



# MEDIA PACK

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» 2014/2015 «





## ABOUT BURDIE CREATIVE LTD

Burdie Creative Ltd is a creative design and publishing group recently set up to produce a quality and informative publication for local businesses and residents, and visitors of the lower, middle and upper Deeside areas.

The company comprises three core personnel with over 35 years' design and publishing industry experience between them.

» **MAIRI MACLEOD GRAY** is a graphic designer with over 15 years experience and has successfully produced a portfolio of work that has culminated in her setting up her own design company.

» **KELLY WHYTE** worked as a graphic designer for over 10 years before setting up in business on her own.

» **KIRSTEN HORNE** has a publishing degree and has worked in both traditional and creative publishing industries.

All three have the qualities, skills and drive to make this business a success.





## ABOUT DEE N' DO

Dee n' Do is a premium magazine aimed at promoting and showcasing the beauty and character of the Royal Deeside area and communities. Targeted at locals and visitors, we want the reader to engage, reference, be inspired by and simply enjoy the magazine for seasons to come. Published bi-annually, each issue will focus on different aspects of this diverse area through its editorial and advertising content.

Currently there are a few publications that serve different parts and districts of the area that we propose to cover, however no single publication exists that cohesively promotes or showcases the area with authority. Many of the existing publications are little more than directories and Dee n' Do will have the distinct advantage over these competitors by offering a more insightful and comprehensive look into the area.

### PROPOSED CONTENT:

Each issue shall be informative, interesting and enjoyable. The magazine will be infused with creative visuals and entertaining content. The smorgasbord of articles will include, but certainly not be limited to:

- »→ Cultural Events + Art
- »→ Food + Drink
- »→ Local Business Spotlight
- »→ Leisure + Recreation
- »→ Outdoor Activities
- »→ Hidden Gems (best kept secrets)
- »→ History + Tales
- »→ Events Calendar





## PRODUCT INFORMATION

### PRODUCT OBJECTIVES:

- » A minimum of 30% and maximum 45% advertising input to each issue.
- » An initial print run of 10,000 with plans to increase circulation if demand increases.
- » Provide a diverse mix of relevant and current topics, in terms of content and areas covered.
- » Develop and build the profile of Deeside.

### PRODUCT DIMENSIONS:

Dee n' Do is a 100 page magazine, perfect bound, in B5 format (170mm x 242mm). Published on uncoated, stock and FSC & PEFC certified.

### DISTRIBUTION:

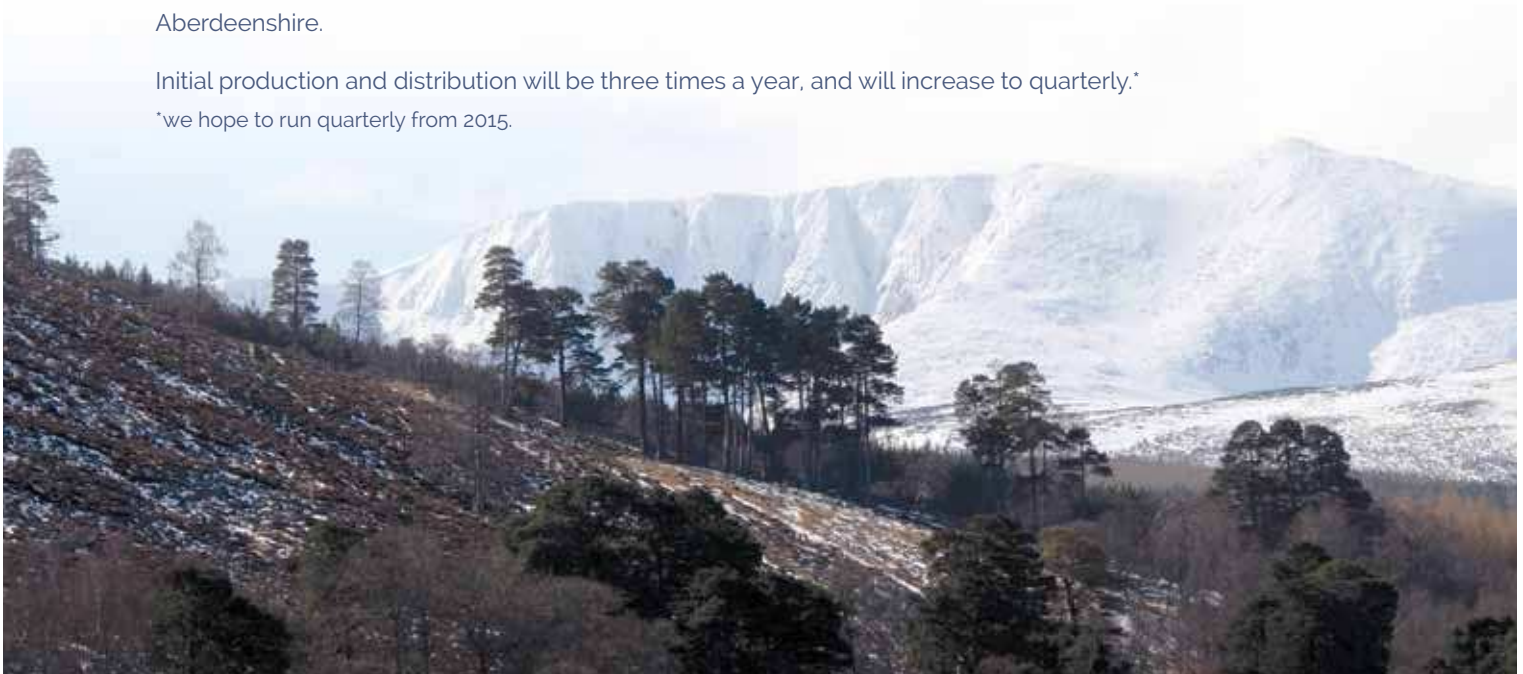
An initial print run of 10,000 will cover the following areas (through EAE distribution outlets):

