

On May 1st 1988, the day before Iain Smart's birthday, the group gathered at his house to wish him well on his birthday.

Iain spoke:

Now, how did we first come to the Glen? We came back from Canada in 1960 and lived in a university house in the campus of Dundee University. Then we were looking for a country place to stay in and also trying to resolve the problem of whether we should stay in the country all the time or just have a country cottage. One day a friend Geoffrey Dutton told us there was a house for sale in Glenshee, above Bridge of Cally quite near to his own house and reluctantly we came up to see it. It was owned by Norman Tarbert and he showed us all round the house which was in a very dilapidated condition, inside hadn't been painted or decorated in any way for years, but that was all irrelevant as far as he was concerned. The point that he was trying to make was that from almost any window in the house you could shoot a deer with a rifle. He also pointed out that you could reach the house under cover from any direction, the cover provided by birch trees or dykes and this was another important selling point, far more important than the internal plumbing or interior decor.

There was only a half acre of ground with the house at that time and we put in an offer and it was accepted. This was the second house we had bought in a week as we had also put in an offer for a house in Dundee, and that too was accepted. The bank manager, I remember, would not lend us money on the second house, Auchencleash, which at that time cost £1,350, because he said it was irresponsible to buy two houses, it was a very poor investment which he as a responsible bank manager couldn't condone. However?