



PROGRAMME

2026

A Few Words from our President

I'm sure you would all agree with me that the Club has had a really good year with lots of members enjoying many great adventures organised by the committee.

The number of active members, those regularly turning out, has increased hugely in the last couple of years and that's a great thing. Some of our local day walks have seen numbers we hadn't seen for 20 years. This expansion has been due to an active recruitment campaign and word of mouth; after all, we are a very welcoming and friendly club. We cover many areas of Scotland on our weekends and the May Week which gives access to many hill lists! I'm also delighted by the numbers that turn out to our winter series of talks although the speakers we get are always highly entertaining. My last 6 years as President has been such a great time for me, especially working with such an amazing committee. However, it's time to step down now and hand over to someone else with just as much enthusiasm for the club as I have. When I helped to found this club 47 years ago I had no idea it would still be going so strongly today and I'm very proud of it. I'll stay on as Indoor Meets organiser as I'm hanging in for 50 years on this terrific committee!

Roger Owen
President

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Schedule of Events 2026

Date	Event & Location	Organiser	Page
January Fri 16 th & Sat 17 th	Burns Supper Rucksack's Hostel Braemar with option to join club walk Sat 17th	Karin Marshall	24
January Saturday 17th	Day Meet Creag nan Gabhar from Achallater	Karin Marshall	6
January Tuesday 27 th 1930hrs	Indoor Meet, No. 44 Hotel & Bar Allardice Street Roger Owen, Maglic, Bosnia's Magic Mountain	Roger Owen	34
February Sunday 15 th	Day Meet & Dinner Bennachie circuit. Followed by dinner at No 44 Hotel & Bar Allardice Street	Walk- Paul Yarnold Dinner-Anne Sinclair	8
February Tuesday 24 th 1930hrs	Indoor Meet, No 44 Hotel & Bar Allardice Street Liz Gray, walking the Laugavegur Trail Iceland	Roger Owen	34
March Fri 13 th & Sat 14 th	Weekend Meet Ochills Mountaineering Club Hut Crianlarich	Ralph Davidson	25
March Tuesday 31 st 1930hrs	Indoor Meet, No 44 Hotel & Bar Allardice Street, Calum Richardson, climbing Manaslu, Himalayas	Roger Owen	34
April Sat 18 th	Bridge of Dye to Cairn o' Mount viewpoint This walk is replacing the Camping Weekend	Willie Morris	10
May Sun 9 th to Sun 16 th	May Week Almond Hostel , Helvellyn	Karen Yarnold	32
June Fri 19 th , Sat 20 th	Weekend Meet Invergarry, Saddle Mountain Hostel	Steve McFarland	26
July Sat 11 th	Club Barbecue St John's Cottage, High Street, Drumlithie	Willie Morris	37
July Sunday 20 th	Day Meet Glen Lyon, Four Munros	Paul Yarnold	12
August Saturday 15 th	Day Meet Braeriach	Paul Yarnold	14
September Fri 11 th to Mon 14 th	Weekend Meet Rum extended weekend (3 nights)	Karen & Paul Yarnold	28
October Sunday 18 th	Day Meet Mona Gowan	Paul Yarnold	16
October Tuesday 27 th 1930hrs.	Indoor Meet, No 44 Hotel & Bar Allardice Street Fire Brigade Watch Commander John Aitchison	Roger Owen	34
November Fri 13 th & Sat 14 th	Weekend Meet Prosen Hostel, Glen Prosen, Angus Glens	Roger Owen	30
November Tuesday 24 th 1930hrs.	AGM & Photo Competition No 44 Hotel & Bar Allardice Street	Anne Sinclair & Committee Photos; Roger Owen	34
December Sunday 13 th	Day Meet Carn na Drochaide	Paul Yarnold	18
December Monday 28 th	Local walk & Pub Crawl Pub Crawl, start Marine Hotel Stonehaven 1930	Steve McFarland	34

Day Meets

The following should be treated only as an outline of the Day Walks, full details will be posted on Spond nearer the time of the event

January Saturday 17th Organiser Paul Yarnold

Creag nan Gabhar (Corbett)

OS Landranger Map: Sheet 43 Braemar and Blair Atholl

Start point: Auchallatar Car Park at Grid Ref- NO 156882

Pay & Display car park (£3.50p), coin only. Note; this car park is owned by Invercauld Estate and is not free to NTS members

Distance from Stonehaven to start point: 58 miles.

Drive time from Stonehaven to Start Point: 1hr 30min

Walk distance: 13km.

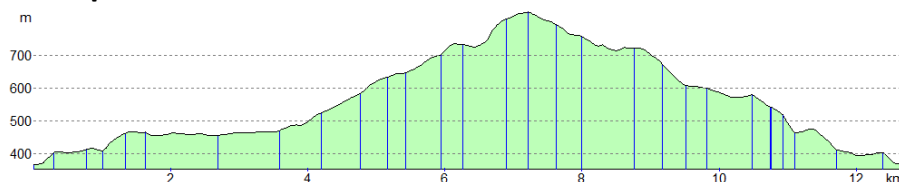
Estimated duration: 6 hours.

Ascent 570m

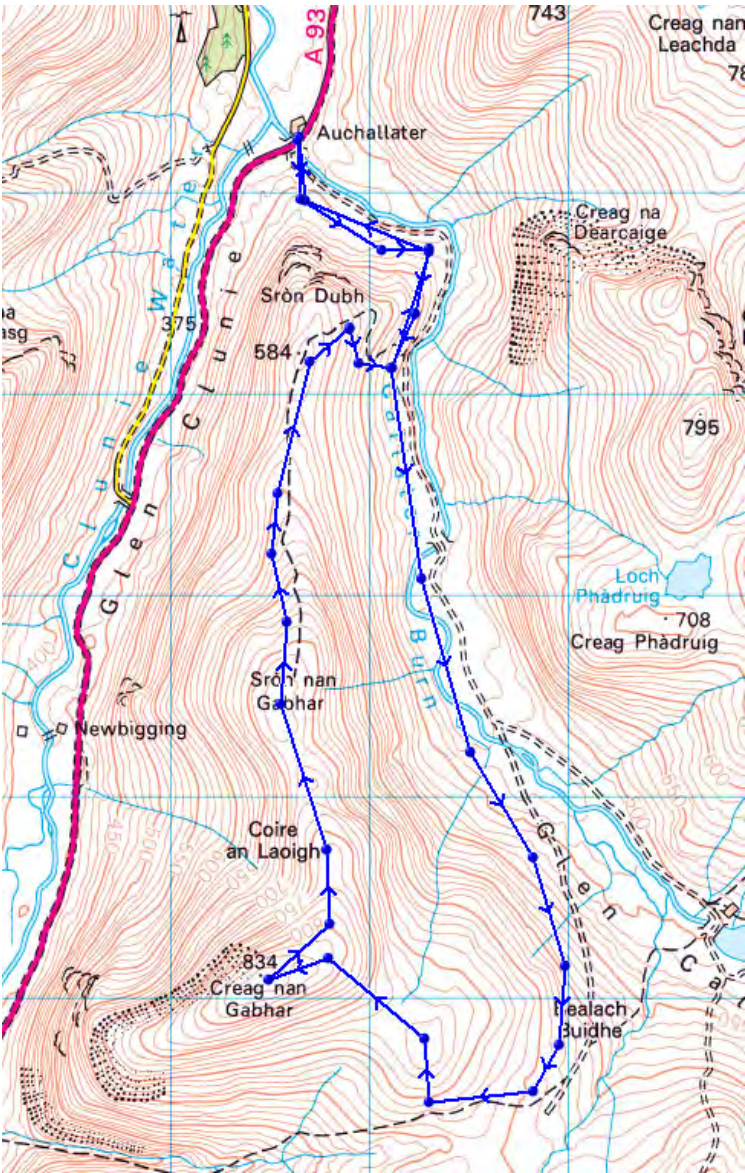
Creag nan Gabhar with a height of 834m qualifies as a Corbett.

