



Extracts from Minute book 01

Friday 18th October 1963 an unofficial meeting took place to discuss the formation of a club. The proposed name was Forfar & District Hillwalking Club. A further meeting was held on Tuesday 22nd October 1963 and a proposed first walk was agreed. On Sunday 3rd November 1963 The first walk of the club took a group of 19 members over The Capel Mounth' to Loch Muick, then along the side of the loch, over Sandy Hillocks down to Bachnagairn to the doll. The bus cost £6 and £5 8/- (a loss - some things never change !)

The first AGM took place on 8th March 1964, the minutes of the previous open meeting were read out and passed and a financial statement was provided. The main content of the meeting was to establish the Club Rules. A total of 28 club rules were established. One interesting rule was that membership began at the AGM and in order to vote at future meetings, 2/5* of fees had to be paid on AGM night. The balance of fees being payable by 30th September each year. All applications for membership were subject to the committee's approval!

PRESIDENTS COLUMN

Well, what a year that was. It just flew by. We've had some really superb days out on the hills as we always do. My personal favourites were Mount Battock for High tea in January, Mill Cottage (weekend) in March, the Lawers group in May, the Lui group in August, the anniversary walk in October and of course temperature inversion on Ben Vuirich in December. However I did enjoy all the other meets too. This year we had a few extra - 3 new Munroists. Congratulations to John, John and Ally.

You won't have failed to notice that the club celebrated its 40th anniversary in October. I hope everyone enjoyed the events that the committee arranged for the occasion:- Madeira meet, anniversary walk and gathering in Glen Clova, Boots across Scotland lecture and the ceilidh. These were all very well attended. Thank you for your support. This newsletter has some images from years gone by. Madeira was our 3rd foreign meet - great walking. The plan is to have a slide show of the holiday after the AGM in March. The anniversary walk was an incredible success - I think 53 people at various stages throughout the day. The ceilidh was tight for space but a good time was had by all. Since then, various members have mentioned they'd like more frequent social gatherings - something the committee will look.

Buses were reintroduced in greater numbers. Fares rose to £10. They have been a great success with meet numbers

up into the 20s. We even made a profit on one meet. Another change was the bus company to "Back Jock" Petrie from Craichie. After a couple of hair-raising journeys, the driver was changed and now journeys are rather sedate but much safer. Another change was the move to hold Open Meetings on a Monday evening in Queen's Tavern. Though not ideal for presentations, it has proved popular with members by increasing attendances at these meetings. This is still a trial period and the situation will be reviewed at the AGM, so I urge you to submit any comments on the venue and evening to the committee before or at the AGM. Personally, I must apologise for missing the last 3 open meetings. As you know, I have other commitments on Monday evenings. Again this situation can be reviewed at the AGM. The club was rocked in May with the resignations of two committee members, happily both are still keen members of the club. Since that time, Angus has acted as secretary and Grant was co-opted onto the committee. Thank you both. Indeed thank you to all the committee for your time and commitment to the club -especially over the very busy period of the 40th anniversary. Lastly, in my last newsletter, I failed to thank Frank, as outgoing meet secretary for this work in that post over a couple of years. Thank you, Frank.

May I wish you and your families a joyous and peaceful Christmas and a very Happy New Year Hopefully, I'll see you on the festive meets I know we will have many fine days hillwalking together next year.

Forfar & District Hillwalking Club -10th ANNIVERSARY - November 1973



Climber Magazine, Extract 1966

Forfar and District Hill-Walking Club bids a warm welcome to all who are interested in hill-walking. For more information, call at 4 Dundee Loan, Forfar any Friday evening.

Past Meet Reports

**Saturday 28th Sun 29th April 1966
Glen Feshie-Linn O'Dee**

Not a big turn-out for this the first weekend meet. 18 members turn out. Unfortunately this Sunday is the same as the Kirrie Communion. The bus left Forfar 2:40pm, Kirrie 2:55pm, arriving Pitlochry 4:10pm where a stop was made, leaving at 4:50pm. Arrive at Kingussie and book in the hostel 6:30pm. Big disaster, Wullie Whyte discovers he has left his boots at home. After a pleasant night at the hostel, everybody up bright and early and bus leaves Kingussie at 9:00am, going by Feshiebridge we arrive at the gate about 1.5 miles from Achlean at 9:50am on the east side of the river. 16 of a party set off leaving bootless W Whyte and young Wull with the bus. Reach the Bothy half way up Glen Feshie 12:15 where an hour's stop is made for lunch. This bothy would make a fine place to spend a night, plenty of wood for a fire. We reach the hut near the top of the pass into Glen Geldie at 3pm where another short stop is made. About a mile from here we cross Eidart by a new bridge. The path is rather difficult to follow here for a mile or two, but runs along the north side of the Geldie burn. Reach Lin O' Dee 7:30pm, approx distance walked 22 miles.

