



23rd EIG Conference

University of Hull: 3rd – 6th September 2024

FIELD TRIP PROGRAMME - SUMMARY INFO

Tuesday 3rd September

- **(A) Breedon Group & Yorkshire Wildlife Trust – North Cave Sand & Gravel Quarry and Restoration**

1:00pm to c.3:00pm (HU15 2LY) Maximum of 15 visitors. No PPE requirement.

North Cave Quarry is located to the north of Newport Road (B1230) and comprises several areas of mineral extraction which are nearly exhausted. The main current area of extraction is to the south of Newport Road and the plant site, in an area known as 'The Outgang'. Award winning restoration work is ongoing – the site got through the regional rounds of the RTP awards for Excellence in Planning for the Natural Environment – Yorkshire. Works to extract sand and gravel, restore the sites and develop habitats have been ongoing over 20 years and mineral extraction and restoration in the last phases of the western extension are coming to an end.

- **(B) Wienerberger – Broomfleet Clay Quarry and Tile Works**

1:00pm to c.3:00pm (HU15 2GS) Maximum of 15 visitors. Full PPE required.

Wienerberger's Broomfleet tileworks in East Yorkshire excavates clay to use in the manufacture of roof tiles. The quarry is located in the flat lying lands of the reclaimed salt marshes north of the River Ouse and the Humber Estuary. The quarry is dug exclusively in superficial deposits of Devensian or Flandrian age (i.e. less than 116,000 years old). The operation excavates the clays on a campaign basis and transports them to form large stockpiles adjacent to the tileworks, from where they are then utilised in the process. The visit will include a walk from the plant to the quarry, covering a total distance of around 3km over uneven ground. Visitors will also get to tour some areas of the tile works. The plant has recently made significant investment to move from using gas-fired tunnel kilns and dryers to electric kilns, making it Europe's first clay roof tile plant to eliminate the use of natural gas from the drying and firing processes. The quarry is of interest due to the recent nature of the superficial deposits, and also has design issues related to the position of the site below the normal high tide level of the Humber estuary. Restoration to salt marsh habitats working alongside the RSPB is also of significance.

- **(C) Drax Global – Drax Power Station**

1.00pm to 3.00pm (YO8 8PH) Maximum of 15 visitors. No PPE requirement.

Drax Power Station is only 30 miles from The University of Hull and provides the most renewable power of any single location in the UK, some 14 terawatt-hours or enough electricity to power the equivalent of four million homes. To do this, Drax runs on a massive scale. With 4 operational boilers, as high as a 15-storey office block, a main chimney taller than the London Eye, and over 1,200 miles of steel tubing, enough to stretch from John O'Groats to Land's End and back again. It is a site etched on the local landscape since 1974 and on a tour at Drax you can see it all first-hand. From start to finish, participants will gain valuable insights into the intricate energy generation process employed at Drax, witnessing first-hand how electricity is produced.

- **(D) Yorkshire Wildlife Trust – Spurn Point Safari**

12:00pm to 3:00pm (HU12 0UH) Maximum of 16 visitors. No PPE requirement, but appropriate clothing/footwear.

Due to popular demand, we have been able to secure an additional safari on Tuesday 3rd at 12 noon. For details of this trip, please see the full description on the next page.



23rd EIG Conference

University of Hull: 3rd – 6th September 2024

Friday 6th September

- **(E) Heidelberg Materials Marine – Teesport Wharf and Dredger Ship (specific vessel not guaranteed)**

10:30am (time subject to slight change) (TS2 1UT) Max. 30 visitors (2 groups of up to 15). Full PPE required.

Heidelberg Materials Marine is Europe's largest producer of marine-dredged sand and gravel, supplying between 4.5 and 5.0 million tonnes of aggregates annually to a network of wharves in the UK and mainland Europe. This field trip will be an interesting visit to Heidelberg's new Tees Wharf and a rare opportunity to tour a working UK 'D class' dredger. The visit will include a tour of the ship (a trailing suction hopper dredger), together with a wharf-side discussion about the ship to shore processes and the more detailed issues surrounding marine derived aggregates.

- **(F) Omya UK – Melton Chalk Quarry and Whiting Plant (NB. viewing platform discussion only)**

10:00am (HU14 3HU) Maximum of 20 visitors. No PPE requirement.

Melton Quarry, which has been running for just over a century, supplies high quality chalk to an adjacent whiting plant, a production facility which makes fillers, powders and extenders used in a variety of chemical and industrial applications. There will be a talk to the group from the viewing platform, from where it is possible to see all the quarry and some of the main plant. This will be followed by a Q&A session.

Hessle Mill - Historic Whiting Mill and Chalk Walk

Car parking and entry are free. (HU13 0EF) No limit on visitor numbers. No PPE requirement.

It is suggested that visitors extend the Melton trip by also visiting the historic whiting operation at Hessle Mill, which is only 5 miles away (10 mins by car). An instantly recognisable landmark to anyone that has crossed the Humber Bridge, the prominent, black-painted Hessle Whiting Mill stands on Hessle foreshore, in the shadow of the north tower of the bridge. The mill, a unique example of an early nineteenth century whiting windmill, forms part of the Humber Bridge Country Park's Chalk Walk heritage trail, a former chalk quarry that once supplied the whiting mill with chalk. Known locally as Little Switzerland, the Country Park is a popular family destination and is also a designated Local Nature Reserve welcoming more than 100,000 visitors per year. It is possible to visit the mill tower and across its 5 floors you can learn about the history of the mill, including how it worked, how whiting was made and who worked there.

- **(G) Yorkshire Wildlife Trust – Spurn Point Safari**

12:00pm to 3:00pm (HU12 0UH) Maximum of 16 visitors. No PPE requirement, but appropriate clothing/footwear.

Spurn point is Yorkshire's very own Land's End - an iconic and constantly moving peninsula which curves between the North Sea and the Humber Estuary. At over three miles long but as little as 50 metres wide, this landscape is unique and ever-changing. Spurn has an extensive human history, leaving a legacy of fascinating but derelict buildings and hidden structures. But Spurn remains, and will always be, an utterly wild place at the mercy of the elements, now a National Nature Reserve with an array of international important wildlife habitats.

This Spurn Safari tour will take you on a memorable journey across this unique landscape aboard a specially adapted ex-military, 4x4 truck – the Unimog. You'll hear tales of the peninsula's fascinating military and maritime history, expertly told by our knowledgeable and friendly guides. The three-hour trip also includes a visit to the top of northern England's tallest lighthouse.