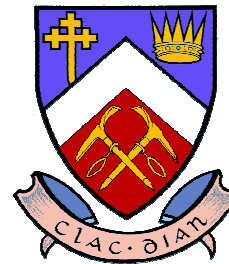


Club Office-Bearers and Other Committee Members

Hon. President	Graham Ewen
President	Anne Pinches, (president@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Vice-President	Derek Beverley, (vp@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Vice-President	Marjory Ewan, (vp2@cairngormclub.org.uk)
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Huts Custodian	Richard Shirreffs, (huts@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Muir Booking Secretary	David Kirk, (muir-booking@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Day Meets Secretary	Derek Beverley, (day@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Weekend Meets Secretary	Marjory Ewan, (weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Climbing Secretary	James Hirst, (climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Social Activities Secretary	Anne Pinches, (social@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Librarian	Lydia Thomson, (librarian@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Training Co-ordinator	Adrian Scott, (training@cairngormclub.org.uk)
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Ruth Payne	
Sandy McIntosh	(ctte16@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Garry Wardrope	(ctte17@cairngormclub.org.uk)

Disclaimer: The views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Cairngorm Club

February 2012



The Cairngorm Club
Established 1887

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Editor Colin Brown (newsletter@cairngormclub.org.uk)



Clac Dian

The Newsletter of the Cairngorm Club

The Cairngorm Club is 125 Years Old!

On the morning of 23 June 1887 a group of six men from Aberdeen decided to form themselves into the Cairngorm Club at the point where the Feithe Buidhe enters Loch Avon. They had spent the night at the Shelter Stone after celebrating Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee by setting off fireworks from the summit of Ben Macdui at midnight.

Plans to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of this event are mainly centred around the mid-summer weekend when a lunchtime barbecue will be held at Muir Cottage on Sunday 24th June, 2012. Muir will be available for members use that weekend. A coach has been hired from Aberdeen to Inverey to transport those who wish to come to Muir for the barbecue and join in the celebrations. This year's Overnighter will be to the Shelter Stone with the participants due back at Muir in time for lunch on Sunday. As well as a good amount of food the Club will also be providing a variety of fizzy and non-fizzy drinks both alcoholic and non-alcoholic. Various celebratory projects have been suggested and discussed, and finally the committee have settled on the following. Extension to Piper's Wood in Glen Ey. Piper's Wood was the project developed as part of the 1987 centenary celebrations, and with money held in the Piper's Wood fund it has been decided to extend the fencing and thus enlarge the area. Plans for this have still to be finalised.

(continued on page 2)

Footpath work at the climbing area in the Pass of Ballater is also one of this year's projects. (See James Hirst's article on the front of the October Newsletter for more details.)

The plaques on the Cairngorm Club footbridge (GR927078) in Rothiemurchus are in need of repainting. The bridge was built 100 years ago and records show that possibly the last time it was repainted was in 1966. It may well be that the easiest way to do this is to take the plaques back to Aberdeen for repainting. Enquiries about repainting (and possibly repairing/improving) the bridge itself are continuing.

We are also finding out about a badge with the Club coat of arms, the words 'Cairngorm Club' and '125'. This would be made available to members to attach to any item of clothing or equipment.

Another way to celebrate 125 years of the Club centres round the number 125. How about letting the rest of us know about your 125th Munro, Corbett or any other classification of hill. What is the view 125 degrees from your favourite hill? Do you and some other person/people whose combined age is 125 have a project in mind? Is there an interesting spot 125m/kms from your home? Remember that it's not only walking and climbing that keep Cairngorm Club members off the street, do you have a favourite bike ride that's 125 km long? Over the course of this year, are there a few bike or canoe trips which you could do which would add up to 125 miles?

What other ideas do you have? Send reports to me (see back of newsletter for contact details) of anything you have done over the course of the year where 125 is a significant number. Hopefully there will be enough of interest to publish a booklet or provide material for our next Journal.

Final details of the Muir mid-summer celebrations will be available in the next newsletter.

Anne Pinches, President

RGU Climbing Membership Offer

For a monthly payment of £40 you can get unlimited usage of the RGU climbing zone at nearly any time (* see below) with no additional cost.

