

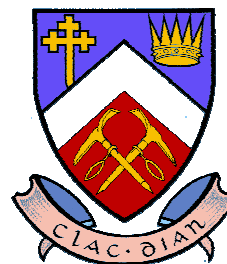
Club Office-Bearers and Other Positions

Hon. President	Ruth Payne,
President	James Friend, president@cairngormclub.org.uk
Vice-President	Sue Chalmers, vp@cairngormclub.org.uk
Vice-President	Colin Brown, newsletter@cairngormclub.org.uk
Club Secretary	Ken Thomson, secretary@cairngormclub.org.uk
Treasurer &	Derek B Pinches, treasurer@cairngormclub.org.uk
Communications Secretary	Colin Brown, newsletter@cairngormclub.org.uk
Huts Custodian	Kees Witte, huts@cairngormclub.org.uk
Muir Booking Secretary	David Kirk, muir-booking@cairngormclub.org.uk
Day Meets Secretary	Garry Wardrope, day@cairngormclub.org.uk
Weekend Meets Secretary	Jim Bryce, weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk
Climbing	James Hirst, climb@cairngormclub.org.uk
Social Activities	Benn Hitchen, social@cairngormclub.org.uk
Librarian	Ken Thomson, librarian@cairngormclub.org.uk
Midweek Walks	Marion White, ctte10@cairngormclub.org.uk
Journal Editor	Jean Robinson, journal@cairngormclub.org.uk
Training Co-ordinator	Adrian Scott, training@cairngormclub.org.uk

Other Committee Members

David Brown	(ctte11@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Ivan Hiscox	(ctte3@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Marj Ewan	(ctte17@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Rod Campbell	(ctte4@cairngormclub.org.uk)
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Michael Tonge	(ctte6@cairngormclub.org.uk)

February 2017



The Cairngorm Club
Established 1887

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Editor Colin Brown

Clac Dian

The Newsletter of the Cairngorm Club

Quoich Footbridge

The new footbridge at the Quoich Punchbowl was erected in late December, though handrail problems extended the construction period into January, especially as a woman had to be airlifted to the ARI after falling at the spot. As the photo shows, the new bridge retains the original struts, but now has a lattice structure beneath a wooden superstructure, and is a good deal wider than its predecessor (erected by Scotrail volunteers in 1990). In the near future, it is hoped to place a plaque commemorating its funding (of £25,000, from funds bequeathed from Willie Robb) by the Club.

The new footbridge (picture taken on 10/01/17 by Kees Witte)



Mar Lodge Estate 2017 Mountain Film Festival

This event will take place over 2 evenings, Fri 10 and Sat 11 Feb, 2017. Tickets available from Braemar Mountain Shop, Ballater Outdoor Store and Mar Lodge ranger office. Films in the Craggan Room, Mar Lodge. Adults £10 (£16 for 2 nights), Children £5. Licensed bar and refreshments available.

Braemar Mountain Festival 2017

This event will take place from Friday 5 to Sunday 7 March, 2017. The programme will include outdoor events on ski on foot and hill skills. Other events will be Speakers and Films, Mountain Arts and other Evening Events. See the festival website at - <http://www.braemarmountainfestival.com/> or email braemarfestival@gmail.com.

Membership News

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

Peter Howgate	Honorary Member	Member since 1956
Norman Robertson	Honorary Member	Member since 1978
(Also see page 13)		

The following new members have been admitted since the last newsletter

Mrs Maria Barry	Aberdeen	Associate
Miss Isabel Kirkaldy	Aberdeen	Associate
Miss Anna Gunkowska	Aberdeen	Associate
Mr Rafael Munoz-Dura	Aberdeen	Associate
Ms Judy Patterson	Inverurie	Associate
Mr Steven Charlton	Inverurie	Associate
Mr Mark Lord	Aberdeen	Associate

Snow Patch Survival Summers 2015 and 2016

Iain Cameron, Adam Watson and David Duncan have published (*Weather*, Vol. 71(9), Sept. 2016) their annual report on Scottish snow patches. They report that, after an unusually cool May-June-July 2015, 74 patches survived until winter 2015/16, including 9 on Ben Macdhui/Cairngorm, 6 on Braeriach, and 2 on Beinn Bhrotain. Lasting snow arrived generally on 13 November.

