



Glasgow Glenmore Club **Newsletter Autumn 2008**

Editorial

Summer is nodding towards autumn and the Glasgow Glenmore Club launches into another active programme. We didn't go to the Tatras or the Mercantour National Park but many of you will have been to exciting maybe even exotic places. With that in mind I would like to highlight the increased opportunity to show slides at indoor meets. The quality of members' photography has reached such an impressive level, that we can look forward to some very good shows. So, start putting things together while memories are fresh.

Once again, we will be asking you for favourite small hut meets, we will look for those of you who haven't paid yet to do so soon, more car sharing is on the agenda, bring your friends to indoor and/or outdoor meets and lets have a really good start to the season on Skye – you couldn't have a better venue and, looking at the weather just now, the autumn is bound to make up for it.

Ingrid

Programme for 2008 -2009

The full year's programme of outdoor and indoor meets is at the back of this newsletter.

For the weekend outdoor meets, here is a reminder of the booking arrangements :

1. Members wanting to attend a meet should, in the first instance, telephone or e-mail the coordinator for that month, in order to ascertain that a place (or places) is/are available and to confirm that a place (s) is/are requested. Alternatively, a member can add his /her name to the meet list at an indoor meeting.

Thursday 18. September Bon Accord 153 North Street OS 64 NS579657

This date is not suitable for the speakers or the Bowling Club, so we are having an extra pub night. This will be a chance to meet again with members you have not seen for a few months, and swap tales of exploits through the summer. Meet from 7:30 onwards.

Mary Cox has experienced views about the *cider* that's available there and David Foster has pushed out the boat on the range of *beers*!

26.-29. September Skyewalker Hostel, Portnalong OS 32 NG346348

We return to this hostel on the Isle of Skye, where we have booked 40 places for the September weekend. On offer here are the main hill groups of the Black Cuillin, Red Cuillin and Trotternish Ridge, plus a host of other attractions. If the weather is bad, there is a Marilyn of 369 meters only 3 km from the hostel, or we could visit Dunvegan Castle and watch the rain dripping through the roof.

The cost is £40 per head for three nights.. Will those who have booked already but not paid yet please pay now. It would help if additions to the list contacted the co-ordinator before Thursday 11 September, as up to that date, it will be possible to make some adjustment to the number of places reserved for us and the total cost.

David and I (Ingrid) have heard recently that the bridge over the river near Sligachan, where the path to Sgurr nan Gillian branches off, has gone and crossing the burn can be difficult. David could not find any info on this on the internet. But, as above, I predict a dry weekend!!!

John McPartlin adds:

Following the report in our own newsletter I found this report in the "Walk Highlands" website:-

<http://www.walkhighlands.co.uk/news/bridge-collapse-at-sligachan/0054>

This is the bridge across the Allt Dearg Mor (i.e. the first crossing nearer Sligachan) and is a crossing which is required for access to and from Coire a Bhasteir as well as Gilleann. This would indeed be a very serious problem if river levels were high.

Cheers,
John

October Co-ordinator Jon Barnes

Thursday 2. October 2007

Annapurna circuit

Most of us never do more than dream about visiting the Himalaya, but Dave Broadfoot, Isobel Freeman, Brian McDaid and Dave Webster went there in the Autumn of last year and took part in an organised trek that encircled Annapurna in Nepal. Lasting 3 weeks, it involved total climbing exceeding the height of Everest, fantastic scenery and was the experience of a lifetime. It will be enough to make us all turn green with envy! But why did they always sleep with their walking poles? You'll have to turn up to find out!

Sunday 12. October 2008

Killin

OS 51 Grid Ref. 575333

The village of Killin is the ideal meeting point for climbing some of the best hills within a day's reach of Glasgow. These include the Ben Lawers range and neighbouring Meall nan Tarmachan, the traverse of which in good weather provides a superb (and quite strenuous) day's hillwalking. Meet at the car park (above grid ref) at 09.30.

Thursday 23. October

Mountain Bothies

Joint meet with John Muir Trust

In this change to our normal programme, we are joining the Glasgow and West of Scotland Group of the John Muir Trust for a talk by John Arnott, Chairman of the Mountain Bothies Association. John will talk on "Mountain Bothies, Past, Present and Future." **Please note that this talk is not at our usual location, but in Glasgow Caledonian University, Hamish Wood Building, Room W1 19, and will start at 7.00pm!!!!** As is usual at JMT meetings, there will be a collection to defray speaker costs and hire of lecture theatre.