* The RGU Shelterstone Club have exclusive access to the main wall on Monday evenings from 19:00 to 22:00, but the boulder room can be used - space dependent. Please contact the RGU:SPORT reception desk for further details.

(continued from page 1)

Radio Scotland Outdoors Weather Forecasts

These are broadcast at 19.04 on Monday-Friday, 07.04 and 22.04 on Saturday, and 07.04 and 20.04 on Sunday. These and other forecasts can be accessed direct via Club website from the 'Links' page - <http://www.cairngormclub.org.uk/links/links.htm>

Heading for the Scottish Hills Website

The 2011 pilot ended on 20 October 2011. Feedback from users has again been positive and the 2012 scheme is likely to be rolled out to include the Breadalbane DMG. See <http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.com/outdoors-responsibly/access-code-and-advice/scottish-hills/heading-scottish-hills-pilot/>

Rope Protectors

I am sure that like me, many club members work in the oil and gas industry. One of the tools that the industry uses to improve across-the-board safety performance is lateral learning of other peoples' safety experiences (with the aim of preventing repeat occurrences elsewhere). One recent tragic incident (a fatality on an offshore platform involving a rope access technician) struck me as being relevant to anyone who abseils or makes use of top ropes. As we all are aware, ropes are subject to wear whenever they cross over a 'sharp' surface such as a rock edge. Hence when top roping or abseiling a lot of effort is spent to ensure the rope and anchors are, where possible, routed away from sharp edges or where this is not protected with bespoke or improvised rope protectors. The conclusions from the investigation are not yet finalised; however, there are two good documents freely available on the internet for those that are interested. The first is the excellent HSE (Health and Safety Executive) guidance note "Industrial rope access – Investigation into items of personal protective equipment" which can be found at http://www.hse.gov.uk/research/crr_pdf/2001/crr01364.pdf. The section on rope protectors is very interesting and has made me question the benefit of my own PVC rope protectors when compared to their double canvas equivalents. The other is the IRATA (Industrial Rope Access Trade Association) Safety Bulletin 22 (http://www.irata.org/safety_notices/Safety_Bulletin_22.pdf) which reinforces the need for edge protection.

James Hirst, Climbing Secretary

Physiotherapy Services

For treatment of injuries or conditions which have arisen during sporting activities or affect participation in them, other than chronic degenerative conditions. Cost £28 (a discount of £10) on proof of Club membership (e.g. card); priority appointments for Club members; next-day appointments if booked before 12 noon.

Aberdeen Physiotherapy
01224 626266

Dinner 2011

The Dinner was again held at the Old Mill Inn at Maryculter. Instead of a guest speaker we gave members and guests the opportunity to watch the 20 minute documentary made over the preceding year for Japanese Television. Without a final, and therefore accurate, transcript to follow, the programme was shown as it would have been in Japan. This was at times amusing but also frustrating as some of the speech was in English with Japanese subtitles but much was in Japanese! The scenery was good with a very snowy day on Lochnagar featured and similar conditions encountered on the December weekend meet to the Great Glen Hostel. There was also some footage of the 2010 Club dinner.

As has become the custom, those members with over 50 years membership of the Club were invited as guests of the Club. Eddie Martin and Shelagh Lawson were able to be present with Alastair Gammie, Helen Burnett and Douglas Harper receiving their certificates by post.

Indoor Meets

The final two Indoor Meets are to be held in the Lounge at the Aberdeen Grammar School FP Club Centre, 86 Queen's Road, Aberdeen. Both meetings start at 7.30 pm and £3.00 entry also pays for tea/coffee and biscuits.

Wednesday 8 February - Karin Froebel Overton is coming to answer any questions we may have about the MCofS. Karin is the Club's rep and is very keen to meet members and find out their thoughts on the MCofS. Karin will also give a presentation about the Centenary of the Ladies Scottish Climbing Club.

Wednesday 7 March - there is an opportunity to hear Glyn Jones speak about Balmoral Estate and the work of the Balmoral Ranger Service.

Club Discount at RGU Climbing Wall

RGU is running its discount scheme again this winter for club members. The offer is £3.50 for Tuesday evenings and £4.00 at all other times except Monday evenings which is reserved for the University climbing club. To get the reduced entry fees, you have to have been previously belay-assessed by RGU staff and show your Club membership card.

