



Cioch Mountaineering Club (Dunfermline)

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Neil's Last Munro special edition



Meet Report: Invergarry Bunkhouse, 7th / 8th September

With the attraction of Neil Anderson due to complete his first munro round on the meet weekend all 26 beds at the Invergarry Bunkhouse were booked well in advance. Unfortunately Kenny and Cath had to pull out at the last minute which allowed the one reserve, Lorna the chance of a bed. In addition Bill and Joyce decided to camp at the near-ish campsite which was only 40 minutes walk away - as then proved when they dropped in to say hello on the Friday night. The bunkhouse slowly filled up during the Friday evening with a small group heading off to the local hotel to sample the Glen Garry beer. Various cars came loaded with goodies for the Saturday evening celebratory meal – Neil having volunteered to organize food for all – more of this later. The pub contingent returned at a respectable time to find the comfortable sitting room buzzing with the normal sort of Friday chatter. Some even found time to get engrossed in a game of chess. Before people headed off to bed various cunning plans were hatched by those wishing to join Neil on the top of his chosen final summit – Anoch Mor. Some were going to climb from Glen Nevis and take in Anoch Beg as well, some were going to climb from the Nevis Range car park but the favorite option was to use the Gondola! All were aiming to reach the summit between 12:30 and 13:00 – with such diverse routes there seemed to be slim chance of a co-ordinated arrival. Last to arrive on the Friday was Jean who actually arrived in the early hours of Saturday morning and was forced to park her van out on the verge.



First up and away from the bunkhouse were the Glen Nevis contingent composed of: Dave P, Dave C, Jim Davidson, Steve Gadd, Lorna and Neil's friend Drew Crawford (who had last been on the 2011 Skye meet). Next to leave were Alison, Bruce, Mags, Steve, Richard and Wattie who were walking up from the Nevis Range car park. The remainder of

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the summit party: Neil, Sharon, Sam, Martin, Dennis, Ian, Jean, Jim Donald, Brian, John W and Vicky had a bit more of a leisurely start since the Gondola was not due to start running until 10:00.



The weather was much better than expected when the Nevis Range car park contingent arrived and started walking at 09:00. The top of the Anoch's had been clear as they drove past the Commando Memorial and the cloud was well broken as they hunted for the start of the path that would lead them up avoiding the downhill bike track. The first part of the walk wound its way through the woods roughly below the Gondola pylons. The going was quite muddy in places but improved once they reached the open hillside and there were good views up and down the Great Glen. The gondola started its dry run as they approached the top station and by excellent planning – or more likely very good luck - they arrived all of two minutes before the first of the gondola party started to disembark – so far so good. After a short

wait whilst everyone assembled and Mags applied Compeed to her heels when her new boots continued to play up, the combined group of 17 set off up past the ski paraphernalia which looked quite out of place with no snow.



After a couple of stops to reassemble the group left the ski slopes behind and entered the wind-blown mist which was coating the top of the hill. Apart from Dennis who pulled a bit ahead preferring to keep going at a steady pace, the group stayed together as they made their way across the summit plateau. As they approached the summit cairn a ghostly, kilted apparition appeared out of the mist from the opposite direction – no it wasn't the Grey Man of Ben Macdui's long lost cousin – it was Dave P, followed not far behind by the rest of the Glen Nevis party. It's wonderful when a half-baked



plan all comes together. A tunnel of ski poles was quickly formed and Neil made a final dash to his final munro summit (round 1) as the sun tried its best to break through the mist. Numerous bottles of fizz were produced as if by magic from rucksacks and after the obligatory summit photo, the air was full of flying corks. Cheese sandwiches and flapjacks seem to taste that much better when they are washed down with bubbly.

Suitably fortified and with an inner alcoholic glow all 23 decided that it would be a shame not to go on and climb Anoch Beg – the Glen Nevis contingent having had to head straight for Anoch Mor in order to make the rendezvous time. The mist thickened and thinned as the group descended to the col and then climbed the zig zag path to the second summit of the day. There was then a parting of the ways with David C, Jim Davidson, Steve Gadd and Drew going off to bag Carn Mhor Derag as well. In deference to his hip, Dave

P decided to join the main group and descent via the gondola as did Lorna. This time it was Alison, Bruce, Mags, Steve, Richard, Wattie and Vicky who pulled ahead of the group since they intended walking all the way back down. Once the top station was reached however Mags, Steve and Vicky decided the attraction of the gondola was too great to save Mags's heels from further punishment. The walking descent was reasonably quick with Wattie, Richard, Bruce and Alison arriving around 20 minutes (or a coffee and an ice-cream) behind Mags, Steve and Vicky. Alison stopped to check that a mountain biker was ok when he took a spectacular spill – she had heard the sound of the crash followed by a loud "oh fcuk". The walking group just had time for their own ice-cream treat, thanks Alison, before the others all arrived. Steve and Mags took the opportunity to head for home having got things to do on Sunday - but not before handing over another bottle of fizz to help lubricate the evening celebrations.



