

Dear Members

2020 FIELD TRIP PROGRAMME TO RECOMMENCE 4TH JULY

Firstly, I hope you and your families are staying safe and well during these difficult times.

Secondly, following changes to the government guidelines for social distancing, Council has decided it is now appropriate to restart the field trip programme in England. There are some heavy provisos attaching to any restart of the programme however, including strict adherence to social distancing guidelines and giving our field trip leaders the final decision on whether they wish to run a particular trip or not. Our Covid19 guidance for field trips can be found on the Safety page of the website. For all those who intend to go on field trips please read this guidance and make sure you are familiar with it before attending any trips. The social distancing rules mean that a maximum of six people, including the leader, can go on any one trip. Larger trips, that might normally have had a party of ten or twelve people, will have to be pruned back, removing those who were last to apply. All of this presupposes that land owners and quarry operators will allow us in of course. There is every likelihood that they will not, until the epidemic is over.

Members who decide to attend field trips during the epidemic must do so in the knowledge that, even with the imposition of social distancing measures, some risk of catching the virus remains. They must therefore decide whether, given their own personal circumstances, it is appropriate for them to attend a field trip and acknowledge that attendance on a trip is entirely at their own risk.

Field trips in Wales and Scotland are not possible at this time but, hopefully, rules will change in these countries in the near future.

Indoor meetings in all countries remain off limits.

The above measures will apply until further notice.

I do hope we can safely salvage something of our field trip programme, given the amount of effort that goes into developing the programme and the enjoyment we all gain from it.

For those who can't, or do not wish to, attend field trips at the present time please consider joining in with the virtual talks that Roy has kindly been organising.

Meanwhile, take care and I look forward to seeing you again in the near future.

Best wishes

Steve Warren

Hon President of The Russell Society