



# Down to Earth *extra*

Issue 162 June 2026

## NEWS FLASH...

### 2026 Trips..

- Shropshire Summer School
- Other 2026 trips - Ask about late vacancies!

### 2027 Trips

- Furness & the South Lakes  
April 16-23
- Magma Geopark Norway  
May 4-13
- Oban & the Hebridean  
Islands  
September 30-October 8

***Book for all trips now!***

Welcome to Roche Rock (yes it really is called that), a striking outcrop of quartz-tourmaline rock known as 'schorl'. It's a part of the altered St Austell granite, much of which has been subjected to kaolinisation. The tower is the remains of a 2-storey hermitage, dating from 1409.

(Image: Chris Darmon)

## From the Editorial team...

We've just returned from a field trip to the North Pennines and the surrounding counties. It was a good trip with fine weather and excellent geology. That said there were things that could have been so much better, particularly when it comes to the geological interpretation. But before I return to that, a few general observations.

We hear a lot in the mainstream media about the existence of a 'north-south' divide. For most people, that begins somewhere around the Yorkshire and Lancashire borders. But it certainly doesn't stop there as we found driving around the area. Some villages seemed, at least on the surface, to be thriving with shops and amenities open for business. This was the case in Middleton in Teesdale and Stanhope in Weardale, but sadly we could only get a coffee from a machine in the Co-op in St John's Chapel, but it was a Monday.

Further north in the heart of the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Beauty (AONB) we paid a visit to Alston and it was really sad to see so many properties up for sale and empty business premises. It was a good job that the cafe on the heritage railway station was open. A little later we had an extended visit to Nenthead which also seemed to be down on its luck with the village pub closed and up for sale.

But it was at Nenthead where we had the most saddening experience. We knew that there was no access to the museum site as it was not an open day. However with only one exception, notices had been removed and there was little or no geological references. As we were leaving we came across a couple of volunteers preparing for the open day on the Bank Holiday weekend. They hoped that we could join them, but alas we couldn't. We noted the lack of publicity, to which they said 'it's on the website'. True, but this gem of a site needs a higher profile.

As for the other major public geosite in the area, Killhope Mine, this remains closed as the owner Durham County Council needs to undertake further health and safety work before it can reopen to the public. After so long being closed, there must be a question mark over whether it will ever reopen, as budgets get squeezed more and more.

It's all so sad as this is an amazing area with so much for geologists to see and enjoy - and the landscape is spectacular!

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

## See pages 5/6 for details of the Hutton tercentenary



## news update

### Alaskan megatsunami in 2025 was the second largest ever recorded...

University of Oxford researchers have contributed to a study which identified the second-highest tsunami ever recorded, triggered by a landslide in southeast Alaska last year. The findings have been published today in the journal *Science*. The Oxford scientists worked with USGS and UCL in London to uncover the vital statistics and mechanism of this remarkable event that occurred on August 10 2025.

*This comes from the University of Oxford website:*

"A 'near-miss' tsunami that occurred in Tracy Arm fjord, Alaska last year reached an incredible height of 481 meters. Remarkably, despite the fact that this fjord is heavily visited by cruise ships in summer, no boats were caught when it struck at 5:30 a.m. on 10 August 2025.

The event happened when more than 60 million cubic meters of rock collapsed into the fjord, triggering the wave which ran 481 meters up the wall of the fjord. Eyewitnesses in the area reported chaotic conditions: kayakers tens of kilometres away were awakened by surging water that swept away equipment, while observers elsewhere described waves and strong currents moving through the fjord system. The event has already led major cruise companies to cancel trips into Tracy Arm for the 2026 season.

However, nobody observed the wave directly. In the new study, an



*Aerial view of the August 2025 landslide and tsunami near South Sawyer Glacier in Alaska (Image: Courtesy of USGS)*

international team of researchers led by UC Calgary used a combination of satellite data, seismic recordings, and numerical modelling to understand exactly what had happened.

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Oxford University researcher Dr Thomas Monahan (Department of Engineering Science) was part of the team that analysed seismic data to identify the signal of the wave. This revealed the surprising discovery of a series of long-lived oscillations that continued to reverberate through the fjord long after the initial impact.

