



# ELLON HILLWALKING CLUB

## Newsletter – October 2011

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### Programme:

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2011

**Coast to Coast by Bike – Barbara Wyatt**  
Station Hotel 20:00

Sun 16<sup>th</sup> October 2011

**Culardoch – *with Minibus Transport***

Focal Pt Irene Jamieson (01358 711242)

Community Centre Car Park 08:00

### Culardoch (OS Sheets 36 and 43)

#### Mike Taylor

The club has visited this mountain a few times, usually as a winter walk, and on at least one occasion in lots of snow!

The summit at 900m is really called Cul Ardach Mor, big back of the high place. A careful look at the map reveals Culardoch Bheag, the little back of the high place, just over 2km to the north.

The hill is described as a 'windswept heathery dome' in the SMC Cairngorms guide and a smooth sided hill, without crags or corries enjoying a setting of great charm and offering magnificent views across to Ben Avon, in the SMC Corbetts guide.

There are two possible starting points from Deeside. They both involve a 9-10km walk to the summit with about 600m of climbing. This is likely to take 3-4 hours to get up and 2-3 hours to come down. With an 8 o'clock start from Ellon, this should be manageable within the hours of daylight.

Route 1 starts just off the Deeside Road near Keiloch (186910), following the road up to Invercauld House. After about 1.5 km a road is taken on the right heading north through woodland and out onto the open hillside. This is the old right of way from Braemar to Tomintoul by the Bealach Dearg. The road starts to drop just beyond the stable at the pass summit and is followed for another 1 km to a sharp bend. From here the summit of Culardoch is about 1 km due east.

Route 2 starts at Knockan (220936) near Inver. It goes via the deserted farmhouses of Ratlich and Achtavan to the head of Glen Fheardar and then north to Culardoch. The SMC Cairngorms guide describes Glen Fheardar so: 'once populated by many farmers but now deserted, it has a sad and haunting beauty, with old birches and lonely greens where stone rings show the sites of former farms'. Worth a look?

We'll decide which route is preferred on the day.

This walk should be suitable for any reasonably fit member of the club but it is a reasonably long day, probably about 6-7 hours, and October can provide winter conditions so bring plenty food, warm clothes and good footwear.

A minibus has been booked for this walk which will leave Ellon at 8.00 am. If you're interested, please let Irene Jamieson (01358 711242) know by Thursday 13 October.

### Carn Righ – At a Distance

#### Irene Jamieson

After paying our dues at the Dalmunzie Hotel the four of us donned suitable gear for the unpredictable (or should I say predictable) autumnal weather and set off up the valley through Gleann Teatneach. We will all remember this walk for the 'river' crossings of which there were several. Any slip was going to mean more than just wet feet so it was often a challenge to find suitable crossing places. We started off in good weather but before long a head wind and driving rain threatened to send us back to shelter. Fortunately it eased as we started to climb steeply towards Mam nan Cairn and for a while we could admire views of the valley behind and the hills around us.

We had made good time along the valley, but progress slowed as we left the track. Numerous references to the map were required to keep us on route, the ground became very wet and boggy, and the hill was steep. When we reached the good path at the foot of the

ridge and could barely see Carn an Righ in the distance through the low cloud, we decided it was going to take too long to do the whole route but would settle for the nearer Glas Tulaichean. The wind was very strong so we kept to the middle ground as we climbed but when the fog occasionally cleared the views all around were quite spectacular. From the trig point we followed a good path continuing along the ridge and downhill, but left it to drop down to the valley again before the crags at Creag Dhearg. We stayed on this side of the river back to the cars.

The rain had stayed off for most of our descent, so we arrived back dry for some well earned refreshment at the Dalmunzie before heading home.

### October Bunkhouse W/end, Kinlochewe 28-30 Oct

#### Mike Taylor

There are still some places left for the bunkhouse weekend at the end of October.

<http://www.kinlochwehotel.co.uk/bunkhouse.html>

The bunks are all in one carpeted bunkroom where covered mattresses, individual lockers, pillows and pillow cases are provided. You are required to bring your own sleeping bag and towels plus a padlock for the locker. The bathroom area has Mira Sport showers, washbasins and toilets and the drying room contains a dehumidifier to dry any wet clothes.

There are plenty wonderful mountains to climb in the area. For example: Slioch; Beinn Eighe; Beinn Alligin; Liathach.

There are 12 bunks. We have reserved the entire bunkhouse and the cost will be £10 per person per night. If you are interested in taking part in this club weekend please send £20 to Mike Taylor (Loch an Eilein, Newmachar, Aberdeen, AB21 0UQ) as soon as possible. Beds will be allocated on a first come, first served basis on receipt of the £20, which is non-refundable

### Forthcoming Events

Oct 29/30th	Kinlochewe Bunkhouse weekend
Nov 20th	Mount Blair and Dubh Craig & Bar Supper
Dec 18th	Craig nan Gabhar

### Tiso Discount Evening

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2011 18:00 – 20:30**

Tiso's are holding another Club Discount evening at their new store in John Street Aberdeen on 9<sup>th</sup> November.

The usual discounts are available (15% off most products, 20% off climbing gear, 10% off books, GPS and canoes). In addition they are offering 30% off all food and drink at their Summit Cafe – a chance to make a night of it!?

For us skiers, it's worth noting that they are opening a Ski Shop in mid October and will be offering 15% off alpine skis, boots and clothing and 10% off touring ski equipment.

Full details are in the flyers overleaf.

### Coast to Coast – By Bike

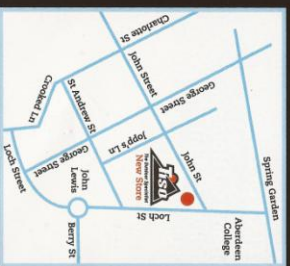
**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> Oct**

This month's evening talk will be from Barbara Wyatt on her recent cycle trip from Whitehaven in the Lake District to Tynemouth – traversing Britain through some beautiful countryside. Come along and experience the ride without getting a sore bottom!

# Tiso Aberdeen

## Discount Evening

Wednesday 9th November 2011 6.00-8.30pm



Tiso Aberdeen  
 1 John Street, Aberdeen, AB25 1BT  
 T: 01224 646872  
 E: aberdeen@tiso.co.uk  
 tiso.com  
 bluesheshop.com



Gear'd up  
 for you  
 tiso.com



**20% OFF** Mountaineering & Climbing Hardware  
**15% OFF** Clothing, Outerwear, Footwear & Accessories  
**10% OFF** GPS Software, Canoes & Publications

**NEW AUTUMN/WINTER RANGE**  
 IN STORE NOW



**30% OFF**  
**All food & drinks**

Our in store café will be selling a selection of Paninis, Sandwiches, Cakes, teas & Coffees.



**OPENING MID OCTOBER 2011**

**15% OFF** Alpine skis, boots and ski clothing

Skis and Boots from Fischer, Head, K2 and Salomon

**10% OFF** Touring ski equipment and accessories

Clothing from Eider, Degre 7, Descente and Salomon

Plus extra special offers on spot products

### DON'T MISS OUR UPCOMING LECTURES

Living in Longhope  
 BY DAVE MCLEOD  
 Tuesday 25th October

A Lecture  
 BY KENTON COOL  
 Monday 21st November

Don't Go Home  
 By Accident  
 BY MARIO DE MAIO  
 Team Leader of Aberdeen Mountain Rescue Team  
 Tuesday 6th December  
 Get your tickets in store!