

# Stonehaven Mountaineering and Hill Walking Club



## Programme of Events

2015  
Issue 15

## CONTENTS

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| THE CLUB, GROUP WALKS, TRANSPORT AND THURSDAY NIGHT MEETS | 2     |
| DAY MEETS   | 3 - 5 |
| WEEKEND MEETS   | 5     |
| CONTACTS, CLUB DISCOUNTS, SUBSCRIPTIONS AND AWARDS        | 6     |
| BOOKING FORM  | 7     |
| CLUB EQUIPMENT INCLUDING CHECKLIST                        | 8     |

## THE CLUB

The Club was formed in 1978 and there are currently about 40 members. Our activities include:

- Monthly Sunday walks throughout the year
- Weekend meets and an annual 'May Week'
- Weekly rock climbing training in Summer, depending on demand
- Subsidised training opportunities
- Invited speakers at our Autumn/Winter indoor meets

## GROUP WALKS

A variety of routes, of differing levels of difficulty, are available depending on capability and wishes of the group. Members are encouraged to plan their own routes and we only ask that details are left with other members out walking.

## TRANSPORT

Meet at the Market Square for departure at 7am. Costs are kept to a minimum by car sharing. Bus transport is occasionally organised to walking areas where there are sufficient numbers. For this reason, members should ensure that they confirm attendance with the Outdoor Secretary by the Monday prior to an outing. Bikes are an option for quicker access to certain hills.

## THURSDAY CLUB MEETS 2015

Thursday night slide shows and a variety of talks from 8pm at the Royal Hotel, Stonehaven. An email will be sent to remind members of what's on.

| 2015                      | 2016                    |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| FEB 26th - Mar Lodge Talk | JAN 23rd - Burns Supper |
| MAR 26th - AGM            |                         |

## DAY MEETS 2015

### 24th/25th Rucksacks, Braemar - Club's Annual Burns Supper

(Map No 43)

Rucksacks Hostel, 15 Mar Road, Braemar, AB35 5YL. Telephone 01339741517

Please bring your own sleeping bag as not all beds have bed linen. Bed linen will be provided on a first come first served basis.

### 15th February - Lochnagar & High Tea at Station Hotel

(Map No 44, Grid Ref 310851)

"England! thy beauties are tame and domestic, to one who has roved o'er the mountains afar. Oh, for the crags that is wild and majestic! The steep frowning glories of dark Lochnagar!" So wrote Lord Byron who climbed Lochnagar from Invercauld by the Garbh Allt, accompanied by a ghillie when only a boy of 15 years. Queen Victoria often wrote about Lochnagar in 'Leaves from the Journal of our Life in the Highlands'. She commemorated saving Ballochbuie Forest in 1878 by having a cairn built on Craig Doin which overlooks the forest.

Its inscription ends with "*The Bonniest Plaid in Scotland*" from the old legend that McGregor, the last laird of Ballochbuie, sold the forest to Farquharson of Invercauld for a tartan plaid. Winter will likely be upon us by then, so ice axe and crampons are a likely must. Variations to Lochnagar include Broad Cairn and any number of lower hills should the weather be truly inclement.

### 15th March - Ben Lawers

(Map 50, Grid Ref 609379)

(*Gaelic: Beinn Labhair*) is the highest mountain in the southern part of the Scottish Highlands and the tenth highest mountain in Britain. It lies to the north side of Loch Tay, and is the highest point of a long ridge that includes seven Munros. Ben Lawers was thought to be over 4,000 feet (1,219.2m) in height; accurate measurement in the 1870s showed it to be some 17 feet (5.2m) short of this figure.

In 1878, a group of twenty men spent a day building a large cairn in the hope of bringing the hope of bringing the summit above the "magic" figure. The cairn is no longer there in any case the OS ignored it as an artificial structure that was not truly part of the hill. Most of the south side of the Lawers range has since 1950 been owned by the National Trust for Scotland and was purchased through the generosity of Percy Unna, a mountaineer and one time president of the Scottish Mountaineering Club.

