



# **Strathearn Rambler**

## **November 2015—April 2016**

### **Issue No. 72**

#### **Editor: Irwin Keith**



### **Chairman's Report**

I was trying to think of something inspirational to say about our lousy Summer, however, how easy it is to forget when we finally get an Indian Summer, what great weather before the onset of Winter. The Autumn colours have been fantastic this year, a photographers dream. I cannot remember the last time I witnessed such vivid sunsets, a truly memorable sight.

On the subject of photographs it brings to mind that if any of you have any good photographs on your cameras of any of the Ramblers walks please can you attach them to an email to Robert Harrison by early November so we can all be entertained after our Christmas Lunch at Auchingarrich on Sunday the 13th December.

Our annual BBQ at Catonia Cottage in Comrie was another success, and we had a beautiful evening with finally finishing Heinrich's wake wine. Many thanks to Myra Robertson for the use of her garden and marquee.

The "Comrie Fortnight Committee" sent us a very nice letter thanking us for the historical input given by the "Strathearn Ramblers" for the Chairman's Walk and Vice Chairperson's walk during the Comrie Fortnight programme.

This year the "Duke of Gordon Hotel" in Kingussie was our venue for the Away Weekend in mid September, our Committee had recced walks for all abilities and despite the weather forecast, the majority of the walks were favoured with good sunny days, it was only our hill climbers that managed to find sleet at 3000ft and an abundance of midges on the way down. Needless to say in the evenings the thespians amongst us kept us in fits of laughter meanwhile Margaret Birks taxed our brains with a well thought out quiz. Thanks to all who made the Weekend so enjoyable.

The 20th Anniversary Ceilidh went very well and it was nice to see so many original founder members and former members attending. Hamish Reid's band and their very patient caller kept us all on the dance floor. For some including myself realisation that we need to attend Scottish Country dance classes was blatantly obvious, the caller with raised eyebrows I think gave up when someone requested Mairi's Wedding. All good fun.

Visiting Dobbies yesterday in the last week in October with the Christmas decorations already on full display and the Pogues blasting out reminds me we are coming to the end of another year, our walks committee have selected some interesting walks which we hope to take us into the Spring.

Hope to see you all at the Christmas Stroll and Lunch, and to all our members who cannot be with us, on behalf of the Strathearn Ramblers may we take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and healthy New Year.

"Haste ye back"

Ken Heiser

## **Strathearn Ramblers Committee 2015-2016**

Chairman	Ken Heiser	670545
Vice-chair	Myra Robertson	670166
Treasurer	Susan Sinclair	670654
Secretary	Andrew Quinn	679887
Committee	Stephanie Blaauw	679071
	Val Callan	653863
	Robert Harrison	679582
	Irwin Keith	652541
	David McKeggie	652289
	David McLeod	01786 880984
	Margaret McVicar	670989
	Charlie Panton	655337

## **Strathearn Ramblers AGM**

The Annual General Meeting of the Strathearn Ramblers will be held in the Comrie Golf Clubhouse on Friday, 18th March 2016 at 19.00 for 19.30.

Every member has something to contribute to the Ramblers. If you wish to serve on the committee or have skills which would benefit the club in any way please to not hesitate to put yourself forward or speak to any member of the current committee.

Drinks and nibbles will be served after the meeting.



☆ **Christmas Stroll and Lunch on 13th December 2015** ☆  
☆ **at Auchingarrich** ☆

☆ The Stroll starts at **10.00** from Comrie School car park and traditional lunch will be ☆  
at 12.30 for 13.00. ☆

☆ Cost of Lunch £12 ☆

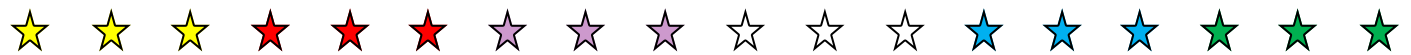
☆ Following the lunch there will be a slide show by Robert Harrison. ☆

