

Scotland at its best

Paul Platt and Dominic Hoare have just had another awesome trip to Scotland winter climbing. As a friend said when I called him 'Scotland is showing off'. Our intention was to go straight to Torridon in the NW but we got wind that Minus 2 on The Ben was in. We had a very cold night sleeping in my van in the North Face car park and walked into the corrie in perfect conditions. Minus 2 was fantastic, the first pitch is getting a little thin after a few ascents and care is needed but thereafter it's just brilliant.

We were having a meal with friends in Loch Carron in the early evening with plans for an early start to climb on the fantastic Triple Buttress of Ben Eighe. Once again perfect conditions after another cold night in the van. A three hour walk took us into the corrie and we decided to do East Buttress, a three star 400m grade 4,5. Well it was fantastic with cloudless views out to sea, brilliant climbing and good company what more could you ask for.

Our final day in the north took us to another Cold Climbs classic March Hare's Gully. I had to be back in the Lakes for the early evening so we went light and climbed the 3* classic in a couple of hours and back at the van for 1pm. Another awesome route. The weather was changing and particularly grim when we drove through Glencoe.