GEODIVERSITY IN MID-SUFFOLK

The River Gipping has cut a swathe through the Mid-Suffolk landscape, exposing a full range of Suffolk geological strata – Chalk, Tertiary deposits, Crag sands and glacial deposits. For well over a century it has been the scene of economic use of geology – Chalk for agriculture and cement, glacial boulder clay for cement, and sand and gravel for the construction industry. Gravel has been excavated from several geological horizons including valley-bottom sites now occupied by lakes. Smaller valleys often show characteristic solution and erosion features.

Barham, Eastall's pit. Former excavations in river terrace gravels and site of mammoth and other mammalian fossil finds. View from the footpath. Download *Gravel Unravelled*, Mid-Suffolk DC's Aggregates Trail leaflet from www.midsuffolk.gov.uk.

Claydon, Church Lane. Good example of former chalk pit occupied by housing. View from behind the fence (Chalk face is on private land).

Coddenham stream. A 'nailbourne' – an intermittent stream on Chalk - beware of traffic.

Debenham, Derrybrook Lane, Stony Lane. Roadway along gull is often flooded. There is a raised footpath along one side.

Finningham Church. John Frere Memorial – From his discoveries at Hoxne he was the first to realise the 'immense antiquity of mankind'.

Needham Market Lake. Site of former gravel pit with large erratic block (RIGS). GeoSuffolk Mammoth Trail panel and Mid-Suffolk Aggregates Trail panel. www.midsuffolk.gov.uk.

Offton, the Channel. A gull-like feature best viewed from the foot bridge. Woolpit Museum. Display of Woolpit bricks and brickmaking.

