## Club Office-Bearers and Other Committee Members

Hon. President Graham Ewen

President Anne Pinches, (president@cairngormclub.org.uk)

Vice-President Derek Beverley,

(vp@cairngormclub.org.uk)

Vice-President Marjory Ewan,

(vp2@cairngormclub.org.uk)

Club Secretary Ken Thomson,

(secretary@cairngormclub.org.uk)

Treasurer & Derek B Pinches,

Membership Secretary (treasurer@cairngormclub.org.uk)

Communications Secretary Colin Brown,

(comms@cairngormclub.org.uk)

Huts Custodian Richard Shirreffs,

(huts@cairngormclub.org.uk)

Muir Booking Secretary David Kirk,

(muir-booking@cairngormclub.org.uk)

Day Meets Secretary Derek Beverley,

(day@cairngormclub.org.uk)

Weekend Meets Secretary Marjory Ewan,

(weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk)

Climbing Secretary Mike Brian,

(climb@cairngormclub.org.uk)

Social Activities Secretary Anne Pinches,

(social@cairngormclub.org.uk)

**Librarian** Lydia Thomson,

(librarian@cairngormclub.org.uk)

Training Co-ordinator Adrian Scott,

(training@cairngormclub.org.uk)

**Committee Members** 

Alec Macmillan (ctte2@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Amanda Lyons (ctte17@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Arthur Dickie (ctte3@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Kees Witte (ctte11@cairngormclub.org.uk)
Peter Aikman (ctte14@cairngormclub.org.uk)

Ruth Payne

Sandy McIntosh (ctte16@cairngormclub.org.uk)

## We're on the Web!

www.cairngormclub.org.uk & www.cairngormclub.freeforums.org/

## October 2010



## The Cairngorm Club Established 1887





## Overnighter 2010

The Club overnighter this year fell on the weekend of 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> June, and for those enthusiasts who signed up, it will long be remembered as a magical experience, truly "a cracker". Warm, sunny, dry, almost midge-free – what more could a body ask? Not a cloud in the sky, hardly a soul in the hills, and unrivalled views of hill and sea. It was Scotland at its best, and we didn't have to share it with anyone – at least once you were out of sight (and sound) of the West Highland Way and the A82!

The event was advertised as affording walking in the Blackmount or Glen Etive Hills. In the event, the members attending were more imaginative – from the Munro-bagging enthusiasts (the macho team of Brown, Beverley and Mcewen tackled the Bridge of Orchy hills, and the equal opportunity pack of Thomson (male), Ewen and Castellazzi completed a Blackmount traverse), to the purist bivvier Mme Cameron with Beinn Udlaidh and Beinn Bhreac under her belt and another magic night under the stars, and seasoned overnighter Robb, who reputedly spent the night fraternising with the residents of Gorton Bothy. To the great relief of the meet organiser, all had gathered at the Kingshouse by lunchtime on Sunday, or had been retrieved (as pre-arranged) from far down that jewel of Highland glens, Glen Etive. All members then enjoyed their well-earned re-hydration (continued on page 2)

and calorie replacement therapy at the Kingshouse — (continued from page 1) before piling into the minibus, and snoozing their way through the beautiful Trossachs and home by the A90.

Ages ranged from a novice overnighter in her 20s, to hardened members hitting their "three score years and ten". Our novice had asked to join "this mad expedition" – but ended as a complete convert to the concept of the overnighter. But perhaps I should only whisper that – in case too many other folks come out next year to discover for themselves the joys of the overnighter!

## **Club Training**

Want to improve your mountain skills?

Or maybe want to take the first steps on an outdoor career?

Or want to pass your skills on to others but lack the qualification?

The Club offers assistance by way of partial funding for suitable Club members wishing to further their own knowledge and skills, and hopefully maintaining the hill craft and safety of the whole Club. Current suggestions are: First Aid, Navigation, Single Pitch Award or even something more ambitious like Mountain Leader or MIC.

