



HARROW & HILLINGDON GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

A Local Group of the Geologists' Association

Founded 1973

www.hhgs.org.uk

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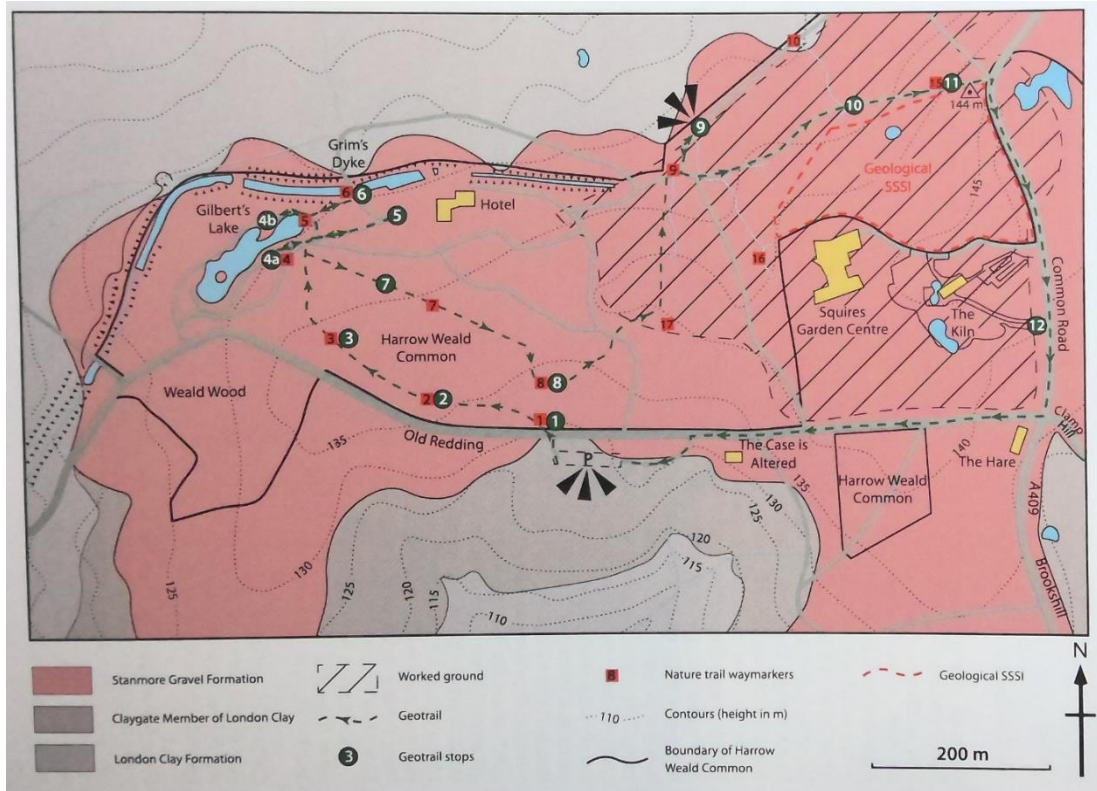
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Harrow Weald Common Geotrail

following the Trail detailed in the Geologists' Association London Guide

Wednesday 14 August 2024 Start 2pm

Guided by Diana Clements of HHGS and the London Geodiversity Partnership



Meet: Viewpoint car park off Old Redding [TQ 1427 9255, nearest post code HA3 6SE]. The 258 bus from Harrow or Watford stops just S and N of The Hare (near R edge of map) close to the start/end of the trail.



The Geotrail begins with the magnificent view across London from the car park where we will see what can be gleaned about the geology. We will cross the road to the woods and follow a path through a pitted area where 'Gravel Getters' used to dig the Stanmore Gravel which covers the area.

We will see Grim's Dyke Scheduled Ancient Monument as it traces the west and north edge of the Common, and Gilbert's Lake which was built by W S Gilbert (of Gilbert & Sullivan fame). This is a delightful spot for wildlife and has a very good example of a Pulhamite rock face. We will then make our way to the Grim's Dyke Hotel, where Gilbert lived, for our Afternoon Tea Social.

The geology of Harrow Weald Common is important as it contains the SSSI for the Stanmore Gravel, and the area had brick-making kilns which made use of the Claygate Beds at the top of the London Clay that underlies the Stanmore Gravel. The walk will finish at our newly exposed gravel bank on the Common side of the SSSI fence, the only exposed section of this gravel that we know of and currently under investigation by HHGS through the Stanmore Gravel Project HHGS.

The Geo-trail is nearly 3 km long, through woodland, on rough paths. It can be slippery if wet and there are trip hazards, but it is mostly on the flat.

Afternoon Tea at the Grim's Dyke Hotel is from 3.30pm in the bar area overlooking the Rose Garden and is easy to access for less mobile members. Please let us know if you would like to join us there.