It is situated approximately 9km due south of Braemar. The walk will start just off the main A93 road at Auchallatar, just south of the bridge over the Callater Burn where there is parking, however there is a charge, coins may be required. Our route will go south up Glen Callater for approximately 5km before heading west to the bealach and turning north to the summit of Creag nan Gabhar, continue north to Sròn nan Gabhar and take the path down the shoulder, south then east into Glen Callater and back to the car park.

Route profile:



Route map:
Creag nan Gabhar



February Sunday 15th Walk Organiser Paul Yarnold
Dinner Organiser Anne Sinclair

**Bennachie Circular Walk followed by,
Dinner at No 44 Hotel and Bar, Stonehaven**

OS Landranger: Map Sheets 37 Strathdon & Alford and 38 Aberdeen

Start Point: NJ 698216 Bennachie Visitor Centre

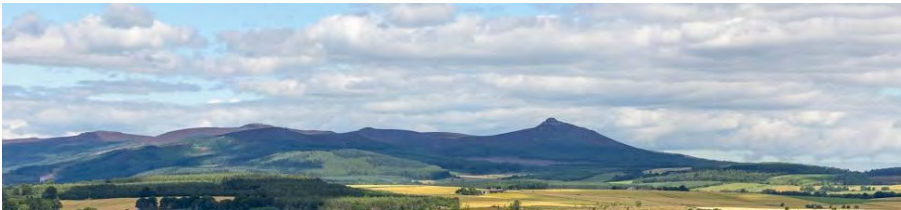
Distance from Stonehaven to Start Point: 33 miles

Drive time from Stonehaven to Start Point: 45 mins

Walk Distance: 14km

Estimated Duration: 4 hrs 30 mins

Ascent: 612m



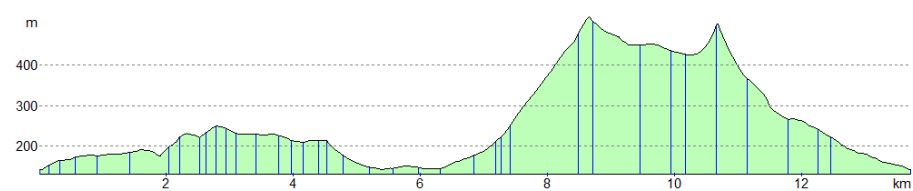
The proposed route is 14km, however there will be ample opportunity to shorten the walk for those who want a shorter day as the area is generally well pathed.

The route will depart the car park to the NNW following the track for 2.5 km towards Maiden Castle. At the track junction take the west path for approx. 500m. Take the path that runs NW for 250m then continue straight ahead and stay on the path as it follows the contours roughly west as it routes towards Nursery Cottage. Stay on the track here as it runs north and joins the track junction at Horndoyne. From here follow the track to the junction at Hilford Croft, then take the track/path south to head up the hill towards Oxen Craig summit at 528m.

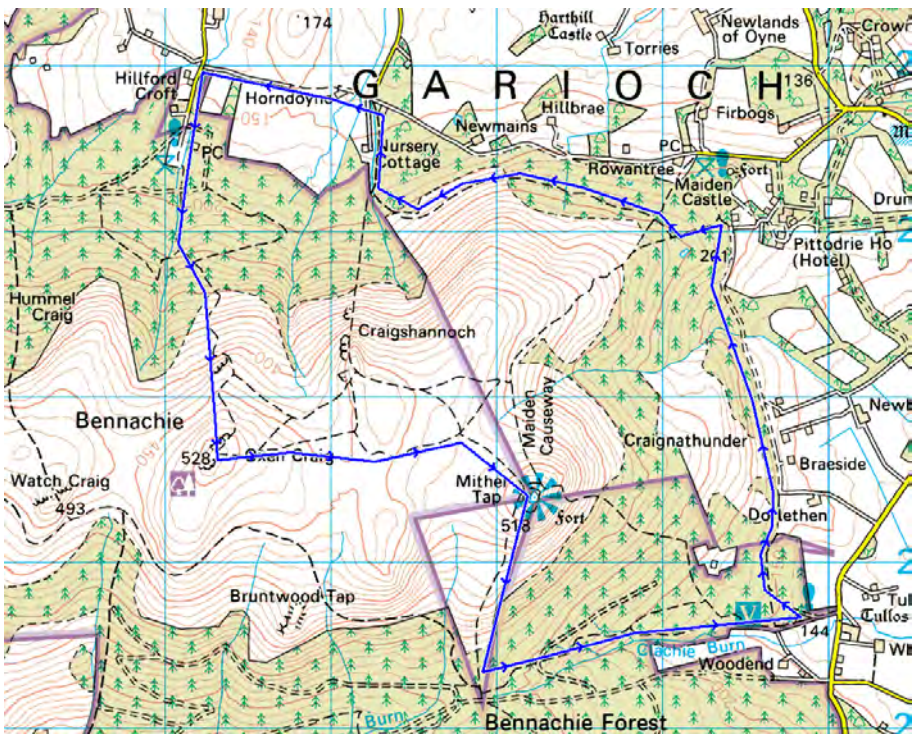
If the going is good there's the option to head west to take in Watch Craig summit at 493m before rejoining the route at Oxen Craig.

From Oxen Craig head east for 2km to summit Mither Tap at 518m, from Mither Tap take the path running SSW for approx 1.5km, at the path junction take the path running east back to the Visitor Centre.

Route profile:



Route map:
Bennachie from Visitor Centre



April Saturday 18th Organiser Willie Morris

**Bridge of Dye to Cairn o' Mount Viewpoint walkthrough via
Clachnaben and the Corbett, Mount Battock**

**OS Landranger: Map Sheet 44 Ballater & Glen Clova and
Sheet 45 Stonehaven & Banchory**

Start Point: Glen Dye car park NO648867

End Point Cairn o' Mount viewpoint NO650805

Distance from Stonehaven to Start Point: 21 miles via Slug Road

Drive time from Stonehaven to Start Point: 40 minutes

Distance between Start Point and End Point 7km

Walk Distance: 27km

Estimated Duration: 9hrs

Approximately Ascent: 1220m

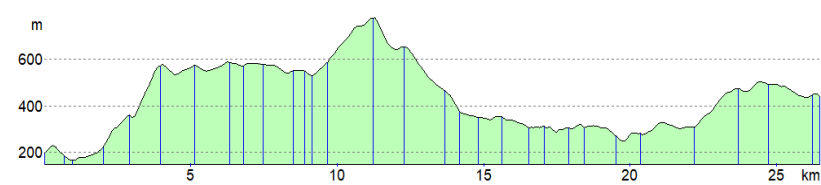
Glen Dye to Cairn o' Mount walkthrough

From the car park head west to the summit of Clachnaben and on westwards via Hill of Edendocher and Hill of Badymicks to the summit of the Corbett, Mount Battock. From there head roughly south east to the Hill of Saughs and down the shoulder until we meet the path down Glen Dye, take the path for approximately 6km to Charr. cross the Water of Dye by the bridge, head south on the track for 2½km to Old Hangy Burn. From there we head cross-country east to the summit of Cairn o' Mount and the nearby Viewpoint where the pre-positioned vehicles will return walkers to the Start Point.