☆ This year's Christmas Stroll will be led by our Chairman, Ken Heiser with the help ☆  
of Santa and his elves. There will be a stop on the way to ensure that the reindeer get ☆  
their carrots and the elves are well watered. ☆

☆ **Please complete the form at the end of this Newsletter to book your place.** ☆

☆ There is adequate parking at Auchingarrich for those wishing to go directly to the ☆  
lunch venue. ☆

☆ The lunch will be the traditional fare of soup and turkey baguettes with all the ☆  
trimmings and provision will be made for dietary requirements. ☆



# Walk Reports

## Stroll

12th July

## Isle of Kerrera

On arrival at Gallanach just south of Oban the party was split into two groups, walkers and strollers. Six ladies and one gent (me!) made up the stroller group. Our bus was not permitted to go as far as the ferry jetty (no turning space), so we walked, and joined the queue waiting to be taken across the Sound of Kerrera to the island. The little (car) ferryboat is only allowed to take up to twelve passengers at a time (it could hold many more) but the return crossing is done in about ten minutes, so we didn't have long to wait. At the jetty, there is a frame with a sliding panel (white), which cleverly reveals a blackboard which allows the ferryman, based on the island, to see if anyone is waiting to cross.

After our short crossing we strolled down a motorable track heading to the southern part of the island. A great variety of wild flowers line each side of the road, including foxglove, fuchsia, yellow iris and marsh orchid. Our objective was Gylen Castle on the south coast. Every few hundred yards signs - painted on stone slabs - pointed the way to Gylen Castle and alluringly, the Tea Garden. The tea garden signs were also accompanied by teapots - a nice touch - and a mention of cake. With the thought of tea and cake luring us on, we soon crested a rise to see a vista of sea and islands - and the tea garden! But, first, we took a grassy path to Gylen Castle, a MacDougall stronghold dating from 1582, perched on a headland looking south down the Sound of Lorne. Although sacked in 1647 and still roofless, the tower is quite well preserved. From it, the panorama takes in Seil on the left (east) and Mull on the right (west), with the Garvellachs, Scarba and Colonsay in the middle, fading away to far-off Jura in the distance.

Having taken in the view, it was time to repair to the fabled Tea Garden, a delightful spot (Lower Gylen) where we sat in the byre (very comfortably furnished with huge settees and an enormous armchair, into which I thankfully sank), and had hot drinks and cake. Refreshed, we walked back to the ferry and awaiting bus the way we had come - about six and a half miles altogether. We were fortunate with the weather, for although the day remained overcast, it stayed dry.

Kerrera has a long and interesting history, going back to the iron age, and to the time when it was under Norwegian rule in the 13th century. Our leader Margaret Shankland gave us much historical and geographical information as we walked along, and is to be thanked for that, and for taking us on an altogether delightful stroll. Praise must also go to our driver Alan McCulloch, who made very good time on both the outward and return journeys. Geologically, the higher parts of the island are formed of basalt lava flows, underlain by sandstones and conglomerates (pudding stones) of Lower Old Red Sandstone age (Devonian), which rest unconformably on an irregular surface of older (Upper Pre-Cambrian) Dalradian metamorphic rocks, which include bands of slate. The prominent cliffs above the Gallanach road are formed of the same massive conglomerates. Fossil fish have been found in the sandstone beds underlying them.

**Alan Dempster**

## Walk

12th July

## Isle of Kerrera

**In addition to the above.**

Once over on the island the walkers headed up hill taking the circular southern route trail going in an anticlockwise direction and the strollers set off in a southwesterly direction along the shore track signposted for Gylen Castle. On reaching higher ground we had a coffee stop and were able to take in the superb views of Mull and the surrounding islands. As we continued on we could see over the Firth of Lorne to distant hills and islands - tiny white sails on the water standing out against a backdrop of luminous soft colour.

We passed a track which led down to the ruins of Bar-nam-Boc pier which had been the terminus of the main Mull ferry from 1760 - 1860. People travelling to Oban landed there and it was an important staging post for cattle - they were landed near to this pier and then had to swim across to the mainland at Dunollie Point before being herded on to the markets in the south.