A national survey on 20-21 August 2016 found 82 patches surviving at that date, compared with previous years (2015 back to 2010) with 678, 281, 81, 72, 36 and 34. The 82 patches included 19 on Macdhui/Cairngorm, 9 on Braeriach, and 1 on Beinn a'Bhuird.

Tomintoul Improvements

The Tomintoul and Glenlivet Landscape Partnership has received Heritage Lottery and other funding for a number of projects in the area, including path improvements, woodland restoration along the River Avon, the creation of wetland habitats for wading birds, and improvements to Blairfindy Castle, Scaln (an 18th century seminary) and Tomintoul Museum.

Scafell Book

"*Nowt but a fleein' thing*", a 200-year history of climbing on Scafell crags, by Al Phizacklea and Mike Cocker, is being published by the Fell and Rock Climbing Club, at the pre-publication price of £25 for members of kindred clubs. Hardback, pp397, maps and diagrams, first ascent descriptions, etc. Cheques (made out to FRCC) etc. to Ron Kenyon, 30 Wordsworth Street, Penrith, Cumbria, CA11 7QY.

Electrified Deer Fencing, Glenavon Estate, near Tomintoul

Following complaints and investigation about electrified fencing enclosing large areas of estate hill ground, additional signage and crossing points have been installed by the estate, which cooperated fully with CNPA access staff.

Mid-Week Walks

The walks are held on the last Thursday of every month (December being a possible exception), with a different walk organiser each time. They generally take 4-5 hours on foot, usually on easy ground (no scrambling, and not many barbed-wire fences!) but sometimes with height to gain. Some participants tend to have recourse to a local cafe afterwards, but usually we are all back in Aberdeen before 5pm. We meet at one of the three locations below (usually Kingswells P&R) to optimise car-sharing, or at the walk start-point, where there is usually adequate parking space, and possibly a nearby public toilet.

Code	Location	Grid Ref.
K	Kingswells Park & Ride (lower level)	868063
R	Riverside Drive (near Brig o' Dee)	928036
P	Persley Gardens, Woodside	910093

Booking to take part is not essential, so please feel free just to turn up, but the car-shares and the walks always start on time, so it may be as well to let the walk organiser know that you plan to come.

Bus service 40 (about 08:15 from Union Street and via the ARI) stops at the P&R toilets and waiting room, and service X17 (08:10 and 08:30 from Union Square stops) now calls in at the P&R, as does the X18. Service 11 no longer operates to Kingswells during the day.

Derry Lodge

The NTS application to convert Derry Lodge to a staffed mountain hostel was considered on 18 November by the Cairngorms National Park Authority Planning Committee, which was pleased that the application addressed a longstanding challenge. It also noted that commentators (who included the Club) were supportive of the proposed development.

The Committee agreed to approve the application, subject to conditions which include:

- surveys for bats, birds, trees, and other environmental features, as well as archaeological measures
- a Visitor Management Plan, including approach routes (the track from the south will not be widened, and visitors will have to come on foot, bike or horse), informational and educational provision, accommodation booking arrangements, and camping management (no water supply, and the external toilets to be installed will be gel only).
- approved lighting, soundproofing and other construction details, including special conditions in respect of Derry Lodge as a Listed Building.

The front porch will be re-instated, and the larder/hay barn behind the Lodge is to be converted to a biomass plant room and log store biomass store, using the existing corrugated iron roof as far as possible, with solar panels on the south side.

Development must commence within 3 years, and construction work must take place between 8am and 7pm Mondays to Fridays (1pm on Saturdays), with no work on Sundays or on Bank Holidays.

Of course, the project will be expensive; it is not yet known if NTS will launch as specific fund-raising drive.

Cairngorms National Park Partnership Plan 2017-2022

Consultation

This exercise will produce the document which: *“sets out the vision and overarching strategy for managing the Park; guides the work of all public bodies and other partners to deliver the aims of the Park; provides the strategic context for the Local Development Plan; sets out the regional land use framework for the Park; shows how the Park will contribute to the Scottish Government’s core purpose and national outcomes”*. A North-East Mountain Trust group, including a Club representative, has produced a response (see the NEMT website) which addresses some of the 9 “Issues” raised in the consultation; these include landscape-scale conservation, deer and moorland management, and visitor infrastructure.