Remarks: - This was a long hard walk, could have been cut by 1.5 miles had the bus gone all the way to Achlean where there was ample room to turn. The weather was good except for the short showers. - - R. A. McLaren **Attendees** R McLaren, W Milne, W Whyte, S Taylor, J Grant, D Blair, B Lancaster, W Selkirk, N Smith, R Fawcett, D Glen, A Grewar

Juniors: M, Strachan, AStrachan, A Scott, A Smith, G McCallum, W Whyte Jnr **Bus Fares** Seniors 25/- Juniors 10/-

**Sun 18th June 1967
Cam Bhac Navigator
G Wilkie**

An excellent turn out for the June meet, 33 of a party.

Bus left Forfar at 8:15am, Kirrie 8:30, going by Glen Isla arrive at Inverey at 10:15am. After the usual cuppa, set off up the stalkers path beside the allt Cristie Beag. This more of a road than a path, and goes nearly to the top of Cam Liath. The path ends here and we turn and head South towards Gael Cham. We have lunch about a mile below the top of Gael Cham at 115pm. Arrive at summit of Cam Bhac at 2:45pm. From here some of the more energetic people arrive at the summit of Cam Bhac at 2:45pm. From here some of the more energetic people walk along to Cam n Bhutha while the other lazy lot lie in the sun. The main party head down the Allt Connie while a group of twelve go by Cam Creagach and down to the Colonels bed. Everybody back at Inverey at 6pm. On the way down J Nicol and Willie Selkirk trap an adder and bring it down to the bus in a polythene bag, a ferocious looking beast about 28" long. Leave for home at 6:30pm and after half an hour stop in Braemar arrive back in Forfar 9pm. **Remarks**

A really terrific day for weather and very enjoyable walk. Approx miles 13.5 - - R.A.McLaren **Attendees**

R McLaren, J Norrie, J Grant, K McIntosh, R Lubbock, R Fawcett, G Wilkie, J Nicol, D Towns, W Selkirk, A Pert, G Pert, D Lehmann, A Scott, S Gourlay, D Glen, W

Milne, N Knight, Mr Simpson, R Norrie, N Smith, B Soutar, Mrs Norrie, S Pankhurst, M Pankhurst, Mr Birse.

Juniors

J Norrie, A Norrie, G Norrie, A Smith, Mai Mcintosh, S Fox, S Hill.

Bus Fares

Seniors 8/- Juniors 4/-

**Sun 24th August 1969
Meall Nan Tarmachan
Navigator G Wilkie**

27 of a party, 15 seniors, 12 juniors Left Forfar 7:40am, Kirrie 7:50 am. Going by Blair, Dunkeld, Aberfeldy. Arrive at Ben Lawers car park 10:00am. This being John Nome's birthday a huge dumpling is produced which is enjoyed by all. Set off up the Hydro road towards Meall Liath 10:10am. Reach the bealach between Creag na Caillich and Coire Fionn Lairge at 12:30pm where we stop for lunch. After that it is an easy walk the whole length of the ridge but very interesting. Come down by Creag a Lochan to the end of the dam where the bus is waiting. Surprised at the speed we have come as it is only 3:40pm. Must have been the dumpling. Everybody onto the bus when down comes the rain. After the usual stop in Dunkeld back in Forfar 7:30pm. - - R.A.McLaren **Attendees** R McLaren, W Redford, J Norrie, R Fawcett, A Grewar, W Reid, D Reid, I Christie, J Middleton, G Wilkie, S Gourlay, R Lubock, S Page, J Grant, W Milne. Juniors

R Mcintosh, G Norrie, J Griffin, G Redford, J Norrie, H Tetley, K Whyte, Ray McLaren, E Tough, A Scott, Dennis Turner, M Mcintosh. **Bus Fares** Seniors 12/6d Juniors 6/3d

Forfar & District Hillwalking Club - 25^m ANNIVERSARY - November 1988



Festive Meets – 2003/ 2004

For many years now, the club has held unofficial festive meets at Christmas and New Year - usually quite local. This is a chance to use up the turkey, work off a few pounds and discuss presents from Santa. It's rumoured that the Slioch club have all asked for Slioch panties and hankies this year! Sunday 28th December and Sunday 4th January are the chosen dates - weather permitting. Keep in touch with the Meet Secretary and his assistant for details (or see the home page of www.fdhwc.org.uk)

FDHWC Involvement with Tayside Mountain Rescue over the years



TAYSIDE

During the winter of 1973/74 there was a significant number of "local" mountaineering accidents, which, due to the pressure of a local doctor resulted in the formation of the Angus Police Mountain Rescue Team, under the leadership of one of our member Chief Inspector Bill Yule.

A couple of years later in the aftermath of a week long search for 2 students, the Tayside Mountain Rescue Association and M.R. Team was formed. This stemmed from a meeting in Menzieshill High School attended by over 100 concerned and interested members of the "hill-going" fraternity.

Over the past 30 years there has been tremendous involvement and co-operation between our club and both mountain rescue teams as the table below clearly shows. From the days of "turning out" with only your own equipment and a few extra bits of First Aid, and, sharing a car, Tayside MRT has developed into a very well equipped and highly trained unit, due to the efforts of all concerned.

