

## **WGCG Field Excursion to Ecton Copper Mine (Educational Trust Activity Centre)**

Date: Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> July

Time: Meet 11.00 a.m. (estimated finish around 4.30 p.m.)

Place: Ecton Mine is situated at the head of the Manifold Valley about 7 miles east of Leek, north Staffordshire, near the Derbyshire border.

NGR SK 096 582

Assemble in a large lay-by alongside the road running through the Manifold Valley.....  
about 150 metres south of the private track leading up to the centre  
(located on the hillside, with only foot-access for visitors)

### **Two warnings apply:**

**1) Sat Navs do not appear to be reliable in the area around the mine**

**2) On no account should you drive up the private track – there is no room to turn!**

Visit [www.ectonmine.org](http://www.ectonmine.org) for details of the Site, the Trust and their Work / Activities etc.  
and with further links to Google Maps

Charge: There is a charge of £10 per head for this trip

Lunch: Bring your own packed lunch

Beverages (tea / coffee) will be available (self-serve) throughout the day

Leader: Depending on the size of our group, there will be 1, 2 or 3 'tutors' guiding our activities  
Our principal guide will be Tim Colman, a former BGS staff member specialising in minerals,  
who has been a volunteer at Ecton for several years

Activities on offer include the following (nothing is compulsory!):-

(with some flexibility - depending on our tastes and weather conditions on the day)

A guided walk over the hill taking in the local geology and it's context, old workings, tips etc.

Informal talks on the history of the mine, the Trust's work etc.

A trip underground to the 'Salt Level' (helmets / lamps provided)

Some hands-on chemistry related to the extraction and refinement of the copper ores

A visit to the nearby Apes Tor roadside exposure (minor, but impressive, folding in the limestone)

A visit to see a nearby outcrop of the Quaternary cemented scree ('calcrete') deposit

(These activities will probably be dealt with in part by splitting into smaller groups of around 10,  
and working concurrently)

### **Risks / Hazards / Conditions:**

The underground visit, in particular, is likely to be cool, damp (?wet) and 'dirty', so be sure to come suitably attired – warm outdoor clothing and sturdy footwear. The location, as already hinted, is on a steep hillside and some of the walking will involve some VERY STEEP gradients on “sheep-track” like paths, which may be uneven, slippery and locally muddy if wet. Expect about 2 kilometres of walking in all (Apes Tor can be driven to; the scree deposit is near the parking area).

In order to register for this trip, please **complete and return the form below**, together **with your cheque for £10** to Julie Harrald by **Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> May**.

I / We would like to register to attend the **Ecton Copper Mine WGCG** outing on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> July.

<b>NAME 1:</b>	<b>NAME 2:</b>
<b>WGCG member: YES</b>	<b>WGCG member: YES / NO</b>
<b>ADDRESS:</b>	<b>ADDRESS:</b>
<b>TELEPHONE:</b>	<b>TELEPHONE:</b>
<b>EMAIL:</b>	

<i>Please select as appropriate:</i>	
I / We would like a lift	Tick if yes:
I / We can offer lifts for the following number of people:	Number:
In the event that the trip is oversubscribed and my registration cannot be accepted, I would like my name to be added to the waiting list	YES / NO

**Please add the date you are posting this form .....**

**Send this form and your payment of £10 to Julie Harrald**  
 by email or by post (70 Blackbrook Road, Loughborough, LE11 4PZ)  
**by Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> May.**