Field trip Information and registration

The field trip information (1) and risk assessment (2) sections are to be completed by the leader in advance of the trip. The generic risk assessment table (2) should be customised to cover the specific risks relevant to the trip.

Attendees should read and understand the risk assessment (2) and the rules (3). The field trip register (4) is to be completed by each individual attending.

1. Field trip information

Title of field trip; geological theme(s)	Girvan-Ballantrae weekend trip Ophiolite complex and associated country rocks.
Date of field trip; start time; approximate duration.	29 and 30 June 2024. Start times to be confirmed. Day 1 – 7 hours in field; day 2 – 4 hours.
Name of field trip leader(s)	Con Gillen will lead. Trip organised by Phil Davies.
Start point and its National Grid Reference; also end point if different from start.	Start points to be confirmed. Likely to be south of Ballantrae village.
Parking and transport information	To be confirmed. Generally good, by roadside in layby or off-road car parks (busy at weekends).
Description of terrain to be covered	Foreshore / intertidal area; countryside. Shore is wide and flat, with exposures emerging from sand; seaweed and algae present, and some loose boulders.
Approximate distance to be covered, metres of ascent / descent	To be confirmed. Several short walks from parking places, there and back; two optional descents down steep grassy slopes with narrow paths to shore.
Assessed severity of field trip	Moderate. No large hills anticipated.
Special requirements; refreshments; other observations	To be confirmed. Toilet stops will be included. Cafés and shops available for buying lunch and drinks.
Nearest hospital with A&E	**A&E: University Hospital Ayr**. T: 01292 610555 Dalmellington Road, Ayr, KA6 6DX Minor injuries: **Girvan Community Hospital**. T: 01465 712571; Bridgemill, Girvan, KA26 9HQ.

Note: If action or advice is needed from the CGS Designated Safeguarding Officer regarding this field trip, contact details are available from the members' area of the CGS website or any Council Member.

2. Risk assessment

Potential hazard	Risk level– High/Medium/Low	Safety measures
Navigation, route, conditions		
Poor / deteriorating weather; risk to party completing the route. *	Low	(very poor weather might necessitate cancellation)
Poor visibility or navigation error; risk of the party getting lost or separated. *	Low	Fog and sea mist will make rocks on shore slippery, group needs to stay close.
Loss of daylight; difficulty of completing the route safely and on time.	Low	In case of fog or thick sea mist, descent to shore down steeper paths may be curtailed.
Slips, trips and falls		
Steep or exposed ground; uneven, rocky ground underfoot: risk of slips/trips/falls; anxiety or vertigo	Medium	Irregular ground on foreshore areas. Walking boots necessary; and poles optional. Optional walks/scrambles down steep grassy slopes to shore.
Condition of paths and stiles: risk of slips/trips/falls/barbed wire	Medium	Paths to shore may be covered in wet grass, possibly with mud and loose stones.
Boggy or heavily vegetated ground; risk of slips/trips/falls	Low	Risk of slips on steeper grassy slopes to shore; some recent rock falls present; zig-zag route down and up.
Forestry or wooded areas; risk of slips/trips/falls or injury by branches	Low-medium	If old quarries are entered, there may be a risk of uneven and wet quarry floors; to be assessed in advance.
Health and wellbeing		
Attendee becoming unwell and needing assistance*. Including hypothermia, sun exposure and bites by ticks, insects or snakes	Low to medium	Attendees to use sunscreen and protective clothing as necessary. Risk of ticks – attendees to check and advise all others if ticks found. Ticks are likely among long grass and bracken on steeper slopes; horsefly bites are possible near farmland; adders are possible near boulders on dry inland hill slopes. Midges possible
Other typical risks		
Roads; risk to pedestrian attendees from traffic.	TBC	Some walking on narrow pavements and paths adjacent to roads; keep within safety barriers where present. Park safely in designated lay-byes.
Rockfall, or fall of other debris from slopes.	TBC	Risk of rocks and stones being dislodged on steeper paths to shore.
Water courses, open water, tides; drowning risk; crossing risks of slips/trips/falls	Low	Trip timing has been selected to coincide with low tide conditions. Rocks are always slippery on shore. Tide comes in very fast. Grass may be wet and slippery on steeper slopes down to shore.
Livestock attack: cows, bulls.	TBC	Possible walks in or near farmland. No dogs allowed on the trip.
Other		

Roads		Girvan and Ballantrae are on the main road to the ferry to Ireland and this route is always very busy with cars, lorries and coaches in summer.

* Weather-related risk level to be reviewed at the time of the field trip.

Signature of field trip leader ……Con Gillen……

3. Rules

1. Members of CGS and guests take part at their own risk. They should read and understand the foregoing field trip information and risk assessment, and raise any queries about any matter of concern before the field trip starts. A brief introduction will be provided at the start point. It should be noted that the Society holds Third Party Public Liability Insurance for Society members, but this does not extend to visitors undertaking field trips. Personal Liability Insurance and Personal Accident Insurance remain the responsibility and choice of the participant. The Society does not accept responsibility for loss or damage to individuals or their property.

2. Participants should be aware of potential hazards which may be encountered in the field. They should read the Risk Assessment prepared in advance of each field trip and sign the field trip register on arrival. In general, these hazards will be such as are commonly encountered on the hills, open countryside and coastal and riverine areas in Cumbria, and participants will be expected to be familiar with these.

3. The behaviour of all members of the field trip must be such as to minimise the risk to themselves and other attendees. Any participant who behaves in a manner likely to put at risk his or her own safety, or the safety or enjoyment of another participant or the group as a whole, may be asked to leave by the field trip leader, and must do so immediately.

4. It is the responsibility of participants to satisfy themselves that they are fit to take part in the field trip and are properly equipped to do so. They should inform the field trip leader in advance, in confidence, of any matter which may have a bearing on their fitness to participate and what actions should be taken if illness occurs. The field trip leader may refuse to allow any person whose health or fitness appears to be a source of concern, or who appears to be inadequately equipped, to participate in (or to continue participation in) a field trip. There is no guarantee that any participant will have had first aid training but, in any emergency, the group will help as best it can.

5. Under 18s and vulnerable adults may attend if they are accompanied by a parent, guardian or responsible adult, provided that this is indicated in the Field Trip Register.

6. Participants should wear clothing and footwear suitable for the field trip and carry appropriate safety equipment and rations.

7. The instructions of the field trip leader should be followed. It is important to stay with the leader during the field trip. Racing ahead or lagging behind causes problems of safety as well as making the leader's task more difficult. Alert others if a problem arises; if you need to stop, let at least one other person know. Members must make their intentions known to the leader if they intend to leave the group either temporarily or permanently; it is recommended that this is not done alone, particularly in remote or rugged terrain.

8. In the interests of conservation and safety the use of geological hammers is discouraged. Some

exposures may be SSSIs or have other designations, and in any event the permission of a landowner may be required.

9. If an injury or other problem occurs the field trip leader should be notified immediately.

10. Dogs do not normally take part in a field trip. A participant who wishes to bring a dog on a field trip should confirm beforehand with the field trip leader that this will be acceptable.

4. Field trip register Date:

Name (add 'Under 18' or 'Carer' of another participant if applicable)	**Emergency contact details**	I have read and will comply with the Rules **Signature**	**A CGS member? (tick if 'yes') Email address if 'no'**

Name **(add 'Under 18' or 'Carer' of another participant if applicable)**	**Emergency contact details**	I have read and will comply with the Rules **Signature**	**A CGS member? (tick if 'yes')** **Email address if 'no'**