

Edinburgh Geological Society – Excursion Programme 2022



Excursion title: Petershill Quarry, Bathgate
Date & time: Wednesday 4 May, 19:00 **Finish time:** 21:00
Leader(s): Katie Strang and Gary Hoare

Excursion aims and description:	<p>The aims of the excursion are to examine the sedimentology and palaeontology of the SSSI Petershill (Hillhouse). The sediments of the Lower Limestone Formation around Bathgate are interbedded (or replaced) with basaltic tuffs and lava flows which make up the Bathgate Hills Volcanic Formation, and likely correlates with the Main and Mid Hosie limestones and their lateral equivalents.</p> <p>Petershill Limestone was originally quarried for lime here in the 18th century until the quarries were converted to reservoirs in the 19th century, before finally being drained in the 1980s. The site is a SSSI for its species-rich grassland, scrub and wetland, as well as for the geology.</p> <p>The limestone contains a rich fauna including the colonial coral <i>Siphenodendron</i> and the large brachiopod, <i>gigatoproductus</i></p>		
Meeting point:	<p>Directions from Scottish Wildlife Trust website: From Junction 3a on the M8, follow directions for Bathgate until a roundabout is reached where the B792 (Kirk Road) is taken north west until a T-junction. Turn right at the T-junction and follow Drumcross Road eastwards and up the steep hill out of Bathgate. At the top of the hill there is a sharp bend, after which there is a small parking area on the left. Visitors are asked to park responsibly and not restrict access either to the working farm or farmers' fields at Petershill.</p>		
First locality:	NS 995722.		
Excursion route:			
Terrain, walking distance, height gain:			
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?	No.		
Toilet information:	None on site.		
Geological map sheet:	32W Livingstone	OS map sheet:	Sheet 65 Falkirk
References:	Bathgate Hills excursion, Lothian Geology on Earthwise.		