



ELLON HILLWALKING CLUB

Newsletter January 2016

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

Programme:

Monday 11th January 2016
Annual General Meeting & "Rum and DoE Kids" Allan Brown
Station Hotel Ellon 19:30

Sun 17th January 2016

Scolty and Blackhall Forest
Focal Pt Irene Jamieson: 01358 711242
Community Centre Car Park 08:00

Scolty and Blackhall Forest (OS Sheet 28)

Mike Taylor

Scolty, with its prominent tower and conical shape rises close to the town of Banchory. It is 299m high but its ascent from the Scolty Woods car Park involves only 189m of ascent.

To reach the Car Park from Banchory take the B974 south and once over the River Dee turn right and follow the signs. Up and down Scolty Hill is just over 3km but there are a number of waymarked tracks here and in Blackhall Forest. Depending on the conditions of the day and mood of the group, I'm sure an appropriate walk will be agreed on.

If you're interested in taking part in this walk, please get in touch with Irene Jamieson on 01358 711242 by Thursday 14 January.

Forthcoming Events

Jan 11th Annual General Meeting
Jan 17th Scolty and Blackhall Forest
Feb 14th Pressandyne
Mar 20th Firmouth and the Fungle
Apr 2nd / 3rd Bunkhouse Weekend

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.tyndrumbytheway.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.

December Walk Report - Ben Rinnes

Alan Murray

After a little bit of confusion about where we were to meet, four car-loads of Club walkers assembled at the small carpark near Dufftown at the start of the southern track up Ben Rinnes. Unfortunately, one member slept a little longer than planned and didn't make it - but we won't dwell on that! The path to the summit is excellent and steady progress was made with a few rest stops until the summit revealed itself and a final push saw us on top. It was very windy and distinctly chilly on top but we managed to find some shelter to take an early lunch before heading back into the biting wind to return the way we had come. There were excellent views all round - as far as Morven Firth in Sutherland across the Moray Firth and Morven in Deeside. We had made good time and it was a short walk so we were back down at the cars by 12:45. Following a short discussion on suitable tea and scone emporia we settled on Morgan McVeighs where hot drinks and fine pieces were enjoyed before we all headed back to present wrapping and tree decoration!

Annual General Meeting 11th Jan 2016

The 37th AGM of the Ellon Hillwalking Club will be held on Monday 11th January 2016. As ever, if anyone is interested in joining the committee nominations should be sent in to the secretary - please consider getting more involved in the running of the Club. Whilst happy to continue to serve on the committee, some of the existing committee members have indicated that they would welcome the opportunity to step down to make way for anyone else who is interested in helping to run the Club; new blood is always welcome on the committee. If you are interested please contact any member of the committee for more details.

This year's AGM will follow the pattern of previous years, with the following agenda:

- Minutes of Previous Meeting
- Matters Arising
- Chairman's Report of 2015 Activities
- Treasurer's Report
- Election of Officers and Committee
- Election of Honorary Auditor
- Setting of Annual Subscription
- Any Other Business



North East Mountain Trust
Winter Lectures

**Elbrus – an adventure in the
Russian Caucasus**

Roger Owen and Alistair Beeley
Wednesday 20th January 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 Pressandyne			
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			