



WOOLHOPE NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB

Registered Charity No. 521000

President: Mr. D.A. Whitehead

FIELD MEETINGS 2022

Dates for these meetings are as follows:

- Tuesday 26th April** A walk around North Hill, Malvern led by John Payne
- Saturday 14th May** A walk in Hereford visiting sites that intrigued Alfred Watkins
- Thursday 16th June** A visit to Croft Castle led by David Whitehead
- Wednesday 20th July** A visit to the current excavations at Arthur's Stone and Snodhill Castle led by Prof. Keith Ray
- Saturday 10th September** Dudley & the Dudley Canal

The meetings are described on the following pages with an outline or detailed timetable. A list of return booking slips is enclosed separately. Please use the correct slip for each booking.

CONDITIONS OF BOOKING

All trips are open to members and friends and other societies (there would be a small charge for guests and visitors to cover GA insurance). Charges will be collected on the day and an attendance form will be signed by all participants at the start of the field meeting.. Please be aware that Woolhope Club insurance does not cover personal accidents.

Own transport will be used on all trips- some trips will be car sharing because of restricting numbers of cars. If you offer lifts to others, please ensure that your insurance covers you for this.

Bring refreshments. Wear suitable footwear and clothing – walking sticks/poles.

Entrance fees and parking fees will be covered by participants

Meeting times and booking update (e.g. if full) to be announced on the website. A minimum number for a field meeting to go ahead is 8 and numbers are restricted to a maximum of 30.

TO BOOK

Send booking slip to the Field Secretary by email geology@woolhopeclub.org.uk OR by post to Mrs Susan M. Olver, Buttridge, Wellington Lane, Canon Pyon, Hereford HR4 8NL

FIRST FIELD MEETING

TUESDAY 26th APRIL, 2022

John Payne will lead a walk around **North Hill, Malvern**

Geological features on the walk

We will start at Tank Quarry where the display of imported rocks by the car park will be briefly examined as well as some in situ features. A short walk leads to an exposure of a branch of the East Malvern Fault, showing breccia and slickensides. The track to St Ann's Well passes a number of rock exposures, especially dolerite dykes, particularly the impressive Ivy Scar Rock. Above St Ann's Well is a quarry which shows the degradation of the granite by kaolinisation.

Ascent over the ridge-top col leads to Dingle Quarry. This shows a variety of igneous rocks and intrusions with, importantly, their junctions with the diorite country rock. To the north of the Dingle is an exposure of a remnant of the beach of the Silurian sea. A climb, not quite to the top of North Hill, leads to the highest spring on the Malverns. From the spring, the descent down Rocky Valley to Tank Quarry shows the effects of Ice Age erosion.

Along the route, the geomorphology and hydrology of the hills will be discussed, as well as the surrounding scenery.

Walk Details

We will park cars and start the walk at Tank Quarry.

Going up North Malvern Road the way into the Tank Quarry parking area is by the track (SO 7697 4706) immediately uphill from the Clock Tower. This is **not** the large North Quarry car park. The Tank Quarry offers free parking!

Start – 9:30 am

Length of walk is about 6km

Total climb is about 240m [but fairly gently!]

Duration -- 3 to 3.5 hours

For those that need transport – members should meet at Merton Meadow Hereford long term car park to share cars at 7.30 am - there is a daily charge of £5 or proceed to meeting point at Tank Quarry for free parking by 9.15 am. Bring suitable footwear/clothing.

TO BOOK Send booking slip to the Field Secretary to arrive not later than **Wednesday 20th April.**

SECOND FIELD MEETING

SATURDAY 14th MAY 2022

The President, David Whitehead, will lead a walk in Hereford visiting sites that intrigued Alfred Watkins. This will complement the paper on Watkins to be published by the President in this year's *Transactions*. The object of the day will be to explore a number of urban features noticed by Watkins e.g. the 'ley' marker at Bartonsham, Rowe Ditch, the Verzons and the 'secret passages' on Eign Hill

TIMETABLE

2.00 p.m. Meet near the Pavilion on Castle Green for an introduction.
4.00 p.m. Tea at 60 Hafod Road, Hereford

ARRANGEMENTS

There will be a lot of standing with a few opportunities for sitting down. The numbers will be limited to 30.

TO BOOK Send booking slip to the Field Secretary to arrive not later than **Monday 9th May.**

THIRD FIELD MEETING

THURSDAY 16th JUNE 2022

This field trip will be a half day, when President, David Whitehead, will lead a visit to **Croft Castle.**

The object of the day will be to explore the grounds of Croft Castle; to re-visit the archaeology that took place on the south and west fronts of the Castle and, more recently, in the Fishpool Valley, which provided some surprising results for a landscape that has always been seen as an epitome of the late 18th century picturesque movement.

Timetable

1.00pm Meet in the car park at Croft Castle, where National Trust members will register their membership at the ticket office whilst non-members will have to pay £3.70
1.15pm Gather below the front of the Castle to view the site of the formal gardens
2.00pm Meet at the east end of the car park for a walk down to the Fishpool Valley
4.00pm Tea will be arranged at the NT café.
There will be a lot of standing but if dry, opportunities for sitting down. The route to the Fishpool Valley is down a moderate slope. The footpaths on the valley have recently been re-laid.

TO BOOK Send booking slip to the Field Secretary to arrive not later than **Friday 10th June.**

For those that need transport – members should meet at Merton Meadow Hereford long term car park to share cars at 11.45 am – there is a daily charge of £5.

FOURTH FIELD MEETING

WEDNESDAY 20th JULY 2022

Prof. Keith Ray will lead a visit to the current excavations at Arthur's Stone and Snodhill Castle

Please share cars as care should be taken not to block the lane to farm traffic and only 3 cars are allowed at Snodhill Castle. If going direct to the site take the A438 turn left onto B4352 to Bredwardine then turn right onto Pentre Lane and then another right turn onto Arthurs Stone Lane – cars can be left at the site and we will then ferry members to Snodhill Castle.

Timetable

11.00am Meet at Arthur's Stone site
12.30 pm Picnic Lunch in field south of Arthur's Stone where we should enjoy the fine views of the Black Mountains.
1.00 pm Travel to Snodhill Castle – require to ferry members due to limited car parking.
2.00 pm Meet Tim Hoverd at the Gate of the Castle
3.30 pm Return to Cars and then back to Hereford.

TO BOOK Send booking slip to the Field Secretary to arrive not later than **Wednesday 13th July.**

For those that need transport – members should meet at Merton Meadow Hereford long term car park to share cars at 9.00 am – there is a daily charge of £5.

FIFTH FIELD MEETING

SATURDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER 2022

This field trip is still in the planning stage and the field trip will be lead by Andrew Harrison and Graham Worton from Black Country Geological Society who are the experts in this area.

It will be a full day explaining the historical /geological significance of this area together with a trip along the Dudley Canal and a visit to the singing cavern. There is a museum and the Gongoozler Restaurant.

The Cost : £10 to £15, the final figure will known when we have to book and therefore we would need to know who is interested.

Cars meet up in Ross/Ledbury/Hereford to share transport -times and place to be arranged.

TO BOOK Send booking slip to the Field Secretary to arrive not later than **Sunday 31st July.**