- » Royal Deeside
- » VisitScotland Information Centres (Aberdeen, Ballater, Braemar, Banchory, Crathie)
- » Aberdeen City
- » Aberdeenshire
- » Spey Valley
- » Perthshire

In addition to over 600 EAE outlets, we have also secured distribution links through some blue chip companies in the oil and gas industry, as well as relocation companies, hotels and major retailers in Aberdeenshire.

Initial production and distribution will be three times a year, and will increase to quarterly.\*

\*we hope to run quarterly from 2015.





## ADVERTISING RATES

	1 Issue	2 Issues (-15%)		1 Issue	2 Issues (-15%)
Outside Back Page	£1350.00	£1147.50	Half Page (Portrait)	£450.00	£382.50
Inside Front Cover Single	£1125.00	£956.25	Half Page (Landscape)	£450.00	£382.50
Inside Front Double Page	£1690.00	£1436.50	Quarter Page	£300.00	£255.00
Inside Back Cover	£1050.00	£892.50	Third Page (Portrait)	£375.00	£318.75
Double Page Spread	£1275.00	£1083.75	Third Page (Landscape)	£375.00	£318.75
Full Page	£750.00	£637.50	Banner Page	£225.00	£191.25

### ADVERTORIALS

#### Why choose an advertorial over conventional advertising?

An advertorial is an indepth article written on your business with a focus on promoting your chosen product/service/business etc. This enables you to engage with your target audience while bringing added credibility to your brand as there is a strong implied endorsement by the magazine, as readers assume the editor has been involved in selecting the content shown. Please contact us for details.

### POSITIONING & DIMENSIONS (All sizes in millimetres).

Double Page Spread	Full Page	Half Page (Portrait)	Half Page (Landscape)	Third Page (Portrait)	Third Page (Landscape)	Quarter Page	Banner Page (Landscape)
484 x 170	242 x 170	242 x 85	121 x 170	242 x 56.1	80 x 170	121 x 85	40 x 170

### ADVERT DESIGN & COST

We offer an in-house design service if required. Costs for design and set up of print artwork with two sets of changes are as follows:

- » Up to full page size **£90.00**
- » Double page spread **£150.00**

Additional charges will be incurred if more than two sets of changes are required.

**All prices exclude VAT. Payment accepted by invoice per issue. Terms are strictly 14 days.  
All accounts must be paid before print deadline or your advert will not appear and a cancellation fee of 50% will apply.**



## ADVERTISING BOOKING FORM

Please fill out the details below and email to [advertising@deendo.com](mailto:advertising@deendo.com) or snail mail to Dee n' Do, 2nd Floor, 46a Union Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1BD.

Contact Name .....

Company .....

Address .....

Telephone ..... Mobile .....

Email .....

Website .....

### Advert Size

- Double Page Spread
- Full Page
- Half Page
- Third Page
- Quarter Page
- Sponsor Page

### Advert Position

- Front Cover
- Back Cover
- Inside Front Cover
- Inside Back Cover

### No. of Issues Booked

- 1
- 2 (-15%)

### Artwork Required

- Yes
- No

Artwork should be supplied via email to [advertising@deendo.com](mailto:advertising@deendo.com) or on CD and posted to the above address.

Files are to be supplied as an electronic file in the following formats: **tiff, jpeg, eps, pdf, scaled to print size at 300 dpi**. Alternatively, supplied as an InDesign or Illustrator file (with all relevant fonts and images, logos etc. included).

### Artwork Details (if artwork is required)

### Invoice Address (if different to above)

Contact name .....

Address .....

.....

.....

Telephone .....

Email .....

**Total Cost**

Signature ..... Date .....

All prices exclude VAT. Payment accepted by invoice per issue. Terms are strictly 14 days.  
All accounts must be paid before print deadline or your advert will not appear and a cancellation fee of 50% will apply.



## TERMS & CONDITIONS

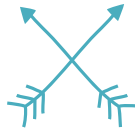
1. Advertisements must conform to the British Code of Advertising Practice and must accurately reflect the product and/or service being advertised.
2. Advertisements are subject to Dee n' Do's approval and must always be recognisable as such and not resemble editorial matter.
3. All claims made in advertisements must be capable of being supported by appropriate evidence and must be made available to the publisher upon request.
4. Advertisements should be inline with Dee n' Do's policies and ethos. As such certain types of advert and promotions may not be permitted within the magazine.
5. The publication of an advertisement by Dee n' Do does not constitute endorsement of the advertiser, its products or services.
6. Dee n' Do reserves the right to increase advertisement rates at any time or to amend the terms and conditions at any time.
7. Dee n' Do will not be liable for any loss or damage caused by amendment, error, late publication or non-publication from any cause whatsoever.
8. Dee n' Do will not accept liability for any error on the part of third parties or inaccurate copy instructions.
9. Dee n' Do reserves the right to publish the most appropriate copy should copy instructions not be received by the stipulated time.
10. Payment for all advertisements is due on receipt of booking.
11. By signing the booking form, you commit to the space reserved and agree to the terms and conditions of booking herewith.
12. We regret cancellations are charged at 50% of the advert cost. Space reserved for which no artwork or copy is received by copy deadline date will be charged at the agreed rate as stated on the booking form.
13. Neither Dee n' Do or its contractors and sub-contractors shall be liable for any consequential loss arising from non-publication of advert or from any errors or omissions contained in published copy/advert.