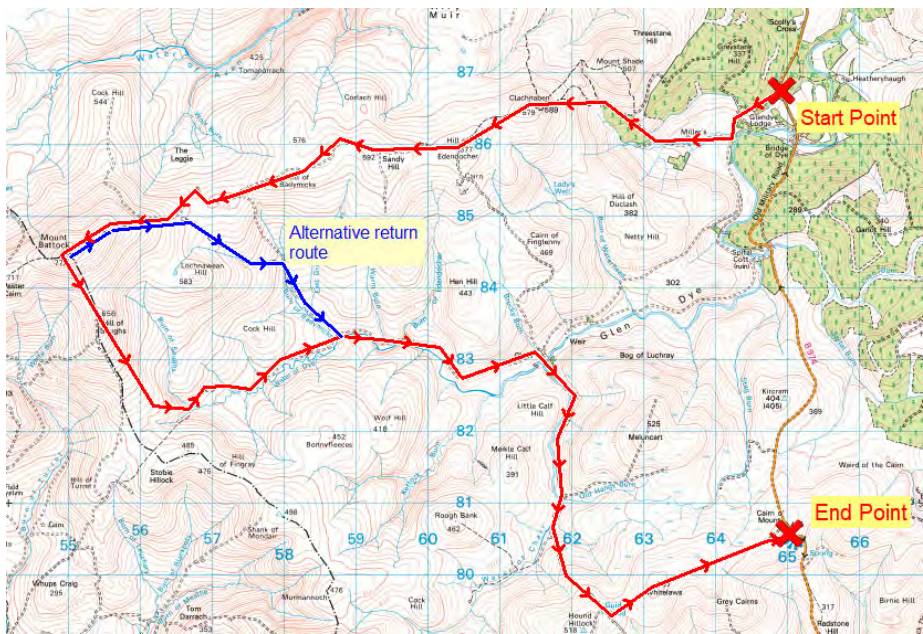


The old Bridge of Dye built in 1680 is one of the oldest remaining bridges in the north east of Scotland

Route profile



Route map
Glen Dye car park to Cairn o' Mount viewpoint



July Sunday 19th Organiser Paul Yarnold

Glen Lyon Four Munros:

**Munros Carn Gorm, Meall Garbh, Carn Mairg
& Meall Na Aighean.**

OS Landranger Map: Sheet 51, Loch Tay and Glen Dochart

Start point: NN655478 lay-by approx 1.5km west of Invervar

Distance from Stonehaven Square to start point: 100 miles

Drive time 2hrs 30min

Walk distance: 18.5km

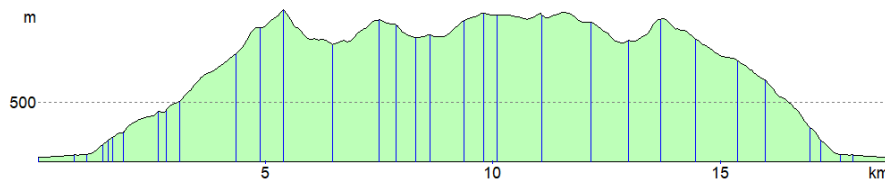
Ascent: 1345m

Estimated duration: 10 hours

This is a great opportunity to bag four Munros in one walk. The car park in Invervar is now closed and the road for 1km either side of the village has been designated a Clearway; stopping only allowed in an emergency. The nearest parking is now in a lay-by on the south side of the road 1km west of the village. Because our walk is planned for a Sunday when there are likely to be other walkers using the car park we may wish to consider an earlier start and obviously keep the number of vehicles to a minimum. This can be debated on Spind nearer the time.

From the car park walk east back to the village, head north through a gate signposted Lint Mill, follow the track north to the edge of the forest then head west up the flank of Carn Gorm to its summit 1029m. Proceed northeast to the summit of Meall Garbh, circle round to the top of Carn Mairg, at 1042m the highest point on the circuit. Follow an indistinct path southeast then south to the bealach, from there the path climbs south to the Meall na Aighean summit ridge. Descend from Meall na Aighean via a path down the west ridge to pick up a stalkers path on the east side of Allt Coire à Chearcaill, continue on the stalkers path till you meet the track alongside the Invervar Burn, follow this south to the village, turn right on the road and back to the lay-by.

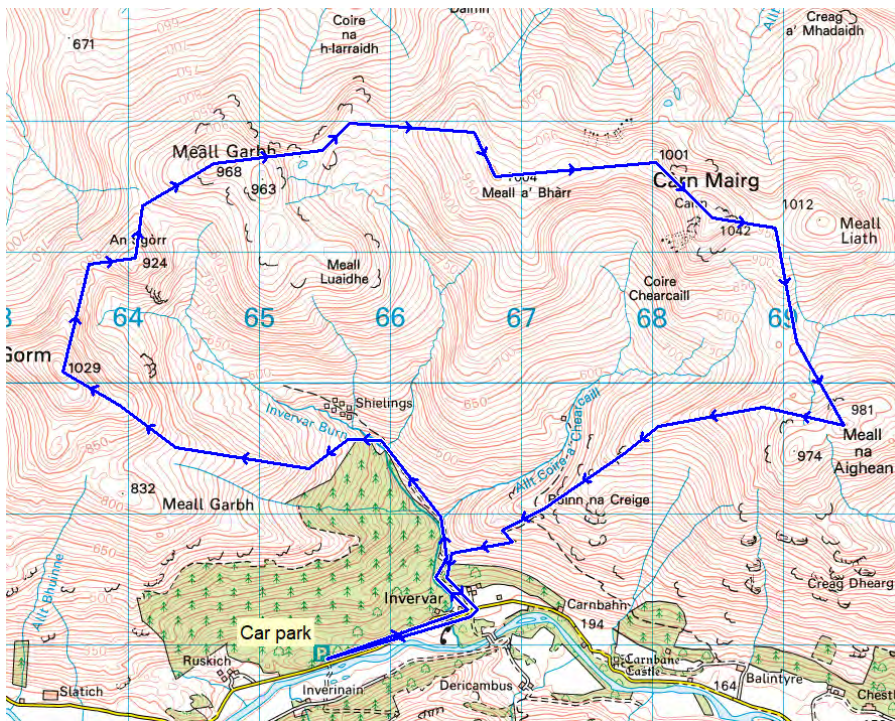
Route Profile:



Approximately 1350m ascent

Route map:

Carn Gorm, Meall Garbh, Carn Maing & Meall Na Aighean



Total distance approximately 18.5km

August, Saturday 15th Walk Organiser Paul Yarnold

Braeriach (Munro) from Sugarbowl Car Park, Cairngorm

OS Landranger Map: Sheet 36 Grantown & Aviemore

Start Point: Sugarbowl Car Park at Grid Ref. NH 975073

Distance from Stonehaven to Start Point: 100 miles

Drive time from Stonehaven to Start Point: 2 hours 30 mins

Walk Distance: 19.5km

Estimated Duration: 6 – 7 hours

Ascent: 1410m

At 1296m Braeriach is the 3rd highest mountain in Britain and of course a Munro.

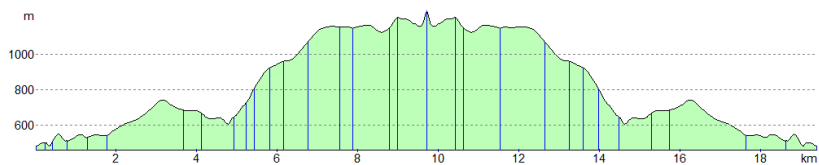
Arguably the finest of the Cairngorms, reaching its vast summit plateau requires a long approach walk. It is situated in a truly wild place with a vast range of dramatic and beautiful corries situated around the plateau.

Our walk will start at the Sugar Bowl Car Park situated on the road from Glenmore up to the Ski Centre at Grid NH 975073 where reindeer may be seen in an enclosure nearby.

