

Farnham Geological Society Event Risk Assessment and Itinerary

Leader to complete before the event and send to Field Trip Secretary for approval. If possible, upload to the FGS website and circulate to those who have expressed an interest before the event. Make available to the attendees at the event where the leader will sign it.

Event: The Devil's Punch Bowl Field Trip

Location: Hindhead Common and The Devil's Punch Bowl, London Road, Hindhead, Surrey GU26 6AB

Date: 29th March 2025

Leader(s): Michael Caulfield

Tel: 07795 467508

FGS Field Trip Secretary: Tessa Seward

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Aim of Event: To provide a geological and geomorphological overview of this part of The Weald (on its western end), while traversing Lower Cretaceous rocks.

Start location: The Devil's Punch Bowl Car Park / Café

Grid Ref.: SU 892 364

Start Location "What3Words" if available: proposes.parade.debut

Local Hospital details and phone number: Royal Surrey County Hospital, Egerton Rd, Guildford GU2 7XX

Tel: A&E 01483 571122

Itinerary, including length of any walking, terrain, and any obstacles likely to be encountered*:

- The site is run by The National Trust (NT).
- The Field Trip is suitable for people with mobility issues.
- We will be following, for the most part, the trail known as the "Sailor's Stroll" described by NT as "*An easy walk with only gentle gradients and reasonably flat surfaces*".
- Total length from the car park to the "Celtic Cross" and back is about 2 miles (3.2 kms).

** Obstacles include kerbs, stiles, rough tracks or steep hillsides which might prove difficult for members of limited mobility, and hence need to be notified in advance. These are not Hazards.*

Start Time: 10:00 am

Estimated Finish Time: 12:30 – 1:00 pm

Lunch and Toilet Arrangements: Clean, modern accessible toilets are available in the NT Café (open from 9:30 am to 5:00 pm) next to the car park ... note car park charges apply for non-NT members. The café sells hot and cold food and drinks, although it may be busy if the weather is good, and you may wish to consider bringing a packed lunch.

Field Equipment Needed and Health and Safety Requirements:

Ensure that you are suitably equipped for the conditions on the day. It is your responsibility to follow any recommendations given by the Leader(s) both on the risk assessment and the actual day itself. **Leaders may refuse attendance if proper gear is not worn. It is also your responsibility to carry your own first aid kit, and any medical supplies that you may need.**

Insurance information etc.

All trips are open to members, friends and other societies. Visitors/ guests will be charged a small temporary membership fee per day to ensure coverage on FGS public liability insurance. FGS has Public Liability Insurance cover for field and indoor meetings. Each person attending a field meeting does so on the understanding that they attend at their own risk. Please be aware that FGS insurance does not cover personal accidents - Personal Accident and Personal Liability cover remain the responsibility and personal choice of the participant.

Own transport will be used on all trips unless stated otherwise - some trips will be car sharing and if you offer lifts to others, please ensure that your insurance covers you. It is the driver's responsibility to ensure that all passengers must wear a seatbelt. (Note – it is the law that passengers must be wearing a seat belt at all times, unless holding an exemption certificate when the passenger must sit in front seat).

Leader's Signature:

Date:

Risk and Hazard Assessment

The FGS Field Trip Secretary/Organiser, the Leader(s) and all attendees should be constantly reviewing the conditions at the event and conducting Dynamic Risk Assessments at all times. The FGS Organiser may ask the Leader to alter the Itinerary or to stop the event should any unforeseen issue arise on the event.

Please list all risk and hazards (low, medium, or high) plus steps that will be taken to control level of risk (Examples of common risk/ hazards as per the FGS guidelines emailed to leaders by the FGS Field Trip Secretary are given below and should be included as appropriate). Additional potential risks/ hazards particular to more specific location types are also outlined in the Guidelines and should be included below if applicable .

Weather e.g. cold, wind, sunlight, heat: Take precautions and wear suitable clothing depending upon weather conditions.

Water e.g. deep water, moving water, freak waves, tides: Not applicable.

Terrain e.g. steep ground, uneven /unstable surfaces, rockfalls, slippery ground:

- The surface of the car park is coarse gravel and paving stones.
- The surface of the hill (and the walk) is predominantly “flat”, but it is “uneven” with a mixture of hard sandy rock, dried out grasses with thin soil and minor potholes, a concrete step to a lookout point, hard, uneven, rocky areas on a slope, partially exposed sloping rock (hard sandstone) and hard exposed sandstone (in some areas a bit gritty).
- There is an area of “old road surface” which we will use on part of the walk which is of variable “quality”.
- You might be glad of walking aids.

Traffic e.g. risk of collision, no pavement, poor visibility:

Car park may be busy and hence be watchful of vehicles manoeuvring, etc. Also be aware that part of the walk is on an old road surface that is very occasionally used by NT vehicles for forestry maintenance work.

Reference:

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/surrey/hindhead-commons-and-the-devils-punch-bowl>

Other Hazards (not in Guidelines). Please list any other risk/ hazards plus steps that will be taken to control the level of risk.

Please recommend the likely and suitable field and safety equipment required for the event. Leaders are entitled to refuse attendance if proper equipment is not worn or carried by attendees on the day.

- Hard hats or geological hammers are not required.
- Walking shoes or boots will be perfectly fine for the terrain.

Leader's Signature:

Date: