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Western Regional Group

Mapping Rocks; how to make geological maps at the British Geological Survey

*Leanne Hughes,
British Geological Survey*

Tuesday 21st January 2025

Online Talk: Starts at 6:30pm (see below for details)

The Western Regional Group is pleased to welcome Leanne Hughes who will describe the process of creating geological maps and how it has developed over the centuries.

Through two centuries of geological mapping, techniques have evolved from colouring in selected sections of topographic base maps to show the different rocks which lay beneath the ground to today's methods of digital data collection to develop the next generation of geological output.

The physical process of mapping remains largely familiar but the method of recording the mapped information has changed from a paper process to an entirely digital one. Traditionally the geologist was armed with a 'fieldslip' – with which they would proceed to pencil in the geological lines and observations as they walked across the terrain.

Today, geologists use a tablet PC to record their data onto a bespoke GIS. The tablet uses GPS, sketch tools, photographs annotation tools and layers of topographic maps to aid data collection. The data collected in the field can then be easily converted into whichever format is needed, for a map, 3D, geological model, or web files. This talk will be a brief overview of the evolution of the mapmaking process and a description of the kinds of data collected. We will finish with a demo of where you can access all of this data online.

Leanne Hughes is a Survey Geologist specialising in Quaternary Geology at the British Geological Survey and has created over 85 geological maps in her 17 year career. She is now more involved in training other geologists in mapping rather than primary data collection and is very interested in developing new techniques for geological data capture.



Online Event Only; 21st January 2025, starts at 6:30 PM. Non-members welcome.

Zoom Details: Zoom "room" opens from 6:15pm.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZcsfuCtrD4jHt0pvUpFWR34pdnAOJVBnor7>

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