



Revealing the Geology of the Lickey Hills - The Continuing Importance of the Amateur Geologist

Alan Richardson

12th November 2024 | Mott MacDonald, 10 Livery St, Birmingham B3 2NU / Zoom Video Conference | 6:00pm refreshments and networking | 6:30pm start.

Abstract:

To the south of Birmingham, an inlier of Ordovician quartzite rises through the cover of Carboniferous and Permo-Triassic rocks to form a prominent north-south ridge. Several disused quarries offer snapshots of the geology, but in spite of its proximity to Birmingham, and the work of many prominent academic geologists, the hills have held on to many of their secrets. In the last decade, the work of local conservation volunteers has been revealing previously unrecognised clues to the geological history of the area. This talk will describe the geological and historical contexts and explain how the new discoveries are being interpreted.

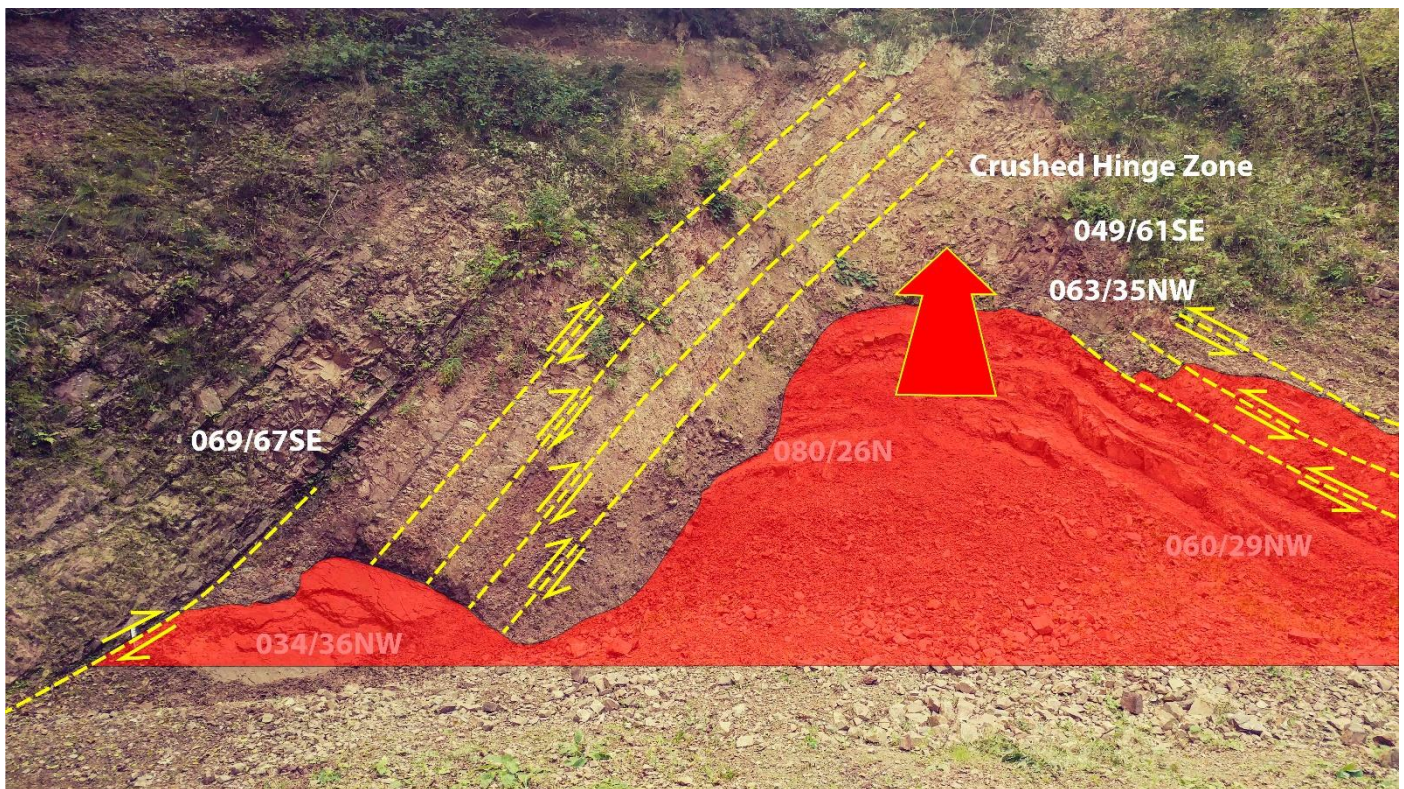


Figure 1: A reinterpretation of the structures in the Ordovician Lickey Quartzite Formation in Barnt Green Road Quarry.

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About the Speaker:

Alan graduated in geology from the University of Wales, Swansea in 1975. As well as teaching A' level geology for 35 years, he worked on OU summer schools for 'S102 Science Foundation' and 'S236 Geology', and was briefly a tutor for 'S269 Earth and Life'. He was also a visiting tutor at the FSC Blencathra Centre in Cumbria. He now runs an annual series of practical geology day schools for the Open University Geological Society at the Lickey Hills Visitor Centre, and does voluntary work with the Herefordshire & Worcestershire Earth Heritage Trust. He has produced a series of practical guides for geology students, and his book, 'The Lower Palaeozoic Geology of the Lickey Hills', is available as a free pdf download:



<https://ehtchampions.org.uk/ch/wp-content/uploads/pdfs/Lower%20Pal%20of%20Lickey%20nd%20Ed.pdf>.

Forthcoming Talks:

Date	Title	Speaker	Venue
Tuesday 10th December 06:30pm start	AGM / Provisional: Compressible Soils (title TBC)	Chris Brook, Mott MacDonald	Mott MacDonald's Birmingham office / Zoom Video Conference
Tuesday 14th January 06:30pm start	Ironbridge Gorge (title TBC)	Declan Kearney, Telford & Wrekin Council	Mott MacDonald's Birmingham office / Zoom Video Conference
Tuesday 11th February 06:30pm start	Radium Contamination (title TBC)	Jen Barnes, Jacobs	Mott MacDonald's Birmingham office / Zoom Video Conference
Tuesday 11th March 06:30pm start	Calculating uplift rates using geological sea-level indicators on the south coast of England	Becky Briant, Jacobs/ Birkbeck University of London	Mott MacDonald's Birmingham office / Zoom Video Conference

The WMRG is constantly on the lookout for fascinating talks. If you would like to present, know someone who is willing, or would like to request a subject please contact the WMRG committee (details below) and we will try our very best to accommodate your requests.

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