



Buckinghamshire Earth Heritage Group Newsletter October 2009

Fossil & Archaeology Day - County Museum, Aylesbury. July 18th 2009

Many thanks to all the members who volunteered their help at the Fossil and Archaeology Day. It was a successful event and generated lots of interest with the visiting public. Mike Palmer made some museum specimens and information about the group available. Simon Penn brought along some fossil specimens he has personally collected (Photo right) and Mike Henty brought along a collection of unusual minerals.



Some of Simon Penn's collection. Of special note was the Metriorhynchus tooth (lower left) and a number of Plesiosaur and Ichthyosaur vertebrae.

Buckinghamshire County Fair August 27th 2009

The Bucks Earth Heritage Group was again present at the Buckinghamshire County Fair. The booth attracted a good number of enquires about the purpose of our group and the events we hold. Our thanks goes to Mr Mike Henty for organising our stand and to the members who volunteered to help.

Ivinghoe to College Lake walk August 27th 2009

Jill Eyers lead the group on one of the new geological walks. The main features observed were the Chalk geology and how weathering and erosion have shaped it into the Chiltern Hills. As always Jill was able to bring to life the archaeological evidence and how the Chalk grassland and scrub now support a wide variety of habitats and wildlife. The walk leaflet is available on the website:



The Ice Age in Bucks - a visit to Buckingham Sand Pit September 26th 2009

Jill Eyres lead a short trip around the Buckingham sand pit to look at the remarkable evidence for the Anglian glaciation in north Bucks. The site shows a good section through a till deposit and an esker channel. A whole variety of different clast types were collected including; flint, rounded Chalk pebbles, Ironstone (from Northamptonshire), various types of sandstones, local Blisworth limestones and far travelled volcanic rocks from Scandinavia. (Photo right) Close up view of the till sediments. More information can be found on the BEHG website:



www.bucksgeology.org.uk/buckingham_sand_pit.html

Conservation work funding news

The Bucks Earth Heritage Group has been successful in attracting funding from Natural England to improve a couple of our geological sites: Froghall SSSI near Chalfont and Northmoor Hill NNR near Denham. The funding requires the group to perform clean-up work, install steps / fencing and provides group training and recording. The only drawback is that the work needs to be undertaken before the end of March 2010. The plan is currently to start work on Northmoor Hill with a members training session booked for October 18th (see details below). This is an exciting opportunity and we hope everyone will find time over the coming months to participate in the conservation activities.

2009 Future Programme

OCTOBER 17th. 10:30am. West Wycombe to Bradenham circular walk showing the link between geology, landscape and archaeology. Pub lunch. Contact Jill at j.eyers@btopenworld.com or call 01494-881325 (mornings only) to reserve a place.

OCTOBER 18th. 10am-4pm. Soil and Sediments Workshop. Training workshop ahead of our conservation work at Froghall and Northmoor Hill sites. **Lane End Youth and Community centre.** Contact Jill at j.eyers@btopenworld.com or call 01494-881325 (mornings only) to booking required, limited to c.20 people.

Date to be confirmed : Quarry visit with Michael Oates: Joint meeting with the BAS Natural History Section.

NOVEMBER 21st. 2.30 – 4.00: Charles Darwin and the tree of life. A talk by Dr Peter Skelton (Open University) in Learning Zone 2, Bucks County Museum, Church Street, Aylesbury HP20 2QP. Admission free. Contact Mike Palmer at mplamer@buckscc.gov.uk or call 01296 624519

2010 Programme

The committee is seeking views from the membership regarding events for the 2010 programme. If there any trips you would like to see included or would like to offer help with leading please contact Mike Palmer.

The Buckinghamshire Earth Heritage Group aims to record, conserve and promote the geology of Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes. Membership is free and open to beginners and experts alike. If you would like to join the free mailing list please send your address, phone number and email address to:

Mike Palmer, Tel: 01296 624519 email: mpalmer@buckscc.gov.uk

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