Further south we diverted off the track near Orasaig and made our way to a lovely rocky bay where we had lunch. As we sat on the rocks, which were covered in beautiful tiny pink flowers, we looked out to the southern Firth of Lorne and the islands of Seil, Insh, the Gravellachs and Scarba and the Ross of Mull.

## Walk

12th July

## Isle of Kerrera (Continued)

This southern track is a raised beach platform - the beaches of Ice Age times, and is designated a site of special interest and an important geological area.

After lunch we made our way towards the remains of Gylen Castle which is perched high on a rocky promontory of sheer cliffs - a rare example of a tower built in the Scots Baronial style. Possibly a hunting tower of the MacDougall clan - completed in 1582 it had a short but turbulent history. Some of us took a wander down below the castle to see the sea cave, arch and reefs on the raised beach.

The artist J.W.M. Turner visited Kerrera in 1831 and was so taken with Gylen Castle and its setting that he filled his sketchbook with distant views and detailed studies of it. After visiting the castle we picked up the track again and headed towards Lower Gylen and the Tea Garden where we met up with some of the strollers who were just about to start back on the route towards the ferry. They had visited the castle and then made their way to the Tea Garden to sample the delicious afternoon tea.

The final section of the track took us along the south eastern shore of the island past the whitewashed cottages of Little Horseshoe Bay which had been the centre of the west coast lobster industry for around fifty years.

On arriving back at the slip we were ferried over to the mainland and did a final stretch of road walking to where our bus was parked. It was so good to experience walking on such a lovely island - certainly worth a return visit as there was much more waiting to be explored!

Many thanks to our walk leaders - Susan and Stephanie.

**Margaret Greer**

## Hill Walk

19th July

## Buachaille Etive Beag

Walking up to the Coop meeting point I wondered what I was doing going up on a hill climb on a wet, misty Sunday morning, but at first I thought I might be going back home as I was the only one but no such luck 3 other hardy walkers turned up from Crieff then 2 from Braco. We set off to Comrie where there was another 3 hardy souls which made 9 of us, good crowd.



The weather was not that great on our journey up to Glen Coe. Damp cloud hanging over the hills and a drizzle. We all arrived safely at the car park. Charlie was a little disappointed there was no piper at the start of Glen Coe. We set off on the first hill, up the bealach and at the top we had a well earned coffee break. After the break we had a steady climb up to Stob Dubh and were rewarded with fantastic views with Buachaille Etive Mor standing out in all its glory and the valley below.

After lunch accompanied with the splendid views it was time to move on to the second Munro, Stob Coire Raineach a little easier to climb and not so far. From the top Ben Nevis

and Schiehallion could be seen but Be Nevis had cloud on it.

Did not seem too bad coming down and we were back at the car park and still no piper for Charlie. We headed for the Bridge of Orchy Hotel for a well earned drink.

Many thanks to our leaders David McKeggie and Felicity Martin and for all the walkers who made it such a special day.

## Val Callan

## Walk

26th July

## Scotlandwell and Bishop Hill

Two leaders and Angie left the Coop car park in anticipation of a good days walking. Parking at the local hostelry's car park we set off up the hill behind Scotlandwell through Kilmagad Wood onto open land stopping to admire the views over Loch Leven. The recce was completed in less than favourable conditions with several of the markers broken or destroyed but on the walk day the only obstacle was a strong wind. Because we were a small party the top was quickly reached passing Carlin Maggie on the way, a stack which resembles a statuesque woman. After reaching the top and admiring the views over Fife and the Lomond Hills we lunched on the lee side of the hill where some shelter from the wind was afforded.

Making our way down the other side of Bishop Hill the views of the rich farmland stretching below and the Glen Vale made the effort getting up the hill well worthwhile. On reaching the road we passed along Easter Balgedie and Kinnesswood before striking lochwards through Portmoak Moss finishing up at the ancient well which gives its name to Scotlandwell. (See photo.)