### 19th April - Through Walk - Jocks Road

(Map No 43 & 34, Grid Ref)

Today's walk follows an old drovers route, starting at Auchaller (NO156682). From here the path goes SE up Glen Callater to Loch Callater. The path hemmed in by hills continues on the north-east side of the loch and up the Alt an Loch with a steep climb up the headwall of Glen Callater to reach the Col at 880m between Tolmount and Knaps of Fafernie. The path turns south east across a featureless plateau, eventually the path descends steeply south into the head of Glen Doll and down into Glen dolt forest. The path meets up with the B955 to take you onto the Glen Clova hotel.

The route was the centre of a huge legal dispute in the 1880's which led to the bankruptcy of the Scottish Rights of way society. However they were successful when it was proved that it had long been the practice of drovers to take sheep from Braemar over the Tolmount to the market at Cullow. One of those who testified against McPherson who had attempted to close the path was John Winter (Jock) it is for this reason it is called Jock's Road. The legal action led to the passing of the Scottish Rights of Way Act. Cattle thieves and whisky smugglers also used Jocks Road.

## **2nd - 9th May - Carbost Bunk House, Isle of Skye (May Week)**

(Map No, Grid Ref)

The Waterfront Bunkhouse is fully equipped with showers, toilets, a laundry/drying room, a complete communal kitchen, Internet access and a balcony looking out on the loch and beyond. The Old Inn, next door, provides breakfast and packed lunches as well as food all day every day! Accommodation - two rooms of six beds and three rooms of four beds, one of these being en suite. Contact Anne Sinclair to book.

## **17th May - Glen Esk**

(Map No 44, Grid Ref 447804)

From the car park at the head of Glen Esk, a relatively easy ascent of the most easterly Munro, Mount Keen, can be made. The route goes via Glen Mark to join the track on the west side of the Ladder Burn, then north to the summit. The return route can be varied by heading east from Mount Keen to Braid Cairn, then south-east then south, over the 664m top for a descent via the Glas Coire track. As an alternative, a fine round may be enjoyed by heading west from the car park, past the impressive remains of the 16th century Invermark Castle, then along the north shore of Loch Lee. This approach affords the possibility of an ascent of the Graham, Hunt Hill and possibly the imposing Craig Maskeldie, the descent being made by the Shank of Inchgrundle.

## **19th July - Loch Earnhead**

(Map No 51/57, Grid Ref 593238, Car Park)

Loch Earnhead, located at the west end of Loch Earn and the south end of Glen Ogle is a good starting point for several hills. Ben Vorlich and Stuc a'Chroin are best climbed from Ardvorlich on the south side of Loch Earn a 4km drive from the village. The two Corbetts Meall an t-Seallaidh and Creag MacRanaich can be climbed easily in a day from the village via Glen Kendrum. Meall na Fearnna is a Corbett located east of Ben Vorlich and also climbed from Ardvorlich. Another Corbett, Beinn Each is normally climbed via Glen Ample off the A84 South of Strathyre. The Graham Meall Buidhe is best climbed from Glen Ogle and another two Grahams Creag Each and Creag Ruadh are climbed from St Fillans at the east end of Loch Earn. Many more hills are accessible down the nearby Balquhidder Glen.

## **16th Aug - Loch Muick**

(Map No 44 , Grid Ref 274818)

Corrie Chash and Broad Cairn (6180m) - Cairn Bannoch (1012m) Loch Muick occupies a dark, steep sided glen on the Royal family's Balmoral Estate. It offers numerous levels of walking for all, including families. The Glas- Alt- Shiel Queen Victoria's holiday home she built for her Albert lies at the far end of the loch and is roughly opposite the Streak of Lightening path which leads to Broad Cairn or Bachnagairn. The clubs adopted path state must be surveyed each year and a report sent in. It can be quite an interesting day out and lots to learn about path repair obviously it's a slower pace than usual to allow noting wear and tear due to water damage etc.

