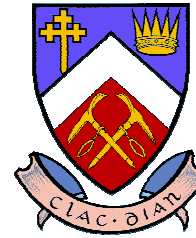


Club Office-Bearers and Other Positions

Hon. President	Ruth Payne
President	Garry Wardrope, (ccpresident@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Vice-President	Joyce Ritchie
Vice-President	Izy Kirkaldy (vp2@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Club Secretary & Librarian	Ken Thomson (secretary@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Treasurer & Membership Secretary	Donald Thomas (treasurer@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Communications Secretary	Colin Brown (newsletter@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Huts Custodian	Kees Witte (huts@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Muir Booking Secretary	Jamie Vince (muir-booking@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Day Meets Secretary	Garry Wardrope (day@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Weekend Meets Secretary	Sue Chalmers (weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Climbing Secretary	Stuart Message (climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Social Activities Secretary	Eilidh Scobbie (social@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Midweek Walks Coordinator	Vacant - please contact Club Secretary (see above)
Journal Editor	Jean Robinson (journal@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Training Coordinator	Garry Wardrope (day@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Other Committee Members	
Jamie Vince	(ctte3@cairngormclub.org.uk)
James Hirst	(ctte4@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Debbie Fielding	(ctte5@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Stuart Dick	(ctte6@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Mike Duguid	(ctte7@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Susan Jensen	(ctte10@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Mark Peel	(ctte11@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Ivan Hiscox	(ctte12@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Adrian Scott	(ctte17@cairngormclub.org.uk)

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

October 2021



The Cairngorm Club

Established 1887

Registered Charity
Number - SC047567

Inside this issue:

Dinner	2
Journal	2
Subscriptions	3
Muir	4
Membership News	4
Climbing Update	5
MWW Update	6
Day Meets	7
Calendar	8/9
Weekend Meets	10
Mountain Rescue	11
Communications	12
Lunch & Danders	12
Training	13
Indoor Meets	13
Grouse Report	14
Cairngorms Revisited	15

Editor Colin Brown

Clac Dian

The Newsletter of the Cairngorm Club

Updating the Club's Constitution

Covid-19 has affected Club activities in various ways, not least in preventing physical meetings throughout much of 2020-21. Emergency legislation permitted a “virtual” AGM last November, and this year we hope for a “hybrid” one. Naturally, the existing Constitution does not envisage these strange creatures, and so, with the encouragement of OSCR the charity regulator, we need to revise. And inevitably, further revisions have been considered. The result, achieved after several hundred hours of Working Group and Committee deliberation over the summer, is the formal Special General Meeting Notice enclosed with this Newsletter. The proposed revisions seem to fall into four groups, of which the “virtual” one, and the “minor revisions” one, speak for themselves. The rest of this article briefly explains the rationale for the other two groups.

Since the 1920s, the Club has included both Ordinary and Associate Members (OMs and AMs), the former being those considered by the Committee as able “*to look after themselves and to lead one or two others in all conditions normally encountered on the Scottish hills*”. For some years, there have been approximately equal numbers of both. Under the current Constitution, only OMs are eligible for office-bearing, and enough of them are needed to hold General Meetings. The proposed revisions would remove most of these provisions, though not all: the OM/AM distinction remains for some purposes, and supports the Club's objective to “*promote competence ... in mountaineering*”.

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

A further set of revisions, if approved in November, would simplify the holding of a Special General Meeting to dissolve the Club. However unlikely this unhappy event, calculations suggest that it might be difficult to hold such a SGM (e.g. getting two-thirds of then-existing OMs to call for it), and it seems only prudent to revise things so that such a disaster could be handled more easily if necessary.

Cairngorm Club Dinner 2021

This time last year, it was quite obvious that it would not be possible to hold our Annual Dinner in a hotel in Aberdeen. The rumour then was that there could be no Club Dinner - but we did hold one, completely on Zoom, with our guest speaker making an inspiring presentation from Glen Feshie, and our audience spread as far as Inverness in the North and Germany in the South.

This year, we plan for a formal dinner in the RNUC building in Aberdeen, joined on Zoom by any Club members and their guests who for whatever reason are unable to be in Aberdeen. The price of attending the Dinner in person will be £30 (drinks extra) and for attending by Zoom, a donation (£10 is suggested) to Community Action Nepal, the charity chosen by our guest speaker, Steve Goodwin. Steve's presentation will begin soon after 6.30, the meal about 8.00 with the usual toasts thereafter. Those attending by Zoom will be allocated to "supper rooms" but invited back to join the assembly in Aberdeen for the toasts.

