



# ELLON HILLWALKING CLUB

## Newsletter September 2017

Secretary: Irene Jamieson, Mains of Leask, Slains, Ellon. AB41 8LA. irenemjamieson@hotmail.com

### Programme:

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2017**  
**NEMT talk by George Allan**  
**Station Hotel Ellon 19:30**

### Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2017

**Glas Maol and Cairn of Claise**  
**Focal Pt. Richard Paton. Text 07866 596613**  
**Riverside Car Park 07.00**

### Glas Maol and Cairn of Claise (OS Sheet 43) Mike Taylor

The plan this month was for a through walk but due to the unavailability of a minibus driver, this has been changed to a circuit in the same area. The walk starts at the ski car park opposite The Cairnwell and goes through the ski runs to the Meall Odhar before climbing onto Glas Maol. It then drops southeast to Little Glas Maol and on to Monega Hill. This should give a superb view into Caenlochan Glen.

The walk then backtracks to skirt around the head of the glen to reach Druim Mor on the opposite side and goes on to climb Cairn of Claise. The return is back over Glas Maol and Meall Odhar to the ski car park.

The walk is about 15km with a total of 950m of climbing – a 6 to 7 hour walk. There are a lot of ups and downs but the walk should be suitable for a reasonably fit member of the club.

If you are interested in taking part in this walk please let Richard Paton (07866 596613) know by Thursday 14 September

### Forthcoming Events

Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> A Greek Odyssey. A Brown.  
Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> An Socach  
Oct 28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> Sail Mhor . Dundonnel  
Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> Mountains of Mourne. M Taylor  
Nov.19<sup>th</sup> Corryhabbie Hill and bar supper

### 2018 Walks and Talks Programme

At this time of year the Committee are thinking about next year's walks and talks to prepare next year's programme. If any member has any thoughts or suggestions please let a committee member know and we will try to incorporate these into the plan.

### Creag Meagaidh Walk Report Tony Richardson

It was an early start from Ellon for the long journey to Creag Meagaidh for Malcolm, Neil, Richard and Tony but for once the weather forecast was good. Malcolm had kindly offered to drive on our long excursion and transported the four of us to the starting point for the ascent of Creag Meagaidh for around 10 am.



Photo: Tony Richardson

The weather was indeed good with excellent visibility and we set off up the glen at a good pace soon reaching the lochan and the very impressive cliffs of Corrie Ardair which are one of the main winter climbing venues in Scotland. They have been described as second only to Ben Nevis for ice climbing.

We then started the ascent of the Window which is the only breach in Corrie Ardair's defences. This involved a very steep climb over some large boulders and extremely steep scree which was not the most enjoyable part of the day.

Having successfully completed this ascent we set off across the plateau firstly to the edge of the magnificent cliffs which had a truly 'awesome' drop with many exciting perching points for the more adventurous members of the group. We then continued on to Mad Meg's Cairn and finally the true summit. The weather was overcast but very pleasant with very little wind.



Photo: Richard Paton

At the summit the view was superb with a huge 360 degree panorama of hills including some of the Knoydart mountains including the unmistakable point of Sgurr na Ciche.

Unfortunately, there were some mountaineering midgets right up at the summit so we decided it was time to descend after a brief lunch stop before they really got organised with their attack.

The walk back down the glen seemed very long and the descent of the Window was trying and we all had to be extremely careful.

However we all got safely back to the car park ready for the long drive home with a welcome break in the Spey valley for a coffee and some very nice homebaking.



*Photo; Tony Richardson*

*More photos - Richard Paton*