The date of the AGMs of the TMRA team has not yet been confirmed but it is possibly, probably, maybe, 11th March 2004, and is likely to be in the Red House Hotel, Coupar Angus. Membership fee is £1 upwards (to say £5000!) wealthy new members welcome as we have a new base building to buy
JOHN NORRIE

Associate Committee

Brian Coull *
Isobel English
Jane Fraser
Willie Milne
Jim Nicol
John Norrie *
Rita Norrie
Bill Redford
Jim Stewart
Jack Tibbs
Tom Ward *

* = Still Involved

Rescue Team Members

Dave Adam
Brian Coull
Brian Crowe
Martin Home *
Kenneth Henderson
Willie Milne
Jim Nicol
John Norrie
Bill Redford
Graeme Redford
Fraser Simpson - Also SARDA
Jim Stewart
Jack Tibbs
Tom Ward
John Tee

Call-Out System
Operators
Rita Norrie
Barbara Redford

Total number of club members holding S.M.L.T.B = 5

Winter Programme Update

All meetings at Queen Street Tavern at 7.30pm

Jan 12th Irvine Butterfield, well known outdoor author

Feb 2nd Short "Burns theme", followed by Brian Coull on "Nepal"

Mar 1 AGM, followed by a mystery slide show

Apr 29th Tom Ward, "John Muir Trails"

Climbing Wall

The committee are looking at the possibility of booking a group session at the new climbing wall in Dundee. If you're interested get in touch with a committee member

High Tea 2004

Names to Angus - 01307 465644

(Angus@mairlands.plus.com) as soon as possible.

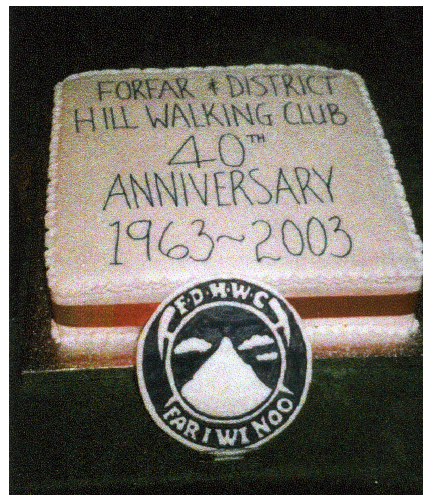
Meet leaves from Bellies Brae Car park, Kirriemuir at 8am. High Tea at Glen Isla Hotel, 4.30pm for 5.00pm

Anniversary Celebrations A Thankyou

As one half of the two longest serving club members (1966), I would like to congratulate the committee for their effort put into the organising of the events to mark the club's 40th year celebrations. Thank you and well done.

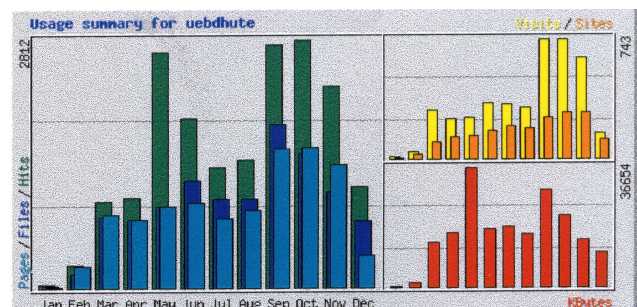
The Club has had some great parties and dances in the past (the one at Padanaram was exceptional), so why can't we revive them? *John Norrie*

The 40th Anniversary Cake - Glen Clova Buffet Sunday 26th October 2004



Web Site Statistics

The graph shows the number of visits to the club web site over the last year. Numbers are encouraging though not as high as they could be. Our web site started in September 2003 on an experimental basis. In December last year, we took out a 2-year lease of the domain name WWW.fdhwc.org.uk and took out one year hosting release from Sipro. The annual hosting fee has just been renewed for a second year (2004) at a cost of £19+VAT. It is planned to review the long-term policy of the web-site at the AGM.



Forfar & District Hillwalking Club - 30th ANNIVERSARY - November 1993



FDHWC Munroist Tables

<i>Raymond Lubbock</i>	<i>1976</i>	<i>Colin Sinclair</i>	<i>1995</i>
<i>Willie Milne</i>	<i>1981</i>	<i>Nancy McCombie</i>	<i>1996</i>
<i>Brian Coull</i>	<i>1981</i>	<i>Dorothy Adam</i>	<i>1997</i>
<i>Winnie Reid</i>	<i>1982</i>	<i>Frank Low</i>	<i>1999</i>
<i>Davie Reid</i>	<i>1982</i>	<i>Bill MacDonald</i>	<i>1999</i>
<i>Fraser Simpson</i>	<i>1983</i>	<i>Garry Adam</i>	<i>2001</i>
<i>Dave Adam</i>	<i>1987</i>	<i>Dale Smith</i>	<i>2002</i>
<i>Erick Knox</i>	<i>1990</i>	<i>Jim Christie</i>	<i>2002</i>
<i>John Norrie</i>	<i>1990</i>	<i>Bill Mill</i>	<i>2002</i>
<i>Mike Underwood</i>	<i>1990</i>	<i>John Dawson</i>	<i>2003</i>
<i>Iain Shepherd</i>	<i>1991</i>	<i>John McDonald</i>	<i>2003</i>
<i>Bill Redford</i>	<i>1991</i>	<i>Alistair Anderson</i>	<i>2003</i>
<i>Barbara Redford</i>	<i>1992</i>		
<i>Rita Norrie</i>	<i>1993</i>		
<i>Jim Convery</i>	<i>1993</i>		
<i>Martin Horne</i>	<i>1994</i>		

FAR I WI NOO

It was 1968 and the club meet was to Cam Mairg, Sheet 51 Loch Tay, starting from Invervar following the track north and north west past the shielings and up the ridge to Meall Garbh.

