



## **Glasgow Glenmore Club** **Newsletter Winter 2008**

### **Editorial**

Winter! Spring and Summer seemed a bit joined up this year. I hope the two members' slide nights we are having this season will prove that some people were lucky.

If the old wives' tale, that a good crop of rowan berries heralds a severe winter, holds any truth, we should be okay in 2008/2009!

Glenmore Lodge is, as usual, running Winter Skills Courses with a £50 discount for members of the MCofS and I would like to draw your attention to these. Details in the newsletter. They are great fun as well as being very instructive.

Note that this year's Burns Supper venue has particularly good provision of places, so that members can feel free to bring non-club members of the family and also friends.

Happy Christmas

### **Ingrid**

#### **Programme for 2008 – 2009**

The full year's programme of outdoor and indoor meets is at the back of this newsletter. There are some minor changes.

**Bookings will currently be taken for all meets.** Please send your cheque promptly after making a booking.

**All indoor meets are on Thursday evenings, starting at 7.30 pm, except the Ceilidh which is on Friday 5. December.**

INDOOR MEETS ARE AT THE USUAL VENUE OF THE CLUBHOUSE OF THE HYNDLAND BOWLING CLUB IN QUEENSBOROUGH GARDENS, G12.

**November**                      **Co-ordinator Brian McDaid**

**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.

**Ceilidh tickets will be on sale. £6**

**Friday 28. November - 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 a 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 park for free in the car park on Elterwater Common, five minutes walk away.

6 twin rooms at £28 pp on a first come first served basis or dorm at £24 pp for weekend

**December**                      **Co-ordinator 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, from the 'Islay Ceilidh Band', will provide a festive night with many favourite tunes and dances. Harrold will MC the evening in his usual style. "2.5 more couples, please (you can ask him how this strange expression came about!)"

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 £65 per person for the four-night stay. 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.

**January      Co-ordinator Colin Farrow**

**Sunday 11. January      Glen Falloch      OS 50    NN 369 239**

A traditional winter meet not too far from home, with plenty of choice of hills and routes to suit all.

Meet in the Car park on the SE side of the A82 to Crianlarich, NN 369 239, at 9.00 am for a **9.15 am departure** so as to make best use of the short days. Re-convening at the Drovers Inn, Inverarnan afterwards. **Note earlier start time!**

**Thursday 15 January      Members' Slides Hyndland Bowling Club  
NS 556 674 OS64**

Your chance to show off your holiday snaps, pictures from Club meets or other

photographs of interest. Contributions should be no more than about 5 mins. to give everyone a chance. For longer presentations consider the 'members short talks' evening in April.

Please let me know in advance if you wish to take part. There will be a conventional slide projector and digital projector available. For the latter bring pictures on a USB memory stick, CD or your own laptop if you prefer.

**Friday 23. - Sunday 25. January      Pitlochry Youth Hostel      OS 52 NN 943 584**  
**(for the hills 52, 42, 43)**

**Burns Supper Meet**

Fair fa' your honest, sonsie face,  
Great chieftain o' the puddin-race!

For the rest and more sign up now for the annual, not to be missed, Glasgow Glenmore Club celebration of the Bard, this year marking the 250th anniversary of his birth. We have exclusive use of Pitlochry Youth Hostel for the weekend. Aside from the Burns supper on Saturday evening, Pitlochry gives access to a wide range of low level walks, nearby Ben Vrackie for great views, or Glen Tilt and mighty Beinn a'Ghlo for the peat bashers. Accommodation is in 4 bedded rooms and the whole weekend is available at the bargain basement price of £25 per person including the meal on Saturday. When booking, please let me know of any accommodation preferences, lifts available or required and dietary requirements. There is plenty of space, so guests are welcome. Don't delay, book now!

**February                      Co-ordinator      Phyllis Smith**

**Thursday 5. February 2008      Travels in Patagonia                      Elspeth Kennedy**

Follow Elspeth from Buenos Aires to the End of the Earth, cross the windy pampas to the crashing glaciers of the Andes and experience close encounters with elephant seals, penguins and guanacos. (The " End of the Earth" is Tierra del Fuego ).

**Sunday 15. February 2009                      Lochearnhead                      OS 51 GR 592241**

Meet in the car park so that you can decide in which direction you want to go for your hill. Will it be N. S. E. or W? Ben Vorlich and Stuc a'Chroin beckon individually or as a pair and there are several Corbetts.