Club Forum

If you haven't visited the Forum recently, why not check it out. You will find all the latest information on forthcoming events taking place in this the 125th Anniversary Year. <http://cairngormclub.freeforums.org>

AGM 2011

This took place in the basement of the Aberdeen Grammar School FP Club Centre, with 34 members in attendance. It covered the usual topics, with the current Office-bearers re-elected en masse, along with most of the committee, with Garry Wardrope as a "new" addition. Despite satisfactory Club finances, subscriptions for 2012-13 will have to rise by £1.25 due to an MCofS increase. Other issues discussed included meet refund policy (see elsewhere in the Newsletter), and 125 Anniversary projects (ditto). Draft minutes will be posted on the Club Forum.

El Chorro Climbing Meet

On 29th October 2011, eight club members and one guest headed out to El Chorro in the Andalucia province of Spain for a sports climbing trip. El Chorro is situated about 50 km inland from Malaga. There is a vast variety of climbing at all grades to be reached within walking distance of El Gato Cottage which was rented at Finca la Campana.

The group climbed at Arabellas Stepes, Las Encantadas and Frontales, and they also did the famous Camina Del Rey (the Kings Walkway) which was very enjoyable. This was chosen as a wet day expedition, but at the start the weather changed for the better.

Two of the party took on the job as drivers of the van that was hired, and this made transfers to and from Malaga much easier and also allowed travel to Valle de Abdalajis for a couple of days climbing.

On the last day of climbing, while six were on a 120m 4+ multi pitch called Rogelio, they got caught in a thunder and lightning storm. This made it a bit too exciting and they all abseiled off very quickly.

Although a week was spent in El Chorro there was so much more climbing that could have done in the area. There will certainly be another club climbing trip before too long; where and when has yet to be decided. Pictures of the trip can be viewed on the Club Forum at the following internet location - <http://cairngormclub.freeforums.org/el-chorro-climbing-meet-november-2011-t681.html>

Lunch without the Dander

As it is not practical for some people to join in the 'Lunch and Dander' your President wondered about the possibility of organising a lunch somewhere in town so that those members who are able to travel into town could have the opportunity of getting together with each other. If you are interested in this idea please phone Anne Pinches.

Meet Booking/Refund Policy

Following discussion at the recent AGM of a note in the preceding Newsletter, the Committee considered Club policy on the above, and concluded as follows:

For all meets, a place is only guaranteed once payment is received. Once received (and subject to Meet Organiser discretion, e.g. in case of ill health)

Day Meets: cancellation at least 3 days ahead = full refund; cancellation at least 1 day ahead = 50% refund unless a substitute appears; cancellation less than a day ahead = no refund unless a substitute appears; no show on the day = no refund. Refunds can be given as a discount on another Day Meet, or claimed from the Treasurer (SAE needed).

Weekend Meets: refund only if a substitute appears.

Club Training

Want to improve your mountain skills ?

Or maybe want to take the first steps on an outdoor career ?

Or want to pass your skills on to others but lack the qualification ?



The Club offers assistance by way of partial funding for suitable Club members wishing to further their own knowledge and skills, and hopefully maintaining the hill craft and safety of the whole Club. Current suggestions are: First Aid, Navigation, Single Pitch Award, or even something more ambitious like Mountain Leader or MIC.

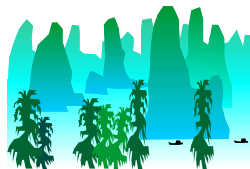
Winter Skills Weekend 2012

The Club is again subsidising a Winter Skills weekend which will be based in Grantown-on-Spey from Fri 24th to Sun 26th Feb, 2012. The cost will be £70 per person, which includes accommodation and two days instruction.

To book, contact Adrian Scott by email at training@cairngormclub.org.uk

Lunch & Dander

The next Lunch and Dander will be held on Thursday 9th February, 2012, meeting at Dunecht House Main Gates, at 10:30am, with lunch in Dunecht at 12:30pm. Please advise Ruth Payne, by Tuesday 7th February, if you would like to join for the lunch gathering.