Eilidh Scobbie, Social Secretary

Club Journal

Jean Robinson is still open to articles and/or photographs for the next issue (no. 114), which is due out next spring. If you have any ideas, suggestions, samples, etc, please contact her via journal@cairngormclub.org.uk as soon as possible.

She would also welcome feedback on the quality of the binding used for CCJ no. 113 (2020): has that issue fallen apart in your hands? If so, please let her or any member of the Committee know about it!

Allt na Reigh, Glencoe

Glenshire Group, a "Scottish family-owned conglomerate based in Fife", plans to turn into a family home this "iconic" building, once the home of Hamish MacInnes but later the scene of scandal. MacInnes is believed to have developed the Terrordactyl ice axe and the MacInnes stretcher in the outhouse. The Group is keen to hear public opinion on its proposals, and held a virtual public consultation on 7 September. Comments and suggestions can be sent by email to kim@glenshire.co.uk.

"The Cairngorms Revisited", by "Unst"

From the *Cairngorm Club Journal*, no.75, 1934., p. 215-220

The following day trips, mostly carried out on consecutive days, are described in some detail in the above article. They may encourage current Members to extend their walking exploits!

1. Braemar – Slugain (crossing the Dee by "*a bridge near a sawmill, both new to me*") – Clach a Cleirich – Beinn a' Bhuid N. top – Beinn a' Bhuid S. Top – Slugain – Braemar.
2. "*I was grieved to see Slugain Lodge in such bad repair and disfigured by so many pencilled records made by the ubiquitous tripper. The amount of litter on view was not creditable. I spent a considerable amount of time, especially at the summit cairns, burying traces of recent orgies in the shape of lemonade bottles, tins, and greasy sheets of paper.*"
3. Braemar – Slugain – Clach a Cleirich – Ben Avon summit – Culardoch (west col) – Invercauld – Braemar
4. Derry Lodge – Sron Riach – Beinn Macdhuil – Lairig Ghru – Braeriach – Cairn Toul – Devil's Point – Corrour – Derry Lodge, then "*drove to Braemar, pleasantly tired*"
5. From Braemar, a "*lovely morning spent on the shores of the Dubh Lochan of Beinn a' Bhuid*"; not apparently a full day's expedition.
6. Derry Lodge – Derry Cairngorm – Cairngorm – Loch Avon (swim) – Beinn Mheadhoin – Loch Etchachan – Glen Derry – Derry Lodge
7. Derry Lodge – Corrour – Devil's Point (col) – Loch nan Stuirteag – Monadh Mor – Beinn Bhrotain – Carn Cloich – Mhuilinn – Creagan nan Gabhar (on Sgor Mor, "*roughish going*", after fording the Dee) – Derry Lodge
8. Derry Lodge – Beinn Bhreac – Beinn a Chaorruin – A Choinneach – Bynack More – Glen Derry – Derry Lodge
9. ("*a big day*") Derry Lodge – Glen Geusachan – Loch nan Stuirteag – Loch nan Cnapan – Sgor Gaoith – Sgoran Dubh Mor – Carn Ban Mor – Meall Dubhag – Mullach Clach a Bhlaigh – Diollaid Coire Eindart ("*a pleasant expedition*") – Glen Feshie – Geldie Lodge – Linn of Dee ("*by the time I reached the White Bridge I was decidedly footsore*") – Derry Lodge, which was "*reached ... at 5 a.m. after twenty-one consecutive hours in the hills. I had covered well over forty miles, and managed to fall asleep without much difficulty*".

Grouse Report

The long-awaited Werritty report to the Scottish Government (SG) on the management of grouse moors – on which much Club activity takes place – was published in December 2019 (www.gov.scot/publications/grouse-moor-management-group-report-scottish-government). Its remit was “*to examine the environmental impact of grouse moor management practices such as muirburn, the use of medicated grit and mountain hare culls and advise on the option of licensing grouse shooting businesses. ...*” It did not consider moor drainage or tracks, or disturbance by walkers. It found parts of the scientific and socio-economic evidence hotly contested or missing, but recommended unanimously that “*a licensing scheme be introduced for the shooting of grouse if, within five years ... there is no marked improvement in the ecological sustainability of grouse moor management, as evidenced by the populations of breeding Golden Eagles, Hen Harriers and Peregrines on or within the vicinity of grouse moors being in favourable condition*”. It also proposed licensing for muirburn, increased legal regulation for the management of mountain hares, and a voluntary code of practice for the use of medicated grit, with licensing for the latter two activities if implementing those proposals prove ineffective. Licensing would fill a major evidence gap via a SNH register of grouse-shooting activity.

