Meet Report – Crianlarich 21/22 February 2025

Six of us gathered at the Ochils Mountaineering Club’s Inverardran Cottage, Crianlarich on Friday afternoon. The drive up had been very very wet and it was no surprise to see that the River Fillan had burst its banks and the valley was awash with flood water.

Fortunately the weather improved overnight and the floodwater receeded quickly. On Saturday morning, Oli dropped Janet and Chris at Auch and continued on past Bridge of Orchy to Achallader and a walk into the Gorton Bothy. He found the bothy in very good condition. Janet and Chris walked back to Crianlarich along the West Highland Way. It was not straight forward as there were downed trees, ground slips and deep mud to negotiate. Janet slipped on a tree root and had a close encounter with the ground; fortunately her injuries were minor and she was able to make it to the Rod and Reel to watch the England/Scotland Rugby match. Dot, Grace and Val started at the Artisan Café (closed) and, passing Auchtertyre, went up the Corbett Beinn Chaorach. Dot and Grace continued on to Cam Chreag, while Val left the group at the col and headed down the glen. She explored the east side of the lower glen and dawdled so much that Dot and Grace beat her back to the car. In between showers there were good views and patches of sun.

Saturday evening’s meal was Fish Pie and then a delicious Fig and Frangipane tart baked by Dot. Oli supplied the wood and tended the stove whilst a Dominos championship was held. Val won by a considerable number of points – luck not skill! The consensus was that it had been a good day – it did not rain or hail continuously!

The forecast for Sunday morning was correct; torrential rain and strong winds. The river started rising again. We all packed up and left. The drive back was a repeat of Friday’s journey.