Adam Watson Books

Dr Watson BSc, PhD, DSc, DUniv, a well-known Deeside figure and an Honorary Member of the Club since 1982, has recently produced several books, including:

It's a Fine Day for the Hill: Hills, Folk and Wildlife 1935-62 – “a breath of fresh air as a proclamation of the value and wonder that are the greatest joys of lone exploration on the spur of the moment”. 182pp, Paragon, ISBN (pb) 978-1907611582. £29.99 via Amazon

Cool Britannia, Paragon 2010. ISBN (pb) 1907611469, with Iain Cameron. RRRP £12.99.

A Zoologist on Baffin Island: Four Months of Arctic Adventure, 1953, reprinted by Paragon 2011, ISBN 9781907611704.

Membership News

The Club is sorry to hear of the death of the following members.

Mr George A Dey, Laurencekirk, an Ordinary member since 1971

Mr Angus A Middleton, Aberdeen, an Associate member since 1963

Mr John Vigrow, Auchterhouse, Dundee, an Ordinary member since 1958

Dr William D Brooker, Cults, Aberdeen, an Honorary member since 1999

The following new members have transferred their status.

Mr Eddie Alaszewski	Portlethen,	Transfer to Ordinary
Mrs Donna Ryan	Aberdeen,	Transfer to Ordinary

The following new members have been admitted since the last newsletter.

Mrs Elaine Titmuss	Muchalls, Stonehaven	Associate
Mr Alessandro Bedin	Aberdeen	Associate
Mrs Sarah Atkinson	Aberdeen	Associate
Dr Julie Black	Footdee, Aberdeen	Associate
Mr Robert Reglinski	Aberdeen	Associate
Mrs Carolyn Ainsbury	Easter Ord, Westhill	Associate
Dr Ian Murray	Aberdeen	Associate
Mrs Isabel Murray	Aberdeen	Associate
Mr Chris Wilson	Bridge of Canny , Banchory	Ordinary
Mr Lewis Campbell	Garthdee, Aberdeen	Associate
Mr David Garwood	Aberdeen	Associate
Mrs Pam Levack-Moir	Rickarton, Stonehaven	Associate
Dr Marion White	Aberdeen	Associate

Munroist List Clerk

To register a completion of a full round of Munros or Corbetts, members should write to David J. Broadhead who is the "Clerk of the List" for the SMC. Please enclose a SAE for your certificate.

David J Broadhead
Cul Mor
Drynie Park North
Muir of Ord
Ross-shire
IV6 7RP

DISCOUNTS

Cotswold - Blacks
Craigdon Sports
Nevisport
Hilltrek - Aboyne
Climbing - Ballater

All the above shops offer discounts to Club members on production of a current membership card

TISO discount nights
6.30 to 8.30 pm, quarterly.

MCofS

For the latest news from the MCofS see their website at -
<http://www.mcofs.org.uk/home.asp>



Ronald Mahaffy

Though a member seldom seen on Club meets, Ronald Mahaffy, who died on 8 August, was a keen mountaineer, surgeon, Gurkha, SAS "tree jumper", radiologist and cattle breeder, as well as rugby player and squash champion.

In his 60s, fearing that a back injury might compromise the climb, he turned down the chance of the world's highest peak saying: "You can climb a lot of Scottish hills for the cost of an Everest expedition!" He did however "nip up" the Matterhorn, aged 70.

His widow has left a good deal of his gear (some new, some well used) to the Club, for disposal to members or others. See Club Forum under "Gear".

Early Club Material

From time to time, the Club receives enquiries – usually from descendents of one-time members, or from postgraduate students – about its earlier days. The Library contains the *Journal* and a few other items, and Sandy McIntosh has compiled some fine early photographs, but if anyone has other material, such as excursion records, or press cuttings, from any date before say 1960 (and back to 1887!), the Secretary would be glad to know.

Journal Editor

Having now completed 3 Journals as editor Lydia Thomson is ready to hand over the reins. If you are interested in the post please contact the Club Secretary. (Contact details on back page)

Bill Brooker

Many members will have heard of the death, on 27 November, of Bill Brooker, the eminent and inspirational North-East mountaineer, and an honorary member of the Club since 1999.

Responsible for many first and early Cairngorm ascents in the 1950s, he became successively President, Journal and guidebook Editor, Clerk of the List (of Munroists) and Honorary President of the Scottish Mountaineering Club.

