

2020 Programme

Date	Grade	Title and Description
Sunday 5th January	C+	Gartmorn Reservoir from Overton We start by walking around part of Gartmorn Reservoir before heading to Coalsnaughton and through various woodlands before returning to Gartmorn Reservoir via the lade which supplied water to the reservoir and industry in Alloa. Terrain: Mostly good paths some short sections of road and quite muddy in places. Distance: 14 km, duration 5½ hrs, total ascent 200m to max. ht 100m. Start point: Gartmorn Dam Visitors Centre carpark. From Stirling follow A907 towards Alloa but take the B9140 to Fishcross and turn right onto the A908. Turn left after ¾ mile and follow signs to Visitor Centre. Distance / time from Helensburgh: 48 miles / 1hr 30mins OS Landranger: 58 , Grid ref: NS 912940. 0900 HRS DEPARTURE FROM HELENSBURGH PIER
Saturday 11th January	B	The Slacks and Lang Craigs en route from Kilpatrick to Dumbarton East Railway Stations This is a local winter walk encompassing hills, lochs and glens. From Kilpatrick Station, we follow a hill path up the Slacks to the trig point (365m), descend to Loch Humphry and then follow the glen to Greenland 3 Reservoir. We then take the path along the Lang Craigs and descend to Overtoun House before following the glen downhill and onward to Dumbarton East Railway Station. Terrain: Mostly country and rough hill paths with steep gradients and a long steep climb up the Slacks. Short sections on streets at the end of the walk. Distance: 14 km, duration 5½ hrs, total ascent 600 m to max. ht. 365 m. Start point: Catch 09:26 train to Dalmuir, change there and travel back to Kilpatrick Station arriving at 10:04. We walk from Kilpatrick Station. Distance / time from Helensburgh: n/a OS Landranger: 64, Grid ref: NS 469728. 0915 HRS DEPARTURE FROM HELENSBURGH CENTRAL RAILWAY STATION
Sunday 12th January	C+	West Highland Way to Rowchoish Bothy Follow West Highland Way mainly along the shoreline of Loch Lomond to Rowchoish bothy through mixed woodland with open views over the loch. Terrain: Good forestry road and paths with footbridge crossings over main burn crossings. Undulating path with some short, steep sections but no significant ascents. Distance: 12 km, duration 5½ hrs, total ascent 250m to max ht 75m. Start point: Rowardennan carpark at end of public road. (Pay and Display charge applicable). Distance / time from Helensburgh: 27miles / 45mins OS Landranger: 56, Grid ref: NS 359986. 0900 HRS DEPARTURE FROM HELENSBURGH PIER
Sunday 19th January	B	Auchengaich Reservoir road to Balcnock North Summit Steeplly up to Beinn Tharsuinn, then head east to Balcnock North Summit at 693m (NS 303 914). Return via outward route. Terrain: Very boggy start, then steep ascent to ridge. Thereafter undulating on reasonably firm ground, some muddy and wet patches. Distance: 8 km, duration 5 hrs, total ascent 537m to max ht . 693m. Start point: Glen Fruin Reservoir road by Auchengaich Farm on the old Glen Fruin road. Distance / time from Helensburgh: 8 miles / 20mins OS Landranger: 56, Grid ref: NS 274900.

Date	Grade	Title and Description
Saturday 25th January		Area AGM and Members' Walk The AGM of North Strathclyde Area of the Ramblers' Association will be held on Saturday 25th January 2020 at 10am for 10.30 am in the first-floor meeting room at the Friends Meeting House, 38 Elmbank Crescent, Glasgow, across from Charing Cross Railway Station. A local walk will follow the Meeting.
