

## Greenock Cut Centre

### Opening Hours

Visitor Centre Café April – September

Weekends only 11am – 4pm

Trails Open every day all year.

Toilets Open daily.

**Cornalees Bridge**

near Inverkip

PA16 9LX

tel 01475 521 458

### Dogs can harm wildlife



Keep them under proper control to minimise disturbance to wildlife, livestock and other users.

### Footprints only



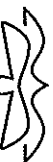
The narrow path is on a Scheduled Monument and is therefore not suitable for horse riding or motorised vehicles

### Wildlife Watching



In spring, listen for the cry of the **curlew** and the **skylark** song. Watch out for a passing **ravens** or **hen harriers** hunting low over the moorland.

Look out for **sundew** and **butterwort**, these plants trap and digest insects on their sticky leaves to survive on poor soil. Look out for **Tiger Beetles**.



**Clyde Muirshiel**  
REGIONAL PARK

## The Park for People

Enjoy a healthy family fun day out or exciting outdoor activities in Scotland's largest Regional Park. From high heather moors and woodland glens to freshwater lochs and coastal shores the Park has something for everyone.

**Our friendly staff** are more than happy to answer any questions you might have about access to the countryside.

### Events & Activities

There is lots going on, look out for our 'What's On' guides or online.

### Other Park Sites

**Castle Semple Centre**  
in Lochwinnoch is popular for lochshore and woodland walks, coffee, outdoor activity courses plus bike hire.  
**Lochlip Road PA12 4EA**  
tel 01505 842 882

**Muirshiel Centre**  
near Lochwinnoch provides easy access to 'great walking country' including the family friendly 'Windy Hill'.  
**Calder Glen PA12 4LB**  
tel 01505 842 803

**Lunderston Bay**  
near Gourrock has a sandy beach, a coastal walk and a children's play area.  
**Cloch Road PA16 9LX**  
tel 01475 521 458

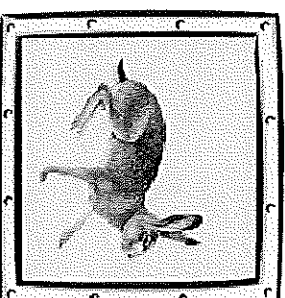
**Barnbrock**  
is 4 miles south of Kilmacollm with picnic site and group use camp area.  
**Nr Kilbarchan PA10 2PZ**  
Tel 01505 614 791

**Clyde Muirshiel**  
REGIONAL PARK

  
The Park for People

## Greenock Cut Visitor Centre

### The Kelly Cut Walk



- 10km Linear Walk
  - Historic Feature
  - Fantastic Views
  - Access from Greenock Cut
- Visitor Centre
- Free Car Parking

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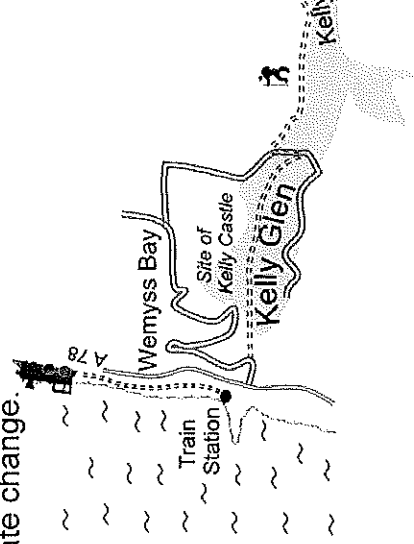
## Kelly Cut Walk

The Kelly Cut is 6.5 km (4 miles) in length, giving a return walk of 13 km (8 miles) or it is a 9.6 km (6 mile) linear walk from the Greenock Cut Visitor Centre to the railway station at Wemyss Bay.

**Views** overlook the Clyde towards Dunoon and the Argyll mountains and the Isles of Bute and Arran.

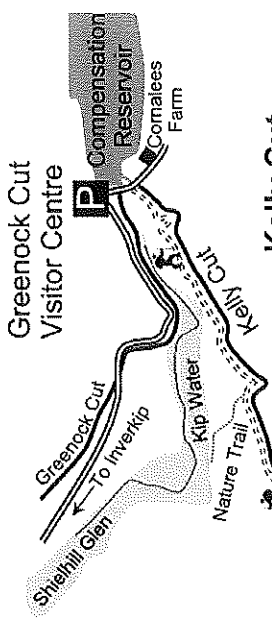
**Habitat** Native broadleaved woodlands flank the Kip Water in Shielhill Glen. Scrub birch woods lead to open heather moorland for much of the walk.

**Peat** Large areas of peat overlay old lava flows up to 1km thick. Scottish peat is a massive carbon store, holding up to 90% of all carbon stored in soils, plants and forests in the UK. A hectare of active peat bog also stores 250kg of carbon every year. Conservation and enhancement of peatlands is a major action to combat climate change.



## Why the name the 'Kelly Cut'?

- Late in the 15<sup>th</sup> Century, James III granted the lands of Kelly to the Bannatyne family, who went on to hold this land for almost 300 years.
- They built the original Kelly Castle next to the Kelly Burn, it was destroyed by fire in 1740 and never rebuilt.
- The Kelly aqueduct (or Cut) was built in 1845, to supplement the water supply for the Greenock Cut.
- It has an elevation of 500 ft above sea level.



## Kelly Cut

by **Betty McKellar**

Above the Cornalees, against the sky –  
a paraglider balanced on a crag,  
he leans out into space and lays himself  
upon the breathing of the wind so that  
he drifts over the frozen waters of  
Loch Thom towards the ancient Celtic lands  
of Kelly and the silvered sea of the Clyde.

Silence is his music.

He glides to its rhythms  
flying with the buzzard  
like a great blue bird of happiness  
into the softened face of winter  
for sunlight suffuses the powdered hills with gold  
and illuminates Blood Moss  
to glowing copper red.

He sees the Earth has healed her wounds –  
the reservoirs her jewels now,  
the cuts a shine of inlaid metal thread.

Stone dykes hang like necklaces around her shoulders  
where summer stonechats chatter  
and the roe deer stray,  
birch and rowan trees dress the empty hollows  
in winter grey.

And tiny people walk her pathways  
far below him  
listening, listening  
to the music of the silence,  
watching a blue bird of happiness  
soaring  
above their heads.

