



ELLON HILLWALKING CLUB

Newsletter March 2016

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

Programme:

Monday 14th March 2016

**Walks in the Sierra de Tejada – Alan Murray
Station Hotel Ellon 19:30**

Sun 20th March 2016

Firmouth and Fungle

Focal Pt Ingrid Taylor: Text 07870469653

Community Centre Car Park 08:00

Fungle and Fir Mounth OS Sheet 44

Mike Taylor

The Mounth is the old name for the mountains south of the River Dee and whilst the name is rarely used for the hills, it is still applied to the old tracks which cross it.

The Fungle and Fir Mounth both start at Tarfside and for a few km follow the same route before splitting about two thirds of the way up the Tampie Ridge. The Fungle goes on to Aboyne and the Fir Mounth to Dinnet.

A good round trip walk is from Aboyne to the dividing point on the Tampie Ridge and then down to Dinnet but this would be too long a walk for the club at this time of year.

We will probably start at Birsmore near Aboyne (GR 524977) and walk up the Fungle Road through the woods to the cottage of The Guard, just before which there is a fine old stone seat at 'Rest-and-be-thankful'. After another couple of km in the wood the track goes out into open moorland and down towards Birse Castle. The Fungle continues from here to Tarfside but we will take the Land Rover track going west over the Hill of Duchery towards the Fir Mounth. This comes down into the Forest of Glen Tanar where there are a number of possible routes back across to Birsmore. Rather than going down to the Water of Tanar it might be worth considering skirting around Baudy Meg then back across to The Guard cottage. This walk is about 20km with a total ascent of 600m which is likely to take 7-8 hours at the club's usual walking speed.

This is a very pleasant walk, mostly on good tracks, and should be suitable for any reasonably fit member of the club but remember it could still be quite wintery so bring plenty warm clothing and plenty food. It is not ice axe and crampon territory but poles could be useful if there is snow around.

If you are planning to go on this outing please let Ingrid Taylor (07870 469653) know by Thursday 17 March.

Forthcoming Events

Apr 2nd / 3rd Bunkhouse Weekend

Apr 14th Cairn Bannoch and Broad Cairn

May 14/15th Knoydart Bunkhouse Weekend

May 15th The Convals

Pressendye Walk Report

Ingrid Taylor

Twelve of us converged on Tarland Village Square to walk up Pressendye. That was new territory for many of the club - even our most seasoned members! A snowy, crisp morning gave rise to a typical Scottish day of pretty much all weather, except rain thankfully. We set off in a snowy shower, followed by warm sunshine just in time for our elevenses and then windy and cold conditions up on top.



Photos Ingrid Taylor

A lovely walk through avenues of trees weighted down with snow in bright sunshine and deep snow underfoot gave our legs and hearts a workout. There were some great views as we edged up onto the ridge and any cobwebs were definitely blown away on the summit! Our circular route brought us down to a field of cows, which we needed to cross to get to the car we had stashed earlier to save our legs a couple of miles at the end of the day. Luckily we had Irene with us, as she managed to shoo the inquisitive beasts away, so that we didn't have to leap over any fences to get out of their way. A little ferrying of drivers back to their cars left time for a wee drink in a perfectly timed coffee and scone stop, while another snow shower raged outside. One unresolved question remains: who got all the cherries in their scone and was there a hint of coconut or not?



This walk was a perfect winter's day out. Well worth a second visit some time!