## **20th Sept - Linn of Dee Including CAPS Survey**

(Map No 43, Grid Ref 063898)

The Linn o' Dee car park is ideally situated as a start point for many hills in the southern Cairngorms. If heading to Derry Lodge, ascents can be made of the Munros Derry Cairngorm, Beinn Bhreac, Beinn a'Chaorainn or Carn a' Mhaim. For some of the more remote hills, such as those to the west of Glen Dee, the use of a bicycle would save some time and energy. A less strenuous day could involve a visit to Sgor Mor, a Corbett best accessed via White Bridge and the impressive Chest of Dee. The summit of Sgor Mor affords a magnificent viewpoint for the peaks of the southern Cairngorms and the southern part of the Lairig Ghru.

## **13th Dec - Coreen Hills**

(Map No 37, Grid Ref 546232)

Today's walk follows an undulating circular route, taking in several hills which should provide an excellent variety of viewpoints as the day progresses. The highest point in the Coreen Hills is the bald summit of Lord Arthur's Hill. An array of summits are seen from this point including The Buck, Tap O'Noth, Bennachie and Morvern. Starting at Suie Hill car park, our route heads west through the forest, over Hill of Midmeddens to reach Mire of Midgates. Proceeding in an

anti clockwise direction the route passes the 487m trig pillar to Badingair Hill, where the views open out. Continuing in a south-westerly direction, the route crosses Brux Hill to Edinbanchory Hill, then turns east to the highest point of the day Lord Arthurs's (518m) which is a fine viewpoint of the Howe of Alford. From here, we head north-east to re-enter the forest at Cot Craigs for the three km, walk back to the car park.

## WEEKEND MEETS 2015

### 13th/14th March – Grandtully Hostel 2015

(Map 52, Grid Ref 914530)

Postcode PH9 0PL. £17 per night, will tie in with the Ben Lawers on the 15th, bedding provided, good cooking facilities. For more information on the hostel. A fair range of high mountains can be reached within easy drive Munros, Corbetts and some Grahams, Good cycling area too over to Rannoch.

### 20th/21st June - Ledgowan lodge, Achnasheen

(Map 19, Grid Ref)

Kinlochewe Bunkhouse, Kinlochewe Hotel, by Achnasheen, Wester Ross, IV22 2PA. Tel no; 01445 760253. Kin (head off) Loch Ewe was the case until the seventeenth century when the loch name was changed to Maree in memory of St Meallrubha, he is recorded as bringing Christianity to this area of Scotland. Meallrubha cell was on one of the islands on Loch Maree. Moine Thrust runs through Glen Torridon lots of geological features are found in Kinlochewe and most famous bird life one of the rarest is found on Loch Maree the black throated diver, mammals and insects, rare dragon flies are studied here. Munros, Corbetts and Grahams are a plenty, Bein Eighe Nature Reserve and Fisherfield Forest are in the centre of a National Scenic area.

### 16th/17th Oct - Strawberry Cottage - Glen Affric

(Map , Grid Ref)

Glen Affric (Gaelic: Gleann Afraig) is a glen south-west of the village of Cannich in the Highland region of Scotland, some 15 miles (24 km) to the west of Loch Ness. The River Affric runs along its length, passing through Loch Affric and Loch Beinn a' Mheadhoin (Loch Benevean). Strawberry Cottage is a great and comfortable hut, especially given its remote location. The refurbished upper dorm is bright and airy. The kitchen is well equipped with wood burning stove and drying room.

### 14th/15th Nov - Ochils Club hut, Crianlarich

(Map 50, Grid Ref 392251)

A well appointed hut, recently refurbished, about a mile east of Crianlarich on the A85 and adjacent the Ben More Restaurant Bar and Restaurant. Access to numerous hills. Munros, Corbetts and Grahams alike, is afforded, with Ben More and Stob Binien on the doorstep. Cost is likely to be around £10 ppppn but will depend on numbers. You will need your sleeping bag.

