

Donation to Mountain Rescue by Fife Club

Twenty members of Glenrothes Hillwalkers Club in Fife headed north to Torridon last weekend (18th July) and met up with the Torridon Mountain Rescue Team. The group was staying at the Torridon Youth Hostel and walking in the area as part of their monthly weekend meets programme. On the agenda was the presentation of a cheque for £617 from the club members to Depute Team Leader, Eoghain MacLean. Janice Thomson, the club's Vice Chairperson said she was delighted to pass on the cheque in recognition and support for the fantastic work the Team carries out on behalf of all hillgoers. Eoghain spoke about the running costs of the team and the challenges of supporting its upkeep. Thanking the group he said the club's donation was greatly appreciated.

Janice explained that the club is involved in fundraising throughout the year with money being raised through the annual Ceilidh, a silent auction and individual donations. Two of the main fundraisers and organisers of the Ceilidh, Julie Garland and Harry Dryburgh had their photo taken with the Team members beside the MRT vehicle. Members John and Morag Telfer who were not present at the weekend are co-fundraisers.

Team members, Cam Mackay and Ryan MacLean provided further background information when the group was shown the MRT base and equipment store. This gave everyone a greater insight into the skill, commitment and enthusiasm of all the Team members who are of course volunteers. Eoghain explained that as climbers and mountaineers themselves, their main interest and concern is to help people who get into difficulty in the hills.

Glenrothes Hillwalkers Club was set up in 1987 and now with around one hundred members is one of the most active clubs in Fife. The club encourages people of all abilities and experience to get out and enjoy the hills. On offer are monthly club walks and weekends away. For the past three years summer trips to mountainous regions abroad have been a popular feature. Monthly indoor meetings include talks from visiting speakers on hill related topics. Courses are organised to develop "skills for the hills" such as navigation and winter skills. A high priority is given to sharing information and experience, fostering a non-competitive and caring ethos.

To find out more about Glenrothes Hillwalkers Club check out their website at www.glenrotheshillwalkers.co.uk