**Strathearn Ramblers.**

**Programme of activities until 28th June 2020**

Guests are very welcome join in on walks. Please introduce yourself to the walk leaders and pay £1 day membership for insurance purposes.

If you would like any information about walks in advance or if it is a linear walk requiring a seat on the bus please contact one of the following:

Chairman; Irwin Keith 01764 652541, i.keith@btinternet.com

Vice – chair; Fiona Penfold 07875 281591, fionapenfold57@gmail.com

**Hill walks**

Please note that the main walk leaders for each walk will decide whether it will take place on the Sunday in the programme or on another nearby day if the weather forecast is better.

They will communicate this to all Ramblers who have previously indicated an interest in participating in the walk, usually 3-4 days ahead, so please e-mail or phone in advance to let them know you are interested.

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**15th March. Circular from Braco to Rhynd Lochs. Stroll** Distance 6.5 miles
Starting and returning from the car park at Braco Public Park on Front Street. Leave Comrie School car park at 10.00am & Crieff Coop car park 10.15am.Pay drivers; £2

Enter by Ardoch Roman Camp using paths and across country to the Lower Rhynd Loch where there is a variety of bird life. At the east side of the loch take a path that leads on the Braco to Auchterarder Road. Return towards Braco and after a mile turn back into the estate winding your way north of the Lower Rhynd Loch and back to the Front Street. This stroll can be muddy in places and suitable footwear must be worn.

**29th March. Beinn Dearg from Glen Artney. Hill Walk** Distance 8.5miles Start : Car park below Glen Artney Church Finish: as above Approx time: 5- 6 hours Height Gained: 2500ft / 706m Depart Creiff Coop at 8.15am & Comrie School car park 8.30am. Pay Drivers £1

This a circular walk taking in a number of tops on the Highland side of the Boundary Fault which runs the length off Glen Artney. The walk is over grass with some peat hags to negotiate. It is a good season opener with good views over Strathearn.

**9th. April. Stroll & Social:-** Dalginross Muir, Poggles Wood and the Ruchill then Ancaster Arms, Comrie. Distance 5 miles

Start Comrie School Car Park 10.40 Depart Crieff by 15 Bus at 10.15 from McColl’s arriving in Comrie at 10.29 for the walk and 13.08 from McColls arriving at 13.26 for the lunch.

**Social Lunch at Ancaster Arms from 13.30**

The stroll will walk by the River Earn then cross to the Water of Ruchill through beautiful woods then back to the Ancaster Arms for refreshments. This is a vey flat walk providing open vistas across the area.

Numbers will determine the cost of the lunch which was very reasonable last year. So please inform Irwin on i.keith@btinternet.com if you plan to come to the social.

At the time of writing the times of buses are correct but please check the timetables nearer the time at:- https://www.pkc.gov.uk/article/14958/Auchterarder-and-Crieff-area-timetables

 **19th April. Dunkeld and Loch of Lowes. Stroll.** Distance, approx. 6 milesStart Cally car Park, a track off the A923 Blairgowrie rd.Leave; Comrie School car park at 10.00 a.m & Coop Crieff at approx.10.15 a.m.Pay drivers; £4

This is a waymarked circuit exploring the rolling countryside north of Dunkeld, with the chance of seeing osprey at the loch of Lowes. The track is on grassy paths, through beech wood, crossing the busy A923, heading for loch of Lowes. The return is uphill for a bit before reaching Dunkeld, heading back to the carpark is also uphill.

**26th April. Loch Freuchie Circular. Walk** Distance, 9 miles. Leave Comrie School car park at 9:00 and Crieff Coop Car Park at 9:15 . Meet at lay-by opposite Amulree Hotel at 9:45. Pay drivers £2

From the old bridge in Amulree over the River Braan.  The route follows the River Braan towards Loch Freuchie then before heading uphill on a high track that loops over grouse moors with wide views before descending to the head of the loch. It then returns above the loch shore and the ruins of several old communities before returning back to the start point.

**10th May. Stuchd an Lochain Glen Lyon. Hill walk.** Distance, 6 miles ( the return route will be determined after the recce)Start: Below Giorra Dam, Loch an Damh.Finish: As above Approx time: 4/5 hours.Height Gained: 610m.Depart Creiff Coop at 8.00am and Comrie School car park at 8.15am.Pay Drivers £5

With a start at over 400 metres, Stuchd an Lochain gives a short ascent for a Munro. The initial climb is wet and steep but the ridge traverse that follows, around the top of the corrie cradling little Lochan an Cat is a delight.

**17th May,  Blairgowrie Bluebell Walk . Stroll**Distance, 5 miles.Depart Comrie School car park 10.00  Depart Crieff Coop car park 10.15  Meet at 11.10 at Whiteloch Avenue in Carsie which is on the left of the A93 south of Blairgowie. (Grid Ref NO173426)
Pay Drivers  £4

The delightful Bluebell Wood is a joy at this time of year.  Based on Felicity’s stroll from “Experience Big Tree Country Volume 1” the stroll explores the paths on the east and south of Blairgowrie.  The paths are well maintained and gentle.  There are plenty of opportunities to take photographs.

**31st. May , Spittal of Glenshee to Kirkmichael / Bridge of Cally. Walk /Long walk.** Distance, 8 miles. Bus booking required.

A fine walk in upland and moorland country. From the most northerly point of the Cateran trail, the route ascends the former Drovers road with spectacular views looking back and from the bealqch at 700m, the Perthshire hills ahead. A gradual descent leads to Enochdhu pausing at the famous lunch hut in the glen. Thereafter, the level track continues to Kirkmichael where refreshments are available.

***NB, for those wishing a long walk, there is an extension of the Cateran trail of 8.5 miles to Bridge of Cally***

**14th June, Beinn Ghlas and Beinn Lawers, Hill Walk Loch Tay** Distance: 8 miles.Start: NTS Car park**.** Finish: As aboveApprox time: 4-6 hours**.** Height Gained: 942m**.** Depart Creiff Coop 7.45am and Comrie School car park at 8.00am**.** Pay Drivers £3

Ben Lawers is the 10th highest Munro and is the culminating point of the sprawling range of mountains on the north side of Loch Tay. Its great height is undermined by a high level car park to begin the ascent. This is one of the most popular hills in Scotland hence the early start. A second Munro Beinn Ghlas is crossed enroute to the top of Ben Lawers.

**28th June, Fife Costal walk & stroll.** Distances; North Queensferry to Burntisland; 11.5 miles. Walk. St. Davids Bay to Burntisland; 7 miles. Stroll

Start: North Queensferry & St David’s Bay. Finish: Burntisland

Depart Comrie School Car Park 9am & Crieff Co-op 9:15am. Bus booking required

The second section of the Fife Coastal Path starts at the iconic Forth Rail Bridge and alternates between rural coastal scenery and settlements including Aberdour with its art galleries, harbour and sandy beach. The stage finishes at Burntisland where there is shops, places to eat.