Not everyone was enjoying the bubbly on the Anoch's. Olly and John R climbed Gairich at Loch Quoich having been turned back by bad weather on a previous meet. Although the weather was better this time it was still boggy under foot on the walk in. Bill and Joyce climbed the Loch Lochy munros: Meall na Teanga and Sron a'Choire Ghairbh, although the underfoot conditions were better thanks to the stalkers paths they were in the cloud most of the day and had a bit of rain.



Back at the bunkhouse there was time for a cup of tea and a slice of Sharon's excellent lemon and ginger drizzle cake before showers were had and cooker rings lit to start the food preparations. As promised Neil had come equipped with food for all and assigned assistant chef roles to anyone who stood still in the kitchen for longer than a couple of seconds. Neil had brought home cooked chicken curry, to which Sharon contributed a vegetarian curry. David C was in charge of heating the selection of Indian starters and the nann breads (both courtesy of ASDA) and Sam was in charge of rice preparations. Desert was provided by Brian M's Raspberry Cheese Cakes and Sharron's Key Lime Pies and Lemon Sponge Cake – which some people could not resist sampling... [the sponge cake just beat the Key



Lime Pie in Editor's best sweet competition – Wattie voted for the raspberry cheese cake but regretted having an extra piece for 'supper' just before going to bed which resulted in a bit of indigestion]. There were five bottles of Fizz to help the celebration meal get off to a good start and everyone agreed the food was excellent – big vote of thanks to all who brought the food, cooked the food and those who were involved in the washing up relay at the end – a new Olympic event? The two John's proposed toasts – John R got everyone's attention by just standing up – John W had to tap his wine glass with his spoon – unfortunately he tapped a bit too enthusiastically and the glass broke - but it had the desired effect.



Sam then produced the finishing touch with a superb home baked rock face chocolate cake, complete with icing climber and bicycle. Everyone thought the cake was great and Neil was quite beside himself when it came time to cut it.

Invergarry was a great choice for completion celebrations: a nice big kitchen, good sized dining room which could seat everyone in a big horse shoe and plenty of comfy seating in the lounge where everyone could relax and let the food go down at the end of an excellent day – a “wafer thin mint” [said in a French accent] or just a morsel of chocolate cake anyone?



Having originally planned to drive back to the camp site, Bill and Joyce took the opportunity of the beds vacated by Steve and Mags – it is not known whether they later regretted this - since Richard was in the same room and was snoring quite the thing according to Wattie who was on the bunk bed below.

The weather on the Sunday was not so promising with cloud hugging the tops a bit more tightly – Alison and Bruce planned to take in a Graham on their way back to Fortrose – it is not known if anyone else managed to do anything energetic - other than drive home.



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CIOCH 25 CELEBRATIONS REMINDER

The first two activities planned by the Cioch 25 sub-committee are now underway – see below for details. The sub-committee aim to finalize the plan for the other events during October – watch out for details in the November Newsletter and on the Club Website.

Event / Activity	Details	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

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.

Cioch Mountaineering Club



Winter Slide Show Programme 2013 - 2013

Date	Show	Date	Show	Date	Show
18/10/12	Richard Christie Corsica GR20	15/11/12	<i>Available Alternative</i>	22/11/12	Chris Butcher Spanish Picos
20/12/12	Wattie Ramage The last year	17/01/13	Cioch 25 Pub Quiz Night	24/01/13	John Warnock Cioch Musical
21/02/13	<i>Available</i>	14/03/13	<i>Available Alternative</i>	21/03/13	<i>Available</i>

2012 Meet Dates

Oct	5 th / 6 th	Sail Mhor, Dundonnell	Full
Nov	2 nd / 3 rd	Mill Cottage, Feshiebridge	Full
Dec	7 th / 8 th	Onich (Christmas Meet)	15+ Places available

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
July	TBC	Lake District (extra meet)
Aug	9 th / 10 th	Inver Croft, Achnasheen
Sept	TBC	Glenbrittle Memorial Hut, Skye
Oct	4 th / 5 th	Muir of Inverey, Braemar
Nov	1 st / 2 nd	Mill Cottage, Feshiebridge
Dec	TBC	Christmas Meet, Inchree tbc

