

**LOCALITY-SPECIFIC RISK ASSESSMENT FOR FIELD MEETINGS**

The Geologists’ Association South Wales group takes the safety of its members extremely seriously. Field meeting facilitator (s)/leader(s) are responsible for carrying out an assessment of significant risks and the SWGA for advising participants accordingly. Of course, participants are also accountable for their own safety and the Safety Information that is provided for each meeting is designed to highlight this responsibility.

The details below are to be completed by the field meeting leader(s), and will be used in preparing the Safety Information for participants. A separate form must be completed for each locality. Please also identify any mandatory or recommended personal safety equipment.

## It is the responsibility of each participant to ensure that they are properly equipped (including hard hat, goggles etc as appropriate) and to inform the facilitator/leader of any medical condition that might not be compatible with the proposed itinerary.

**FIELD MEETING TITLE AND DATE: Clevedon, Ladye Bay to Walton Bay**

**FACILITATOR/LEADER'S NAME(S): Mark Howson**

**RISK ASSESSMENT REVIEWED BY: Steve Howe & Mark Howson**

| HAZARD  (type) | **RISK**  (to health caused by hazard) | **SEVERITY**  (high, med., low) | **ACTION(S) REQUIRED**  (to reduce/eliminate risk) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Slippery, muddy and uneven surfaces* | *Falling over causing bruises, cuts and broken bones* | *Medium* | *Wear strong and sensible footwear. Take care especially on wet surfaces and loose screes. Be aware of other potential trip hazards.*  *Leader to assess and monitor confidence of participants and advise individuals of suitability or adjust/abandon route if necessary.* |
| *Steep slopes* | *Slipping and falling* | *Medium* | *Stay on marked paths if possible.*  *Monitor progress of participants on steep ground and advise individuals of suitability or adjust/abandon route if necessary*  *Be aware of and do not stand on cliff edges.* |
| *Weather* | *Hypothermia* | *Low* | *Wear warm and waterproof clothing.* |
| *Weather* | *Hyperthermia* | *Low* | *Keep hydrated, bring a water bottle. Wear a hat and loose clothing.* |
| *Falling rock* | *Cuts, bruises and broken bones* | *High* | *Take care when hammering. Be aware of people working above and below you. Wear a hard hat when working close to rock faces especially under cliffs.* |
| *Specimen collecting* | *Hammering causing rock splinters, hitting hands with hammer; strained muscles from carrying too much* | *Low* | *Wear protective goggles, take care, don’t try and carry more than you can manage* |
| *Insects and plants* | *Bites, stings and scratches* | *High* | *Take care and look out for brambles, thorns and biting and stinging insects.* |
| *Roads and traffic* | *Being knocked over leading to cuts, bruises, broken bones, internal traumas and death* | *Low* | *Take care when crossing roads. Always walk at the side of the road towards the oncoming traffic. Be alert at all times.* |
| *Fences and stiles* | *Tripping leading to injury. Minor cuts and bruises from sharp surfaces. Electric shock from electric fences.* | *Low* | *Take care at all times. Keep a look out for sharp surfaces, barbed wire and electric fences. Avoid where possible.* |
| *Cliffs/steep slopes* | *Falling* | *Medium* | *Keep away from unsafe faces.*  *Keep a lookout for sharp debris*  *lying around the site and potholes*  *in the quarry floor and terraces.*  *Keep away from the top of quarry*  *faces, especially when unfenced.* |
| *Caves/pot-holes/mine adits* | *Falling rocks, low headroom, flooding, getting lost* | *Low* | *Do not enter any underground working or natural hole unless specified by the leader.* |
| *Sea* | *Drowning* | *Low* | *Keep out of the sea. Be aware of*  *the state of the tide. Keep away*  *from cliff edges.* |
| *Rough and rocky surfaces* | *Slipping, tripping* | *High* | *Wear sensible/tough footwear. Take care at all times. Keep a look out for rough and uneven surfaces* |
| *Seaweed/algae* | *Slipping* | *Low* | *Wear sensible/tough footwear. Keep*  *off all seaweed covered surfaces*  *unless impossible to avoid. Take care.* |
| *Intertidal areas.*  *Uneven ground on*  *intertidal rock platform*  *and projecting reefs,*  *cobbles and boulders*  *- slippery/wet surfaces* | *Slipping/falling* | *High* | *Wear appropriate footwear.*  *Watch where you are walking.*  *Take special care on algal films*  *which are not as obvious as*  *seaweed.* |
| *Prickly/stinging vegetation* | *Cuts, scratches, stings* | *High* | *Be aware of the presence of prickly/stinging vegetation and avoid where possible. If allergic to any particular plants bring appropriate remedy/medicine with you.* |
| *Working Quarry* | *Unsafe rock faces, machinery, uneven surfaces.* | *Medium* | *Familiarise yourself with the safety code of the site and obey it at all times. Follow the instructions of the facilitator at all times. Wear full safety kit as specified by the quarry owners while on site.* |
| *Ticks* | *Tick bites possibly leading to illness such as Lyme's Disease* | *Low* | *Keep trousers tucked into socks and wear long-sleeved tops to avoid exposing bare skin. Check any areas of exposed skin for ticks and if found remove appropriately* |