



# Glenrothes Hillwalkers Club

Affiliated to the Mountaineering Council of Scotland



## Monthly Newsletter – February 2017

### Introduction

Welcome to the February newsletter, with a roundup of news on walks, weekends, meetings and Club news.

Contributions from members are always welcome - you can email them to the Secretary at [secretary@glenrotheshillwalkers.co.uk](mailto:secretary@glenrotheshillwalkers.co.uk).

### Walks

The **first walk of 2017** on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January saw a nearly full minibus heading down the M74 to walk in the Ayr Valley. The 15 members split into 2 groups, with 9 members in a combined A and B groups walking up over Little Cairn and onto Cairn Table before making their way into Muirkirk. There was not much in the way of a view in any direction, but we enjoyed the view indicator on Cairn Table with pointers to Arran and Ben Lomond amongst others – all we could see was cloud! The more adventurous amongst us decided that just touching the bottom of the large summit cairn was not good enough, and proceeded to climb up to the top – well done Ian and Steve.

Meanwhile the 6 member C group walked from Sorn to Muirkirk on the River Ayr Way, encountering a difficult river crossing on the way. The weather was pretty atrocious, but this did not dampen our spirits. The plan was to have a drink in the hotel in Muirkirk, but it proved to be a little too much spit and sawdust with no coffee or tea available, just hardened drinkers! We therefore headed back to the Happendon services on the M74 to have a brew.



On the way up Little Cairn with George and Yvonne in the lead



Sherpa Morris at the real summit of Cairn Table

The **February walk** is on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> with 3 walks planned around the Aberfeldy area. The A walk is taking in Creagan na Beinne, a Corbett, the B walk is going up Meall Dearg, a Graham, and the C walk is doing part of the Rob Roy Way. The good news is that all the walks are finishing at a hostelry – the A and C walks at the Kenmore Hotel, and the B walk at the Schiehallion Bar in Aberfeldy.

We currently have 14 members signed up and will lay on a minibus. 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).



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## Weekends

The **first weekend** of the year is a 2 night stay at the Blackwater Hostel in Kinlochleven on March 24th, with 6 beds available and now booked. If you would like to go, please contact Jim Anderson by [email](#) or phone on 07806 509977 as he may be able to get additional beds if the hostel is not busy.

So far the Drumnadrochit weekend in April and the Rum weekend in July are proving to be the most popular, so, if you want to go on either weekend, please get your name down with Jim now.

The full programme is available on the [website](#).

## Meetings

**This month's speaker** was Dr Emmanuelle Tulle from Glasgow Caledonian University, who shared some of the background and conclusions of her research into the experiences of women hillwalkers. Dr Tulle outlined some of the history of the first women to go into the mountains and the barriers that they faced, and then gave some examples of attitudes towards women mountaineers and how they have changed over time. She also pointed out that the most common cause of complaint from women walking with men was too fast a pace – something for us all to take into consideration.

On **Tuesday 7 March** there is no speaker as this is our Annual General Meeting, followed by the Silent Auction. The AGM sees the election of your new committee for the following year, and there are still vacancies if you would like to get involved in keeping the Club running.

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.

Please note that this will be our 1<sup>st</sup> meeting at The Lomond Centre, our new location following the closure of Leslie Town Hall. All future meetings will be held at The Lomond Centre

## Club News

The **Aviemore Adventure Festival** is being held on 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> March. This year the festival is being expanded to include more outdoor activities & workshops (including taster sessions in ski mountaineering, paddle boarding, canoeing) and activities with local outdoor athletes such as a ride along event with Lee Craigie and The Adventure Syndicate.

On top of this, there will be a great line up of adventure films & talks from guest speakers. The speaker line up this year includes: Cedar Wright (renowned rock climber & film-maker), Alastair Humphreys (acclaimed author and worldwide adventurer); and Justine Curgenvin (long distance kayaking expeditioner). You can find more details at [www.aviemoreadventure.org.uk](http://www.aviemoreadventure.org.uk) .

On Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March there is an event called **Adventurous Tales**, which is a night to celebrate all things adventure. The event takes place at 7:30pm at The Three Sisters (Upstairs Bar) in Edinburgh. The speakers are Robbie Phillips (Pro Climber) and Willis Morris (Speedwing Pilot), and there will also be two brand new adventure film screenings from Scottish filmmakers.



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There will be food provided as well as some great chances to win prizes from Patagonia, Cliff Bar, Red Bull, Epic TV and more.

There is a Facebook page which has lots of information and giveaways at <https://www.facebook.com/adventuroustales/>

Tickets are available through the Facebook page or via <https://app.etickets.to/buy/?e=14619>

We are planning another **Navigation Training** weekend, but have not yet fixed a date as we only have one student who wants to take part so far. If you are interested in learning how to navigate using a map and compass, please contact the Training and Safety Officer by [email](#). More details of the course can be found on the Training and Safety page on the website

**Club Subscriptions** are due for renewal at the AGM. The Adult subscription for 2017-18 remains at £25 and can be paid in cash, by cheque at the meeting, or online – please ask for the account details for BACS transfers.

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](#).

*Brian Robertson*

Secretary and editor

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