**Ballater Author Ian Murray’s Salmon & Trout Fishing, Landrover Tours & Walking:** Rods, waders & casting skills included on private fishing, also coastal. Best-selling author, 5 books on history & folklore and qualified WML guide; Bespoke local Tours with 30% off. On and off-road in high spec vehicles & from Skye to Edinburgh, far Highlands. Guided walking trips. Night wildlife experience. 07771346650, ianlochagnar1@btinternet.com, www.lochagnar.net

**Glen Tanar Trout Fishing on Private Stocked Loch:** 9:00am-5.00pm Adult £30, Child £15 & 5.00pm-10.00pm (or until dark on shorter days) Adult £25, Child £10. Boats and lifejackets available. Please bring your own equipment. Booking is essential. www.glentanar.co.uk

**Hidden Deeside Tours:** Half or Full Day Tours of Royal Deeside with a Scottish History Honours Graduate as your personal Tour Guide. 25% discount for CRAIGENDRARROCH residents. Collection time at your convenience and no booking fee or deposit required. Full day ‘Outlander Tour’, Malt Whisky Trail, Edinburgh and St Andrews Tours also available. Booking essential. 07920 801546, theaberdeenagency@btinternet.com, hidden-deeside.com

**Royal Lochnagar Distillery Tours:** Open Monday-Saturday, 10.00am-5.00pm. Open Sunday 12 noon—5.00pm. Tours available throughout the day, located in Crathie. 013397 42700, www.discovering-distilleries.com/royallochagnar, www.totico.co.uk

**Royal Deeside Golf Ticket Offer:** Participating Golf Clubs include Ballater, Aboyne, Banchory, Peterculter and Braemar. 3 day and 5 day summer and winter tickets available. Simply download the ticket of your choice from any participating golf club website, take your ticket to the club of your choice and pay the fee. The pro/golf club with mark the voucher with the course that has been played. For more details visit: www.ballatergolfclub.co.uk

**Braemar Highland Games Centre:** Discover the 200 year history of the Braemar Royal Highland Society, the organisation behind the famous Braemar Gathering. Exhibition open daily, 10.00am—5.00pm, 4.30pm last entry. www.highlandgamescentre.org

**Braemar Castle:** Open Wednesday—Sunday, 10.00am – 5.00pm with guided tours and audio tours available, £8 per adult, £4 per child, £7 per concession/student. Braemar Castle, Braemar. For more details Tel. 013397 41219 or visit: www.braemarcas.co.uk

**Crathes Castle & Walled Garden:** 16th century tower house with an intricate maze of turrets, towers, oak panels and painted ceilings, Banchory. Open daily 10.30am – 5.00pm. 013308 44525, www.nts.org.uk (search Crathes Castle)

**Blair Castle & Hercules Garden:** Blair Atholl, Perthshire, Castle & Gardens open daily from 9.30am-5.30pm, Last admission 4.30pm, Adults £13, Seniors £11.25, Children £8.30. For more information Tel. 01796481207 or visit: www.blair-castle.co.uk

**Yellow Welly Tours:** Luxury Land Rover Tours of Royal Deeside. Whatever your interest, let us create your wonderful memories while you relax and enjoy your holiday with bespoke tours available with well known local personality Simon Blackett. A free tour of Braemar Castle is included. Contact 07971 1287366 to book. www.yellowwellytours.com

**Innes Carma Tours:** Bespoke Daily Tours visiting castles, distilleries and places of natural beauty. Tours include a local tour guide who tell you all about Scottish culture and history. Contact Tom Innes on Tel:07767 851154, Email: tom.innes@innescarmotours.com or on Facebook at @innescarma.

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**What’s On in October**

**Available Daily**

**Balmoral Winter Land Rover Tours:** The 3 hour safari tour takes you through the manicured parkland and gardens in front of Balmoral Castle. Tours start at 10.00am. Tickets costs £70.00 per person. For more information and booking please visit www.balmoralcastle.com.