The Club was well represented at a Celebration of his life at Queen's Cross Church in early December, and it has sent its sympathies to his widow Margaret, a fellow Club member.

September 2012 Club Meet in the Pyrenees?

Following the success of the Stubai meet in 2011, it has been suggested to spend a week exploring a beautiful part of the French and Spanish Pyrenees around Cauterets from 15th to 22nd September 2012.

Amongst the attractions are of course the GR10, some peaks over 3000m, interesting cirques etc., more information can be found at -

<http://www.cauterets.com/>, <http://www.roughguides.com/travel/europe/france/the-pyrenees/cauterets/hikes-around-cauterets.aspx> and

http://www.lespyrenees.net/en/index.php?gestion=pages&id_page=10&id_paragraphe=72#ancree

If there is enough interest, apartments or B+B can be booked close by.

The plan would be to fly from Aberdeen to Toulouse (via Frankfurt), about £190 return, and hire a car or take a train to Lourdes. The last 30km will be by bus or taxi to Cauterets.

If you are interested please call Kees Witte by e-mail at cttel1@cairngormclub.org.uk as soon as possible.

Weekend Meets 2012

As an aid to forward planning, below is a list of the weekend meets for 2012 not listed on pages 9-11. Meet organiser details are on the Club website.

October and December have yet to be confirmed so details of these will appear in the next Newsletter, on the Website and Forum, when they are available.

July 6-7	Ling Hut, Torridon
August 17-18	Forest Way Bunkhouse, Lael, near Ullapool
September 21-23	Kintail area (accommodation TBC)
November 9-10	Inverardan Cottage, Crianlarich

Mid-Week Walks

Arthur Dickie (01224 635633 or ctte3@cairngormclub.org.uk) coordinates this popular series, which takes place on the last Thursday of every month, with a different organiser each time. Walks take about 4-5 hours, with possible recourse to a local tea-room afterwards. The usual Aberdeen car-share meeting points are given below, with the (NEW!) start time of 9.00 am for the 2012 walks. Please contact the organiser beforehand to check on arrangements or to make queries, and especially if you intend to meet up at the walk starting point. Similarly, please ensure that your mobile phone number (if any) is known to someone (and that your mobile is switched on during the walk!).

Code	Location	Grid ref.
K	Kingswells Park and Ride*	868063
P	Persley Gardens (Woodside)	910093
R	Riverside Drive (near Brig o' Dee)	928036

* By the recycling bins in the lower half. Buses 14/15, 40, X17 and others stop at the P&R toilets and waiting room, or at the Kingswells roundabout.

George Dey

A member of the Club since 1971, George passed away on 13 December 2011. A contemporary of the famous Mac Smith and the Tewnions, his name is also associated with the first ascent of Sphinx Ridge on Braeriach and the Dey-Smith bivouac in Garbh Coire Dhaidh of Braeriach.

CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions for the year 2011/12 became due on 1st October 2011.

For those paying by Direct Debit this was collected automatically on 1st October.

Others should send their subscriptions to Derek Pinches, the Club Treasurer.

Cairngorm Club Subscription rates for 2011/12 are as follows:

	Club	MCofS	Total
Full Rate	£13.00	£13.00	£26.00
Reduced Rate	£6.50	£13.00	£19.50

The reduced rate above is available for members who, on 1st October, were aged 65 or over, or under 21; or under 25 and still in full-time education, or who are normally resident and working more than 80km from Aberdeen.

Muir

There are still some weekends in March and April, and indeed later in the year as well, when Muir is not yet booked. So if you fancy a visit, run one or two dates past David Kirk, email muir-booking@cairngormclub.org.uk.

There is also a much greater choice of midweek availability.

This year's work weekend will be the weekend Friday 25 to Sunday 27 May. As well as general maintenance work the focus of the weekend will be seeing that the cottage and the grounds are spick and span in contemplation of the 125th Anniversary "Bash" scheduled for four weekends later. Those interested in taking part in the work weekend should please inform Richard Shirreffs, preferably by e-mail to huts@cairngormclub.org.uk.

