

Perth & District Hillwalking Club
Monthly Bulletin April 2017

May 2017 Monthly Walks Reminder on Sunday 7th

This is a **combined coach** outing to the Western Cairngorms, leaving Perth at **07.00**.

Two Challenging walks are planned to the east of Glen Feshie, and two Moderate walks starting at Feshiebridge and finishing at Loch Morlich and Coylumbridge.

Bookings to Elsie Wilke by Thursday 27rd April please.

May Weekend Meet on 12th, 13th, 14th

We have booked places at the Bearnock Country Centre Hostel, near Cannich. We had very poor weather when we went in 2015, so hopefully it will be better this year. There's certainly loads to do within easy reach of Bearnock! Bookings to Margaret Band please.

Please note the closing date is 10th April!

September Weekend Meet

We were hoping to reserve places at SYHA Torridon for 15th to 17th September.

Unfortunately the hostel is already fully booked for these dates, so we will have to re-consider the dates and/or location. Please look out for a special bulletin later this month to update you on the new plan.

Membership Renewal

Subscriptions were due at the end of February. An application form can be downloaded from the club website. There will be forms available on the coaches today, and at the AGM. Please send completed forms and a cheque for £20, to Eric Pryde at 5F Croft Park, Perth PH2 0DX.

Mountain Mind Quiz

Andy Miller, Tony Jackson and Ewan Macdonald represented PHWC in the quiz on Wed 8th March at Queen's Hotel, Nethergate, Dundee. They came in a creditable 9th out of 15, which is pretty impressive considering the competition from the worlds of mountaineering and climbing.

Dee Corbett

Last month we heard the sad news of the death of one of our members, Dee Corbett. Dee joined the Club in summer 2015 and enjoyed taking part in the Challenging walks. She was an enthusiastic walker with a bright personality and will be missed by club members who walked with her.

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**New Committee
2017-18 Committee**

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

Chairman's Message

On behalf of the club I would like to thank George for his six years as Chairman of the Club and for the great amount of work he put into it. This will be a hard act to follow but I will try to keep the standard that he set. I would also like to thank all on the Committee for their diligence. A special thanks to Frances, for her fine efforts on the publicity side and who is now standing down.

I see my tenure as two years and not the six that George served; with that in mind we need to have a Vice Chairman on the Committee in the very near future. This seems to be well in hand.

For various reasons we have lost members over the years but with a membership of 87 we remain in a reasonably healthy position membership wise. Where we are down is the number of members booking for monthly walks. I know one of the problems is duplication of routes. Our planning Committee put in a lot of effort to mix and match; after all there are only so many places we can go especially with the restriction of the coach drivers' hours. We have to combine Coach trips because of the low take up, (the next two months for example) and tying in the Challenging and the Moderate groups takes some organising. The Committee works on roughly a three year cycle.

So let us all get out there and enjoy the wonderful countryside we are so fortunate to have on our doorstep.

Charles Evans March 2017

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Combined Coach Report - Sunday 2nd April 2017 – Glenshee

By the time of our deadline date for confirming the coach, we had a booking total of only 22 and so we booked the 33-seater coach. Several late bookings then took the total numbers to 33, and the last 3 to apply had to be turned away due to lack of space on the coach. One member volunteered to travel by car and take 2 passengers, then 2 late cancellation left us with 28 on the outing and 25 on the coach.

After the usual transfers, we had 10 on the Challenging walk, 4 on the Less Challenging, 8 on the Moderate, and 6 on the Moderate/Easy.

The weather forecast was for a bright and dry day, with sunny intervals and light winds. This is how it turned out, with lovely clear views in all directions, although the wind was brisk and chilly at higher level. Unusually at this time of year, there was negligible snow at high level, so the Munro groups all had an easier than expected day, with short walk times – Less Challenging returned at 14.45 and Challenging at 15.30.

The coach waited at The Spittal for the Moderate and Moderate/Easy groups, before returning to the Ski Centre. The Moderate/Easy group returned from their walk at 14.00 and the coach took them to the Ski Centre Café for refreshments before returning to The Spittal for the Moderates, who arrived at 15.50.

All groups completed their walks in good time, with the Challenging and Less Challenging groups being much faster than expected, due to the easy walking conditions.

A great day out in lovely weather, but whilst it's a familiar tale, had everyone booked on time, we would have had a bigger coach. Also, we would have had 33 members paying for the coach instead of 29!

George Smart

3rd April 2017

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Monthly Bulletin Editor

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