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**Various dates throughout the month**

**Woodend Barn Events:** Films Exhibitions, Crafts & Live Performances at Woodend Barn, Banchory. Booking is essential. 013308 26520, www.thebarnarts.co.uk

**Braemar Highland Experience:** 20% discount for CRAIGENDRARROCH residents on bespoke road tours in Land Rover discovery vehicles to explore your personal interest. Scheduled tours and guided walks also available. Visit the local glens and local gems that offer outstanding photographic opportunities. Bookings are essential. 07760 511111, info@bhe.scot, www.bhe.scot.

**Ride In Peace Adventures:** A range of family friendly guided rides. Mountain Biking 1:1 or group coaching sessions. Also for offer Kids sessions and holiday camps. For more information and booking please visit www.rideinpeaceadventures.co.uk. Tel. 07399564842 or Email chris@rideinpeaceadventures.co.uk

**Freedom Running:** Group Trail and Hill run with local running guide Nick Mardell. From beginners through to experienced runners, Nick will take you on bespoke short or long runs in the local area at a time, distance and speed to suit your individual wishes. For further information and to book please contact Nick on Tel. 07834512029 or email nick@freedomrunning.co.uk
What’s On in October

**Free Activities Available Daily**

**Knock Castle Ruin:** 16th century four-storey tower house of the Gordon family, open year round for the public to explore, 1 mile outside of Ballater on the South Deeside Road heading towards Crathie. For details visit: www.deesidewalks.com (Under ‘All Walks’ click on Seven Bridges Trail)

**Burn o’ Vat on Muir of Dinnet National Nature Reserve:** A natural deep water carved stone bowl alongside circular walking trails between Dinnet & Ballater. www.nnr-scotland.org.uk/muir-of-dinnet

**Loch Muick & Lochnagar Wildlife Reserve:** Home to a Red Deer Reserve, Stunning wildlife and scenery and the dramatic Glas Allt Waterfall, South of Ballater via Spittal of GlenMuick, Visitor Center & Parking (pay & display) www.walkhighlands.co.uk/cairngorms/loch-muick.shtml

**Tommie Circle:** Recumbent Stone Circle surrounding a burial cairn just outside Tarland dated from around 4,500 BC. For this and other Historic Scotland locations visit https://sites.historic-scotland.gov.uk/places

**Tarland Trails:** Mountain Bike Trails located in Drummy Woods on the Outskirts of Tarland Village. Trails with 3 levels of difficulty to suit all abilities. www.tarland.org.uk/tarlands-trails

**Migvie Kirk:** Built in 1770 this deconsecrated kirk had the interior completely refurbished by local Artists and Craftsmen into a unique exhibition space with a 9th century Pictish Symbol stone in the Kirk yard. In Migvie by Tarland. www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/tarland/migviekirk/index.html

**Local Walks:** For detailed local walking route information, we recommend the following websites: www.walkhighlands.co.uk & www.deesidewalks.com

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**Every Monday**

**Braemar Health Walk:** Health Walks are short walks lasting up to an hour, open to everyone and welcoming all abilities. No need to book – just turn up. 10.00am–11.00am. Braemar, AB35 5YL

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**Every Tuesday**

**Aqua Fit Class with Anna Blair:** The Country Club, Hilton Grand Vacations Club at Craigendarroch. 9.30am – 10.30am. Booking is essential. Please visit the Leisure Desk or dial 013397 53435. With a mixture of cardio and body conditioning aqua work, this Aqua Fit class is a great way to build up strength and flexibility. Please note that access to the main pool is reserved for the Aqua Fit class participants during this time.

**Tarland Traditional Folk Music Sessions:** Starts 9.00pm. Aberdeen Arms, The Square, Tarland. Unplugged fiddles, accordions, bagpipes and guitars. Come along and enjoy or bring your own instruments and join in. We advise contacting in advance should there be changes to usual event dates, 013398 81225.

