

## ANNUAL REPORT 2007

## GEA NORVEGICA EUROPEAN GEO PARK – NORWAY



*(International Excursion at Mølen,  
June the 20<sup>th</sup> 2007)*

### Major achievements in 2007

- Our geopark administration was substantially enlarged, from 2 full time and 2 part-time employees till 4 full time and 1 part time employees.
- Major advances in preparing the educational program for primary and secondary schools.
- Development of new geopark attractions
- Several public events.
- Forceful collaboration in the geopark committees (Tourist-, education-, GIS / map-, Enterprise development / innovation and the attraction development committees).

### Education.

In the school year 2006/2007 a new structure on the teaching for school classes in primary and secondary schools was implemented. Also, in March 2007 Geology became defined in the curriculum of secondary schools (Geo1 and Geo2). Gea Norvegica geopark developed some fundamental educational packages for use in primary and secondary schools.

The Gea Norvegica Geopark, and what we can offer was communicated to all schools in the Geopark area (about 80 schools).

As a part of the cooperation between the geopark staff and the schools, the Bergstrasse-Odenwald Geopark was visited by a group of 20 teachers from our geopark. This was an important event and boosted a lot of enthusiasm among the teachers and their contributions to our own development of educational program.

### A selection of Geopark events and the EGN-week.

Three public arrangements in addition to educational arrangements for school classes were performed at different geopark attractions during the European Geopark Week in June.

15 additional public and school field arrangements were performed during the spring and autumn seasons. The mid-summer season was disastrous in 2007 because of very heavy rain for weeks and the most severe flooding since 1927 in large parts of the geopark.

Regular Geopark presentations for politicians, teachers and various organizations throughout the year.

Presentation for Geoforum, the national organization for use of GIS in planning in Southern Norway.

### YIPE and International Geological Congress (IGC) in Oslo

Gea Norvegica Geopark staff participates in the national YIPE committee, and have attended several meetings. The Gea Norvegica Geopark was responsible for the initial planning of the "Earth Heritage and Society" symposia at the IGC to be held in Oslo Aug. 2008, and also was responsible for the planning of a Pre-Congress excursion to the Gea Norvegica Geopark.

### Collaboration with other organizations.

We have been very active in the guidance of other regions in their efforts to become geoparks (Norway and Sweden). We will especially mention our active participation in 3 meetings in the Magma geopark.

In January we took the initiative to invite a few European geoparks to visit us for possible cooperation on an application to a common Interreg IV project.

The Gea Norvegica Geopark, in cooperation with the Magma Geopark, presented the Unesco Global Geoparks and European Geoparks Network for the Norwegian Forum for business development.