The signals indicated that rather than dissipating, the energy from the tsunami became trapped within the steep-sided fjord, causing water to slosh back and forth for more than a day. This produced a standing wave (seiche), only the second such event ever recorded. Dr Monahan helped document the first such wave with occurred in the Dickson Fjord in East Greenland a year ago.

Unlike the Greenland event, where the water moved in a single, simple rhythm, the Tracy Arm fjord produced a much more complex motion pattern. Instead of one steady pulse, the water oscillated in several overlapping rhythms at once, similar to how a bell can produce multiple tones when struck. This demonstrates that these resonant oscillations can act as a kind of unique ‘calling card’ for each basin.

‘This study shows that enclosed basins like fjords can effectively act as giant tuning forks, with the resonance determined by their shape and geometry,’ said Dr Monahan. ‘This gives each fjord a unique “signature” when they are affected by energetic events such as megatsunamis.’

Because these landslide-induced seiches generate subtle seismic signals that can travel around the globe, this opens up new possibilities for detecting and monitoring hazardous events, even in remote regions with little direct observation.

The findings also suggest that such oscillations may leave lasting traces in fjord sediments, offering a potential way to identify similar events in the past. As climate change increases the likelihood of large landslides, understanding how these hidden waves behave could become increasingly important for assessing risks and predicting how landscapes will evolve.

In order to capture the wave directly in satellite images, the research team applied novel analysis techniques to interpret satellite altimetry data. This measures the height of the Earth’s surface (including the ocean) by recording how long it takes for a radar pulse to travel from a satellite to the surface and back again. Conventional satellite altimeters are not able to capture differences in water height needed to spot tsunamis due to long gaps between observations, and the fact that they sample data directly beneath the spacecraft, producing 1D profiles along the sea surface.

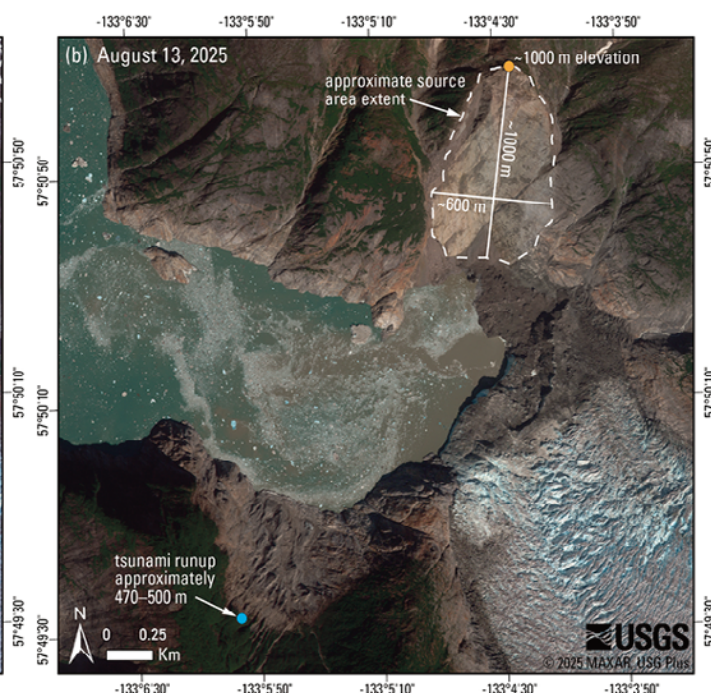
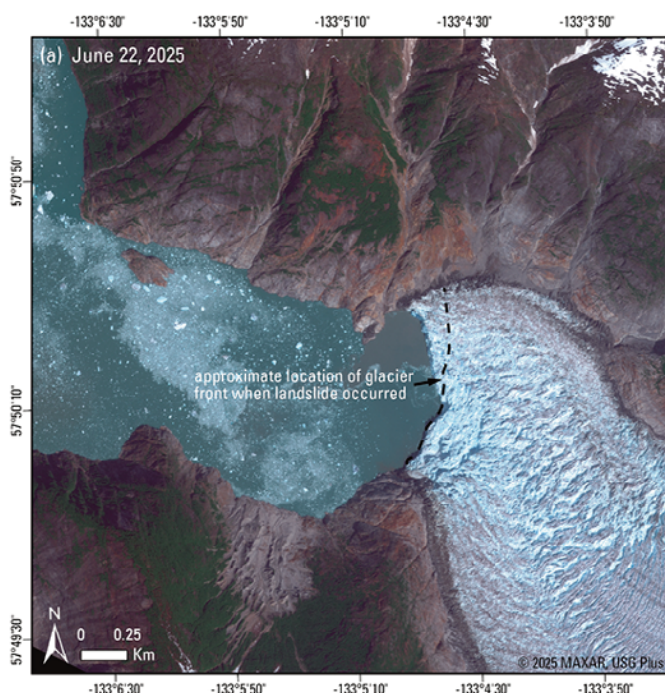
This study used data captured by the new Surface Water Ocean Topography (SWOT) satellite, which uses two antennas to triangulate returning radar pulses, enabling them to measure surface water levels over a large area with metre-level horizontal accuracy.

