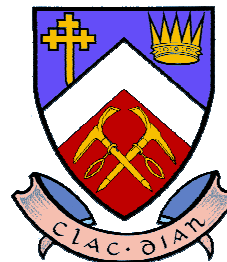


Club Office-Bearers and Other Committee Members

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)
Club Secretary	Ken Thomson (secretary@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Treasurer & Membership Secretary	Derek B Pinches (treasurer@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Communications Secretary	Colin Brown (comms@cairngormclub.org.uk)
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)
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Disclaimer: The views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Cairngorm Club

October 2011



The Cairngorm Club
Established 1887

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



Clac Dian

The Newsletter of the Cairngorm Club

Erosion Prevention at the Pass of Ballater

The Pass of Ballater is a climbing venue just off the B972. The Pass is one of the most popular lowland crags in the Aberdeen area, primarily because of the sheer number of quality routes that can be found there, with classics such as Little Cenotaph (HVS 5b **), Silent Spring (E1 5a **) and Anger & Lust (E2, 5c ****) amongst others. Its southern-facing aspect also saves many a rainy day. As such it sees a fair amount of traffic which has resulted in erosion around the approach route to the Western Section.

The idea of repairing this damage was first mooted by fellow climber Tim Walker over five years ago. With the approach of the club's 125th anniversary, the idea became a reality when the club decided to 'put back into the community' with several Year 125 projects.

Over the last six months, members of the Club and COAT (see p.3) have visited the site twice together to determine the extent of works required. The initial survey confirmed that the area of interest was only the approach to the Western Section (the path straight up from the car park to the Central Section has not yet suffered from erosion). Following this survey, Murray Swapp of COAT made another site visit to enable him to prepare a draft scope of work. We have now defined the full extent of works and have agreement from Invercauld Estates (who own the

(continued on page 2)

land) to proceed with the path upgrade. The proposal (continued from page 1) is based on minimal impact, with the main visual addition being the route marker posts (complete with Cairngorm Club logo). Work should begin soon and hopefully be finished before year end.

I would like to thank all those who have been involved and supported this proposal, from Tim who had the original idea, to Ken Thomson for his attendance during the site visits and to Murray from COAT for all the hard work he has put into the proposal and scope of work.

James Hirst (Climbing Secretary)

Membership News

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

- Miss Jean Alexander of Aberdeen, an Associate member since 1971
- Prof Sandy E Anton of Aberdeen, an Ordinary Life member since 1939
- Dr Frank T Crossling of Kildrummy, Alford, an Ordinary member since 1948
- Dr Ronald G Mahaffy of Peterculter, an Ordinary member since 1977
- Mr Satej Shirodkar of Hatton of Fintray, an Ordinary member since 2010

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

Miss Rosemary Anthony	Aberdeen	Associate
Ms Geraldine Bruce	Kingswells, Aberdeen	Associate
Mr Neil Chalmers	Peterculter, Aberdeen	Associate
Mr Richard Cockburn	Cults, Aberdeen	Associate
Mr Jiulin Guo	Aberdeen	Associate
Mrs Noreen Harding	Newtonhill, Stonehaven	Associate
Mr Ross Littlewood	Strachan, Banchory	Associate
Mr Brian Purves	Kinellar, Aberdeen	Associate
Mr Paul Riordan	Antwerp, Belgium	Associate
Mrs Margaret Smith	Westhill	Associate

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.

E-Mailing List

There is a Club mailing list hosted by Yahoo!. This can be used to arrange formal and informal meets or to sell gear etc.

This group is now only open to Club members, and only they will receive the messages posted.

To subscribe, send an email to: cairngorm_club_members-subscribe@yahoo.com



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/>

New Venue for Indoor Meets

The Winter 2011/12 programme will take place in a new venue. Indoor Meets will take place in the downstairs room at the Aberdeen Grammar School FP Club Centre, 86 Queen's Road, not far from the Anderson Drive roundabout on the City side. Talks will start at 7.30 pm and cost £3.00 which includes tea/coffee and biscuits.

Windfarms

A number of these proposals have reached the club, e.g. Corriemoillie (near Garve), "Hill of Fare" (unspecified), Mortlich (near Aboyne), Coiliochbhar (near Kildrummy), Glenkirk and Tom nan Clach (near Slochd).

The Committee considers some of these, on a case by case basis.