In those days there was quite a contingent of members from Kirrie, one of whom was the local plumber, the Doyen of the building trade, whose sense of humour and constant daft comments were often a source of help and relief on a particularly stiff climb. His timing and reading of a situation was not always of the most accurate and could cause absolute chaos. For example, there was the time when the club had organised a talk, in the Reid Hall, of all places, by a prominent artist, namely Bill Cadenhead.

Our redoubtable plumber arrived rather late, with the talk and slide show in full progress, the audience hushed and completely focussed on the speaker. Another member, namely Willie, was sitting at the back of the hall, a vacant seat beside him, and the plumber slipped in there, at the same time asking the question in a loud monotone "Fa's this the nicht Wull?"

WILLIE: He's a local penter"

PLUMBER Oh, Fa dis he work for?"

Stifled laughter and Ssh! Ssh! filled the hall. In the mind of the plumber, a 'Penter' was a tradesman and was recognised through the company he was employed by.

However, on the day in question the club had reached Meall Garbh and was now travelling east to Cam Mairg and, having reached point 1004, there was the plumber and, seeing I was looking at the map asked the obvious. 'FAR I WI NOO THEN JUM'? It stuck, and an idea was born. The route was completed and despite comments like 'A see ye've goat yer claes-robe wi ye' (I

always carried a rope in those days, a habit carried on from RAF MRT exercises) and other daft comments, his original question kept prodding away searching for an answer.

The following week every spare minute was spent cutting out a shield, painting a scene reminiscent of the Matterhorn,, with crossed ice-axes. Above the picture in a curved scroll was printed the words 'FAR I WI NOO and in a similar scroll underneath were the letters F & D.H.W.C. Edging was fixed all round the outside of the shield to finish it off. The finished item looked rather good and was rather colourful. As a final touch to help preserve the paint, a clear finisher was sprayed over the whole shield. Horror is the wrong word to express the initial feelings, as the paint began to crack and bubble. I had used normal gloss paint for the scene and then used cellulose as a spray. They don't mix!

The shield was going to be presented to the club that night, although no-one knew anything about it, so it wouldn't really matter, except that my self ego had taken a dint. After sulking for a few hours and getting prepared for the normal Friday night meeting in the cycling club hut in the Dundee Loan, I decided to have another look at the shield which was lying on the workshop bench.

There it lay, in all its glory, a real 'Old Master' The coating had now dried out and, in doing so, had left the whole scene looking as if it was an oil painting of great age with a crackle type finish.

With pride and ego fully restored, it was presented to the club amidst various comments and some explaining of the words at the top.

It was the inimitable Mr John Norrie who came up with the idea of presenting it annually to the biggest Leeir in the club and it became almost the full time

possession of Reg Fawcett, one time president, who was a great promoter of the club through his articles and photographs in the D.C. Thomson publications and others. Reg also dreamt up the idea that the wood from which the shield was made was from the tree stump on which the last mermaid of Lintrathen sat, but this is completely untrue. The shield was cut from a log of pitch pine, originally grown on Meams Hill and the outline was formed using a dried gutters cast of the footprint of a Water Kelpie where it had come out of a pool at the Carrity Burn, near East Kinwhirrie. The edging, according to Reg, was from a rib of the Tay whale which is in the Dundee Museum. I don't know where he got that idea from but if you are ever in the Museum you may be surprised to find one missing.

The follow-on to have badges made was again down to The Norries and I believe they are worn with pride. The expression 'Far i wi noo' is now international, of course, having been left in logs on the tops of various Alps in Switzerland, Austria, Germany and Italy, as well as in the Drakensberg in South Africa and, of course, on various hills throughout the Mediterranean Islands, and hopefully, further afield.

Wherever the club may roam, the message should always be written, for who knows where we will be next, and it's A' Doon tae a wee Kirrie Plumber who made the innocent remark

With thanks to Sandy, the wee Kirrie Plumber

With grateful thanks to Jim Nicol (with a little help from Marion

FIRST PHOTO COMPETITION PICTURE

FARI WI NOO?



2003 - A Summary

4th Jan, Fern Hill, Cars Attendance 7

Started at Afflochie farm climbed Craig of Trusta. Old Man and along ridge to Laidwinley where the group contoured below the hill of garbet to gain path back to Afflochie. Clear sunny day, lots of powder snow very deep in drifts making going hard.