**All prices exclude VAT. Payment accepted by invoice per issue. Terms are strictly 14 days.**

**All accounts must be paid before print deadline or your advert will not appear and a cancellation fee of 50% will apply.**

# SAMPLE SPREADS

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DROP US A WEE NOTE  
& SAY HELLO!

**We'd love to hear from you!**

Do you have something to say?  
Ideas to promote?  
Information to share?  
Feedback to give?  
If so, please get in touch.

**Reach us at the following:**

hello@deendo.com  
+44 (0)7790 129212  
Room 2, 2nd Floor, 46a Union Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1BD  
www.facebook.com/deendomagazine  
www.twitter.com/dee\_n\_do  
[www.deendo.com](http://www.deendo.com)

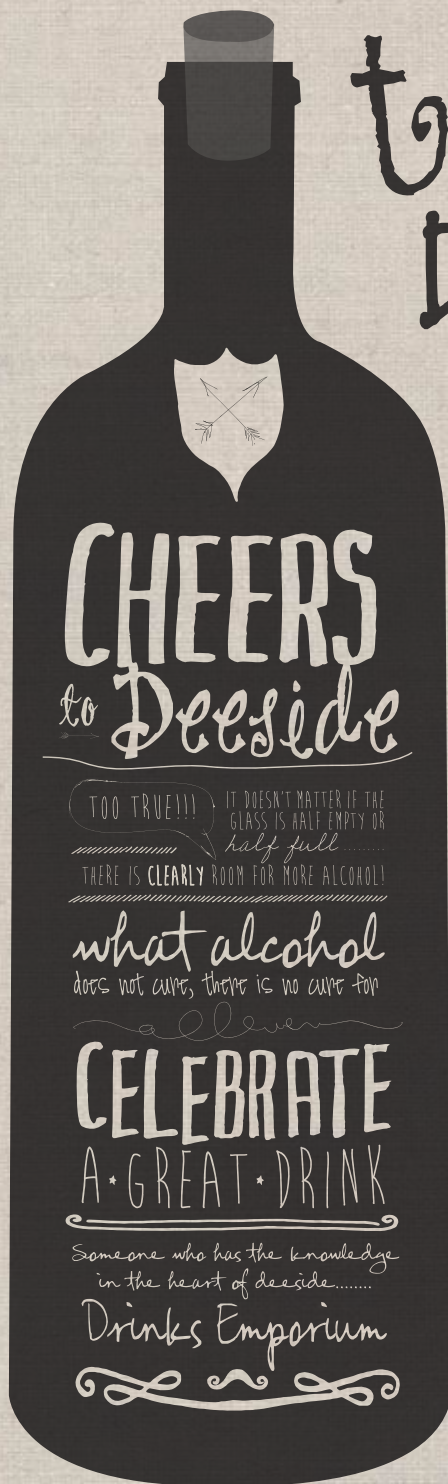


January - June 2014

A magazine for  
**Royal Deeside**

- » Outdoor Activities
- » Cultural Events + Art
- » Food + Drink
- » Local Business Spotlight
- » Deeside Discoveries
- » History + Tales





# tales from the DRINK'S cupboard

By Sandy Kenneway  
Deeside Drinks Emporium, Banchory

In the not so distant past, drinking gin was a straight forward past time. The only question you were likely to be asked upon ordering a gin and tonic in your favourite bar was "ice and lemon?"

At home your drinks cabinet would contain Gordon's, maybe Beefeater or Plymouth.

Then things started to change...

The first of the new order of gins that really sticks out for me was the arrival of Bombay Sapphire; its bold, square blue bottle shining out from wine shop shelves, posters on every billboard and bus shelter and people were talking about gin again. No longer was gin the preserve of the caricature spinster or suave cocktail aficionado. On further inspection of Bombay's label I learned that this gin came with its own story; 10 ingredients and a special distillation processes.

When I tasted it for the first time I was surprised, but not blown away. Yes, it was more interesting when compared with the standards of the time as it had a depth and resonance that went beyond just citrus and juniper, but I couldn't see where all the extra money was going (it could cost up to 50% extra for this compared to the standards of the time). Maybe the extra cost was the blue bottle?

Slowly the market expanded as more and more companies started to explore recipe variations, each with their own tale to tell on the label, each extolling the virtues of how their product was more



Sample responsibly

special than the next, and how this gin was different to the rest. Products like Tanqueray, Beefeater 24 and Greenalls were suddenly everywhere and every supermarket had their own label gin.

Fast forward to today and the market has exploded. Gin shelves of supermarkets now have many choices and the best specialist shops I've seen can have over 50 varieties.

So, how to choose and why not just stick to your favourite standard gin? To start I'd recommend that you have a good read of the labels and try to work out what's in the bottle. Many larger brands spin complicated stories of heritage and rare ingredients that read more like a pirate adventure story. Artisanal producers will talk of special distillation techniques and how their approach is different. There is no substitute for taste. If you can find a bar with a decent selection speak to the bar staff to see what they stock and why. Flavour profiles vary, but can be broken down into simple categories. London Dry Gin is the style that most of us are familiar with where the flavours that come through are typically juniper dominated and have a citrus finish. Most of the popular new wave of products are citrus lead with the juniper more in the background.

