

GEOLOGY FIELD TRIP
DORSET
1976
(Phil Reynolds 1967-1977)

I noticed an article in the O.R. section of the school website calling for "Geology Field Trips Over The Years."

Well, look what I found in one of my dusty old photo albums: A geology field trip to Dorset in 1976!! Can anyone beat that date?!

I don't remember too much about the trip, but I do remember trying to gain brownie points with Lorna Ogilvie, our long suffering geology teacher, by drawing cartoons of all sorts of odd things being thrown over cliffs (cars and so forth) on my geology note illustrations. She kindly critiqued them!

I don't know how we arrived safely. In those days there were no seat belts and the seats in the mini van were bench seats that faced inwards. Somehow we reached our destination and accommodation - a freezing cold, musty lighthouse at the end of Portland Bill. You'll notice in one of the photographs the 'modern' kitchen facilities. Our rooms were probably too dark and dank to take a photo! I do remember the weather being misty and drizzly, but we were young and could put up with almost anything.

How Lorna Ogilvie and Edward Thompson put up with us I do not know. One of the photographs shows all of us sitting on the edge of a cliff with Lee Holifield looking as though he is about to dive off. Some of us had hammers and set about splitting rocks looking for fossils. Other instances saw us leaping up and down crumbling cliffs. No hard hats or safety glasses in those days. Compared to today's health and safety rules I don't think this trip would have even got out of the RRS parking lot!

I can't attest to having learned much, but it was a few days away from the school with good friends and good teachers.

Philip Reynolds
1967 - 1977

ps: Lorna Ogilvie and Edward Thompson might be able to fill in some blanks about this trip!

Appearing in the photos from left to right:



Edward Thompson, Lorna Ogilvie, Paul Farrar, Ian Windle, Clive Collins, Mark Thompson, Steve Mansfield



Lorna Ogilvie, Alice McKerrow, Mark Phillips



Paul Farrar, Steve Mansfield, Ian Barlow, Clive Collins,
Mark Thompson, Pete Lambeth, Ian Windle



Mark Thompson, Steve Mansfield, Lee Holifield
(sitting), Russ Gaizley, Caroline Feast, Paul Farrar



Lee Holifield on the edge of the cliff



Caroline Feast, Suzanne Walker, Alice McKerrow, Steve
Mansfield, Paul Farrar