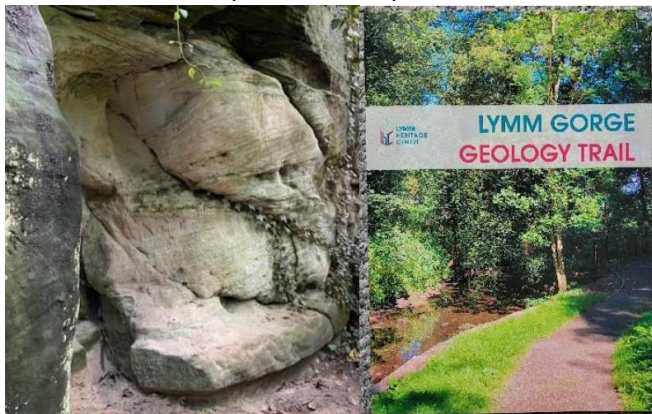


## A TALE OF THREE RIVERS

### Lymm Gorge Geology Trail, Lymm, Cheshire

Cheshire is well known for its superb geology and for its spectacular exposures of Triassic sandstone that are the tip of the huge iceberg of the Mesozoic Cheshire Basin with its >4km infill of reservoir and seal rocks. Exploration and exploitation of resources such as salt (a major, ongoing success story which included Lymm for a short time), copper (at Alderley Edge and Bickerton) and hydrocarbons (less successful) have provided a rich vein of industrial history stories. Outcrops such as those at Thurstaston (Wirral) and Helsby (Cheshire) are still regarded as key analogues to hydrocarbon exploration in the East Irish Sea Basin, and more recently as surface representations of potential geothermal reservoirs at depth.

On a scientific level many exposures of Cheshire Triassic geology formed the basis of studies of continental sedimentology, stratigraphy, and structural geology. Lymm's exposures do gain some mention in scientific journal articles albeit on a limited basis, and yet they provide an opportunity to view two-plus lithostratigraphic formations in a single traverse along a spectacular gorge, stream, and lake setting. This guided walk will follow the Lymm Gorge Geology Trail (published by Lymm Heritage Centre) and will pause at ancient examples of fluvial, aeolian and playa lake sedimentary architecture, taking in the superb glacial palaeogeography left behind following the last deglaciation, and the current landscape which demonstrates the impact of industry.



**Time:** Meet at 13.45pm. Walk will leave at 14.00pm. We will aim to arrive at a local hostelry at 16.00pm.

**Meet:** Davies Way Car Park, Lymm (off Davies Way, Brookfield Rd, Lymm, WA13 0QW)  
(<https://goo.gl/maps/vAwBRuR8NoGUiUWc8>)

**Distance:** ~3 miles

**Clothing:** Although most of the sandstone was deposited in arid environment to today's weather please be prepared for a typical British July afternoon. Stout walking boots are recommended, waterproofs and sun cream

**Accessibility:** Most of the walk is accessible by wheelchairs, although not all in one go due to the presence of a series of steep flights of steps. There are alternative routes, but these involve detours. More detailed examination of some exposures may involve a climb and rough, but short walk from the main path.

**Lymm Gorge Geology Trail booklet:** Lymm Heritage Centre (which we will walk past) will (hopefully) be open from 12.00pm to 16.00pm where copies of the Lymm Gorge Geology Trail can be purchased should attendees wish.

**Refreshment:** There are shops in Lymm centre where light refreshments can be purchased, and various hostelries en route, one of which we may retire to on completion of the walk.

**Dogs:** Due to its length/duration, some less accessible locations and the possibility of hot weather with limited watering opportunities, this trip is probably not suitable for dogs.

**Booking:** There are up to 15 spaces on the tour. To book a space on the trip please use the following link:  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/gorge-geology-trail-lymm-cheshire-tickets-1370294601039?aff=oddtcreator>

**Organised by** the North West Regional Group of the Geological Society of London.

For further information contact the group secretary, Thomas Woolley at:  
[Geologicalsociety.northwest@gmail.com](mailto:Geologicalsociety.northwest@gmail.com)

**CPD:** These events may be considered for contributing to a recognised continuing professional development (CPD) scheme as part of personal development. Delegates should check their individual scheme requirements.