

JOIN US TO DISCOVER MORE

AIMS WHAT DO WE DO?

ROCKS & LANDSCAPE



OUR GROUP

Established in 1990

Conservation a priority

Making rock faces more accessible

Membership includes

- ◆ interested amateurs
- ◆ teachers
- ◆ students
- ◆ geologists

Rocks are everywhere - shop fronts, pavements, castles - and they form our landscape. Most of us know little about how rocks have shaped our world.

Join us to discover more -

No specialist knowledge required!

FREE membership for those in full time education

FURTHER INFORMATION

Address:

Warwickshire Geological Conservation Group
c/o Warwickshire Museum
Market Place
Warwick
CV34 4SA

Telephone:
01926 512531

Website:
www.wgcg.co.uk



Judkins & Hinckley plain (© A. Cook)

To inform

Learn about our rocks, minerals and fossils and how the geology has shaped our landscape.

To conserve

Help to conserve Warwickshire's natural heritage by joining one of our work parties to improve the conditions of our valuable sites.



Southam ammonites
(© Warwickshire Museum)

To encourage

Above all, we hope you will want to share in the passion of learning all about our fascinating geology and caring for it in a practical way.



Hematite (© C. Frodsham)



Corley Rocks



Supported by:

Warwickshire
County Council



**Caring for the County's
Geological Heritage**

**Warwickshire Geological
Conservation Group**

OUR ACTIVITIES

◆ Talks

During the winter months we enjoy a wide-ranging series of talks from both members and visiting speakers. Some evenings are dedicated to members' displays of photos, or rocks collected on field trips or holidays.

See the enclosed leaflet for details of our talks and field trips programme.



◆ Field Trips

In the summer we concentrate on field excursions - both evening trips as well as longer day and weekend visits. The picture to the right shows a WGCG group on Caer Caradoc, Shropshire.

We also visit towns and villages to explore the uses of different local and imported building stones.



◆ Conservation Activities

These include the identification and maintenance of a network of nearly 100 Local Geological Sites. Conservation by volunteers includes the clearance of overgrown sites.

Here a group are clearing a rockface at Purley Quarry, Mancetter.



◆ Interpretation panels

WGCG has designed and erected panels which describe the local geology in an accessible way.

Sites include those at Ryton Pools, Wolston village (right), Brandon Marsh and Purley Quarry.



◆ Rocks

The county's rocks vary from hard lavas, sandstones of many colours, grey and honey coloured limestones, coal, and soft silts, clays and gravels.

They reflect environmental conditions which have ranged from desert to marine, equatorial to arctic. Many rocks are commercially valuable with quarries and mines still operating.

Coal is exploited for fuel, clays were used for pottery and brick making, muddy limestones underpin the Rugby cement industry while sands and gravels provide vital aggregates.

◆ Landscape

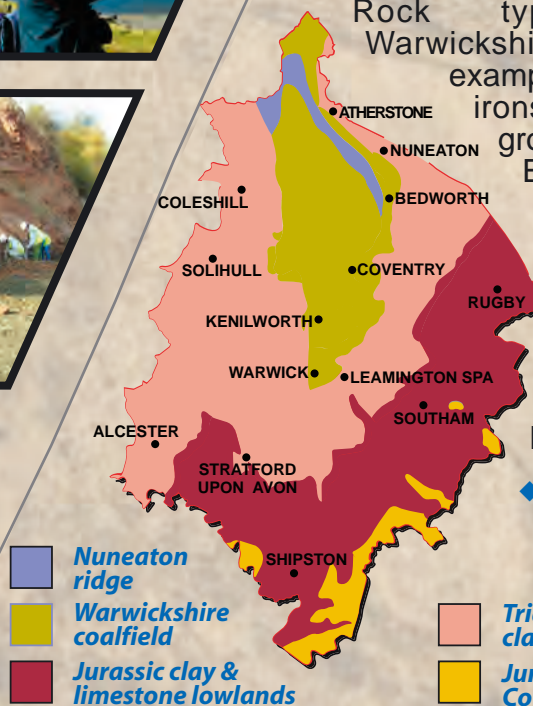
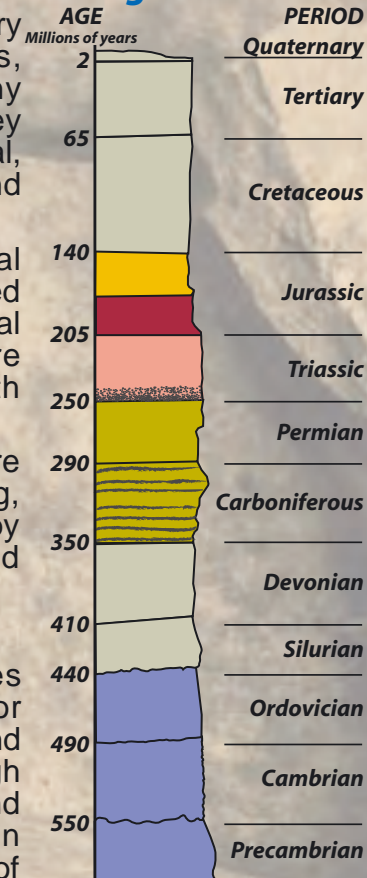
Rock type also influences Warwickshire's scenery with, for example, harder limestones and ironstones forming the high ground of the Cotswolds and Edge Hill in the south. In the north, the hard rocks of the Nuneaton Ridge stand guard over the mudstones and sandstones of the Hinckley Plain.

The very existence of some of our towns is directly due to the underlying geology. But for the Bromsgrove Sandstone, rich as it is in salts, Leamington would never have become a spa town.

◆ Buildings

In both towns and rural areas the building materials of houses, cottages and farms often reflect the nature of local rocks. For example, the character of the village of Kineton is partly due to the use of local Jurassic limestone and ironstone.

Geologic time scale



WARWICKSHIRE'S GEOLOGY