

## DIARY Scotland, Spain, UK, April-May 2015

**Monday 27 April 2015.** Drove to Concord for the quarterly NHHRC meeting at DHR, then headed for Nashua and the Park & Ride. Took the 1:30 bus to Logan and checked in with now overweight charges. Good flight with lots of empty seats. BA still gives complimentary drinks unlike Aer Lingus. Arrived at Heathrow and later took flight to Glasgow. Good weather turned to

**Tuesday 28 April 2015.** Arrived at Heathrow and later took flight to Glasgow. Good weather turned to rain. Snow on the mountains of Cumbria. Got a nice bright green rental car with 8 miles on the clock at Enterprise. Headed out, missing Erskine Bridge on the first try. Stopped in Luss for a pint and a bowl of soup at the Loch Lomond Hotel. On through the mountains with new snow on the tops. Arrived at Craobh Haven about 4:30. Met by Falcon. He later went off for Spanish lessons. I stayed and later had Spaghetti Bolognese with Jane and then to bed at about 9:30. Pretty knackered. Right Achilles tendon hurting.

**Wednesday 29 April 2015.** Up at around 9am after a good sleep. Shower then breakfast. Falcon and I went up to see Jonathan about the screen and sound system. Then to Lunga House to meet with Meg. Everything seems all taken care of. Marj Spoerri showed up unexpectedly. Back to Falcon's house.

**Thursday 30 April 2015.** A lovely day. Up to Lunga. Ken Thomas and the Kerrs and a few others arrived. Anne Shirley, Ros Marsden. Worked on the penguins. Drove into Oban and picked up some gifts for the contests, for the Piper, etc. Back to Lunga. Those who had arrived went to the pub for dinner. I went back to the Scotts for the last night.

**Friday 1 May 2015.** Up early. Breakfast. Stripped the beds. Up to Lunga with my bag. Moved in. Whole day taken up with various tasks. At 1 some of us went to Ardfern where some had lunch at the pub and some in the lunchroom across the street. With Regina and Marj own to the Temple Circle then to Crelin ? Canal. Back to Lunga. More people had arrived. At about 6 we started the reception. The Piper piped in Antonia Lindsay-McDougall opened the SouthPole-sium. I said a first few words, then Falcon in kilt introduced Antonia, who gave a very good capsule history of Lunga House. Lovely sunset. We had a marvelous barbecue in the Ballroom. Some stayed up to midnight led by the Irish Contingent.

**Saturday 2 May 2015.** SouthPole-sium. Up at 6:30. Another nice morning. Cold shower. Started to organize my stuff for the opening session at 9am.

**Sunday 3 May 2015.** SouthPole-sium.

**Monday 4 May 2015.** SouthPole-sium.

**Tuesday 5 May 2015.** Left Lunga house after settling up with Christie. Drove with Judy to Oban, shopped at Tesco, went to the station and picked up Conrad. Went to the ferry terminal and soon were on board the ferry to Mull. Drove north to T mory, where we did some shopping at the Co-op, then to Calgary. Some very narrow single-track roads. Arrived and got organized. I cooked up spaghetti Bolognese for everyone.

**Wednesday 6 May 2015.** Later in the morning we walked through the wood which had various sculptures dotted about. Down to the beach, rated one of the best in Britain. Conrad and I spent some time in the cemetery. Then back to the hotel. Took a nap at some point. Fiddled with the internet.

**Thursday 7 May 2015.** Somewhat gray. Conrad, Judy and I headed south from Calgary. Very narrow and twisty road with cliffs on the right. Slow going. Eventually got to the Iona ferry. Had a coffee and soon were on board for the very short trip across. Walked through the ruins of the nunnery, then to the information center, then to the Abbey. Quite interesting. Had soup and a glass of wine and a coffee at the Argyl Inn before crossing back to Mull. Drove north and eventually got back to Calgary around 7pm. Good dinner of chicken, roasted potatoes, beans, stuffing, etc.

**Friday 8 May 2015.** Lovely morning. Spent most of the day on a boat going from ? Ferry to ?? Fingal's Cave and to Lunga where we climbed up to see Puffins.

**Saturday 9 May 2015.** Lovely morning. Around noon went into Torbenoy with Conrad and Judy. Walked around the seafront and had fish and chips outside. Perfect temperatures. The Historical Museum is excellent. That night we all went to Ti Birnan a very nice restaurant up the road. Its minibus picked us up and dropped us off afterwards.

**Sunday 10 May 2015.** Rainy. Spent day in the house. Sunny late. Had venison stew.

**Monday 11 May 2015.** Up at 7, showered and packed. Head off for Cr? At 8:30.

**Tuesday 12 May 2015.** Bus to London.

**Wednesday 13 May 2015.** Flight to Spain.

**Thursday 14 May 2015.** Spain

**Friday 15 May 2015.** Spain

**Saturday 16 May 2015.** Spain

**Sunday 17 May 2015.** Left Empuriabrava early for Girona. Returned rental car. Checked in. Uneventful flight to Stansted. Luci and I were picked up by daughter Martha and boyfriend Gareth. To Mary's house. Had a drink. To the ? for Sunday dinner. Back to Mary's. Drinks. Watched TV.

**Monday 18 May 2015.** Mary dropped me off at the station. Train to Tottenham Hale, tube to Paddington. Took bag to Bonhams. Had coffee with Sue. To RBS bank in Curzon Street. Tube to Waterloo. Whopper at Burgerking. On train to Winchester, met by Martin. Tea. Nap. Drink. Dinner at Mill House with Martin, neighbor Peter and friend Pru.

**Tuesday 19 May 2015.** Up and checked e-mails. Went with Martin to Selborne and met with Derrick ? and inspected the Gilbert White Museum's copy of the Aurora. Back to Mill House for a quiche lunch, then off to ?? to see ?? about my ankle and knee. He's said my Achilles Tendon is fine and that there is no damage anywhere. He said there is some fluid and that swelling is not bad in and of itself. He lightly massage my lower right leg through my trousers. Said I could do this myself. Unclear what needs to be done when I'm home to get things right. Still limping. Back to Mill House stopping at The May Fly on the way, a very nice pub beside a river. A chap was flyfishing there and eventually caught a large trout. That night we went out for dinner at The Bell in Arlesford.

**Wednesday 20 May 2015.** Martin drove me up to Winchester. Train to Waterloo, tube to Euston. Virgin train to Manchester. Took free bus from rail station and was dropped off near the Ibis where I'm staying tonight. Modern and nice. Took some more free buses and managed to find a Sainsbury to buy some gin. Had some drinks then walked to an India restaurant at the end of the Ibis block. Pretty good.

**Thursday 21 May 2015.** Nice breakfast at the Ibis. Rang up Anne Phillips.

**Friday 22 May 2015.** Gg

**Saturday 23 May 2015.** Gg

**Sunday 24 May 2015.** Gg

**Monday 25 May 2015.** Gg

**Tuesday 26 May 2015.** Gg