Meet Booking/Refund Policy

At its Meeting on 25 May, 2011 the Committee agreed the following as a Meet Booking/Refund Policy:

No Show – No Refund

Cancellation less than 24hour before departure – No Refund

Cancellation 24 to 72 hours before departure – 50% Refund *

Cancellation 72 hours before departure – Full Refund

* To be claimed from the Treasurer or given as a discount off another Day Meet. Members to enclose a SAE if writing to the Treasurer.

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; priority appointments for Club members; next-day appointments if booked before 12 noon.

Aberdeen Physiotherapy
01224 626266

Climbing Update

The outdoor Tuesday nights will be a dim memory by the time you read this. I hope that those who attended enjoyed the venues, when the weather permitted outdoor climbing, that is. Rather than look back on the exploits of this summer, I thought instead that it was worth mentioning the Club's 125th anniversary next year. To celebrate this I wondered who would be up for the 'Ken Wilson' Scottish challenge. For those who do not know, Ken Wilson wrote two definitive climbing books in the seventies: *Hard Rock* and *Classic Rock*. (There's also *Extreme Rock* but I'm too much of a woosie to include that). The books are real classics, so if you have a chance it's worth reading them (even if it's only to look at the photos which are full of climbers wearing very similar gear to our very own John Marsden). The idea behind the challenge is to complete as many of the Scottish climbs in the books as possible. *Classic Rock* has 25 routes (though Cioch Direct may have been impacted by rock fall earlier this year) varying from Diff to VS, with most in the Severe range. *Hard Rock* has 17 routes graded VS to E2 (if you ignore the free E7 scoop at Strone Ulladale). The rules of the challenge are simple: for the climb to count, at least one of the climbers must be a Club member and it must be completed in 2012. Apart from that it's the normal start at bottom, finish at top. For climbs to count they can be either Summer or Winter ascents (just in case someone - not me - fancies Eagle Ridge early next year). If you want the full lists of climbs from both books, these can be found on the Needle Sports website at

<http://www.needlesports.com/NeedleSports/hardrock/hardrock.htm>.

As well as the 'Ken Wilson' challenge, it is also worth mentioning that the club anniversary weekend is 23rd/24th June 2012. The Club is intending to have various meets around the Shelter Stone (where the Club was originally formed 125 years ago), one of these being a weekend climbing meet. The climbing is somewhat harder on Shelter Stone Crag (compared to *Classic Rock*) but there are some options around VS.

Two final things: Firstly a note of thanks to all those who helped provide first aid and support to the injured AMC climber at Clashrodneay on the 23rd August. We received an email of thanks from the AMC. Good work!

And lastly, approximately £100 was raised by selling second hand climbing gear at various club meets. This will be used to fund a climbers indoor meet which will take place Friday 25th November (7 pm start) in the sub-committee room at the Aberdeen Grammar Former Pupils Club. Location of the club can be found at: <http://www.agsfp.com/club-directions.html>. So starting pulling together photos and stories of this year's climbing epics for then!

James Hirst (Climbing Secretary)

Cairngorms Outdoor Access Trust (COAT)

Over the spring and summer, path work has been carried out at Bynack More, the Lairig Ghru, the Cairngorms Plateau, Carn Ban Mor, Fiacail a'Choire Chais, and Windy Ridge on Cairngorm. Upland path maintenance has been done at Balmoral, Cairngorm and Mar Lodge. Work requiring temporary accommodation at the Shelter Stone has gone to planning. Lower-ground work is underway on the Tarland to Aboyne route. Successful LEADER applications (despite limited funds) were made for the 'Walking to Health Programme', and for low-ground path work.

Active Aboyne

I write this half way through the Active Aboyne programme - and with some relief, I begin to feel that the end is in sight! Though many of the walks have been rained off, other events have been very successful. The novice kayakers didn't seem to be worried by the heavy rain, and lots of folk are booked for the mushroom events in Dinnet, and also for the "Evening under the Stars" at Finzean. But it has been the evening talks which have brought most folk out! I am most grateful to the Cairngorm Club for their sponsorship - which has allowed me to bring to Aboyne two high-profile speakers - Andy Nisbet (now Hon President of the SMC), whose illustrated talk was entitled "Of Tricounis and Terrordactyls: 40 years of Winter Mountaineering in Scotland" and Ian R Mitchell, of "Mountain Days and Bothy Nights" fame, who gave a fascinating insight into Queen Victoria's mountaineering expeditions, illustrated with a wonderful selection of paintings from that era. Without such sponsorship helping to cover the fixed costs, the programme would have been much less varied. I hope that those members who braved waterlogged and diesel-spread roads to attend these talks enjoyed them as much as I did!

