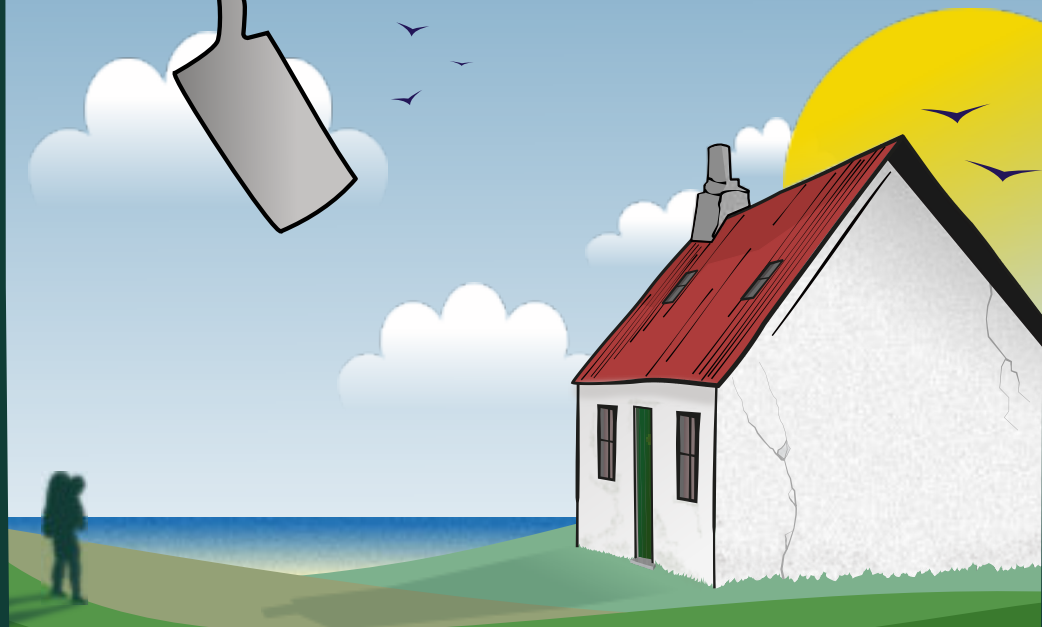




# Mountain Bothies Association Annual Review

YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2018



maintaining simple shelters

# We maintain simple shelters

IN REMOTE COUNTRY FOR THE USE AND BENEFIT OF THOSE WHO LOVE WILD AND LONELY PLACES

Editor: *Peter Aylmer*  
Design: *John Mitchell*  
Photocredits: *Peter Aylmer, Robert Barton, Alan Bellis, Jason Francis, Andy Mayhew, Marcus McTurk, John Mitchell, Heather Morning, Neil Reid, Richard Spencer, David Todd.*

**Across Britain, we maintain more than 100 bothies, none of which is on a public road. Indeed most bothies are in highly demanding locations, surrounded by rough and mountainous terrain.**

During 2018, the MBA owned only a single bothy. Elsewhere, we work with the bothy owner – such as an individual, trust or public body – to keep the building in good order, and open for public use.

In this Annual Review, we show how we went about our work in 2018.

## MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2018

This was another excellent year for bothy maintenance – and this year, we helped replace two crucial bridges also. Some examples of our work parties, undertaken entirely by volunteers, appear on pages 2 to 14.

We took over responsibility for the maintenance of the Garbh Choire refuge hut, deep in the Cairngorms.

## HOW WE WORK

The MBA is a membership organisation, registered in Scotland as a charity. We have no paid staff. The board of Trustees and the management committee both meet regularly during the year to set priorities, monitor finance and ensure good governance. All members of the MBA can attend and vote at the annual general meeting held each October.

Bothies are organised into nine geographical areas, each of which has

an area organiser and committee. Each bothy has a maintenance organiser (or two joint MOs); aided by reports from users, they monitor the condition of their bothy, and effect minor repairs. Larger-scale work, such as installing a new hearth or roof, falls to work parties, often of several days' duration.

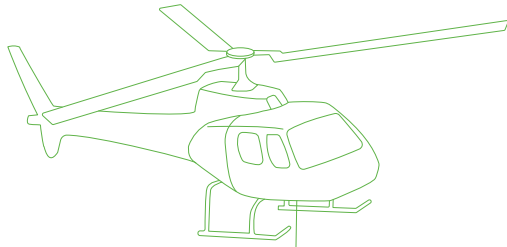
We value our strong links with bothy owners, without whose support these wonderful buildings would not be available for public use.

