**Black Dog Meet**

**No. 261 Knoydart**

**Friday 19th to Monday 22nd April 2024**

**In Attendance**

David Cameron, Owen Clark, Wull Clark, Gerry Feeney, Valerie Inglis, Liz Kennedy, Dave Mackay, Richard Marwood, Ruth Marwood, Peter Robertson, James Yeats and Rachel Yeats

# **Hills Climbed**

**Saturday:**

David, Owen, Wull, Valerie, Dave & Peter Meall Buidhe (946m) and Luinne Bheinn (939m)

Gerry, Liz, Ruth & James Beinn na Caillich (785m)

**Sunday:**

David, Wull & Valerie Beinn na Caillich (785m)

Gerry, Liz & James Beinn Bhuidhe (855m)

**Weather**

The weather was perfect for the weekend, clear skies, plenty of sun, not too warm in the mountains, but warm enough to sit outside for cups of tea and pints of beer.

**Notes / Highlights**

The group all stayed in the Mallaig/Glenfinnan/Corran area on the Thursday night and caught the 10.15am ferry from Mallaig to Inverie on Friday morning to make the most of the day. It was a stunning morning and the sail was wonderful, setting the scene for the weekend. We were met from the ferry by a member of staff from Knoydart Lodge who took all the gear in the car whilst we wandered up to the accommodation. Knoydart Lodge is truly wonderful and well worth the money to stay there. We agreed unanimously that a return visit would be arranged for 2026.

Once settled into our rooms, we all went for various walks around Inverie to build up an appetite for dinner at The Old Forge.

**Saturday**

The Munro 6 set off early for the circuit of Meall Bhuidhe and Luinne Bheinn. The sky was blue and it was a perfect start to the day. There was cloud around, although higher than the summits, and it got quite cold the higher we climbed. We made it to the summit of our first Munro of the day and had the hill to ourselves. Some slushy residual snow on the steep rocky descent path off Meall Bhuidhe made for some careful footwork, but we all got down unscathed. The climb up to Luinne Bheinn also presented some wet snow, but no real problem other than a steep pull up late on in the day. It’s a long, long walk back to Inverie from the second summit and we were all well ready for alcoholic beverages and food when we got back. Grand day out!! A wonderful round in a wonderful setting.

***Liz’s story***

Liz, Gerry, James and Ruth climbed Beinn a Caillich with excellent weather with stunning views.

***Richard’s story***

On Saturday Rachel and I took a circular route to walk steeply to the top of the impressive gorge area admittedly some way before the summit of Sgurr Coire Choinnichean.

A four-and-a-half-hour hill walk for us, limited by Knoydart standards. Well-chosen though: a portion was not on standard trail, and it was great exercise. Towards the end we were overtaken by an ultrarunner, who along with about 35 other competitors was coming in on the final leg of a three-day event of 125km all around Knoydart.

As we got back to Inverie we sadly became aware of a serious housefire (no casualties) in the centre of the village. The population of Inverie were attending to it as best they could.

On Saturday night the much-improved Old Forge pub was packed, with locals (debriefing about the house fire), hill walkers, and ultrarunners all cheerfully intermingling to local folk music.

**Sunday**

David, Wull and I set off in good time for Beinn a Caillich on another beautiful day. We had opted for the route in the Corbett book, but on arrival were met with new deer fences which meant for a short detour but no great issues getting up onto the ridge of the hill. It was great walk along to the summit and the views were simply fabulous, over the sea to Skye and the surrounding islands and the circuit of Ladhar Bheinn. We made it back to Inverie for a couple of well-deserved beers at The Old Forge before heading home for tea and some sharing of stories. Grand day out.

***Liz’s story***

Liz, Gerry, James and Ruth climbed Beinn Bhuidhe with excellent weather with stunning views.

***Richard’s story***

David Mackay, Owen, Ruth and Richard hired some ebikes and travelled to the west and north of Knoydart. Spectacular views of Eigg, Rhum and the Cuillin and isolated beaches and communities.

Accommodation at Knoydart Lodge was superb, as was the whole long weekend. Thanks Val. Roll on 2026, for a return visit.

*Valerie*