In November 2020, the SG responded (see <https://www.gov.scot/news/werritty-report-response>) by announcing that (i) grouse shooting businesses, and muirburn for any purpose, would need a licence, (ii) the shooting of mountain hares, and the use of wildfire traps, would be subject to more legal restrictions (such as reporting numbers), and (iii) the use of medicated grit should continue to be monitored, and a code of practice be developed. The next SG steps are to consult both stakeholders and the public, to explore whether subsidies should be available for a wider range of land uses for economic or environmental actions, and to encourage grouse moor manager groups to adopt a “change in culture”.

Club Forum

If you are not already a member, why not register for the Club Forum? You can register at - <https://www.tapatalk.com/groups/cairngormclub/index.php>

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 £39 (a discount of £5) 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

Club Subscriptions (1 Oct 2021 – 30 Sept 2022)

At the Club AGM in November 2020, the subscription rate for the above year was maintained at £13.00 (reduced rate £6.50) plus the Mountaineering Scotland affiliation fee.

The MS affiliation fee (including the Civil Liability Insurance premium) for the year 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 remains unchanged at £17.55 (in accordance with the statement made at their 2019 AGM).

Cairngorm Club subscription rates for 2021/22 are therefore:

	Club	MS	Total
Full Rate	£13.00	£17.55	£30.55
Reduced Rate	£ 6.50	£17.55	£24.05

Direct Debits will have been collected on 1 October 2021.

The reduced rate applies to Club members who have informed the Treasurer that on 1 October 2021 they will be 65 or over, or under 21, or under 25 and still in full-time education, or are normally resident and working more than 80 km from Aberdeen. Members wishing to pay at the reduced rate should tell the Treasurer of the reason. Members who do not participate in any Club-organised outside activity and do not use Muir Cottage may, if they desire, withdraw from paying the MS Affiliation Fee. Please discuss this with the Treasurer.

Members of multiple clubs (or Individual Members of MS) wishing to pay the MS affiliation fee not through the Cairngorm Club should tell the Treasurer which club it will be paid through or their MS membership number, as appropriate.

All members are encouraged to pay their subscription by Direct Debit and, where appropriate, to make a Gift Aid Declaration. Forms for each are available from the Treasurer.

A membership card for the year 2022 is enclosed with this Newsletter.

Donald Thomas, Treasurer

Completing the Corbetts and Munros

Ken and Lydia Thomson have at last completed their Corbetts, Ken on Ben Aden in July in good conditions during a 3-night camping expedition, and Lydia on the August Mid-Week Walk up Ben Rinnes, in wind and rain but with a cake to celebrate at the summit!

Former Club President Marj Ewan completed the Munros on The Saddle in early September, on her own, on a beautiful sunny hot day. She did hope to do the whole party thing but Covid killed that idea.

Congratulations to all of them from their friends in the Club.

Payments to the Club

The Club bank details are: Sort Code 83-15-31; A/C 19165508; Name "Cairngorm Club".

So that the payment can be allocated to the right place, please use what the payment is for as the reference e.g., "Traverse" or "Membership". There is no need to include your name.

Note that the reference field is limited to 18 characters including blanks.

Muir Cottage

Muir has now been open to visitors again since August and there is a steady stream of bookings from members and outside clubs. Visitors have still to take their own blankets, sheets, pillow cases and sanitisers etc. We are following the latest Scottish Government Covid rules. The new kitchen work tops were installed in May and are a big hygienic improvement. Also, the bedrooms were kitted out with new curtains.