The Tracy Arm event was triggered by rapid glacier retreat, which destabilized the slope and allowed the landslide to occur- part of a broader pattern of cascading hazards emerging in glaciated regions. At the same time, human activity in these environments is increasing. Cruise tourism and recreation are expanding into fjords that are becoming more dynamic as glaciers retreat.

Co-author Dr Stephen Hicks (UCL Earth Sciences) said: ‘With hindsight, there were some warning signs. Tiny earthquakes occurred at an increasing rate in the days to hours before the landslide, signalling that this mass of rock was starting to crack. Many seismic monitoring stations provide data in real-time, so this gives us some optimism that we can turn what we have learned into a warning system.’

As climate change continues to reshape glaciated landscapes, such tools will be essential for understanding and mitigating the cascading hazards that follow.’

***The study ‘A 481 m-high landslide-tsunami in a cruise ship frequented Alaska fjord’ has been published in Science. We are grateful to the University of Oxford for this material.***



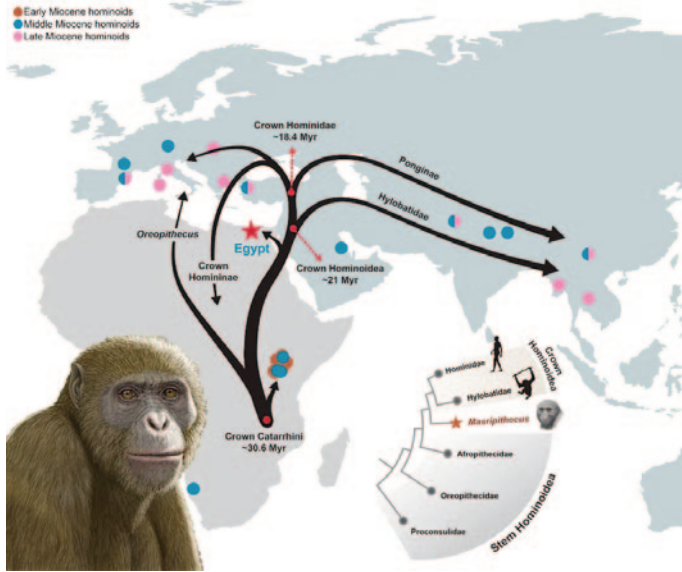
***These stunning satellite images show the ‘before and after’ of the Tracy Arms landslide, on August 10th 2025. (Images: courtesy of USGS)***

## 18 Million year old ape, found in 'the wrong place'...

We're quite used to early hominid and ape fossils being found in the continent of Africa, so when an 18 million year-old specimen turned up, why as it big news?

The answer lies in where it was found. It was in Egypt quite a way from the more normal sites in East Africa. This new find, might indicate that the ancestors of all living apes, a group that includes humans, may instead have originated in Arabia or Northeast Africa.

"Discovering a fossil ape in this region is both significant and somewhat surprising," the study first author Shorouq Al-Ashqar, a paleontologist at Mansoura University in Egypt, told *Live Science* in an email. "But it also highlights how incomplete our picture has been."