Some more exotic brands have many layers of flavours (the most unusual being something like Hoxton Gin which infuses both grapefruit and coconut into the mix) but the ones I'd recommend you seek out are Six O'clock gin, Warner Edwards Harrington Dry Gin, Death's Door or City Of London

Distillery (COLD). All are very different to each other and all much more layered than their competitors.

✂ **Six O'clock** is a classic, bright citrus gin that comes alive when paired with its own tonic.

✂ **Warner Edwards** is made from a barley spirit and produced in a way similar to single malt whisky. This versatile spirit works well with tonic, but is equally great in a classic martini.

✂ **Death's Door** is an American Gin which uses a more neutral spirit made from wheat and is balanced to perfection for me and a perfect all rounder gin.

✂ **COLD** make and sell their gin in an underground bar in central London. On my last visit they had a choice of over 150 gins in their bar!

Whichever gin you decide to buy, play around with how you mix it and what you mix it with and enjoy this golden era for gin.

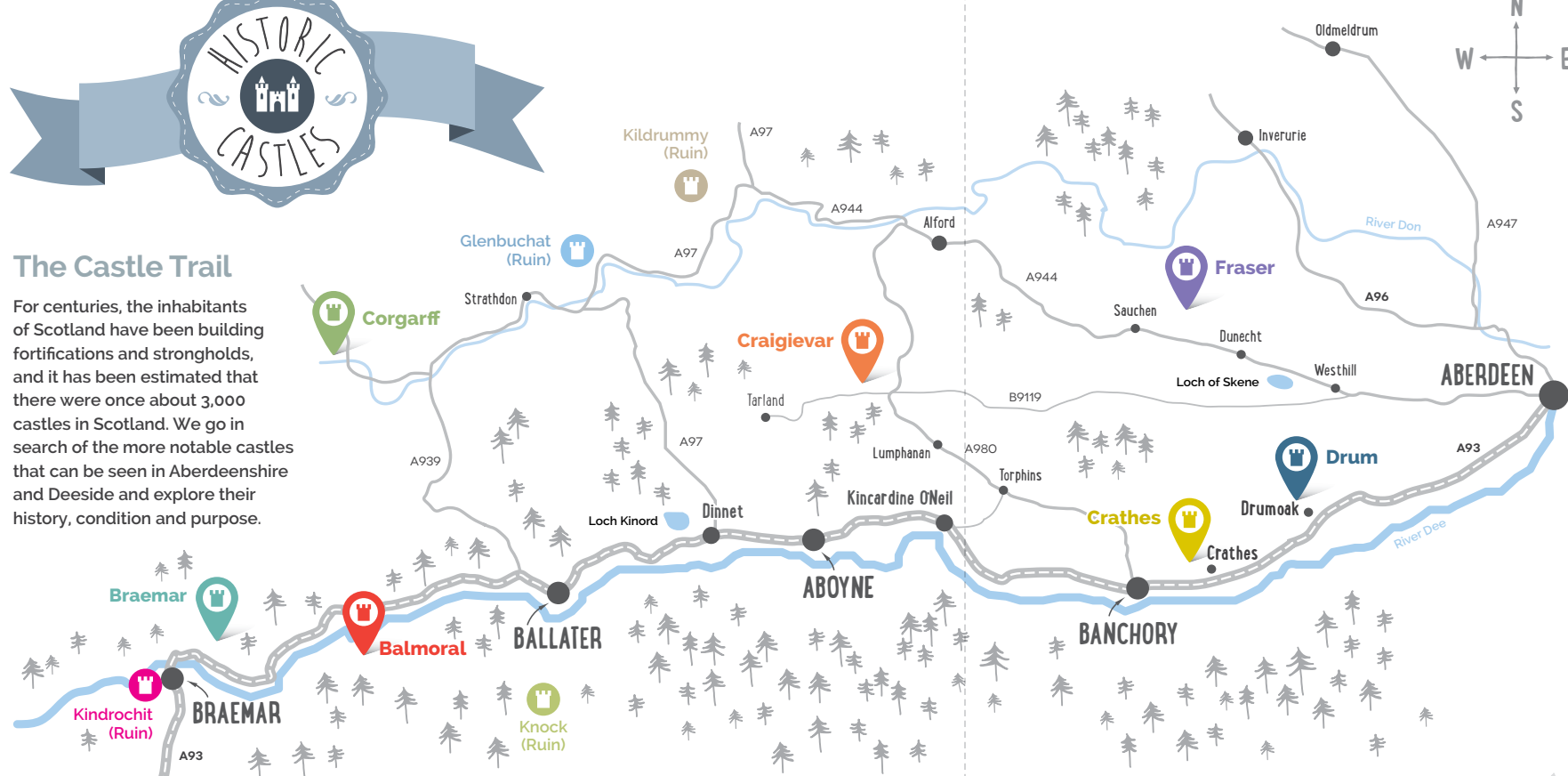
For more information on the products discussed in the article please email us at: [deesidedrinks@live.co.uk](mailto:deesidedrinks@live.co.uk) or visit the product links below.