After a quick soft drink in the Well County Inn the ladies demanded better sustenance and the driver was persuaded to take them to the Lochend Farm Shop which serves excellent cakes and coffee. This was a great day rambling but the writer being a quiet soul did not realise how much talking had been carried out when walking with Val and Angie.

**Irwin Keith**



## Comrie Fortnight Stroll 4 August

## Comrie Camp

Myra Robertson and Margaret Shankland led the Comrie Fortnight Stroll to Comrie Camp. The weather was dreich in the morning meaning that some people called off, missing an interesting and enjoyable stroll. Therefore six adults and three children set off from Comrie School Car Park. When we started the weather, though cloudy, was dry as we headed East along the Back o' Toon Lane towards River Lednock. Underfoot was soaking so those of us less experienced in walking managed to have wet feet before we had even left the village, clearly quality footwear (rather than trainers) is an essential for the serious walker.

We left Comrie walking along the A85 on the footpath. An enthusiastic lorry driver managed to soak Margaret McVicar with puddle water on his way past. The rest of us dodged the traffic, and we headed up the hill, through a hole in the wall.

We then kept climbing steadily, stopping several times to admire the view; not to gather our breath. Our target was the water fall, which, with all the rain that had fallen, was impressive. We then headed along to Lawers House. The back of the house is quite smart, and Margaret Shankland gave us an insight into the estate workings on our way past.

We stopped at Comrie Croft for a light bite before getting on our way again. We again crossed the road and stopped to admire the racehorses in their fields. At this point, our great leader Myra took us through some well grown thistles, nettles and docks as we aimed to find the railway line, to allow us to head for home. Another lesson learned, the experienced walkers were not in shorts! We nearly lost a few of the group at this point, as they decided that the wild raspberries were more interesting than walking.

All together again, we continued along the old railway line as far as Invermilton. We then took the path beside a fast flowing River Earn, back to the caravan park.

The stroll was enjoyed by all who dared to defy the early morning rain, and during the walk the weather was kind to us. Many thanks to Myra and Margaret for organising and leading, what was a very enjoyable and entertaining stroll.

**Iain McVicar**

## **Stroll                      9th August                      Two Distilleries and a Brewery**

Three car loads of Ramblers assembled at the Black Spout car park (difficult to find) in Pitlochry. The day was fine and not too warm.

We proceeded on a steady incline through woodland until the Black Spout waterfall on the Edradour Burn was reached. It is a 60m drop and spectacular after recent rain. Some fun was had here when a Rambler dropped a vital top for a midge spray and it disappeared under the decking. After much prodding a poking with sticks, Alan crawled underneath to retrieve it.

The path continued upward with great views of Ben y Vrackie recalling previous outings.

Next stop was the Edradour Distillery (1865) which alas was closed. A swig of coffee from our flasks had to suffice. We next retraced our steps somewhat admiring a fine display of wild flowers and “garden escapes”. The way now led over a very large field in which stood the ruins of Castel Dubh.

These ruins and the village of Moulin are of Pictish origin. We had to ignore the temptations of the local hostelry and walk a bit further to our lunch stop which had a commanding view of the valley below. Onward downhill now past the golf course and into Pitlochry. At the station yours truly requested a stop to make some adjustments to footwear and the rest of the party went up onto the platform. Somehow wires got crossed and the splinter group went on to the Shougally Bridge leaving the others behind. Luckily contact was re-established by phone (proving a point that more of us should share phone numbers) and the walk proceeded to its end without further mishap. Most of the party gathered at the Birnam Institute for cake and coffee on the way home. A happy day out.

**Ann Rankine**

## **Hill Walk                      23rd August                      Glas Tulaichean**

There were sixteen of us on the day which included two very keen visitors who had not bagged a Munro before. The forecast was for winds gusting to 50mph on the tops and visibility at the start was disappointing. Undaunted however, the group set off with gusto into the wind.



