

Next club walk – Sunday 23rd January

Clashmach Hill and Huntly

Meet as usual at the library/school car park - **depart at 0830**

For those meeting at Huntly we shall be departing there around 0930.

Walk leader - Ian Bean (contact ianbean2020@gmail.com)

Start point - Market Muir car park, Turn right at the large roundabout as you enter Huntly on A96. This is George V Avenue (A97). Grid reference NJ526395

Parking - The car park is on the left of George V Avenue as you head into the town centre.

The entrance is just before the junction with Market Street.

Distance - 11.25km / 7 miles

Time - 3 to 4 hours

Ascent - approximately 243 metres / 797 feet

Clashmach Hill is an open ridge lying to the southwest of Huntly. The ascent to the summit is steady but straightforward on a grassy track and path and offers extensive views. After taking care crossing the main A96, the walk continues up a minor road past the auction mart and café, eventually leading on to a grassy path with gorse and fences either side. After crossing a stile we continue up through a short section that is partially overgrown with gorse. After another stile the view opens up with a view of Ben Rinnes in the distance. We join another track running along the hill to the summit marked by a cairn and triangulation point. (368 metres / 1207 feet). Here you will have extensive views of the nearby Tap o'Noth and the tors of Bennachie. The return is by the same route. Thereafter we intend to extend the walk by exploring the surroundings of Huntly, taking in the war memorial, the original Gordon Schools building, and Huntly Castle before joining a footpath alongside the River Deveron passing the Nordic Ski Centre before heading back into Huntly. The 11.25km/ 7 miles includes the extension around Huntly.

Because of current covid regulations - track and trace - for those wishing to go can you please let me know by email - grahamdenyer52@gmail.com

Can you also let me know whether you intend to meet at Westhill or at the start of the walk at the carpark at Huntly.