

#### Black Dog Meet

**No. 258 Logierait Lodges, Perthshire**

**Friday 19th - Sunday 21st January 2024**

**In Attendance**

Charles Alexander, Davie Cameron, Lorna Smith, Tony Smith, Val Inglis, Wull Clark,

Liz Kennedy, Rachel Yeats, James Yeats, Ruth Cranswick and Richard Marwood.

Owen Clark for the AGM.

**Hills Climbed**

**Friday**

Lorna & Tony Cnoc Loch Dunmore (147m) & Dunmore Hill (153m)

**Saturday**

Richard, Ruth & Charles Ben Vrackie (841m)

Davie, James, Val, Wull & Liz Creag Uchdag (879m)

**Notes and Summaries**

Friday

**Charles** “got up to about 750 metres on Ben Vrackie on lovely powdery snow. The path disappeared as the cloud came down so decided to turn back, with a view to trying again on Saturday.”

**Lorna and Tony**. Tony writes: “We climbed Cnoc Loch Dunmore and Dunmore Hill, both “tumps”, on a pleasant circuit in Loch Faskally Woods just north of Pitlochry. Good walking on snow covered, way-marked, forest trails with short 'off-piste' detours to take in these two little hills.”

Saturday

**Richard, Ruth, and Charles** summitted nearby (Corbett) Ben Vrackie 841m. Richard writes “started our walk from the upper car park near Moulin at the back of ten. Heavy rain had just stopped. Subsequently, with mostly overcast weather, we experienced no rain over the whole five + hours. Slippery ice on track right from the start, so all used microspikes for the whole walk. Ruth’s micro-spikes were unfortunately a good deal too large. This was quickly resolved with some compression ties (NB useful additions to any backpack). The final more mountainous ascent from the Loch was a most enjoyable winter route: visibility coming and going, packed snow, and icy rocks and stepping stones. There is a recently upgraded stone step path route right up to summit cairn. No doubt very good in summer conditions, this was well iced or completely obscured by snow in the upper parts of the climb. Attention required. We valued our micro-spikes and walking poles. We witnessed a number of other walkers turning back. But we were also surprised to see the occasional walker get to the summit with just trainers on their feet, no extra kit, and indeed no gloves! No views at the top due to cloud but we had been afforded some not long before**.**

**Davie, James, Val, Wull, Liz** climbed (Corbett) Creag Uchdag 879m, from Ardeonaig on the south of Loch Tay. James described lack of a clear path in an earlier section of the walk with plenty of fences to climb. Davie writes “Quite damp and cold with heavy showers during the ascent and a very sharp shower while approaching the summit. Very windy on the exposed summit. Some patches of heavy snow in the drifts. Reached the summit in reasonable time: 3hr 20 mins. Had a very interesting nature encounter. On our approach, we saw what we thought was an Eagle hovering to catch prey.  It was then harassed by a smaller raptor, that obviously thought that the hunting ground was its own.  Eagle just shrugged it off. Quite a spectacle. The smaller raptor may have been a falcon.”

**Lorna, Tony and Rachel**. Tony writes: “we opted out of any serious walks and instead spent the morning in Pitlochry before tackling our “E6 to E8 route” in Aberfeldy. We went to Birks Cinema to see ‘One Life’ (which was excellent!) and thought the seat numbers had an apt climbing relevance.”

After tea, the Club had its AGM (separate minutes available), followed by good social cheer, mulled wine, and a surprise birthday celebration.

**Sunday**

Group visit to the Ballinluig MotorGrill for breakfast and then home!

**Next Meet**

**Corran**

February 23rd – 25th

Organiser: Wull Clark

*Richard*