Journal Jottings

Articles for the next issue, are, either spontaneously or with some arm-twisting, beginning to emerge. Illustrations, either drawings or photographs, are an excellent means of holding readers’ attention and involvement. However, there is little point in photographs that look like dark blobs or white rags with no detail visible. It is likely that most members are shooting in colour with compact digital cameras, in which case it is particularly important to bear in mind how the final shot will look when converted into a black and white printed copy. Here are some pointers:

- A good B&W composition generally depends on blocks of shape with a good range of tones from black to white and a selection of mid tones. If there is time, look at the scene through a monochrome setting: most compact cameras have one. A colour image showing shades of green may just appear as a dull grey mass in B&W.
- Unless photographic skills are high and a manual setting is being used, it is hard for a camera to expose for people close up and a distant landscape in the same shot. So, decide, what is this shot showing? Is it landscape or people? If the latter, are they happy for their image to appear in the Journal?
- Unless very experienced, don’t shoot directly into strong light, or, at the other extreme, in low light conditions.
- Unless using a long lens on an SLR, don’t submit pictures which have used a high zoom facility. These shots risk pixilation when reproduced.
- If you have doubts about the quality of an image for B&W printing, print it out at home and check the visibility.

My aim is to raise the quality of the photographs in our Journal and I am happy to advise.

There are some great examples of B&W photographs in the Journal. Strikingly good are those shown on: p.137, Vol XVI, No. 86, 1948; p. 343, Vol 21, No. 109 and p. 340 of the same issue. These all show simple composition of blocks of shape and good enough exposure with good blacks, whites and in-between greys.

In relation to accessibility to back copies, a few Committee members and myself are meeting with an archival digitisation service to explore the feasibility of making the Journal available to browse online and searchable. This would mean that the entire Journal collection would potentially be available to members. Printed editions are much treasured and would continue.

The Alpine Journal has recently gone down this route and members may wish to look at their site on <https://www.alpinejournal.org.uk>. Further information will be relayed to Members, through either the Newsletter or Committee Minutes.

Jean Robinson, Journal Editor.

CAPS (Cairngorms Adopt-a-Path Scheme)

Due to lack of support funding, this volunteer scheme, launched some 4 years ago by COAT (the Cairngorms Outdoor Access Trust), had become somewhat moribund in the last year or so. However, with the large (£3.2 million) part-Lottery-funded *The Mountains and The People* project, the Scheme is being revitalised. In July 2016, Rosie Winch and Tom Wallace of COAT held a meeting with a few Deeside CAPS volunteers, to discuss ways forward. Items included: recruitment of more volunteers, improving feedback, e.g. as to work on path problems identified), and training (both reporting and minor pathwork. More information is available at www.outdoorcairngorms.co.uk, from Rosie at volunteering@themountainsandthepeople.org.uk, or from the Club Secretary.

Gear available for donation to Club funds

- One pair 12-point Salewa crampons with straps and rubber point guards, almost unused.
- Also one Mountain Technology Glencoe ice-axe (metal, 55cm), with strap and protective covers for head and spike.

If interested in both/either, please contact the Secretary (see back page).

SGM/AGM Report

Both of these meetings passed off relatively peaceably: draft minutes are on the Forum, under News and Banter - Club News & Discussion. In brief, the SGM move to charity status was approved, and likewise the consequent relatively minor changes to the Constitution. At the AGM, next year's £2 hike in the MCoFS affiliation fee was swallowed with nary a murmur, and the only novelties amongst the Committee elections were James Hirst confirmed as Climbing Secretary, and Mike Tonge as a welcome new addition.

Lunch & Danders

The next Lunch and Dander will be on Tuesday 21st March, meeting at the Car Park at Haddo House at 10:30am, with lunch at the Aberdeen Arms, Tarves at 12:30pm. Please advise Ruth Payne by Sunday 19th March, if you would like to join the lunch gathering.

There is another Lunch and Dander planned for on Friday 19th May, meeting at the Stonehaven Harbour at 10:30am, with lunch at the Ship Inn, Shorehead at 12:30pm. Please advise Ruth by Wednesday 17th May, if you would like to join the lunch gathering.



Muir Cottage

Muir has seen a steady stream of visitors but there are quite a few midweek vacancies. Since the last report a lawnmower and strimmer have been donated to keep the grass in trim, thanks very much for that. Preparation has started for the next Work Weekend which is scheduled from Thursday 25 to Sunday 28 May, 2017. To reserve your bed please contact Kees at huts@cairngormclub.org.uk.

