



# Cioch Mountaineering Club (Dunfermline)

Established 1988

## Newsletter #61

## November 2014



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### Meet Report: Invergarry Lodge, 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> September 'part deux'

Words and photos by Dave Paton

I'm still 'ticking', albeit without the zeal of my last two rounds, so it was good to know that other people were planning on doing two tops which would give me at least one new tick. The plan was to head for Loch Quoich to do *Gleuoraich* and *Spidean Mialach*. My last attempt was curtailed after *Gleuoraich* by high winds and a unanimously agreed 'bail out'.

The forecast this time was mixed but nothing to bother about. Just an uncertainty as to whether we would get any views.

This time I set out with Mags, Steve, Alison and Barry. It was quite bright and pleasant to start but we could see that we were heading into cloud. Barry, who had been partaking of some amber fluid the night before, struggled a bit to start with and was, according to him, 'sweating whisky'. He perked up later.

On the climb to the summit of *Gleuoraich* the weather deteriorated and it was really unpleasant on top, where we found a bit of shelter from the wind, but not from the rain and had something to eat.



We didn't hang around for too long and set off for the next top. As we descended the rain eased and remarkably, considering the weather a short time before, it started to clear and we were rewarded with some fleeting views of the South Sheil Ridge. The weather continued to improve and by the time we were half way up *Spidean Mialach* we were walking in sunshine. Our stop on the summit this time was rather pleasant and we were able to relax in the sun and to take in some excellent views, particularly along Loch Quoich towards *Knoydart*. The walk out was

straightforward and I was able to shed a lot of clothes and finish the walk in a t-shirt.

To adapt a football term, this was certainly a day of two halves.

### Meet Report: Inver Croft, Achnasheen, 3<sup>rd</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> October

Words and photos by Dave Paton

Not having a car on a meet means you are dependant on others to get you to the bottom of a hill. So when I got to Inver I had no idea what I was going to be doing. As luck would have it Neil and Sharon had planned to do two tops that I wanted to do. Sorted!

We planned to do *Sgurr Choinnich* and *Sgurr a'Chaorachain* from *Craig*. This means a fairly long plod up through a forest along a Landrover track. Ideal for bikes, .....I didn't have one, Neil and Sharon did! So, I set off sharp so they wouldn't have to wait too long at the top. Good plan except that I was wearing new boots and after about 20 minutes I could feel blisters develop.



email contributions to [newsletter@cioch.co.uk](mailto:newsletter@cioch.co.uk)

Fortunately Sharon had a bit of Compeed and a plaster and I was able to patch up my heels.



We also had to adapt our plans because of stalking. We were met by a Game Keeper who was on his way to shoot up by the Bealach Bhearnais, which was where we were heading. After a friendly discussion it was decided we could still do the same two tops, but reverse our route. This meant a steep ascent rather than a steep descent. (Half way up we heard a single shot, I suspect there is one deer fewer in the mountains)

The top of Sgurr a'Chaorachain was clear but it was surprisingly cold. I certainly needed to put on a hat and gloves and after stopping for lunch I was glad to get moving. The views were generally good and there was lot of patchy sunlight, although a lot of the surrounding tops had a bit of cloud on them. I soon warmed up heading to Sgurr Choinnich. Unfortunately by the time we got to the summit it too had clagged in. At least it didn't feel so cold, perhaps because we didn't stop.

Once below the cloud we were able to walk in sunshine for the rest of the day, Sgurr Choinnich had cleared by now, just bit too late for us. The walk out was pleasant, or at least it would have been if I didn't have sore feet.

We got back to Neil and Sharon's bikes and I enviously watched them cycle into the distance as I tried to walk without my heels rubbing on the back of my boots.

They had planned to go into Lochcarron do buy some 'refreshments' for the evening, I hoped that I could get down quick enough so they didn't have to wait too long for me. As it turned out I heard the car arrive just as I was approaching the level crossing at Craig, so it worked out well.

After eating and a game of 'The Original' trivial Pursuits we, as usual, started 'putting the world to rights' and Olly ceremonially burned his old shoes.

### Winter Slide Show Programme 2013 – 2014

Date	Show	Date	Show	Date	Show
23/10/14	Richard Christie Ladakh three peaks	20/11/14	Bill Gray A to Z of Adventure	18/12/14	Chris Butcher The Slovakian Tatras
22/01/14	Wattie Ramage Retirement the First Year	05/02/14	Available	05/03/14	Available

### 2015 Meet Dates

Jan 9 <sup>th</sup> /10 <sup>th</sup>	Calluna, Fort William
Feb 13 <sup>th</sup> /14 <sup>th</sup>	The Pottery Bunkhouse, Laggan
March 13 <sup>th</sup> /14 <sup>th</sup>	Ling Hut, Torridon
April 10 <sup>th</sup> /11 <sup>th</sup>	Muir of Invery, Braemar
May 1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup>	Station Bunkhouse, Plockton
June 5 <sup>th</sup> /6 <sup>th</sup>	Ariundle Centre, Strontian
July 10 <sup>th</sup> /11 <sup>th</sup>	Strawberry Cottage, Glen Affric
August 7 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup>	Glenbrittle Memorial Hut, Skye
Sept 4 <sup>th</sup> /5 <sup>th</sup>	Sail Mhor, Dundonnell
October 2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup>	Inver Croft, Achnasheen
November 6 <sup>th</sup> /7 <sup>th</sup>	Mill Cottage, Feshiebridge
December TBC	Christmas Meet, tba

Remember the Cioch Club's new Thursday night venue is the

[Thistle Tavern](#) in Baldridgeburn, Dunfermline

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