



GLASGOW GLENMORE CLUB NEWSLETTER SPRING 2007

Chairman's Chunter

A happy New Year to anyone I've yet to meet in person. The Burn's Supper weekend was a great success, and a fruitful Saturday was enjoyed by almost everyone. The winds were strong and caused parties to modify or shorten their plans. The lack of snow made me walk rather than attempt a ski tour. Sunday's forecast made many to drive home early although the conditions appeared to be better than expected. The almost continual high winds have been a feature of last winter and this one so far.

The Newtonmore Activity Centre was an excellent choice for the Burn's Supper with seating for 50+. Due to the favourable reports we have made a booking for next year already. It is only a 2 hour drive and accessible by public transport.

We are now entering the tail end of my Chairmanship and just like Tony I'm keen to leave a legacy, luckily I've no intention of fighting a protracted, bloody and futile war with anyone. I'll leave that to next year's committee. Speaking of which as two current committee members are standing down there are a couple of vacancies, for sure, at the AGM. So if you fancy giving it a go? Or just want to find out a little more about the commitment. Please feel free to ask a current incumbent their thoughts.

The programme for the next few months is particularly interesting for me as it visits lots of places on my Corbett/Munro tick list so I hope to see you there.

Gordon

Editorial

Like Gordon, my time on the committee is coming to an end and so perhaps readers will allow me a little reflection on the last few years of the Club. I hope you agree that the Club is in good shape ... since we celebrated our 50th only 3 years ago (yes, there are still anniversary books available) we've introduced the popular small hostel meets, moved our indoor meet venue to the comfortable surroundings of the clubhouse of Hyndland Bowling Club and seen such increased demand for weekend meets that finding big enough venues is proving quite a challenge. It's also good to see new members joining – without them it might just be 'Grahams weekends' in the not too distant future!

Perhaps one of the main reasons that our Club thrives, in addition to the enthusiasm of our members, is the constitution which allows no more than 6 years on the committee, with a limit of 3 years in any post. This means we have enjoyed a steady turnover of committee members giving a fresh input of ideas etc. So if you haven't done a stint, please think about it.... meantime, happy planning for your days out and don't forget the indoor meets – we have some really interesting upcoming talks over the next couple of months, so read on!

Henry

Programme

- Bookings will open on Monday 12th February.
- At the end of the newsletter is a revised list of the remaining meets for the current season. Please note that the date of the AGM is now Thursday May 10th and not May 3rd as shown in previous newsletters.
- All indoor meets commence at 7.30 pm at the clubhouse of Hyndland Bowling Club, Queensborough Gardens.
- Information about the June and July meets will be in a news-sheet to be issued in April along with the papers for the AGM.

February Co-ordinator - Jon Barnes

Sunday 11th February - Killin -Winter skills refresher (snow permitting) OS 51 GR NN 575333

Would all Glenmorons wishing to avail themselves of the opportunity to brush up on their winter mountaineering skills practice (including use of ice axe and crampons) please confirm their intentions to participate (if they have not already done so) , directly to Douglas Philp as soon as possible. This is to enable deployment of sufficient instructors and if necessary to arrange to borrow some kit for members, not already in possession thereof.

Each participant will require an ice axe, crampons and a helmet.
When notifying participation, please intimate whether you already possess all three items.

The winter skills refresher is not compulsory and those that wish may trot along Tarmachan or loup over Lawers.... all you have to do is decide and fill in a route card when we meet in the car park in Killin, per above GR.

Thursday 15th February - David Shenton - Upland and Mountain Plants

We all climb the hills, but how many of us can recognise the plants that we see around us? Here is a chance to rectify this deficit under the expert guidance of David Shenton of the Scottish Wildlife Trust, who combines an intimate knowledge of mountain flora with excellent photographic skills. I for one have long sought for some justification for

always being the last up a mountain. In the future, hopefully, I will be able to explain that I was admiring the dwarf cornel seen along the route and would undoubtedly have beaten everyone to the top had I not been so distracted!

