

Perth & District Hillwalking Club
Monthly Bulletin April 2021

Monthly Walks Reminder (SINGLE COACH) for Sunday 2nd May 2021

The separate attached walk table, gives details for the Challenging, Less Challenging, and Moderate walks on this Combined coach, leaving Broxden at 07:00 for walks around the Spittal of Glenshee area. Do read the attached notes for Day Meets Covid logistics to ensure we are all still taking the proper precautions. Please make your bookings/payment online via [EntryCentral.com](https://www.entrycentral.com) (search under "May" to access the different walks) or by post to Elsie Wilke (details of both on the website) **All bookings, by either method, by Thursday 22nd April at the latest please.**

Some people may be owed money from previous cancelled trips. If this is the case, George will contact you when you book onto your next walk for a refund.

Future Monthly Walks

Please look for further Bulletins to confirm the coach outings and venues. Drafts have been done of walks up to August, so we will issue those when they are finalised and we can confirm travel arrangements.

Walk Reports for Sunday 11th April 2021 – Car Transport meet

With the easing of Covid restrictions from 5th April, and the planned further easing of travel restrictions from 26th April, the committee decided to restart club activities. We decided on a gradual return to the hills, with outings using car transport on 11th April, before a planned first coach outing on 2nd May. We had a total of 30 book for 11th April, with 15 in each of the Moderate and Challenging groups. The current restrictions allow for a maximum of 15 in a group, with an advisory 6 – 8 in each walking group.

Challenging Group Ben Lawers Range

We had 1 person cancel from the Challenging group, and after a couple of group changes, we all started from the Lawers car park at 08.30, with 6 in the Challenging and 8 in the Less Challenging groups. The weather was lovely and sunny in all directions, with light winds, after a hard overnight frost. Although higher areas had snow and ice, we didn't need ice axes or crampons, but some members used "spikies" on the steeper slopes. Tony Jackson flew his drone during breaks, to record some stunning photography. The Challenging group did Beinn Ghlas, Ben Lawers, followed by Meall Corranaich. The Less Challenging group did Beinn Ghlas, followed by Ben Lawers. Both groups returned via the path below Beinn Ghlas, to join the outward route back to the car park. All members arrived at the car park between 14.00 and 14.30, just as the skies were starting to locally cloud over, with some light snow. Everyone enjoyed the walks, and were obviously pleased to be back on the hills.

George Smart 12th April 2021

Moderate Group Comrie Circular Hill Walk

With no cancellations, we had a total of 15, and split into groups of 8 and 7. Both groups did the same walk, starting from the car park by the Comrie Golf Club. The route ascended on the east side of the Deil's Cauldron to Balmuick Farm, to continue by Silver Hollow, to the first break by the remains of a stone circle. The route continued to Braefordie, where some ponds are being developed for wild birds, and down through Balmenoch Wood, to the lunch stop by a waterfall. The route utilised some former estate driveways, followed by a final stop by Milton Burial Ground. The return to the car park was by the track through Laggan Wood. The first group reached the car park by 14.00, and the other group at 15.00. The weather, although chilly, remained dry and mostly sunny, with little wind. There were fine views in all directions, from various points along the way and several sightings of Red Kites. Everyone said they enjoyed the walk, and so good to be out on such a good weather day.

Cris Bonomy 12th April 2021

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Reminders / Requests

Membership renewal We still have some outstanding payments due. If you still wish to continue with membership of the Club, subscriptions of £20 are now due for 2021. Could you please pay via Entry Central or send form and payment to Peter Lodge. If you don't wish to continue with the Club membership, it would also be useful for us to know so we can amend our membership list - thank you.

Winter walking gear As there is no way of telling what the weather forecast will be on the day, but if it looks like winter walking conditions, the Challenging groups should be aware to bring ice axe and crampons. (*A reminder of the correct winter walking gear/equipment required can be found on the website*).

Photos Please email your best shots from the walks to Stephen or Fiona if you are happy for them to be used for publicity purposes/website/Facebook.

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