Weather, A Clear Frosty Day Distance Walked 10.6km, Ascent 410m.

19th Jan, Mount Battock, Cars Attendance 33

Started at Mill of Aucheen taking the track north we climbed Mount Battock returning by Bennygray to Aucheen. Cold wind a bit of mist but we got a view from the top. Three members walked up the water of Saughs from Hunthill Lodge. The High Tea turn out was tremendous 43 members and guest attended.

Weather, Cold Wind with Mist. Distance Walked 14.8km Ascent 692m

9th Feb, Drummochter, Cars Attendance 11

Starting at Drummochter summit we took the track up Corie Dnomhain crossing the river and up the shoulder on to Sgaimeach Mhor From here three members returned to the cars, the rest of us continued on and were treated to amazing view of Ben Alder The rest continued onto Beinn Udlaomain and along the high ground to A'Mharconach at this point two returned to the cars the remainder carrying to Geal Cham and down to Balsporran Cottages to the waiting cars. Weather, Broken Cloud with Cold Wind. Distance Walked 18.1km Ascent 1070m.

20th March, Glen Shee, Cars Attendance 14

Starting at Dalmunzie Hotel in Glen Lochsie we followed the old railway track leading to Glen Lochsie and on to the ridge to Glas Tulaichean. It was a rather driech day with mist, rain and strong winds We returned by Glen Taitneach crossing swollen burns on the way Stopping at the Spittal Hotel for a welcome heat at the fire, and refreshments

Weather, Driech Day, Distance Walked 16km. Ascent 731m.

20th April, Linn o' Dee, Bus. Attendance 19

Three walks were done.

A' 3 members climbed the Corbett, Sgor Mor, via the white bridge and up the south ridge to the top. From this point the views were excellent, Then over Sgor Dubh and home to Linn o' Dee.

'B' 3 members climbed Cam a' Mhiam passing Derry Lodge and up Glen Luibeg ascending south east ridge the top. Returning by the outward route.

'C' 12 members climbed Beinn Bhrotain by the white bridge, and climbing the ridge to Cam Cloich-Mhuilinn and on to the summit, returning by Allt Garbh and Glen Dee, Visiting the Chest of Dee with it's crystal clear water, and back to Linn o' Dee. An older member walked up Glen Dee.

Weather, Broken Cloud Cold Wind. Distance Walked A' 17.3km. Ascent 564m. Distance Walked 'B' 21.3km. Ascent 811 m. Distance Walked 'C' 26.7km. Ascent 944m.

2nd-5th May, Arran, Weekend Attendance 13

Saturday,

Starting at Shore lodge (Excellent) in the castle grounds the group went up Glen Rosa and on to Beinn nuis, Beinn Tarsuinn and A'Chir good views all round. Some tricky scrambling, but we were well looked after by the rope man. Thanks Bob. Then down the bad step and home in the pouring rain for all except for the party goers brian and Bill, (BBQ under tree) Sunday,

A very wet day Angus and Linda waded up Goat fell from Corrie. Brian, Janet and Tom took bus to Lochranza and walked via the coast to Sannox.

Monday, Colin and Bill climbed Cioch Na h'Oighe. North Goat Fell along Stacach Ridge to Goat Fell. Tom and Brian C set off on a bike journey back to Forfar-in 3 days.

25th May, Beinn Lawers, Bus Attendance 20

Starting at Camusurachan in Glen Lyon, Two groups crossed to the visitors centre at Loch Tay A group of 6 members walked over Meall a' Leith, Meal Corranaich then on to the visitors centre. Two of that group also climbed Beinn Ghlas. The other group of 14 members climbed Meall Garbh, An Stuc, Ben Lawers and Beinn Ghlas and on to visitors centre. The weather was kind to us only a couple of showers. Visibility was very good The Bass Rock in the Firth of Forth was spotted.

Weather, Good. Distance Walked, 10.9km. Ascent 1143m.

Distance Walked, 12.9km. Ascent 1151m. 8th June, Victoria

Bus Cancelled. Cars Attendance 11

Changed venue in pursuit of better weather went Loch Awe could not get out of cars for torrential rain!! Starting at the head of Loch Awe we climbed up Beinn Chocuill on a very hot and clammy morning (22oC) reaching the top 1pm, then on to Beinn Eunaich reaching the top in a shower of rain (10oC) returned to cars 4.0pm. On the way home an Osprey was spotted carrying trout at Loch Earn.

Weather. Hot and Clammy then Cold, Distance Walked, 12.8km. Ascent 1265m.

6th July Meet Secretary's Mystery Meet 'Beinn a' Ghlo' Cars Attendance 9

Starting at Loch Morrag we crossed the moor and up the steep slope to Cam Laith, Continuing along the ridge stopping for lunch on the way then on to Braigh Coire Chruinn-Bhaigain crossing the bealach to Cam nan Gabhar before returning to the cars.

Weather, Cool perfect for walking after the hot week. Distance Walked 21.2km. Ascent 1411m.