If you wish to book Muir at any other times all booking information is on the web at <http://www.cairngormclub.org.uk/muircottage/muircottage.htm> or you can email David Kirk at muir-booking@cairngormclub.org.uk.

Payments to the Club

The Club bank details are: Sort Code 831531; Account no. 00129748.

So that the payment can be allocated to the right place, please use a reference containing your name and what the payment is for, e.g. 'LSmith Traverse' or 'DPinches M'ship' or 'JBloggs W'end 25/4'.

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

Deaths

Norman Robertson (1978, Hon): the Club's long-time contact at Inverey, especially on matters electrical, a keen all-round mountain man (e.g. a ponyman and an AMRT member from its early days), died at Torphins on 5 January in his 92nd year. Several members attended the funeral service at the (new) crematorium at Crathes on 13 January, and our condolences go to his wife Bett and to his family.

Pete Howgate (1956, Hon): Peter died on Christmas Eve 2016, at his home in Sussex. He was an internationally renowned seafood expert (hence his OBE) from his Torry career base, but he served the Club in many capacities over four decades, e.g. 10 years as Huts Custodian, and as Club President 1979-82.

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 £35 (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

Munroist List Clerk

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

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

DISCOUNTS

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

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

TISO discount nights
6.30 to 8.30 pm, quarterly.

Mid-Week Walkers Meet, 12-15 Sept 2017

After a suggestion from Kees Witte a trip to Ullapool is planned. Rooms in the Riverside Guesthouse in Ullapool have been provisionally booked for 3 nights starting on Tuesday 12 September 2017. The double room price for B+B will be £84/night. More members can be accommodated nearby.

Those interested should book themselves on a first-come, first-served basis (mention the Club), with payment due on arrival. Rooms will be held until 6pm Monday 11 September.

Contact details: 39 Quay Street, Ullapool IV26 2UE, tel. 01854 6122, www.riversideullapool.com

Radio Scotland Outdoor Weather Forecasts

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

A New Cairngorms Bothy?

The Mountain Bothies Association (MBA) is looking into the possibility of restoring the building (Ruigh Ealasaid, or Elizabeth's Shiel, but sometimes called the Red House) at grid ref NO 003 869, about a mile SW of White Bridge beyond the Linn of Dee, and near the junction of the Bynack and Geldie Burns. Formal agreement will be needed with the National Trust of Scotland as the landowner, and of course funding (perhaps around £50,000); the Club may be asked for a donation. Work will probably include extensive repairs to the west gable, new roof-sheets and floor, insulation, a porch, and some form of heating.

"Lowdown on the Upland of Mar", Joe Dorward

A copy of this compact little book was kindly left at Muir by the author, and has been deposited in the Club's Library at Kings College. It is intended as a pocket guide, but is also available from Amazon in a Kindle version.

Accommodation at Sligachan – and in Broadford

The Sligachan Bunkhouse holds up to 20 people is available for nightly or weekly bookings. It is often booked out for that number by groups, at £360 per night. Sligachan Lodge has been completely renovated, and holds up to 12 people. It is available for nightly or weekly bookings. Two self-catering cottages "with stunning views" will be refurbished over the winter. For any of these, contact Rachel at Sligachan Self-Catering, Sligachan, Isle of Skye IV47 8SW. info@sligachanselfcatering.com, tel. 07500837186, www.sligachanselfcatering.com

In Broadford, the Skye Basecamp Climber's Hostel is now open: 30 beds in private rooms and small dormitories (max 6 per room) with linen provided. Prices from £20 per bed and private rooms from £90 per night. One minute's walk from the centre of town. Open year-round. Whole building available for private group bookings between November and end-April at £475 per night, minimum 2 nights. You can contact Mike & Catriona Lates at www.skyebasecamp.co.uk.

Day Meets

Further to the Day Meets detailed on pages 7, 8 & 9, listed below are other meets organised for the rest of 2017.

9 Jul (Sun)	Strathconnon	Car	Garry Wardrope
5 Aug (Sat)	Stuchd an Lochain	Car	Garry Wardrope
3 Sept (Sun)	Cairngorm Traverse	Coach	Benn Hitchen
1 Oct (Sun)	Mount Keen	Minibus	Garry Wardrope
28 Oct (Sat)	Glen Isla	Minibus	Garry Wardrope
10 Dec (Sun)	Tap o'Noth	Minibus	Alec Barbour

Weekend Meets

Further to the Weekend Meets detailed on pages 8, 9 & 10, listed below are the other meets currently organised for Summer/Autumn 2017.