North East Mountain Trust
Winter Lectures

**Biological Recording for NE
Scotland and the Cairngorms**

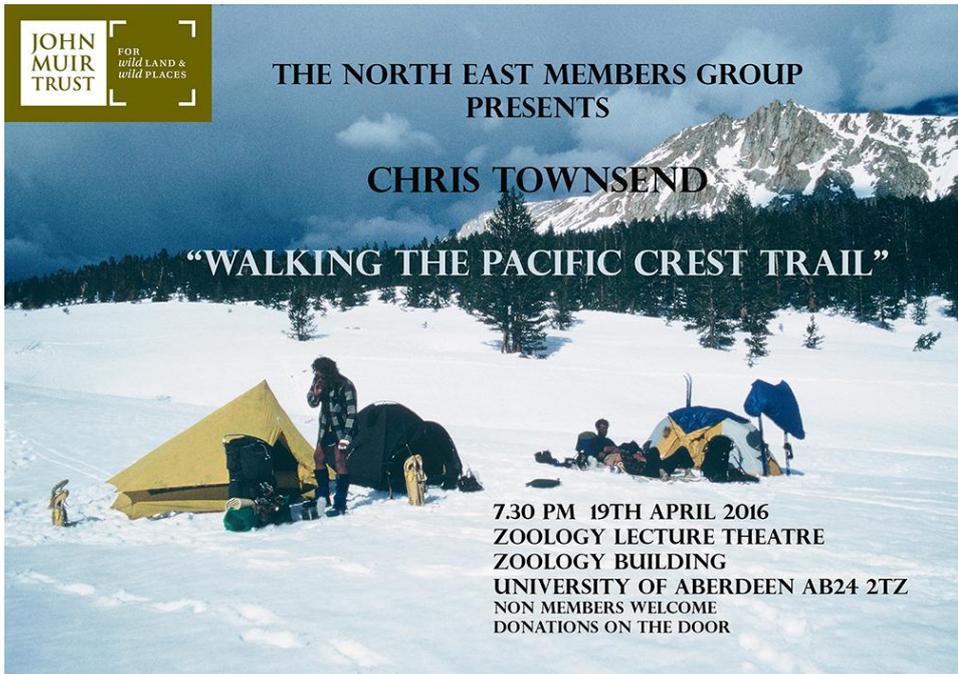
Glen Roberts (NESBReC)
Tuesday 15th March 19:30
Sportsman's Club
11 Queen's Road Aberdeen
Admission £4



THE NORTH EAST MEMBERS GROUP
PRESENTS

CHRIS TOWNSEND

"WALKING THE PACIFIC CREST TRAIL"



7.30 PM 19TH APRIL 2016
ZOOLOGY LECTURE THEATRE
ZOOLOGY BUILDING
UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN AB24 2TZ
NON MEMBERS WELCOME
DONATIONS ON THE DOOR



ELLON HILLWALKING CLUB

Newsletter March 2016

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

Programme 2016

Month	Date	Event	Time	Focal Point	
Jan	11 17	AGM & "Three of the Best" Allan Brown Scolty and Blackhall Forest	19:30 08:30	IJ	
Feb	8 14	Brazil – Joyce Mackie Pressendye	19:30 08:00	IT	
Mar	14	Sierra Tejada – Alan Murray	19:30		
	20	Firmouth and the Fungle	08:00	IT	
Apr	2/3	Bunkhouse Weekend		MT	
Apr	13 17	South Africa - Allan Brown Cairn Bannoch and Broad Cairn	19:30 07:30	DC	
May	9 14/15 15	Gathimba Foundation Sarah Simpson/Miles Edwards Knoydart bunkhouse weekend The Convals	19:30 08:30	MT IJ	
Jun	13 19	Navigation Exercise Beinn a' Ghlo	19:00 07:00	<i>TBD</i>	
Jul	11 17	- Angel's Peak and Devil's Point	19:00 07:00	GS	
Aug	8 14	- Jock's Road	19:00 07:00	DC	
Sep	10 16	Mountain Film?? Glas Maol etc	19:30 07:00	MW	
Oct	10 16 29/30	Kilimanjaro – Gordon Spence Carn a' Mhaim Bunkhouse weekend	19:30 07:00	AM MT	
Nov	14 20	Morocco - Ingrid Taylor and Allan Brown Coyles of Muick	19:30 08:00	GS	
Dec	12 18	Christmas Party Bennachie	19:30 08:30	MW	