

Some days in the life of

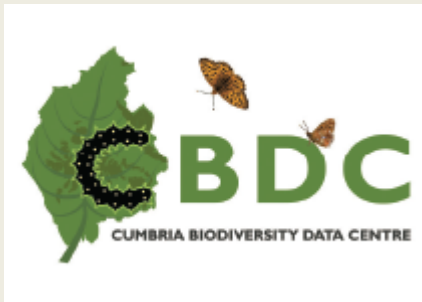
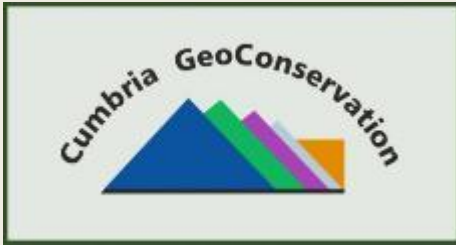
Cumbria GeoConservation

Highlights 2025

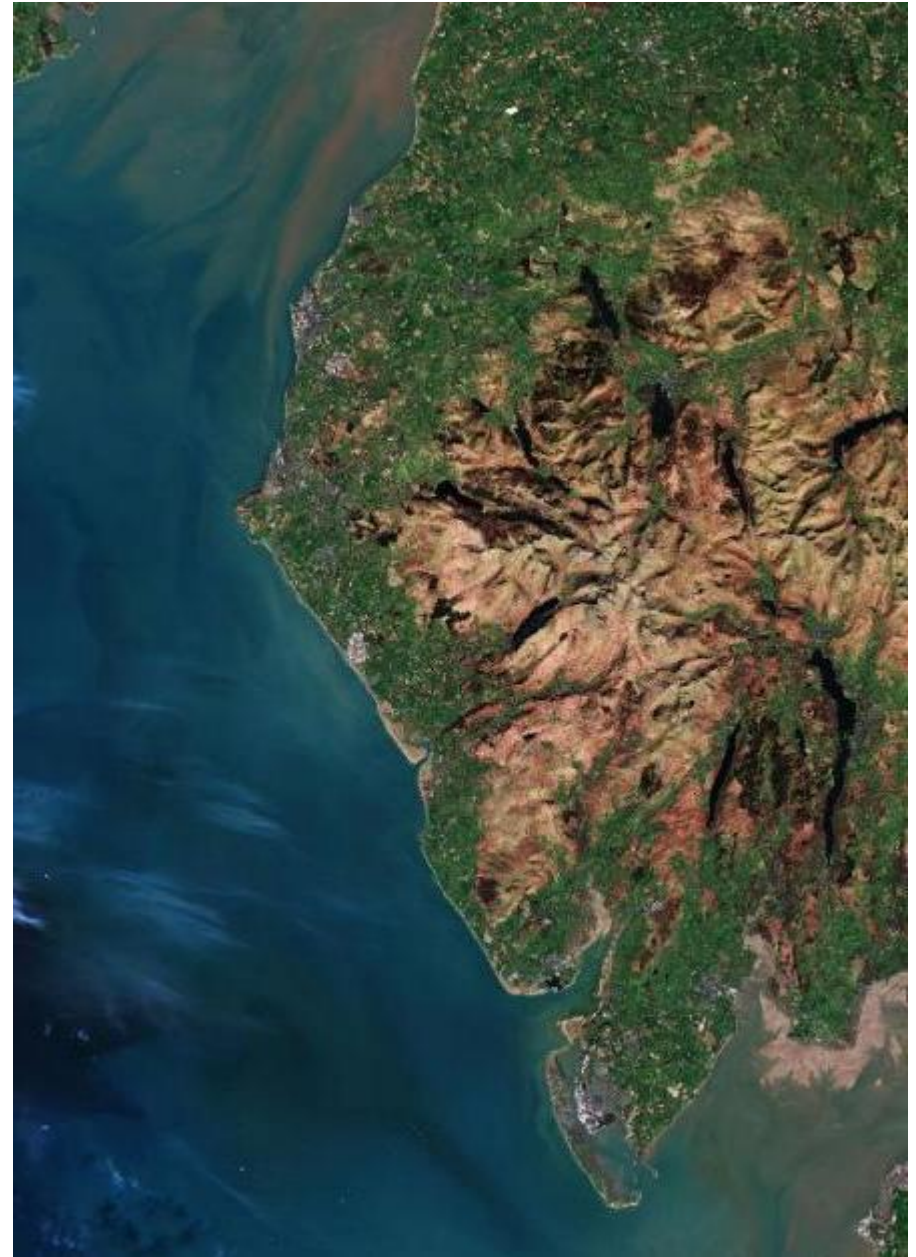
Sylvia Woodhead

Geological co-Ordinator (WAF)

CBDC Recordors' Conference Feb 26



'Mountains look amazing from space' Helen Sharman , first British astronaut



©Helen Sharman, Globetree project, Circle of Hope, UN Nairobi, Castlerigg Stone Circle



Cutting a block at Broughton Moor Quarry, 2019. Globetree Plan B for Sept 26- Messenger Stones- 5-10 kilos to go in a suitcase, but not from a protected area, or to look cut



Down to Earth

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**Bringing you all the latest geo-news from
Britain and around the world!**

Down to Earth Our core business **Local Geological Sites**

Designated 2 new sites-
Archived 8 sites- no longer meeting
the criteria for designation

Made 21 updates to CBDC data

Responded to 19 planning
applications- several related to tree
planting- maintaining good
relations

45 sites are now 5*- 5 have been
demoted to 4*

Down to Earth magazine can be
ordered from GeoSupplies

Local Geological Sites, formerly RIGS

- Defra *Local Sites* 2006- RIGS became LGS
- Geological equivalent to Local Wildlife Sites
- **Guidelines for selection (GCUK)**
 - **Value for education and lifelong learning**
 - Intrinsic scientific interest
 - Landscape value & promotion of public awareness
 - Historical value and context of geological thinking

Now 285 LGS in Cumbria- details via CBDC

Protected through the planning system

*Issues- how to record risk level & any risk management?
Risks from climate change, vegetation growth & tree
planting*



New Local Geological Sites

Ormsgill banks, Barrow-
a 'slag bank'.

Blast furnace waste poured red-
hot mimics volcanic rock

A GeoTrail is planned

Harrington shore

A mobile-friendly GeoTrail
has been written





Harrington Shore

An Anthropocene Landscape

The shoreline north of Harrington provides a good opportunity to examine striking slag accumulations from historical smelting activities and the many features there that mirror the characteristics of volcanic rocks.



