



Glenrothes Hillwalkers Club

Affiliated to the Mountaineering Council of Scotland



Monthly Newsletter – January 2017

Introduction

Happy New Year to all our members. Welcome to the first monthly newsletter of 2017, which includes news of a change of location for our meetings. Contributions from members are always welcome - you can email them to the Secretary at secretary@glenrotheshillwalkers.co.uk.

Walks

The final walk of 2016 saw 13 members and 2 dogs meeting up in the car park at Lochore Meadows Country Park for the post-Christmas walk on Friday 30 December. With much turkey and all the trimmings to work off, we set off up Benarty Hill on good tracks. We enjoyed somewhat hazy views from the summit in a stiff wind and did not linger before making our way back down to the car park in around 3 hours. The aim was achieved – lots of calories burnt off!



Ian channelling King Cnut – he was just as unsuccessful!



On the summit in the breeze

The next Club walk, the first of 2017, is on Sunday 15 January and sees us heading off to the Ayr Valley. The A and B groups will be walking up Cairn Table, while the C group goes from Sorn to Muirkirk on the River Ayr Way. We have a full minibus but will lay on additional transport, either cars or a larger bus, according to demand. If you would like to book a seat, please contact Ian Morris by phone on 01592 612376 or by [email](mailto:ian@glhillwalkers.co.uk).

We now have 10 members interested in the mid-week walking group. If you would like to join in please contact Ian Morris by [email](mailto:ian@glhillwalkers.co.uk). Walks will be organised and transport arranged online, with members meeting up at the Lomond Centre car park on the appointed day and sharing cars.

Weekends

Bookings for Weekends for 2017 opened at the January meeting, and there was brisk trade at Jim Anderson's desk on the night. The first weekend of the year is a 2 night stay at the Blackwater Hostel in Kinlochleven on March 24th, with 6 beds available. The full programme is available on the [website](http://www.glenrotheshillwalkers.co.uk).



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Meetings

The January meeting was well attended with 34 members turning up expecting to hear about the Heritage Paths Project, but the speaker failed to turn up for the 2nd time - we will not be inviting him again! Fortunately Louise Cascarino was able to arrange an alternative at short notice. Kevin Tolmie stepped in to tell us about the history of the Clan McLeod and the landscape of their homelands. Kevin gave us a very interesting talk, enlivened with anecdotes of murder and mayhem, so huge thanks to him for sharing his extensive knowledge.

Next month's speaker is Dr Emmanuelle Tulle who will be sharing her research into the experiences of women hillwalkers, which included interviewing Louise – should be fascinating. The meeting is on Tuesday 7 February at Leslie Town Hall.

Club News

It has now been confirmed that Leslie Town Hall will close in March, and therefore our February meeting will be our last at that location. The committee has decided that in future we will meet at the Lomond Centre. Our first meeting will be the Annual General Meeting at 7.30pm on Tuesday 7 March, which will be followed by the Silent Auction.

If you have any items of hillwalking equipment for the Silent Auction, please bring them along on the night. All proceeds will go to the Galloway Mountain Rescue Team.

The [Calendar](#) on the website is now up to date with the meeting, walk and weekend dates for 2017. You can also view and print a [Forecast of Events](#).

Finally, thanks to all those members who have helped out with running the front door and making the refreshments over the last year. Your help has been invaluable in helping to make our meetings run smoothly.

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

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