We had parked at the Dalmunzie Castle Hotel at the Spittal of Glenshee and initially set out across a field and followed an old narrow gauge railway track once used to transport deer stalkers into the hills. At the terminus we crossed a wooden bridge and had a coffee stop by a delightful burn. Fully refreshed we followed a wide stone track which ultimately led us all the way to the top of Glas Tulaichean. Stopping along the way we asked a fellow walker on his way down the hill what the wind was like on the summit to which he assured us it was calmer on the top. Reaching the top it

was a pleasure to congratulate our two visitors on having bagged their first Munro and photographs were taken as proof of this event. Visibility was improving and the hills stretched out before us as far as the eye could see.

Lunch was on the lee side of the hill which we discovered to be just as windy and thereafter we set off again down towards the bealach. The descent was difficult because of the wind, gusts being more than the predicted 50mph. Two of our ladies were blown off their feet and had to be assisted to safe shelter walking like sailors on a stormy sea, zig-zagging the only option. Our leaders decided it would be safer not to venture onto the tops again so we contoured the hill and came across Loch Nan Eun shining bright blue like the sky in the sunshine.

Fording the burn Allt Easgaidh we made our way down Gleann Taitneach passed waterfalls and burns, spotting silhouettes of deer on the skyline high above us. It seemed a long way back to Dalmunzie Castle Hotel but we were in good spirits at the end of a challenging and very satisfying day. On our journey home we stopped at The Bridge of Cally hotel for a welcome pick-me-up and the 'craic was mighty'. The care and kindness from our leaders Charlie Panton, Robert Burns, Dave McLeod and Andrew Quinn and all who went on the walk made the day special and memorable.

**Susan Sinclair**

## **Walk                      30th August                      Glen Sherup Hill above Glen Devon**

Eighteen sun-seeking ramblers met in the Glen Sherup car park, full of hope that 30<sup>th</sup> August might prove to be one of the rare dry days in the 2015 dismal summer. We were not disappointed: the weather remained dry, albeit a little windy, throughout the walk. Indeed, it could have been described as delightfully warm towards the end of the walk.

We set off along the Sherup reservoir trail and branched off to the west after about half a kilometre onto a fairly steep path leading to Innerdownie Hill. From there, an undulating ridge walk to the south west, past the north flank of Whitewisp Hill, took us on to Tarmangie Hill at the top of Glen Sherup. Inndownie and Tarmangie provided us with superb views, including Castlehill reservoir, Loch Leven, the River Forth and its bridges. Each view gave rise to friendly claims and counterclaims about identification.

Following lunch in a wind-free dip we took a path down the west side of the glen towards Ben Shee. A quad bike track then provided an easy descent to Glensherup House where we traversed the dam on the reservoir to reach a forest road leading back to the car park.

This is a fairly strenuous, but extremely enjoyable, walk. Thanks are due to Stephanie Blaauw, Margaret McVicar and Myra Robertson for arranging and leading this superb walk.

**David Sloan**

## **Stroll                      13th September                      Comrie Mystery Stroll**

Anne Kay once again was happy to lead a stroll for anyone not going to the Kingussie “Weekend Away”.

There were only four takers, but they enjoyed a very pleasant walk on a day of good weather, taking the path up to Laggan Wood, then along the forest track running eastwards above the golf course, CraigMore and Lawers house to Comrie Croft. After a short break for refreshments, the return was made by heading south past the standing stone and across stubble fields to join the old railway trackbed, which was followed westwards (sometimes on it, sometimes alongside it, as its condition allowed) back to Comrie, emerging through the (static) caravan park on to the main street of the town.

It was advertised as five miles, and ended up as six. I felt as if it were more, and owe an apology to Anne for a few “Are we there yet?” bleats towards the end. Thanks to Anne, helped by the other Ann, for leading a very pleasant circular ramble.

**Alan Dempster**

## **Stroll                      11th October                      Moncreiffe Hill**

Eight strollers arrived at the car park at Moncreiffe Hill just as it started to rain, the clouds atop the fort were looking very ominous. So donning waterproofs we set off, but glad to say the rain didn't hang around too long, and by the time we stopped for a coffee the need for waterproofs passed.