For certain aspects of our administration, such as the maintenance of our membership list, we work closely alongside Henderson Black & Co, chartered accountants of Cupar in Fife.

## TRUSTEE UPDATES

We welcomed David Moorat as a Trustee. Liz Bibby and Roger Hammond reached the end of their terms on the Board during the year and we thank them for their service.

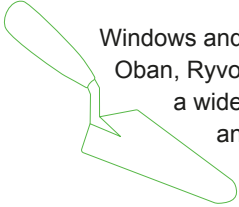




## A year of work parties

2018 saw work parties - some large, some small - in many bothies, spread across the MBA's areas from Wales and Northern England to the far north of Scotland. Some work parties – Craig, Loch Chiarain and (jointly with the rebuilding of the Garbh Choire refuge hut) Corrour – needed helicopter transport for the supplies, but whether a multi-day job or something shorter, the aim was to make sure that bothies offered a secure and welcoming home for those exploring wild country in Britain.

### SOME OF THE MAJOR PROJECTS



Windows and sometimes doors were replaced at Green, Wainhope, A'Chuil (see p.4), Oban, Ryvoan (a new front door here too), Coire Fionnaraich, Luib Chonnal (part of a wider face-lift) and Loch Chiarain; Dulyon saw a fire escape window installed; and MBA volunteers also built new skylights at Invermallie (as well as new wall-boardings) and Glendhu.

Stove or fire replacement was popular too - Glenpean (with chimney), Glendhu, Suardalan (alongside other major internal work), Greg's Hut, Mosedale Cottage, Dubs Hut, Tunskeen and Ryvoan all benefitted, the better to re-invigorate damp and cold bothy users.

New floors and/or sleeping platforms were installed at Great Lingy Hut, Mosedale Cottage, Greg's Hut and Loch Chiarain. A long-term project to replace the floors at Craig bothy got under way (see p. 7). Plenty of painting took place too, including Glendhu and Dulyon.



Volunteers and teamwork are at the core  
of the Mountain Bothies Association

## New light on A'Chuil

Over the years, the doors and window frames at A'Chuil bothy in the Western Highlands had become badly in need of replacement.

Turn over to read Bob Howe's account of the six-day work party in April 2018 that saw the job completed, itself preceded by much hard work in woodworking and the gathering of materials. Bob is joint MO for A'Chuil with Andy Heald.



A'Chuil bothy in the Western Highlands is beautifully situated in Glen Dessary, above Loch Arkaig in the western Highlands – a great stopping off point for Knoydart Munros such as Sgurr na Ciche.



“

After a long drive, Rob Wilson, Alan Urwin and I carried gear, window frames, generator, scaffolding, tools, coal, sand, cement and gravel, fuel etc down the narrow slippery path to the bothy. Not far really, only a few hundred metres, but after what seemed about 20 trips we retired, got the fire started and sat down for a night's rest.

Day two saw us start breaking out the old window in the east wing and trial fitting the replacement. Thanks to Al and Rob's expert measuring up the previous visit it fitted remarkably well. I started to remove the sill and cladding around the other window. Things were going very well and we were obviously going to get both fitted that day.

In planning, we had thought of using UPC – cheaper, but possibly more awkward to fit – or more durable hardwood, but finally chose Accoya. This is pine with an acetylation treatment which renders this FSC softwood more durable even than hardwood. Not cheap, but better than chopping down the rain forest.

During day two Andy Heald, Mick Garrett, Jock Watson, Donnard White and Gaz Carter and his dog all arrived, eager to help out. Their only major task was to move the door and frame down from the trailer which the lads did in fine style, despite its considerable weight and awkward shape.

On day three, everyone set to finishing off the two windows and their respective surrounds together with working out how best to tackle the door replacement. Out came the paint brushes! The next day we removed the old door and frame and cleaned up the surrounding stone work to allow us to fix the new unit, which we completed after lunch. Jock, Donnard and Gaz left to check out Invermallie, a bothy close to the shore of Loch Arkaig.

