

Edinburgh Geological Society – Excursions 2023



Excursion title:	Industrial and palaeontological heritage of Comrie Colliery, West Fife		
Date & start time:	Wed 17 May 23, 7pm	Finish time:	9 pm
Leader(s):	Dr Katie Strang		

Excursion aims and description:	This excursion will involve a walk around Comrie Colliery, which was once the flagship site of the Fife Coal Company! Since its closure in the 1980s work has been ongoing to reclaim the site for community use. We will hear about the history of the site and its geology, and learn about the current reclamation and geothermal projects, as well as getting a chance to look at material in the old spoil heaps to learn about the palaeontological heritage. Thank you to the Site Owner and Site Manager for allowing access for this trip.
Meeting point:	<p>Meet at the site entrance. Katie and the site manager will be there to open the gate and allow parking within the site for the duration of the trip. Please car share if possible. There is parking in the nearby village of Oakley (KY12 9QF) if people want to meet there first.</p> <p>Google maps: https://goo.gl/maps/NKrvsmm4FXjrt5Zh6 what3words: limits.beefed.plots</p> <p>From the A907/main street in the village of Comrie, take the road next to the White Gates pub which goes to Saline. After about 1.5km you will see a small hamlet called Kinneddar Park. Immediately after this on the left is a small access road called Bickramside. Take this road (beware of potholes!) for about 1.3km until you see the metal gate. Katie and Alan (site manager) will be there to show you where to park.</p>
Public transport details:	Bus numbers 4A, 4C, 28 and F6 to Saline all serve Kinneddar Park – the meeting point is about a 30 min walk along an access road from the bus stop.
Excursion route:	The route will be around the old Comrie Colliery site, including a look at some of the spoil heaps.
Terrain, walking distance, height gain:	<p>The route is fairly flat but on uneven terrain including spoil heaps with unstable blocks, and sticky clay/mud. Wellies advised!</p> <p>The route will be no more than 3km.</p>
Specific or Medium- / High-Risk Hazards:	<p>Medium risks – site is currently being reclaimed and is therefore an active site. Visit is out of hours but please beware of large machinery.</p> <p>Some of the trip will require walking over uneven terrain – wear appropriate footwear.</p>
Control measures required to mitigate against any Hazards referred to above:	<p>Stay observant while walking around.</p> <p>Wear appropriate footwear.</p>
Hard hats or Hi-viz clothing needed?	Optional.
May dogs be brought on the excursion?	Yes, but they might need to be kept on lead on site.

Toilet information:	The nearest public toilets are in Oakley, but they might be closed by 7pm. The White Gate Pub in Comrie has toilets but you might need to buy a drink to use.		
Geological map sheet:	39 and 40	OS map sheet:	Explorer 367