



ELLON HILLWALKING CLUB

Newsletter August 2013

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Programme:
Monday 12th August 2013
Evening Walk – Railway Line Walk
Ellon Community Centre Car Park 19:00

Sunday 18th August 2013
Jock's Road Through Walk
Focal Pt Gordon Spence (01358 788998)
Community Centre Car Park 07:00

Jock's Road (OS Sheets 43&44)

Mike Taylor

There is sufficient demand to organise a minibus for this excellent through walk. The committee has decided to subsidise this and charge a 'special' price of only £12. There may be one or two places left but these will be allocated on a first come first served basis - so if you would like to take part it is important that you let Gordon Spence (01358 788998) know as soon as possible so that a place on the minibus can be reserved.

The Tolmount Track runs from Braedownie in Glen Doll to Auchallater in Glen Clunie and is one of the most rugged through walks in Scotland as it climbs to 910m and crosses a large tract of exposed high plateau with few landmarks. This right of way was the subject of an action in the Court of Session in 1886-87, and in the House of Lords in 1888, when it was proved that it had been for long the practice of drovers to take sheep from Braemar over the Tolmount to the market at Cullow, near Kirriemuir (Bartholomew et al, 1995).

The walk is 20 km long with an ascent of 690m from the Glen Doll side and 570 m from Auchallater - probably about a 7 hour walk. The minibus will drop the party off in Glen Doll and be driven around to Auchallater to meet everyone at the finish of the walk. From Glen Doll the walk starts at the car park near Braedownie (GR 284762) with a very pleasant woodland walk alongside the White Water. Once out of the forest the track climbs steeply up to the plateau; this part is Jock's Road, said to be named after a John Winters (Watson, 1975). On the way up to the highest point on Crow Craigies a small shelter, Jock's Bothy, is passed. After Crow Craigies the track descends towards Glen Callater with fine views of Coire Kander to the West. The track goes along the East side of Loch Callater then down a Land Rover track to Auchallater.

References:

Bartholomew et al, 1995, Scottish Hill Tracks, Originally compiled by Moir in 1947, revised by Bartholomew, Bennet and Stone in 1995 Published by Scottish Rights of way Society
Watson, 1975: The Cairngorms, Adam Watson, SMC

Forthcoming Events

Sep 15 th	Cairngorm and Ben Macdui
Oct 20 th	An Socach
Oct 26/27 th	Bunkhouse Weekend – Loch Ness
Nov 17 th	Cannes Glen & Bar Supper

Schiehallion

Margaret Watson

6 of us set off from Ellon for the drive to Schiehallion in Perthshire. There was quite a bit of grey cloud on the drive south but further west the weather became sunny and fine. During the journey we enjoyed seeing vintage cars, lorries and motorbikes on the road heading to a vintage vehicle event at Glamis Castle.

The journey took us about 3 hours and we arrived at the Braes of Foss car park west of Aberfeldy at about 10am. Dan met us at the car park and the 7 of us set

off on the walk. The weather was warm and sunny and there was a bit of a breeze to keep the midgies away! Perfect weather for hillwalking! We followed the excellently constructed path for the first part of the walk. Further up the mountain the terrain was rockier and care had to be taken over the larger boulders. The hill was busy with walkers, runners, tourists, families with small children and a group with spades for path repair work. We reached the summit at approximately 1pm and stopped for lunch and enjoyed views of the spectacular scenery in all directions. We could see some of the new pylons along the new Beauty to Denny overhead power line.

The descent was straightforward back along the same route to the car park, although the dry gravel made some parts of the path quite slippery. We were back at the car park by about 3pm - it was busy and there were cars parked further back on the verges too.

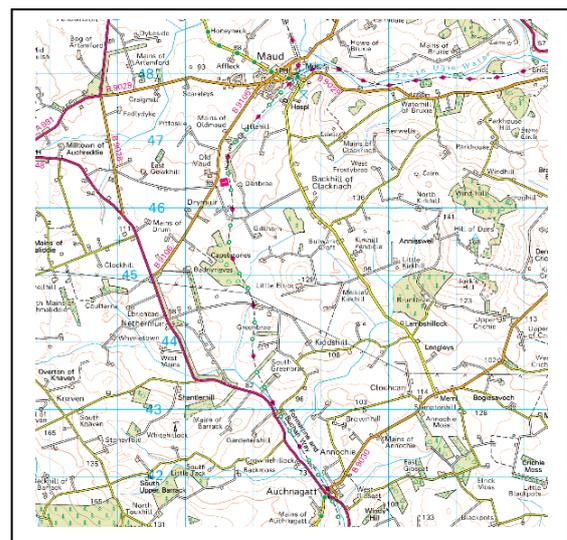
We had a stop at the appropriately named Schiehallion Bar in Aberfeldy for refreshments. On the way home we again saw the vintage cars out on the road heading away from the event at Glamis.

It had been a very enjoyable day out in fine weather to an area which the club less frequently visits.

Monday Evening Railway Line Walk

Allan Brown

The Monday evening walk this August is a very pleasant stroll from Auchnagatt to Maud. It is about 4.5 miles long on a good dry path. Most of the line has an open outlook over farm land and more distant scenery. As with previous railway walks there will be a brief quiz just to make sure you keep your eyes open! Jimmies or trainers will be adequate for this walk. Please meet at Ellon Community car park at 7:00 pm.



Auchnagatt to Maud Railway Line Walk