

I have just been reading how I started the December 2022 Newsletter and I referred to it as being the wettest November I could ever remember. I don't know how the statistics of November 2023 compare with that of a year ago but October 2023 certainly broke all records and living in Perth, I was, just after mid day on Sunday 8th October, along with a significant number of Perth residents, watching the very late closure of the flood gates on Tay Street taking place, while puzzling over how the North Inch seemed to be flooded when flood gates existed that should have prevented this!! Twelve days later there were red flood warnings over much of Tayside but it was Brechin that was suffering the most from the next deluge. However road travel throughout Tayside over the weekend of the 21st / 22nd was difficult. The Sunday in between (15th October) was a beautiful Autumn day and three members completed the actual walk advertised on the Walks Programme! This was starting from the Garry Bridge car park, transversing the 413 metre Craig Fonvuick to Killiecrankie where the River Garry was crossed and then returning to the Garry Bridge by the path on the East side of the river which passes the Soldier's Leap landmark. October is a good month for this walk as the Killiecrankie area is especially good for Autumn colours.



by old settlement on Craig Fonvuick



view South from Craig Fonvuick summit



view to Glen Tilt hills



view towards Killiecrankie

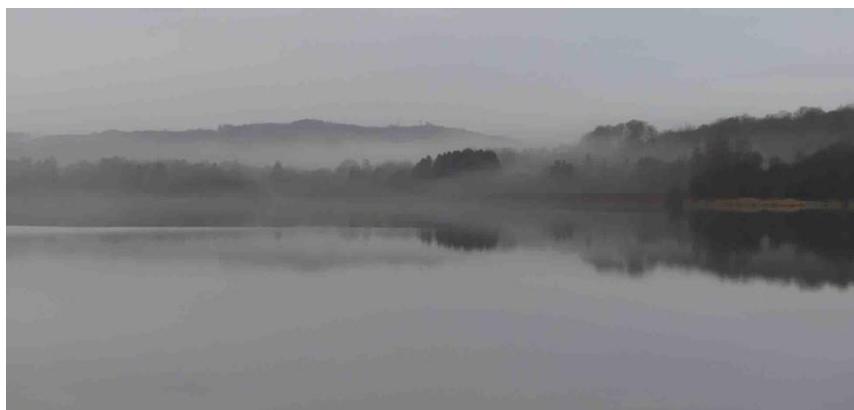
A different group of three went out on 12th November and in anticipation that none of that group would be out on the 26th November, due to heavy involvement in the Dundee

Mountain Film Festival that weekend, decided instead to climb the Corbett Monamenach. This had been down on the list for the 26th. and it was a Corbett new to Iain which he wished to climb! The weather that day seems to have been acceptable with a view from the summit as can be seen in Iain's photo.



The heatwave at the beginning of September is now a distant memory but during the first weekend of September all members seemed to have other things happening but three of them decided they needed to make the most of this last taste of summer and get out so met up but they stayed local and the above photo was taken on the Fife Coastal path between Fife Ness and St Andrews.

Yesterday, five of us had a surprisingly good day for mid December, given the forecast, on Benarty Hill which we climbed from the main Lochore Meadows car park near Ballingry. We started with atmospheric reflections in Loch Ore at the start, had views over Loch Leven from the hill summit, walked 7 miles, getting back to our cars at 2.00pm just as the rain started



The **AGM** will be held on **Wednesday 17th January 2024 at 7.00pm** on **Zoom**. It is an event for which Zoom seems to work as it allows members to access it from wherever in the

UK they happen to live and January is not a good month to expect folk to turn out in an evening when, even for those living reasonably locally, travelling anywhere can often be a daunting thought. As in recent years it will be hosted by Morag and the formal business will be followed by a Quiz presented by Catherine, who was the January 2023 winner. Please can you let me know if you hope to attend so that I can send you the Zoom link in advance.

Please can those of you who like to attend the Summer week somewhere in the remoter parts of either mainland Scotland or on one of the islands have a think about where you would like to go in six months time when the hours of darkness will be minimal. Being less than 2 weeks from the shortest day it can be a good time to recall the summer weather and long daylight at Reiff in June 2023 and have thoughts on where would be a good destination for June 2024. These areas are becoming more popular and the availability of suitable accommodation at a reasonable price limited. The sooner I have an idea of who wishes to come, a destination that would suit most people and dates you are available the better. I had already booked Reiff before the 2023 AGM.

Weather permitting, the usual New Year Barry Buddon outing is planned for 2nd January 2024 meeting at 9.45am at Monifieth. I will coordinate this so please can you let me know by Hogmanay if you hope to come so that I can coordinate transport or notify those coming of any change of plan, such as the forecast indicating that going to the more sheltered Tentsmuir would be a better option.

Jean