14 Jul (6 nights)	Helyg, Ogwen, North Wales	Jim Bryce
18 Aug (2 nights)	CIC Hut, Ben Nevis	Mark Peel
22 Sept (3 nights)	Morvich Outdoor Centre, Kintail	Jim Bryce
13 Oct (2 nights)	Corran Bunkhouse	Mark Peel

Details of any of these meets can be sought from the organiser at any time. So don't wait until they appear in a Newsletter or on a Yahoo email, as they may already be booked up.

Access Items

The National Access Forum meets regularly to consider outdoor access by the public in Scotland, and its website (<http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.com/The-Act-and-the-Code/Role>) links to several papers that may be of interest. Some recent points include:

- *Electric Fences*: There are currently two guidance publications available relating specifically to moorland fences, e.g. stiles and signage. One concludes that “*it is within the scope of responsible access for users to climb over fences where necessary*”.
- *Electric Bikes*: Legislation for roads specifies in detail “Electrically-Assisted Pedal Cycles” (EAPCs), and classifies such bikes as “non-motorised” means of transport. This probably (it has not been tested in the courts) transfers across to the Land Reform (Scotland) Act, so that EAPC users have the same rights of access as walkers and the riders of ordinary bikes. Of course, all such access should be “responsible”, e.g. should not cause undue damage or disturbance.
- *Drones*: Legislation and guidance in this area is being actively considered for drone usage in general, and may be developed to include the recreational use of drones in connection with outdoor access.

CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions for the year 2016/17 became due on 1st October 2016. For those paying by Direct Debit this was collected automatically on 1st October. Others should send their subscriptions to Derek Pinches, the Club Treasurer.

Cairngorm Club Subscription rates for 2016/17 are as follows:

	Club	MCofS	Total
Full Rate	£13.00	£14.25	£27.25
Reduced Rate	£6.50	£14.25	£20.75

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

First subscriptions are only part of a full year's subscription, based on when admission occurred within the Club year.

Training

Winter Skills - 11 & 12 Feb, 2017

The Club is once again running a winter skills course to coincide with the weekend meet to Newtonmore. Two days of instruction will be provided on Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th February.

The content of the course will be based on what those attending want, but will likely include moving on ice/snow, winter navigation and ice axe arrest. The course is subsidised by the Club with the charge to participants being £40 for two days of instruction. (Accommodation, if needed, is extra - see the Newsletter for details).

This is a great way to get professional instruction on what is needed to head into the hills in winter at a fraction of the cost of an individually booked course. (£210 at Glenmore Lodge)

It may be possible to borrow some equipment (hiring it is always possible) so if you don't think you have everything that you'll need please ask. The course is full at the moment, but if you wish to be put on the waiting list please let Garry Wardrope know (details below).

First Aid

Names are still being collected for an Emergency First Aid (to HSE standards) course. If your certificate has expired or you would like to learn a vital skill, just add your name to the list. There will be no commitment at this stage, I'll be in touch once there are enough names with some suggested dates.

The Club supports other training such as Mountain Leader, Navigation and Rock Climbing by providing grants to members. Applications should be made to the Committee.

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

Indoor Meets

The remainder of the programme is as follows:

2017

Wed 8th Feb - Innes Ewen, "The Uplands of Mar". **(note - 19:00 start)**

Wed 8th Mar - Stewart Logan, "Dossing and Stravaiging Around Scotland"

The Indoor Meets continue to be held at the The Sportsman's Club, 11 Queen's Road, Aberdeen AB15 4YL. The Club is opposite the Youth Hostel and has a large monkey puzzle tree in the front garden! Car parking is available at the rear of the building in the evening. The cost is £3.00 which includes tea/coffee and biscuits. All meetings (with one exception) start at 7.30 pm.

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



11-12 February, Newtonmore Bunkhouse (Fri & Sat nights)

Yet another chance at the plethora of Munros, Corbetts and lesser heights accessible from this fine centre (see www.highlandhostel.co.uk), e.g. the Cairngorms and the Monadhliaths, and as far west as the Ben. Garry is organising the usual Winter Skills training course to coincide; contact him over that via day@cairngormclub.org.uk. Accommodation is £15 pppn (£30 for the two nights), to be booked via Ken Thomson on secretary@cairngormclub.org.uk.

