



Cioch Mountaineering Club (Dunfermline)

Established 1988

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Meet Report: Ling Hut, Torridon, July 13th/ 14th 2012

Contributions from Brian Mitchell and John Warnock. Additional Beinn Eighe pics by RC.

Brian M serves up the aperitif of the meet report:

This was to be my first visit to Ling. I liked the place, and still a few remnants of the multitude of signs which used to festoon the place, as recorded for posterity by John W. I liked the venue, and we were lucky with the midges, which must be down to the very dry conditions which the area has had this year.

I decided to go for Beinn Dearg, and with everyone else's sights set on the glory of Munros, I just had to go it alone. Having bagged all the Munros in the area going as far back as 1971, and having a tidy up, a couple of years ago, to get the promoted 2nd Munro on Ben Alligin, this was my opportunity to try out my new camera, hoping for some good views of the more spectacular neighbours. Just to add spice to the day, I decided to go for the western face. This is much craggier and difficult than it appears, being quite steep in places, and therefore requiring great care. It took the best part of 3 hours to gain the summit, this being a reflection of the route I had chosen. Unfortunately the views were



disappointing on the day. The next time I'll go by the much safer and quicker route, if I ever go again, which is unlikely. This hill has little to commend it apart from its views. It is however listed as the highest Corbett - but maybe that just because of the alphabetical order - being listed as equal to Foinavon.

The day was not quite wasted however, as the start and finish for this hill is the Ben Alligin car park, so you have to go through Torridon village. Part of the task for the day was also to try and contact the Torridon Mountain Rescue Team to present "The Cheque" and get a picture for our records. Jim D had tentatively made some



contact, and was told the team was on a training w/e, so a photo was going to be difficult to arrange. On the way back from Beinn Dearg, I duly called in at the Torridon Youth Hostel, which is also the Mountain Rescue Centre. I was told by the Warden that the team was in fact training, but they were also out on a rescue. A photo was rapidly becoming a remote possibility on this occasion. Just as I was leaving the Hostel, the team arrived, by pure chance, in their rescue minibus. A quick introduction by the Warden, and the opportunity was there. No time to contact any other Club members, as no sooner than the photos were taken, then they were off again in a hurry. The team expressed their deep gratitude for our donation and said how pleased they were,

email contributions to newsletter@cioch.co.uk

that Iain (Hay) was well and had no ill effects from his adventure. The picture is attached, and the team member who accompanied Ian on his transfer to Skye by helicopter, is in the photo. Mission accomplished.

Just went home on Sunday, and stopped at Rallia cafe for a very fine coffee and bun with JW.

By way of intermission it is good to report that the rescue were not dashing away to come to the aid of any Cioch members this time – despite Iain Hay being back in Torridon with some unfinished business on his mind. This time he successfully climbed Beinn Laith Mhor - again accompanied by Jean and this time with Jean's hubby Alan (who was sensibly B&Bing in the area rather than sampling the 'full on' experience of the Ling hut). They climbed the hill from the north this time with the trio walking directly from the hut. [Stop press: Iain has finally retired his faithful Mondeo, replacing it with a diesel VW Jetta supplied via Olly motors]

John Warnock follows up with the main course:

Mr Mitchell turned up in the Moonshine Mobile at around 5pm to pick me up and we proceeded... as Kath would say... oop t'north... I managed to stay awake until Halbeath before the sandman put me to sleep for my customary 40 winks. I awoke at Aviemore and we stopped at The Happy Haggis... Brian had a black pudding supper and I had a single fish. I forgot to ask for brown sauce but luckily Brian had a glove compartment bulging with brown sauce. I figured this must be an additive he uses for the chip oil he puts in his fuel tank, as well as the Lurpack he greases his nipples with. We carried on up to Ling with no events to report on... oh no sorry... the main event of the day was Rangers were dropped into Division 4 where the diddy teams play. We arrived at the carpark looking for THE SIGN on the road barrier which said Ling Hut... but it was gone... along with lots of other signs at the hut. After the customary few beers and the "what are you guys doing tomorrow?" discussions it was time for bed.