Kees Witte, Muir Custodian

Membership News

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

Eleanor Young	Blairgowrie	Associate since 1973
Rick Allen	Nethy Bridge	Ordinary since 1982

The following new members have been admitted since the last Newsletter:

Anne Simpson	Aberdeen	Associate
Anna Figurska	Auchnagatt	Associate
John Bannerman	Ballater	Ordinary
Isobel Bannerman	Ballater	Ordinary
Grant Signorini	Aberdeen	Associate
Fraser Gordon	Aberdeen	Ordinary
Euan Docherty	Newmachar	Ordinary
Miss Jae Yeon Oh	Spean Bridge	Associate

NTS Cards

As a member of the National Trust for Scotland, the Club holds 15 NTS cards which allow free access and parking to NTS properties (and NT ones in England and Wales) for Club members and their guests.

To borrow for a week or two, please contact the Secretary (see back page).

Parking Restrictions in Perthshire

Fines levied in Glen Lyon, June 2021. Walkhighlands blog re - <https://www.pkc.gov.uk/article/21821/Parking-restrictions-on-country-roads>

Estates

Glenmuick Estate and Rottal Estate (in Glen Clova) have each been re-accredited by Wildlife Estates Scotland (WES) for best practice in conservation and land management.

Training

Navigation Training

Want to gain confidence in your navigation? Then why not join us for an evening of night navigation at the Kirkhill Orienteering course? This is a great way to get confidence in a safe environment. Monday Nov 29th, 18:30 at the Kirkhill car park.

Winter Skills

We will be organising an instructor to coincide with the February weekend meet (25 - 26 Feb 2022). As usual, topics covered will depend on the wishes of the group but will likely cover such things as moving on snow and ice, ice axe arrest, winter navigation and avalanche awareness. With costs heavily subsidised by the Club (c. £40 for the two days) this is a great value and popular course.

First Aid

It will soon be 3 years since the last Club-organised First Aid course, so it is timely that the next course for another course, currently being planned for Spring 2022. The format and instructor (Phil Glennie – Braemar MR team) will be as previously, with the course running over a weekend at Muir Cottage.

To book or register your interest in any of the above activities, please contact Garry Wardrope by email at day@cairngormclub.org.uk (full contact details on the back page).

Indoor Meets (Change of Venue)

There will be a fortnightly programme of 'Indoor' meets this winter starting on Wednesday 16th October at 7.30pm taking place in the The Royal Northern & University Club, 9 Albyn Place, Aberdeen AB10 1YE. The talk will be "Risk and Reward in Mountaineering" by Paul Fatti, former President of the Mountain Club of S.A.(1986 to 1995). This talk, along with the first of each month, will be 'hybrid', giving an option to join from your own home by Zoom. The other talks will be 'Zoom only'. There is a full listing of these meets on the Club website, and they are also listed on pages 8 & 9 in the Calendar of Events.

Club Member Achievements

On the Club website there is a page that lists Club member achievements - <http://www.cairngormclub.org.uk/miscellaneous/achievements/achievements.htm>. If you have completed your Munros, Corbetts etc, your name, and a picture if you have one, can be added to the list. Please forward any relevant information to newsletter@cairngormclub.org.uk.

Munroist List Clerk

To register a completion of a round of the Munros, of the Tops, Furths, Corbetts, Grahams or Donalds, members should contact Alison Coull who is the "Clerk of the List" for the SMC.

Please contact her at -
munroclerk@smc.org.uk

Alison Coull
258/1 Ferry Road
Edinburgh
EH5 3AN

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.

Club Communications - Google Group

The Club uses Google Groups to distribute official communications from the Club and for general communications by members. All members of the list can post to all other members. Typical member use of the list is to organize ad-hoc meets and social meetings, selling/buying gear etc.

You can subscribe/unsubscribe to/from the lists simply by emailing the list owner at comms@cairnngormclub.org.uk from the email account you wish to use, to subscribe, or the one that is registered, to unsubscribe.

Once subscribed, members can post messages by emailing cairnngorm-club@googlegroups.com.

Also contact comms@cairnngormclub.org.uk if you have any questions about the list.

Note the list owner cannot change the email address under which you have subscribed, only delete it and add the new one.



Lunch & Danders

The next Lunch and Dander will be on Tuesday 11 January 2022, meeting at Dunecht House car park at 10:30am, with lunch at Jaffs at 12.30pm. Please advise Ruth Payne by Sunday 9 January, if you would like to join the lunch gathering.

Another Lunch & Dander has been arranged for Friday 25 March, meeting at Stonehaven Harbour Car Park at 10:30am, with lunch at the Ship Inn, Stonehaven at 12:30pm. As above, please advise Ruth by Wednesday 23 March if you would like to join the lunch gathering.

