

**Perth & District Hillwalking Club**  
**Monthly Bulletin May 2016**

**Walk Tables for June, July, August & Club Membership Cards**

The new walk tables will be e-mailed with the Bulletin, or posted by the middle of May. As a further cost saving, we will not produce our standard Membership Cards. Much of the normal data is subject to change; weekend meet venues for example, as are some of the dates we normally list. We will produce a data sheet showing committee members and their jobs, and any other useful information. These will be sent along with the walk tables.

**June Monthly Walks Reminder – Combined Coach Outing on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June**

All walks will start and finish at Linn of Dee near Braemar. The Challenging walks will be in the Southern Cairngorms, and the Moderate walks will be on lower level circuits in the same area. The routes are in new walk tables. Bookings to Elsie Wilke by **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May** please.

**September Weekend Meet at Ullapool SYHA Hostel (16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>)**

As club bookings are now closed, anyone wanting to attend, needs to book directly with the hostel or SYHA. ([www.syha.org.uk](http://www.syha.org.uk) Tel: 08452937373 or with the hostel. Tel: 01854 612254. ([ullapool@syha.org.uk](mailto: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 (Very Overdue from 1<sup>st</sup> 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)

**Duke of Edinburgh Volunteers for Perth High School**

They are looking for qualified leaders, and assistant leaders to assist with their DofE scheme. The emphasis is on being a competent walker. If you would like to get involved with this, please contact **Tony McClelland on 01738 628271**. ([amcclelland@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:amcclelland@pkc.gov.uk))

**Mobile Phones on Monthly Walks**

Further to the notes in the March & April Bulletins. If you don't carry a GPS unit, and have a smartphone, it may be worthwhile investigating GPS apps. Many phones have a GPS capability, which will normally have to be switched on. There are many apps available to download free, including the Ordnance Survey "OS Locate". The phone battery life will be reduced of course!

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## **Combined Coach Report: Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2016 – Callander & Lochearnhead**

We returned to this area this year, as most walks were cancelled last May in terrible weather conditions, when we all walked the Rob Roy Way to Callander in pouring rain. This year we had a very low booking of 27, and after several transfers to the Moderate walk, (there were no bookings for the Moderate/Easy walk) we had 5 on each of the Challenging & Less Challenging walks. We had 2 cancellations, leaving 25 on the coach, and a total of 15 on the Moderate walk, in groups of 7 and 8.

The weather forecast was for heavy rain and strong winds early, but dying out by midday, with lighter winds. In fact, by midday it was dry with clearing skies, and some sunshine.

All groups completed their walk in good time, in spite of some “challenging” conditions on the higher level walks. The 2 Moderate groups arrived back at the coach at 15.00 and 16.00, and had refreshments at various venues in Callander. The Challenging and Less Challenging groups arrived at the Clachan Cottage (their Pub Stop) in Lochearnhead, at 16.45 and 17.00 respectively.

A reasonable day out after the weather improved, with everyone enjoying their walk. Exactly 20 fewer bookings compared to the same time last year is certainly very disappointing.

George Smart                      2<sup>nd</sup> May 2016

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## **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!).

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

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

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Monthly Bulletin Editor

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