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**Every Tuesday & Wednesday**

**Cairnton Farm Tours at Deeside Activity Park:** 1 hour tours are available throughout the day at various times, followed by Afternoon Tea, located near Dess, Aboyne. Special rate for Craigendarroch residents of £16.50 per adult and £9.00 per child. Booking is essential. 013398 83536, www.deesideactivitypark.com

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**Every Tuesday & Thursday**

**Ballater Bridge Club:** Tuesdays from 6.30pm – 10.00pm & Improvers Class Thursdays from 1.15pm – 4.30pm, Mike Sheridan Room, Victoria & Albert Halls, Ballater. For details Tel. 013397 55501. We advise contacting in advance should there be changes to usual event dates. www.victoriaandalberthalls.co.uk/calendar

**Skipper & Wife Fish Van:** Tuesdays from 10.30am – 12 noon outside, Glenmuick Church, Ballater, and 12.30pm – 1.00pm outside the Deeside Deli, Ballater, Thursdays from 10.45am – 12.15pm outside Glenmuick Church, Ballater, and outside Deeside Deli, Ballater around 2pm for 10 minutes, For details Tel. 07860 677602 or 07904 167825 or Email: skipperandwife@hotmail.co.uk

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**Every Wednesday**

**Braemar Local History Group:** Free Guided Walks (donations welcome) Wednesday starts 3.00pm, Invercauld Arms Hotel, Braemar, AB35 5YR. For more information Tel. 013397 41985. or visit www.braemarlhg.com

**Torphins Market:** Local Produce & Crafts. 10.00am – 2.00pm, Platform 22, Torphins. www.facebook.com/TorphinsMarket

**Horseback Safari:** 10.30am – 12.30pm, Glen Tanar Equestrian Centre, Glen Tanar Estate, Special rates for Craigendarroch residents of £50.00 per person, One and a half hour ride followed by hot drinks and shortbread, Booking is essential, Tel. 013398 86448, E. gtec.t21@btinternet.com. See our event schedule for full details.

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Yoga with Simon Spirit Spoor: The Craigendarroch Health Club & Spa. 3.45pm – 5.15pm and 5.45pm – 7.15pm. £5.00 per club member/resident and £10.00 per guests of club members. Yoga mats are provided as required. Booking is essential. Please visit the Leisure Desk or dial 013397 53435. Hatha Yoga is a traditional gentle yoga practice that uses meditation, asana postures & deep relaxation. All classes are suitable for both beginners & experienced practitioners, with mats, blocks & blankets provided for your use. www.spiritofthemoment.co.uk or call 07967 684 354.

Belwade Farm World Horse Welfare: Rescue, rehoming and visitor centre with bistro. Various activities and tours available with bookings essential. Activity packs for children, farm walks and more! World Horse Welfare, Belwade Farm, Aboyne. Tickets: www.worldhorsewelfare.org, 013398 85393

Royal Deeside Cycling Tour: With The Bike Station Ballater, Station Square. 3 hour tour Starts 9.30am, £30.00 per person (£10.00 supplement for an electric bike). Includes helmet, bike and tea/coffee home bakes. Bookings are essential. We request that you book your place by 12 noon on Wednesday. 013397 54004, clarewhitehead@hotmail.com, www.bikestationballater.co.uk

Cromar Health Walk: Short walks lasting up to an hour, open to everyone and welcoming all abilities. They’re friendly, fun, safe and led by trained volunteer walk leaders who will show you the way. No need to book –just turn up! 1.30pm–2.30pm. Starting outside outside Logie Coldstone Village Hall, AB34 5PQ.