## First Aid Training

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

## Winter Skills/Snow-Holing Expedition

A snow-holing expedition has been arranged for the 5 persons who expressed an interest. It will take the form of a night in Grantown on Spey and a night in a snow hole with a suitably qualified instructor to tuck them in and read them a story. In effect, the course is full, but if there is any further interest from members we can consider putting on another instructor or even another course (maybe winter skills without the 'night in the white'). Anyone interested, please contact Adrian as above.

## Piper's Wood

Drennan Watson and James Friend have paid a recent visit to the Wood, in order to assess the states of its nature and its fence - both seem to be in generally fine fettle. It is hoped to report more fully in due course.

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## E-Mailing List

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

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

To subscribe, send an email to: *cairngorm club* 

members-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

## Radio Scotland Outdoors Weather Forecast

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 - <a href="http://www.cairngormclub.org.uk/links/">http://www.cairngormclub.org.uk/links/</a>

## 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 £26; priority appointments for Club members; next-day

Aberdeen Physiotherapy 01224 626266

appointments if booked

before 12 noon.

## NEMT Winter Lectures 2010/2011

October 13<sup>th</sup> Andy Nisbet "Walking in the North West Highlands" November 17<sup>th</sup> Dougie Baird "The work of the Cairngorms Outdoor

Access Trust"

December 8<sup>th</sup> Roger Owen "Mountaineering in Iceland during the

Volcanic Eruptions"

January 19<sup>th</sup> Howard Kennedy "Five ways to improve your outdoor

photography"

February 16<sup>th</sup> Glyn Jones "Recent developments on the Balmoral

Estate"

March 16<sup>th</sup> Speaker to be announced.

All lectures will be held in the Belmont Club starting at 7.30 pm.

Entry £4.00, Concession £2.00

## **Doug Scott Talk**

Doug Scott is giving a talk called "Himalaya Alpine Style" at Woodend Barn, Banchory, on Sunday 7th November at 7:00pm.

It's quite a small venue and tickets are going quite well, so best get them early. For more information, see

http://www.woodendbarn.co.uk/home/workshops.html

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It has been suggested, on the basis of good experiences, that some of the club members may enjoy a 'short break' at Grantown on Spey. The Grant Arms Hotel offers a four-night 'package' of dinner, bed and breakfast, with some optional guided walks and evening talks/films included, for £195, between 1st November 2010 and 31st March 2011.

The weekend chosen is that of 11th - 13th March 2011, and it is probably ideal for members to base their four nights around 11th, 12th and 13th March, with the fourth either the 10th or 14th to suit.

Members can book directly with the hotel (25 The Square, Grantown-on-Spey. PH26 3HF, Tel 01479 872526), mentioning the Club.

Double and twin rooms are available, and 12 people are the initial expectation, with singles if needed at a supplement in March.

For further details, contact Ruth Payne.

## **Changes to Constitution**

Along with this Newsletter, Members will find formal notice of a Special General Meeting to be held immediately before the normal AGM on 10 November, to consider some changes to the Constitution, as proposed by the Committee. These changes cover some issues raised in previous AGMs and otherwise, and are fully specified in the paper accompanying the notice. It is hoped that, after brief explanation and discussion, the revisions can be approved en bloc, but of course it is open to SGM participants to ask that any particular change is put to a separate vote.

## **Brodie Lewis Books and Maps**

The Club has been given more of the above, which will be made available at the next few indoor meets, with proceeds going to a local blood transfusion charity.

They include several mountaineering classics and coffee-table books, and many elderly maps, both OS (e.g. Highland areas) and others (e.g. Corsica, Kathmandu), along with miscellaneous others, e.g. "Expedition Everyman 1964 - How YOU Can Afford a European Holiday" (£23 per head all-in for a fortnight's holiday in Switzerland, anyone?) and Francis Galton's "Art of Travel 1872" (how to shoot a crocodile, the strength of women, the manufacture of bird-lime, etc.; moreover, "A mountaineer, when he meets with a formidable obstacle, does not hold on the rock with his feet and his hands only, but he clings to it like a caterpillar").