- ➔ [www.bramleyandgage.co.uk](http://www.bramleyandgage.co.uk)
- ➔ [www.warneredwards.com](http://www.warneredwards.com)
- ➔ [www.deathdoorspirits.com](http://www.deathdoorspirits.com)
- ➔ [www.cityoflondondistillery.com](http://www.cityoflondondistillery.com)



## The Castle Trail

For centuries, the inhabitants of Scotland have been building fortifications and strongholds, and it has been estimated that there were once about 3,000 castles in Scotland. We go in search of the more notable castles that can be seen in Aberdeenshire and Deeside and explore their history, condition and purpose.



### Drum Castle

Drum Castle is near Drumoak and for centuries was the seat of the Chief of Clan Irvine. The castle and its grounds were granted to William de Irwyn in 1325 by Robert the Bruce, and remained in the possession of Clan Irvine until 1975.

### Crathes Castle

Crathes Castle is a 16th-century castle near Banchory. This harled castle was built by the Burnetts of Leys and was held in that family for almost 400 years. The castle and grounds are presently owned and managed by the National Trust for Scotland.

### Castle Fraser

Castle Fraser is located near Kemnay and is the most elaborate Z-plan castle in Scotland, and one of the grandest 'Castles of Mar'. There is evidence of an older square tower dating from around 1400/1500 within the current construction.

### Craigievar Castle

Craigievar Castle is a pinkish harled castle six miles south of Alford. It was the seat of Clan Sempill and the Forbes family resided here for 350 years until 1963, when the property was gifted to the National Trust for Scotland.

### Corgarff Castle

Corgarff Castle is a four-storey tower house built circa 1550 by John Forbes, and in 1748 was converted into a fort. In the early 20th century, after years of neglect the castle fell into ruin, but in recent years has been wonderfully restored by Historic Scotland.

### Balmoral Castle

Balmoral Castle is located near the village of Crathie and has been one of the residences of the British Royal Family since 1852, when it was purchased for Queen Victoria by Prince Albert. It remains the private property of the monarch, and is not part of the Crown Estate.

### Braemar Castle

Braemar Castle is a five storey L-plan castle situated near the village of Braemar. It is owned by the Chief of Clan Farquharson and leased to a local charitable foundation but is also open to the public.

#### Castle Ruins

- Kildrummy Castle
- Glenbuchat Castle
- Kindrochit Castle
- Knock Castle

*"The castles of Aberdeenshire and Grampian are surrounded by an ambience of awe, a feeling of strength and timelessness"*

See indoors at **7** castles



**X5** Beautiful Gardens to visit and walk around for hours



1 X CASTLE WHERE THE QUEEN LIVES

1 X CASTLE BUILT BETWEEN

1057-1093

Crathes Castle **BAT HOTSPOT!**

**Drum Castle** has the oldest 13th Century tower still intact

..... DID YOU KNOW? .....  
**Craigievar Castle** has a stunning 17th Century plaster ceiling

# [FIN] BREMNER]

**secures** his place in the snowboarding scene



Follow Fin

[www.finbremner.com](http://www.finbremner.com) | [twitter.com/finbremner](https://twitter.com/finbremner)



If you haven't heard of this Deeside dynamo yet, you soon will. Despite being part of the Aberdeen scene for years now, Fin Bremner's profile in the white world of Freestyle Snowboarding has been raised significantly in recent months thanks to successful performances and securing Elite Status on the GB Junior Squad for season 2013/14.

**Achieving this status in no mean feat in the sport and has a certain amount of kudos attached to it. At just 14 years old, Fin's career in Freestyle Snowboarding has earned him many firsts, including Scottish Overall Freestyle Champion 2013! Being one of the best athletes in Scotland and indeed GB, Fin's dedication, skill and commitment secured his place on the team.**

For the 2013/14 season, Fin will continue training at Aberdeen Snowsports Centre and compete slopestyle at various events (involves athletes performing tricks in the air as well as on rails and boxes and are awarded points for style and difficulty). Hopefully his success will continue in the European competitions. As well as proud, supportive parents, Fin has had ongoing support from Ski Scotland, Glenshee Ski Centre,

Cairngorm Mountains, Glencoe Mountain, Nevis Range and the Lecht. It's obvious that Fin is keen to give back and promote these organisations as much as he can. We love that a local talent, as young as he, appreciates and recognises the importance of our beautiful alpine scene.

**We're all about that Fin and we wish him all the success he most certainly deserves!**



× Photograph courtesy of Graeme MacDonald

# [MORE ON FIN]

## HOW OLD WERE YOU WHEN YOU FIRST LEARNED TO SNOWBOARD?

I was 9 years old when I had a tubing party at Aberdeen Snowsports Centre and I really liked the look of snowboarding so my mum and dad booked me lessons that commenced in September. I now train there regularly and am very fortunate to live a 10 minute drive away.

## WHEN DID YOU FIRST COMPETE?

I think the first competition I competed in was the Westbeach Series 2010 in Bearsden, Glasgow.

## WHAT ARE YOUR FAVOURITE TRICKS?

Frontside cork 360 tail mute; which is when I do a frontside 360 inverted and my front hand grabs my board between my legs and my back hand grabs the tail of my board.

## WHERE IS YOUR FAVOURITE WINTER RESORT?

My favourite resort is probably the Cairngorms because it's not too far away and it always had a good park but this year is set to be exceptional.

## WHO DO YOU ADMIRE MOST IN THE SPORT?

I admire Jamie Nicholls the most because he has come from a similar background from me (riding dryslope) and is at the top level where I want to be.

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THE SPORT?

