

Edinburgh Geological Society – Excursion Programme 2021



Excursion title: A new look at Wardie shore
Date & time: Wednesday 18th August, 2021 7pm **Finish time:** 9pm
Leader(s): Tom Challands, University of Edinburgh

Excursion aims and description:	Wardie shore in north Edinburgh has been a favourite with geologists and palaeontologists since the early 19 th century. The famous palaeoichthyologists Agassiz and Traquair described numerous fish from Wardie and work on the site was rejuvenated in the 1970's by the late Stan Wood. Despite such iconic status Wardie has never received a detailed study of the changing environments represented by the various shales, silts and sands and how these changes correlate with the well-known fauna from the site. This field trip will explain recent work that has been conducted at Wardie that has illuminated the changing oxygen conditions in the once murky waters that harboured some quite indomitable beasts.		
Meeting point:	At the start of the eastern breakwater in Wardie Bay by the beach just off Lower Granton Road NT 241 771. Public transport to the section is simple by taking either the number 16 bus and disembarking at Lower Granton Road or the number 19 and disembarking at Granton Square and walking a couple of hundred metres to the meeting point. If taking private transport, parking is limited in the immediate area.		
First locality:	At the start of the eastern breakwater in Wardie Bay by the beach just off Lower Granton Road NT 241 771.		
Excursion route:	From the meeting point we will head east along Wardie Shore as far as Trinity Pumping Station. www.plotaroute.com/route/1021111		
Terrain, walking distance, height gain:	Variable from sandy beach to wet and slippery rocks covered in seaweed and algae. Care must be taken on rocks.		
Specific or Medium- / High-Risk Hazards:	None		
Control measures required to mitigate against any Hazards referred to above:	None		
Hard hats or Hi-viz clothing needed?	No		
May dogs be brought on the excursion?	Yes		
Toilet information:	None		
Geological map sheet:	BGS 1: 50 000 32E Edinburgh	OS map sheet:	Explorer sheet 350
References:	Clarkson, E.N.K. (1986) Granton and Wardie shore, 76–80 In Lothian Geology an excursion guide, (eds A.D. McAdam and E.N.K. Clarkson) Scottish Academic Press, 221pp Mitchell, G.H. and Mykura, W. (1962) The Geology of the Neighbourhood of Edinburgh. Memoirs of the Geological Survey of Great Britain (3rd edn)		

Wood, S.P. (1975) Recent discoveries of Carboniferous fishes in Edinburgh. *Scottish Journal of Geology*, 11, 251–8.

**** Most useful reference **** Volume 16: Fossil Fishes of Great Britain Chapter 9: British Carboniferous fossil fishes sites Site: WARDIE (GCR ID: 1370) *available at:*
<http://archive.jncc.gov.uk/pdf/gcrdb/GCRsiteaccount1370.pdf>