Sunday 26th January	C+	Hill of Standing Stones A gradual climb on path and forest track to Pappert Well is followed by a very short, but fairly steep, climb to a path through forest. An old drove road is then taken to the summit. The return is back through the forest, over Pappert Hill and along forest paths to re-join the outward route. Terrain: Paths and forest tracks, wet and muddy in parts. Distance: 9 km, duration 4 hrs, total ascent 220m to max ht . 260m. Start point: Park on O'Hare, Bonhill opposite West Dunbartonshire Council Millennium sign. Distance / time from Helensburgh: 11mile / 25mins OS Landranger: 64, Grid ref: NS 402796.
Saturday 1st February	C+	Doughnot Hill Climb along tracks to Lang Craigs and then via Black Linn Reservoir to Doughnot Hill. Terrain: Mainly tracks, some forestry. A short descent over boggy hillside. Distance: 10 km, duration 4 hrs, total ascent 280m to max. ht 374 m. Start point: Overtoun House car park. Distance / time from Helensburgh: 13 miles / 30 mins. OS Landranger: 64, Grid ref: NS 424763.
Sunday 2nd February	B	Ben Our A steady climb to the summit which in good weather provides great views of the surrounding hills nearby. Return via outward route. Terrain: Track and paths all the way. May be boggy in places. Distance: 12 km, duration 5 hrs, total ascent 701m to max. ht. 741m. Start point: Edinample on the Loch Earn south road. Please note that there is limited parking. Distance / time from Helensburgh: 50 miles / 1 hr 30 mins. OS Landranger: 51, Grid ref: NN 601225. 0830 HRS DEPARTURE FROM HELENSBURGH PIER
Sunday 9th February	B	Balmaha via Conic Hill to Drymen Balmaha carpark to Conic Hill by rough path, proceeding next along path to Drymen via Garadhban Forest. Expected arrival 14:00. Optional bus times to Balloch 14:30 or 16:00. Option of pub lunch in Drymen. Terrain: Rough paths with some tarmac at end. Distance: 12 km, duration 4 hrs (+1hr Bus), total ascent 384m to max ht. 320m. Start point: Balloch Bus Station at 09:15 for 09:40 bus to Balmaha. Distance / time from Helensburgh: 8 miles / 16 mins. OS Landranger: 56, Grid ref: NS 394820. 0850 HRS DEPARTURE FROM HELENSBURGH PIER or 0915 BALLOCH BUS STATION

Date	Grade	Title and Description
Saturday 15th February	C+	Inveraray Forest - Dun na Cuaiche Tower & Forest Circuit Follow the estate road past Inveraray Castle and take the forest track up to Dùn na Cuaiche Tower. Descend by the same route and then head north along the River Aray to Carloonan Bridge. Return by forest roads past the fishpond. Terrain: Undulating woodland paths and forestry tracks. Long climb up decent forest track to the tower. Distance: 15 km, duration 6 hrs, total ascent 450m to max. ht. 260m. Start point: Car park on right hand side of A83 as you head south out of Inveraray. Distance / time from Helensburgh: 41 miles / 1 hr. OS Landranger: 56, Grid ref: NN 093083.
