



Hybrid Lecture on Wednesday 15th October 2025
Stratigraphy and Sedimentology of Northern European Chalks

Presented by

Dr Haydon Bailey FGS CGeol

Date: Wednesday 15th October 2025

**Venue: Conference Room, Redbourn Parish Centre, The Park, Redbourn, nr. St Albans,
Hertfordshire, AL3 7LR**

This hybrid lecture is also being presented on Zoom

Venue opens and refreshments from 6.30pm. Lecture starts at 7pm



Haydon Bailey graduated in Geology from the University of Sheffield and subsequently achieved a PhD in Chalk micropalaeontology from Plymouth, and then worked as a consultant stratigrapher in the oil and gas industry for over forty years.

He still specialises in Upper Cretaceous Chalk stratigraphy, although his career has led to projects throughout much of the geological time scale around Europe, Africa and the Middle East. He recently retired for the position of co-Director of Network Stratigraphic Consulting Ltd., a company he co-founded some 25 years ago.

Haydon is a Chartered Geologist and a past President of the Geologists' Association and is currently Chairman of the GA Curry Fund committee and the Awards committee. He is the Co-Ordinator for the GA SchoolRocks! initiative.

He is also a past Chairman and Industrial Liaison Officer of The Micropalaeontological Society. Since 2012 he has been Honorary Lecturer on the M.Sc. course in Micropalaeontology at the University of Birmingham and since January 2019 he has been a Scientific Associate of the Natural History Museum, London. He also holds the position of Geological & Environmental Adviser to the Chiltern Society (since 2008), where his initial brief was to prepare a report on the underlying geology of the Misbourne river valley; subsequently this valley became the preferred route for the HS2 high speed railway. It still takes up too much of his time. He's married to a talented musician, has two super children and three wonderful grandchildren.



Abstract

The Upper Cretaceous Chalks of Northern Europe appear, on the face of it, to represent sedimentation during an extended period of relative tectonic and environmental stability. Nothing could be further from the truth. These uniform, white, fine-grained carbonates are the sediments resulting from constant change in water temperature, oxygen content, dynamic water currents both at the sea surface and at depth.



Beachy Head in the clouds



Faulting and fracturing at Brighton

Back in 1994 Haydon presented a talk at a European conference entitled “*Chalk, white, as above!*”, because that was the comment frequently seen on core logs, geologists’ description sheets and engineering geologists’ well logs. Just how much information were we losing because of this phrase?

Over the last 30 years our understanding of chalk deposition, and the environmental conditions which control it, have fundamentally shifted. Hopefully, Haydon can convince you that this might be the case.

Accessing the venue

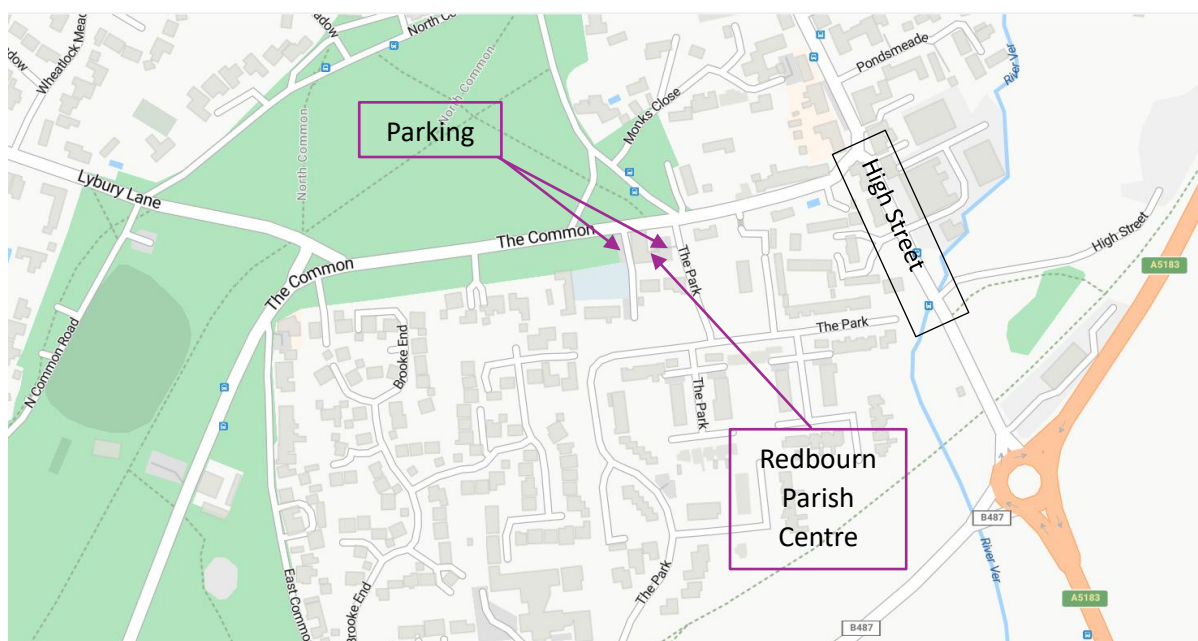
The lecture is being held in the Conference Room at Redbourn Parish Centre, The Park, Redbourn, near St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL3 7LR

Redbourn Parish Centre is located on The Park as shown on the map below, but be aware that The Park refers to several side roads/cul-de-sac roads.

By Rail: Redbourn does not have a railway station and is located roughly halfway between St Albans (City) and Harpenden stations on the Midlands Mainline/Thameslink route.

By Car: There is limited parking both in front of the Redbourn Parish Centre and to the rear of the centre on a first come first served basis. Elsewhere in Redbourn there is some on-street parking together with both double yellow and restricted single yellow line parking available.

Redbourn is easily accessible off the M1 Junction 9 then heading south of the A5183 Redbourn Bypass to the second roundabout at the southern end of High Street, then up High Street turning left onto Common Road and taking the 3rd turning on the left into The Park.



This event is free of charge to all members of the Geological Society. Priority will be given to Fellows and Student Fellows of the Geological Society who are members of the Home Counties North Regional Group.

Please book your places on a first-come-first-served basis by e-mail to homecountiesnorthregionalgroup@gmail.com

Please provide your membership number when booking your place.

Accessing the virtual lecture

Please book your place for online ZOOM attendance, providing your membership number, by e-mail to homecountiesnorthregionalgroup@gmail.com and you will receive a link to the Zoom platform by email before the event.

For more information on the Home Counties North Regional Group visit the website
<http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/hcnrg>

CPD (Continuing Professional Development) hours – This Home Counties North Regional Group event qualifies for your CPD hours spent travelling to/from and attending the event. The content is intended to be suitable for early career through to experienced geologists and related professionals.

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