Dram at the Dam: a Unique Distillery Tour of Royal Lochnagar Distillery for Craigendarroch Residents. Starts 9.30am (lasts around 1.5 hours), £15.00 per adult includes 10 minute walk to the Top Dam, a taste of Royal Lochnagar 12 year old single hIGHLAND malt and a specially selected mystery dram. Please show your lodge/suite key card on arrival. Bookings are essential. We request that you book your place by no later than 5.00pm on Wednesday. Tel. 013397 42700.

Family Quiz Night: The Keiller Lounge, 8.00pm – 9.00pm. Free event with no booking necessary. Relax in the Keiller Lounge and enjoy an evening of fun with quiz questions to challenge the whole family. Highest group score takes home the prizes

Freedom Running: Craigendarroch Main Reception, 8.00am - 9.00am. Group Trail and Hill run with local running guide Nick Mardall. Free to join. Starting from outside Main Reception, Nick will take you a on a lovely morning run. We request that you book your place by no later than 5.00pm on Thursday via text message on 07834512029.

Glen Tanar Health Walk: Short walks lasting up to an hour, open to everyone and welcoming all abilities. They’re friendly, fun, safe and led by trained volunteer walk leaders who will show you the way. No need to book –just turn up! 09.40am—10.40am. Starting outside The Boat Inn, Aboyne, AB34 5EL.

Food and Farm Experience: Unique Highland Coo Farm Tours. 2.00pm. Lochton of Leys Farmhouse, Banchory, AB31 5QB. £16.00 per person. For more information and booking please visit aberdeenshirehighlandbeef.com

Events by Date

FRIDAY 4th: Across the Grain Festival. Join us for an evening concert with Paul Anderson and Shona Donaldson and special guest Peter Hedlund, a top Swedish Nyckharp player. St Margaret’s, Braemar. For more information and tickets please visit www.stmargaretsbraemar.org.uk.

FRIDAY 4th: Kincardine Castle Pop-Up Restaurant: Lunches from 12.00pm-2.00pm, Afternoon Tea at 3pm. Kincardine Castle, Kincardine O’Neil. Booking essential. Tel: 013398 84225 or email enquiries@kincardinecastle.com. For more information visit www.kincardinecastle.com

FRIDAY 4th: Live Music at The Deeside Inn, Ballater, with the very popular Coaltown Daisies. No booking required, Tel. 01339 755413.

SATURDAY 5th: Raemoir Trout Fishery - Fly Fishing Open Day. 9.00am-3.30pm. For more information please visit www.raemoirtroutfishery.co.uk.

SATURDAY 5th & SUNDAY 6th: Fair Trickit–Fit Doric Means Tae Us – Exhibition & Short Film inc. Drop In Q&A session 11.00am—4pm, St Margaret’s, Braemar. For more information please visit www.stmargaretsbraemar.org.uk.

SATURDAY 5th: Across the Grain - Doric Festival. Come Alang An Sing. Hands on workshop about North East Ballads. 2.00pm–4.00pm. Braemar Castle. Booking essential, tickets £10.00–£15.00 can be purchased on http://www.braemarcastle.co.uk/across-the-grain-5th-october-2019/

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What’s On in October

Events by Date continued...

Saturday 5th: Families, Feuds & Folk Songs Concert, St Margaret’s, Braemar. Tickets £10.00. For more information and tickets please visit www.stmargaretsbraemar.org.uk.

Thursday 10th: Granite Men – Aberdeen Author Jim Fiddes will tell the stories of the generations of the north-east men who unearthed the stone that gave the Granite City its name. 7.30pm. Tickets £4.00. The MacRobert Hall, Tarland. For more information visit www.cromarhistorygroup.org.uk

Saturday 12th: Traditional Music Sessions—Nae Plans by Adam Sutherland and Hamish Napier. St Margaret’s, Braemar. For more information and tickets please visit www.stmargaretsbraemar.org.uk.

Saturday 12th: Aboyne Farmers Market. Aboyne Green, 10.00am—2.00pm. Local produce and various stalls.

Saturday 12th: Bingo Night. 7.00pm—10.00pm. Ballater Golf Club. £3.00 entry fee.