After the talk we hope to adjourn to a nearby pub, which will still have to be named. Suggestions welcome. We apologise for the proximity of this meet to the Minnigaff weekend.

Friday 24. to Sunday 26. October

Minnigaff Y.H.

Grid Ref. 411663

No Munros, but plenty of Corbetts, Donalds, Grahams and Marylins in this attractive Galloway location on the outskirts of Newton Stewart, including Merrick, the highest hill in the Southern Uplands. This is also good cycling country. The most useful map is O.S. Map 77 for the Galloway Forest Park. The hostel sleeps 36 in four dormitories. True to the traditions of the youth hostels of old, we must leave the place spick and span or else forfeit our deposit (and good reputation). I will therefore don the garb of a traditional hostel warden and allocate tasks on the Sunday morning – and moreover

check that they have been properly carried out! It will bring back happy memories to those of a certain age, and if by some chance you are younger, it will give you an insight into those innocent days of long ago! A telephone booking (to JB) will need to be followed by payment of £20.00, the cost of two nights at the hostel.

November Co-Ordinator Brian McDaid

**Thursday 6. November Scottish Country Dancing Practice
Dave Watson and Caroline Thompson**

In-house, for a change. Who can forget being taught 'the teapot' in the 'Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh' at the Hillhead Library. Some of us can be hard work, but it's always worth it and it really is enormous fun. We also attempt more serious dances and when it comes to the Ceilidh night it really does pay off, Never mind the repeat performance at Hogmanay and Burns' Supper.

(Editor)

Sunday 16. November The Lomond Hills OS 58 and 59 GR 228062

This may be a first for the club. Cannot remember a meet here, however, it is a bit different and I may be lucky and get the views I missed the last time I did them. *(Brian)*.

Thursday 20. November Tour of the Matterhorn Colin and Monica Farrow

Join us for a winter evening recalling summer adventures on the Tour of the Matterhorn, though it might equally be called the Tour of Dent Blanche or a host of other mountains. Sit back with your favourite beverage and enjoy some spectacular scenery, flora and fauna, as we take you through the highs and lows of this walking tour with some extensions up mountain peaks.

**Friday 28. November to Sunday 30. Elterwater Y.H.A. Ambleside Cumbria
LA22 9HX**

Elterwater YHA Ambleside Cumbria LA22 9HX

Take the A593 from Ambleside towards Coniston and turn right onto the B5343 after 2 miles, heading towards Langdale and Elterwater. After 1.5 miles cross cattle grid and take the next left turn to Elterwater. Pass through the village and cross the bridge to reach the hostel 50 yards on the right.

There is no car parking on site but luggage can be dropped off in the gateway. Parking in the National Trust car park is free overnight and to NT members otherwise pay and display or free in the car park on Elterwater Common 5 minutes walk away.
6 twin rooms at £28 pp on a first come first served basis or dorm at £24 pp for weekend

December Coordinator David Harrison

Friday 5. December Christmas Ceilidh

The Ceilidh returns again this year following on the success last year. The venue is the Hyndland Bowling Club. Eric Thomson and friends, 'The Reel Thing', will provide a festive night with many favourite tunes and dances. The well stocked bar will be open as usual and we can dance till midnight.

Contributions for party food for our traditionally stylish supper are welcome, as ever! £6.00 per ticket.

Sunday 14. December Succoth, Arrochar Alps OS 56 NGR NN 294048

Enjoy the early crisp winter snow after a short drive to Glasgow's mountain mecca. Meet at the car park at Succoth (**note £1 fee**). David suggests a **9.00 am start** on this occasion, to allow time to tackle at least two of the peaks!

**Wednesday 31 December – Sunday 4 January New Year Cairngorm Lodge YH
OS 36 NGR NN 976099**

We have chosen this New Year to travel to Aviemore and enjoy a superb choice of mountains. We have reserved a variety rooms with accommodation at ca.£65 per person for the four night stay. The prices will be slightly differentiated, depending on the size of the room. Details in the winter newsletter. There is no discount for fewer nights. The hostel is well appointed and, at the time of writing, the warden will allow us to use both the members kitchen and the hostel's commercial kitchen. There is a large dining hall, where we will hold the customary Hogmanay Ceilidh.

There will be a communal meal on Thursday 1. January. David will be in touch nearer the time for volunteer cooks etc.