A very interesting stroll taking in Moncreiffe Hill Fort and Moredun Top Fort, the information boards were interesting allowing us to find about the Picts and The Iron Age forts. Moncreiffe Woods are a mixture of broadwood and conifer with a variety of unusual wildflowers and fascinating wild life and full of surprises, with a variety of sculptures from musical dragonflies to swinging bees, some very visible, some that you have to look for.

Lunch was taken at a viewpoint over looking the River Earn and Bridge of Earn, when the sun came out and stayed with us for the rest of the day. Our stroll was on well made undulating tracks, with a killer of approx. 50 steep steps that we climbed on the homeward stretch!!!!

Thank you to Myra, Margaret S and Robert, our only male !!!!!

**Margaret Birks**



## Future Walks

### **8th November                      Stroll      River Almond Circuit                      6 miles**

Meet at Pitcairngreen Village Hall. An easy stroll around the River Almond in an area seldom walked but has plenty of local interest. The terrain is by paths and tracks although there is a section of road walking and a small section on rougher ground. The walk will pass Berthapark which is an area that may become another housing development for Perth in the near future so perhaps it's a last chance to see the area before it becomes an urban sprawl.

**Depart Comrie School car park 10.00      Crieff Coop car park 10.15**

**Meet Pitcairngreen 10.45**

**Pay drivers £2.50**

**Leaders: Myra Robertson (670166), Anne Kay, Felicity Martin**

### **29th November Walk              Craigvinean & River Tay, Dunkeld                      7 Miles**

This is a popular walking area for the ramblers and this walk will mix the usual with some places not often tramped. An excellent walk on minor roads and well defined paths by the Tay and through woods by the Hermitage with a good chance to see the local wildlife. To get to Hermitage Brae Car Park follow the sign for Hermitage Car Park signposted on the A9 then immediately turn right onto the old Military Road and follow round to the car park on the right.

**Depart Comrie School car park 09.00 and Crieff Coop car park 09.15.**

**Meet Hermitage Brae car park (Map Ref NO 009419) 09.50.**

**Pay Drivers £3**

**Leaders: Ken Heiser (670545), Margaret Birks, Margaret McVicar**

### **13th December XMAS STROLL**

The Christmas Stroll, a high in our strolling and social calendar, is a must for all Ramblers who like enjoying themselves. The stroll will start at in Comrie and follow a circuitous route to Auchingarrich with a refreshment stop on the way.

**Depart Crieff Coop car park 09.45. Meet Comrie School car park 10.00.**

**Leaders: Ken Heiser (670545) plus elves**

### **27th December Walk              Tomnaour & the Cuilc, Comrie                      5 Miles**

After the exertions of Christmas Day walk some turkey off with Anne Kay. A short local ramble with detours and deviations to the nooks and crannies little visited except under Anne's tutelage.

**Depart Crieff Coop car park 08.45. Meet Comrie School car park 09.00.**

**Leaders: Myra Robertson (670166), Val Callan, Anne Kay**

**10th January    Stroll    Hosh, Loch Monzievairst, Lady Mary's    6 Miles**

A good start to the year, a local walk well loved by the ramblers which will get everybody ready for the year ahead. The wildlife on the loch is well worth the effort never mind the chance to see the River Earn's own otter.

**Depart Comrie School car park 10.00. Meet Taylor Park car park, Crieff 10.15.**

**Pay Drivers £1**

**Leaders: Margaret McVicar (670989), Margaret Shankland, Susan Sinclair**

**31st January    Walk    Twenty Shilling Wood & Maam Road    6 Miles**

By Balloch and Twenty Shilling woods following the track up to Maam Road, a favourite of all the Ramblers. Depending on the weather a diversion up to the Millennium Cairn may be on the cards before returning back to the school car park down by the Lednock with views of Comrie and Upper Strathearn.

