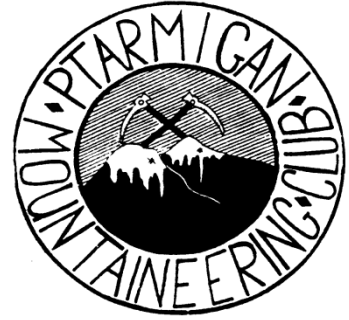


Ptarmigan Hillwalking & Mountaineering Club



Website: www.ptarmiganmc.org.uk

Monthly Newsletter

July 2026

The Meet on Sunday 5th July is to the Linn of Dee

DETAILS OF THE MEET

The bus will leave Waterloo Place at 07.30 going via Shandwick Place (bus stop opposite Boots), Haymarket, Roseburn, Drum Brae, Forth Road Bridge, M90, Blairgowrie (comfort stop), Glen Shee, Braemar & The National Trust Car Park Linn of Dee.

Bus convener: Alexandra Butler

Bookings and cancellations: Email bookings@ptarmiganmc.org.uk

Main map required: Sheets 43 Braemar & Blair Atholl, 36 Grantown and Aviemore and 44 Ballater & Glen Clova.

The fare will be £25 and, while cash can be taken in the bus, it would be preferred if you could pay by bank transfer IN ADVANCE of the outing. The day before is fine. Please pay to:
PTARMIGAN MOUNTAINEERING CLUB (note name is not yet changed); 80-17-68; 00248765

Bus departure times - a reminder

We always aim for our buses to leave Waterloo Place promptly at 07:30 am on the day of an outing. It is difficult to predict the times at which the bus will arrive at other pick up points which will depend on traffic, any roadworks etc but the roads are usually very quiet at that time of day. We have a note of who is due to be joining the bus at Waterloo Place and the other pick up points. If anyone is missing, the bus will usually wait for two minutes at any pick up point but will not normally wait for any longer than that."

Route Options

Munros

From Linn of Dee [NO 064898]:

Beinn Bhreac, 931m, [NO 058971] Carn a' Mhaim, 1037m, [NN 994952]
Derry Cairngorm, 1155m, [NO 017980] The Devil's Point, 1004m, [NN 976951]

From Spittal of Glenshee [NO 108700]:

Glas Tulaichean, 1051m, [NO 051760]
Carn an Righ, 1029m, [NO 028773]
Beinn Iutharn Mhor, 1045m, [NO 045792]

A combination of all three would be suitable for fast parties only.

From Glen Shee ski centre [NO 141779]:

An Socach, 944m, [NO 080800]

Alternatively it is possible to climb An Socach from [NO 138833], going up the Baddoch Burn and descending via Glen Ey to Inverey or ESE to the ski centre.

The Cairnwell, 933m, [NO135773]; Carn Aosda, 917m, [NO 134792]; Carn a'Gheoidh, 975m, [NO 107767]. All three could be done with the option of returning to the Spittal of Glenshee either by going south over Carn Mor or by a scenic descent westwards into Gleann Taitneach.

From the A93 north of the ski centre, at [NO 148800]: Glas Maol, 1068m, [NO 167765]; Creag Leacach, 987m, [NO 154745]; Carn an Tuirc, 1019m, [NO 174804]; Cairn of Claise, 1064m, [NO 185789]; Tolmount, 958m, [NO 210800]; Tom Buidhe, 957m, [NO 214788]

From Auchallater on A93, [NO 156882]: Carn an t-Sagairt Mor, 1047m, [NO 208843]; Carn a' Choire Bhoidheach, 1110m, [NO 226845]

Parties have in the past attempted Beinn a' Bhuid, 1197m, [NO 093006], though it is a long haul to the North Top, **so it is advisable for fast parties only**. For anyone considering Beinn a' Bhuid, the Corbett Carn na Drochaide or the Graham Creag Bhalg, you could leave the bus at Victoria Bridge [NO 103895] and cut through the policies of Mar Lodge (owned by the National Trust and freely accessible to walkers). This would also open up additional options for low-level walkers who want to explore the Glen Quoich/Glen Lui area.

Various through-routes can be followed up Glen Ey. One for fast parties only takes in the remote Munro Carn Bhac, 946m, [NO 051832], traverses some rough ground to Loch nan Eun and then descends Glen Taitneach to the Spittal of Glenshee. This can be shortened by staying low and omitting Carn Bhac, or made really challenging by adding on Beinn Iutharn Mhor as well. The Morrone-An Socach ridge can also be tackled in various ways from the Glen Ey side.

