registration

The field trip information (1) and risk assessment (2) sections are to be completed by the leader in advance of the trip. The generic risk assessment table (2) should be customised to cover the specific risks relevant to the trip.

Attendees should read and understand the risk assessment (2) and the rules (3). The field trip register (4) is to be completed by each individual attending.

1. Field trip information

Title of field trip; geological theme(s)	GOLDSCOPE & THE NEWLANDS VALLEY
Date of field trip; start time; approximate duration.	31 MARCH 2025 9.30am - 3pm
Name of volunteer field trip leader(s)	Mark Hatton
Start point and its National Grid Reference; also end point if different from start.	Chapel Bridge Car Park near Littletown GR NY 23175 19378
Parking and transport information	Park at Chapel Bridge. Small public car parking area based on honesty box payment system.
Description of terrain to be covered	Mix of good paths, stoney moderately steep paths and underground levels.
Approximate distance to be covered, metres of ascent / descent	5 miles 800 ft of ascent
Assessed severity of field trip	Moderate
Special requirements; refreshments; other observations	Helmet, Headtorch, Gloves. (I can supply helmets) There is a few inches of water in places in the mine.
Nearest hospital with A&E	Carlisle

Note: If action or advice is needed from the CGS Designated Safeguarding Officer regarding this field trip, contact details are available from the members' area of the CGS website or any Council Member.

2. Risk assessment

Potential hazard	Risk level– High/Medium/Low	Safety measures
Navigation, route, conditions		
Poor / deteriorating weather; risk to party completing the route. *	Medium	Route can be altered to suit weather conditions.
Poor visibility or navigation error; risk of the party getting lost or separated. *	Low	Keep group together. The leader knows the area very well.
Loss of daylight; difficulty of completing the route safely and on time.	Low	9.30am - 3pm gives plenty of margin for error regarding daylight. Headtorches will be carried by everyone.
Slips, trips and falls		
Steep or exposed ground; uneven rocky ground underfoot: risk of slips/trips/falls; anxiety or vertigo	Medium	Verbal warnings
Condition of paths and stiles: risk of slips/trips/falls/barbed wire	Medium	Verbal warnings
Boggy or heavily vegetated ground; risk of slips/trips/falls	Medium	Verbal warnings
Forestry or wooded areas; risk of slips/trips/falls or injury by branches	Low	We avoid wooded areas
Health and wellbeing		
Attendee becoming unwell and needing assistance*. Including hypothermia, sun exposure and bites by ticks, insects or snakes	Low / Medium	We are always within 10 minutes walk of places vehicles can drive to.
Other typical risks		
Roads; risk to pedestrian attendees from traffic.	Low	Very little road walking on very quiet roads
Rockfall, or fall of other debris from slopes.	Medium	One area of Goldscope (the Wheelpit Chamber) has a risk of rockfall. Verbal warnings given and helmets worn.
Water courses, open water, tides; drowning risk; crossing risks of slips/trips/falls	Medium	One river crossing to navigate (there and back). Verbal warning and will be avoided if high water levels.
Livestock attack: cows, bulls.	Low	Alpacas by the car park should not be approached. Elsewhere just sheep.
Other		
Underground sections - claustrophobia Shafts in floor Stacked rocks and suspended material above the level	Low Medium Medium	Verbal warnings Verbal warnings & close supervision Verbal warnings

* Weather-related risk level to be reviewed at the time of the field trip.

Signature of volunteer field trip leader ……

3. Rules

1. Members of CGS and guests take part at their own risk. They should read and understand the foregoing field trip information and risk assessment, and raise any queries about any matter of concern before the field trip starts. A brief introduction will be provided at the start point. It should be noted that the Society holds Third Party Public Liability Insurance for Society members, but this does nor extend to visitors undertaking field trips. Personal Liability Insurance and Personal Accident Insurance remain the responsibility and choice of the participant. The Society does not accept responsibility for loss or damage to individuals or their property.

2. Participants should be aware of potential hazards which may be encountered in the field. They should read the Risk Assessment prepared in advance of each field trip and sign the field trip register on arrival. In general, these hazards will be such as are commonly encountered on the hills, open countryside and coastal and riverine areas in Cumbria, and participants will be expected to be familiar with these.

3. The behaviour of all members of the field trip must be such as to minimise the risk to themselves and other attendees. Any participant who behaves in a manner likely to put at risk his or her own safety, or the safety or enjoyment of another participant or the group as a whole, may be asked to leave by the volunteer field trip leader, and must do so immediately.

4. It is the responsibility of participants to satisfy themselves that they are fit to take part in the field trip and are properly equipped to do so. They should inform the volunteer field trip leader in advance, in confidence, of any matter which may have a bearing on their fitness to participate and what actions should be taken if illness occurs. The volunteer field trip leader may refuse to allow any person whose health or fitness appears to be a source of concern, or who appears to be inadequately equipped, to participate in (or to continue participation in) a field trip. There is no guarantee that any participant will have had first aid training but, in any emergency, the group will help as best it can.

5. Under 18s and vulnerable adults may attend if they are accompanied by a parent, guardian or responsible adult, provided that this is indicated in the Field Trip Register.

6. Participants should wear clothing and footwear suitable for the field trip and carry appropriate safety equipment and rations.

7. The guidance of the volunteer field trip leader should be followed. It is important to stay with the leader during the field trip. Racing ahead or lagging behind causes problems of safety as well as making the leader's task more difficult. Alert others if a problem arises; if you need to stop, let at least one other person know. Members must make their intentions known to the leader if they intend to leave the group either temporarily or permanently; it is recommended that this is not done alone, particularly in remote or rugged terrain.

8. In the interests of conservation and safety the use of geological hammers is discouraged. Some exposures may be SSSIs or have other designations, and in any event the permission of a landowner may be required

9. If an injury or other problem occurs the volunteer field trip leader should be notified immediately. A basic first aid kit will be carried on field trips.

10. Dogs do not normally take part in an field trip. A participant who wishes to bring a dog on an field trip should confirm beforehand with the volunteer field trip leader that this will be acceptable.

4. Field trip register Date:

Name (add 'Under 18' or 'Carer' of another participant if applicable)	**Emergency contact details**	I have read and will comply with the Rules **Signature**	**A CGS member? (tick if 'yes')**

Name **(add 'Under 18' or 'Carer' of another participant if applicable)**	**Emergency contact details**	I have read and will comply with the Rules **Signature**	**A CGS member? (tick if 'yes')**