**Black Dog Meet**

**No. 257 Braemar**

**15th – 17th December 2023**

**In Attendance**

Charles Alexander, David Cameron, Owen Clark, Wull Clark, Gerry Feeney, Valerie Inglis, Liz Kennedy, Richard Marwood, John McGill, James Yeats and Rachel Yeats

# **Hills Climbed**

**Friday**

David, Liz & Valerie Ben Gulabin (806m)

**Saturday**

John Ladylea Hill (609m)

All except for Rachel & Gerry Creag nan Gabhar (834m)

**Weather**

The weather was largely dry, but very windy and very cold. Not much in the way of snow around considering the time of year and location. High cloud on the Corbett.

**Notes / Highlights**

This was a welcome return to Rucksacks Hostel in Braemar for the Christmas meet. We enjoyed a communal, if less traditional, Christmas meal with an Italian theme, which went well. Perhaps the highlight was Owen’s blowtorch which he kindly provided to caramelise the tops of the crème brulee. In reality the blow torch was more of a flame thrower, which although worked a treat, I’m surprised it didn’t scorch more than the surface of the desserts 😊

**Friday**

David, Liz and I stopped in Glenshee on the way for a leg stretch on the Corbett, Ben Gulabin.

**Saturday**

John’s mission for the weekend was to climb Ladylea Hill which was recently promoted to the dizzy heights of a Fiona and was still to be ticked on his list.

Rachel and Gerry had a low level walk from Linn of Dee down the track towards Derry Lodge.

The rest of us had a communal walk on Creag nan Gabhar from a starting point just south of the usual starting point at Auchallater at a layby opposite the start of the walk. We followed a great wee stalkers path most of the way to the col SE of the summit. It was windy and very cold and after getting to the summit, plans to do a circuit were reconsidered and we returned by means of the ascent route.

**Next Meet**

Logierait, 19th – 21st January 2024. Meet organiser – Richard Marwood

*Valerie*