

## Edinburgh Geological Society – Excursion Programme 2021



**Excursion title:** Re-meandering the Eddleston Water: active geodiversity on a possible new SSSI

**Date & time:** Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021, 7pm      **Finish time:** 9pm

**Leader(s):** Al McGowan and John Preston

<b>Excursion aims and description:</b>	<p>An introduction to the consideration of active geodiversity sites through the work on Eddleston Water.</p> <p>River restoration work undertaken to explore natural flood management tools has resulted in an impressive demonstrator site that is very accessible. The works have re-meandered the previously straight channel and offer a chance to observed the difference in hydrogeomorphological features before and after the works.</p> <p>The high standard and extensive documentation of site have resulted in a proposal that the site should be considered as a SSSI (Gordon 2019) and Lothian and Borders GeoConservation may put a case for LGS status.</p>		
<b>Meeting point:</b>	NT 23837 45658 (Large layby off A703)		
<b>First locality:</b>	NT 23809 45323		
<b>Excursion route:</b>	We are mostly going to be exploring the Lake Wood site, to the south of the meeting point.		
<b>Terrain, walking distance, height gain:</b>	<p>Riverbank and agricultural areas. Problems are most likely to result from wet terrain and unevenness than any distance or height considerations.</p> <p>Estimated distance of 2.5–3 km but the return leg would be a straight walk back.</p>		
<b>Specific or Medium- / High-Risk Hazards:</b>	Slipping or falling into the river.		
<b>Control measures required to mitigate against any Hazards referred to above:</b>	Thorough briefing of party about the possible hazards of the river and riparian environment. Carry throw rope in addition to walking poles.		
<b>Hard hats or Hi-viz clothing needed?</b>	Yes, the A703 is a main A-road and moving traffic should be regarded as a significant risk.		
<b>May dogs be brought on the excursion?</b>	No		
<b>Toilet information:</b>	Nearest toilets would be in Eddleston village.		
<b>Geological map sheet:</b>	S24E	<b>OS map sheet:</b>	Explorer 344 Landranger 73
<b>References:</b>	<p>Gordon, J. E., Brazier, V., Hansom, J. &amp; Werritty, A. 2019. Advances in Quaternary studies and geomorphology in Scotland: implications for geoconservation. <i>Earth and Environmental Science Transactions of the Royal Society Of Edinburgh</i>. 110, 1-2, p. 257-278. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1017/S1755691019000069">https://doi.org/10.1017/S1755691019000069</a></p> <p>General overview: East Lothian and the Borders - a landscape fashioned by geology (SNH &amp; BGS)</p>		

Website materials about the Eddlestone Water project

Overview: <https://tweedforum.org/our-work/projects/the-eddleston-water-project/>

Case Study: [https://restorerivers.eu/wiki/index.php?title=Case\\_study%3AEddlestone\\_water](https://restorerivers.eu/wiki/index.php?title=Case_study%3AEddlestone_water)

River Restoration Centre case study document: [https://www.therrc.co.uk/sites/default/files/projects/9\\_eddleston.pdf](https://www.therrc.co.uk/sites/default/files/projects/9_eddleston.pdf)

version 1.1, 01Jun21 – revised grid reference for first locality & excursion route  
version 1.0, 18May21