

Heart of Scotland LDWA Group

Annual General Meeting

12 December 2020 - 5:30pm on Zoom

1. Attendance

Eight members were present, one apology was received.

2. Activities in the past year

Richard Newall, Chair, welcomed those present and expressed regret that our walks programme had been severely curtailed as a result of COVID-19. Group social walks had taken place in January, February and March before lockdown, and we were able to have walks again in August and September before travel restrictions were imposed.

The LDWA National Committee had negotiated with Sport Scotland to allow social walks with up to a maximum of 30 people to participate subject to certain conditions, including booking in advance, but this could not be taken up whilst travel restrictions were in place.

3. Future activities

- We will resume our main social walks, normally 18-20 miles, on a monthly basis as soon as this becomes possible.
- We should allocate provisional monthly dates for walks, so once walks become possible again we can select appropriate walks to take place on those dates.
- Following the popularity of the Fife Pilgrims Way sequence of walks, we should select other long distance paths to be done in several sections, perhaps a section every other month. This would provide an objective and hopefully appeal to new members. The Fife Coast Path had already been suggested, but the Mary Queen of Scots Way, running from Loch Long to St Andrews and going right across the group area also seemed eminently suitable subject to transport arrangements being possible. The Kidnapped Way was also mentioned.
- One of the summer walks will take in a Munro or Munros, Meall nam Tarmachan was suggested.
- We should hold a joint walk with the Central and Lowlands Group - Sue Bird is a contact for this.
- Since we had not been able to combine this AGM with a lunch, we should arrange a walk in the summer which would include a social meal together.

4. Challenge event

Because of COVID-19 little progress had been made of organising a Challenge Event of 20 miles or just over. We should still do this, and Iain agreed to come up with a route when this became feasible.

5. Helping on future Hundreds

Because of COVID-19 hundreds have all been moved forward a year.

- 2021: (Added after meeting) Sadly the Sir Fwyny Hundred has been cancelled, but there is the option of doing an individual self-supported walk on the weekend at the end of May which will count towards 10 Hundreds badges, etc.
- 2022: Trans-Pennine 100, based at Barnsley. The Group should offer to do/share a checkpoint.
- 2023: Elephant, Bear and Bull 100. The Group should offer to do/share a checkpoint.
- 2024: Speyside 100. This is being organised by our neighbouring group NW Grampian and our Group is likely to be involved in several ways.

6. Other matters.

It was confirmed that both the Secretary and the Webmaster should have access permissions for the Group website. Ken would liaise with the Jennifer and if necessary with the National Secretary to make sure this has been effected.

The Group now has 46 Members and 186 Associate members (some of whom are from far away but are interested in keeping in touch).

7. Election of officers.

The following officers were elected.

Chair – Richard Newall

Treasurer – Angela Johnston

Secretary/ Walks Secretary – Ken Falconer

Publicity/Webmaster – Jennifer Smith

Challenge Events – Iain Barclay

The meeting closed at 6:30pm.

KJF 12/12/20