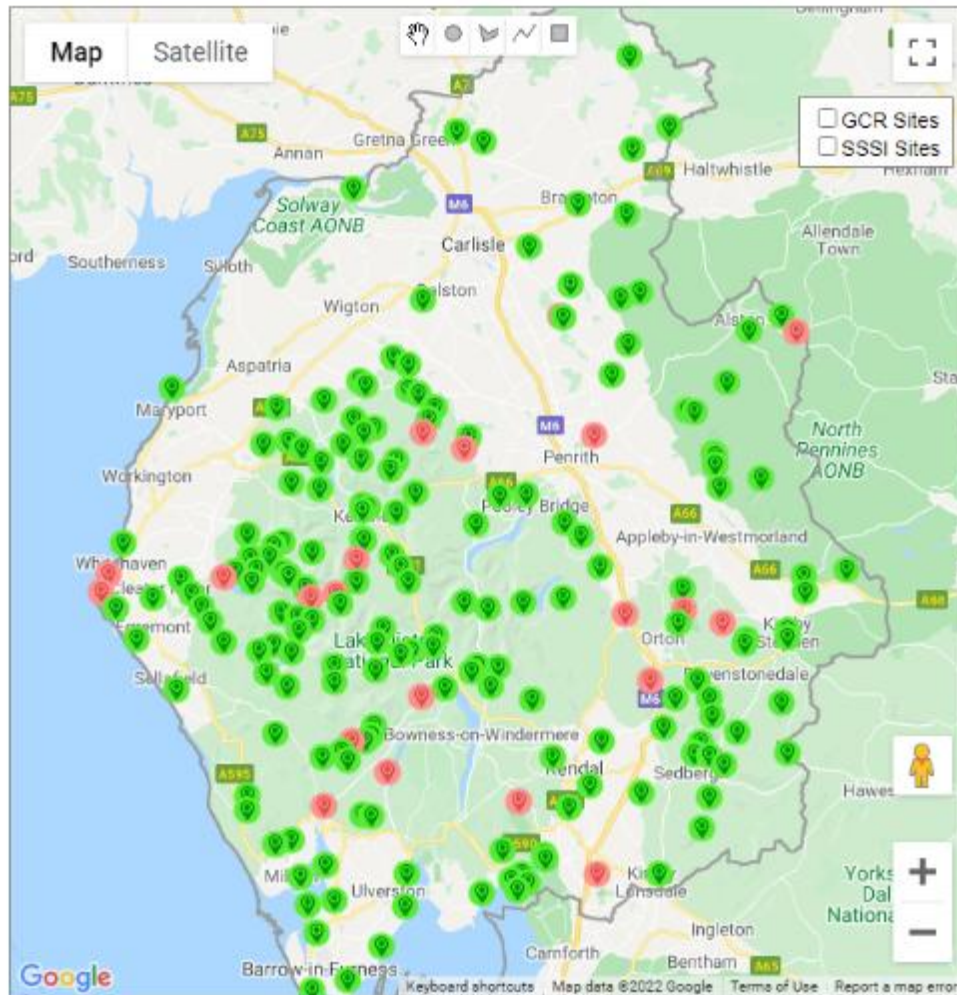
Fig 1. Location and route (Google Earth)

Mobile friendly GeoTrail for Harrington-
Excellent

Download from Cumbria GeoConservation



Thanks to Phil Davies & John Lackie, of the
'northern team'



Site name Search Keyword Search

Web pages analysis

CBDC host our web site and LGS data.

Public interactive map is most used.

Working to improve this further.

Green are publicly accessible LGS. Click to get a datasheet
Red = 5* sites (45)

Improving the 5* sites

These showcase Cumbria's best geology, from Skiddaw rocks to geomorphology- they will now (soon?) tell a geological story.

Interpretation boards

www.cumbriageoconservation.org.uk



Unveiling the geology interpretation board at Holme Park Quarry Viewpoint LGS, Grange Nats & Cumbria GeoConservation, 21 July 2025

Westmorland Dales



Westmorland Dales Day
27 July 2025
Kirkby Stephen

A useful presence again. Sold books, made contacts, generated interest. Not quite so warm

Public outreach





Pebbles are popular

Pebbles 25
Brilliant Barrow, August
at the Dock Museum,
really busy, lots of interest, kept four
of us busy all day.

But we had to say no to an invitation
to a further Barrow event in autumn



Grand Re-launch of geology boards at Millom Rock Park LGS, 18 November 2025, Holcim, local people, Cumbria GeoConservation, a Deputy Lieutenant of Cumbria & relatives of Jack Proctor who helped to source the original stones



There was ribbon cutting, examination of the quarry view, then back to Thwaites Village Hall for a warming cup of tea & cake- article in Down to Earth

Risk Register



Dec 25 landslip, at N end of St Bees beach LGS. 4* Quaternary deposits. The slip may have started as a rotational failure above half height, then the sliding debris triggered collapse of the lower part. The cliffs are eroding & landslipping quite fast, with significant changes year by year. Some features will be lost or obscured. St Bees golf course will be smaller in 100 years.

Cumbria GeoConservation

Many talks, guided walks & school visits and more



- Voluntary **Special Interest Group** of Cumbria Wildlife Trust. 3 meetings
- ~ 20 members, including NT, NE, CWT, Holcim
- Designate **Local Geological Sites (LGS)**
- Working to review & update site data
- To ensure protection through the planning system
- To inform & educate the public about LGS & geology of Cumbria
- Our records are held by CBDC
- CBDC hosts our web site
- www.cumbriageoconservation.org.uk

Assessing the new (private) quarry at Berry Holme LGS, Dec 25, in response to a PROW planning application