10 – 11 March, Inverardran Cottage, Crianlarich (Fri & Sat nights)

A visit to the Ochil Mountaineering Club Cottage at Crianlarich from where there are many options in a fine mountainous area with 20 Munros and nearly as many Corbetts, or if you fancy a weekend away with some low-level walking there is the West Highland Way which passes close by. To book, contact Sue Chalmers on email vp@cairngormclub.org.uk

31 Mar - 1 Apr, Inbhirfhaolain, Glen Etive (Fri & Sat nights)

With many Munros and Corbetts on the doorstep, including the Glencoe Hills a short drive away, this is a wonderful location at any time of the year but really special if there is snow on the ground. The Club has exclusive use of this Grampian Club hut deep in the glen. To book, contact Marj Ewan on email cte17@cairngormclub.org.uk

28 - 30 April, BMC Hut, Glenbrittle (Fri - Sun 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. Take your pick, there's so much to choose from. Set in Glen Brittle the BMC Hut is in an ideal location, and you can set off for many of the Black Cuillin summits from paths leading almost from the door. To book, contact Sue Chalmers on email vp@cairngormclub.org.uk

2 - 3 June, Craignure Bunkhouse, Mull

A chance to visit the wonderful island of Mull and to stay at the Craignure Bunkhouse. There are a Munro, a Corbett and 7 Grahams available. To book, contact Jim Bryce on email weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk

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

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

Weekend Meets (organiser; telephone number; email contact)

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

Day Meets take place once a month and can be by coach, mini-bus or car, or by bus share or service bus. Meets are generally on Sundays but occasionally on Saturdays.

Members should contact the Meet organiser to book a place, and the organiser or Day Meets Secretary can be contacted should any additional information be sought.

Meets generally leave Aberdeen at 7am (sharp!); departure times and cost are listed in the centrefold of this Newsletter. For service bus meets the first bus out of Aberdeen for Deeside is the one we need. It leaves Union Square around 7:45am. 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/Spring 2017.

February 4, Callater

On another Saturday minibus meet, we will ascend to the White Mounth by Jock's Road. Conditions permitting we will then ascend the Munros Tolmount and Tom Buidhe. The minibus will depart St Megs at 7am, cost £12.50. To book, contact Garry Wardrope on email day@cairngormclub.org.uk.

February 25/26, Snowhole - Winter Overnighter

This is becoming a regular winter meet where we plan to overnight somewhere high in the Cairngorm Mountains. The exact location will depend on the snow. This is a car meet with departure time and location agreed by those attending. To register an interest, or book, contact Garry Wardrope on email day@cairngormclub.org.uk.

April 16, Baddoch to Inverey Traverse

This minibus meet will allow a chance to explore and/or traverse some of the hills between the Clunie Water and Glen Ey, with an opportunity to visit one or both of the Club's afforestation projects at Altanour Lodge and/or The Piper's Wood in Glen Ey. The President's Party will make for An Socach ending up at Inverey. Other routes are available. More information available on the website. To book, contact Derek Beverley on email meetorganiser16@cairngormclub.org.uk

May 14, Glen Lochay

This meet to Glen Lochay, by Killin, is an opportunity to bag some fairly far-flung Corbetts and/or Munros on a day meet. The Presidents Party intend to ascend one of each in the guise of Beinn nan Oighreag and Meall Ghaordaidh. Other options are available with drop-off on route with the driver's agreement. To enquire or book, contact Garry Wardrope on email day@cairngormclub.org.uk.

June 17, Overnighter, Ben Nevis Area

This year's overnighter is heading to the Ben Nevis area and offers an opportunity to be one of the highest people in Britain, if only for a night, on the summit of Ben Nevis. If you want to avoid the crowds then a traverse of the Aonachs or the Grey Corries ridge are other options. Drop-off/pick-up points will be agreed with those attending with "the head of Glen Nevis", "the North Face car park" and "the Aonach Mor gondola station" all candidates. The minibus will depart Aberdeen at 10am on Saturday morning with the return journey departing 1pm Sunday. There will be a stop for refreshments before arriving back in Aberdeen. To book, contact Alex Barbour by email at meetorganiser17@cairngormclub.org.uk