Sunday 16th February	A	Beinn Odhar Plan for a snow climb up and a slide down. Terrain: Open hill. Distance: 7 km, duration 3 to 6 hrs, total ascent 800m to max. ht. 901m. Start point: Tyndrum, Green Welly car park. Distance / time from Helensburgh: 38 miles / 1 hr. OS Landranger: 50, Grid ref: NN 328307. 0900 HRS DEPARTURE FROM HELENSBURGH PIER
Saturday 22nd February	C+	Caldercruix to Blackridge A linear walk from Caldercruix, past Hillend Reservoir along paths and farm tracks visiting a raised peat bog before dropping down to Blackridge. We will catch the 09:26 train from Helensburgh Central and change trains at Airdrie to reach Caldercruix at 10:48. <i>The return journey will be from Blackridge, so it is necessary to purchase a return ticket to Blackridge.</i> <i>After the walk there will be the option of a meal at Bella Italia in Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. Anyone wishing to join us for the meal must let Idris know before mon 10th Feb.</i> Terrain: Mostly farm tracks but some footpaths and short sections along roads. Can be quite muddy when passing through farms. Distance: 14 km, duration 5½ hrs, total ascent 150m to max. ht. 230m. Start point: Caldercruix Railway Station. Distance / time from Helensburgh: n/a. OS Landranger: 65, Grid ref: NS 820677. 0915 HRS DEPARTURE FROM HELENSBURGH Central Railway station
Sunday 23rd February	A	Ben Vorlich (Loch Lomond) From Inveruglas car park follow road to 0.5km from Loch Sloy dam. Follow path north east up burn to main ridge which is followed north to summit. Return by same route. Terrain: Tarmac road for first 4km then steep but defined hill track to summit. Distance: 13.5 km, duration 6 hrs, total ascent 987m to max. ht. 943m. Start point: Inveruglas carpark off the A82. Parking charges may apply. Distance / time from Helensburgh: 20 miles / 30 mins. OS Landranger: 56, Grid ref: NN 322098. 0830 HRS DEPARTURE FROM HELENSBURGH PIER

Date	Grade	Title and Description
Saturday 29th February	B+	Troisgeach A circular walk from Glen Falloch via track to Troisgeach Bheag then open, pathless, east north east ridge to the summit of Troisgeach. Descend generally south east to join track alongside the Allt Arnan for return. Terrain: Good track leading onto steep, trackless, hillside for ascent and descent, then re-join good track lower down for return. Distance: 10 km, duration 6 hrs, total ascent 750m to max. ht. 733m. Start point: Parking off A82 at Glen Falloch Farm. Distance / time from Helensburgh: 31 miles / 50 mins. OS Landranger Map 56, Grid ref: NN 319197.
Sunday 1st March	B	Glen Loin Loop Clockwise Glen Loin loop via Succoth, return by Glen Loin. Terrain: Forest tracks then well-defined path, muddy in places. Undulating but no long, steep climbs. Distance: 18.5 km, duration 6½ hrs, total ascent 800m to max ht. 345m. Start point: Arrochar car park by Glen Loin - charges apply. Distance / Time from Helensburgh: 18 miles / 30 mins. OS Map Landranger: 56, Grid ref: NN 298049.
Saturday 7th March	B+	Beinn an Lochain Ascend by north east ridge. First cross burn. Follow indistinct path to north east ridge. Some rocky sections to be avoided in icy conditions. Terrain: Steep and narrow in places with sheer drops. Return by same route. Distance: 6 km, duration 5 hrs, total ascent 730 m to max. ht. 901 m. Start point: Layby on left hand side before bend at Butterbridge in Glen Kinglas. Distance / Time from Helensburgh: 23 miles / 45 mins. OS Landranger: 56, Grid ref: NN 234088.
Saturday 14th March	B+	Beinn Lochain (Lochgoilhead) From Lettermay we follow the Cowal Way along good forestry roads and paths to the waterfall below the Curra Lochain. Ascend by path next to waterfall up to Curra Lochain. Leave track and ascend steeply north up open hillside to summit Beinn Lochain. Descend west to Cruach na Cioba. Descend southeast to re-join Cowal way for return. Terrain: Good forestry roads and steep, open hillside with some boggy sections. Distance: 14 km, duration 7 hrs, total ascent 850m to max ht. 703m . Start point: Off road parking on left just beyond Drimsynie Estate offices on Carrick Castle road. Distance / Time from Helensburgh: 33 miles / 1 hr. OS Map Landranger: 56, Grid ref: NN 188003. 0900 HRS DEPARTURE FROM HELENSBURGH PIER
Saturday 21st March	B	WALK CANCELLED (Covid-19 precaution) Beinn á Mhanaich Up the Strone to 550m, then along ridged moorland with a dip before the final climb to the summit. Terrain: Open, wet grassy hillside with tracks. Distance: 10 km, duration 4 - 5 hrs, total ascent 520 m to max. ht. 709 m. Start point: Layby near Auchengaich farm on the old Glen Fruin road. Distance / Time from Helensburgh: 3.5 miles / 15 mins. OS Map Landranger: 56, Grid ref: NS 274900.

