

# Cumbria RIGS Group

Cumbria RIGS Group is a voluntary geological conservation group working to record and look after important geological sites.



<http://cumbriarigs.co.uk>

## HIGH RIGG, ST. JOHN'S IN THE VALE RIGS

The rocks exposed at High Rigg are in the Birker Fell Formation, the lower deposits of the Borrowdale Volcanic Group. They are a sequence of lavas and tuffs intruded in at least one place by an agglomerate (thought to be an explosion breccia). The lavas are grey and aphyric (fine-grained igneous rock formed by rapid recrystallisation). The lower lava is flow banded in some places, eg. [3018 2229] and the upper zone is flow brecciated, shown by the development of recessed clasts on some weathered surfaces - eg. at [3023 2220].



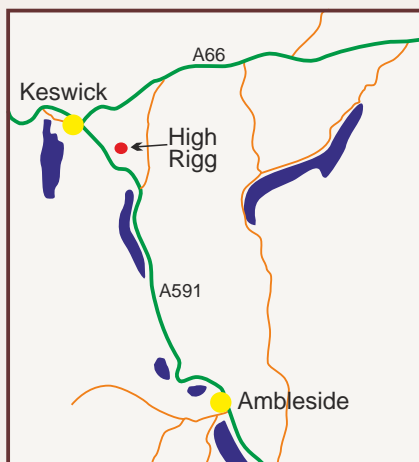
High Rigg



Aphyric lava at NY 3020 2215

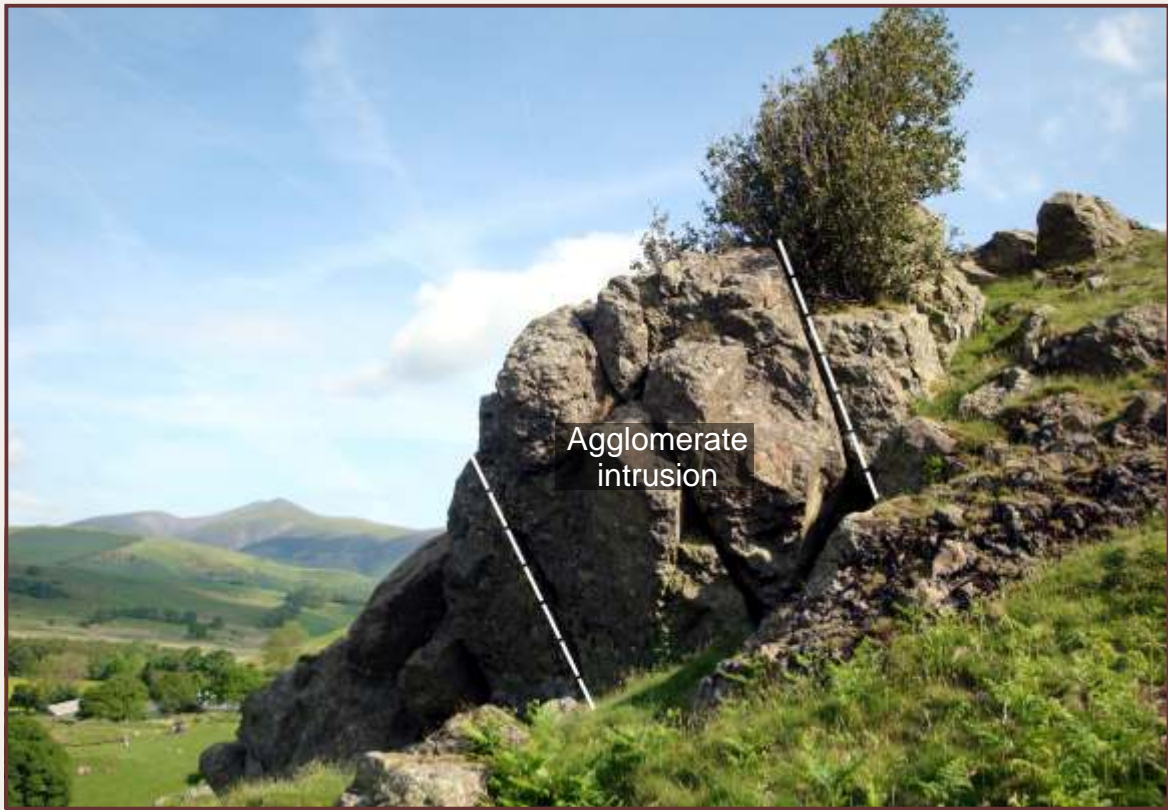


Exposures at High Rigg



Cars may be parked off A591 near Dale Bottom at NY 294218 or take the unclassified road of the B5322 at St. John's in the Vale to NY 307226.





The lower lava is overlain by a tuff which has weathered preferentially to leave a prominent 'bench'. At [3020 2210], a flow brecciated lava is intruded by a zone of agglomerate comprising clasts of lava from 2 cm - 1 m in size which weather proud of the surface. A second possible agglomerate is present at [3023 2217]. A third agglomerate outcrops on steep slopes outside of the RIGS area at [3037 2205]. The area is cut by a number of grassy gullies, possibly marking the location of faults.



Flow brecciated lava