

Glen Prosen Hostel November 22nd -25th 2024

In attendance Janet, Mary Cox, Colin, Monica, Chris, Pete, Dave Watson, Brian, Keith, Stella, Suzanne.

The final steep hill up to the bunkhouse was icy which added some excitement. However, all arrived safely and the bunkhouse proved very comfortable for 11 people. It might seem a bit overcrowded at its full capacity of 18. The weather for the following day was checked very carefully and it was concluded that a low level walk might be advisable. The following morning it was snowing quite heavily and the proprietor of the bunkhouse suggested we might move the cars down the hill. However, it was too late the snow on top of the ice made this very treacherous and indeed when Dave attempted to descend the hill he quickly finished up with one wheel in the ditch and everyone had to pitch in and push him out. Thus, we all walked from the hostel to Balnaboth and then on to the end of the road up Glen Prosen. Some people turned back at this point and some continued on for around 3K beyond this point. The snow was quite deep which made walking difficult although a snow plough came through and cleared much of the snow which aided the return. However, it was a memorable outing since heavy snowfall has been rare in recent years. Thence back to the hostel, and for some a game of Qwerckle and for all tea, excellent cake and chat. The communal meal in the evening was super. The next day the snow had more or less vanished although the hill up to the hostel was still icy. So again we walked from the hostel. 1. Mary, Dave, Pete, Colin, Suzanne, Brian and Keith walked up to Hill of Balbae then along the ridge over, Hill of Couternach, Craigs of Lethnot, Sneck of Corinch and back down to the road. They then made their way back along the road to the hostel with a small detour towards the Hill of Spott to avoid some of the road walk. 2. Janet and Stella walked along the road up Glen Prosen returning via the other road through Balnaboth 3. Chris and Monica walked up the track to Cairn of Barns and leaving the track to visit Elf Hillock, Sleepy Hillock, Hillocks of Hudenkey and the other hillocks of Fairyland returning to the fold via the Minister's Path. We all returned for tea and cake followed by another splendid communal meal. This was followed by a games of Qwerckle and Banaagrams for some and for others a fierce debate of ethical issues of the day followed by a discussion on the adequacy of dog training in this day and age. The icy hill had completely vanished by Monday morning. There were no outings planned for the way home.