We completed the door fitment on day five, and also finished painting the east gable wall interior and doing all those last bits and pieces which take far longer than you thought they would. All that remained the next morning was to move all the gear back up the hill.

”

## Garbh Choire refuge hut

To the south of Braeriach, one of the great peaks of the Cairngorms, lies the deep gulch of An Garbh Choire, the infant waters of the River Dee tumbling through it. It's a rough place, not somewhere to be caught out if the weather turns; help is many miles away. It is here, nearly 2500ft up, that lies the Garbh Choire refuge hut.

The hut, an important part of Cairngorm mountaineering heritage, had fallen into disrepair until the National Trust for Scotland (Mar Lodge Estate) agreed that the MBA should assume responsibility for its ongoing maintenance. Renovation was aided by a £5000 donation from a former refuge user who read of the plans in the MBA newsletter.

A work party in June 2018 first cleared the dilapidated hut of stone casing, rubbish and debris before fitting a new waterproof membrane. The floor was repaired, and the door and fanlight rebuilt to withstand the severe weather experienced in the corrie.



There has been no attempt to enlarge the hut – it holds four at most – nor to add in creature comforts such as a fire. Its only purpose is as an emergency shelter; it is emphatically not a place for planned visits.



# Ruigh Aiteachan

## As good as new



**Ruigh Aiteachan bothy at the heart of Glen Feshie, Eastern Cairngorms,** has been transformed. New stoves, an extension, new windows and a toilet block give this bothy some of the best facilities of any. The beautiful glen is home to a diverse and extensive range of wildlife, and with new raised beds and landscaping around the bothy the wildlife is likely to come even closer!

After more than two years of work, the bothy officially reopened in autumn 2018. Through an extension to the north side, a new staircase has allowed the reinstatement of the first floor. The whole place has been stripped back while also saving anything in a good enough condition to maintain the character of the building. Walls have been whitewashed, windows replaced with double glazing, and the insulation installed means it will now be extra warm and cosy in the harsh Cairngorm winter.

The whole project has been funded and carried out by Anders and Anne Holch Povlsen, the owners of Glen Feshie estate. The MBA would like to thank the owners for their support and commitment to the maintenance and restoration of Ruigh Aiteachan, truly a wonderful asset for this area of the highlands.

Text: Lyndsey McLellan



## Craig

**The first stage of a major project to re-floor Craig bothy, above the shores of Loch Torridon, began in November 2018 with the ground floor.**

Access is only by means of a rough path above the loch shore between Redpoint and Diabaig. MO Harry Ross and AO Jason split two main tasks between them – Harry walked in to the bothy to clear out the room and get everything ready, while a couple of days later Jason drove up with the materials and equipment to Diabaig and built a package for a helicopter hired by the estate to fly the materials to Harry and others in the workparty.

It took the four-strong work party two full days to put in the new floor, and once done, Jason and Harry stayed on to varnish. Craig now has a good-looking ground floor – but as with so many MBA projects, this is just the start of a longer programme of works.



Craig was one of several work parties through the year to use a helicopter drop of materials.





# Island Challenge

**G**uirdil bothy is on the north-west coast of the island of Rùm, with only a rough track up Glen Shellesder linking it to the settlement and ferry port of Kinloch. It's a good example of how the MBA's island bothies present a double logistical challenge for workparties, but MO John Tweddle is more than up for the challenge.

Re-roofing Guirdil is not a project for a one-off workparty. It was back in 2014 that plans started to be made, and funding was finally agreed a year later. Since then there have been five workparties, with a (hopefully) final one due for Easter 2019.

Guirdil, and its Rùm partner Dibidil, are owned by Scottish Natural Heritage – indeed the whole island has been a National Nature Reserve for more than 60 years. With no land-rover track to the bothy, and Argocat trips restricted to SNH business, a helicopter drop was considered – but any flying before late August would disturb the island's precious wildlife.

## OPTIONS

But first, the materials had to get to Kinloch, and John was dismayed when he found that ferry operator Calmac was not equipped to handle pallets on or off the harbour's tiny quay. Neither was it feasible to take several part-loads by road, given only five ferry sailings a week. Options were reducing all the time.

Thankfully, the Small Isles of which Rùm is one benefits from the haulage service run by Mallaig-based Milligan's Transport. Owner Greig Milligan suggested that, instead of Kinloch, he could take materials into Guirdil bay on their purpose-built

landing craft Spanish John II "without much bother"! Much cheaper than a ferry, and not destructive to the island's terrain – SNH agreed straightaway.