17th August, Ben Lui Group Attendance 19

Bus Left Forfar 7.10am

Starting on the Tyndrum/Oban road 18 members climbed to the bhealach between Beinn a' Chleibh and Ben Lui climbing Beinn a' Chleibh first then on to Ben Lui. Three members descended in to Coire Laoigh returning by Cononish to the bus at Dalrigh. The rest of the group continued on to Ben Oss and Beinn Dubhchraig then back to the bus. One member walked part of the West highland Way. The weather remained dry the expected rain never came to much only a light shower when leaving the last summit. Returned to Forfar 9.00pm Distance Walked 16.9km. Ascent 1150m. Distance Walked 17.2km. Ascent 1622m.

30th August Beinn na Lap John Dawson's last Munro

Attendance 31

Everybody took the train from Rannoch station to Corroul but not everybody paid the fare! [only John Easson] Walking along by the railway line then striking up the southwest ridge we climbed to the summit of Beinn na Lap, John Norrie piped John on to the top where Colin presented him with a tankard. Everbody then enjoyed dumpling wine and whisky, returning to Corroul for the evening train.

Weather was very good and the midges stayed away

Distance Walked, 10.6km Ascent 576m.

7th Sept Glen Feshie Attendance 18

Two groups of nine members all starting at Auchlean one going up Glen Feshie following the river to the watershed, then the Geldie burn to the river Dee and on to the Linn o' Dee a walk of 33 kms. The other group going up on to Moine Mhor (big peat bed) crossing the Munro's Monadh Mor and Beinn Bhrotain down to Glen Dee and home to Linn o' Dee a walk of 28kms.

Weather, Clear day with a cold wind. An Excellent days walking

Distance Walked, 32.8km. Ascent 615m.

Distance Walked, 28.1km. Ascent 1285m.

19th 21st Sept Torridon Weekend Attendance 19

Friday

Two members climbed Beinn Alligin ascending the horns to the Munro Sgurr Mhor then round the ridge to Tom na Gruagaich the second Munro. The weather was rain and strong wind. Saturday

15 members +4 friends of John McDonalds climbed Liathach from Glen Torridon going to the east top first, Stuc a Choire Dhuibh Bhig then onto the Munro Spidean a Choire Leith over the pinnacles and onto the second Munro Mullach an Rathain where John McDonald celebrated his completion of the Munros with champagne, whiskey and all the trimmings. Colin presented John with a tankard. Descent was down by Sgorr a' Chadail where we were treated to numerous Brocken Spectres then down to the road and home to youth hostel. One member climbed the two Munros on Beinn Eighe, Going round to the splendid Choire Mhic Fhearchair then up onto the Munro Ruadh-stac Mor along the ridge to the second Munro Spidean Coire nan Clach then down the road to his car

The weather was excellent only one shower for about ten minutes.

Sunday

Two members climbed Fionn Bheinn from Achnasheen just as they reached the top the weather worsened so a quick descent was undertaken.

Two members climbed Slioch starting at Incheril going up Gleann Bianasdail then on to the summit. The weather for this pair was cold wind but very little rain. One member climbed the Corbett Little Wyvis in lovely sunny day.

19th October, Sgor Gaoith, Ali Anderson's last Munro, Attendance 15

Starting in Glen Feshie just north of Achlean on a cold but nice morning we walked up Allt Fhearnagan path to the ridge then along to Sgor Gaoith and here we cheered Ali on to his last Munro where Colin presented him with a tankard. We all had a quick dram as a snow storm hit us but we continued the celebrations further down the hill [Twice] where dumpling was included along with drams. A great day Distance Walked, 15.5km. Ascent 870m.

26th October 2003, Glen Clova, 40th Anniversary Walk, Attendance 44

On a lovely October morning we started at Glen Clova car park. The party climbed up the Capel Mounth and over to Loch Muick stopping at the wood by the loch for lunch and photographs. Then they went along the loch and up the streak of lighting continuing on to the pony hut at sandy hillock. Here we picked up four ex-members and by the time we reached Bachnagaim our number increased by another three to total of fifty one, then home to Glen Doll and down to Clova Hotel where we were met by a number of old members for a buffet, birthday cake and gird races.

Distance Walked 13.7miles. [22.1km]. Ascent 3205ft. [977m].

9th November, The Fungle Road Attendance 21

Starting from Tarfside with the weather uncertain but fair for the time being we took the Fungle path to the north by Shinfur When approaching the high part of the walk we encounter a very heavy shower of rain fortunately it did not last very long. At 11 o'clock Matt said a few words and we had two minutes silence. We had lunch near Birse Castle in the shelter of some trees and by this time the weather had cleared up for a fine afternoon. The remainder of the walk was pleasant over the moor passing a lunch hut/shooting lodge on the way down to Aboyne, where a change of clothes and refreshments were had.

Distance Walked, 20.3km. Ascent, 664m. Descent, 735m.

