

Corran Ferry - Away days 7th - 9th, May.

Ten of the group made their way to Corran on Sunday 7th May for a stay of three nights.

Some walking was done on Sunday en-route to the West, with three of the group stopping close to Glencoe village to climb up the Pap of Glencoe (742m). Others were able to climb a Graham in Glen Orchy. Fortunately, the weather on the Sunday proved to be good with the ascents being mostly in warm sunshine.

On Monday, due to a forecast of heavy rain showers, no large hills were attempted. Three of us crossed to Ardgour on the passenger ferry and walked through the estate to a small waterfall--- back in the afternoon. One of us went to Glen Roy for a Graham, Leanna Mhor (684m), others took the opportunity to visit Glen Nevis and the ancient monument of Dun Deardal. The afternoon took the same group to Cow Hill, covered in mist on a wet afternoon. One member of the group used the opportunity to complete one of the sections of the West Highland Way that he had not been able to attempt previously - Kingshouse to Kinlochleven.

Tuesday proved to be much better weather-wise, mostly sunny but with some mist and light showers on the hills. Three members of the group took the opportunity to go for two Munros that dominate the skyline to the south of Ballachulish – Sgorr Dhonuill (1001m) and Sgorr Dhearg (1024m) linked by a long ridge Beinn a' Bheithir. The climb proved to be both demanding and rewarding, with some fantastic views between periods of mist.

Most of the group stayed locally, some climbing the Graham Beinn na Gucaig (616m) dropping down to the Lochan Lunn Da-Bhra. Our West Highland Way aficionado returned to the fray to complete the section from Kinlochleven to the end of the West Highland Way at Fort William

On the Wednesday, the group dispersed taking their own routes back to Perth and stopping, mostly without prior planning. Some members however, visited the area around the old Ballachulish quarries to study the geography and geology of the area and made a short walk through the woodland to a deserted sheepfold in the Brecklet, area SE of Ballachulish township, returning by the River Laroch. A stop was later made at the Hospital Loch close to Glencoe village.

The bunkhouse is to be highly recommended. The rooms are en-suite with bedding and towels provided; in contrast to the name – there are no bunks – just normal single beds. The lounge area is large and comfortable and the Bunkhouse is exceptional good value for the money. It is also an interesting area to explore. We just now need a functioning car ferry!

Good company and good walking.

Sunday - The Pap of Glencoe



At the summit of the Pap of Glencoe.





Another member took this photo on the same day of the Pap from Hospital Loch, Glencoe

Monday – Ardgour Estate



We follow the stream up the slope to its source



Checking the route at Ardgour

Monday - Glen Nevis



A second group on Monday visited the Ancient Monument of Dun Deardal in Glen Nevis