*How the 'ape trail' may look following the new discovery.*  
(Image: Courtesy of Yahoo)

## An estimate of £402 million - the cost of a fixed link between two Scottish islands...

The Shetland Islands have enjoyed more than 60 years of being at the centre of the oil industry where eye watering figures are an everyday occurrence. However, when they commissioned a report into how much it might cost for an undersea tunnel between their two largest islands, few would have predicted that it would come out a massive £402 million. But even this figure represents a considerable saving over the cost of operating the current ferry fleet over a 60-year operating cycle. This takes into account that the ferries need replacing now and again before the end of the 60 year period.

Shetland Islands Council (SIC) in June last year, agreed to commission a Fixed Link Model (FLM) study from consultants Stantec and Cowi - an international engineering consultancy with experience in tunnelling across the world, including in comparable locations in Scandinavia - using Yell Sound as a "test tunnel".

That study involved input from three globally experienced contractors, consulted the financial community, and concluded that the tunnel is "buildable and investable".

Council leader Emma Macdonald said: "When islands have fixed



*Yell Sound between Mainland and Yell would be tunnelling through hard Moine metamorphics beneath a cover of drift.*  
(Image: Wikipedia)

links like causeways, bridges and tunnels, they experience repopulation, economic growth and a reduction in average age."

"Doing nothing is not an option in Shetland. We have islands

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*The inter-island ferry routes are operated using vessels that are more than 30-years old and in need of replacement now. (Image: Shetland Islands Council)*

depending on old, unreliable, carbon-heavy ferries, which are depopulating and continually at risk of ferry breakdowns. I look forward to the debate in the chamber later in June, where we'll consider all the options before us."

CowI's executive vice president Andy Sloan added: "We know that the tunnels can be built. From an engineering perspective it is relatively straightforward. The real challenge is whether we as a nation take a short-term or long-term view. As our global experience tells us, people will be attracted to live in remote and rural places if they are easy to get to, easy to get around, digitally connected and with job opportunities and an affordable standard of living. Fixed links can change how people in Scotland live, work and travel. They can reverse depopulation, provide vital services and support economic growth. Once Scotland builds its first tunnel, it will never stop."

*Based on material from "The Shetland Island Times"*

### **Popular Southwest Scotland gemrock museum to close at the end of the season...**

After 45 years, the popular and well known Gem Rock Museum in Creetown in Southwest Scotland is set to close at the end of the current season. The owners Tim and Carolyn Stephenson have been trying to sell it as a going concern, but have been unable to secure a buyer.



*The Creetown Gemrock Museum is housed in a former school building, in the small town of Creetown.*

Accordingly they have reluctantly decided to close at the end of October. Over the years many of you may well have paid the museum a visit. Several parties of *Down to Earth* readers have been there with Chris and Colin.

Beautiful gemstones are displayed in a well lit room which is accessible for all including those in wheelchairs. If you'd like to make one final visit, Creetown is 7 miles from Newton Stewart and 11 miles from Gatehouse of Fleet on the A75 Carlisle to Stranraer trunk road directly off the M6 Motorway. Just follow the signs on entering Creetown village.



*There are many fine specimens for visitors to enjoy.*

*The Museum is open every day of the week from 10-4.00. Admission is £8.00 - please note no dogs, except assistance and guide dogs. Email: enquiries@gemrock.net • Tel: +44 (0)1671 820 357*



## **Get Down to Earth - by e-mail..**

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*Extra June 2026*

## Wolverine jaw, 90,000 years old found in Stump Cross Cavern in North Yorkshire...

There's a tendency to think that somehow some of our finest show caves, are just that. The thought that some of our ancient ancestors or prehistoric animals actually lived in those self same chambers doesn't enter our heads. But Stumps Cross Cavern, near Pateley Bridge in North Yorkshire has proved that was not the case as volunteers working on excavation work in a new cave at the site discovered back in February.



*The wolverine jaw bone from Stump Cross Cavern; Pateley Bridge. (Image: Stump Cross Cavern)*

Tom Thompson, from Craven Pothole Club, was one of the first people to spot the jaw in the newly disturbed mud and described the Ice Age relic as "incredibly rare. I couldn't believe it - we had been hoping for something like this but when I washed it and looked at it, I was really rather taken back," he said.

