



## **Home Counties North Regional Group**

### **FULL-DAY GEOLOGY FIELD TRIP**

**Sunday 22 May 2016, 10.00 – 17.30 approx**

**Lower Cretaceous – Aptian and Albian – and Quaternary of west  
Mid-Bedfordshire: the Gault Clay Vale, Greensand Ridge and  
Boulder Clay Hills –  
Tilsworth/Stanbridge/Eggington/Hockliffe/Battlesden/Tebworth/  
Rushmere Country Park and Stockgrove Country Park, Bedfordshire  
Led by John Wong FGS**

Meet at the car park of McDonald's restaurant south of Hockliffe village, on the right hand side of the northbound A5, grid reference SP979261 at 0945 for 10.00 start.

John will give an introductory talk on the Lower Cretaceous and Quaternary of the area in this field trip covering:

- Landscape characters and land use of the Greensand ridge, Gault Clay vale, and boulder clay hills;
- Palaeogeography and tectonics of the late Upper Jurassic and the Cretaceous nonconformity;
- Stratigraphy and palaeogeography of the Lower Greensand Formation (known as Woburn Sands in the west of Bedfordshire);
- Palaeoenvironment and sedimentology of the Red Sands, Silver Sands, and Brown Sands;
- Diagenesis of the Woburn Sands and Iron Stone;
- Palaeogeography and petrology of the Gault Clay and the Upper Greensand;
- The Lower Coprolite Bed and the Upper Coprolite Bed;
- Economic geology and local quarrying activities;
- Geoarchaeology of the Iron Age and Norman hill forts;
- Building stones as indicators of proximities to Woburn Sands and Totternhoe Stone;
- Glacial fluvial deposits;
- Glacial till and provenance of glacial erratics; and
- Burial glacial channels, and periglacial geomorphology

In the morning we shall look at the geology, geomorphology and the building stones in and around Tilsworth, Stanbridge, Eggington and Hockliffe.

We then travel to Rushmere Country Park for lunch, look at the Red Sands deposits and discuss the diagenesis history.

In Stockgrove Country Park, we shall examine the fluvio-glacial gravels, the changes in the soil character, the asymmetric cross-section profile of the steep river valley, and also U-shaped dry valleys. There is a large sundial on top of the hill made of large blocks of rocks from the Lower Greensand Formation, and there is an exhibition on the local geology.

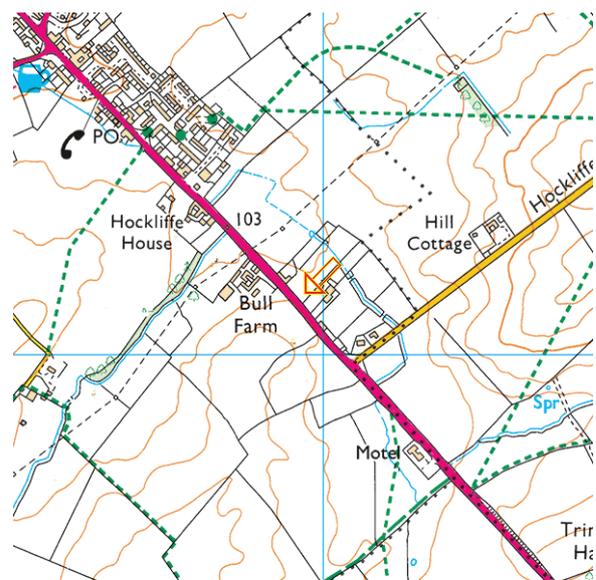
At Battlesden, there is glacial till with glacial erratics from the Palaeozoic provenances and possibly older.

We wrap up this field trip at Tabworth to see the mega periglacial geomorphology and tour around the village.

There is a maximum of 15 participants for this field trip with priority given to Fellows, Candidate Fellows and Juniors of the Geological Society who are members of the Home Counties North Regional Group. If you would like a lift or can give a lift, please let us know when you book your places.

Please book your places on a first-come-first-served basis by e-mail to [homecountiesnorthregionalgroup@gmail.com](mailto:homecountiesnorthregionalgroup@gmail.com)

Attendees will be asked to sign the usual indemnity form for field trip insurance purposes before the start of the walk.



For more information on the Home Counties North Regional Group visit the website

<http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/hcnrg>