Pre-meet meal at Di Maggios, Ruthven Lane at 6 pm. Please tell Jon if you would like to attend.

Friday 23rd - Sunday 25th February 2007 - Loch Ossian - OS 41 GR 370671

At the time of going to press, this meet is fully booked ... but there may be a last minute call-off so if you are interested in going then contact Jon. Full details of the meet are in the last newsletter.

March Co-ordinator - Henry Perfect

Thursday 1st March - Jason Ormiston - Renewable Energy

Jason Ormiston is the acting chief executive of Scottish Renewables. Scottish Renewables is the trade association for the renewables industry in Scotland and works to make the case for renewable energy technologies in electricity, heat and transport. Jason will talk about the current state of play for renewables in Scotland and also about the potential for each to help make Scotland a world leader in renewable energy.

Pre-meet meal at Di Maggios, Ruthven Lane, at 6 pm. Please tell Henry if you intend to dine.

Sunday 11th March - Balquidder - OS 57 GR 446184

This is a re-run of the Balquidder meet arranged almost exactly one year ago, which had to be abandoned because of the very heavy snowfall that day. Let's hope the snow is still around but allows us to meet at 0930 in the small car park at above GR. From the Kingshouse Hotel drive along Loch Voil-side for approx 11km, the car park is on the left. A good variety of hills in this area, both Munros and Corbetts. Afterwards for the thirsty, meet in the Monachyle Mhor hotel (halfway up the glen, above the road) for drinks or pub meal.

Thursday 15th March - Steve Campbell - Photography

Steve Campbell is a professional portrait photographer based in Milngavie (www.scotimages.com). He is also a member of a local camera club as he likes the company of those interested in photography. As a former scientist he learned traditional film-based photography with some extreme technical twists. Twenty years ago he began grabbing images from video cameras. After the development of digital cameras he then turned to digital imaging and image processing. Latterly he devised and taught courses on image processing.

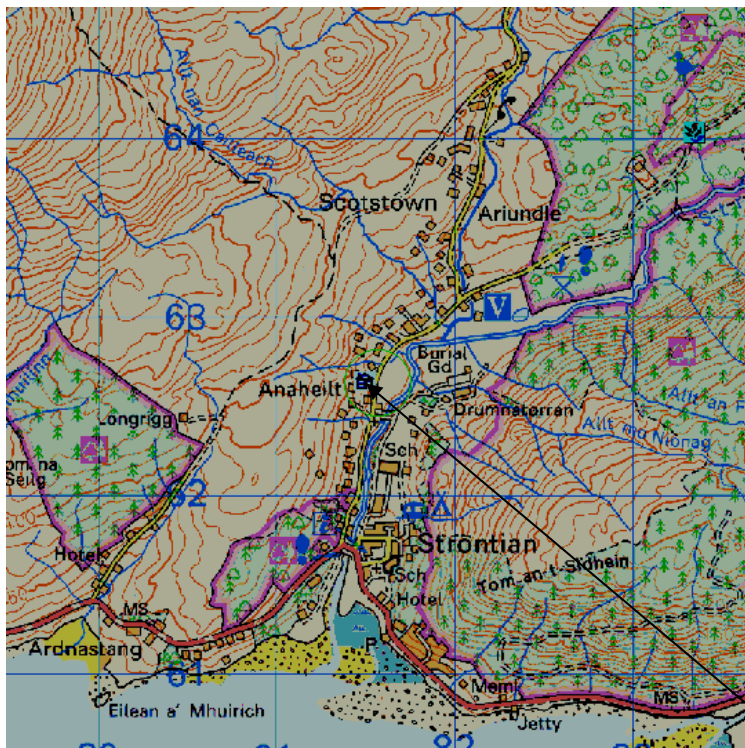
His talk will be divided into two parts. The first half will be concerned with digital cameras and the capture of digital images. He will discuss why some of the best pictures on the Club's web site are excellent and then go on to constructively criticize the worst. The second part of the talk will be concerned with image processing. Images from the Club's web site will be used to illustrate why those who publish images either in print or the internet, should learn how to image process. Examples images from the Club's web site will be manipulated in a live demonstration.

