

Thursday, May 14, 2009
Wheel Easy Scotland



Martin has already reported on the first few days of our fine trip to Northumberland and Scotland, where we stayed at Killin, on beautiful Loch Tay, which we would strongly recommend as a cycling base. There are many campsites and other places to stay. For those with a caravan or motorhome, the Caravan Club site is ideal. There is also an outstanding family restaurant in the village, The Old Smiddy, which people travel to from many miles away (we became regulars!) and is also a B&B (www.theoldsmiddykillin.co.uk).

The Sun Gods smiled on us all week. With the snow on the mountain tops and the glorious flowers in the glens it often felt like (I imagine) spring in Switzerland. On Monday we cycled to Crianlarich, caught the train to Rannoch (see photo) and had a glorious ride back, about 70 miles in total. On Tuesday we cycled some of NCN Route 7 on railway lines and forest trails and picnicked in the churchyard where Rob Roy is buried. On Wednesday we tackled a long climb up part of Ben Lawers (one of the Munros) then enjoyed a glorious descent and ride through exquisite Glen Lyon where there are many red squirrels - all hiding, unfortunately, though Martin and Yvonne did see one the previous day.

On Thursday they returned home while we had a lazy day at Killin. On Friday the weather changed, so we cut short our stay and also headed south. The plus side of this was that we were home for a brilliant Wheel Easy long ride on Sunday. Malcolm