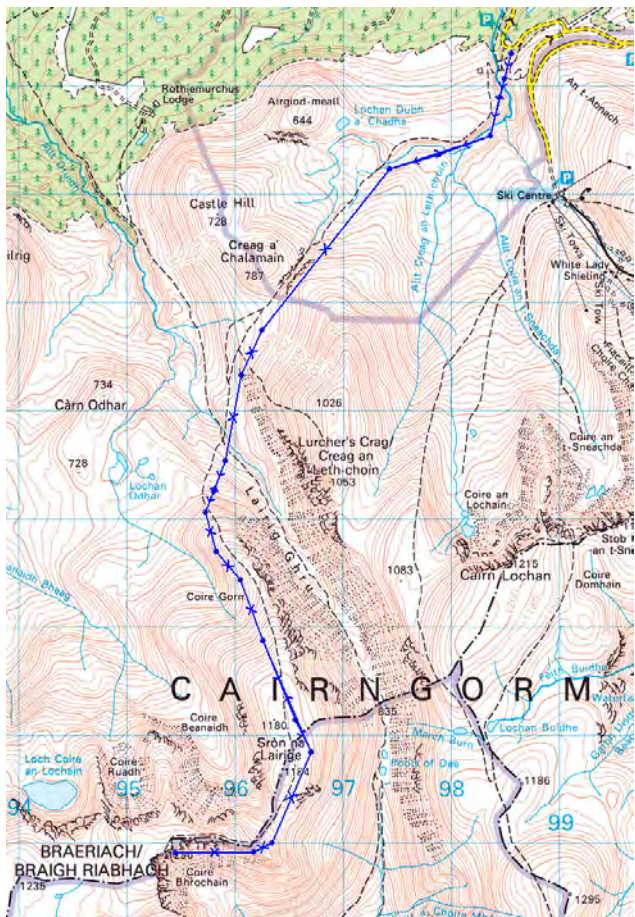
From the car park seek the path on the bend in the road heading due S and cross the nearby burn and stay with the path as it winds its way in a SW direction towards the steep sided rocky ravine the Chalamain Gap. From the gap descend into the Lairig Gru. crossing the iconic Lairig Gru the path continues WSW climbing the spur to the E of Coire Gorm towards the summit of Sròn na Lairige at 1184m. Passing the summit, (or climb if you wish) continue SW around the corrie edge to summit of Braeriach at 1296m. If the weather gods are kind the views and the scenery are amazing.

The return route is the reverse of the access route.

Route profile:



Route map:
Braeriach from Sugar Bowl Car Park



October Sunday 18th Walk Organiser Paul Yarnold

Mona Gowan (Goat Moor)

OS Landranger Map: Sheet 37 Strathdon & Alford

Start Point: NJ 334103 Car parking opposite track to Culfork NB there is only parking for approx. 4/5 cars so car sharing is encouraged.

Distance from Stonehaven to Start Point: 52 miles

Drive time from Stonehaven to Start Point: 1 hour 30 mins

Walk Distance: 15.5km

Estimated Duration: 4-5 hours

Ascent: 591m

Mona Gowan is a little known hill on a long open moorland ridge west of the better known Corbett, Morven.

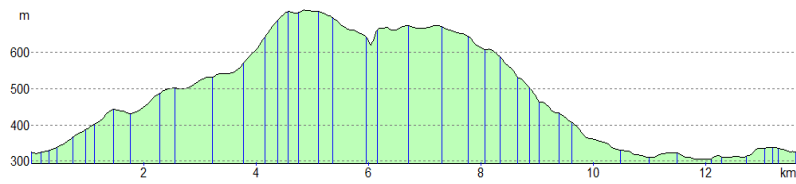
At 749m it is classified as a Fiona. The objective is to summit Mona Gowan with the option of return along the outward track, or, if the day is going well return via the spectacular Slacks of Glencarvie a glacial notch which may offer interesting scenery.

From the start point follow the minor road east for approx. 600m past the first track to the right and on to the corner of the minor road where a track through the wood winds its way up towards Gallows hill. Stay on this track passing Meikle Charsk Hill to the east continuing to the summit of Mona Gowan at 749m. From here there is the option of returning via the access route or continuing ESE to the Slacks of Glencarvie where there is an opportunity for some easy scrambling. From The Slacks head east to Mullachdubh at 681m, from here head north to pick up the track and path towards Birkford. From Birkford follow the track passing The Mains of Glencarvie to join the minor road west back to the Start Point.



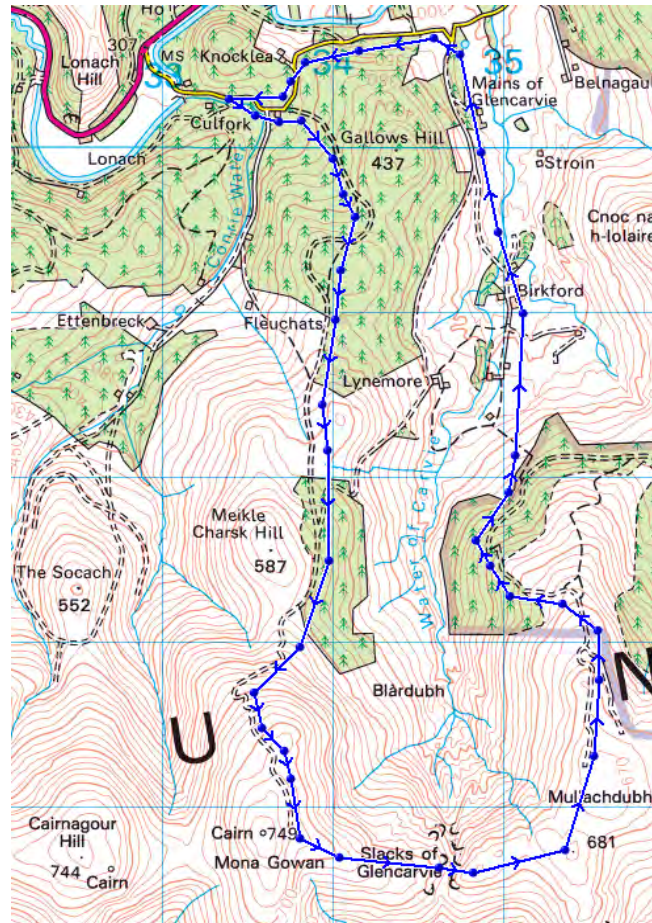
The Slacks of Glencarvie are probably the result of glacial outflow, however an old folk tale tells that the witch Cailleach Bheathrach bit away part of the hill in an attempt to get the Don to flow into the Dee! In The Slacks are Wilson's Castle a rocky outcrop which local folklore associates with an outlaw who used it as his lair and Smugglers Cave, used in the old whisky smugglers route from Donside to Deeside

Route profile



Route map

Mona Gowan from Culfork



December Sunday 13th Walk Organiser Paul Yarnold

Carn na Drochaide (Corbett) Circular Walk

OS Landranger Map: Sheet No. 43 Braemar & Blair Atholl and Sheet No. 36 Grantown, Aviemore & Cairngorm Mountains

Start Point: NO116909 Linn of Quoich car park

Distance from Stonehaven to Start Point: 64 miles

Drive time from Stonehaven to Start Point: 1 hour 45 mins

Walk Distance: 11.5 m

Estimated Duration: 4 hours 30 mins

Ascent: 509m

To get to the Linn of Quoich car park continue past the Linn of Dee car park and follow the road east to its end at the Linn of Quoich car park, where there is parking for approximately 12 cars.

There is a 'Pay and Display' charge of £5 for using this car park, members of the National Trust for Scotland park for free.

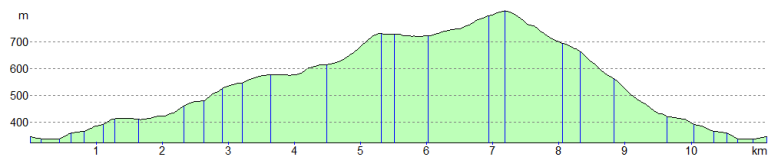
By necessity this is a fairly short walk as the days are short in December.