Corbetts

From A93 at Dalhenzean [NO 127681]: Monamenach, 807m, [NO 176706]

From A93 at [NO 114714]: Ben Gulabin, 806m, [NO 100722]

From A93 at [NO 140834]: Creag nan Gabhar, 834m, [NO 154841]

From Chapel Brae, Braemar: Morrone/Morven, 859m, [NO 132886]

From Victoria Bridge: Carn na Drochaide, 818m, [NO 127938]

From Linn of Dee: Sgor Mor, 813m, [NO 007914]

Grahams

From junction of A93 & B951 at [NO 142633]: Mount Blair, 744m, [NO167629], Mealna Letter or Duchray Hill, 702m, [NO 161672]

From track at [NO 079900], 2km east of Linn of Dee: Creag Bhalg, 668m, [NO 091912]

Low Level

A wide range of low-level walking is available from the Spittal of Glenshee onwards, with possibilities in Glen Cluny, Glen Callater, Glen Ey, Glen Lui, Glen Derry and Glen Quoich. The route from Spittal of Glenshee to Inverey via Gleinn Taitneach and Glen Ey (24 km) is recommended as "a fine direct pass" in *Scottish Hill Tracks*.

Jock's Road and Glen Callater : from Auchallater, [NO 156882], 3km south of Braemar on the A93, follow the Callater Burn south, continuing along Loch Callater. Jock's Road, a historic drove road, climbs steeply to a pass at about 880m on the way to Glen Doll, Glen Clova and the cattle marts in the south. Return by the same route.

Morrone Birkwood is a nature reserve of very fine birch and juniper. From the centre of Braemar take Chapel Brae to a car park. A track gives access to a way-marked loop and view point...and there is always the path up Morrone!

The Lairig Ghru loop , 18miles/29km: from Linn of Dee west to White Bridge; north up Glen Dee into the Lairig Ghru; then from [NN 986956], near the site of the Corroul bothy, south-east into Glen Luibeg and Derry Lodge; south-east then south to Linn of Dee.

“Members and Guests sometimes ask whether there will definitely be a low level walk. The choice of walks is very much a matter for individuals and is very weather dependent. So, there can be no guarantee that will always be a low level walk. But, if you are interested in doing a low level walk or any of our suggested walks, please use our WhatsApp group to share your ideas. If you are not already in the WA group contact secretary@ptarmiganmc.co.uk”

The Club's Code of Good Practice (available at our website <https://ptarmiganmc.org.uk> under the Membership tab) lists the clothing and equipment to have on the hills. It is important to have warm clothing, good quality waterproofs and robust boots and to carry food, water, map, compass and a mobile phone. A first aid kit, survival bag, whistle and torch should also be carried.

Disclaimer: We do not have walk leaders, our groups walk as equals with shared responsibility for navigation and safety. The routes suggested above are merely descriptions of walks in the area; they do not represent invitations or recommendations by the Club or any of its Officers to walkers to go on these routes. It is the individual and sole responsibility of each walker to choose a route that is within their capability.

WhatsApp Group

You are reminded that we have now set up a WhatsApp group to enable members to exchange plans for the day in advance which may take some pressure off the bus convener. If you have not already joined and would like to do so, please email secretary@ptarmiganmc.org.uk

Highways Hillwalking Club

For many years we have had an informal association with the Highways Hillwalking Club in terms of which our members are welcome as guests on their outings and vice versa without restriction of the number of such outings that can be attended. The HHC operates a programme very similar to ours, also using MacLeod Coaches, but usually on the second Sunday of the month. The combined programme for both clubs can be found in the Meets section of our website and full details of the HHC including how to sign up for their outings are available at their website: <https://sites.google.com/site/highways3102/home> "

What we did last month

A few groups made the most of the very wet conditions. As Douglas Tullis writes. “A great day for waterfalls & rivers although rivers not so great when you have to cross them.”





Beinn a' Bhuidh: Pictures by Anya Martin



Beinn a' Chochuill group recovering from the inclement weather: pic by Tod Van Gunten



10 wet walkers heading to the pub: Pic by Sara Knight: The view up Loch Etive: Pic by Alex Williamson