There was still the matter of delivering materials to Mallaig harbour, and dealing with a three-day delay to the sailing time. And then when the materials were delivered, to the Bay not the somewhat higher bothy, John, with the aid of one MBA volunteer (the late Alex Scott), had no option but to manhandle two tonnes of materials from beach to bothy, a three-day task in itself. But soon after, the first workparty made good progress.

## LOGISTICS

More logistics needed in future years: carrying power tools in (and out), more sand, fresh lime for pointing. SNH had hoped to take over 140kg of materials in autumn 2017 when they were culling hinds in the locality, but could not as their Argocat had been badly damaged by fire. That meant 11 trips (around 40 hours) from the nearest LRT point to the bothy for John and other volunteers.

Fast-forward to the most recent work party, in September 2018; John and another, at the mercy of Storm Ali pounding into the bay. Not surprisingly, not much was done. The plan is to complete in April 2019.

Work party volunteers have needed fortitude too, many travelling long distances with the risk that ferry connections might not be made or indeed the ferry might not run at all. John is full of praise though for those who have made the effort, and contributed to a safe and secure bothy in a stunning location.





Access to many bothies across the country will involve one or many river crossings. While on a warm summer's day it can be a pleasant paddle across, some days of the year it can be dangerous or even impossible. Many bothy users will have had to change plans or even turn back due to a high river or a broken bridge, and indeed some bothies can be virtually impossible to safely reach for good chunks of the year. With this in mind, the MBA decided in 2018 to help with two important bridge restoration projects.

# Bridging the gap

## SPITHOPE FOOTBRIDGE, NORTHTHUMBERLAND

Spithope bridge was a victim of the 'Beast From the East' storm in early 2018. A giant root ball swept down the flooded burn dislodging the bridge and making it unsafe to cross. Once removed, the bridge was found to be severely damaged. Replacement, slightly upstream but raised higher above the burn, was clearly needed to avoid damage in the future.

Unlike Carnach bridge, this was a job the MBA could carry out unaided, as it was on the same scale as a work party. The job was carried out by MBA volunteers over a weekend in November 2018 at a cost to the association of only £350. First came preparation, digging out and strimming around the site of the new bridge, before the replacement itself took place. All went without a hitch and the bridge is now providing a safe crossing to Spithope bothy.

## CARNACH BRIDGE, KNOYDART

A suspension bridge originally built as a memorial had been repaired many times over the years. In early 2018 due to bad weather the bridge was finally condemned and removed, making the route into Sourlies from Inverie a challenge – and

it's an important trail for many heading into Knoydart, or north on a popular Cape Wrath Trail variant.

The MBA decided to contribute £5,000 to the total cost of over £30,000, many other organisations sharing the remainder. The new structure was finally assembled on a nearby beach and should be in place in summer 2019.

Opening up this route will hopefully make it safer for those venturing into this magnificent and isolated area for many more years to come.



*Maintaining bridge access is of great importance to our community as it enables hundreds of people each year to complete the pilgrimage that is walking in to Knoydart. In the main we continue to rely on visitors and the income that they generate to enable our community to live and work on Knoydart.*



*Amie Dow,  
Knoydart Foundation Ranger*

Text: Lyndsey McLellan



# Glencoul & Glendhu

Twin lochside bothies



**H**igh up Scotland's west coast, each on its own sea loch penetrating deep in from Edrachillis Bay, lie two bothies, Glencoul and Glendhu. Despite their isolated locations, they're popular bothies, both with walkers – many heading to Cape Wrath pass this way – and sea kayakers. And with fresh mussels plentiful, they're some of the few to boast their own food supply.

Glendhu saw a major workparty in April 2018. To all intents and purposes, Glendhu presents the same logistical problems as do island bothies (see page 8), for the shortest walk-in is two hours long, and the track isn't great for vehicles. The Kylestrome Estate was very helpful in agreeing to take both volunteers and equipment by the estate landing craft. Alas, it broke down a few days before its planned use; but there was an alternative.