7th December, Ben Vurich, Cars Attendance 16

Starting at Loch Moraig taking the track to Shinagag then over the moor and it was here we came through clouds to sunny summit of Ben Vurich. The trig point was found to in good condition and only required to be painted. The weather was cold and clear above the sea cloud. The group returned to the cars by the same route. Distance Walked 20km Ascent 815m

PRESS BOOK CLIPPINGS THROUGH THE YEARS

Hill-walkers' week-end

A limited number of seats are still available for the Forfar and District Hill-Walking Club's week-end meet through Glenfeshie on Saturday and Sunday, 23rd and 24th April.

The bus is due to leave Lindsay Street (Autosales) on Saturday afternoon, and the party is to stay overnight in Kingussie before the walk through the Glen to Linn of Dee on the Sunday.

An invitation is extended to non-members interested in joining this walk, and further particulars can be obtained at the Clubroom, 4 Dundee Loan, Forfar, on Friday evening.

April 1966-Weekend
10th Anniversary Dec 72
- Everest Clip Bus-June
1964

Hill-walking club's birthday outing

34 members and friends from Forfar and District Hill-walking Club took part in a fourteen mile walk on Sunday to celebrate 10 years of hill-walking by the club. The party retraced the route taken on the first meet in 1963. Leaving from Glen Doll the walkers crossed the Capel Mounth to Loch Muick, where the small wood at Lochend provided an ideal setting for a lunch break. An occasional wintry shower occurred while crossing the Mounth but by the lochside conditions were perfect. The calm waters of the loch reflected the surrounding mountains and the autumn colours added to the splendid scene.

It wasn't all easy going as a blizzard swept over Sandy Hillock on the way back to Glen Doll. This was of short duration, however, and the party had a pleasant return walk by way of Bachnagaim.

ASKED TO JOIN NEXT EVEREST ATTEMPT

Mr David Peebles, a former Dundee man now living in New Zealand, is an honorary member of Forfar and District Hill Walking Club, and has been asked by Sir Edmund Hillary to take part in the 1973 Commonwealth Expedition attempt to climb Mount Everest.

David's sister, Mrs A. H. S. Neave, lives at 1 Bishoploch Road, Arbroath. He served during the war with A.N.Z.A.C. in North Africa and Italy.

"Dr. Finlay" invited to join walk

On Friday evening the Forfar and District Hill-Walking Club are to hold their fourth annual general meeting in their clubrooms, Forfar, when it is hoped all interested in hill-walking will attend. Club members have been asked to submit lists of suggested meets, both day and week-end, so that a comprehensive programme can be drawn up.

Ben Ledi, the Club's Sunday meet, may be termed a Highland Ben jutting into the Lowlands, giving an interrupted view to the south in good weather. The romantic scenes of the stag hunt in "The Lady of the Lake," by Sir Walter Scott, are reputed to have taken place over the heights of Bochart, which form the foothills of this Ben. The path for the ascent of Ben Ledi branches off at Coilantogle Farm, and about a mile west lies Collebrone or the "Wood of Wailing." Here, tradition relates a water kelpie was known to lurk, luring children and unwary passers-by to destruction.

Dr. Finlay, of Tannochbrae, (Mr Bill Simpson) has been invited to accompany the Club on this walk.

Several members of the Forfar and District Hill-Walking Club spent last week-end in the Glen Feshie area, where they were joined by Angus Grewar, of Inverness, a former club member.



FORFAR & DISTRICT HILLWALKING CLUB

'SUNRISE' — LOCHNAGAR

SATURDAY, 18th JUNE, 1977

Bus leaves Davidson's Garage, Forfar at 9.30 p.m.

For information and bookings :
Phone Mrs M. Laing, Forfar 4416.

October 1979

25th Anniversary

Hillwalking

It was dry but misty on Sunday for Forfar and District Hill Walking Club's October meet to the Ben Lawers area when 21 members attended.

After leaving the bus at the car park at the National Trust for Scotland information centre, the party split into two groups, one to climb the 3530 ft Meall Carronaich and Meall a Choire Leith (3033 ft), and the other to climb Ben Ghlas (3657 ft) and the highest mountain in Perthshire, Ben Lawes (3984 ft).

On reaching the summit, seven members of the latter group climbed one other Monroe, Meall Grabh (3661 ft).

Ben Lawes is at the centre of a continuous ridge of seven distinct peaks over 3000 ft. The whole range is the biggest single mountain massif in the Southern Highlands over 2500 ft.

The ascent of Ben Lawers was over the summit of Ben Ghlas, then down a narrow ridge to a Col at 3300 ft, below Ben Lawers.

This part of the ridge is marked by a path which is considerably eroded by the passage of many feet. The final ascent to Ben Lawers is quite steep, and at the top there is a large cairn and an indicator.

Over the whole day, five Monroes were scaled by the members.

Tomorrow (Friday) sees the start of the Club's winter indoor programme with a film show in the Meffan Hall, Forfar, given by the Research Exploration Group. Entitled 'Maoris and the Melfird Trail'.

HILLWALKING

Exactly twenty years ago this weekend, nineteen members of the newly constituted Forfar and District Hillwalking Club set out on the club's first walk, from Glen Doll, over Capel Mounth; to Loch Muick, and returned by Sandy's Hillocks, Bachnagairn and Moulzie.