February 2017

4	Sat	Day Meet	Callater (7am; 43 & 44; 155882; 6hrs; £12.50; minibus; Garry Wardrope; day@cairngormclub.org.uk)
7	Tue	Climbing	Indoor Climbing at Transition (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
8	Wed	Indoor	Innes Ewen—The Uplands of Marr (7pm start) (Benn Hitchensocial@cairngormclub.org.uk)
10	Fri	Weekend	Newtonmore Bunkhouse, inc. Winter Skills (Ken Thomson; secretary@cairngormclub.org.uk)
11	Sat	Night Hike	Scolty Hill Car Park at 7:30pm (Benn Hitchen; social@cairngormclub.org.uk)
14	Tue	Climbing	Indoor Climbing at Transition (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
21	Tue	Climbing	Indoor Climbing at Transition (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
23	Thur	M/W Walk	Kincardine O'Neil (Ken Thomson; secretary@cairngormclub.org.uk)
25	Sat	Day Meet	Snowholing—details to be posted on the Forum and by Yahoo email (Garry Wardrope; day@cairngormclub.org.uk)
28	Tue	Climbing	Indoor Climbing at Transition (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)

March

7	Tue	Climbing	Indoor Climbing at Transition (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
8	Wed	Indoor	Stewart Logan - Dossing and Stravaiging Around Scotland (Benn Hitchen; social@cairngormclub.org.uk)
10	Fri	Weekend	Inverardran Cottage, Crianlarich (Sue Chalmers; ctte11@cairngormclub.org.uk)
14	Tue	Climbing	Indoor Climbing at Transition (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
21	Tue	Lunch & Dander	Car Park at Haddo House at 10:30am with lunch at the Aberdeen Arms, Tarves at 12:30pm (Ruth Payne)
21	Tue	Climbing	Indoor Climbing at Transition (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
28	Tue	Climbing	Indoor Climbing at Transition (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
30	Thur	M/W Walk	Creag nam Ban (near Ballater) (9am; 44; K; Ian Bryce; meetorganiser10@cairngormclub.org.uk)
31	Fri	Weekend	Inbhirfaolain (Marj Ewan; ctte17@cairngormclub.org.uk)

April

4	Tue	Climbing	Outdoor Climbing Season Begins (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
11	Tue	Climbing	Outdoor Climbing (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
16	Sun	Day Meet	An Socach, Baddoch to Inverey (7am; 43; 148832 - 088892; 8hrs; £12.50; minibus; Derek Beverley; meetorganiser16@cairngormclub.org.uk)
18	Tue	Climbing	Outdoor Climbing (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
25	Tue	Climbing	Outdoor Climbing (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
27	Thur	M/W Walk	Ben Tirran (Glen Clova) (9am; 44; R; Martin Duguid)
28	Fri	Weekend	BMC Hut, Glenbrittle, Skye (Sue Chalmers; ctte11@cairngormclub.org.uk)

May

2	Tue	Climbing	Outdoor Climbing (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
9	Tue	Climbing	Outdoor Climbing (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
14	Sun	Day Meet	Glen Lochay (7am; 51; 514397; 8hrs; £12.50; minibus; Garry Wardrope; day@cairngormclub.org.uk)
16	Tue	Climbing	Outdoor Climbing (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
19	Fri	Lunch & Dander	Car Park at Stonehaven Harbour at 10:30am with lunch at the Ship Inn, Shorehead at 12:30pm (Ruth Payne)
23	Tue	Climbing	Outdoor Climbing (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
25	Thur	M/W Walk	Clais Fearnaigh (9am; 43; K; Malcolm Lamont)
25	Thur	Work Weekend	Muir Cottage - Thursday to Sunday (Kees Witte; huts@cairngormclub.org.uk)
30	Tue	Climbing	Outdoor Climbing (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)

June

2	Fri	Weekend	Craignure Bunkhouse, Mull (Jim Bryce; weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk)
6	Tue	Climbing	Outdoor Climbing (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
13	Tue	Climbing	Outdoor Climbing (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
17	Sat	Overnighter	Ben Nevis Area (Alex Barbour; meetorganiser17@cairngormclub.org.uk)
20	Tue	Climbing	Outdoor Climbing (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)
27	Tue	Climbing	Outdoor Climbing (James Hirst; climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)