## FULL THROTTLE

Instead, the estate offered their RIB (rigid inflatable boat). Hardly the same carrying capacity, but much faster. As Robert Barton, then AO for the Northern Highlands, remembers: "The boatman opened the throttle wide and we shot off up the loch. The passengers were hanging on, breathing was difficult looking straight ahead and the gale tore through the thin clothes we were wearing." Mercifully, it was only a seven-minute ride!

Three return trips saw all goods and people safely landed in less time than one landing craft trip would have taken. Perhaps in an MBA first, two of the work party were reporters from German radio, who were in the process of putting

together a programme about bothy life and maintenance for their home audience. They saw a major programme of works safely completed, including roof and fireplace maintenance, cladding replacement and repainting.

Glencoul was once officially designated a school

## HONOUR

Users of Glencoul, meanwhile, may often have wondered what the stone cross above the bothy commemorates. Erected by landowner the Duke of Westminster, it honours two brothers, William and Alistair Elliot, who did not return from the carnage of the First World War – and 2018, being the centenary of the war's end, is an apt time to remember their sacrifice.

It's also a reminder that Glencoul, like so many bothies, was once a place where families worked and grew. In this case, Glencoul was a new house in the late nineteenth century, where newlyweds John (the local keeper) and Marion Elliot began their married life and raised five sons; in addition to William and Alistair, Matthew and Jock survived and became keepers in their own right, and James's path led to Edinburgh University and a career as a physician.

Because James was taught the three Rs by William, Glencoul was officially designated as a school! The building continued as a home until after the Second World War and has been a bothy since 1998.



# Bats in the bothy



With so many bothies in areas rich in wildlife, it should come as no surprise that from time to time animal conservation has to be factored in to work party schedules. Nowhere is this more true than at Leysburnfoot in the Scottish Borders, responsibility for which we took on in September 2018.

Renovation at Leysburnfoot – more commonly known as Will's Bothy, in memory of hill runner and climber Will Ramsbotham – was delayed by the presence of common pipistrelle (or possibly soprano pipistrelle) bats, or more precisely, uncertain advice from a number of quarters. All species of bats are protected under law.

The MBA therefore commissioned its own bat survey from a professional consultant ecologist, Reuben Singleton of Tweed Ecology, to perform two surveys: a preliminary assessment that allowed us to do some internal work in November; and a full bat survey that is scheduled for spring 2019 and will precede roof work. Although unlikely to be used as a maternity roost, it is likely that bats roost at the bothy in the summer and hibernate there over winter.

Thankfully for those humans over-wintering it was possible to refurbish Tunskeen bothy's old stove and move it into Will's bothy, and to build the first of three planned sleeping platforms during early November.

But the roof work may well need a licence from Scottish Natural Heritage. That particular work party will need to be well supported as it is likely we will have to make more than the usual preparations – for example, timber treatments need to be made with chemicals from an approved list.



# The Code in translation

Many bothy users come from overseas, and the concept of a bothy may be very new to them – they are a very different proposition to the mountain huts of the Alps, for example. So the MBA's Bothy Code will be new to them. How best to get the message across?



Helena Webster, MO for Camasunary on Skye, was first to spot a solution. *"The Bothy is busy with people walking the Skye Trail, many of whom are Europeans,"* says Helena. *"When I spoke to them they asked about the MBA and then compared it to the equivalent in their own countries."*

*"It became clear that our European visitors were not familiar with the Bothy Code and in some cases their English was not fluent enough to understand the notices pinned up in the bothy. Hence the idea for a multilingual Bothy Code notice."*

*"I approached some of my relatives and friends for the Dutch and German translations and then asked for help via the MBA Facebook page. Within a couple of days I had Polish, French and Spanish translations too."*

The sign is now on display at all the bothies in the North-West Highlands and Islands, and several more also.

And the new sign is welcomed by visitors too.

Luck Janssen from the Netherlands, coming to Camasunary towards the end of the Skye Trail, said the multilingual sign *"made him feel welcome."* He added, *"Although my English is quite good, there are still words that I don't understand. It was good to be able to understand the Bothy Code in full."*



# Area focus

## Central Highlands



The Area has two joint organisers, Tom Bell and (pictured) Liz Bibby. As well as her duties as joint AO, Liz will be familiar to many as the MBA's training officer, as well as a member of the management committee and, until earlier in 2018, Trustee.

