



ELLON HILLWALKING CLUB

Newsletter October 2015

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Programme:
Monday 12th October 2015
Travels with Young Farmers - Stuart Jamieson
Station Hotel Ellon 19:30

Sun 18th October 2015
The Cairnwell Three
Focal Pt Mike Taylor: Text 07710400154
Community Centre Car Park 07:30

Cairnwell Area (OS Sheet 43)

Mike Taylor

This is a very pleasant, and not too long, walk in the Cairnwell area which is a round of three Munros and starts and finishes at the ski car park.

Cairnwell (from Cairn Bhalg, cairn of the bags, referring to the pouchy peatbanks on the slopes) must be the most accessible Munro in the country. The summit cairn is straight up from the car park: 0.6 km with 270m of ascent - under an hour's walking. The top is a very good viewpoint looking over to the Cairngorms and down into Central Scotland. The walk from here to Carn a'Gheoidh (hill of the goose) descends NNW along a broad ridge with snow fences then west for a short way to a col at 810m. From here it is a very pleasant walk up a gentle slope of crisp, mossy heath past Carn nan Sac to the summit at 975m. The route then backtracks to the Cairnwell-Aosda col and then up to the flat, stony summit of Carn Aosda (hill of age). The starting point is now just a little over 1km of descent away. The total distance for the walk is about 11km with 570m of ascent - between 4 and 5 hours of walking.

This walk is very suitable for an October day and should be within the capabilities of any reasonably fit member of the Club. A minibus has been booked for this outing which will leave the old Community Centre car park at 07.30. If you want to go on the walk, please text Mike Taylor (07710 400154) by Thursday 15 October

Forthcoming Events

Oct 24/25th Loch Ossian bunkhouse weekend
Nov 15th Meall a Buchaille and Bar Supper
Dec 20th Ben Rinnes

Shelterstone Walk Report

Dan Carr

Six people met at the Cairngorm Ski Centre car park ready for a day full of ups and downs. The weather was pleasant with not much cloud cover and so little wind that the midges were making their presence felt at 600m. We headed up the Windy Ridge Path which heads east up the ridge to the Ptarmigan Centre. It ascends immediately from the word go so we tried to pace ourselves a bit.

As we rounded the Ptarmigan centre we could see Cairn Gorm free from cloud ahead so we ambled up the roped path and followed the cairns to the weather station, where we stopped for a snack. We were just in time to witness the automatic weather station rise up to take it's half hourly reading before disappearing again.

We then headed west and picked up the path to the Coire Raibeirt. The path follows the burn and gets quite steep in places but the view of Loch Avon and its sandy beaches is lovely.

We passed the beach at the head of the loch and headed to the boulder field to try and find the Shelter Stone. Two of the group had been in the shelter before so we were confident, perhaps overly so. We walked around every suitable looking lump of rock looking for an entrance and whilst we did find some shelters none seemed worthy of a capital 'S'. There was one very large rock with a cairn on it that I walked round twice and I couldn't see a way in (when we got home and checked online we found that this was indeed the Shelter Stone but I had been unable to find the entrance!).

After three quarters of an hour we resigned ourselves to coming back next year so we had our lunch at the beach in preparation for the return.



(Photos Dan Carr)

Walking back up the burn from the Loch was hard work but the wind was at our backs and Cairn Gorm was soon in sight again. This time we headed straight on and down the Fiacail Ridge to the road that winds under the railway to the car park, where we got lightly rained upon.

We stopped in Aviemore for tea and cake at Mambos (formerly Super Panther, formerly Mambos) which didn't have any scones but did have very good flapjacks.

Loch Ossian Bunkhouse Weekend

Spaces Available

Due to diary clashes there is at least one spare space on the Loch Ossian bunkhouse weekend. If anyone is interested in going on this trip please get in touch with Mike Taylor (07710400154) as soon as possible. Bus transport from / to Ellon is available as part of the deal.

2016 Walks and Talks Programme

The committee will be meeting soon to discuss and prepare the Club programme for 2016. If any member has any suggestions please let a committee member know and we will do our best to incorporate these into the plan.

The John Muir Trust
North East Scotland Members Group



presents

an illustrated talk by
James Brownhill

“Walking the John Muir Way and
completing
the Tour du Mont Blanc.”



Date Tuesday 27th October
Time 7.30 p.m.
Venue Rm C11 Taylor Building University Of Aberdeen



donations on the door – all welcome
contact r.beyts@btinternet.com



North East Mountain Trust
Winter Lectures

**“Clouds- an illustrated talk
by the former Grampian TV
weather presenter”**

James Brownhill

Wednesday 21st October 19:30

Sportsman’s Club
11 Queen’s Road Aberdeen
Admission £4