



# ELLON HILLWALKING CLUB

## Newsletter May 2017

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

**Programme:**  
**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017**  
**Ben Nevis Routes by Tony Richardson**  
**Station Hotel Ellon 19:30**

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2017**  
**Clachnaben**  
**Focal Pt. Irene Jamieson 07817643429**  
**Riverside Car Park 08.30**

### Clachnaben Mike Taylor OS Sheet 45

Clachnaben is one of the most familiar hills in the North East of Scotland

I like the description of it in Drummond (Scottish Hill and Mountain Names):

'Lying on the eastern shoulders of the Mounth, where the gentle swell of the hills lose their wave power before dying out on the plains by the North Sea, Clachnaben is a landmark because of the huge granite tor on top. In Gaelic it is *clach na beinne*, stone of the mountain, and its prominence is clear from Hamish Brown's estimates of a 300 pace circumference and a 100 feet (30m) height'.

There are a number of recognised routes up the hill all taking about the same time – about a three hour round trip. From the Cairn o'Mount road at 649869 the route passes to the south of Mount Shade and its impressive dry ravine. There is another route from the North via the Burn of Greendams and another starting just west of Spittalburn at 645847.

This is a very straightforward walk which will be well within the capabilities of any reasonably fit member of the club. If you are interested in the walk please let Irene Jamieson (07817 643429) know by Thursday 11 May.

There seemed to be cloud further up the hill so I switched my gps on and had a good look at the map just in case some navigation might be needed (as it transpired the cloud lifted and the paths are hard to miss).



(George Slesser)

As we walked past the house just north of the well we noticed a car with its engine running and no one in it. A bit odd. Then began the steepest part of the walk; up the Ladder Burn.

We got a good view back down the valley from the corner of the switch back. The cloud was lifting as the day went on and we could see the shoulder of Mount Keen in the distance.

After another regroup we came up onto some flatter ground and a newish looking path heading north. There was a brief shower that felt very cold and further up small patches of fresh snow lay.

### Forthcoming Events

June 12th Goval Woods walk  
June 17/18 Ben Nevis  
June 18<sup>th</sup> Mayar and Dreish  
July 16<sup>th</sup> Cairn Toul  
August 20<sup>th</sup> Craig Meagaidh

### Mount Keen from Glen Esk

**Dan Carr.** (photos George Slesser/John Biggins)

Eleven members set out from the car park in Glen Esk to an overcast sky. The walk up to the Queens Well was a gentle warm up on a well maintained track. In fact the whole day was



gentle really.

We paused at the well to take some photos. (G.S.)



(George Slesser)



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Gently up we headed until we reached the cairn and sought shelter from the mild breeze. Then the sun came out and we had a very pleasant lunch, with Easter eggs thoughtfully provided by John Biggins.



(John Biggins)

As we set off back the way we came the cloud was lifting off Lochnagar to the west.



(John Biggins)

Soon back at the Ladder Burn, we descended towards the well, noting as we passed that the car engine had stopped, possibly due to lack of fuel.

Then a short walk back to the car park where with perfect timing we drove off just as the heavens opened! We avoided a soaking there. We stopped off at the Panmure Arms in Edzell for a drink.

A great resource for navigation info:

<https://www.mountaineering.scot/safety-and-skills/essential-skills/navigation>



(John Biggins)



(John Biggins)

### TISO Aberdeen Spring/Summer launch Party

May 18<sup>th</sup> 6pm – 8pm

1. Check out new season products
2. Competitions with prizes on the night.
3. Win the latest outdoor gear
4. Free goody bags.
5. Boot fitting, climbing, bike demos.
6. In store activities – climbing wall, bike turbo trainer.
7. Drinks and nibbles.

All Welcome!