The Central Highlands form one of the MBA's smallest areas, with just ten bothies – and one of those, Culra, has been out of action for some time owing to the discovery of asbestos in the building. But with an area stretching from Rannoch Moor in the south to the Ben Alder massif in the east and the Corrieairack Pass in the north, its bothies provide welcoming shelter to many who love wild and desolate country, much of it far from Scotland's honeypot hills.

Most of the Area's attentions in 2018 were given to Luib Chonnal and Loch Chiarain bothies. New windows to a design requested by the estate and major internal work have given Luib Chonnal a well-deserved facelift. Loch Chiarain benefitted from a three-day project of new windows, sleeping platforms and floors, with the material flown in by helicopter.

**Luib Chonnal:** A watershed bothy, high up Glen Roy but barely a mile from the east-flowing Spey.



**Lairig Leacach:** A tiny bothy at the summit of the pass between Loch Treig and Glen Spean, it's popular for those climbing the Grey Corries.



**Blackburn of Corrieairack:** A useful stopping-off place on the crossing of Corrieairack Pass, one of Scotland's military roads.



**Glenbuck:** High above the Great Glen, a few miles north of Parallel Roads of Glen Roy.



**Gorton:** On the southern edge of Rannoch Moor, beneath the Munro of Beinn a'Chreachain.



**Loch Chiarain:** In remote country between Kinlochleven and Loch Treig.



**Ben Alder Cottage:** On the shores of Loch Ericht, the bothy allegedly harbours a ghost.



**Meanach:** The higher of the two bothies on the Abhainn Rath, which provides a popular through-route between Glen Nevis and Corroul.



**Staoineag:** The closest bothy to Britain's remotest and highest train station Corroul, and two miles downstream from Meanach.



# Life membership for Bert and Ken

Two long-serving members of the MBA were awarded honorary life membership at the 2018 AGM for their work on Eastern Highlands bothies.

During his 20 years of MBA membership, Bert Barnett has surveyed, prepared plans and submitted many planning applications for Eastern Highlands bothies. As well as site visits, that has meant liaison with Historic Scotland, the Cairngorms National Park Authority, the National Trust for Scotland and of course bothy owners. Essentially, he has been the area's 'resident architect'.

Ken Freeman's membership is even longer – 26 years – and in that time, as the area's chief Project Organiser, he has turned his garage into an MBA workshop. Projects undertaken there included the prefabrication and build of the Fords of Avon refuge prior to its renewal. He has also been MO for Shielin of Mark bothy for many years.

Allan Moore, Area Organiser for the Eastern Highlands, made the proposal for life membership. He said: "Both Bert and Ken have given exceptional voluntary service to the MBA and will no doubt continue to do so in the future."



## Bernard reaches 90

The MBA sends its best wishes to Bernard Heath on his 90th birthday. Bernard was the founder and the first secretary of the MBA, and organised its first-ever work party, at Tunskeen in southern Scotland. Within four years, 15 of our best-loved bothies were saved, and he later married fellow MBA member Betty Taylor. The picture shows them cutting the MBA's 50th birthday cake in 2015. Both now hold MBA life memberships and the British Empire Medal.



## Donors to the MBA

Every year we benefit from the generosity of individuals, their friends, and various funds who provide substantial donations for specific projects or for our general expenditure. We regret that space doesn't allow us to list each and every donor, but we are delighted to record our sincere appreciation to all our donors. Following is a list of those making significant donations in 2018; it includes all legacies and donations that we received 'in memory' and also donors to any specific funds where balances remained at the end of the year. In addition we received donations through the BTMyDonate website and a number of anonymous donations.

*The total given during 2018 was over £52,000.*

HM The Queen  
Simon Adaway (Red House)  
C Derek Anderson  
Steve Bassnett  
Bayfield Trust (Faindouran)  
Alan Brook (Garbh Coire Refuge)  
David Cattermole  
Ciach MC  
Pamela Crichton  
Jim Curtis Fund  
Peter Day  
Claudia Ehmke  
Geoff Emerson  
Roger Everard  
Dr. Ulrike Faust  
Derek Finnie  
Glasgow Glenmore MC  
Keith Griffiths  
Greg Hackett  
Kay Harman (Uags)  
Susan Hawkins (Callater Stables)  
Philippa Hill half marathon  
Ann Hobbiss  
Frances Humphreys  
Michael Hyde  
Jan-Willem Jannink  
Andrew Jenson Fund (Gameshope)  
Langside MC  
Lookout Bothy donation box  
F Mackie

