**Black Dog Meet**

**No. 246 Corran**

**17th to 19th February 2023**

**In Attendance**

Charles Alexander, David Cameron, Owen Clark, Wull Clark, Gerry Feeney, Valerie Inglis,

Liz Kennedy, Alan Sewell, Lorna Smith, Tony Smith, Rachel Yeats and James Yeats

# **Hills Climbed**

**Friday**

Lorna, Charles, Gerry & Tony Meall na Fearna West top (717m)

**Saturday**

James Sgòrr Dhònuill (1001m) and Sgòrr Dhearg (1024m)

Owen Sgòrr Dhònuill (1001m)

Valerie, Wull & David Sgorr Nam Fiannaidh (967m)

Alan Beinn Mheadhoin (739m)

Liz, Charles & Gerry Mam na Gualainn (796m)

Lorna, Rachel & Tony Meall an t-Suidhe (711m)

**Sunday**

We all went home.

**Weather**

Friday was very windy (Storm Otto) and Saturday bright in the morning but clouded over later so no summit views.

**Notes / Highlights**

**Friday**

**Tony:** Lorna, Charles, Gerry and I climbed Meall na Fearna (West top). We parked up by Ardvorlich on south Loch Earn road, having successfully avoided all the tree debris on the roads, and walked the good track leading up Glen Vorlich. As planned (hoped?) this route offered some shelter from the strong winds associated with Storm Otto. An indistinct ATV track and sections of rougher ground then took us easily to the surprisingly steep final summit pull. A good route choice for a stormy day and another Simm "in the bag".

**Alan:** I had a climbing master class with Dave Macleod at Roy bridge.

**Saturday**

**Owen & James**: Setting off from the Glenachulish forest car park we followed the signposted track through the trees for approximately 2km thereafter through a felled area which progressively turned to a bog all the way to the final climb up to the saddle. Once on the ridge the walk up to the top was mainly on a light covering of wet snow becoming increasing slippery on the final boulder section to the top of Sgòrr Dhònuill. After a short lunch break, we made our way back down. The decision was made at the bealach for James to climb Sgòrr Dhearg and Owen would return down to the car park the way we came up. On setting off it looked like it would be a nice clear day however by the time we reached the bealach the clouds had come in and spoiled the view somewhat.

**Alan:** On Saturday I climbed the Graham Beinn Mheadhoin over in Ardgour. No view from the summit.

**Gerry:** Charles, Liz and I did a traverse of the Corbett Mam na Gualainn starting from just east of Callert House. After reaching the summit we headed east along the ridge to Beinn na Caillaich. Leaving this top we headed down to cross the Allt Nathrach and join the West Highland Way and on to Kinlochleven. We encountered snow above 500m which was a bit slippery with steep descents requiring care. A good day out with great views in the morning before the cloud came down.

**Tony:** Lorna, Rachel and I climbed Meall an t-Suidhe starting from the Achintee carpark. We tackled the seemingly never-ending stone steps of the Nevis 'tourist path' almost as far as the 'half-way' lochan. Although initially quiet the main path became increasingly busy and we were glad to escape to the snowy south slopes of our target hill. We reached the summit as the cloud was clearing, briefly as it turned out, and were rewarded with very atmospheric views of The Ben and many more distant hills.

Unexpectedly we were joined at this point by a local dog walker who, having remarked "don't often see people up here" set off north for a loop back to Achintee. We decided to follow, easy at first with footprints in the snow but much less so lower down in quite thick mist and no obvious trail! Even the least steep slope above the aluminium works looked uninviting from above but we found a suitable route down to complete a fine circuit.

**Wull:** Valerie, David and I climbed the western Munro on the Aonach Eagach, Sgorr Nam Fiannaidh. We set off from the Pap car park followed the track to the bealach then followed the ridge to the summit. Not much visibility on the summit and some snow.

*Wull*