

## WINTER SPECIAL WALK AND MEAL FEB 13<sup>TH</sup> Creigh Hill and Blackwater Reservoir

Every year we like to have a special meal together combined with a less- demanding walk. This year we focussed on Blackwater Reservoir as the meeting point with Macritch Hill and Creigh Hill as the focus for the walk.

Even before the walk started it turned out to be a day of mystery tours!

Thirteen walkers set off on a misty morning from Scone Park & Ride on what should have been a straight forward drive to Backwater Reservoir. However, two road closures complicated matters and lead to significant detours over roads most had never travelled.

The walk started from the east side of the Reservoir and then up and over Macritch Hill and the dismantled Neolithic or bronze aged burial cairns on Cairn Motherie (497m) and Cairn Plew (also 497m) before a descent over heather clad slopes back to the car park.

The return journey was accompanied by multiple "Road Closed" signs despite only a small area of road actually being closed, and involved a scenic detour through Alyth and Chapelhill to our lunch stop at Ardler where we were joined by a 14th member for an excellent lunch at the Ardler Tavern. A very good day out.







The start of the walk towards the hill path



At the start of path towards Ley and Craig of Balloch





On our way towards Macritch Hill (475m)



At the large Cairn Motherie (497m)



Continuing on our way towards Creigh Hill



Approaching Cairn Plew





The cairn proved to be extensive with links to the Neolithic past



On the return leg back down to the road and the cars.