

Perth & District Hillwalking Club
Monthly Bulletin April 2016

May Monthly Walks Reminder – Combined Coach Outing on Sunday 1st May

The Challenging walks will run from Glen Ample over Munros and a Corbett, back to Lochearnhead. The Moderate walks will be based at Callander. The routes are in the current walk tables. Bookings to Elsie Wilke by **Thursday 21st April** please.

Walk tables for June to August will be issued with next month's Bulletin.

May Weekend Meet (13th, 14th, 15th)

The Ariundle Centre Hostel at Strontian, (Ardgour) may still have vacancies. If you are interested in going, please book directly with the hostel and let Margaret Band know. We have no guarantee the places are still vacant, so please book **urgently!**

(01967 402279; e-mail: ariundle@aol.com)

September Weekend Meet at Ullapool SYHA Hostel (16th, 17th, 18th)

As the club bookings are now closed, and anyone still wanting to attend, needs to book directly with the hostel or SYHA. (www.syha.org.uk Tel: 08452937373 or with the hostel. Tel: 01854 612254 E-mail: ullapool@syha.org.uk) Please let the SYHA or the hostel know you are with the Perth Hillwalking Club group, and also let Margaret Band know.

Membership Renewal (Due 1st March!)

A Membership Application Form can be downloaded from the club website, and a copy has been sent to members not able to access the website. Please send completed forms, with a cheque for **£20**, to Eric Pryde. (5F Croft Park, Perth PH2 0DX)

Members' Photos for the Club Facebook Page

Andy Miller, who designed and maintains our Facebook page, would really like to have more member photos. Please send them to: iamajmiller@hotmail.com

Arran Outing this Summer on Sunday 3rd July

At the AGM we confirmed that the Arran Midsummer Outing will now be held as a normal Combined Coach monthly outing. The walk routes will be in the new tables to be published on 3rd May.

Mobile Phones on Monthly Walks

Further to the note in the March Bulletin, it's important to remind you about registering your phone with the SMS (Short Messaging Service) text service to 999. (All you have to do is text "Register" to 999, and await a return confirmation text.) Whether by phone or text to 999, you ask for "POLICE & MOUNTAIN RESCUE".

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Combined Coach Report: Sunday 3rd April 2016 – Loch Laggan/Creag Meagaidh

This was not planned as a combined coach outing, but with only 18 booking for the `A` group and 11 for the `B`, we could not afford to run 2 coaches. After 2 transfers from the `A` to `B` groups and 2 guest bookings for both `A` and `B` groups, we had a total of 33. (18 `A` & 15 `B`) One of Docherty's new 35 seat coaches was hired to check the suitability of the luggage areas, and allow easier access to all the drop-off and parking locations.

After 4 cancellations we had 29 on the coach. To reduce the time delay between the longer `A` routes and the Moderate route, we moved the Challenging Plus group to the Challenging, and moved the Less Challenging to South Laggan (Creag Pitridh) The Challenging Plus and Challenging groups walked as a group of 9. The Less Challenging group had 7. We formed 2 Moderate groups with a total of 13. We left Perth on time with dull and misty weather travelling north. It was much clearer at Dalwhinnie, but worsened again as we travelled west, with mist and drizzle. Weather forecasts varied, but in general, drizzle and rain were expected, but improving later in the day. Groups in the Creag Meagaidh range had poor weather all day, and the South Laggan areas were slightly better, with some clear spells in the afternoon.

All groups completed their walk in very good time, although a guest on the Challenging walk had to be escorted back off the hill to Aberarder, followed by a long road walk to the coach at Luiblea. We originally had 7 guests book, and certainly a record in recent years. We had 5 guests on the day, and 4 seemed interested in joining the club.

The Challenging group returned to Aberarder at 15.30, the Less Challenging to Luiblea at 15.15, and the 2 Moderate groups between 15.15 and 15.45. Our return to Perth was very much earlier than had we ran all Challenging walks, by at least 1 hour. Everyone seemed to enjoy their walk, in spite of the poor weather. The pub stop was the Atholl Arms Hotel, and always a good venue, despite the poor reception when we phoned ahead to confirm our group, to hopefully give them a little advance warning! At least, by making some compromises, with this combined coach outing, the club finances are in much better shape.

George Smart 4th April 2016

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2016-17 Committee

George Smart	Chairman
Charles Evans	Vice Chairman
Neil Sandilands	Treasurer
Frances Berry	Publicity
Eric Pryde	Membership Secretary
Gary Sinclair	Secretary
Julia Coulson	Minute Secretary
Elsie Wilke	Day Meet Secretary
Margaret Band	Website and Weekend Meet Secretary
Susan Duguid	Bulletin Editor
David Clark	
Alan Davidson	

Relevant Courses 2016

We strongly encourage all members to learn to navigate.

MCofS are running **Navigation Skills** courses at a cost of £35 for members and £45 for non-members (includes one year's membership subscription for only £10!).

Two of these courses take place at Tillicoultry later this month, so call soon to book.

MCofS: 01738 493942

<http://www.mcofs.org.uk/navigation-courses.asp>

Ancrum Centre, Dundee are running **Scrambling Skills** courses at a cost of £45 for a full day. Call 01382 435911 or follow the links below.

Sun 22nd May: <http://www.ancrum.com/courses/scrambling-multi-pitch>

Sat 4th June: <http://www.ancrum.com/courses/scrambling-skills-course>

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Monthly Bulletin Editor

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