Members' Slides

Due to the quality and popularity of presentations of the adventures of our own members, we've decided to have more opportunities in the 08/09 indoor programme to hear about and view them. If you have just a few slides of your travels, please consider showing them at the Members slide nights.

If you have been on a trip about which you could offer a short (15 minutes) illustrated talk opt for a 'Short talk' slot instead.

The dates are 4. January and 2. April, the format of each has not yet been fixed and we have an electronic projector as well as a traditional one.

Membership Renewal

Thank you to all who have paid their subscription in good time. A few haven't yet. Although the GGC deadline is past, MCofS have changed the date of their AGM which has given us a little more leeway. So, if you are in the latter group, contact Mary Cox.

Adults living in Scotland, membership £27, Adults living furth of Scotland £15 and Associate Members (16-18 years old) also £15.

If you belong to the latter, this newsletter will be your last, as you will no longer be on the mailing list.

Compleations

On Saturday 24. May. Isobel Freeman 'compleated' her Munros on *Mullach an Rathain* in the Rev. A. Robertson's boots! Some thirty Glenmorons and visitors joined her and Dave in a splendid party, on a splendid day, on a splendid summit. Congratulations Isobel. Great day. This and other events of the splendid weekend, along with pictures of the day are recorded on the website.

From the *sublime* to the *ridiculous* were the truly adverse conditions under which Dave Broadfoot 'compleated' his Munros on the 20th July with three other hardy souls, namely Dave Webster, Isobel and her friend Sue. Brian and Dennis of course met us back at the Pub, well actually, they walked about a mile in to meet us at the end of a long day on the hill.

Mountain Bothies Association (MBA)

MBA Spring 2008 Newsletter (too late for the last newsletter)

This letter included all the latest updates on bothy conditions and renovations, as well as other MBA news, including a "new" bothy at Duag Bridge, Easter Ross (work party in July 2008), Minutes of the last AGM in October 2007 at Longwathby and publicising Grid References of bothy locations when the MBA Website is re-designed

Other items included, among others:-

- "Bogs, Bothies and 'Boro' - an interesting account of a bothy trip through the North Yorks. Moors
- Excerpts from the MBA Website relating to "Celebrating in a Bothy".
- "Mountains of Heritage", an article by Mick Tighe on the setting up of a Scottish Mountain Heritage Collection, with descriptions of many interesting articles already collected - like one of Tom Weir's woolly hats and Tom Patey's piton hammer which he had with him on his last fateful climb.
- Two rather disheartening letters on the vexed subject of bothy vandalism (fortunately a fairly rare occurrence, given the large number of MBA-maintained bothies).

Both the above publications are available on loan from the Club Librarian, Connie Thomson.

MBA Summer Newsletter

As usual, the latest updates on bothy conditions and renovations were included in the newsletter, on this occasion accompanied by provisional notes for work parties between June and September and notification of two major work parties at Camban (Kintail) and Duag Bridge Schoolhouse up in the North West. It was also reported that there had been a substantial increase in numbers joining MBA in the last year (over 400), but despite this, MBA are still looking for Maintenance Organisers for a few bothies, in addition to a Minute Secretary.

A large part of this Newsletter was taken up by several exciting reports contributed by participants of a Work Party at Gorton Bothy (which GGC

looked after 1970-1995) in April this year, who ended up firefighting a moor fire which threatened to burn down Gorton. Partly due to their efforts and partly due to wind changes, Gorton was unaffected!

"Action for Mountain Woodlands" are looking for any information regarding mountain scrub tree species found on mountains, particularly dwarf willows. An on-line survey form is available from www.mountainwoodlands.org

Two letters regarding having "celebrations" in bothies, which cropped up on the MBA Website Forum recently were both against these. What do GGC members think on this subject?

The above publication is available on loan from the Club Librarian, Connie Thomson.

*In connection with bothies see also our – diverted – indoor meet on **23. October at the Caledonian University.***

Miscellaneous Information:

There are no **small hostel meets** in the programme so far. However, they were very popular. If anybody has a suggestion, please speak up. Mention it to any committee member or e-mail me.

Car sharing has become less of an issue in recent years, but it has neither ceased to exist, nor has it become unnecessary. There are a number of reasons to consider sharing and current petrol prices are a further incentive. Please consider sharing a car either formally or informally (as many members do anyway). Another option is to meet up with another party half-way and leave one car parked. Food for thought!