## Muir

October 2010

This year's work weekend (22-23 May) was again both successful and satisfying. The big jobs this time were outdoor ones - renewing the masonry paint on the stone building and the green paint on the external woodwork. The former included removal of the flaky old paint more effectively than ever before through use of a hired needle gun. Both jobs were accomplished mainly on the Saturday, in glorious sunshine. Inside there was no single big job, but the team undertook a thorough clean and worked through a long list of lesser jobs. This was all with a fairly small workforce – 13 on the Saturday and 8 on the Sunday. To all of them, the Club must be extremely grateful.

We have been spending again, but in a way that will hopefully meet with members' approval. The cooker was beginning to fail and the fridges had been criticised as too small (with one of them also showing signs of failing). The cooker has been replaced with a wider one with ceramic hob and two ovens, and we have installed two tall refrigeration units – one all fridge, the other a fridge freezer – all for not much over £900.

The families week in July was quite well used and the corresponding slot is reserved for next year -1 to 8 July. Muir is also reserved for use by members at New Year.

## **Weekend Meets 2011**

As an aid to planning your activities for next year well in advance, here is a list of meets organised from April until December 2011.

April 15th & 16th (Fri & Sat nights - Glenfinnan Sleeping Car.

April 29th - May 1st (Fri - Sun nights) - Causeway Foot Camping Barn, Naddle, Keswick.

June 3rd & 4th (Fri & Sat nights) - Inbhirfhaolain, Glen Etive.

July 8th & 9th (Fri & Sat nights) - CIC Hut, Ben Nevis.

Aug 12th & 13th (Fri & Sat nights) - Glen Brittle Memorial Hut, Skye.

Sept 23rd - 25th (Fri - Sun nights) - Lochranza Youth Hostel, Arran.

Oct 14th & 15th (Fri & Sat nights) -

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

Dec 9th & 10th (Fri & Sat nights) - Braveheart Backpackers, Killin.

For the most up-to-date details of all meets, log onto the Forum at <a href="http://cairngormclub.freeforums.org/">http://cairngormclub.freeforums.org/</a> or the Club website at <a href="http://www.cairngormclub.org.uk/meetscalendar/meetscalendar.htm">http://www.cairngormclub.org.uk/meetscalendar/meetscalendar.htm</a>

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## Anyone interested in joining the Mountain Rescue Team?

Mario Di Maio is now looking urgently for new Team members. The Club has had a very long association with mountain rescue – providing manpower for searches before the teams were even established. If you are interested, Mario would be very willing to speak with you about what is involved.

Check the Team website at <a href="http://www.amrt.org.uk/AMRT/Welcome.html">http://www.amrt.org.uk/AMRT/Welcome.html</a> for more information and contacts.

## **Mountain & Mountain Film Festivals 2010**

Here are details of three Festivals being held over the next two months.

Edinburgh Mountain Film Festival - 21st - 24th October.

See website at - <a href="http://www.emff.co.uk">http://www.emff.co.uk</a>

Kendal Mountain Festival - 18th - 21st November.

See website at - <a href="http://www.mountainfest.co.uk">http://www.mountainfest.co.uk</a>

Dundee Mountain Film Festival - 26th 27th November.

See website at - <a href="http://www.dundeemountainfilm.org.uk">http://www.dundeemountainfilm.org.uk</a>

## **Mountain Bothies Association**

Founded in 1965, the Mountain Bothies Association exists to maintain remote buildings for which the owner has little or no use, yet which remain important to walkers and others who make use of the shelter that they provide.

They don't own any bothies, merely maintain them with the agreement and encouragement of the owners. All maintenance work is financed with MBA resources, mainly membership subscriptions supplemented by generous donations from benefactors, usually individuals or groups who wish to thus commemorate a relative or friend who was a hillwalker or climber.

The maintenance work along with the bulk of administration is carried out by volunteers.

