

Circuit from Little Glenshee 11th December 2023

Eleven members met at Broxden before car sharing to the car park at Little Glenshee. The walk started by climbing up the path below the Quarry and the hill Creag na Criche. A detour was made to explore a standing stone on the north side of the burn that divides Tullybeagles from Tullybelton. The granite monolith measures 2.7m high x 2m long x 0.8m thick and is known locally as the Sack Stone (NN 997 359). The name has been confirmed by a local gamekeeper in the early 1900s and is likely to be the residue of some early legend telling of the stone being dropped out of the apron of a witch!

After returning to the track we stopped for coffee below the stones marked as The D, before continuing to meet the track ascending to the obelisk on Craig Gibbon. This obelisk was erected by Colonel William Mercer of Aldie and Meikleour. In his time it was painted white and was there as a visual marker of his Tullybeagles estate. He was fatherless from a young age. His father, Robert Nairn, was killed in the battle of Culloden. His death meant that the Aldie estate was saved from forfeiture. William then assumed his mother's maiden name of Mercer. Colonel William Mercer died in 1790 and is buried in the Mercer Vault in St John's Kirk, Perth.

After admiring the views towards Obney Hill and the more distant snow clad mountains we descended steeply into Glen Garr where we had lunch before continuing past several bird populated lochans to return to the starting point.

Coffee and festive cakes were enjoyed at Stewart Towers on the return journey to Perth.

Distance 8 miles 1362 ft ascent