I was part of a group going to climb Beinn Eighe. The weather was very nice all day and there were no midges. More on the wildlife later... no no... I'll tell you about it now... at one point there was a bird call of some kind and someone asked "what's that?"... Olly said... "John what's that?.. you know about plants n' stuff"... so I explained how plants and birds were in separate kingdoms. Anyway... as well as Olly the other members present on the walk were Victoria, Steve Gadd, Big Dr John, and Jim Donald. Kath and Kenny were a satellite group who would catch up and then would fall behind. This was due to Kenny finding



it very difficult to go on... now that Rangers had been demoted into the deep dark Abyss of Division 5 of Scottish football, that and the yodeling in the heather ;-)

I forgot to tell you about my new walking poles... they are from Tesco's and note how they complement my jacket - as the photo taken by Victoria demonstrates (thanks Victoria). Anyway we climbed to the top of the first munro. Most of it went upwards until the very top and then it sloped away sharply. Then we climbed to the top of the second munro. This also went mostly upwards until the very top and then sloped away sharply. I think that's how we knew we were at the top. We saw tadpoles and a frog - Olly thought they were underwater birds. Me and Olly were last down off the hill and we were going quite slow... not because Rangers were demoted to the fathomless chasm that is Division 6 but because we had sore feet.

THE END.....

Stop Press:

Kenny must have taken it really badly that Rangers were demoted to the black hole that is Division 9 - where not even light can escape due to the gravity of the situation - as he didn't make it back to the hut till the next morning. :-(Now it's the end.

CIOCH 25 CELEBRATIONS - PROSPECTIVE PROGRAMME

The Cioch 25 sub-committee members have been hard at work and have come up with the following suggestions to celebrate the Club's 25th anniversary year – as indicated (#) final details for two events should be confirmed next month.

Event / Activity	Overview #1	DATE
Cioch Mountaineering Club Design Challenge	<p>As an introduction to the Cioch's 25th Anniversary, all budding artists within the Cioch community are invited to submit a design for a graphic image/logo to be used on a T-shirt to highlight the year 2013 as the 25th anniversary of the Cioch MC.</p> <p>The purpose of the image/logo is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Reflect the success of the club up to 2013 ➤ Imply a prosperous club in the future ➤ Create an attractive design that members will be proud to wear. <p>The suggested logo should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) contain a graphic (existing Cioch graphic, modified or fresh new alternative) b) contain text (the word "Cioch" or 'Cioch Mountaineering' plus supporting text, descriptive or tagline) c) be scalable up or down in size to use on different Cioch products (web, newsletter etc.) <p>Entrants can submit either an image on its own or a logo or both together. The committee will consider all entries.</p> <p>Please submit your preferred design to Michelle Sweeney by e-mail (tomba@talktalk.net) or on paper before 31st October 2012. The best design from all entries will be selected by the Cioch 25 subcommittee for use by the club.</p> <p>The winning entrants will be announced on Thursday 22nd November 2012. The winner will receive a T-shirt with the logo and a small gift.</p> <p>This is a golden opportunity to contribute to the unfolding history of the Cioch Mountaineering Club. [email Richard C if you want a copy of the existing logo as a template]</p>	Aug - Oct 31st 2012
The 2013 Calendar	<p>Something a bit different for the 2013 Cioch Calendar!</p> <p>This year we are looking for photos from down the years which reflect the people who have contributed to and been part of the making of the many great days had on the hills. Ideally we are looking for group photos as portraits tend not to lend themselves to landscape format. Please ensure that old photos are submitted in the highest resolution possible - 300dpi is preferable.</p> <p>Entries must be in Landscape format and should be submitted to Dennis Cowan by 31st October so that he has time to collate and produce the calendar.</p> <p>Calendars will cost around £12 and orders will be taken in November.</p>	Aug - Oct 31st 2012
The Cioch Darwins	<p>This year Cioch Mountaineering will host its first Darwin awards! God knows we've had enough practice down the years!</p> <p>Entries are invited for a range of weird and wonderful disaster categories ranging from, for example: "Most geographically challenged expedition" to "Most fashionable faux pas". Nominations will be taken from January 2013 and can be for events which have happened down the years.</p> <p>Full details and categories will be available later in the year, in the meantime if you have any suggestions for award categories please contact Sharon Rankin. All award nominations should be submitted to Sharon by 10th August 2013.</p>	Jan – Aug 10th 2013