Malcolm Macpherson  
M Malcolm  
Scott McGhie  
Lotje Meijknecht  
Catherine Osborn  
Pennine Way Association (Greg's Hut)  
Nicholas Randall (Greg's Hut)  
David Rawlinson  
Rob Ruijs  
Sabre Software  
Stuart Shipp  
Richard Shirreffs  
Ian Slater  
Michael Ulber  
Mick Venters  
Darren Watson  
Wild Things Publishing

*Donations in memory of:*  
Martin Coutie  
Dr Iain Cumming (Glasgow Jun MC)  
Bill Jones  
Derek McGuire (Glasgow Sport)  
Gordon Lewis Ramsay  
Geoff Toye (Ciach MC)

*Legacies:*  
William Brian Carlyle  
David Martin  
John Evans



# Bothy owners

It is common for people to ask MBA officers where all the money for the work we do comes from; much less often we are asked about the bothies themselves. Each bothy is the property of an individual, trust, company or public body which has decided to make it available for public use. In the following list we express our thanks to the very generous owners of the bothies we maintain.

<b>HM Queen Elizabeth II</b>	<i>Gelder Shiel Stable</i>
<b>Aberchalder Estate</b>	<i>Glenbuck</i>
<b>Andras Ltd</b>	<i>Faindouran</i>
<b>Anonymous</b>	<i>Brattleburn</i>
<b>Applecross Estate Trust</b>	<i>Uags</i>
<b>Ardtornish Estate Co Ltd</b>	<i>Leacraithnaich</i>
<b>Assynt Foundation</b>	<i>Suileag</i>
<b>Trustees of Atholl Estates</b>	<i>Allt Scheicheachan, Tarf Hotel</i>
<b>The Bacon Trustees</b>	<i>Craig</i>
<b>Bell Ingram</b>	<i>Greensykes</i>
<b>Ben Alder, Dalwhinnie and Strathmashie Estates</b>	<i>Ben Alder Cottage, Culra</i>
<b>The Block and Fooks Families</b>	<i>Coire Fionnaraich</i>
<b>Borders Forest Trust</b>	<i>Gameshope</i>
<b>Michael Bostelman and Julian Whately</b>	<i>Dryfehead</i>
<b>The Bothy Trust</b>	<i>Glenpean</i>
<b>Scott Bremner</b>	<i>Blackburn of Corrieyairack</i>
<b>The Buccleuch Estates Ltd</b>	<i>Burleywhag, Kettleton Byre</i>
<b>The Trustees of Lindsay CN Bury</b>	<i>Cruib</i>
<b>Donald Angus Cameron of Lochiel</b>	<i>Invermaillie, Kinbreack</i>
<b>The Corriemulzie Trust</b>	<i>Coiremor, The Schoolhouse</i>
<b>Dalemain Estate</b>	<i>Great Lingy Hut</i>
<b>Dalhousie 2006 Trust</b>	<i>Shielin of Mark</i>
<b>Mark Z de Ferranti</b>	<i>Oban</i>
<b>Dunlossit Trustees Ltd</b>	<i>An Cladach</i>
<b>Dwr Cymru (Welsh Water)</b>	<i>Arenig Fawr, Dulyn, Grwyne Fawr</i>
<b>Elan Vally Trust</b>	<i>Lluest Cwm Bach</i>
<b>Mr Enghart</b>	<i>Clennoch</i>
<b>Fasque and Glendye Estates</b>	<i>Charr</i>
<b>Philip Fleming, Robert Fleming and Trustees</b>	<i>Gorton</i>
<b>Andrew Fletcher</b>	<i>Glengarrisdale</i>
<b>The Forestry Ministers (FCE)</b>	<i>Flittingford, Green, Haughtongreen, Spithope, Kershopehead, Roughside, Wainhope</i>
<b>Glendale Estate Trust</b>	<i>Ollisdal</i>
<b>The Glenelg Sheepstock Club</b>	<i>Suardalan</i>
<b>The Proprietors of Glenfalloch Estate</b>	<i>Doune Byre</i>