The families week in July has not commanded much support in recent years and unless there are sufficient expressions of interest by 30 April the tentative reservation for July 2012 may be dropped. The dates, if the families week happens, would be from Saturday 1 July to Saturday 8 July. All interested should contact to David Kirk as soon as possible.

Charges remain at £5 per night for members and £10 per night for adult guests, with children under 5 accompanying a member parent going free and other children (under age 16) qualifying for a 50% reduction on the rate for their parents. Muir is also available for day use by members and their guests accompanying them, at a charge of £2.50 per person; day use should be booked in the same way as overnight stays.

Post-Easter Meet, SMC Naismith Hut, Fri-Sun 13-15 April 2012

This year, eight (8) places – the maximum possible – have been booked at the SMC hut at Elphin, which is on the A835 about 20 miles north of Ullapool.

As it says on the hut's website (<http://www.smc.org.uk/Huts/Naismith.php>), "there are many superb hills within easy reach of this hut; Ben Mor Coigach, Stac Pollaidh, Cul Beag & Cul Mor, Suilven, Quinag and many more". These are all on OS map 15 (hut at NC 2161 1183), and more Munros and Corbetts are on adjacent sheets.

Bookings should be made to Ken Thomson, via email to secretary@cairngormclub.org.uk, but are only confirmed on receipt of payment of £16 for the 2 nights (Friday & Saturday).

Additional nights may be available from Andrew Tibbs via naismith@smc.org.uk. A communal meal – probably pasta in nature – will be arranged on the Saturday night; intending participants should add £5 for this, making £21 in total.



Please note: bookings are not confirmed until payment is made to the Club.

Strathspey Mountain Hostel, Newtonmore, 17 - 18 Feb, 2012 (Fri & Sat nights)

A first visit for the Club to this hostel which is situated within easy reach of Drumochter and Loch Laggan Munros. Something for everyone in the area including ski-ing at Aonach Mor and Cairngorm which are not too far away. To book, contact Marj Ewan by email at weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk.

By-The-Way Hostel, Tyndrum, 16 - 17 Mar, 2012 (Fri & Sat nights)

This location allows days of climbing at either Arrochar or Glen Coe as well as loads of Munros and Corbetts or walking parts of the west Highland Way, cycling or canoeing. To book, contact Marj Ewan by email at weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk.

SMC Naismith Hut, Elphin, 13 - 14 Apr, 2012 (Fri & Sat nights)

Ideally situated for the many magnificent Corbetts and Grahams in the area, and a couple of Munros as well. More details in February newsletter. To book, contact Ken Thomson by email at secretary@cairngormclub.org.uk. (see page 11 for more details)

Drinishader, Harris, 4 - 6 May, 2012 (Fri, Sat & Sun nights)

A chance to visit the truly amazing Outer Hebrides. Beautiful scenery, lovely white sandy beaches, azure blue seas dotted with islands, rugged hills, stunning sunsets, vibrant birdlife and friendly people. To book, contact Jim Bryce by email at meetorganiser13@cairngormclub.org.uk.

Muir Cottage, 125 Anniversary Weekend, 21st - 24th June 2012 (Thur - Mon nights)

A weekend dedicated to celebrating the 125th Anniversary of the Club. The weekend will embrace most activities of the Club with an Overnighter to the Shelter Stone, climbing at the same venue and a BBQ on Sunday afternoon. See the lead article, the Website and the Forum for more information as it evolves. A bus is to be run from Aberdeen on Sunday to enable members to attend the BBQ only.

To book accommodation at Muir, contact Marj Ewan, by email at weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk, for the overnighter, contact Derek Beverley by email at day@cairngormclub.org.uk.

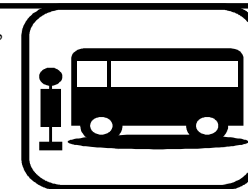
General or bus enquiries should be made to Anne Pinches by email at president@cairngormclub.org.uk

Day Meets (departure time; map sheet(s); grid reference(s) of drop-off and pick-up points; walking time; cost; means of transport; organiser contact details)

Mid-Week Walks (departure time; map sheet; departure point; organisers; contact details)

Weekend Meets (organiser; telephone number; email contact)

Climbing (organiser; contact details)



Day Meets take place once a month and can be by coach, mini-bus, car and (since 2010) by bus share or service bus. Meets are generally on Sundays but occasionally on Saturdays. Members should contact the Meet Organiser to book a place, and the organiser or Day Meets Secretary can be contacted should any additional information be sought.