Date	Grade	Title and Description
Sunday 22nd March	C+	WALK CANCELLED (Covid-19 precaution) Circuit of Killearn From the start, walk along the West Highland Way to Gartness, then on minor road to Killearn. Walk pipe track to distillery and West Highland Way back to start. Terrain: Disused railway track, minor roads, old pipe track and small section of field. Distance: 13 km, duration 4½ hrs, total ascent 100 m to max. ht. 120 m. Start point: Oakwood Garden Centre on the A81. Distance / Time from Helensburgh: 20 miles / 35 mins. OS Landranger 57, Grid ref: NS 513847.
Saturday 28th March	B+	WALK CANCELLED (Covid-19 precaution) Beinn Bhreac and Ben Reoch from Glen Douglas Short walk along Glen Douglas road, towards Invergroin, to pick up hill track to Beinn Bhreac. Steeply north east up hill to summit. Leave summit north north west to 632m top and on to summit Ben Reoch. Return via outward route or possibly via Tullich Hill - decision on day. Terrain: Short tarmac stretch then open hillside with some faint tracks. Could be a bit boggy in places. Distance: 10.5 km, duration 6 hrs, total ascent 925 m to max. ht. 681 m. Start point: Off road parking on Glen Douglas road approx. 0.5k southeast of Invergroin. Distance / Time from Helensburgh: 15 miles / 30 mins. OS Landranger: 56, Grid ref: NS 310987. 0900 HRS DEPARTURE FROM HELENSBURGH PIER
Sunday 29th March	C+	WALK CANCELLED (Covid-19 precaution) Loch Venachar Circuit A complete circuit of Loch Venachar. The walk starts from the car park near Brig o' Turk and heads out along the slopes to the north side of the loch before returning close to the loch on the south side. Terrain: Tracks and minor roads. Distance: 19 km, duration 6 hrs, total ascent 400m to max ht. 240m . Start point: Carpark about 1k east of Brig o'Turk with a small visitor centre on the north side of the road. Distance / Time from Helensburgh: 36 miles / 1 hr. OS Map Landranger: 57, Grid ref: NN 546065.
Saturday 4th April	C+	WALK CANCELLED (Covid-19 precaution) Dunblane to Stirling - The Historical Highlights We commence at Dunblane Cathedral, follow the Dam Road (a Roman path), and visit Robert Louis Stevenson's cave on the banks of the Allan Water. We then follow the copper mine path above Bridge of Allan, cross Stirling University campus and climb up to the Wallace Monument. We descend to join the banks of the River Forth and visit Cambuskenneth Abbey before finishing at Stirling Railway Station. Return to Dunblane by train. Terrain: Mainly country paths (rough and muddy in places) with short sections on footpaths or quiet, single track roads. Distance: 16 km, duration 6 hrs, total ascent 400m to max. ht. 180m. Start point: Carpark on the north side of Dunblane Cathedral. Distance / Time from Helensburgh: 43 miles / 1 hr. OS Landranger: 57 Grid ref: NN 781014.

Date	Grade	Title and Description
Sunday 5th April	B+	WALK CANCELLED (Covid-19 precaution) Bealach a'Mhaim Ascend via the Cobbler track to the Bealach a' Mhaim where we descend north east into Gleann Leacann Sheileach. Continue through forest until reaching dam and picking up forestry road. Follow forestry road to Coiregrogain and then good track through Glen Loin to Arrochar. Terrain: Well defined tracks apart from 1 km. This is the steep, rocky section leading down from the Bealach. Distance: 16 km, duration 6 hrs, total ascent 850m to max. ht 650m. Start point: First Arrochar carpark at head of Loch Long. Pay and Display may be required. Distance / Time from Helensburgh: 20 miles / 30 mins. OS Map Landranger: 56 Grid ref: NN 298049. 0900 HRS DEPARTURE FROM HELENSBURGH PIER
Saturday 11th April	B	WALK CANCELLED (Covid-19 precaution) Ben Cleuch The circuit ascends via the popular path up Mill Glen to The Law and then on to summit of Ben Cleuch. Return via Ben Ever and steeply back down to Mill Glen. Terrain: Hill paths throughout. Upper slopes are grassy, but parts of the descent and the Mill Glen sections have steep slopes. Slight scramble out of Mill Glen. Distance: 9.5 km, duration 6 hrs, total ascent 731m to max. ht 721m. Start point: Upper Mill Street in Tillicoultry. Distance / Time from Helensburgh: 47 miles / 1 hr 15 mins. OS Landranger: 58 Grid ref: NS 914974.