Tuesday – Ascent of the Graham Beinn na Gucaig



Once below the cloud the view opened over Lochan Lunn Da-Bhra and Glen Nevis



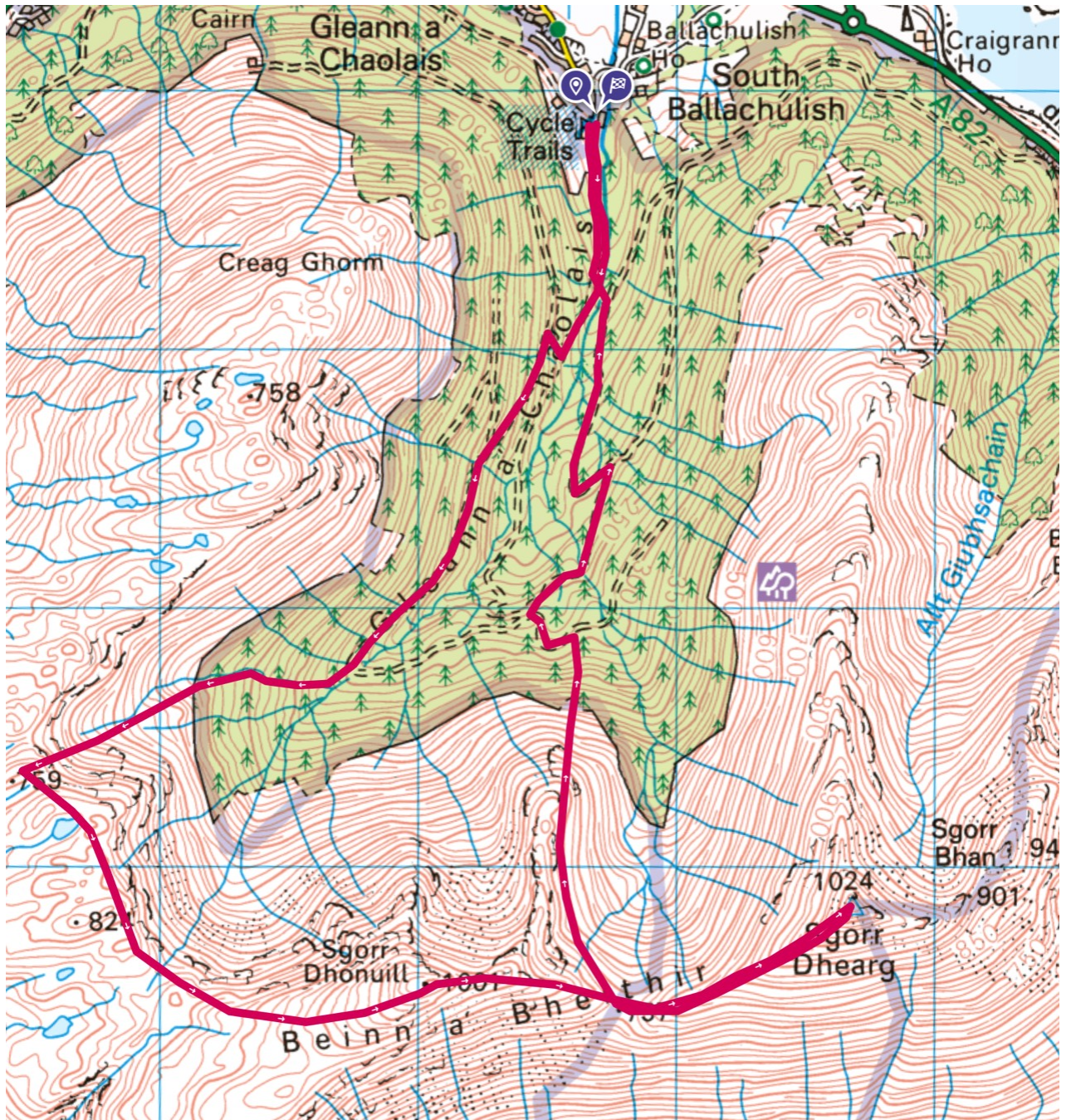
After a long walk-out along Glen Ridh – nearly back to the cars.

Tuesday – South Ballachulish

The approximate route for the Munros south of Ballachulish is given below:

4,100 ft of climbing, roughly 8 miles, duration 7hrs.

The initial approach is on a good forest track followed by a well-marked hill track. The final push to the ridge was however extremely steep. Once on the ridge the walking was reasonably easy, though the section from the summit of Sgorr Dhonuill to the bealach between the Munros, was extremely narrow via a rocky arrete and demanded great care – not to be tackled in poor weather. The climb up to Sgorr Dhearg was straight forward. Our return from the bealach down to the forest was made unnecessarily difficult by choosing an unmarked route through logged plantation.





After walking through the woodland there is a long slog up the grassy slope to the top ridge.



After reaching the summit of our first Munro, we have a narrow rocky route to navigate to reach the bealach before approaching the second Munro



The mist lifts to give us a good view of Sgorr Dhearg



Before the climb time for a chat and some lunch – looking back towards Sgorr Dhonuill.



From the bealach we start our ascent of Sgorr Dhearg



At the summit – and the mist lifts to provide some views.