Pre-meet meal at Di Maggios, Ruthven Lane, at 6 pm. Please tell Henry if you want to dine.

Friday 23rd - Sunday 25th March - Ariundle Centre, Strontian - OS 40 GR NM814626

Tel. 01967 402279 www.ariundle.co.uk

We have booked all 28 beds at the newly built Ariundle Centre hostel, Strontian, in the heart of Ardgor. There is back-up accommodation at 4 B&B's nearby, and there's also space for tents in the grounds of the hostel. For the Saturday night the adjoining restaurant can provide a meal, with a limited choice 3 course menu at £15 or two courses at £12, with vegetarian options for either. The hostel is on the right hand side of the road up the glen, one mile from the main road through Strontian.



Ariundle Centre

The cost of the weekend is £25 pp: please make out cheque to Glasgow Glenmore Club and send to Henry: also, please tell Henry if you wish to have the meal on the Saturday night.

April Co-ordinator - Isobel Freeman**Thursday 5th April - Graham Forbes - Rock and Roll Mountains**

Graham will be coming along to give us a very special musical tour of the mountains that inspired him. For those who haven't heard of Graham, he was a guitar player in the 'Incredible String Band' in the 70's who has now written a popular autobiography 'Rock and Roll Mountains' - sex, drugs, rock n 'roll and Munros are all there. Graham will be reading humorous excerpts, showing some stunning photos with some 70's rock music thrown in for good measure. He's well worth listening to - bring your pals. Rumour has it that he's just finished a new book so bring your cheque books too.
Ps - want to find out more, then simply Google Graham Forbes and read on!

Pre-meet meal at Di Maggios, Ruthven Lane at 6pm. Please tell Isobel if you want to attend.

Friday 6th - Monday 9th April - Lairg, Dunroamin Caravan Park - OS 16 GR NC585063

<http://www.lairgcaravanpark.co.uk/index.htm>

30 places have been booked in 6 x 4 berth caravans and 1 x 6 berth caravan. If you have any 'sharing' preferences then please let Isobel know! **BRING SLEEPING BAGS** - there is some bedding but we found it inadequate last time.

Cost £45 per person: cheques made out to Glasgow Glenmore Club should be sent to Isobel.

Thursday 19th April - Dave Webster and John McPartlin - Ropes and Rivers.

Your instructors for the night will be demonstrating the latest techniques for security on steep ground and going over those knots you keep forgetting. We will also practice river crossing techniques (on dry land) - good preparation for those going to Fisherfield in June.

Pre-meet meal at Di Maggios, Ruthven Lane, at 6 pm. If you want to join the diners then please tell Isobel.

Friday 20th - Sunday 22nd April - Small Hostel Meet in Glen Etive, Grampian Club Hut - OS 41 GR NN158507

Located on road 1km beyond Dalness, the hut has 13 places plus camping; cost £4 per person per night in the cottage and £1 per night camping. The hut has electricity but no running water (burn 80m away) plus a composting toilet. Cooker, microwave, pans, plates, crockery all supplied but bring those sleeping bags- you will definitely need them here!. We need to bring some wood or coal for the stove so if everyone coming brought something burnable then we'll all keep warm!

Sunday 22nd April - Glen Etive. Kingshouse Hotel - OS 41 GR 259547

Meet at 9.30 am in the Kingshouse car park – who's mobile will be able to contact the party in the Grampian Hut to arrange a summit rendezvous?

May Co-ordinator - Douglas Philp**Friday 4th - Monday 7th May - Isle of Rum, Kinloch Castle - OS 39 GR 400996**

We have 20 places booked in the self catering private hostel alongside Kinloch Castle , comprising 2x 6 bedded rooms and 2x 4 bedded rooms. Bed linen is provided. Cost per person for accommodation at the hostel for three nights in total is £39.