Each bothy in the care of the Association has one or more Maintenance Organisers who are responsible for arranging routine maintenance. You will find more information about the bothies they maintain and about what else they do on their website at <a href="http://www.mountainbothies.org.uk/index.asp">http://www.mountainbothies.org.uk/index.asp</a>.

If you are not already a member, why not join and help to preserve these unique shelters?

## October 2010

Dauner

The next Lunch and Dauner will be on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> Jan 2011, meeting at Park Bridge (north), at 10:30am with lunch at the new Mains of Drum Garden Centre at



12:30pm. Please advise Ruth Payne by 16<sup>th</sup> January 2011 if you would like to join the lunch gathering.

## Cairngorm Mountain Railway: the Thin End of the Wedge?

For a pilot period until 31 October 2010, SNH and Highland Council have given approval for guided parties to exit from the top station of the funicular, for a 2-mile "scale the summit" circular walk. For details, see <a href="http://www.cairngormmountain.co.uk/see-do/walking/walk-the-top.">http://www.cairngormmountain.co.uk/see-do/walking/walk-the-top.</a>

## **Membership News**

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

Dr Jackie MacDonald, Kintore, Ordinary Mr Steven Wallace, Aberdeen, Associate Mr Dennis Douglas, Lumphanan, Ordinary

## Discounted B & B in the Isle of Skye

Greg Walters and Suzanne Dickinson, both Club members from Dorchester in Dorset, got married at the end of August. They have also moved home and bought a B & B on the Isle of Skye.

There is a discount to Cairngorm Club members to £25 per person per night bed and breakfast.

They are open all year, contact - Sue and Greg Walters, Achtalean Bed and Breakfast, 5 Stenscholl, Staffin, Isle of Skye. IV51 9JS.

See their website at - <a href="http://www.achtalean.co.uk">http://www.achtalean.co.uk</a>

## Congratulations .....

.... to Mike Brian and Marianne James who were married on Saturday 25th September 2010 in Aberdeen. The celebrations, which took place over the weekend, included a swim in the North Sea at Fittee (Footdee) beach. Mike will shortly be leaving Aberdeen for 18 months to work in Antarctica, and our good wishes go with him. (also see Climbing Update on pages 8-9)

## Munroist List Clerk

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

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

## **DISCOUNTS**

Cotswold - Blacks
Craigdon Sports
Nevisport
Hilltrek - Aboyne
Climbing - Ballater
All the above shops offer
discounts to Club members
on production of a current
membership card

TISO discount nights 6.30 to 8.30 pm, quarterly.

## **MCofS**

## **Mountaineering Council of Scotland**

A cohort of Club office-bearers (and one or two other Club members) attended the MCofS Annual Meet at Glenmore Lodge on 4 September.

Meetings before and after lunch surveyed various matters such as websites, "children" in clubs, sportScotland politics, insurance, data protection, etc.: generally, more flexibility was envisaged on the legal side, but less on the financial one. At the AGM (which was preceded by a noncontentious EGM), the Committee had mandated a vote against the proposal to raise the Club sub rates. A fairly full discussion between the MCofS Treasurer and several speakers from the floor showed that the reasons for the proposed rise were unclear to many, and contested by some. The result of the vote, which involved a flurry of coloured cards and proxies, was not announced until after the meeting, as a narrow rejection.

More happily, Karin Froebel (LSCC) and Graham Boyle were elected as new members of the MCofS Board. For more detail, see the GM and Club Seminar pages on the MCofS website.

## Indoor Meets for Winter 2010/11

A full programme of indoor meets is again offered for this coming winter. Details are listed in the centre page Meets Calendar.

Indoor meets all take place at The Seafield Club, 12 Seafield Road, Aberdeen. The meets start at 7.30 pm and the cost is £3.00 inclusive of tea/coffee and biscuits. There is also a bar available.

## Day and Weekend Meets - Help Required

If you can help as Organiser or President's Party leader for a meet, please contact the Meets Secretaries (see back page for contact details)

### October 2010

## Missing Club Library Books

The Club Librarian wishes to thank those who returned books after the appeal in the last edition of the Newsletter.

