

January 8th – Beinn An t-Sidhein from Strathyre



Five members of the group left Broxden at about 8.15 to travel to Strathyre via Doune (46 miles) where we parked in the Forestry Commission car park at the Broch. The weather was around freezing-point but calm and just a bit of light wind and snow falling for a few minutes when we were near the top. There was a good path over a footbridge across the river, north on a road or path parallel to the river then straight up a gap between the trees. We then followed a forestry track, branching off south up a diagonally path to an excellent viewpoint looking south over Loch Lubnaig. The path later turned up the slope and onto a steeper climb to the small mound of An Sidhean (aka An Sithean). After a snack stop, we continued onto the summit of Beinn an t-Sidhean (aka t-Sithein) Great views all round once out of the trees, but a bit cold to stop for long. We continued north on the narrow path trying to find the appropriate point where it descends through the trees to a forest track to the east. Unfortunately, we turned too soon so had to push through trees before finding a track alongside a recently built fence which led us to a forestry track. We followed this first north then south where a junction was blockaded by fallen trees that were being removed by forestry people. Here we also stopped for lunch, leaving room for afternoon coffee and cakes which we hoped would follow soon. It was not far back to the car park where unfortunately the Broch Café was closed. However, the café at St Fillans Village Store was open and provided us with our much-anticipated refreshments. A very pleasant walk enjoyed by us all.

Total ascent 460m; 8.2km; total time 4hrs, walking time 2hrs 14 min.



We start off through the forest



Time to catch our breaths



The view half way up the track – looking south over Loch Lubnaig towards Callander



Getting to the top of the first hill – An Sidhean

Arriving at the first view point



On the top of An Sidhean



Time to get our gear sorted before pushing on



After leaving the summit of Beinn an t-Sidhein we continue along the ridge



After following a rough track through the plantation, we finally find a good track back to the cars