Eilidh Scobbie

Club Discount at RGU Climbing Wall

RGU will be 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.

Annual Dinner

The dinner will take place on Friday 18 November at the Old Mill Inn, Maryculter at 7pm for 7.30pm.

There is no guest speaker this year; instead we will be showing a 20-minute documentary which was made over the course of the last year about the Club for Japanese television. With a shorter than usual presentation, there will be more time to chat with fellow members and guests, always a good thing!

Please indicate on the booking form (enclosed with this newsletter) the names of those with whom you would wish to sit.

As has happened in the past we have invited those people with 50 years' membership to the Dinner as guests of the Club.

Further details are with the AGM notice included with this newsletter. The dinner retains some elements of formality but is a relaxed evening - dress up or dress down as you wish, the important thing is that you are there!!

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.

First Aid Training

Names are being collected from anyone interested in undertaking First Aid Training. There are already some interested parties but not enough at present to set up the course. If you would like to attend when this has been arranged, please contact Adrian Scott by email on training@cairngormclub.org.uk

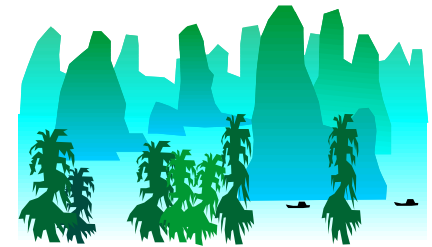
Cairngorm Club Journal

A copy of the new issue of the Journal should be included in this mailing. Following Newsletter practice, only one copy has been enclosed for Member couples at the same address; if a second copy is desired, please let the Secretary know (see back page of Newsletter for contact details).

Lunch & Dander

The next Lunch and Dander will be held on Tuesday 8th Nov, 2011, meeting at Shooting Greens, near Finzean GR 450000 at 10:30am, with lunch at the Finzean Farm Shop at 12:30pm.

Please advise Ruth Payne, by 6th November, if you would like to join the lunch gathering.



All I Want for Christmas is PPE!

What is PPE?, and what has it to do with Christmas and climbing, I hear you say. Well, PPE is Personal Protective Equipment and in essence encompasses everything including ropes, helmets and harnesses. Most people tend to take their PPE for granted (as it costs so much to replace). Ten-year-old climbing ropes, helmets way past their use by date (in addition to being a fashion disaster) and 'slightly frayed' harnesses are surprisingly common. The problem with PPE is that damage may not be that evident on inspection (UV damage especially so), only after it has failed! One word of warning before you buy though. It is definitely worth researching the gear before purchase to confirm that it provides the level of protection you are expecting and covers the uses you want to put it to. For me, this was a potentially costly tale. This year's 44th birthday pressie from my brothers was a new climbing helmet. However during a recent clear out of club gear I wanted to dispose of several climbing helmets (the same model as my new one). I was quite rightly queried regarding why they should be ditched. So to provide the necessary evidence I checked the manufacturers and the BMC websites for advice. The manufacturers website clearly identified them as being past their use-by date (on top of this I had no history of their use/misuse), so they were retired from climbing service. But the real learning point for me was the BMC climbing helmet website which indicated that my helmet was only good for front and top impacts, as the lack of foam on the back of the helmet renders it ineffective against back of head impacts. I didn't know this and selected the helmet by fit and the fact it was an off-the-shelf item at most climbing shops. This (new) information would have changed my helmet selection, if only I had known it earlier. Definitely worth researching before buying! So for Christmas this year, why settle for socks and ties when you could be getting a brand new harness!

James Hirst (Climbing Secretary)

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

The MCofS AGM was attended by the President, Secretary and Treasurer, and passed off relatively peacefully, after quite a useful (but of course not definitive) discussion on Civil Liabilities Insurance at a preceding Seminar. After the Chief Officer's report outlining the Board's activities and economising efforts, and the outgoing Treasurer's report, the AGM approved by a substantial majority (which included the Club) the proposed subscription increase of £1.25 for most members. The new MCofS President is Brian Linington (a hillwalker, living near Plockton), the new Treasurer is Robert McMurray, and the single new Board Member is Michael Anderson (a youngish Edinburgh lawyer). Karin Froebel (once a Club member) takes over from Ron Payne as Clubs Director, and it is hoped to meet her in Aberdeen this autumn, and/or early in 2012, where more information on the MCofS AGM will be available.