When new members join us let's make a special effort. At the AGM Henry mentioned a 'buddy system', which we would like to take on board. More on this anon.

Chris Bonnington will speak at the Citizens' Theatre on **2. September** at 7.30 pm. Price £15 (£12).

On a collision course with our indoor meets is a high profile talk by **Doug Scott** on **6. November**, at the Royal Concert Hall. Price £10.

Trekking Information:

Dear Ingrid & Club Members

As keen outdoor, adventurous people we thought that you might want to join us on a trip of a lifetime to Everest base camp this December 2008. There is also an option, time permitting, to climb the magnificent Island Peak (6189m).

We specialise in organising treks to the Himalaya region and we would like to offer your club and its members this great opportunity to join us.

Please phone or e-mail us info@trekkingencounters.com for more information or look at our website www.trekkingencounters.com

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I also have some hard copy info. (Ingrid)

Walking in southern Spain in 2009

Please excuse this unsolicited message but I hope that this introduction to Spanish Steps will be of interest to you

- Spanish Steps has been organising walking holidays and adventures in southern Spain and Morocco for almost 15 years. Our small UK registered Company is run by people who love walking - for people who love walking.
- The holidays are the result of years of personal experience walking in the spectacular Parques Natural of Andalucia. All our holidays are high in content and value, with most guests coming by way of recommendation or on return visits.
- Our guided holidays are suitable for pre-formed walking groups and clubs looking for an enjoyable holiday abroad combined with a program of exceptional and varied walks. These can be tailored to suit the walking abilities and requirements of your group.
- The holidays are also suitable for singles, couples and groups of friends who would like to be part of a larger group. We also offer self-guided holidays for those who prefer

to walk without a guide. The holidays do not include flights allowing guests to travel from their most convenient local airport in the UK and Ireland

I do hope that you get the chance to visit our website www.spanish-steps.com. If you need any further information including the discounts we offer to pre-formed groups, please do not hesitate to come back to me

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List of Outdoor and Indoor Meets

Note: All indoor meets held at clubhouse of Hyndland Bowling Club, **except the first meet on 18. Sept.** which will be at the same time, from 7.30, at the Bon Accord in North Street and **23. October at Caledonian University (Cowcaddens) at 7 o'clock.**

Outdoor Meets start at 9.30 am unless otherwise stated (see 14.December)

OUTDOOR MEETS	INDOOR MEETS
September (David Foster) 14 Glencoe/Kingshouse 26-29 Skye, Portnalong £40	18 Bon Accord
October (Jon Barnes) 12 Killin 24-26 Minnigaff £20.00 pp	2 Annapurna – Isobel F., Dave W., Brian McDaid and Dave Broadfoot. 23 –note change! – Mountain Bothy Association, Caledonian Uni *
November (Brian McDaid) 16 The Lomond Hills 28-30 Elterwater nr Grasmere YHA £26.00 pp	6 Country Dancing Practice (Dave Watson and Caroline Thompson) 20 Les Farrow’s – “Tour of the Matterhorn”
December (Dave Harrison) 14 Cobbler Area 31.12.-4.1.2009 Cairngorm Lodge (Loch Morlich) 4nights £ 65 pp (see text)	5 Ceilidh with ‘The Reel Thing’ £ 6.00 pp

OUTDOOR MEETS	INDOOR MEETS
January (Colin Farrow) 11 Glen Falloch or Crianlarich/Cruach Ardrain area 23-25 Pitlochry – Burns Supper	15 Members' Slides
February (Phyllis Smith) 15. Loch Earnhead 27-1.3. Roy Bridge (Alte Cruinnichidh)	5 SYHA 'Past, Present and Future' Paul Goldfinch 19 Elspeth Kennedy ???
March (Ingrid Parker) 15 Tyndrum 27-29 March Glenshee, Gulabin Lodge	5 Pyrenees – Jimmy Stevenson 19 British Schools Expedition Society (BSES)
April - EASTER (Mary Cox) 10-13. Eigg Bunkhouse	2 Members' Short Talks and Slides 16 'Butterflies in Scotland' Richard Sutcliffe
May ** (Isobel Freeman) 1-4 Ullapool camping or bunkhouse 22-25 Skye, Sligachan Bunkhouse and/or camping The two weekends are interchangeable	7 AGM

* Different venue

** Dates interchangeable