

## Fowlis Wester Circuit 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Nine members left Broxden and drove to a parking area on the moor of Ardoch nearby Fowlis Wester.

The walk started by following a track which passes 2 standing stones within stone circles of Bronze Age origin commanding a clear view of the surrounding hills. The stones lie on the foothills of the Sma Glen Pass used as a travel route since ancient times.

We continued through the forest along the shore of Loch Meallbrodden to the Dam before crossing and following the opposite shoreline until it was possible to circumvent a deer fence. The reflections of autumn-coloured trees and hillside in the perfectly still loch surface were spectacular. The Loch itself was home to a pair of swans with 4 cygnets.

We decided to navigate our way over rough pathless and at times boggy terrain towards the summit of Milquhanzie Hill the site of the remains of a prehistoric domestic and defensive hill fort where we had coffee.

Descending over rough ground again we joined a track briefly before ascending on a feint path where we managed to locate a cup and ring marked stone shown on the OS map before continuing further to 2 hut circles just below the summit of the next hill.

From here we descended towards the road which was followed back to the start point before driving towards Perth and stopping at Dobbies for coffee to end a really enjoyable exploration in fine autumn weather.

8miles 1150ft ascent



Standing Stones and Circles Ardoch Moor



Loch Meallbrodden



Ascending Milquhanzie Hill



# Cup Marked Stone