Alternatively there is a basic camping area with toilets and running water, on the shores of Loch Scresort, within 10 minutes walk of the hostel and castle. We have predicted that 10 or more tents may be deployed by club members who wish to camp. SNH have intimated that this is not a problem. Currently there is no charge for camping.

The club has chartered the MV Shearwater from Arisaig Marine to transport club members to and from Rum. The cost per person for the return trip is £23. The outgoing sailing is from Arisaig (OS Sheet 40 GR 657 863) at 18.00 hr on Friday 4th May, arriving at Kinloch on Rum at approx. 20.00hrs.

The return sailing is from Kinloch on Rum at 14.00 hrs on Monday 7th May, via Eigg and arriving Arisaig at approx. 17.30 hrs.

Cheques for £62 (hostellers) or £23 (campers) should be sent to Douglas, made out to Glasgow Glenmore Club.

It is anticipated that many members may wish to go for an evening meal on the Saturday night at the Bistro at Kinloch Castle which offers a three course meal for £13.50. Please intimate when booking with Douglas whether you wish to attend the Saturday night meal and include £ 13.50 per person on your cheque. There are other parties staying at Kinloch Castle and so if we commit now for the meal then we should be assured of getting enough places in the restaurant which is understood to have a capacity for 30 persons. Some the main attractions of the island include the classic traverses of the Rum Cuillins including two Corbetts, Ainsival and Askival.

Thursday 10th May - AGM

A second reminder here of the date – a week later than previously intimated in order to avoid having a weekend meet the day after an indoor meet, and especially so with the meet in question being to Rum which is likely to require more packing etc than is normal for a weekend.

The AGM is an important meet for members to attend – so arrive early to bag your ringside seat - giving you the opportunity to have your say, make suggestions and generally play your part in taking the Club forward. Please make every effort to come along – it's not just a quorum we need! As mentioned earlier, we will be looking for some new faces on the committee because Gordon and Henry will not be standing in the election.

One of the topics which caused some lively discussion at recent AGM's is the annual charity donation, introduced 3 years ago, for footpath work. We have given this to NTS and the John Muir Trust (twice). Other footpath charities have been investigated but not chosen for various reasons, such as the Henry Higgins Trust (suggested by MCofS) because we could not be certain that our donation would be directed to footpath work, or even to a Scottish 'mountain' project. Therefore, any suggestions for a suitable charity would be welcome and these can be included with the papers for the AGM....so pass these on to Henry.

Friday 25th - Monday 28th May - Isle of Skye, Glenbrittle Youth Hostel - OS 32 GR 409225

We have booked all 36 places and have exclusive use of this Scottish YHA hostel, which nestles below Coire a Ghreadaidh on the West side of the Black Cuillin ridge. The cost per person for the three nights Friday, Saturday and Sunday is £40. Bed linen is provided.

Cheque should be sent to Douglas, and made payable to Glasgow Glenmore Club.

Skye is a mecca for mountaineers and the club is mounting one of its regular pilgrimages. Anyone seeking assistance for an ascent of the Inaccessible Pinnacle, from more able rock climbers within the Club, should make their aspirations known to Douglas who will seek to arrange this.

Apart from the Munro fest on the gabbro of the main Black Cuillin ridge, there is a sprinkling of Corbetts in the more gently rounded granite Red Hills which dominate the landscape between Broadford and Sligachan. Or you could trot along the spectacular Trotternish ridge from the Storr to the Quiraing in the NE peninsula of Skye. You are spoiled for choice!

Membership News

New Member: welcome to:
James Young,

And welcome back to:
Denis Pidgeon,

Although there appear to be no compleations to report, Alastair Morrison wrote to say '...I've completed the Sky Ridge in 9 hours from sea level to sea level' Those familiar with the Nerja area in Costa del Sol, southern Spain, will recognise the Sky Ridge as the Cuesta del Cielo (1508m)

Fort William Mountain Film Festival 2007

This year's film festival spans the two weeks from Friday 16th February to Saturday 3rd March. It's a mix of mountain films, both scenic and about practical mountain skills, talks ranging from local interest to international speakers, exhibitions, theatre, live music and lots more.