I love travelling and seeing the beautiful scenery all around the world. There are a lot of big festivals associated with snowboarding such as the Air & Style and Freeze. There are so many nice genuine people in the industry that help me as well.

## WHAT IS YOUR TRAINING SCHEDULE?

I have a weekly training programme; I go to the gym twice a week for a strength and conditioning programme and then I snowboard around three times a week.

## OLYMPIC DREAMS...?

I would love to go to the Olympics at some point during my career as it is the pinnacle of any athlete's career. I would also love to compete in the X Games but the Olympics is the priority.



All photographs on this spread courtesy of Graeme MacDonald



# A TEAM EFFORT

## THE BRAEMAR MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAM (BMRT)



The Braemar Mountain Rescue Association was formed in 1965 by a group of locals who were concerned about the increasing number of mountain related incidents. Today, 48 years later, the current team continue the long tradition of helping those in need in mountainous areas of the Grampian region.

-- By Allan Murdoch --



### + THE TEAM

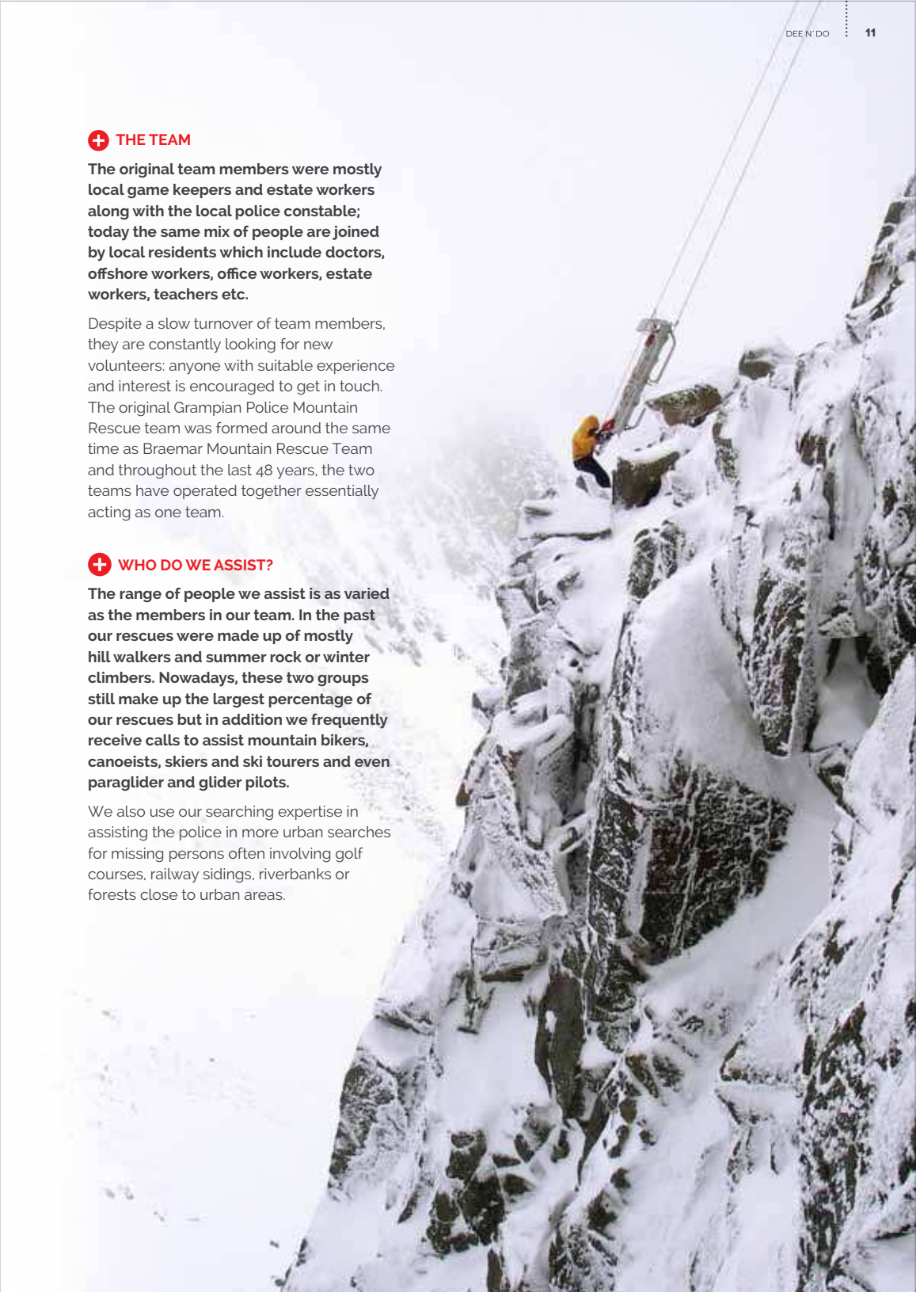
The original team members were mostly local game keepers and estate workers along with the local police constable; today the same mix of people are joined by local residents which include doctors, offshore workers, office workers, estate workers, teachers etc.

