U3A GEOLOGY REPORT MEETING Oct 23rd

Bob Tuddenham

We had a well attended and very interesting meeting at The Witham in October which ranged from iron mining in the North York Moors to recent earthquakes and tsunamis across the globe!

Bob Tuddenham gave the second of his talks on the Iron Industry in the North East. This talk covered the Jurassic geology of the Cleveland Hills and the discovery of large quantities of ironstone in 1850 which led to the massive iron industry on Teesside and the rapid growth of Middlesbrough from a village to an industrial town. Over 300 million tons of irondstone were mined over 80 years! The technical and business challenges for the industry from the late 19th Century onwards were explained and after over a hundred years of iron and steel making on Teesside, the last blast furnace at Redcar has now sadly been demolished.

After the interval Trevor Morse gave a talk about three cataclysmic geological events that have happened recently - the tsunami from the volcanic explosion on Tonga, the earthquake in Morrocco and the 'hurricane' in Libya that caused extensive flooding when two dams broke. Trevor explained the background to each event with dramatic photos showing how destructive these were.

Our next meeting will be held at The Witham on Monday November 27th at 10 am. All are welcome. From December to February our meetings will be on Zoom and the first Zoom meeting will be on Monday December 18th at 2.30 pm. Please contact the Convenor for joining details.