

Glenmore Lodge Report 2010

48 members attended Glenmore Lodge between Saturday 27th March and Friday 2nd April for the annual winter mountain skills week. As usual we were well looked after by all the Lodge staff who always go the extra mile to make our stay a comfortable and well fed experience! Members took part in Basic Winter Skills, Winter Mountaineering Skills and Mountain Navigation courses. Those not on structured training courses self programmed. There were quite a few Munros bagged during the week including Ben Macdui, Cairngorm, Bynak More and Creag Meagaidh. The weather on Sunday 28th was typical Scottish winter with most parties experiencing "white out" conditions up in the Northern Corries and on the Cairngorm plateaux a proper winter storm was in full force, it was a good test of navigational skills. Monday dawned bright and sunny so the party from Bedfordshire headed over to Creag Meagaidh and bagged 3 Munros during a long 22 Km mountain day, other parties headed of up Ben Macdui and Jeff Crawford and John Collingwood from Cleveland had a long day walking from the Ski Car Park up onto the Cairngorm plateaux down to Loch Avon and up on to the remote Beinn Mheadhoin. Monday Evening it began to snow and it continued until Thursday morning, vehicles were snowed in and the forest looked like a scene from the Yukon! Most parties collected Snow Shoes from the stores and headed off around Loch Morlich or into the forest The Lodge always lays on a full programme of evening events for us and this included lectures on winter navigation and avalanche awareness. Lodge staff organised a quiz (won by the Bedfordshire Team!) as well as Whiskey tasting and lost property auction. As a result we raised over £600 for the Cairngorm Mountain Rescue Team. I am continually updating my mailing list of personnel interested in this week, so if you would like to attend or want further details or know someone who does please contact me at steve.humm@bedsfire.com.