**Please remember to bring your crampons or request some. (Editor)**

**Thursday 19. February Scottish Youth Hostel Association Paul Goldfinch**

Paul Goldfinch, a former member of the Glenmore Club, is President of the SYHA. He is going to tell us about the earlier SHYA, the present situation and how they see their future.

**Friday 27 February to Sunday 1. March Aite Cruinnichidh OS 41 301811**

We have booked the whole hostel, 30 places. It is two miles east of Roy Bridge on the A86, conveniently opposite the Glen Spean Lodge Hotel for those who wish to eat or drink outside the hostel. It is very comfortable and even has a sauna! There is a large selection of hills nearby, Corbetts and Monros. Or you might decide that you would rather mountain bike. The longest downhill mountain bike track in the U.K. is nearby. The cost is £25 p.p. and an early booking is advisable.

It was pointed out to me, some years ago, that there is quite a selection of 'Deargs' in the area: Carn Dearg (E of Glen Roy), Carn Dearg (S of Glen Eachach), Carn Dearg (N of Glen Eachach), plus a 'Coire Dubh', so, quite a colourful area! Any more? Gaelic speakers, speak up, please. (*Ingrid*).

**Winterskills Courses at Glenmore Lodge**

The Glenmore Lodge Winter Skills Courses are being offered to members of MCoFS at a 50% discount:

Course Dates: Saturday 17. – Sunday 18. January 2009  
Saturday 25. – Sunday 25. January 2009

Courses start on Friday after 18.30 hours and end on Sunday at 17.00 hours. There are two levels of course, they will run concurrently on the same dates.

**Introduction to Winter Hill Skills: Cost £140**

Covers basic skills of hill walking with axe and crampons, ice axe arrest, navigation, winter safety, avalanche avoidance. Staffing ratio 1:6

**Introduction to Winter Mountaineering Skills: Cost £170**

Training in winter skills at a more advanced level. You should already have some basic winter walking skills. Experience of rope handling is useful but not essential. Ratio 1:4.

For details, including advice on gear, see the Club Reading folder or contact me. The advertisement will also be in the next "The Scottish Mountaineer", along with application forms.

For general enquiries or to check availability, contact Glenmore Lodge, Tel: 01479 861 256.

## **Membership News**

Could **everybody**, please, check their details on the September Memberships list. I spotted one mistake when the message bounced back, so ...

**Completions:** David Foster has become the club's first Grahamist. I think he was also the first Corbetteer, but I stand to be corrected. He finished the last Graham – Sgiath a'Chaise - with a small band of friends on Sunday 21. September. There are 224 Grahams, Scottish peaks over 2000 feet, some of which he reached by bicycle! I don't know if anyone has told David yet, how to pronounce the name of the hill!

Congratulations, David.

For the full account and pictures see our website: [www.glasgowglenmore.org.uk](http://www.glasgowglenmore.org.uk)

**Star letter:** I would like to thank all club members who took the trouble to send me 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday cards, many of which even arrived on the exact day! The number and variety of these, several home-made and most with personalised and often amusing greetings, was very impressive! Very many thanks to all of you! **Harrold.**

## **Mountain Bothies Association (MBA)**

MBA Autumn 2008 Newsletter

This Newsletter has all the latest news on bothy conditions and renovations, including details of three of the major refurbishments at Duag Bridge, Essan and a well-illustrated one of Cam Ban.

Other articles included are of two different bothying trips in Wales (yes, there are bothies there as well!), one in the Borders and one covering 93 miles and a dozen bothies in pretty remote country in the West of Scotland.

The MBA Calendar and Christmas Cards (packs of 9) are now available, both at a price of £4, including post and packing. The Calendar is particularly recommended with 14 bothy landscapes in colour. Addresses for orders are available in this MBA Newsletter (or from H.T. tel; 931 5368, email: con

MBA Annual Report for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2008

This illustrated and comprehensive report shows that the MBA is in a very healthy state, with an increase of 11% in membership to about 4200, 99 bothies looked after by 128 Maintenance Officers (52 of these bothies having had maintenance work carried out in the last year at a total cost of about £28000) and total funds standing at £220,000.