### 23rd/24th Jan - Rucksacks, Braemar - Club's annual Burns Supper

(Map 43, Grid Ref)

Rucksacks Hostel, 15 Mar Road, Braemar, AB35 5YL.

Telephone 01339741517

Bed linen will be provided on a first come first served basis.

Please bring your own sleeping bag as not all beds have bed linen.

## BOOKING WEEKEND MEETS

Places on weekends are only confirmed once your booking form and a deposit of £10 for weekends has been received. Contact Anne Sinclair, who is now in charge of booking, for details and to confirm your place. If you wish to go on any of these events please contact Anne as soon as possible.  
Telephone 01569 765652

## CONTACTS

|                       |                 |              |
|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| PRESIDENT             | KARIN MARSHALL  |              |
| SECRETARY / TREASURER | ALISTAIR BEELEY | 01569 740425 |
| OUTDOOR MEETS         | PETER MCDONALD  | 01224 248654 |
| INDOOR MEETS          | ROGER OWEN      | 01569 762479 |
| WEEKENDS/MAY WEEK     | ANNE SINCLAIR   | 01569 765652 |
|                       | JOHN MACPHERSON | 01224 622128 |
| -                     | KENNY ANDERSON  | 07711 524526 |

EMAIL - [admin@smhc.eu](mailto:admin@smhc.eu)

WEBSITE - [www.smhc.eu](http://www.smhc.eu)

## CLUB DISCOUNTS

Available at anytime on production of a current Membership Card from the following: Cotswold Outdoor, Nevis Sport, Blacks, Craigdon Sports & Hilltrek Clothing. Tiso's currently have a quarterly Club Discount Night. It is always worth asking wherever you are.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions are due immediately after each AGM (held on the last Thursday in March) and currently stand at £20.00 P.A

## RAYMOND MARSHALL AWARD

The Raymond Marshall Award will go to the member who logs the most named hills during the Club's year, AGM to AGM. We will require your list stipulating dates, grid references and names of hills. You can only count a hill once during any given period.

## GOLDEN BOOT AWARD

Remember there's still a chance to compete for the Golden Boot Award which goes to the person who attends the most Sunday Club Meets from AGM to AGM.



# BOOKING FORM - WEEKENDS AND MAY WEEK

## Conditions of Booking

1. In order to book a place on either a weekend or May week you should complete the form below and send it to the meets organiser together with your deposit (or full fee, this makes it much simpler for all especially for weekend meets).

Deposit for a weekend meet is £10.00 per person

Deposit for May Week is £20.00 per person

2. You must have paid in full before the closing date (see section 3) as this will allow the organiser to enjoy their weekend free from security concerns regarding the cash collected.
3. If subsequently you wish to cancel you must do so as soon as possible with the meets organiser in order to reduce the potential loss to yourself. The booking list will close one month before the weekend meet and two months before the May Week. You must book before the closing dates.
4. If the booking list is full, a waiting list will be maintained.
5. After the closing date you are responsible for the full cost of your booking and if you cancel you will get back whatever the hostel owner allows. If there is a waiting list it may be possible to sell on your place. The meet organiser will be able to assist you by supplying names on the list.



## Booking Requirements

Venue

.....

Dates required

.....

Number of places

.....

Other requests

.....

Payment enclosed £

.....

Signature

.....

Name(s)

.....

Address

.....

.....

Tel.

.....