Climbing Update

This summer saw a good amount of climbing action with members keen to get out with the much reduced restrictions and good weather. Tuesday evening sessions at local crags have been well attended, benefiting from a lot of fine evenings. These have now ended for the winter, and weekly Transition Extreme sessions will run until spring. TX requires pre-booking and is currently open on limited days (closed Monday and Tuesday). Regular TX sessions have been running on Thursdays 6-8pm but normally some members are interested in other days and times, normally organised through the Cairngorm Club Climbers Facebook page.

September saw the second of two self-rescue sessions that the club organised this year. 9 members attended. The sessions were run by Mark Chadwick (Elements Guiding) at the Pass of Ballater and covered basic to intermediate climbing self rescue techniques. New and experienced climbers found the sessions useful. The plan is to share some of the techniques with other members, preferably in controlled environments and not in an ad hoc self rescue.

Further afield saw the Club climbing for two weekends at Reiff and Stac Pollaidh, it's that good - and the campsite wasn't fully booked! A notable day out for six of us started at 6am in the Keiloch for a tough cycle up to Clach a Cleirich, a walk over Beinn a'Bhuird and down into Garbh Choire to reach the base of Mitre Ridge. Three pairs climbed Mitre Ridge via two different routes. Great weather saw the Cairngorm's most remote climbing corrie to lose its sense of isolation as a total of 9 parties were seen on the classic climbs throughout the day. The first pair finished the climb in time to watch Rod Campbell from a distance teetering up the final hurdle with a full 300+ feet vertical drop below his feet. The Club members all reconvened at the top of Mitre Ridge for a celebratory late lunch before the speedy descent. A long day of approximately 11 hours, carrying heavy rucksacks, but a great day. An invite will be sent out this winter to the Club for the annual climbers' meeting to discuss next year's activities.

Stuart Message, Climbing Secretary

Bennachie Sustainable Visitor Management Project

NatureScot's Better Places Green Recovery Fund has been used to enable the above Bailies of Bennachie project, with Estée Farrar employed as the Baillies of Bennachie Project Coordinator, and local consultants 'Walking-the-Talk' (Chris York) guiding the charity. The project is "the beginning of a long term effort to manage recreation more sustainably, opening up communication with landowners and users, and developing a common vision for the future." Certainly the Club's Mid-Week Walk over Millstone Hill and Mither Tap on 30 September enjoyed the area, as did about 50 schoolchildren on the summit rocks despite mist obscuring the view.

Draft Cairngorms National Park Partnership Plan for 2022-2027

Public consultation on the above Plan for 2022-2027 has started, and runs until 17 December 2021. You can view the draft Plan and supporting material at cairngormsviews.commonplace.is. At first glance, the website may seem a bit bewildering, but the interactive map at cairngormsviews.commonplace.is/proposals/proposal-1/step1 already reveals quite a few “interesting” comments, e.g. *“I’d go as far as to suggest that Alpine huts should also be considered at Corrour and at Loch Avon”*!

Midweek Walks Update

The summer 2021 Walks took place in a variety of weather conditions: fine but breezy on Geallaig in July, wet wet wet on Ben Rinnes in August, hot hot hot in Clash Fhearnaig in August, and misty but not actually raining on Bennachie on 30 September! Many thanks to Walk Organisers Eilidh Scobbie/Fiona Walmsley, Jean Robinson, Malcolm Lamont and Donald Thomas respectively

Unfortunately, Joyce Ritchie has had to withdraw from MWW Coordination for family reasons, but she has arranged the remaining Walks and their Organisers in 2021, as follows:

28 October	Invercauld Circuit	Roger Houghton
25 November	Glen Girnock Circular	Richard Frimston
16 December	Barmekin Hill	Joyce Ritchie (tbc)

In Joyce’s absence, Ken Thomson has started to put together a 2022 programme. At time of writing, there are gaps to be filled, both as regards locations and Organisers, so, if you have an idea or an offer, please let him know! Meantime, the following Walks are planned for the New Year:

27 January	Blue Hill from Bridge of Dee	Ken Thomson
24 February	Ballater - Cambus o’May	Fiona Walmsley

Contact details for these Walk Organisers are on the “mid-page spread” of this Newsletter, and more detail will be issued by email a couple of weeks before these dates. Pending the next Newsletter, the Club webpage will have information on subsequent Walks in 2022.