Event / Activity	Overview #2	DATE
<p>The Quiz</p>	<p>????????????? Cioch Mountaineering Pub Quiz Invitation ????????????</p> <p>All Cioch members are invited to our Cioch 25 Pub Quiz. As part of a programme of events to highlight the year 2013 as the 25th anniversary of the Cioch MC we have decided to hold a special one-off, winter programme event.</p> <p>This slight deviation from the well proven Thursday night slide show format is intended as a bit of interactive fun, which will lift spirits in the dead of winter and exercise the grey matter of our moderately intellectual Cioch members. Please also feel free to invite highly intelligent friends.</p> <p>In addition to a Cioch and outdoor activity round, it is intended to have additional general knowledge, celebrity and music questions – there will be something for everyone.</p> <p>If we're really lucky, the club treasurer might even approve funding towards a prize for the winning team.</p> <p>This is a golden opportunity to participate in the unfolding history of the Cioch Mountaineering Club.</p>	<p>Thursday Jan 17th 2013, 9pm start at the Lyne Tavern</p>
<p>The Cioch Clan Gathering#</p>	<p>One of the main events to celebrate our 25th anniversary will be held at the 'Atholl Arms Hotel', Blair Atholl - a weekend of luxury inclusive of entertainment.</p> <p>A special mid-winter's meet close by, which will allow for some pampering while enjoying the nearby hills and mountains. Open to all members present and past and their guests. The weekend will include 2 nights B&B and evening meal on the Saturday night. Entertainment will be revealed closer to the time.</p> <p>Further details available in September.</p>	<p>March 15th/16th 2013</p>
<p>The Tales Newsletter</p>	<p>Do you have anecdotes and stories from down the Cioch years? If so we'd love to hear them - be they in prose or poetry - for this special edition newsletter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All tales both fact and fiction will be considered - just indicate which category the tale is. Poetic licence is of course encouraged! • Entries should be no longer than 1000 words and should be submitted to Richard Christie by email or electronic format 31st October 2013. 	<p>July - Oct 31st 2013</p>
<p>The Reunion Bar-B-Q#</p>	<p>The 25th anniversary offers the perfect opportunity to get members past and present together. We hope to gather as many previous "Ciches" (as we were once named by the manager of the Sligachan Inn on Skye at an early camping meet) as possible for this occasion, especially those who have received Munro or other compleation awards. We would appreciate if club members who still keep in touch with previous members could pass on any names, addresses and current telephone numbers to either Mags Gray or Maureen Ramage.</p> <p>Those attending on the day and who are recipients of Cioch honours will be included in a group photo and may find themselves in the Dunfermline Press. Now there's an accolade!</p> <p>Venue and further details to be revealed in September.</p>	<p>End August 2013</p>
<p>Lunch on The Cioch</p>	<p>Let's celebrate on top of our name-sake 'The Cioch' with a lunch during the 2013 Skye meet weekend.</p> <p>There are several routes to the top, but we will take an easy one which will be mainly scrambling. The actual top is a moderate climb. The route will be decided on the day pending on the group and weather. More experienced climbers will be welcome to join in or just meet us at the top via a harder route of your choice.</p> <p>Details will be published nearer the time, further information from Jim D.</p>	<p>Sept 2013 Skye Meet</p>

Event / Activity	Overview #3	DATE
<p>The 2014 Calendar</p>	<p>The theme for the 2014 Cioch calendar will be "The best of the 25th".</p> <p>Entries must be in Landscape format and should be submit to Michelle Sweeney by October 31st 2013.</p> <p>Calendars will cost around £12 and orders will be taken in November 2013.</p>	<p>Aug - Oct 31st 2013</p>

WEB BANNER COMPETITION !!!

As it's our Clubs 25th Anniversary Next year our web supremo Sam thought it would be nice to change the banner at the top of our website for the year 2013 to reflect the club being 25 years old, and to make this a competition - the winner getting their banner on the website!!