Cross the Quoich Water to the East and locate the track on the East side which climbs NW towards Carn Na Criche. After approx. 3km leave the track continue on to the Carn Elrig Mòr/Carn na Criche bealach then east to Car na Criche, alternatively, climb its SW spur to the summit.

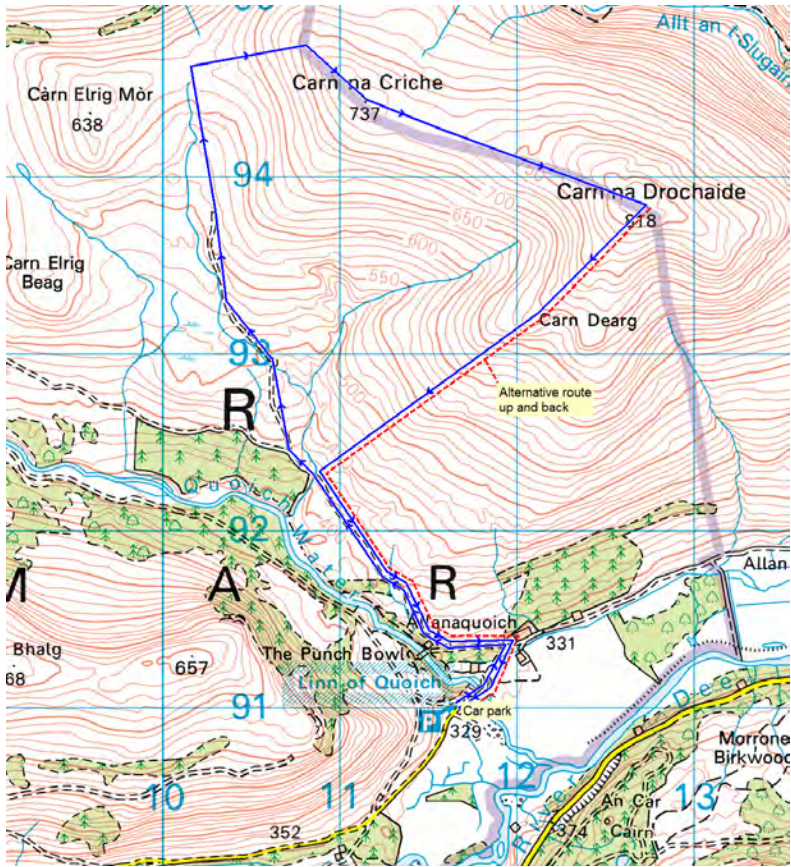
From the summit of Carn na Criche traverse the ridge to the SE and ascend to the objective of Carn Na Drochaide. From the summit take the SW spur and descend down to the original track to cross the Quoich Water and back to the Car Park.

A shorter version of this walk, if conditions are poor is a direct ascent of Carn Na Drochaide with a return using the same route as detailed in red on the attached map.

Route profile



Route map
Car na Criche from Linn of Quoich



Travel Costs for Day Meets

The mileage rate for 2026 is being held at 25p/mile; however this is reviewed by the committee as required and at the AGM.

Mileage from Stonehaven to walk start point will be included in the walk description in the programme and posted on Spond prior to the walk. Cost per participant will depend on distance from Stonehaven to the walk start point and the number of participants. Number of vehicles should be kept to a minimum to keep costs down and minimise pollution.

The following examples should help clarify the cost calculation.

Example 1

9 members meet at Stonehaven Square, all the cars available are capable of carrying its driver + 3 passengers therefore a minimum of 3 cars are needed. 2 cars have 4 occupants each; the 3rd car only has its driver.

Distance to start point is 100 miles, thus total mileage for meet is 200 miles

Total cost per car = Total miles x Mileage rate	$200 \times 25p =$ £50.00
Total cost of travel = Cost per car x Number of cars	$£50 \times 3 = £150.00$
Each member pays; Total cost ÷ Number of members	$£150 \div 9 = £16.66$
Each driver receives; Total cost ÷ Number of drivers	$£150 \div 3 = £50.00$

Example 2

12 members meet at Stonehaven Square, and divide into 3 vehicles. Distance to walk start point is 32 miles, therefore total miles to be driven is 64.

Member X goes directly from home to start point pays nothing to kitty and receives no payment

Member Y picks up member Z in Aberdeen and they travel direct to start point. Driver Y and passenger Z must decide between themselves how much the passenger will pay to the driver.

For the members leaving from Stonehaven;	
Cost per car = Total miles x Mileage rate	$64 \times 25p = £16.00$
Total cost = Cost per car x Number of cars	$£16 \times 3 = £48.00$
Each member pays; Total cost ÷ Number of members	$£48.00 \div 12 =$ £4.00
Each driver receives; Total cost ÷ Number of drivers	$£48 \div 3 = £16.00$





Conditions of Booking

Weekend Meets & May Week 2026

Weekend Meets

These are organised by several different committee members.

Event Organiser is named in the event information in this programme, their contact details can be found on Page 40 other booking information will be posted on Spond and by email to members.

In most cases 6-10 places will initially be available. To book your place click "Attending" on Spond then make payment in full via bank transfer to the Club account; Sort code 80-90-68

Account No. 00830247

or; make out a cheque payable to SHMC and mail or hand it to,

Karen Yarnold at 8 Springfield Place, Aberdeen, AB15 7SF
and inform Karen Yarnold at <treasurer.thesmhc@gmail.com>

If all initial places are booked contact the Event Organiser who will be able to advise you on whether more will be available. The name of the Event Organiser and payment details will be included with the booking information for that weekend. Please note that the initial places generally go very quickly and the earlier we know if extra places are required the more likely we will be able to secure them.

Should you wish to cancel a booking you must do so as soon as possible to reduce the potential loss to yourself, it may be possible to offer your place to someone else if there is a waiting list. If we are unable to fill your place and have to cancel it any refund will be the decision of the venue management.

May Week 2026

A deposit of £40 is required to secure a place.

Please inform Organiser and make payment via bank transfer to Club account;
Sort code 80-90-68

Account No. 00830247

Also inform Karen Yarnold at <treasurer.thesmhc@gmail.com>

or; make out a cheque payable to SHMC and mail or hand it to,

Karen Yarnold at 8 Springfield Place, Aberdeen, AB15 7SF

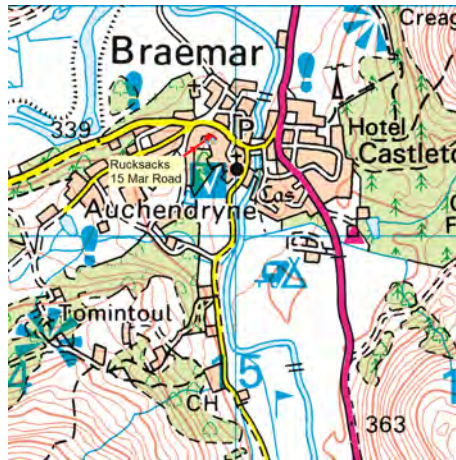
Weekend Meets 2026

January Friday 16th & Sat. 17th Organiser Karin Marshall

Burns Supper

Rucksacks Hostel
15 Mar Road
Braemar
AB35 5YL

Grid Ref. NO149914



Rucksacks is ideally situated in the centre of Braemar, a familiar venue for the club Burns Supper. The hostel is well appointed with a well equipped kitchen. Bedding is provided



Karin is organising the weekend and the Supper. More details will be posted on Spond nearer the time

March Friday 13th & Sat. 14th Organiser Ralph Davidson

Crianlarich Weekend

**Ochils Mountaineering Club Hut
Inverardran
Crianlarich
PK20 8QS**

The cottage is the first building on the right as you enter Crianlarich on the north side of the A85 (Grid ref. NN392250 OS Map 50 Glen Orchy & Loch Etive) It has a well equipped kitchen with two cookers and hobs, toaster and microwave ovens, a large dining area and a separate food store. The lounge area is equipped with a wood burning stove.