The Annual Report includes the philosophy of the MBA, their performance and achievements over the last year (including several major projects) and records MBA's thanks to all volunteers at work parties and the unstinting help given by bothy owners and estate staff. A detailed financial statement is also included, as well as a number of colour photographs.

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

### **Website**

First step toward Content Management System: there is now a committee group email address: [committee@glasgowglenmore.org.uk](mailto:committee@glasgowglenmore.org.uk) . You can make your suggestions to all committee members at the same time. Try with your small hostel suggestions!

### **Miscellaneous Information** (sent to me for GGC attention)

**Small Hostel meets** are still on the agenda. Suggestions, personal recommendations, variety are asked for. Please, please have an input. One suggestion has been Achnamelvich which sounds like a fabulous idea. When?

**Mountain Rescue Committee of Scotland:** It seems that there was a scare of extra air charges being applied to Mountain and Lifeboat Rescue services. Whether it was all a misunderstanding or the guidelines have been changed is not clear. See the update of 20.Oct on the OFCOM pages <http://www.ofcom.org.uk/consult/condocs/aip/update201008/>

**Scottish Youth Hostel Association:** Alan Sidanay, who acted as voluntary manager and was very helpful whilst GGC was at **Minigaff**, is compiling a library of SYHA handbooks, dating back to SYHA beginnings. I have a few which I will be passing on to him, but if any club members have any, for which they have no further use, could they please contact **Harrold Thomson**.

**The BTO** are currently trying to map the distribution of British birds in Winter ( Nov - Feb) and later in the breeding season ( Apr- Jul), but are short on information about Mountain Birds as regular birdwatchers rarely venture into the hills. They are therefore appealing to all hillwalkers to report any sightings to them along with a grid reference and date. Any information about birds you notice and can identify, even those flying over, as you pass through an area is welcome. Records can be submitted online at [www.birdatlas.net](http://www.birdatlas.net) where you can get more information and download Roving Records forms. I have a few copies if anyone is interested.

**Mary Reynolds**

**Hiking for charity (Yorkhill):** The Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Glasgow is organizing an 11 day trek to “the High Peaks of Annapurna”, November 2009. There will be more info about it in a folder with the attendance list. Or contact me.

**Error! Hyperlink reference not valid. :** They have a few places left and are offering a reduction for late bookings (as from now). For more info see folder at indoor meets or contact me.

**Olympic Gold?** Chris Bonnington was asked to rate Dave McCloud’s (Ace Scottish climber) **IF** there were an Olympic category for this. He said: “To give it an Olympic parallel, he’s Olympic Gold several times over”.

**Reel Rock Tour. Thursday 13. November** at the **Boyd Orr Lecture Theatre, 8pm**  
University Avenue, Glasgow

Two of the biggest climbing film producers, are for the first time travelling to Europe. The GUM club (Glasgow University Mountaineering Club), in association with Heason Events is hosting the REEL ROCK TOUR!!

For the line-up, prices and details see the folder at the back or contact me.

Glasgow Glenmore Club-Season 2008/2009

List of Outdoor and Indoor Meets

Note: All indoor meets held at clubhouse of Hyndland Bowling Club **the**

OUTDOOR MEETS	INDOOR MEETS
November (Brian McDaid) 16 The Lomond Hills 28-30 Elterwater nr Grasmere YHA	6 Country Dancing Practice (Dave Watson and Caroline Thompson) 20 Les Farrows-Tour of the Matterhorn
December (Dave Harrison) 14 Cobbler Area 31.12.-4.1.2009 (Cairngorm Lodge (Loch Morlich) 4nights – 39 places	5 Ceilidh with Eric and friends from ‘The Islay Ceilidh Band’
January (Colin Farrow) 11 Glen Falloch or Crianlarich/Cruach Ardrain area 23-25 Pitlochery – Burns Supper 62 places	15 Members’ Slides

February (Phyllis Smith) 15. Loch Earnhead 27-1.3. Roy Bridge (Alte Cruinnichidh) 32 places	5 Elspeth Kennedy 19 SYHA 'Past, Present and Future' Paul Goldfinch
March (Ingrid Parker) 15 Tyndrum 27-29 March Glenshee, Gulabin Lodge 35 places	5 British Schools Expedition Society (BSES) 19 Pyrenees – Jimmy Stevenson
April - EASTER (Mary Cox) 10-13. Eigg Bunkhouse Up to 24 places	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