Meets generally leave Aberdeen around 7am in the morning; departure times and the Day Meet cost are listed in the centrefold of this Newsletter. For service bus meets the first bus out of Aberdeen for Deeside is the one we need. It leaves around 07:45am. On all Meets, an organised walk will be available for those new to the Club or for members who simply want a day out without the challenge of route finding or navigation. The following Day Excursions are offered for late Winter/Spring 2012.

February 5, 2012. Bennachie

A modern-day first for the Club, a train meet to Bennachie. Jump on the first train out of Aberdeen and alight at Inch for the traverse over the peaks of Bennachie to the Bennachie centre. Transport will be available here to ferry participants back to Inverurie for the train back to Aberdeen. To book, contact Derek Beverley by email at day@cairngormclub.org.uk.

March 4, 2012, Schiehallion

The President's Party intend to traverse from Braes of Foss Car Park over the hill making for Kinloch Rannoch where the mini-bus will be waiting at close of day. There is another fine hill above Kinloch Rannoch and other walks which may be of interest and as always you may get off the mini-bus before the main drop-off point. To book, contact Derek Beverley by email at day@cairngormclub.org.uk.

April 8, 2012, Glen Prosen to Glen Clova

This is the third joint meeting with the Stocket Hillwalking Club. The President's Party will follow the Kilbo path to the high point then take in Mayar and Dreish before heading east over Hill of Strone and Carn Inks and from the bealach before Cairn of Barns will drop down the corrie to the Clova Hotel. Other options are available from Glen Prosen and the bus will go directly to the Clova Hotel after dropping there, enabling walks in Glen Clova and above or to Corrie Fee. To book, contact Derek Beverley by email at day@cairngormclub.org.uk

May 13, 2012 Ben Wyvis

A return to this fine hill northwest of Inverness. Ben Wyvis gives a fine high ridge walk or the Corbett Little Wyvis can also be attempted from the start point. To book, contact Judy Middleton by email at meetorganiser19@cairngormclub.org.uk

June 23/24, 2012 Overnighter, Shelter Stone

As part of the 125th Anniversary celebrations of the Club, this year's overnighter will be to the Shelter Stone, and can encompass as many of the high tops of the Cairngorms as you wish to take in. The intention would be to bivvy near the Shelter Stone getting there as you please. There will be no organized transport and you can start from Muir anytime you wish.

Enquiries to Derek Beverley by email at day@cairngormclub.org.uk

February 2012

5	Sun	Day Meet	Bennachie (10am Tram; 37 & 38; 629276; 6hrs; train fare; train; Derek Beverley; day@cairngormclub.org.uk)
7	Tue	Climbing	Indoors at Transition Extreme - 6pm (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
8	Wed	Indoor	Karin Froebel Overton - Q&A Session about the Mountaineering Council of Scotland, and some personal slides. (Anne Pinches; social@cairngormclub.org.uk)
9	Thur	Dander	Meet at Dunecht House Main Gates at 10:30am. Lunch is in Dunecht at 12:30pm. (Ruth Payne)
14	Tue	Climbing	Indoors at RGU - 6pm (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
17	Fri - Sun	W/E Meet	Strathspey Mountain Hostel, Newtonmore (Marj Ewan; weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk)
21	Tue	Climbing	Indoors at Transition Extreme - 6pm (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
23	Thur	M/W Walk	Sands of Forvie (9am; 38; P; Brian Davey)
24	Fri - Sun	Winter Skills	Based in Grantown-on-Spey (Adrian Scott; training@cairngormclub.org.uk)
28	Tue	Climbing	Indoors at RGU - 6pm (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)