At time of writing, Covid-19 restrictions have been relaxed, and car-sharing is allowed, with due precautions (masks, cleaning, etc.), though not of course compulsory. So we will meet up for most Walks either to car-share at the Kingswells Park & Ride at 9am, or at the start of the Walk itself up to an hour or so later. Meantime, many thanks to Joyce for Coordinating the Walks since 2019. The Coordination job is not a major burden (e.g. no need to attend Committee meetings, nor every Walk), so please step into her shoes!

Scottish Mountain Rescue Statistics 2020

There were 497 “incidents” (58% mountaineering and 42% non-mountaineering) and 671 team “call-outs”. The top 5 causes of incidents were: slip/trip 96, navigation error 68, lost persons 49, missing kit 44, and medical 28. Of those assisted in mountaineering incidents, 36% had an injury, and 46% of reported injuries involved a fracture, mostly to ankles, lower legs or knees. About 850 volunteers in 25 Member Teams gave up 24,401 hours of their time during call-outs, and spent about 85,000 hours on training. While the 2020 Covid-19 lock-down meant few call-outs in April-June (Q2) that year, there was a spike at the pre-lockdown weekend, and Q3 saw a notable surge. More detail, with some example incidents, is in the report linked to www.scottishmountainrescue.org/facts-and-statistics/.

Fathomeering

Ivor Howitt was a “Cairngorm Club Junior Member Long, Long Ago, and I treasure still my bronze member’s badge”, and now lives in New Zealand at the age of 94. He has donated a slightly annotated copy of his book *Fathomeering*, which chronicles how in the late 1940s Ivor and other Junior Members pioneered sport diving in the UK with home-made equipment, tested both from the sea cliffs at Cove and in the Dee and Lui. Although the book moves (with Ivor) to Australia, it includes some early hill-walking escapades in the Cairngorms. If interested in the copy now replaced, please contact the Secretary (see back page).

Centennial Book: The Cairngorm Club 1887-1987

The Club occasionally gets asked about spare copies of the above (by Sheila Murray, 1987), but these are now rather scarce, and not generally available. So if you have a spare copy, please let Ken Thomson know (see back page). One or two copies have come in, and are available to good homes, perhaps in return for a small donation to Club funds.

Snow

As expected, after the Beast from the East earlier in the year, and a dry spring, summer 2021 was – at least initially – a good year for long-lasting snow patches in Scotland. Snow was still lying at 620m in the Chalamain Gap at the start of July, when, at 808, the number of snow patches (some very small) surviving east of the A9 was well above the trend since 1974. However, that trend is decidedly downwards, and the number surviving the whole summer will average zero well before 2035. In July 2021, the numbers of patches on each mountain were as follows: Cairn Gorm/Ben Macdhuì etc. 294, Braeriach/Cairn Toul 250, Beinn a’ Bhuird/Ben Avon 143, Lochnagar/Glenshee 66, Sgor Gaoith etc. 38, Drumochter 17.

As of late September there are only a few patches left, on Braeriach, Ben Nevis and Aonach Beag, none very large.

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



Also note that the meets detailed below will only take place if the Covid regulations in place at the time allow.

Please continue to book for meets to avoid disappointment.

October 15 & 16, Glenbrittle Memorial Hut, Skye (2 nights)

This meet offers as much walking and climbing as you can possibly pack into a weekend. Walk or climb on the Black Cuillin, the Red Cuillin or the sea cliffs, there's so much to choose from. Set in Glen Brittle the BMC Hut is in an ideal location, and you can set off the Black Cuillin summits from paths leading almost from the door. To book, contact Helen Russell at weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk.

November 19 & 29, Corran Bunkhouse (2 nights)

Corran has long been a favourite destination for the club. The hills of Lochaber, Glencoe, Glen Etive and Ardnamurchan are all within easy reach. Single-occupancy, ensuite rooms are available at a cost of £50 for the weekend. To book, or enquire further, contact Sue Chalmers at weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk

December 3 & 4, Raeburn Hut, Laggan (2 nights)

The Club has exclusive use of this well-situated SMC cottage on the A889. The Monadhliaths, Western Cairngorms and Loch Erich hills are only a short drive away, with Creag Meagaidh, the Grey Corries and others not much further. Rockclimbing at Creag Dubh just across the Spey. To book, contact Sue Chalmers at weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk.