Saturday 18th	C+	WALK CANCELLED (Covid-19 precaution) Bromley Muir Train from Helensburgh to Dalreoch where we will pick up tow path along Leven until Renton. When, by footbridge, we ascend to the historic Fort from where we cross to Bromley Muir trig point, according great views of the Clyde, then onto join Stonymollan path to Balloch. <i>Return to Helensburgh/Dumbarton by train after refreshments.</i> Terrain: Muddy and grassy underfoot apart from tow path and Stonymollan. Gaiters and sticks recommended. Distance: 10 km, duration 4½ hrs, total ascent 500m to max. ht. 304m. Start point: Dalreoch Railway Station. Distance / Time from Helensburgh: n/a. OS Landranger: 63, Grid ref: NS 391757. Meet at Helensburgh Central to catch the 09:56 train to Dalreoch
Sunday 19th April	A	WALK CANCELLED (Covid-19 precaution) Beinn Dubhchraig From Dalrigh follow path through railway bridge and cross new footbridge and ascend through pinewoods to gain ridge just north west of the summit. Return by north ridge and bridge over River Cononish. Track to Dalrigh. Terrain: Faint track on ascent, boggy at first. Short grass on descent but steep down to river. Wide return track from Cononish. Distance: 14 km, duration 6½ hrs, total ascent 850m to max ht. 978m. Start point: Dalrigh car park off A82 between Crianlarich and Tyndrum. Distance / Time from Helensburgh: 40 miles / 1 hr 15 min. OS Landranger: 50, Grid ref: NN 343291. 0830 HRS DEPARTURE FROM HELENSBURGH PIER

Date	Grade	Title and Description
Saturday 25th April	C	WALK CANCELLED (Covid-19 precaution) Lochgoin Circuit After a visit to the hands-on Visitor Centre - good fun for 'big kids' - follow tracks to a viewpoint then continue round Lochgoin Reservoir. Terrain: Well-made tracks with a few minor inclines, but mainly flat. Distance: 13 km, duration 5 hrs, total ascent 117m to max ht. 309m. Start point: Park in the overflow car parks at Whitelee Windfarm. Distance / Time from Helensburgh: 46 miles / 1hr. OS Landranger: 64, Grid ref: NS 530490 . 0900 HRS DEPARTURE FROM HELENSBURGH PIER
Sunday 26th April	B+	WALK CANCELLED (Covid-19 precaution) Beinn nan Oighreag Heading north from the start point to gain the long south ridge of Beinn nan Oighreag which we ascend directly to the summit. Continue north beyond the summit for a short distance before descending east then south to contour the hillside above Lairig Bhreislich for our return to the start point. A fine walk on reasonably good paths and tracks leading to a broad summit with extensive views. Historical aspect with remains of sheilings and nearby old drovers route. Terrain: Initially grassy track and hill paths leading to open, trackless heather clad hillside. Distance: 14 km, duration 7 hrs, total ascent 850m, to max ht. 909m. Start point: Roadside parking just beyond Duncroisk, Glen Lochay. Distance / Time from Helensburgh: 50 miles / 1 hr 30 mins. OS Landranger: 51, Grid ref: NN 526363. 0900 HRS DEPARTURE FROM HELENSBURGH PIER