Wolverine, might sound like they should be related to Wolves, but that is not the case, they belong to the weasel family. They can still be found today in Arctic and sub-Arctic regions. The Stumps Cross specimen contains the lower half of the animal's jawbone, with some teeth, including one large canine still attached.

There have been previous finds of wolverine at Stump Cross, but not for at least 40 years and the stalagmites have grown over this time covering up everything on the cave floor. "The initial dating method

put it down to about 70,000 years but the more recent research has put it to between 80,000 to 90,000 years old" said Tom.

Other remains found throughout Stump Cross Caverns include reindeer, bison and Arctic fox bones. There are two possibilities,



*Volunteers from Craven Pothole Club in the chamber where the jaw bone was found. (Image: Stump Cross Cavern)*

either the animals lived in the cave at some point the past, or they somehow fell into the cave. The former has been dismissed as there's no cave entrance as such, so we are looking at the animals falling down the cave shaft into the chambers.

The cave currently being excavated by Craven Pothole Club and other volunteers, was first discovered by the Victorians but has since been inaccessible to the general public. The ambition is that it will eventually become an extension of the main tourist attraction.

Thompson said he hoped there would be more discoveries to come during the work. "Everything of interest that we find will be part of a display which will eventually be mounted at the cave," he said.

*To find out more about Stump Cross Cavern, including the opening hours and prices, go to:*  
<https://www.stumpcrosscaverns.co.uk/>

*The find was well covered by BBC Radio York and "The Yorkshire Post" newspaper, on which our item is based.*

**An unusual present idea - limited edition...**

## **'The Cream of the Crop 2025'**

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 2025'.

The set comprises 14 carefully chosen specimens from the British Isles: with: graptolitic shale (Llandrindod Wells), Stanner Rock metaigneous (the oldest in Wales), Old Red Sandstone (Goodrington), Hematite (Cumbria), Folly Sandstone (Silurian), Phyllite (Arran), Newmead Sandstone (Builth Wells), Man-o-War Gneiss (Cornwall), Quartz Porphyry (Cornwall), Honister Slate (Cumbria), Hybrid Rock (Arran), Tonalite (Ardnamurchan), Pitchstone (Arran), Felsite (Loch Ba, Mull). Each set comes boxed with notes and costs £54.95 including postage. The set is being offered NOW and will be shipped not later than July.

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- Triassic geology of Grinshill
- Rocks of the Onny Valley
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# Great geo-adventures in 2026/7 begin here...



How's this for stunning fjord scenery at its very best? This is a view in the Magma Geopark in Southern Norway which we will be visiting in May of 2027.  
(Image: Courtesy of Fjord Norway)

We've been working on our 2027 programme and currently have 7 of the trips confirmed. We begin with a visit to Furness in the South Lakes of Cumbria and then the Magma Geopark in Norway. Moving to the Autumn we've got a week based in Oban in Western Scotland. Bookings are already coming!

We can still accommodate people on our Summer School to Shropshire (August 8-15) where there are plenty of single rooms and for couples on the trip to Melrose in the Scottish Borders (October 18-24).

To view a brochure, go to our website at:  
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## Residential Field trip programme 2026/7...

### 2026

- Anglesey, July 5-10 - ask us
- Summer School, Shropshire, August 8-15
- Iceland, September 13-22 - ask us
- Melrose, the Scottish Borders, October 18-24

### 2027

- Furness & South Lakes, April 16-23
- Magma Geopark, Norway, May 4-13
- Strathpeffer & Cromarty, May 21-29
- Sussex Coast & South Downs, June 20-26
- Abberley & Malvern Hills, July 18-23
- Summer School Warwick July 31-August 7
- Oban & the Hebridean Isles, Scotland, September 30-October 8

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](mailto:downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk) or tel: 0114 245 5746*

## Before you book on one of our trips...

*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.

In recent years we've run several special trips for American geologists and now some of them join us on our regular trips, adding greatly to the character of our field experiences.

### *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 hotels in the Leisureplex and Strathmore 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.