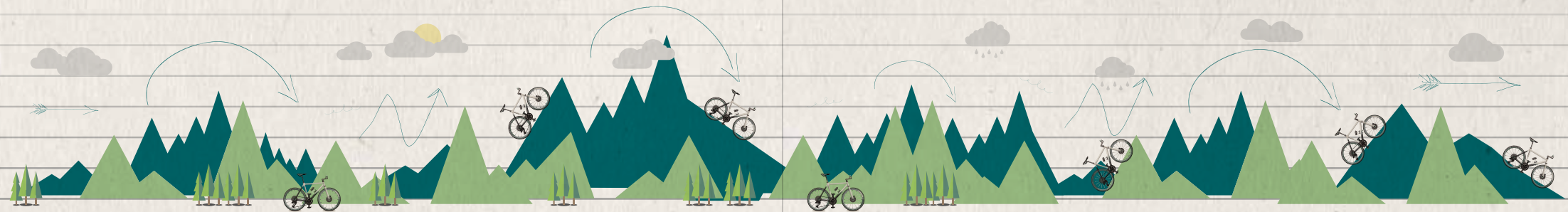
Despite a slow turnover of team members, they are constantly looking for new volunteers: anyone with suitable experience and interest is encouraged to get in touch. The original Grampian Police Mountain Rescue team was formed around the same time as Braemar Mountain Rescue Team and throughout the last 48 years, the two teams have operated together essentially acting as one team.

### + WHO DO WE ASSIST?

The range of people we assist is as varied as the members in our team. In the past our rescues were made up of mostly hill walkers and summer rock or winter climbers. Nowadays, these two groups still make up the largest percentage of our rescues but in addition we frequently receive calls to assist mountain bikers, canoeists, skiers and ski tourers and even paraglider and glider pilots.

We also use our searching expertise in assisting the police in more urban searches for missing persons often involving golf courses, railway sidings, riverbanks or forests close to urban areas.



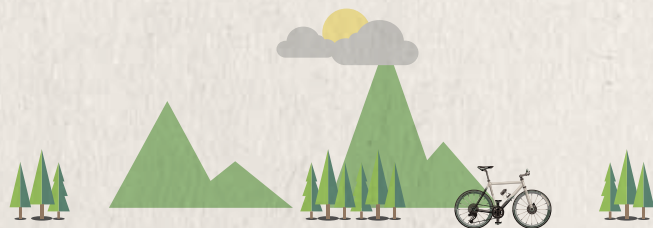


# HIT THE TRAIL ...ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE CAIRNGORMS

- By **Daniel Mintz**, iBikeRide -

If mountain biking is your cup of tea and you're prepared to travel a little further from the Deeside area, head to the challenging trails on the stunning Glenlivet Estate.

**Glenlivet Mountain Bike Trail Centre is a new exciting trail centre that opened in November 2013. It is located in the Carn Daimh forest, near Tomintoul in Moray, Scotland. There is a red and a blue grade trail as well as great facilities including a car park, visitor centre, café and toilets.**



## GlenlivetBlue

GlenlivetBlue is a 9km blue grade route suitable for all the family but exciting to ride with its twists and turns and great flow. The Blue is 'swoopy', sort of like a bobsleigh run-stroke-roller coaster ride. But it is blue so no deliberate jumps on it, however, if you try hard and you know the trail there are jump opportunities to be had. It's pretty rad (mountain bike term for awesome) for a blue.

## GlenlivetRed

GlenlivetRed is a 22km red grade route with black grade technical features to keep the expert mountain biker entertained all year long! GlenlivetRed climbs to the summit of Carn Daimh, offering breathtaking views of the Cairngorms before plunging into the Glenlivet descent; 6.5km of single track downhill packed with features and jumps. The red is tight and twisty, described as sort of 'Welsh' in places (think narrow full bench cut on a steep sideslope).

## Other Waymarked Trails

There is also an existing network of six popular waymarked trails ranging from 12km to 28km long that attract mountain bikers today. These offer rides appealing to more moderate technical ability rides along tracks and farm roads and so offer a good base to build the community from as well as offering diversity. The new trails being proposed will therefore complement these to attract the more enthusiast and sports segments of mountain bikers.

## Natural Trails

There are many miles of epic natural trail riding available and with Scotland's relaxed Outdoor Access Code you get quite a bit of freedom to piece together epic rides.

## Clubs and Groups

Moray Mountain Bike Club is based locally and there is potential for a Glenlivet based club to develop in the future.

## Other Stuff

The project is driven by The Crown Estate in conjunction with the Highlands & Islands Enterprise, Moray Council, the Cairngorms National Park and Scottish Natural Heritage. Russell Burton carried out the initial feasibility study in 2009 with Paul Masson at 'Cycletherapy' taking over more recently as trail builder/designer.

BikeGlenlivet is located off the B9136 road, 4.5 miles from Tomintoul. Website: [www.glenlivetestate.co.uk/things-to-see-do/activities/biking/glenlivet-mountain-bike-trails](http://www.glenlivetestate.co.uk/things-to-see-do/activities/biking/glenlivet-mountain-bike-trails). For more news and reviews on Glenlivet trails and to find more trails you will love in the UK then please visit [www.ibikeride.com](http://www.ibikeride.com) or call 01479 870070.

## DELIGHT IN THE SMALL HILLS OF DEESIDE

Lochnagar and the other big hills in Deeside have the profile and the footfall, however some of the smaller hills should be part of every walker's itinerary.

- By **Dave Shand**, Co-owner Hilltrek Outdoor Clothing -

**One of my favourite small hills is Geallaig; some may call it a non-descript 743 feet high lump, but this lump has some of the best views in Deeside. For those keen on collecting hills, Geallaig is a Graham, defined as a hill in Scotland between 2,000 and 2,500 feet high, with at least 500 feet of descent on all sides.**

Among the small Deeside hills, Geallaig has a lot going for it. It is easy to reach and has well defined tracks - in fact it is perfect for a short winter's day.

