



The
Geological
Society

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North West Regional Group

Meeting

Thursday 16th April 2015

Understanding Historical Lead Mining at Halkyn Mountain



Andrew Moore is Technical Director at WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff based in Salford Quays, Manchester.

Following graduation, Andrew has worked for the Environment Agency specialising in landfill engineering and protection of the water environment from landfill pollution, and subsequently worked at blue chip consultancies leading teams of geo-environmental specialists. He has been secretary of the North West regional Geological Society group between 2003 and 2008, and the chairman of the group between 2009 and 2011.

Tea, coffee and biscuits in the foyer area before the talk.
Lecture start promptly at 7:00pm.

Venue: Beswick Lecture Theatre 007, University of Chester, Parkgate Road, Chester CH1 4BJ.
[http://www.chester.ac.uk/sites/files/chester/Campus%20map 2.pdf](http://www.chester.ac.uk/sites/files/chester/Campus%20map%202.pdf)

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Lead mining has taken place in North Wales for over 5,000 years. The concentration a large number of abandoned mineshafts has created a unique landscape at Halkyn Mountain and a delicate balance between ecology, visitors, cultural heritage and industry.

Andrew has managed a study of the legacy of mining at Halkyn Mountain which is estimated to have over 3,500 abandoned mines shafts. Under UK legislation most of the area is designated as Common Land encouraging a large number of visitors who are potentially at risk of the dangers posed by the uneven and unstable ground associated with the abandoned lead mining features. Designations of the land as SSSI, SAC and a landscape of historic interest result in regulatory and local authority interests.

Andrew will present an overview of the history of mining, local geology, mining features and their management to protect visitors and local people.

Mapping of features was undertaken and survey data input to a Geographical Information System (GIS) so that interpretation could be undertaken of a large area. The result is that a programme of fencing has been instigated for over 60 locations and a monitoring strategy designed for up to 200 shafts.

In addition, further investigation of underground voids has been undertaken using laser surveying techniques and boreholes

Organised by the North West Regional Group of the Geological Society of London For further information contact the Group Secretary, Nik Reynolds at: geologicalsociety.northwest@gmail.com