**Depart Crieff Coop car park 08.45. Meet Comrie School car park 09.00.**

**Leaders: Sue Sinclair (670654) Val Callan, David McKeggie**

**14th February    Stroll    Muthill, Bishop's Bridge, Culdees and Pirnhill  
6 Miles**

Explore the beautiful Culdees estate and enjoy fine views over Crieff on this new walk from Muthill. The route follows core paths across fields to Bishop's Bridge then (after 300m along the A822) through the parkland of Culdees, which has a historic arboretum. Finishing along the disused railway line through Pirnhill Plantation and the core path through Sallyardoch Wood.

**Depart Comrie School car park 10.00 Crieff Coop car park 10.15**

**Meet Muthill car park (on Crieff side of the village opposite the bowling green) 10:20**

**Pay drivers £1**

**Leaders: Felicity Martin (670987), Anne Kay, Robert Harrison**

**28th February    Walk    Standing Stones & Loch Meallbrodden    6 Miles**

Parking at Fowlis Wester Celtic Cross and walking up the road to a track which leads to standing stones and derelict military buildings. This track opens out to the lovely Loch Meallbrodden. By following the track at the north of the loch the countryside opens up to a patchwork of fields and forest. Over some rough ground to meet the Muckle Burn returning to Fowlis via Achloy and some more standing stones.

**Depart Comrie School car park 09.00 and Crieff Coop car park 09.15.**

**Meet Fowlis Wester car park by Celtic Cross 09.25.**

**Pay Drivers £1.50**

**Leaders: Stephanie Blaauw (679071), Susan Sinclair, Myra Robertson**

**13th March          Stroll          Deil's Cauldron & Balmuick Comrie          5.75 Miles**

A mixture of walks from the walks leaflet produced for the Comrie Community Council. This stroll will take in the Deil's Cauldron before heading up to Balmuick and if the weather permits a visit to the Stone Circle. This stroll affords good panoramic views of Comrie and the surrounding area.

**Depart Crieff Coop car park 09.45. Meet Comrie School car park 10.00.**

**Leaders: Margaret Shankland (670114), Margaret McVicar, Ken Heiser**

**27th March          Walk          Torlum Hill          8 Miles**

Starting at Crieff Visitor Centre this walk traverses over Knock Mary before ascending Torlum then returning to Crieff in a loop. This walk provides excellent view of the Strath in all directions whilst the investigating the lesser known tracks on the hill which are steep in places.

**Depart Comrie School car park 09.00 and Meet Crieff Visitor Centre 09.15**

**Pay Drivers £1.00**

**Leaders: Charlie Panton (655337), Dave McKeggie, Val Callan**

**10th April          Stroll          Cambusmichael, Stormontfield          6 Miles**

Woodland wildflowers should be in full bloom for this new stroll down the east bank of the River Tay from Cambusmichael (opposite Stanley) to Scone Racecourse. The route passes several historic sites, including the peaceful ruins of Cambusmichael Church, the old bleachfields at Stormontfield and the ferry man's bothy at Waulkmill, where you could pay to cross the river until 1964. For more information see [www.stormontfield.co.uk](http://www.stormontfield.co.uk). Please book a place on the CoCo bus for this linear walk. If we have more walkers than seats on the bus, we will take cars for the extras (it is only 10 mins drive between start and finish).

**Bus departs Comrie School car park 10.00 Bus departs Crieff Coop car park 10.15**

**Bus costs £5**

**Any extra cars to meet Scone Racecourse car park 11:00**

**Leaders: Felicity Martin (670987), Robert Harrison, Margaret Birks**

**17th April          Hill Walk          Meall Tairneachain (787m) & Farragon Hill,  
(787m), Aberfeldy          10 Miles**

For the first Hill Walk of the year we return to two Corbetts previously walked some years ago. This is a linear walk east to west along a ridge north of Weem and Aberfeldy starting from slightly north of Loch Kinardochy, at approximately 320 metres and finishing at at Edradynate on the north bank of the Tay about 4 miles east of Aberfeldy. The walk is mostly on rough vehicle tracks.