## Still some availability this year...

*We still have vacancies on some trips especially for couples or people willing to share a twin or double room. We also have singles available on our Summer School to Shropshire in August.*

*If you haven't been with us before, you are particularly welcome, but please don't leave it too long before making your booking. Over the past year we've lost count of the number of people who have left it too late and we have had to decline their booking.*

### **Anglesey, July 5-10**

**£995**

We love going to Ynys Mon, or as the English know it, Anglesey. As a long established geopark it's geology is superb and also unique as the main location to see rocks of the Mona Complex. Based at the former copper port of Amlwch in the north of the island we will explore some of the best sites on the island, many of which are close to our base.



*The Dinorben Arms Hotel, our base on Anglesey*

Come with us to see some very rare rocks and also experience some fine coastal scenery. On this trip you get to see sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rocks of many types!

***We may have double and twin rooms available for this trip - ask us!***

### **Come and join 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

# Welcome to our exciting world!



programme of talks from local experts and also social events. In short - something for everybody, including those with limited mobility!



*The Harper Adams University campus is set in rolling countryside (Image: Harper Adams University)*

## Summer School at Harper Adams University in Shropshire August 8-15 **£1495**

For our ever popular Summer School week, we are returning to the campus of Harper Adams Agricultural University which sits in lovely grounds in Shropshire. We last visited in 2018 and have a packed itinerary planned including some new localities.

Shropshire is home to a wealth of geology spanning many time periods and covering many types of rocks and landscape. We'll be taking in the Precambrian rocks of the Church Stretton area, the Lower Palaeozoic sediments of Wenlock Edge and the Lickey Hills as well as later rocks in Cheshire and the Black Country.

Yes, there's something for everyone and that's before we add in the evening talks and activities as well as the excellent company.

*We have plenty of single rooms available on this trip!*

## Iceland - the North & East Fjords, September 13-22 **£2595**

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 Akueyri 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! Iceland is an amazing place but these days much of it is over visited by tourists. This cannot be said for some of the places that we will be visiting on this trip. This is the real Iceland, where natural wonders and beauty are able to shine without the smell of hamburgers! To complete our trip 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 - and still hot - lavas.

*Two places in shared twin rooms available - one male & one female*

## Melrose in the Scottish Borders, October 18-24 **£995**

We end the year with a good value 6-night trip to a new area of the Scottish Borders. Melrose is in the heart of an excellent area of fine

geology, with sediments from the Ordovician, Silurian and Devonian along with a fine array of igneous rocks, both extrusions and intrusions that mainly date from the Carboniferous.

During this trip we'll be taking in the famous localities of Dob's Linn near Moffat where Charles Lapworth established the Ordovician and Silurian boundary and also James Hutton's famous unconformity at Jedburgh. We'll also have a day in Edinburgh exploring some of the famous sites in Holyrood Park.

Our base for the trip is the comfortable Waverley Castle Hotel which sits in beautiful grounds on the outskirts of the small town. Unusually, we have been offered a number of single rooms, at a very modest supplement - but get in quickly to secure your place! *We can still accommodate a few more people in double or twin rooms.*

## Planning ahead for 2027...

*We've now pretty much finalised our offering for 2027, just waiting for a possible October trip to the Yorkshire Coast. We also have two trips that are being put on for some of our American guests, one in April to the Isle of Arran another in September to Mid-Wales.*

*This limits the number of trips that we can offer you, our readers. That said, we think that there will be something to tempt you all in the seven or eight trips.*

*We are accepting bookings NOW for the trips listed below.*

## Furness & the South Lakes, April 16-23 (7-nights) **£1295**

The Lake District is arguably our premier National Park and it's an area that many of you will have visited. But how many of you know or have ever visited the South Lakes, known as the Furness area? It's an area of scenic coastline with small coastal communities like Grange over Sands and Arnside. From our base in Grange we'll be able to explore a wide area taking in places such as Ravenglass, St Bees, Arnside, Lake Windermere from Lakeside and quarries around Millom.



*The Cumbria Grand Hotel is in the resort of Grange over Sands.*

All this from the comfort of the Cumbria Grand Hotel in Grange over Sands. Take advantage of this excellent value package, just as the spring flowers come out!

