



ELLON HILLWALKING CLUB

Newsletter February 2016

Secretary: Alan Murray, 2 Batchart Steadings, Aberdeen, AB12 5YQ. Tel: 01224 865515 email: alnj.murray@gmail.com

Programme:
Monday 8th February 2016
Brazil - Joyce Mackie
Station Hotel Ellon 19:30

Sun 14th February 2016
Pressendye
Focal Pt Ingrid Taylor: Text 07870469653
Community Centre Car Park 08:00

Pressendye (OS Sheet 37)

Mike Taylor

Pressendye is the most easterly Graham north of the River Dee. There are a number of routes up but the approach recommended by most guide books is from Pett Farm (497064) which is about 1km to the north of the B9119, a couple of kms to the east of Tarland. The route to the summit follows a forestry track which winds around the western flank of Pittenderich. Up and down by this route is about 6km with 370m of climbing - a 2 to 3 hour walk. Pressendye has a long western ridge, known as Maalie'watt which goes over Broom Hill, Green Hill and meets a road at Lazy Well - about 5km of walking. If we are in the mood, we could deploy a car at Lazy Well and make this our way off the hill.

This is a straightforward walk which should be suitable for any reasonably fit member of the club, but it is winter so conditions could be testing.

We will meet in the Car Park at the former Ellon Academy at 8.00 on the morning of 14th to agree transport arrangements.

If you're interested in taking part in this walk, please get in touch with Ingrid Taylor on 07870469653 by Thursday 11 January.

Spring Bunkhouse Weekends

Mike Taylor

Two bunkhouse weekends have been booked up for the early part of 2016.

The By The Way Bunkhouse at Tyndrum
<http://www.tyndrumbyptheway.com/>

12 beds have been booked for the nights of 1st and 2nd April at a cost of £18 per night. The club has visited this excellent bunkhouse a number of times over the last few years. If you are interested in taking part, please let me know as soon as possible. Full payment (non-returnable) of £36 will be required by Monday 15 February

The Knoydart Foundation Bunkhouse
<http://www.knoydart-foundation.com/bunkhouse/about-the-bunkhouse/>

12 beds have been booked for the nights of 13th, 14th and 15th May at a cost of £17 per night. This is a change from our usual weekend on Skye at this time of year. We thought we would break with tradition as many club members have not visited Knoydart and this is a good time of year to visit. We intend to travel to Knoydart by ferry from Mallaig on Friday 13th, returning on Monday 16th.

If you are interested in taking part, please let me know as soon as possible. Full payment (non-returnable) of £51 will be required by Monday 21st March.

Mike Taylor

Contact details:

mtandsbtaylor@btinternet.com or 07710 400154

Loch an Eilein, Newmachar, ABERDEEN. AB21 0UQ

Cheques should be made payable to Ellon Hillwalking Club.

Forthcoming Events

Mar 20th Firmouth and the Fungle
Apr 2nd / 3rd Bunkhouse Weekend
Apr 14th Cairn Bannoch and Broad Cairn
May 14/15th Knoydart Bunkhouse Weekend
May 15th The Convals

Scolty Walk Report

Irene Jamieson

The photos on Facebook show what a lovely day we had for our first walk of the year. Five of us left Ellon in two cars meeting Mike and Ingrid in an already busy carpark at Scolty. Most groups were gearing up for mountain biking rather than walking, but when ready, we followed the bikes through the gate passing a sign warning us about flooding and fallen trees - a reminder of the recent bad weather. We soon left them to lower trails as we opted to walk straight to the summit. It was sunny and clear but quite cold in the wind. We joined a few bikers and walkers at the top and climbed the tower to admire 360 degrees of uninterrupted views. Although there was very little snow on our paths we could see more snow on higher tops nearby, the ski resorts were having a good weekend.



Photos: Ingrid Taylor

Descending, we left the main path to follow a track into the trees where we found a sheltered spot for elevenses before dropping steeply to join a main path through Goauch Wood and Blackhall Forest. From there it was an easy walk back to the cars.

The Raemoir Garden Centre was the choice for a welcome coffee and scone and to continue the friendly conversation a little longer before heading home.

A short easy walk in good weather for January, it was a good start to our 2016 walking calendar.



On Top of Scolty – Ingrid Taylor



North East Mountain Trust
Winter Lectures

Exploring Old Roads on Deeside

Graham Marr

Tuesday 16th February 19:30

Sportsman's Club

11 Queen's Road Aberdeen

Admission £4



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Draft Programme 2016

Month	Date	Event	Time	Focal Point	
Jan	11 17	AGM & "Rum and DoE Kids" Allan Brown Scolty and Blackhall Forest			
Feb	8 14	Brazil – Joyce Mackie Pressendye			
Mar	14 20	Sierra Nejada – Alan Murray Firmouth and the Fungle			
Apr	2/3	Bunkhouse Weekend			
Apr	13 17	South Africa - Allan Brown Cairn Bannoch and Broad Cairn			
May	9 14/15 15	Gathimba Foundation Sarah Simpson? Knoydart bunkhouse weekend The Convals			
Jun	13 19	Navigation Exercise Angel's Peak and Devil's Point			
Jul	11 17	- Beinn a'Ghlo			
Aug	8 14	- Jock's Road			
Sep	10 16	Mountain Film?? Glas Maol etc			
Oct	10 16 29/30	Kilimanjaro – Gordon Spence Carn a'Mhaim Bunkhouse weekend			
Nov	14 20	?? Ingrid Taylor Coyles of Muick			
Dec	12 18	Christmas Party Bennachie			