Wednesday 16th—Friday 18th: Unicorn Grooming Day. Various times available. For further information please call 013398 85398 or email lisagardiner@worldhorsewelfare.org. World Horse Welfare. Aboyne, AB34 5BJ

Thursday 17th & Friday 18th: Belwade Farm 1hr Guided Tour. Starts at 1.00pm. Adults £6.00. Children £4.00. For further information please call 013398 85398 or email lisagardiner@worldhorsewelfare.org. World Horse Welfare. Aboyne, AB34 5BJ

Thursday 17th & Friday 18th: Tattie Crafts. 2.00pm—4.00pm. Children £4.00. For further information please call 013398 85398 or email lisagardiner@worldhorsewelfare.org. World Horse Welfare. Aboyne, AB34 5BJ.

Friday 18th: The Mentalist Magic Show. Be amazed by Fifth Dimension’s mind-bending magic. Tickets £10.00 per person. 7.00pm—9.00pm. Aboyne and Deeside Community Education Centre, Aboyne, AB34 5JN.

Saturday 19th: Banchory Farmers Market. Bellfield Car Park, 9.00am—1.00pm. Local produce and various stalls.

Saturday 19th: Fall Fest Fundraiser 2019. Mini Music Festival with food vendors, craft stalls, fun fair & kids corner!! The Church Green, Ballater.

Monday 21st—Thursday 31st: Balmoral Winter Guided Tours. Enjoy an hour long guided tour of the grounds, exhibitions and Ballroom. Tours at 11am, 12pm, 1pm and 2pm. Tel. 013397 42534. E. info@balmoralcastle.com.

Wednesday 23rd—Sunday 27th: Braemar Creative Arts Festival. 5 day Festival of creative learning with more than 30 workshops in music, dance, drama, art, crafts, and even cooking. For more information and list of events please visit www.scotstandonline.net/braemar-creative-arts-festival.

Thursday 24th: Critter Keeper. Come along and meet the Critter Keeper with his many weird and wonderful friends. 12.30pm—1.30pm. Tickets £5.00. For further information please lisagardiner@worldhorsewelfare.org or call 013398 85398. World Horse Welfare. Aboyne, AB34 5BJ

Friday 25th: Belwade Farm 1hr Guided Tour. Starts at 1.00pm. Adults £6.00. Children £4.00. For further information please call 013398 85398 or email lisagardiner@worldhorsewelfare.org. World Horse Welfare. Aboyne, AB34 5BJ

Friday 25th: Tattie Crafts. 2.00pm—4.00pm. Children £4.00. For further information please call 013398 85398 or email lisagardiner@worldhorsewelfare.org. World Horse Welfare. Aboyne, AB34 5BJ.

Friday 25th: Turkish Night. 7.00pm—12.00am. Banchory Lodge Hotel. £45.00 per person. For more information please call 01330 822 625 or email enquiries@banchorylodge.com

Friday 25th: Paul Anderson at the Flying Stag. 8.00pm—11.00pm. Fife Arms, Braemar.

Saturday 26th: Ballater Farmers Market. Church Green. 10.00am—2.00pm. Local produce and various stalls.

Saturday 26th: Ballater Films Children’s Halloween Party. 4.00pm—6.00pm. Age 0 – P7 accompanied by adult. Music, food, games, prizes. Victoria Hall, Ballater. Tickets £2.50. For more information visit www.ballaterfilms.co.uk.

Saturday 26th: Ballater Films presents Fisherman’s Friends (12A). Doors open at 7.00pm. Tickets £12.00. For more information visit www.ballaterfilms.co.uk.

For a wealth of local area information we recommend visiting www.visitabdn.com/what-to-do/royal-deeside/ & www.visitcairngorms.com, or visiting the Ballater Tourist Information in Station Square, Ballater. Please visit our team at Resort Reception if we can be of any further assistance.

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