<b>Mr RA Green</b>	<i>Croft House</i>
<b>The Trustees of Gruinard Estate</b>	<i>Shenavall</i>
<b>The Honister Slate Mine Company</b>	<i>Dubs Hut</i>
<b>Invercauld Estate</b>	<i>Callater Stable</i>
<b>Alan Johnson</b>	<i>Camasunary</i>
<b>RHF Le Fleming</b>	<i>Cross Fell (Greg's Hut)</i>
<b>Timothy Leslie</b>	<i>Essan</i>
<b>Earl of Mexborough</b>	<i>A'Chuil</i>
<b>Mountain Bothies Association</b>	<i>Over Phawhope</i>
<b>Mr Edward Naish</b>	<i>Cae Amos</i>
<b>The National Trust for Scotland</b>	<i>Camban, Corrou, Hutchison Memorial Hut, Garbh Choiré Refuge Hut</i>
<b>Mr TP Radford</b>	<i>Tomsleibhe</i>
<b>Mr W Richardson</b>	<i>Warnscale Head</i>
<b>The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds</b>	<i>Fords of Avon, Ryvoan</i>
<b>Peter Stewart Sandeman</b>	<i>Peanmeanach</i>
<b>Neil Scobie</b>	<i>Knockdamph</i>
<b>The Scottish Ministers (FCS)</b>	<i>Mark Cottage, Resourlie, Rowchoish, Taigh Seumas a'Ghlinne, Tunskeen, Leysburnfoot, White Laggan</i>
<b>The Scottish Ministers (SGRPID)</b>	<i>Achnanclach, The Lookout, Strathan, Strathchailleach, Taigh Thormoid Dhuibh</i>
<b>The Scottish Ministers (SNH)</b>	<i>Dibidil, Guirdil</i>
<b>Secretary of State for Defence</b>	<i>Kearvaig</i>
<b>SIMEC Power 4 Ltd</b>	<i>Loch Chiarain, Staoineag</i>
<b>SIMEC Lochaber Hydropower 2 Ltd</b>	<i>Lairig Leacach, Meanach</i>
<b>Smech Properties Ltd</b>	<i>Maol Bhuidhe</i>
<b>Trustees of Philip R Smith</b>	<i>Easan Dorcha</i>
<b>The Honourable Rupert Christopher Soames</b>	<i>Sourlies</i>
<b>Storas Uibhist</b>	<i>Uisinis</i>
<b>Strone Estate</b>	<i>Abyssinia</i>
<b>Sarah Troughton</b>	<i>Cadderlie</i>
<b>United Utilities</b>	<i>Mosedale Cottage</i>
<b>The Welsh Ministers (NRW)</b>	<i>Moel Prysgau, Nant Rhys, Nant Syddion, Penrhos Isaf</i>
<b>The West Highlands Woodlands</b>	<i>Gleann Dubh-lighe</i>
<b>Westminster Estates</b>	<i>Glencoul, Glendhu</i>
<b>Wildland Ltd</b>	<i>Luib Chonnal, Ruigh Aiteachain, Strabeg</i>
<b>Captain NJNH Wills</b>	<i>Bearnais</i>
<b>Mrs CW Wilson</b>	<i>Carron</i>

Land in the ownership of the Scottish Ministers is managed by the Scottish Government Rural Payments and Inspections Directorate (SGRPID), the Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS), and Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH). Land in the ownership of the Forestry Ministers is managed by the Forestry Commission England (FCE). Land in the ownership of the Welsh Ministers is managed by Natural Resources Wales (NRW).



# In 2018 ...



- We took over responsibility for the maintenance of the Garbh Choire refuge hut, deep in the Cairngorms.
- We sold the 2000th and final copy of our 50th anniversary book.
- We saw a significant increase in MBA membership, rising from 3666 to 4322 over the year – an increase of 18%. In addition, more than 9,000 social media users subscribe to the MBA Facebook group.
- Our income, which apart from a small sum in bank interest is derived solely from our members and donors, declined from £182,000 to £144,000. This is almost entirely due to the distorting effect of the two large legacies that were received during 2017.
- Spending on bothy maintenance however rose by more than 30% to over £108,000, by some margin the highest sum yet recorded – and this despite significant delays at two large projects and the abandonment of another. Without these, the percentage of planned maintenance spending achieved was 76%, three percentage points up on the equivalent figure last year.

**Scottish Charity No:** SC008685  
**Company No:** SC191425, limited by Guarantee  
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