Navigation is not a big issue due to a Land Rover track which takes you to the summit and, if you are an experienced walker, it is a hill you can do whatever the weather. I must admit to liking it in whiteout conditions with winter storms sweeping down the Dee.

The best approach to Geallaig is to take the picturesque road A939 from Ballater to Corgarf and turn off at Gairnshiel on the B976 towards Crathie, just before the Wade Bridge at Bridge of Gairn. There is an excellent parking spot just opposite the Braenaloin

croft which is very near to the start of the track. Head up the track in a southerly direction past grouse shooting butts to reach the summit plateau. Behind you the view opens out to Glengairn and Ben Avon. Looking towards the River Gairn there are many ruins scattered around. Until the late 18th and early 19th centuries, Glengairn was a well populated, fiercely Catholic and Gaelic speaking community with a chapel and school.

Alas, today there are only sheep, the occasional Land Rover, the odd walker and mountain biker to be seen. It is a wonderful area to explore and if you are fit you can extend the walk over Geallaig along a part of Glengairn. Meanwhile continuing on our walk on the summit plateau, take the track on the left towards the summit cairn noting the right fork which we will take on the return.

The summit cairn is a substantial structure surrounding an OS trig point. It is a great shelter in poor weather where you can eat your sandwich and sip your coffee contentedly while the winds whistle over your head.

On a good day Geallaig has the best views in Deeside. To the south the majestic cliffs of Lochnagar tower above the moorland. Beneath you, the River Dee flows through Scots Pine woodlands and green pastures

from Braemar to the west past the grey towers of Balmoral on towards Ballater and further to the North Sea. You are surrounded by hills. To the east is Morven which translates to big mountain and even from this point you can see why the Gaelic speaking inhabitants of Deeside were impressed.

Retracing our steps and heading west, the snow covered Cairngorm plateau rising to 4,000 feet now dominates the skyline stretching from Ben Avon in the north towards Ben Macduh in the north west with another excellent small hill Cullardoch in the foreground. Walking down the good track you may be very lucky and catch a glimpse of a ptarmigan or a mountain hare in their white winter coats, they are quite rare on this hill.

The path takes you down to the B976 past several small hillocks with excellent views opening up towards Balmoral. On one of the hillocks there are a series of small cairns all apparently pointing in the direction of Balmoral. Is this a coincidence or was this the site of a Jubilee bonfire in Queen Victoria's time?

From here you can walk down the tarmac road to the car past ancient 'hut circles' an indication of even early settlement in Glengairn. An alternative route is to walk towards Crathie and take the first track to your right into Glen Gairn but maybe that is for another day.

× Photograph courtesy of **Dave Shand**



.....  
*Birdwatchers*  
 .....

# DEESIDE TWEETS

BIRDWATCHING IS FUN – ENJOY IT IN DEESIDE

WHICH OF OUR FEATHERED FRIENDS WILL YOU SEE?

## FROM THE GARDEN

### Chiffchaff



A small olive-brown warbler which actively flits through trees and shrubs picking insects from trees. Readily distinguished by its song, from where it gets its name.

### Greenfinch



A regular garden visitor, able to take advantage of food in rural and urban gardens. Distinctive for its twittering and wheezing song, and flash of yellow and green as it flies.

### Blue Tit



One of our most attractive and most recognisable garden visitors. Family flocks join up with other Tits as they search for food.

*You can help the birds in all sorts of ways*

#### ❧ WINTER ❧

Clear snow from ground feeding areas and remove ice from birdbaths.

Trim hedges after birds have eaten the berries ahead of nesting season.

Encourage robins to breed by putting up an open nest box.

#### ❧ SPRING ❧

Help with nest making by leaving bunches of twigs and moss near your bird feeders.

One of the most important things you can do for your garden is not to use slug pellets, which kill parents and their chicks.

## FROM FIELD AND FARM

### Lapwing



Also known as the peewit in imitation of its display calls, its proper name describes its wavering flight. Its black and white appearance and round-winged shape in flight make it distinctive, even without its splendid crest. This familiar farmland bird has suffered significant declines recently.

### Yellowhammer



Males are unmistakable with a bright yellow head and underparts, brown back streaked with black, and chestnut rump. In flight it shows white outer tail feathers. Often seen perched on top of a hedge or bush, singing. Again population in decline.

### Fieldfares



Large, colourful thrushes, they stand very upright and move forward with purposeful hops. They are very social birds, spending the winter in flocks of anything from a dozen or two to several hundred strong. These straggling, chuckling flocks that roam are a delightful part of the winter scene.

## FROM THE MOORS AND MOUNTAINS

### Golden Eagle



Only the white-tailed eagle is larger in the UK. With its long broad wings and longish tail, it has a different outline to the smaller buzzard. It likes to soar and glide on air currents, holding its wings in a shallow "V". Eagles have traditional territories and nesting places which may be used by generations.

### Golden Plover



A medium-sized plover with a distinctive gold and black summer plumage. In winter the black is replaced by buff and white. They typically stand upright, run in short bursts and are wary on breeding grounds. In winter they form large flocks which fly in fairly tight formation with rapid, twinkling wingbeats.

### Ptarmigan



The ptarmigan is a plump gamebird, slightly larger than a grey partridge. In summer it is a mixture of grey, brown and black above with white bellies and wings. In winter, it becomes totally white except for its tail and eye-patch. It breeds in the highest mountains of the Highlands of Scotland.