Return to: Anne Sinclair, 19 Martin Place, Stonehaven, AB39 2LG

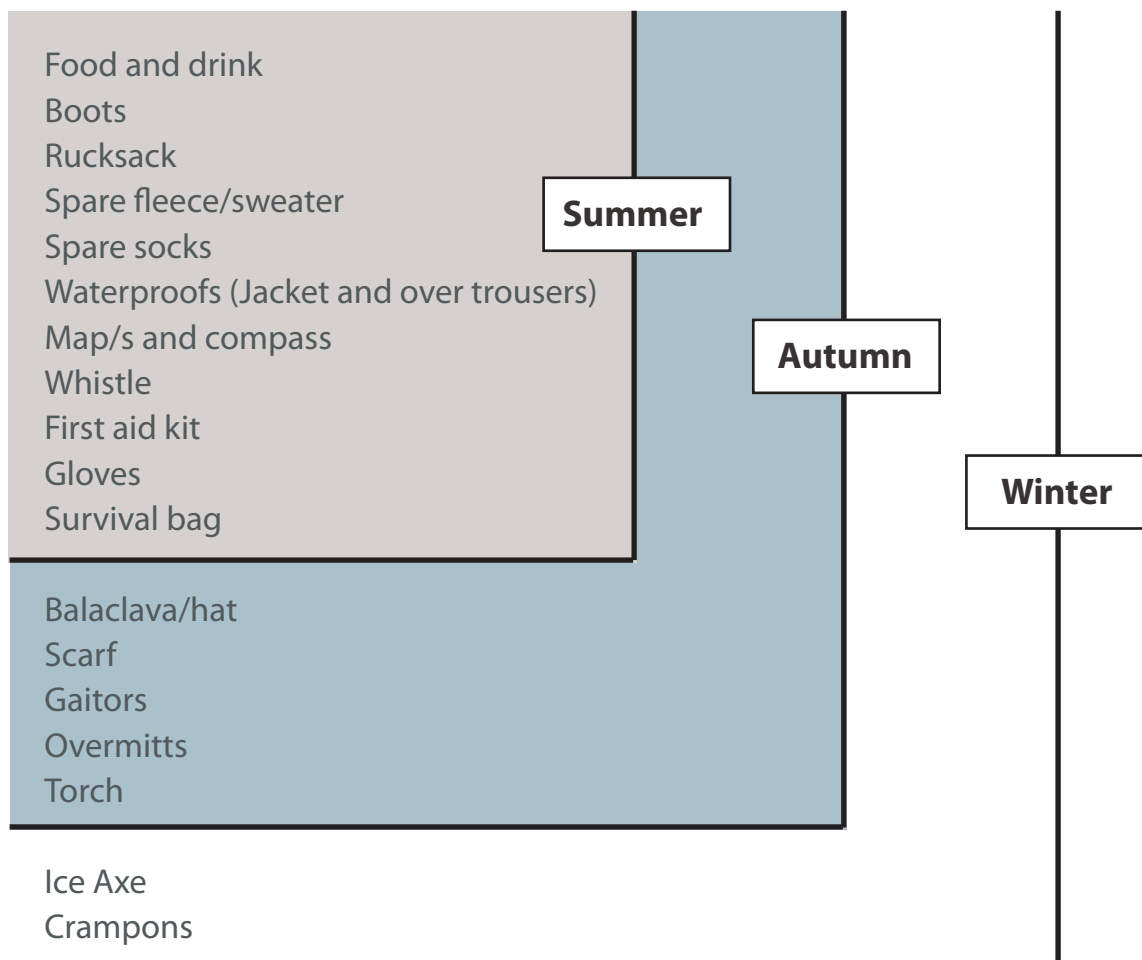
Email: [annesinclair@fsmail.net](mailto:annesinclair@fsmail.net)

## CLUB EQUIPMENT

The Club owns the following equipment, which is freely available for the use of members on application to the equipment officer:

- Backpacker tents and emergency shelters
- Ropes (Full and half weight, safety)
- Carabiners and slings
- Altimeters
- Ice Axes and instep crampons
- Snow saw, shovel and avalanche probe
- Climbing helmets

## EQUIPMENT CHECK LIST



Remember to check [www.smhc.eu](http://www.smhc.eu) for all the latest Club News and Member Photographs