Visit www.mountainfilmfestival.co.uk for details.

Glen Doe Hydro-electric Project

At the recent New Year meet at Fort Augustus there was a fair amount of interest in the ongoing construction work for the Glen Doe hydro-electric project (well, what else would you expect from a civil engineer who produces this newsletter?). So, for those wanting to find out more about what is probably the last big hydro scheme to be built in Scotland, if not the UK, then visit www.glendoe.co.uk

Return of the Jacket

It's good to report that John Connell, of Hyndland Bowling Club, was reunited with his jacket which mysteriously reappeared after our Ceilidh, so if there is a Glenmoran (or guest of one who attended an indoor meeting) out there still missing his/her Hawkshead jacket, then please tell Henry.

Getting Clobbered at the Cobbler

Jim Stevenson would like to alert members to the fact that the car park at Succoth, a popular starting point for the Cobbler et al, is now pay-and display: a friend of his failed to spot a newly installed machine and returned from a mid-week walk to a parking ticket and £40 fine.



Mountain Bothies Association (MBA)

Winter 2006 Newsletter

This MBA Newsletter has all the up-dated news of bothy conditions and renovations, as well as many interesting letters and articles and much news and information about MBA activities, some of which were:-

- Results of recent elections of Trustees and Committee.
- Extensive renovation to Corrour bothy (Lairig Ghru), including an "experimental" toilet.
- "Getting Involved" - a very enthusiastic article by a relatively new MBA member, who discovered how much more he gained from "getting involved" with MBA activities.
- Notice of next AGM on 13th October at Longwathby, near Penrith.
- Volunteers wanted for various posts, including help with running Website and assistant to the Minute Secretary.
- Early Craig YH memories
- A letter entitled "Bothies - what wonderful things".

And don't forget the MBA Website, which among many other thing, even features photos of most of the many MBA-maintained bothies in Scotland and beyond - log on to www.mountainbothies.org.uk

As usual, this latest MBA Newsletter is available on loan from the Club Librarian, Connie Thomson.

Library

Ian McNab has donated a Cicerone guidebook "Walking in the Dolomites". Please add this title to your Club library list.

The £20 collected as donations for out-of-date library books will be handed on to the Mountain Rescue.

And finally....

Kate Moss is at the top of mountain, looking down, when suddenly she slips, and starts falling down, down, down....

But as she falls, she realises that amazingly, she's missing all the boulders and rocks that

litter the sides of the mountain. When she finally stops falling, she gets up, and finds that she's totally uninjured.

And the moral of this story is...?

A rolling Moss gathers no stones.

**Glasgow Glenmore Club-Season 2006/2007 -
List of Remaining Outdoor and Indoor Meets**

Note:

All indoor meets held at clubhouse of Hyndland Bowling Club, commencing 7.30pm

MONTH/ CO-ORDINATOR	OUTDOOR MEETS	INDOOR MEETS
February Jon Barnes	11 th Killin 23 rd -25 th Loch Ossian YH	15 th Upland & Mountain Plants
March Henry Perfect	11 th Balquidder 23 rd -25 th Ariundle Hostel, Strontian	1 st Scottish Renewables 15 th Photography-Local Club Speaker
April Isobel Freeman	6 th -9 th Lairg caravan park 22 nd Glen Etive 20 th -22 nd Inverfoilin, Glen Etive - small hostel meet	5 th "Rock n' Roll Mountains" 19 th Ropes
May Douglas Philp	4 th -7 th Rum, Kinloch Castle 25 th -28 th Skye, Glen Brittle YH	10 th AGM
June Gordon Dykes <i>pro tem</i>	10 th Cowal 22 nd -24 th Fisherfields (backpacking parties)	
July	13 th -16 th Inver Croft, Achnasheen - small hostel meet.	