That day the weather was misty. However, on Sunday, the club commemorated that inaugural walk in ideal conditions, enjoying fine views of Lochnagar and the surrounding hills.

Among the 39 walkers were three who had been on the first walk. They were Willie Milne, past president, Ian Rioch, from Dundee, and Angus Grewar, formerly of Kirriemuir, and now living near Fort William.

At Loch Muick they were met by Willie Whyte, the club's first president, who now lives in the Inverness area.

Although equipment has changed somewhat from the Government surplus of twenty years ago and has become much more specialised, the spirit of enjoyment of the freedom of the hills remains the same, whether it be to experience the sheer excitement of a winter's day on the high tops with ice axe and crampons or to enjoy the wild beauty of a glen walk

Intrepid Forfar walkers celebrate 25 years

A QUARTER OF a century ago today, a group of keen walkers took the first steps towards providing a club for hikers in the Forfar area.

On the night of October 18 1963, 15 people, including four women, gathered in the Angus town, and the Forfar and District Hillwalking Club was born.

Since then the body has gone from strength to strength, and the success of the club is perfectly exemplified by the fact that a third of the founder members still take an active part in proceedings.

Forfar's Willie Milne, the first club secretary, still holds the position of meet secretary and has been an official from that first night. Fellow townsman Stan Taylor attends regularly, as does Ian Reith, a Dundee offshore worker who enjoys a

stroll in the hills whilst home on leave.

The quintet is made up by two honorary members, Willie Whyte, the first chairman who now lives in Inverness, and Brechin's Willie Christieson, who since retiring has travelled to America, Australia and Japan.

Indeed, club members in general are well travelled, with many taking individual walking holidays in Europe, Scandinavia and even New Zealand. In 1977, a party spent a fortnight in the Lechtaler Alps.

Enjoyment of the beautiful scenery, including the Angus glens which are so readily accessible from Forfar, is one of the main aims of the club, but the welfare of other walkers is also a prime concern.

Ten of the 28-strong Tayside Mountain Rescue Team are

either past or present members of the Forfar club.

The membership have also been involved in many projects, mainly in the Angus glens, which have improved facilities for other trekkers, including the maintenance of Davy's Boursach, a popular shelter in Glen Doll, and the building of a new bridge over the River South Esk in Glen Clova leading to the club bothy at Whitehaugh.

Safety on the hills is also all-important to the club, and a navigation course is given to new members, and, if required, the use of winter safety techniques.

The club organises snow-holing expeditions, and one such event provided one of the memories which will, no doubt, be often remembered in the 25th anniversary year.

Taking part in the expedition was Garry Adam from Carnoustie, who during the trek celebrated his 12th birthday.

Not only did Garry mark the occasion by spending a night in a snow-hole in Corrie Farchal, Glen Clova, but the celebrations were slightly marred by the fact that the birthday dumping froze!

In the quarter of a century of regular day and weekend walks, only one trip has ever had to be cancelled.

To mark the anniversary, around 50 members recently retraced the steps of the club's first walk in Glen Doll, up to Lock Muick and back via Bachnagairn, and both young and old proved the boots of the Forfar and District Hillwalking Club still have plenty mileage left in them.

Anniversary guests from near and far



Members of Forfar and District Hillwalking Club and friends — a company of 107 in all — attended the 20th anniversary supper and dance held in the Royal Hotel on Friday evening.

Guests had come from near and far and they included Will Whyte, from Inverness (the club's first chairman), Angus Grewar, from Fersit, Dalwhinnie, John Low from Kirriemuir and Willie Milne from Forfar.

They looked back on the formation of the club and its development, aided with press cuttings and slides.

One of the club's oldest members, Willie Christieson, of Brechin received the honour of becoming the second life member. He was presented with a scroll.

With the assistance of Elaine Adam, the club's youngest member, he cut the anniversary cake, which had been baked by Mrs Ann Black of Carnoustie. It was decorated with a map of the club's first walk, which is to be repeated on Sunday, November 6.

The bus will leave the Myre car park in Forfar at 8 a.m. Past and present members are invited to join in the anniversary walk which is from Glen Doll.

Cutting the cake to mark the 20th anniversary of Forfar & District Hillwalking Club, in the Royal Hotel on Friday, are Robert Jaffray, meet secretary, Jean Jaffray, secretary, Rita Norrie, president, Elaine Adam, youngest member, and William Christieson.

Walkers gather to celebrate

Over a hundred Forfar and District Hill Walking Club members and friends attended the 20th anniversary supper and dance at the Royal Hotel, Forfar.

Several founder-members were there, and looked back on the formation of the club and its development with the help of Press cuttings and slides.

They honoured one of their oldest members, Willie Christieson, of Brechin, for his long association with the club by making him their second life member and presenting him with a scroll.

With the assistance of Elaine Adam, the club's youngest member, he cut the anniversary cake which had been baked by Mrs Ann Black, of Carnoustie. It was decorated with a map of the club's first walk, which will be repeated on Sunday.

This anniversary walk is from Glen Doll, by the Capel Mounth to Loch Muick, returning Bachnagairn.