January 21 & 22, Muir Cottage, Burns Supper (2 nights)

Celebrate Scotland's Bard Robert Burns with some traditional Scottish food, drink and possibly some traditional music. Over the weekend you could also tackle some Munros, Corbetts, skiing or ski touring as well as your haggis, neeps and tatties. To book, contact Helen Russell at weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk.

February 25 & 26, Waters Cottage, Kinlochleven (2 nights)

Waters Hut is a new location for the Club which sees a return to this always popular area. With the Glencoe hills and Mamore Munros and on the doorstep, what's not to like! Winter skills course available (see page 13). To book, contact Susan Jensen at meetorganiser22@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 (organiser contact details)

Weekend Meets (organiser; contact details)

Climbing (Summer) (low or high water time, organiser; contact details)

Day Meets take place once a month and can be by coach, mini-bus or car, 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 at 7am (sharp!); departure times and cost are listed in the centrefold of this Newsletter. On all Meets, an organised "President's Party" 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 2021 & Spring 2022.

November 7, Morven (Sunday)

The minibus will depart from St. Margaret's at 7am, travelling initially to Ballater. The plan is to start from the Gairnshiel road, walking in from the west, over the summit of Morven, to finish at Groddie, Tullich or Ballater depending on the overhead conditions on the day. To book, contact Colin Brown on email at newsletter@cairngormclub.org.uk.

December 19, Bennachie (Sunday)

The minibus will depart from St. Margaret's at 8am for this traverse, starting at the midway point of the West Gordon Way, on the B992 Keig to Auchleven road, and finishing at the Bennachie Centre. There will be stop-off in Inverurie for refreshments after the walk with a return to Aberdeen at approximately 5pm. To book, please contact Craig Thomson at meetorganiser4@cairngormclub.org.uk.

January 9, Lochnagar (Sunday)

The minibus will depart from St. Margaret's at 7am. As usual the President's Party will ascend Lochnagar but there are many alternatives including the other Glen Muick Munros and Corbetts, walking back to Ballater or simply a walk around the loch itself. Afterwards we will stop for High Tea; details will be announced nearer the time. To book contact Garry Wardrope at day@cairngormclub.org.uk

February 12, Mayar & Driesh (Saturday)

The minibus will depart from St. Margaret's at 7am for this high level traverse from Glen Prosen to Glen Clova (conditions permitting) with many low-level options also available. We will stop for refreshments at the Clova Hotel before returning to Aberdeen. To book, contact Garry Wardrope at day@cairngormclub.org.uk

More details are at www.cairngormclub.org.uk/clubactivities/

October 2021

13	Wed	Indoor	“Risk and Reward in Mountaineering” by Paul Fatti - 7.30pm at The Royal Northern & University Club, 9 Albyn Place, Aberdeen AB10 1YE. and by Zoom (Eilidh Scobbie; social@cairngormclub.org.uk)
14	Thur	Climbing	Indoor Climbing , 6 – 8pm at Transition Extreme (Stuart Message; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
15	Fri	Weekend	Glenbrittle Memorial Hut (Helen Russell; weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk)
21	Thur	Climbing	Indoor Climbing , 6 – 8pm at Transition Extreme (Stuart Message; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
27	Wed	Indoor	“My involvement with the Mountain Bothies Association ” by Peter Aikman - 7.30pm by Zoom (Eilidh Scobbie; social@cairngormclub.org.uk)
28	Thur	MWW	Invercauld Circuit (Roger Houghton)
28	Thur	Climbing	Indoor Climbing , 6 – 8pm at Transition Extreme (Stuart Message; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)