James Reid

An enquiry has been received from Gordon Leslie, who made the first winter ascent of the Douglas-Gibson Gully with Tom Patey in December 1950, about a James Reid, who also climbed with him about then. One "J. Reid", with K. Milne and J. Davidson, first ascended Twisting Gully on Beinn a' Bhuirid in 1948, and may be the same. Anyone with information, please contact the Secretary (see back page).

Aberdeen City 50+ Out & About Programme

This is now available at www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/adventureaberdeen; it offers a wide range of outdoor experiences throughout the winter at relatively cheap cost.

New Books

Mountain Views - A lifetime's enjoyment, by Rupert Hoare, has just been published by Vertebrate. Some of you may know Rupert, who was married to Jay Turner, a Cairngorm Club member. Sadly Rupert was diagnosed with a very serious cancer in January this year. He immediately decided to bring forward his retirement project of writing his mountaineering memoirs, using his extensive collection of excellent photographs and records of 38 years of his times in the mountains all around the world, including many years in Scotland. The book has already been very well received. Sadly, Rupert died on the 20th September.

Copies can be obtained from the publisher Vertebrate Outdoor, otherwise on line, or you can have a signed copy from Jay direct. Please send a cheque payable to J. Turner, to her home address which can be advised by emailing newsletter@cairngorm.club.org.uk Price is £22 + £3 p&p if req.

Lowdown on the Upland of Mar - published by Joe Dorward for Amazon Kindle (but is also readable on computers, iPads, and smartphones). A PDF of the introduction and first chapter is available at:

<http://theuplandofmar.squarespace.com/lowdown-on-the-upland-of-mar/>. The sale of the book is intended to support a local history project researching the history and geography of the upland of Mar.

The East Highland Way, a new guide book by Kevin Langan has been published by Luath Press for £9.99.

This is not an official route (and goes from Fort William to Aviemore: a new definition of "east"!). Some Club members who tried it last year found it difficult to follow in places, often amongst forestry plantations.

Brenda G. Macrow (married name Prior)

An enquiry has been received about the above, who died on 1 May 2011, in Sussex, aged 94. She was not (apparently) a member of the Club, but she was an author of several popular hill books (some in the Club Library), e.g. Speyside to Deeside (1956), Torridon Highlands (1953), Hills and Glens (1949), Kintail Scrapbook (1948) and Unto the Hills (1947). If anyone has knowledge of her, please contact the Secretary (see back page).

Sport Climbing for the Olympics?

The International Olympic Committee Executive Board has announced that Sport Climbing is one of a handful of sports to be considered for the 2020 Olympics. Full report at the UKC News page <http://www.ukclimbing.com/news/item.php?id=62924>.

Mid-Week Walks

Arthur Dickie (ctte3@cairngormclub.org.uk) now coordinates the Club's popular Thursday ("Mid-Week") Walks series. The usual planning meeting was held in August and a programme for 2012 drawn up. Walk details are on the centrefold pages. For each walk participants should arrive promptly at the meeting points. On some occasions the arrangements may change, so please contact one of the organisers if in doubt or if further information is required. If you intend to drive straight to the starting point of the walk, please let one of the organisers know. If you carry a mobile phone on a walk, please let others know the number before starting out.

Code	Location	Grid ref.
K	Kingswells 'park and ride'	868063
P	Persley	910093
R	Riverside Drive	928036

Sports Climbing Trip - Spain, Oct/Nov 2011

A sports climbing trip has been organised to El Chorro in Southern Spain (<http://www.fincalacampana.com>) from 29th October to 5th November 2011. At present there are 9 of us going but there are still available places in the bunkhouse. If anyone else is interested in joining us, then please get in touch with Marj Ewan weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk for details.

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, are 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.

Day Meets

There have been 4 Day Meets since the last newsletter and all have been well attended. The Overnighter in June saw groups out on the hills North and South of Achnashellach. It was a glorious midgie-free night with high bivouacs and from memory the sunset was one of the best I've seen! Beinn a' Ghlo was the focus of attention in July and two car loads enjoyed a traverse which commenced on Airgoid Bheinn. In August Ken Thomson organised a car/bike/yomping meet to An Sgarsoch and Carn an Fhithleir. Again the weather was favourable and many of those who attended went home (happy) to tick another couple of Munros off Sir Hugh's magic list. In September a Cairngorm Traverse took place and again the weather was fantastic. Various routes across and through the hills resulted in Ben Macdui, Beinn Mheadhoin, Carn a' Mhaim and Derry Cairngorm all being visited. The Shelter Stone also received attention from some of the 19 Cairngorm Club members who attended this "Shared Bus Meet" with the Westhill Walkers.

