

Happy 75th Anniversary of BLACKROCK COTTAGE

In May 2022 Members were busy enjoying spring all over Scotland to celebrate Blackrock's 75th birthday of being an LSCC club hut. Alison Higham set the target of matching the total number of ascents achieved by the club on the previous 'Summits day' in 1983 of 119 Munros (being the 75th anniversary of the LSCC Club).

Christine and Pauline on Arran



Margaret G on Buachaille Etive Mòr



This time any hill would count, and members rose to the challenge – chalking up 137 summits! Members covered a vast range of Munros, Corbetts, Donalds, Marylins, Hughs (and any bump at all) and also climbed, kayaked and cycled. Those on the west had fine weather – but pity those on the Cairngorm Plateau where the sun didn't shine! Parties were hosted at all three huts (and Laggarabh), with decorated cakes.

Mary L & Sarah M on Bynack Mor



Thea on Pink Rib



Carol (+39 weeks)



Some of the vital statistics from the day were:

- 137 hills summited (counting duplicates where several members did same hill);
- 93 unique summits reached; • 49 members out in the hills;
- The party of Jo, Lis and Noelle summited 13 'bumps';
- Helen Copeland did 12 summits of Munros and tops on the South Shiel Ridge;
- The most popular hill was Beinn Dearg Bheag - summited by 4 members;
- 12 other hills were summited by 3 members a piece; • 6 hills from 4 prospectives;
- 5 hills outside Scotland: 1 in New Zealand, 1 in France, 3 in England;
- 1 hill was cycled over - Beattock Pass; • 1 hill was done one a different day



Jo, Lis, Noelle on the '13 bumps'



Helen on South Shiel Ridge



Mary S in France

Pat Brown's poem (at Milehouse) reminded us of the 'original' party in May 1947

To dispel post-war blues, in May 47,
 The keys to a cottage, a wee touch of heaven.
 Despite two bulging walls, a thorough springclean
 Set it up for a party, our first to be seen.

Then the visitors came, two a motorbike pair,
 Not the usual by car - even now would be rare!
 Mrs Jane Inglis-Clark, first president past,
 Did the honours and set a tradition to last.

The ribbon was cut, and also the cake -
 A replica Blackrock, the best they could make,
 Plus platefuls of "dainties", then in the lamplight,
 Celebrations and feasting well into the night.

But next day broke typically - misty and wet
 But typical also, their minds were all set;
 Three groups headed out to climb Buchaille's routes
 (post-war Britain not easy for clothing and boots).

Driving home proved a challenge - an epic too far
 When Riona (custodian) lost a wheel from her car!

Many Happy Returns - for us all

Poem by Pat Brown

Pat is indebted to Alison for being able to provide relevant facts from the archived Record.

Cakes from 2022 below!



At Milehouse



At Blackrock



Sampling Blackrock cake



Cake at Laggangarbh



At Ronnan



Rachel on 3 Munros above Laggan



Sarah K after 7 above Lochailort

On Sunday, Alison, relaxing with Mary W, after a very successful event.
 Thanks to Alison & members who wandered, scampered and →
 climbed over the hills. (Alison has more photos than the sample here.)



Alison H, Alice M, Mary W & Pat for the poem