



Glenrothes Hillwalkers Club

Affiliated to the Mountaineering Council of Scotland



Monthly Newsletter – December 2016



Introduction

Welcome to the last newsletter of 2016, which includes lots of news from around the Club, including details of weekends and speakers for next year. Contributions from members are always welcome - you can email them to the Secretary at secretary@glenrotheshillwalkers.co.uk.

Walks

The High Tea walk on Sunday 13 November was a great success, with 31 members attending for a variety of walks around the Blair Atholl area followed by High Tea at the Atholl Arms Hotel. One group dropped off in Pitlochry and walked along the river and Loch Faskally to the hotel. Another self-led walk took in that well known hill, the House of Bruar! The A walk managed to find the two hills on their route in the low cloud before a quick descent into Glen Tilt where it started to rain. The autumn colours were at their best along the river for the long walk back to the hotel. The B walk had a minor hill to scale just north of Glen Tilt and they too managed to find it despite the low cloud.

Everyone enjoyed the warmth of the bar before the meal, and the presentation of a photobook to Ian Morris to commemorate his Munro completion. Thanks to Janice Duncan for putting together the photos and arranging the printing. For High Tea we were in a much nicer room than last year and the food was much better, so thanks to Ian Morris for organising that.



On the route from Pitlochry
(Photo G Walkingshaw)



Spectacular autumn scenery
(Photo G Walkingshaw)



High Tea and happy faces

The December' walk on Sunday 11 December was planned to take in 2 routes around New Lanark and the Clyde Walkway, with the A group climbing Tinto. With only 6 members on the bus we decided to stick together so set off from the car park at New Lanark on the path to the Falls of Clyde. Having seen Corra Linn, we continued on to Bonnington Linn and then crossed to the West side of the river to make our way back to New Lanark via the bridge at Kirkfieldbank. This made for a very enjoyable 8.5 miles circular walk that took just over 3 hours, with only a brief spell of light rain to spoil the day



Glenrothes Hillwalkers Club

Affiliated to the Mountaineering Council of Scotland



James, Kerry, Lynne, June and Steve
with Corra Linn in the background



A closer view of Corra Linn

The next walk is the post-Christmas walk on Friday 30 December, starting at 10.30 from the main car park at Lochore Meadows Country Park. No transport will be provided, so bring your own cars. The route takes in Benarty Hill on good tracks and should take 3 hours. Families and dogs are most welcome, so come along, stretch the legs and work off the turkey and Xmas pudding.

Ian Morris is now coordinating mid-week walks for those who are available. Anybody interested in joining in should contact Ian by [email](#). Walks will be organised and transport arranged online, with members meeting up at the Lomond Centre car park on the appointed day.

Weekends

The Weekend programme for 2017 has been published on the [website](#). Jim Anderson has put together an interesting and varied programme of weekends, starting with the Blackwater Hostel in Kinlochleven in March, and ending with the Abernethy Bunkhouse at Nethy Bridge Station in October. Bookings open at the January meeting.

Meetings

Our December meeting on Tuesday 6th saw our grey cells being challenged by Ian Morris through the Christmas quiz. He was not joking when he let slip that we should mug up on the Carry On films! The winning team contained both Bob Barlow and Kevin Tolmie – we will have to find a better way to allocate members to teams for next year! Thanks to Ian Morris for all his hard work in putting together an interesting and challenging quiz.

The quiz was followed by the raffle of the Christmas hampers, which had been put together by Janice Duncan – a sterling effort, thanks Janice. Yet again the generosity of members was very evident, both in the amount of food and drink donated for the hampers and in the quantity of tickets purchased. Congratulations to Wanda who won the first prize hamper in the raffle. At the end of the evening we had raised a total of £207.00 for Galloway Mountain Rescue Team.



Glenrothes Hillwalkers Club

Affiliated to the Mountaineering Council of Scotland



The Christmas Hampers – great job Janice



Wanda with the first hamper to be won in the raffle

The January meeting is on Tuesday 10th, when our speaker will be Neil Ramsay from Scotways. Neil will be talking about the Heritage Paths Project.

The list of speakers for the period up to June 2017 is available on the [website](#). Thanks to Louise Cascarino for organising interesting speakers on a wide range of subjects.

Club News

We have been informed by the Management Committee that Leslie Town Hall is going to close next year. We will be able to hold the January meeting there, and possibly the February meeting, but after that we will have to find a new home. The committee is currently looking at the Lomond Centre and the Leslie Masonic Hall, but would welcome any suggestions for alternative locations.

If you want to know what we are planning for 2017, the [Calendar](#) on the website is now up to date with the meeting, walk and weekend dates. You can also view and print a [Forecast of Events](#).

So far there has been no interest in Winter Skills training, so yet again we will not be organising a centralised course this winter. If, however, any member wants to get trained in the skills required to get out on the mountains in winter, there are a range of courses available. Please contact me if you are interested.

Club member Julie Garland has sent an email to thank members for their support on The Push:

“YEEHA - got my PUSH CERTIFICATE. I would like to take this opportunity to say a MASSIVE THANK YOU to everyone who supported me in THE PUSH in September for ST.COLUMBA'S HOSPICE. Also, congratulations to Debbie Young from Kinross who won the £10 on the ANIMAL QUIZ.

Hoping to do the SILVER ROUTE - 20 MILES next year. All for a good cause. So, all you fit people out there - why not try it too!!!! You might even end up like me > MAD WOMAN FROM FIFE (her words, not mine!), or a scene out of BRAVEHEART!!!! The decision is up to you?????”

Julie raised a very creditable total of £1,062.01 for St Columba's Hospice, so well done to her and all who sponsored her.



Glenrothes Hillwalkers Club

Affiliated to the Mountaineering Council of Scotland



Mad Woman from Fife (her words, not mine!)



Well done to Julie and her sponsors

Finally, we rely on volunteers to help the monthly meetings run smoothly by running the front door and making the refreshments. Although we enjoy member's home baking, it is not obligatory, so please do not be put off volunteering to do the teas and coffees just because you would be fired from The Great British Bake Off in the 1st round! Biscuits are fine.

If you would like to help out at future meetings, please put your name down on the roster [here](#).

It just remains for me to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Brian Robertson

Secretary and editor

Phone 01333 278632

Mobile 07702 114076

Email secretary@glenrotheshillwalkers.co.uk

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GlenrothesHillwalkers>

Flickr: https://www.flickr.com/groups/glenrothes_hillwalkers/