Celebrated Yorkshire poet Ted Hughes grew up in the Calder valley and the geology and landscape of the neighbouring moorland influenced much of his verse. Some of the poems of his ‘Remains of Elmet’ collection were inspired by the rocks, heather and water of Widdop Moor, and Hughes evidently had a good understanding of the geological forces that shaped the Yorkshire landscape. The rocks – known as the ‘Millstone Grit’ – were formed in tropical river deltas 320 million years ago, and still retain features of their origin. They appear as outcrops and huge scattered boulders strewn over the slopes.

Join us on a walk to discover the geology and poetic landscape of Widdop Moor with descriptions of the geology and readings from some of Hughes’ most evocative geological poetry. Both geologists and admirers of Hughes’ iconic work will find much to enjoy!

The walk entails a mix of gravel paths with some unmade moorland trails, stout footwear and weatherproof clothing are recommended. Total walking distance 6km, with gentle ascent/descent of 60m.

Register by email to fieldtrips@yorksgeolsoc.org.uk
Please include names of all participants. Further details of the itinerary and meeting points will be forwarded following registration.