**Bus departs Comrie School car park at 08.30 and Crieff Coop car park at 08.50.**

**Bus costs £5**

**Leaders: Robert Burns (670408), Charlie Panton, Dave McKeggie**

**24th April                      Walk            Sron a' Chlachain & Moirlanich Longhouse Killin  
5.5 Miles**

Meet at the car park on Station Road in Killin (off Lyon Road) then there is a stiff climb of 400m to Sron a' Chlachain which is rewarded with great views down Loch Tay. The walk continues to Meall Clachach, the highest point of the walk before descending into Glen Lochay and returning to Killin via Moirlanich Longhouse, a traditional dwelling for people and their livestock, and Finlarig Castle. Although this is a short walk it is relatively strenuous. .

**Depart Crieff Coop car park 08.45. Depart Comrie School car park 09.00.**

**Meet Killin car park 09.40**

**Pay Drivers £2**

**Leaders: Felicity Martin (670987), Myra Robertson, Margaret McVicar**



*Happy Walkers outside Edradour Distillery*

**Bus Booking Form**

**10th April**

**Stroll Cambusmichael, Stormontfield**

Please reserve .....seats on the bus for this stroll. The bus will pick up Ramblers at Comrie School car park 10.00 and at Crieff Coop car park at 10.15. At the end of the walk the bus will take walkers from Scone Racecourse back to Crieff and Comrie.

Enclosed is the sum of £..... @ £5 per person.

Please pass this form and monies in an envelope clearly marked "Cambusmichael" to the Transport Secretary:

Anne Kay  
4 Strowan Square  
Comrie PH6 2ER

**Closing date: Wednesday 6th April 2016.**

Cheques to be made to "Strathearn Ramblers".

Tick the box if you wish it be picked up at Comrie School car park at 10.00

Tick the box if you wish to be picked up at Crieff Coop car park at 10.15

Names of passengers .....  
.....

**Bus Booking Form**

**17th April**

**Hill Walk Meall Tairneachain & Farragon Hill**

Please reserve .....seats on the bus for this hill walk. The bus will pick up Ramblers at Comrie School car park 8.30 and Crieff Coop car park at 8.50 . At the end of the walk the bus will take walkers back to Crieff and Comrie.

Enclosed is the sum of £..... @ £5 per person.

Please pass this form and monies in an envelope clearly marked "Farragon Hill" to the Transport Secretary:

Anne Kay  
4 Strowan Square  
Comrie PH6 2ER

**Closing date: Wednesday 13th April 2016.**

Cheques to be made to "Strathearn Ramblers".

Tick the box if you wish it be picked up at Comrie School car park at 08.30

Tick the box if you wish to be picked up at Crieff Coop car park at 08.50

Names of passengers .....  
.....

**Christmas Lunch Booking Form**  
**Lunch at 12.30 for 13.00 on Sunday, 13th December 2015 at Auchingarrich Wildlife Centre**

I/We wish to attend the Christmas Lunch at Auchingarrich Wildlife Centre on 13th December 2015

The names of the attendees are

.....  
 .....  
 .....  
 .....

Enclosed is the sum of £..... @ £12 per person.

Please pass this form and monies in an envelope clearly marked as the "Xmas Lunch" to

The Treasurer,  
 Susan Sinclair,  
 5 Strathview Place,  
 Comrie, PH6 2HG

**Closing date: Sunday 6th December 2015.**

Cheques to be made to "Strathearn Ramblers".

The lunch will consist of a choice of soup, a main course of turkey baguettes and all the trimmings with tea or coffee and Christmas mince pies to finish. As we do not have a licence to serve alcohol please bring your own bottle.

Please indicate any dietary requirements below.

**The Christmas Stroll will start at 10.00 from the Comrie School Car Park.**

Name of Person	Dietary Requirements

The Strathearn Rambler is the official newsletter of the Strathearn Ramblers which is a Comrie based organisation with no affiliation or connection to the Ramblers Association or any other walking organisation.

The editor would welcome comments from fellow members on suggestions and improvements to the Strathearn Rambler.

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