*Sorry, single rooms for this trip have now sold out!*

**Norway - Magma Geopark, May 413 (9-nights) £2595**

We have been to Norway on two previous occasions to the Gea Norvegica Geopark where we saw great geology and landscape. This time we are staying in the south of the country but venturing to the Stavanger area which is the location of the fabulous Magma Geopark.

The tour commences with the first night in Oslo where we will be staying in an historic hotel which is actually within the main railway station. From there, we'll take a 7-hour train journey direct to the small town of Egersund, our base for the entire week. Each day we'll venture out into the geopark with their own geologist. You'll see some amazing ancient rocks including anorthosite, that's much more common on the surface of the moon! There will be visits to former metal mines, a guided tour of a local quarry, as well as walks in the fjord landscape, a boat trip to a local island and much more!



*Trollpikken near Egersund is a phenomenon created by the ice during the last ice age. (Image: Visit Fjord Norway)*

Our base is the historic Grand Hotel in Egersund for the whole week and our hosts at the geopark have even found us some great evenings out - including a visit to a highly rated seafood restaurant and a whiskey distillery!

*We already have 16 bookings for this trip*

**Strathpeffer & Cromarty, May 21-29 (8-nights) £1595**

Allow us to introduce this area to you. It's 20 miles north of Inverness and is based at Strathpeffer, a historic spa resort that allows us access to some great geology. There's the local Moinean metamorphics, the amazing Devonian sediments of Cromarty home to the Scottish pioneer geologist Hugh Miller and the younger rocks of the Lossiemouth area. We'll even take the Kyle of Lochalsh railway for a memorable day out to the Isle of Skye.



*The Ben Wyvis Hotel our base for the week*

**Sussex Coast & South Downs, June 20-26 (6-nights) £1095**

Based at the Queen's Hotel in the resort of Eastbourne this is a trip that will take in some of the classic chalk cliffs in places like Beachy Head and also some of the Lower Cretaceous rocks in places like Hastings, not forgetting the beautiful landscape of the South Downs National Park.

*Grab this opportunity whilst you can!*

**The Abberley & Malvern Hills Geopark, July 18-23 (5-nights) £1195**

This trip takes in the fabulous geology of the Malvern Hills with its ancient Precambrian igneous rocks along with some of the younger rocks in the surrounding Abberley and Malvern Hills Geopark. Chris is the Honorary President of the geopark and is proud to show you its geology and landscapes. We'll visit the village of Martley where rocks of many different ages can be seen and take a trip on the Severn Valley Railway to see rocks from the Carboniferous and Permian. The trip is based at the 4-star Abbey Hotel in Great Malvern.

*This trip is suitable for anyone, including those with little previous geological knowledge.*

**Summer School at the University of Warwick, July 31-August 7 (7-nights)**

Book the dates they are confirmed - further details will follow in the next *DtoE extra* in July.

**Oban & the Hebridean Isles, September 30-October 9 (8-nights) £1495**

Yes, we've found a hotel base in Oban! Now that we can tick that box, we can bring you an action packed week of trips around the surrounding area. With luck we'll get you to the islands of Kerrera, Lismore, Mull, Iona, Luing and Easdale. We'll also take in some of the geology of the mainland, around the Falls of Cruachan, Crianlarich and Tyndrum. You'll see fabulous Scottish geology from the Lewisian through to the Tertiary volcanics with much in between.



*The Royal Hotel is on Oban's seafront and is close to the harbour and railway station.*

Enjoy the comforts of the 3-star Royal Hotel in Oban where we offer ensuite rooms and all main meals.

*Sorry, single rooms for this trip have now sold out!*

*Why not contact us now for a booking form: [downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk](mailto:downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk) or ring us on: 0114 245 5746*

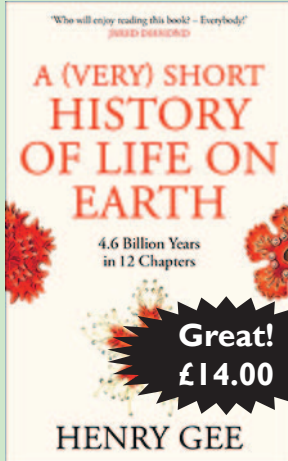
*You can view brochures for all the trips featured here (apart from the 2027 Summer School) on our website at:*

