

**Perth & District Hillwalking Club
Monthly Bulletin September 2017**

October 2017 Monthly Walks Reminder on Sunday 1st October

This is a **combined coach** outing to the Crianlarich area, leaving Perth at **07.00**. Bookings to Elsie Wilke by **Thursday 21st September** please.

2018 Weekend Meets

Please note the following proposed dates and locations for 2018 weekend meets. We welcome any other hostel suggestions from members.

February 16 th and 17 th	Glen Nevis
May 18 th , 19 th , 20 th	Ratagan
September 14 th , 15 th , 16 th	Inchnadamph

Annual Slides and Buffet Evening at Craigie Hill on Friday 17th November.

As usual, we're looking for presenters to show up to around **50 photos**, with the theme; "**Hills and Mountains Anywhere**". Please let George know if you would like to show some photos. Also, we will be selling tickets soon now. They will be available on the coach from next month, or by an SAE and cheque to **Alan Davidson**. The ticket price will be the same as last year, at **£12**.

Appeal for archive photos

We are hoping to be able to show some photos at the Slide Show night to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Club. If you have any relevant photos, please send them to George george.smart3@btopenworld.com.

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Combined Coach Report - Sunday 3rd September 2017

Loch Awe/Cruachan/Taynuilt

We had a booking total of 33 for this outing, and 5 cancellations by Sunday. As our normal 35-seat coach had been damaged it was replaced with a 49-seater.

On Saturday evening the bus marshal had considered changing the walks to the Glen Doll area, as the rainfall and wind speeds predicted for the Cruachan area were terrible, and potentially unsafe. However the early Sunday morning forecast showed lower wind speeds and no significant rain until late afternoon, so we went to the original venue. We left Broxden on time, and picked up members in Lochty, Crieff, and Lochearnhead.

After a toilet stop at Tyndrum, we reached the Lochawe village area at 08.55 and dropped off all challenging grade walkers. The coach was based at Taynuilt to pick up the Moderate group, before returning to Lochawe village and the new Ben Cruachan Inn.

After the usual changes we had 3 in the Challenging Plus group, 5 in the Challenging, 10 in the Less Challenging, and 10 in the Moderate.

The Moderate group had decided to change their walk to start at Bridge of Awe and do an extended Moderate/Easy walk. All groups started in fairly clear and dry conditions, and the Moderate group had the same all day with some clear views. However the Munro groups had thick mist above around 700m, with strong winds at Munro height. As forecast the winds appeared to be 40-45mph most of the morning, and along with the fine mist and drizzle, walking conditions were very unpleasant. Because of these conditions the Less Challenging group shortened their walk from two Munros to one. The heavy rain didn't start until late afternoon, when all groups except the Challenging Plus had returned to the coach.

Considering the poor conditions at higher level, all groups returned in good time. The Moderate and Less Challenging groups finished at 15.00, the Challenging group at 16.05. The Challenging Plus had the toughest walk and finished at 17.40.

In spite of the poor conditions at higher level, everyone appeared to enjoy their day, including our 3 guests.

George Smart 4th September 2017

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