On 30th October there is a meet to Corriehabbie Hill. Even with competition from Weekend Meets, Thursday Walks and Danders, Day Meets, it seems, remain popular. Numbers are up slightly on the same period last year and interestingly meets involving coach and driver now see numbers approaching 20 or more. As a result, a large bus has been booked for our Lochnagar Meet in January and a traditional High Tea will follow.

The 2012 Calendar is pretty much complete. You will notice some new names organising meets and a couple of new faces taking President's Parties. A train meet to Bennachie is included and the Overnighter will be "into the Cairngorms". Plans have still to be finalised but I imagine a bivvy somewhere around the head of Loch Avon would be appropriate. A BBQ afterwards at Muir around 1pm is also a developing idea. Looking beyond 2012 (our 125th year), I wish to see Day Meet frequency remain at one per month. I would also like to see 12 Day Meet Organisers organising one meet each per year. Similarly it would be good to see more Ordinary Members coming forward to assist with President's Parties, and if you can drive, why not volunteer and do a Minibus Meet? Please do consider doing your bit for your Club, but as importantly please keep coming along.

Derek Beverley (Day Meets Secretary)

Adopt-a-Path

This scheme, for volunteers to monitor a selected path once or twice a year, is now more or less underway, mostly with NTS Mar Lodge paths.



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

Blackwater Hostel, Kinlochleven, 11 - 12 Nov, 2011 (Fri & Sat nights)

With the Mamores and Glen Coe on the doorstep there is plenty of opportunity for the Munro bagger and the climber to add to their ticks or tackle new climbing routes, maybe even in winter conditions. To book, contact Bill Morgan on email meetorganiser14@cairngormclub.org.uk.

Grey Corries Bunkhouse, Roybridge, 9 - 10 Dec, 2011 (Fri & Sat nights)

Ideally placed for many Corbetts and Munros within easy reach including the Glen Roy Carn Dearg's or Creag Meagaidh. You could also take a return trip on the train from Spean Bridge or Tulloch to Corroul for the Loch Ossian Hills. To book, contact Marj Ewan on email weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk.

Muir Cottage (Burns Supper), 20 - 21 Jan, 2012 (Fri & Sat nights)

Celebrate Burns night early with some traditional Scottish food, drink and possibly music. Over the weekend you could also tackle some Munros, Corbetts or skiing as well as your haggis. To book, contact Eilidh Scobbie on email meetorganiser20@cairngormclub.org.uk.

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 on email 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. Cost will be for the two nights. To book, contact Marj Ewan on weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk.

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

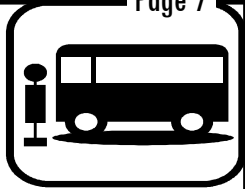
Ideally situated for the many magnificent Corbetts and Grahams in the area, and a couple of Munros as well. More details in February newsletter. To book, contact Ken Thomson on email weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk.

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 Winter 2011.

October 30, 2011. Corriehabbie Hill or Cook's Cairn Traverse

A minibus meet which gives the opportunity to traverse from the A941 Dufftown to Cabrach road to the Glenlivet area. Options include crossing over Corriehabbie Hill or Cook's Cairn. Cost will be £12 with a 7am start from Aberdeen. To book, contact Judy Middleton on email meetorganiser19@cairngormclub.org.uk.

November 27, 2011. Glen Clova

A relatively gentle minibus meet, with the President's Party proceeding northwards up the Capel Mounth path to Gallow Hillock on the county boundary. Then a fine high-level plateau walk SE to above Loch Brandy, whence convenient paths lead directly down to the hotel. For those who scorn anything lower, Munros Mayar and Dreish are easily available (though they will be the target of a 2012 Day Meet). Cost will be £12. All this should build up our appetites for high tea (£10.95) at the Glen Clova Hotel (<http://www.clova.com/index.cfm>) A 7:00 start from Aberdeen will maximise daylight hours. To book, contact Sue Chalmers on email meetorganiser29@cairngormclub.org.uk, stating whether or not you wish to eat at the hotel afterwards.