Some of the books have still not turned up, so if you find one please get in touch with her, details as per the back page.

# after

## **Deer Numbers in the Cairngorms**

Over 4 days in January 2010 plus a day in March due to snow, the Deer Commission carried out a count of the deer populations in "East and West Grampian". This involved five helicopter days (cost £93,000) and digital photography to allow post-flight counting as well as direct observation. A total of 861 groups and 44552 deer were observed. Area results for stags, "unclassified" animals (i.e. mostly hinds and calves, and some male "knobbers") and totals, and densities per km² in parentheses were as follows: Speyside (Abernethy, Inchrory/Glenavon, Rothiemurchus, etc.):1090, 3013, 4103 (4); Shee, Isla, Clova, etc. 1378, 3153, 4531 (14); Balmoral, Abergeldie, Tanar, Muick, etc.: 2707, 3288, 5995 (13); Ballogie, Birse, Fasque, Glendye, etc. 97, 561, 658 (3); Invermark, Rottal, Upper Clova, etc.: 697, 4403, 5101 (21); Baddoch, Corndavon, Invercauld Home, Mar, Mar Lodge: 1507, 3534, 5041 (8); and Tayside (Bruar, Forest Lodge, etc.): 24, 144, 168 (n/a).

These areas were previously counted in 2005, since when numbers have reduced by an unspecified amount, but with local variations. The report of the count (but no discussion) is available at <a href="http://www.cairngorms.co.uk/thepark/livingworking/deer">http://www.cairngorms.co.uk/thepark/livingworking/deer</a>.

## **Dinner**

The Club Dinner will take place on Friday 19 November at the Old Mill Inn, Maryculter at 7 pm for 7.30 pm. The speaker will be Adele Pennington who works for a travel company called Jagged Globe; she is a double Everest Summiteer. Further details are with the AGM notice included with this newsletter. The dinner retains some elements of formality but is a relaxed evening - dress up or dress down as you wish, the important thing is that you are there!!

## Kilimanjaro in February?

Local company WalkDeeside are organising an expedition to Kilimanjaro in Tanzania next year, and would like to hear from anyone interested. See <a href="https://www.walkdeeside.com">www.walkdeeside.com</a> for details.

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Arthur Dickie (ctte3@cairngormclub.org.uk) has now taken over from Jack Connell the coordination of the Club's popular Thursday ("Mid-Week") Walks series for next year. The usual planning meeting was held and a programme for 2011 drawn up. Walk details are on the centrefold pages. For each walk participants should arrive promptly at the meeting points. On some occasions the arrangements may change, so please contact one of the organisers if in doubt or if further information is required. If you intend to drive straight to the starting point of the walk, please let one of the organisers know. If you carry a mobile phone on a walk, please let others know the number before starting out.

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

## **Adam Watson Papers**

Dr Watson's papers (see previous Newsletter) have been grouped into Birds (about 100 papers), Mammals (14), Trees (7), Snow Patches (18), Cairngorms Land Use (20) and Other (12). They are currently being examined by Graham Ewen and Eddie Martin, but will soon be deposited in the Library.

## Di Gilbert ....

...... is offering one-day guided Munro walks this winter. For more information see www.digilbert.co.uk

## **CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS**

Subscriptions for the year 2010/11 become due on 1st October 2010.

The MCofS have changed their membership year to 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> March. The affiliation fee (including the CLI premium) for the 2010/11 year is £13.

Cairngorm Club Subscription rates for 2010/11 are therefore as follows:

	Club	MCofS	Total
Full Rate	£13.00	£13.00	£26.00
Reduced Rate	£6.50	£13.00	£19.50

Direct Debits will be collected on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010.

The reduced rate above applies for members who on 1 October 2010 were 65 or over, or under 21, or under 25 and still in full-time education, or are normally resident and working more than 80 km from Aberdeen.

See notice enclosed with this Newsletter.