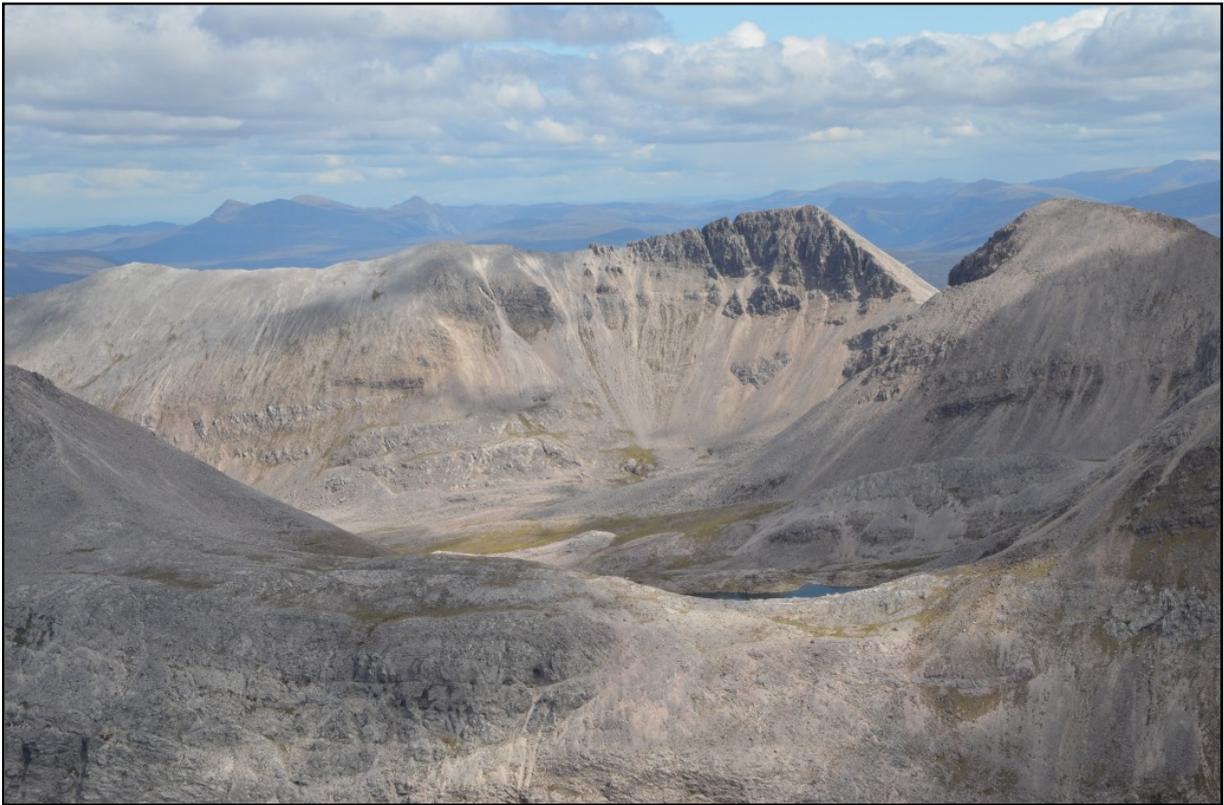
Just a couple of conditions: the design/sizing has to be suitable to fit at the top of the website as a banner and it has to reflect the club being 25 years old.

Submissions to be handed in before the Christmas meet as we will print them out for them to be voted on along with the photo competition.

So get Creative and let's celebrate 25 year's of the Cioch Mountaineering Club.

The current banner is below... note your new banner doesn't need to contain photos it can have script, drawings, photos or a combination of all.





2012 Meet Dates

Aug	10 th / 11 th	Causewayfoot Farm, Keswick	Check with Olly
Sept	7 th / 8 th	Invergarry Bunkhouse	Check with Olly
Oct	5 th / 6 th	Sail Mhor, Dundonnell	Booking: 19 th July
Nov	2 nd / 3 rd	Mill Cottage, Feshiebridge	Booking: 15 th Aug
Dec	7 th / 8 th	Onich (Christmas Meet)	Booking: 13 th Sept

2013 Meet Dates

Jan	4 th / 5 th	Ochils Hut, Crianlarich
Feb	8 th / 9 th	Strathspey Mountain Hostel, Newtonmore
Mar	1 st / 2 nd	Lagangarbh, Glencoe
Apr	5 th / 6 th	Sail Mhor, Dundonnell
May	3 rd / 4 th / 5 th	Llanberis, North Wales
June	14 th / 15 th	Morvich Outdoor Centre, Kintail
July	12 th / 13 th	Strawberry Cottage, Glen Affric
Aug	9 th / 10 th	Inver Croft, Achnasheen
Sept	TBC	Skye: Skyewalker / Sligachan / Glenbrittle Memorial Hut TBC
Oct	4 th / 5 th	Muir of Inverey, Braemar
Nov	1 st / 2 nd	Mill Cottage, Feshiebridge
Dec	TBC	Christmas Meet, Inchree tbc

Climbing Equipment Offer: Friends of Joyce and Bill have the following gear in need of a new home – may only cost you postage – contact Joyce or Bill for more details:

2 Mountain Technology ice axes, 1 Mountain Technology ice hammer, 1 Camp ice hammer, few other bits of climbing gear (all in Stockport at the minute)