Two dormitories sleep a maximum of 18 guests, however bedding is not provided, bring your own.

There are separate ladies and gents shower/toilet facilities and a separate wet room/toilet. Bring your own towel.

Just inside the entrance door are separate Boot Room and Drying Room both are heated and the drying room also has a dehumidifier



Crianlarich has a Post Office, shops, restaurants and pubs.

The bunkhouse is well placed for hill bagging.

Munros Cruach Ardrain, Ben More, Stob Binnein, Ben Challum, Meall Glas, and Sgiath Chuil can be reached by walking from the cottage as can the Corbett Beinn nan Imirean.

The Arrochar Alps, Ben Lawers, Tyndrum and Bridge of Orchy hills are within 30 minutes drive, with Glens Coe and Etive only a little further.

Cost of weekend is £30, payable in full to Karen at time of booking

June Friday 19th & Sat. 20th Organiser Steve McFarland

Saddle Mountain Hostel Weekend

**Saddle Mountain Hostel
Mandally Road
Invergarry
PH35 4HP**

**OS Sheet 34 Fort Augustus Glen Roy & Glen Moriston
Grid ref NH305008**

Saddle Mountain Hostel is on the Mandally road, just off the A82, third house along, about 200 metres from the junction with the A82.

From the south on the A82: Turn left at the Mandally road sign (just past St Finnan's Church). If you get to the bridge and the junction with the A87, you've gone too far.

From the north on the A82: Go past the junction with the A87 and over the bridge. Take the next right at the Mandally road sign, the hostel is a short distance down that road on the right hand side.





The Hostel has 5 bedrooms and 1 shared dormitory, sleeping between 2 and 6 people

Bed linen is provided and each bed is made up ready for you when you arrive. There are 5 toilets and 5 showers, a mix of en-suite and shared. Soap and hand towels are provided in each toilet.

A bath towel can be hired if required.

The bedrooms have keycode locks on the doors. Each room has space for storing your luggage and plenty of socket outlets. Every bed has a reading light, and all rooms have a small sink. There are lockers in the reception area.

The large kitchen is well equipped with fridges, cookers microwave, all crockery pans and utensils are supplied.

Free tea and instant coffee and kitchen basics such as washing up liquid are provided. Just bring your own food.

Price is £33/night

Please make payment in full (£66) to Karen and advise Steve when you do so.

Should members wish to book a third night please make a private booking by contacting the bunkhouse personally.

September Friday 11th to Monday 14th (3 nights) Organiser Karen Yarnold

Isle of Rum

Rum bunkhouse and Campsite

Kinloch

Isle of Rum

PH43 4RR

OS Map Sheet 39 Rum, Eigg, Muck & Canna



Isle of Rum



Kinloch, Isle of Rum

Rum is the largest of the Small Isles group and is home to around 30 people who live in or around the hamlet of Kinloch, links the mainland are via CalMac ferry operating from Mallaig.

The main range of hills are known as the Rum Cuillin, two of these hills Askival and Ainshval are Corbetts with Trailval ranked as a Fiona (Graham).

In 1888 the island was bought by the Bullough family who built Kinloch castle using red sandstone quarried in Annan in the Borders, the house boasted an orchestrion, air conditioned billiard room and a jacuzzi, it was the first house in Scotland outside Glasgow to have electricity. The family mausoleum modelled on a Greek temple is located on the south-west coast.

Rum is home to red deer, ponies, feral goats and Highland cattle. It is noted for its birdlife with one of the world's largest breeding colonies of Manx shearwater. White-tailed sea eagles re-introduced in 1975 now have a successful breeding population of around 80.



The bunkhouse has a range of accommodation from 6 and 4 bed dormitories to twin rooms, bed linen is provided but bring your own towel.

Two kitchens are fully equipped with cookers/ovens, toasters, microwave, utensils and crockery etc.

There are 5 toilets and 6 showers with separate male/female facilities.

The comfortable lounge with views of the bay is equipped with a log burner and a good supply of books, board games etc.

Occupants of the eco-cabins do not have access to the bunkhouse facilities and should bring their own sleeping bags.

There is an excellent WiFi connection.

Cost is £35pppn, total for the 3 day weekend is therefore £105. £35 deposit payable on booking, remainder due June 2026

November Friday 13th & Sat. 14th Organiser Roger Owen

**Prosen Hostel
Glen Prosen Village
Glen Prosen
By Kirriemuir
DD8 4SA**

**OS Landranger Map Sheet 44 Ballater & Glen Clova
Grid Ref. NO328662**

Take the B955 to Dykehead, turn left, off the B955 (there is a brown tourist sign directing you to Prosen Hostel). Take this road for around 6 miles until the public road comes to an end at a red telephone kiosk. Turn very sharp right and follow the road up the hill to the hostel.





Situated in the beautiful Glen Prosen the hostel is located in the former Glen Prosen village school.

It can accommodate 18 in 4 rooms 1 room with 6 beds and 3 with 4 beds each, bed linen is provided.

The hostel has a large comfortable lounge with wood-burning stove and TV

The modern kitchen is fully equipped with fridge, dishwasher and freezer.

There are 4 showers and 3 toilets plus a wet room with shower and a plentiful supply of hot water.

There are also laundry and drying rooms.

Internet access and Wi-Fi is available.

Cost is £30ppn

May Week 2026

May Sunday 9th to Sunday 16th Organiser Karen Yarnold

**Almond Lodge
Helvellyn
Greenside Road
Glenridding
CA11 0QR**

**OS Landranger Map 90
(Penrith & Keswick)
Grid Ref. NY366174**



Glenridding can be accessed from J40, M6, follow signs for Ullswater (A66→A592) along the north side of Ullswater until you reach Glenridding.

Follow signs for the YHA, past the Travellers Rest pub then turn RIGHT up the hill then LEFT up Greenside Road and on to its end.

Almond Lodge is the last building on the left.

The building was originally home to Greenside lead and silver mine offices and workshops. Almond Lodge accommodates 28 in 4 bedrooms offering a bit more comfort than the traditional basic hostel and has ample parking.

Facilities include:

Fully equipped kitchen, lounge with log burner, separate dining room, map/planning room, 4 bathrooms either en suite or next to the bedroom, 4 showers and a bath.

Bunks have comfortable full size mattresses but you need to bring all your own bedding, sleeping bag, sheet/duvet and pillows.

There is a drying room

WiFi is available



The local village of Glenridding has a couple of shops and a variety of good pubs and restaurants and there are large supermarkets in Penrith a 30 min drive away.

£40 deposit is required to book your place,

Book by clicking "Attending" on Spond and pay your £40 deposit.