## **Cairngorms Outdoor Access Trust (COAT)**

The 2010 Public Meeting of the Cairngorms Outdoor Access Trust was held in the Lonach Hall on 16 September, when upland paths featured alongside lower "community paths", "Walking for Health", etc. Malcolm MacIntyre has been elected without opposition as the Affiliate Member Representative for the East Cairngorms area. He is Operations Manager of the Braemar MRT, and has many other local involvements in Aboyne and Braemar. Andy Dunn continues as AMR for West Cairngorms.

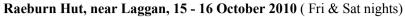
Much COAT work in 2009/10, especially on the east side of the hills, has been of a "development" nature, i.e. negotiations with landowners and contractors, and the way is now clearer for extending the Deeside Way and a Tarland-Aboyne link. Practical activity has focussed on the Firmounth path at Dinnet, the Ballater to Cambus o'May path south of the river, the Aboyne-Tarland link, maintenance at Balmoral and Mar Lodge (e.g. repair of the Glas Allt path), and an interpretative board at the Spittal of Glenmuick. Other COAT work has included the Speyside Way, and paths at Carrbridge and Newtonmore. For the future, over £2 million has been obtained for the Cairngorms Mountain Heritage Project which will repair 94 km of eroded mountain paths. Car parking charges now raise some £40,000 – a useful sum for admin and path maintenance for which funding is otherwise hard to raise. See <a href="http://www.cairngormsoutdooraccess.org.uk">http://www.cairngormsoutdooraccess.org.uk</a> for further details.

## Cairngorms National Park Core Path Plan

This Plan has now been formally adopted by the CNPA Board, for "implementation", i.e. mapping, promotion "where appropriate", "making fit for purpose", etc. However, "In more remote and upland areas [which would include the five long-distance routes whose designation was unsuccessfully opposed by the Club] ... keeping the surface in good condition may involve keeping erosion in check or repairing the path surface if necessary. It would not involve making it easier to access." Moreover, in the Central Cairngorms area, "there is a presumption against waymarking in wild, remote and mountainous terrain and there would be no further signposting or waymarking of these paths as a result of core path designation", and the CNPA does not "intend to promote the paths as core paths".

Bridges (e.g. the Club footbridge in Rothiemurchus, or a new Geldie bridge) are not mentioned.

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



The view out is across Strathspey to Monadh Liath hills, Cairngorms to the east and Creag Meagaidh to the south west. Rock climbing on Creag Dubh, Newtonmore and Binnein Shuas are a short drive away. To book, contact Joyce Ritchie on 01224 741164 or email meetorganiser12@cairngormclub.org.uk

Trossachs Tryst Hostel, Callander, 5 - 6 November 2010 (Fri & Sat nights) Set amidst beautiful scenery just outside Callender, this is highly praised as a cycling centre. Plenty of hills to climb, also canoe hire and sailing available. Cost is £17.50 pppn. To book, contact Jim Bryce by email meetorganiser13@cairngormclub.org.uk

Great Glen Hostel, South Laggan, 3 - 4 December, 2010 (Fri & Sat nights) There are opportunities of Munros, white water paddling, Corbetts and possibly early skiing at Aonach Mor nearby. A great atmosphere (www.greatglenhostel.com). Cost is £14.50 pppn. To book, contact Ken Thomson by email secretary@cairngormclub.org.uk.

## Muir Cottage, Inverey, 21-22 Jan 2011 (Fri & Sat nights)

Celebrate Burns night early with some traditional Scottish food and music. Over the weekend you could also tackle some Munros, Corbetts or skiing as well as your haggis. Cost, for the weekend is £10 for members and £20 for guests with meal cost to be confirmed. To book, contact Eilidh Scobbie by email meetorganiser20@cairngormclub.org.uk

## Glen Nevis Youth Hostel, 18 - 19 Feb, 2011 (Fri & Sat nights)

A trip to one of the busiest mountain areas in Scotland. There should still be plenty of snow around, giving a chance to get up some big hills on the doorstep in winter conditions. Organiser yet to be confirmed: check Website /Forum for latest information or email weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk.