January 8, 2012. Lochnagar

Going back to earlier traditions a coach has been booked to take us to Glen Muick and the walk will be followed by High Tea. The ascent of Lochnagar will be the aim for the President's Party but other options are available such as the circuit of Loch Muick or a walk up Broad Cairn. The bus will leave Golden Square at 7 am and the cost for bus alone is £15 with High Tea an additional £14 (at the time of writing I am trying to negotiate a cheaper meal; if I do get a better deal there will be a refund). It is hoped that everyone will want to enjoy a traditional Scottish High Tea but you may wish to make your own arrangements for food. To book, contact Anne Pinches on email social@cairngormclub.org.uk

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 on email day@cairngormclub.org.uk.

October 2011

25	Tue	Climbing	Indoors at RGU - 6pm (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
27	Thur	M/W Walk	Hill of Fare (9.15am; 38; K; Ken & Lydia Thomson; secretary@cairngormclub.org.uk or librarian@cairngormclub.org.uk)
30	Sun	Day Meet	Corriehabbie Hill or Cooks Cairn Traverse (7am; 37; 340358; 7hrs; Minibus; Judy Middleton; £12; meetorganiser19@cairngormclub.org.uk)

November

1	Tue	Climbing	Indoors at Transition Extreme - 6pm (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
8	Tue	Lunch & Dander	Shooting Greens at 10:30am and lunch at the Finzean Farm Shop at 12:30pm (Ruth Payne)
8	Tue	Climbing	Indoors at RGU - 6pm (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
9	Wed	AGM	7:30pm at Aberdeen Grammar School FP Club, Queens Road, Aberdeen. (Ken Thomson; secretary@cairngormclub.org.uk)
11	Fri - Sun	W/E Meet	Blackwater Hostel, Kinlochleven (Bill Morgan; meetorganiser14@cairngormclub.org.uk)
15	Tue	Climbing	Indoors at Transition Extreme - 6pm (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
18	Fri	Dinner	Old Mill Inn Maryculter (Anne Pinches; social@cairngormclub.org.uk)
22	Tue	Climbing	Indoors at RGU - 6pm (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
24	Thur	M/W Walk	Scotly (9.15am; 45; K; Mike Forsyth)
27	Sun	Day Meet	Glen Clova Hills (7am; 44; 283762; 7hrs; Minibus; Sue Chalmers; meetorganiser29@cairngormclub.org.uk)
29	Tue	Climbing	Indoors at Transition Extreme - 6pm (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)

December

6	Tue	Climbing	Indoors at RGU - 6pm (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
7	Wed	Indoor	Colin Brown & Friends - The Resurgence of the Overnighter, 2007 - 2011 (Anne Pinches; social@cairngormclub.org.uk)
9	Fri - Sun	W/E Meet	Grey Corries Bunkhouse, Roy Bridge (Marj Ewan; weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk)
13	Tue	Climbing	Indoors at Transition Extreme - 6pm (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
20	Tue	Climbing	Indoors at RGU - 6pm (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
27	Tue	Climbing	Indoors at Transition Extreme - 6pm (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
29	Thur	M/W Walk	Stonehaven Coastal Walk (9:15am; 45; R; Hazel & Kees Witte; cite11@cairngormclub.org.uk)

January 2012

3	Tue	Climbing	Indoors at RGU - 6pm (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
8	Sun	Day Meet	Lochnagar (7am; 44; 311852; 7hrs; £15; Coach; Anne Pinches; president@cairngormclub.org.uk)
10	Tue	Climbing	Indoors at Transition Extreme - 6pm (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
11	Wed	Indoor	Members Night (Anne Pinches; social@cairngormclub.org.uk)
17	Tue	Climbing	Indoors at RGU - 6pm (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
20	Fri - Sun	W/E Meet	Burns Supper, Muir Cottage (Eilidh Scobbie; meetorganiser20@cairngormclub.org.uk)
24	Tue	Climbing	Indoors at Transition Extreme - 6pm (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
26	Thur	M/W Walk	Don River Walk (9am; 38; P; Jack Connell)
31	Tue	Climbing	Indoors at RGU - 6pm (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)

February

5	Sun	Day Meet	Bennachie (1st Train; 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 and A Session about the Mountaineering Council of Scotland, and some personal slides. (Anne Pinches; social@cairngormclub.org.uk)
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)
28	Tue	Climbing	Indoors at RGU - 6pm (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)