Payment can be paid into the Club's bank account,

Sort Code 80-09-68 Account no 00830247

Inform Karen of payment by email at <treasurer.thesmhc@gmail.com>

Or pay by cheque made out to Stonehaven Mountaineering and Hillwalking Club and forwarded to; Karen Yarnold, 8 Springfield Place, Aberdeen, AB15 7SF

Indoor Meets 2026

Date and Venue	Subject and Presenter
January Tuesday 27 th 1930hrs. Number 44 Hotel & Bar Allardice Street, Stonehaven	Former Club President Roger Owen will talk on his venture to climb Maglić, at 2386m (7828ft) the highest mountain in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
February Tuesday 24 th 1930hrs. Number 44 Hotel & Bar Allardice Street Stonehaven	Club member Liz Gray will tell of her 34 mile hike along the dramatic Laugavegur Trail in southern Iceland. National Geographic have listed this Trail as one of the 20 finest in the world.
March Tuesday 31 st 1930 Number 44 Hotel & Bar Allardice Street Stonehaven	Club favourite Calum Richardson will talk of climbing Manaslu in the Nepalese Himalayas. At 8163m (26,781ft) this is the 8 th highest mountain in the world
October Tuesday 27 th 1930 Number 44 Hotel & Bar Allardice Street Stonehaven	Fire Brigade Watch Commander John Aitchison will lecture on his efforts to set up a Fire and Rescue service in Nepal
November Tuesday 24 th 1930 Number 44 Hotel & Bar Allardice Street Stonehaven	Club AGM Announcement of winners of the SMHC Photo Competition, and Golden Boot
December Thursday 28 th Afternoon, local walk. Evening, Pub Crawl	Local walk and Pub Crawl. Times and start points will be posted on Spond nearer the time.

Suggested donation for Indoor Meets is £2





Club Barbecue

**The club barbecue will be held at
12.00 pm on Saturday 11th July**

**at
St John's Cottage,
High Street
Drumlithie**

**Full details on Spond and WhatsApp
Nearer the time**



AGM & Committee Meetings

AGM is held on the last Tuesday of November. In 2026 this will be the 24th starting at 1930hrs at Number 44 Hotel and Bar, Allardice Street.

Committee meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month

Date	Host
Tuesday 3 rd March 2026	Willie Morris
Tuesday 2 nd June 2026	Steve McFarland
Tuesday 1 st September 2026	Anne Sinclair
Tuesday 2 nd March 2027	Karin Marshall
Tuesday 1 st June 2027	Roger Owen
Tuesday 7 th September 2027	Karen & Paul Yarnold

Committee Members and Contact Details

President	Steve McFarland	07453 021940
General Secretary	Anne Sinclair	07840 436479
Treasurer	Karen Yarnold	07548 795685 treasurer.thesmhc@gmail.com
Indoor Meets Sec.	Roger Owen	07721 559962
Day Meets Sec.	Paul Yarnold	07565 909584
May Week	Anne Sinclair	07840 436479
Committee Members	Karin Marshall	07779 763292
	Willie Morris	07726 290651
	Ralph Davidson	07512 757679
	Ryan McGeer	07944 148592

Website www.thesmhc.co.uk

Email contact.thesmhc@gmail.com

Subscriptions

These have been increased to £30 for 2025/2026 due to a large increase in the MCOS membership fee. This is now £26.75/member/year. (See page 46 for benefits of MCOS membership)

Subscriptions should be paid to the Treasurer at or as soon as possible after the AGM.

Golden Boot Award

This goes to the member who attends the most Day and Weekend Meets in the year AGM to AGM

Past Winners

1987	Tony Tavendale	1988	Tony Tavendale	1989	Tony Tavendale
1990	Tony Tavendale & Roger Eddie	1991	Tony Tavendale	1992	Alan Munro
1993	Alan Belton	1994	Alan Belton	1995	Alan Belton, Alistair Beeley, Jim Davidson & John McPherson
1996	Linda Lawson	1997	Bill & Linda Lawson	1998	Bill & Linda Lawson
1999	Bill & Linda Lawson	2000	Bill & Linda Lawson	2001	Linda Lawson
2002	Bill Lawson & Alan Henry	2003	Alistair Beeley & Brian Calder	2004	Brian Calder
2005	Alistair Beeley Brian Calder & Alan Munro	2006	Raymond & Karin Marshall	2007	John McPherson
2008	John McPherson	2009	Anne Sinclair & Alan Munro	2010	Peter McDonald
2011	Peter McDonald	2012	Peter McDonald	2013	Peter McDonald
2014	Peter McDonald Alan Henry & Karin Marshall	2015	John McPherson	2016	Alistair Beeley & Linda Lawson
2017	Karin Marshall & Linda Lawson	2018	Linda Lawson	2019	Linda Lawson & Willie Morris
2020	Not awarded	2021	Linda Sim	2022	Linda Lawson
2023	Linda Lawson	2024	Ralph Davidson	2025	Ralph Davidson

2024-25 Golden Boot was again won by Ralph Davidson taking part in 9 events
However it was a close contest this year with 2 other members participating in 8 Meets each.
Well done Ralph!

Photo Competition

1. Entry photos must be taken in the period between 30th October and 30th October prior to the AGM. Entries will be posted online and the winner judged by the membership.
2. Entries should be forwarded to Roger before midnight on the 30th October at <rogjan.owen@gmail.com>
3. Subject should be of the Scottish hills and mountains with or without people or of club activities.
4. They must be in JPG format and no larger than 5MB.
5. Maximum 3 entries per member
6. Each entry should be given a short title.
7. It is not necessary to give location and the date is embedded in the meta-information of the photograph.

As the photos are forwarded by email the identity of the photographer will be known to Roger but otherwise will not be released until the AGM when the winner will be announced and presented with a bottle of wine.

Winners

2018	David Beare
2019	Anne Sinclair
2020	Sandra Steel
2021	Steve McFarland
2022	Steve Mc Farland
2023	Anne Sinclair
2024	Steve McFarland
2025	Lyndsay Munro



Lyndsay Munro
Winner 2025 Photo Competition

Winning Photo 2025 SMHC photo competition

Solitude by Lyndsay Munro



Hill Bagging

Most club members are working on the popular pastime of bagging hill groups, the most common being Munros, Corbetts, Grahams (Fionas) and Donalds. These lists are maintained by the Scottish Mountaineering Club who occasionally promote or demote hills to/from the various lists.

2025 Completers

We had two Completers in 2025, congratulations to both of them.

Sandra Steel finished her round of Munros



Beinn Dorian



Well done Sandra

Willie Morris completed the Corbetts



Càrn Mòr One to go!



Fraoch Bheinn Durnit!

Countdown to Completion

Munros

Munros; hills over 3000' (914m), total number of Munros 282

Name	Number of Munros left to do	
	2024	2025
Sandra Steel	2	0
Paola Jones	28	12
Steve McFarland	106	93
Liz Grey	104	104
Dianne Scorgie	124	106
Victoria Colbert	174	164
Ralph Davidson	199	192

Corbetts

Corbetts; hills between 2500' (762m) and 3000' (914m), total number of Corbetts, 222

Name	Number of Corbetts left to do	
	2024	2025
Willie Morris	16	0
Jack Campbell	10	7
Andy Christie	26	17
Anne Sinclair	47	35
Peter McDonald	86	82

Munros, Corbetts, Grahams & Donalds Compleators

Name	Munros		Corbetts		Grahams		Donalds	
	Last Hill	Date	Last Hill	Date	Last Hill	Date	Last Hill	Date
Roger Owen	Beinn Alligin	1988	Beinn Damph	2003				
Ron Spark	Carn Aosda	1989						
Frank Jack	Seana Bhraigh	1989						
Alistair Beeley	Maol Chean-dearg	1990	Beinn Damph	2003				
Alan Munro 1 st Round	An Teallach	1991	Beinn Trilleachan	1998				
2 nd Round	Ben Cruachan	2004						
Alan Henry	Buachaille Etive Mor	1991	Beinn Bhreac	1996				
Bud Campbell	Bidean Nam Bian	1994	Beinn Bhreac	1996			Cairnsmore of Fleet	2021
Karin Marshall	Slioch	1997	Ben Aden	2005	An Stac	2016		
Raymond Marshall	Slioch	1997	Ben Aden	2005				
Andy Christie	Ben Nevis	1999						
John Macpherson	Meall Chuaich	1999	Sgurr a' Choire-beithe	2015	Cruach Choireadail	2019		
Jim Davidson	Buachaille Etive Mor	1999						
Archie McLean	Beinn Alligin	1999						
Linda Lawson	Ben More, Mull	2004	Beinn an Oir	2024				
Bill Lawson	Ben More, Mull	2004						
David Beare	Schiehallion	2009						
Paul Yarnold	Ben More, Mull	2009						
Jack Campbell	Beinn Mheadhoin	2011						
Willie Morris	Sgurr a Ghreadaidh	2019	Fraoch Bheinn	2025				
Anne Sinclair	Ben Hope	2019						
Viv Thorburn	Lurg Mhor	2021						
Karen Yarnold	Seana Bhraigh	2024						
Sandra Steel	Beinn Dorian	2025						

