

Culter Hillwalking Club

Sunday 3rd March 2024

Long Walk – Scout Hill (607m) and Dead Wife’s Hillock 543m)

This is a circular route featuring a wind farm as well as the hill with the best name ever. We start in the Cabrach from the Dorenell Windfarm Visitor Centre (by the ex Grouse Inn) and walk through rough pasture and plantation before hitting the magnificent tracks of the wind farm. We climb Scout Hill, not on track, then meander thru the turbines to Blackwater Lodge, where we cross the river on a bridge and walk south to ascend Dead Wife’s Hillock. About 3km of rough (pathless) grouse moor is crossed before the gentle descent back to the start. In the event of any snow on the Cabrach road, the route will alter. OS 37 Strathdon.

Total distance 20 km, Ascent 580m, Approx. 7hrs. Good level of fitness required.

Meet at St Peters Heritage Peterculter 7.45am.

Book, indicating driving/lift/meeting point preference through Long Walk Coordinator Catherine Lacy by end of Friday 1st March.

Sunday Saunter - Ben Newe 565m NJ382144

This hill, its name pronounced to rhyme with meow, gives excellent views over Donside and Glen Buchat as much of the forestry shown on the 1:50000 map has been cleared and recently replanted. It’s a bit steep in places but the going is generally good. The start is from the wide junction of the forest road and the A97 at NJ398140 where there is room for several cars and the track that zig zags up the hill is followed until NJ387141 where the track is enveloped by forest. The continuation of the path is only shown on the 1:25000 map but is clear on the ground and when it emerges from the trees turns sharp left onto a faint path that follows the edge of the forest until a distinct path leaves this track and leads to the summit. Now it’s mostly downhill all the way and the route meets the track at NJ381131 after dodging a barrier of fallen trees. More zig zags are followed to the bridge at NJ390129. To avoid a walk along the road the bridge is crossed and the edge of the fields are followed and grassy paths take us to the bridge at NJ398141 close to the car park. Coffee, tea and fudge is available at the Kildrummy Inn NJ462172 afterwards.

Total distance 11 km, Ascent 300m, Approx. 4.5hrs.

Meet at car parking location as given above (NJ398140) at 10:30am

Booking by Friday 1st March.

Please let me know if you want to stop on the way home.

Walkers must wear walking boots (gaiters essential), carry WARM and waterproof clothing, hat and gloves and take plenty of food and liquids. It is recommended by the club that walkers carry their own A First Aid kit..

Culter hillwalking club has no members who are qualified leaders or instructors. Therefore anyone volunteering to assist the club on a walk cannot be held responsible for other members' welfare. Members must be aware they are solely responsible for themselves at all times. Hillwalking and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury and death. Those participating in these activities should be aware of the risks and accept the responsibility for their own actions and involvement. No responsibility can be accepted by Culter Hillwalking club committee, members, guests or co-ordinators of walks for any mishap, which may occur, during a walk. Dog owners must ensure that their dogs are on a short lead at all times.

www.culterhillwalking.org.uk