

# Re: Fossil Fish With "Limbs" Is Missing Link, Study Says

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- *From:* "George" <[george@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:george@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Mon, 24 Apr 2006 06:50:51 GMT
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"Aidan Karley" <[doIlookDAFTenoughTOpost@xx](mailto:doIlookDAFTenoughTOpost@xx)>  
wrote in message  
[news:VA.00000de9.119be16f@xx](mailto:news:VA.00000de9.119be16f@xx)

In article <[jyO2g.699080\\$084.48542@attbi\\_s22](mailto:jyO2g.699080$084.48542@attbi_s22)>, George wrote:

The insects. Yes, they're there. Early-Devonian for sure, just up the path from my colleague Peter's house. Search on "Rhynie Chert fauna".  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rhynie\\_chert](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rhynie_chert)

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Aidan Karley, FGS  
Aberdeen, Scotland,  
Location: 57°10'11" N, 02°08'43" W (sub-tropical Aberdeen), 0.021233

Interesting. Thanks for the link, Aidan.

If you want to go digging, then you actually need permission from (a) a government agency several hundred miles away and (b) the farmer who owns the land. And the farmer is likely to refer such requests to his neighbour, Dr. Pete. Nothing like living on the land for controlling visitors. Having walked and driven up the track many times, there's nothing to see. You \*do\* need a JCB (US-Eng = backhoe ??) to get through the glacier excrement. The fossils in this unit tend to the hand-lens, if not the microscopic. A hour NNE is another well-known lagerstätte [note 1] of fish

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fossils in an anoxic horizon of the Orcadian lake. Better known and bigger fossils means a bigger problem.

[note 1] (sorry, German typers)

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Aidan Karley, FGS  
Aberdeen, Scotland,  
Location: 57°10'11" N, 02°08'43" W (sub-tropical Aberdeen), 0.021233

I've never had to resort to using a backhoe to collect fossils, but have used one to collect minerals. I've had several instances where some colleagues and I were collecting fossils on a road cut near a factory, and had security people tell us that we were trespassing and had to leave. I was always the one who was brave enough to point out that we were collecting on a state highway right-of-way, and that they had no authority to tell us to leave. Unless it is a state trooper telling us to leave, that usually works, and they leave us to our business. If a state trooper tells us to leave, there's no question. We pack our bags and depart, pronto!

George

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