*[www.geosupplies.co.uk](http://www.geosupplies.co.uk)*

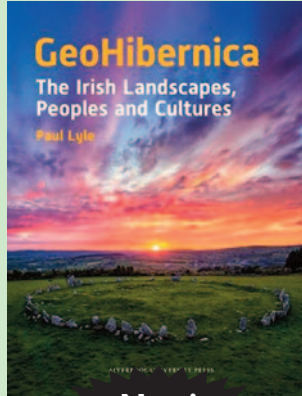
*Don't delay as we already have around 50 bookings for 2027!*

# Featured books for June 2026

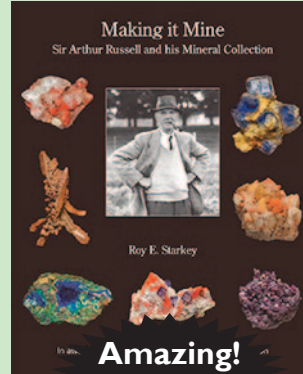
In each issue we are pleased to be able to introduce you to a range of featured books. Where they are being offered at reduced prices, these will be current to the end of June 2026 provided that stocks are available. This month we feature a variety of different books. Please note, all prices include UK postage.



Great!  
£14.00



New!  
£50.00



Amazing!  
£45.00



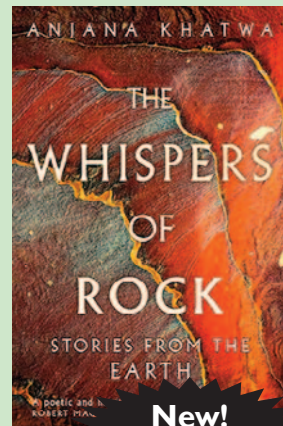
New!  
£20.00



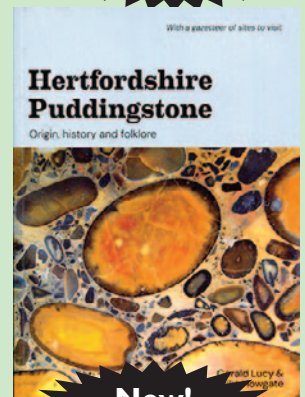
New!  
£22.00



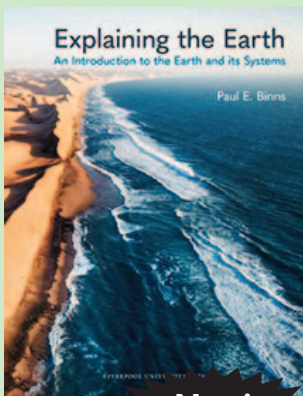
New!  
£7.00



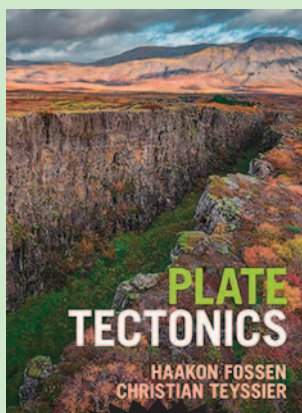
New!  
£25.00



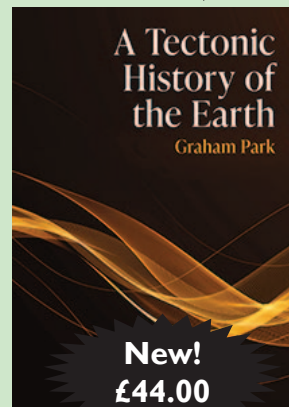
New!  
£14.00



New!  
£38.00

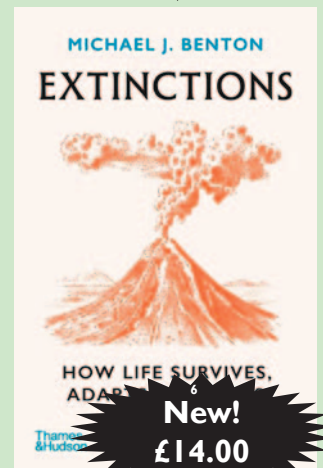


Terrific!  
£50.00



New!  
£44.00

Ask about new guides to  
Islay & Jura!



New!  
£14.00