## Inver Croft, Auchnasheen, 18 - 19 Mar, 2011 (Fri & Sat nights)

A chance to stay at the 'Jacobites' club hut with plenty of big days available nearby, although the length of the days may dictate otherwise. Plenty locally to keep all occupied with many Munros and Corbetts awaiting your boots. To book, contact Marj Ewan by email weekend@cairngormclub.org.uk.

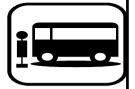
**Day Meets** (departure time; map sheet(s); grid reference(s) of drop-off and pick-up points; walking time; cost; means of transport; organiser contact details)

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

Weekend Meets (organiser; telephone number; email contact)

Day Meets take place once a month and can be by coach, mini-bus. car and (new from 2010) by bus share or service bus. Meets are generally on Sundays but occasionally on Saturdays.

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



Meets generally leave Aberdeen around 7am in the morning; departure times and the Day Meet Cost are listed in the centrefold of this Newsletter.

For service bus meets the first bus out of Aberdeen for Deeside is the one we need. It usually leaves around 07.45.

On all Meets, an organised walk will be available for those new to the Club or for members who simply want a day out without the challenge of route finding or navigation. The following Day Excursions are offered for Winter 2010/2011.

November 13th, Saturday, Arbroath to Lunan and Ferryden, by Montrose Starting just north of Arbroath there will be two walks, a short one to Lunan, of approx 9 miles, and a longer walk to Ferryden, by Montrose, of approx 16 miles. Possible stop at the original 'Bervie Chipper' on the return journey. A minibus meet with an 8 o'clock start from Golden Square although pick-ups from Westhill to Golden Square by arrangement. Cost will be £10. To book, contact Judy Middleton by email meetorganiser19@cairngormclub.org.uk

## December 12th, Sunday. Loch Lee

A chance to visit beautiful Glenlee with its low-level lochside walk or a high-level visit to available Corbetts. This minibus meet has an 8am start from Golden Square and will cost £12. A stop for High Tea will also be available but is not included in the meet cost. To book, contact Derek Beverley by email day@cairngormclub.org.uk

## January 9th, 2011, Sunday. Lochnagar

As is traditional, the January meet will be a trip up Glen Muick with Lochnagar the target. The meet will be by minibus which will leave Golden Square at 7am. Cost will be £12 and a meal may be arranged (see website and Forum for up-to-date details). To book, contact Colin Brown by email comms@cairngormclub.org.uk

## February 6<sup>th</sup>, Sunday. Location etc TBC

This car meet will be organized nearer the time over the 'ether' using the Forum and email. Contact David Brown by email on meetorganiser25@cairngormclub.org.uk

## March 6<sup>th</sup>, Sunday. St Colm's Well & the Firmounth

This Service Bus Meet will alight at Aboyne, and will be heading for St Colm's Well on the Firmounth. Many other low and higher-level options available. Cost will be the bus fare with discounts for group travel and Scottish Executive Card Holders travel free!. To book, contact Derek Beverley by email day@cairngormclub.org.uk

James Hirst British Antarctic expedition. By the time you read this, he should have completed his training in Cambridge and may even have flown highlights of the year were Clachnaben (great climbing followed by a BBQ and beers with a stunning vista of the moon over the crag on our descent), South Cove (finally nailed Insect Groove), Souter Head (Mythical Wall is so pumpy) and the Whisky Cliff (great location and relatively big cliffs for Aberdeen). All round, a good year, with as always a bit of banter and craic.

James Hirs One last request for Mike – can we book you as the guest speaker for the 2012 Club Dinner? position he has held for four years). I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mike on behalf of all the Club climbers for the time out to the South Pole! Given his relocation a few miles south, Mike has decided to relinquish his role as Club Climbing Secretary (a and effort he has put into the role and wish him all the best in his forth coming adventure. With the nights drawing in, the outdoor Tuesday nights have now finished (for those that are interested, we now meet at the Transition climbing wall instead). For me, the For those that already don't know – Mike is heading to Antarctica this autumn as mountain guide support for the Scientists of the