November

4	Thur	Climbing	Indoor Climbing , 6 – 8pm at Transition Extreme (Stuart Message; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
7	Sun	Day	Morven (7am; 37; 313027 - 387975; 7hrs; £12.50; minib; Colin Brown; newsletter@cairngormclub.org.uk)
10	Wed	AGM	EGM & AGM - 7.30pm at The Royal Northern & University Club, 9 Albyn Place, Aberdeen AB10 1YE. and by Zoom (Ken Thomson; secretary@cairngormclub.org.uk)
11	Thur	Climbing	Indoor Climbing , 6 – 8pm at Transition Extreme (Stuart Message; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
18	Thur	Climbing	Indoor Climbing , 6 – 8pm at Transition Extreme (Stuart Message; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
19	Fri	Weekend	Corran Bunkhouse (Sue Chalmers; weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk)
24	Wed	Indoor	“The Club Hut: Muir” by Richard Shirreffs, Robbie Middleton and Kees Witte - 7.30pm by Zoom (Eilidh Scobbie; social@cairngormclub.org.uk)
25	Thur	MWW	Glen Gironck Circular (Richard Frimson)
25	Thur	Climbing	Indoor Climbing , 6 – 8pm at Transition Extreme (Stuart Message; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
26	Fri	Dinner	Dinner at The Royal Northern & University Club, 9 Albyn Place, Aberdeen AB10 1YE. and by Zoom—see page 2 (Eilidh Scobbie; social@cairngormclub.org.uk)

December

2	Thur	Climbing	Indoor Climbing , 6 – 8pm at Transition Extreme (Stuart Message; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
3	Fri	Weekend	Raeburn Hut, Laggan (Sue Chalmers; weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk)
4	Sat	Climbing	Week long trip to the Costa Blanca (Stuart Message; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
8	Wed	Indoor	Raja Muharaji, topic still to be decided - 7.30pm at The Royal Northern & University Club, 9 Albyn Place, Aberdeen AB10 1YE. and by Zoom (Eilidh Scobbie; social@cairngormclub.org.uk)
9	Thur	Climbing	Indoor Climbing , 6 – 8pm at Transition Extreme (Stuart Message; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
16	Thur	MWW	Barmekin Hill (Ken Thomson; secretary@cairngormclub.org.uk)
16	Thur	Climbing	Indoor Climbing , 6 – 8pm at Transition Extreme (Stuart Message; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
19	Sun	Day	Bennachie (8am; 37 & 38; 611217 - 698216; 6hrs; £12.50; minib; Craig Thomson; meetorganiser4@cairngormclub.org.uk)
22	Wed	Social	Proposed date for Christmas Party, if required - by Zoom (Eilidh Scobbie; social@cairngormclub.org.uk)
23	Thur	Climbing	Indoor Climbing , 6 – 8pm at Transition Extreme (Stuart Message; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)

January 2022

5	Wed	Indoor	“What did you do in the hills, coming out of Lockdown 2021?” (Members’ Night with a focus!) 7.30pm at The Royal Northern & University Club, 9 Albyn Place, Aberdeen AB10 1YE. and by Zoom (Eilidh Scobbie; social@cairngormclub.org.uk)
6	Thur	Climbing	Indoor Climbing , 6 – 8pm at Transition Extreme (Stuart Message; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
9	Sun	Day	Lochnagar (7am; 44; 311852; 7hrs; £15; coach; Garry Wardrope; day@cairngormclub.org.uk)
13	Thur	Climbing	Indoor Climbing , 6 – 8pm at Transition Extreme (Stuart Message; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
19	Wed	Indoor	“Antarctica” by Rhona Fraser – 7.30pm by Zoom (Eilidh Scobbie; social@cairngormclub.org.uk)
20	Thur	Climbing	Indoor Climbing , 6 – 8pm at Transition Extreme (Stuart Message; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
21	Fri	Weekend	Muir Cottage, Burns Supper Weekend (Helen Russell; weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk)
27	Thur	MWW	Blue Hill from Bridge of Dee (Ken Thomson; secretary@cairngormclub.org.uk)
27	Thur	Climbing	Indoor Climbing , 6 – 8pm at Transition Extreme (Stuart Message; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)

February

2	Wed	Indoor	7.30pm at The Royal Northern & University Club, 9 Albyn Place, Aberdeen AB10 1YE. and by Zoom (Eilidh Scobbie; social@cairngormclub.org.uk)
3	Thur	Climbing	Indoor Climbing , 6 – 8pm at Transition Extreme (Stuart Message; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
10	Thur	Climbing	Indoor Climbing , 6 – 8pm at Transition Extreme (Stuart Message; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
12	Sat	Day	Mayar & Driesh (7am; 44; 290679 = 283671; 7hrs; £12.50; minib; Garry Wardrope; day@cairngormclub.org.uk)
16	Wed	Indoor	TBC - 7.30pm by Zoom (Eilidh Scobbie; social@cairngormclub.org.uk)
17	Thur	Climbing	Indoor Climbing , 6 – 8pm at Transition Extreme (Stuart Message; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)