March

4	Sun	Day Meet	Schiehallion (7am; 42; 753556 to 662587; 7hrs; £12.50; minibus; Derek Beverley; day@cairngormclub.org.uk)
6	Tue	Climbing	Indoors at Transition Extreme - 6pm (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
7	Wed	Indoor	Glyn Jones - Balmoral Estate and the work of the Balmoral Ranger Service (Anne Pinches; social@cairngormclub.org.uk)
13	Tue	Climbing	Indoors at RGU - 6pm (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
16	Fri - Sun	W/E Meet	By-the-Way Hostel, Tyndrum (Marj Ewan; weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk)
20	Tue	Climbing	Indoors at Transition Extreme - 6pm (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
27	Tue	Climbing	Indoors at RGU - 6pm (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
29	Thur	M/W Walk	Loch Kinord (9am; 37; K; Mike Forsyth)

April

3	Tue	Climbing	Indoors at Transition Extreme - 6pm (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
8	Sun	Day Meet	Glen Prosen to Glen Clova (7am; 44; 292680 to 326731; 7hrs; £15; coach; Derek Beverley; day@cairngormclub.org.uk)
10	Tue	Climbing	Black Rock Gulch (6pm; NE Outcrops p64; HW 16:00; Eddie Alaszewski; ctte2@cairngormclub.org.uk)
13	Fri - Sun	W/E Meet	SMC Naismith Hut, Elphin (Ken Thomson; secretary@cairngormclub.org.uk)
17	Tue	Climbing	The Humpback (6pm; NE Outcrops p61; LW 17:00; John Marsden; meetorganiser24@cairngormclub.org.uk)
24	Tue	Climbing	Alan's Cliff (6pm; NE Outcrops p58; LW 21:00; Marianne Brian; meetorganiser23@cairngormclub.org.uk)
26	Thur	M/W Walk	Crag Bhalg (9am; 43; K; James Friend)
28	Sat	Climbing	Climbing Coordinators Improvised Rescue Course with Pete Hill (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)

May

1	Tue	Climbing	Portlathen Bouldering (& BBQ) (6pm; NE Outcrops p136; HW 21:30; Dave Ogden; meetorganiser4@cairngormclub.org.uk)
4	Fri - Sun	W/E Meet	Drimshader, Harris (Jim Bryce; meetorganiser13@cairngormclub.org.uk)
8	Tue	Climbing	Clashrodneay - Causeway (6pm; NE Outcrops p102; LW 21:00; Chris Wilson; meetorganiser30@cairngormclub.org.uk)
11	Fri - Sun	Climbing	Reiff (Am Fuaran Bar campsite) (Northern Highlands North Guidebook p127) (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
13	Sun	Day Meet	Ben Wyvis (7am; 20; 412673; 7hrs; £12.50; minibus; Judy Middleton; meetorganiser19@cairngormclub.org.uk)
15	Tue	Climbing	Meikle Partans (6pm; NE Outcrops p222; HW 22:00; Marjory Ewan; weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk)
22	Tue	Climbing	Newtonhill North (6pm; NE Outcrops p181; LW 20:00; James Richardson; meetorganiser21@cairngormclub.org.uk)
29	Tue	Climbing	Floors Craig (6pm; NE Outcrops p166; HW 20:00; Eddie Alaszewski; ctte2@cairngormclub.org.uk)
31	Thur	M/W Walk	Carn Liath (9am; 43; K; Martin Duguid)

June

5	Tue	Climbing	Burn o'Vat (6pm; No guide; N/A; Dave Ogden; meetorganiser4@cairngormclub.org.uk)
12	Tue	Climbing	Earnsheugh (6pm; NE Outcrops p109; HW 20:00; Dave Ogden; meetorganiser4@cairngormclub.org.uk)
19	Tue	Climbing	Kirrie Hill (& BBQ) (6pm; Kirrie Hill Miminguide; N/A; Donna Ryan; meetorganiser27@cairngormclub.org.uk)
21 - 25	Thur - Tue	125 Event	125 Anniversary Celebrations at Muir Cottage with Climbing at, (Sat 23rd), and an Overnighter to the Shelter Stone, and a BBQ at Muir Cottage on Sunday. (BBQ & Bus; Anne Pinches; social@cairngormclub.org.uk, Overnighter; Derek Beverley; day@cairngormclub.org.uk, Accommodation; Marj Ewan; weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk & Climbing; (The Cairngorms Guidebook Volume 1) James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
26	Tue	Climbing	Clachnaben (& BBQ) (6pm; NE Outcrops p381; N/A; James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)