SMHC Constitution and Policies

The function and operation of the club is formalised in its Constitution and Policies, these are routinely reviewed by the committee and can be found in full on the club website in the folder 'About the Club', subdivided as follows;

a)	Constitution	Explains in detail the rules governing the management and day to day operation of the club
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b)	Financial Policy	This sets out the club's aims and commitments to the management of the financial activities of the club
c)	GDPR	Explanation of the club's adherence to the national General Data Protection Regulations
d)	Equality and Diversity Policy	Details the SMHC's aims and commitments to equality, diversity and inclusion
e)	Fuel Policy	Clarifies the workings of the travel charges for Day Meets

Affiliated Memberships

Mountaineering Scotland

Currently the club pays £26.75/member/annum for this.

- | | | |
|----------------|----|--|
| In return each | a) | £15m liability insurance |
| member gets; | b) | 4 printed issues of Scottish Mountaineer magazine/year |
| | c) | Monthly online newsletter |
| | d) | Discounts from retailers, accommodation etc |
| | e) | Subsidised mountain skills courses |
| | f) | Access to mountaineering huts |
| | g) | Volunteering opportunities |

North East Mountain Trust

NEMT is an umbrella organisation representing the environmental interests of mountaineers and hill-walkers.

OATS (Outdoor Access Trust for Scotland)

OATS is an environmental charity promoting sustainable public access. They develop, build and repair paths, mountain habitats and trailhead facilities while conserving and protecting the natural heritage.

SMHC's contribution is to carry out regular surveys of our adopted path and report any failings to OATS who will arrange any necessary repair work.

Nick Hocking has volunteered for this role.

Club merchandise

THE FOLLOWING ARE CURRENTLY AVAILABLE

Beanie Hats



Beechfield Original Cuffed Beanie 100% soft touch acrylic, double layer knit. 72gms, One size.

Club logo embroidered in white or black thread on front cuff.

£8 for 1, £15 for 2, or, £20 for 3

Available in the following colours



Black



Mint
Green



Burgundy



Antique
Grey



Magenta



Classic
Pink



Sapphire
Blue



Emerald
Green



Yellow



Orange



Classic
Red



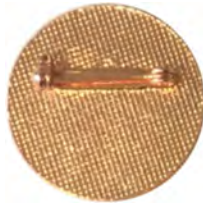
Rust

Lapel Badges

BADGE



BROOCH FIXING



BUTTERFLY FIXING



These are 30mm diameter and priced at £5 for one with choice of fixing, or £6 for two (one of each fixing)

Key fobs



These feature the club badge 30mm diameter mounted on a black leather fob 65mm x 45mm with a split ring for key attachment.

These are priced at £5 for one £8 for two

Embroidered Badges



75mm diameter sew on.

£2.50 each or 2 for £4

All Club merchandise will be on sale at every club meet or can be bought directly from;
Willie Morris, at St John's Cottage
High Street
Drumlithie
AB39 3YZ

Club merchandise mail order

A mail order service is available for club merchandise.

To obtain items by mail order;

First make a bank transfer for the total cost of items plus £2 postage to the club account;
Sort Code – 80-09-68 Account no – 00830247

Next inform Karen of payment then contact Willie Morris providing mailing address.

When payment has been confirmed your item(s) will be sent to you

SMHC 2026 Calendar



These are available from Karin Marshall at prices of;
£4 for 1 or £10 for 3

Please make payment to Karin or to club treasurer Karen Yarnol

Club equipment

The club currently has 4 ice axes

Please contact Karin if you wish to borrow any of these.

Equipment check list

Additional equipment		
Food and drink	Summer	Autumn
Boots		
Rucksack		
Spare clothes		
Waterproofs Jacket & over trousers		
Map(s) and compass		
Whistle		
Head torch		
Spare batteries		
First aid kit		
Gloves		
Survival bag		
Phone		
Phone battery pack		
Balaclava/hat	Winter	Winter
Scarf/buff		
Gaiters		
Overmitts		
Ice axe	Winter	Winter
Crampons		

Administration of Day Meets

Mountaineering Scotland advises that the following terms should be used as best practice for clubs organising walks

Terms used in arranging club Meets

Walk Organiser	This will usually be the committee member designated Day Walk Organiser. They will be responsible for deciding the Meeting Point, Start Time, Spond and WhatsApp chatlines In the event the Day Walk Organiser cannot attend then
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	he/she will advise the Committee and an alternative Walk Organiser will be nominated
Walk Coordinator	This person in agreement with the Walk Organiser will be in charge of the actual walk, responsible for the control of the walk, navigation, any change of route and conduct of the walkers. He will be an experienced walker preferably with knowledge and experience of the walk area and will appoint any number of deputies he considers necessary for the circumstances, terrain, weather, number of walkers etc
Meeting Point	The place where walkers should congregate for vehicle allocation, this will normally be Market Square Stonehaven, or Mackie Academy car park. This will be decided near the event time by the Walk Organiser and announced to the participants on Spond or WhatsApp
Meeting Time	The time that walkers should be at the Meeting Point
Start Point	Point where the actual walk will start, this will usually be a car park and drivers not going via Stonehaven should congregate there
Start Time	Time when the actual walk will start. This will normally be Meeting Time plus time taken to drive to Start Point. This is the time independent travellers should be at the Start Point

Personal Risk on the Hills

Mountaineering Clubs of Scotland advises;

Club members should be left in no doubt as to the risks involved in climbing, hill walking and mountaineering, their responsibilities for their own safety and that deciding to rely on more experienced members is part of the risk they accept

UIAA

Union Internationale des Associations d'Alpinisme

(International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation) state that;

Climbing, hill walking and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury or death. Participants in these activities should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions and involvement".

In a nutshell;

Individual club members are ultimately responsible for their own safety on the hills.





Club discounts

These are available through our affiliation with Mountaineering Scotland and can be obtained from the retailer on production of your Mountaineering Scotland membership card.



Mountaineering Scotland membership cards are now digital and can be downloaded to your phone wallet.

A paper membership card can be applied for on their website.

To obtain your Digital Membership Card log on to the Mountaineering Scotland website and follow the links to *Digital Membership Cards*

Some retailers giving discounts



Online shop

Personal Record of deposits and payments 2026

Name.....

Event & Date	Location	Deposit Amount and date paid	Balance Amount and date paid	Notes
Membership subscription 2026				
Weekend Meet January Fri. 16 th & Sat. 17 th	Rucksacks Braemar			
Weekend Meet March Fri. 13 th & Sat 14 th	Ochills Club Hut Crianlarich			
May Week May Sun 9 th to Sun 16 th	Almond Hostel Helvellyn			
Weekend Meet June Fri. 19 th & Sat 20 th possibly Sun 21 st	Saddle Mtn. Hostel Glen Garry			
Weekend Meet September Fri 11 th , Sat 12 th & Sun 13 th	Rum Bunkhouse Kinloch, Rum			
Weekend Meet November Fri. 13 th & Sat 14 th	Prosen Hostel Glen Prosen			