



*"Protecting the coastal and mountain environment of
North East Scotland"*

Trustees Annual Report

1st October 2018 - 30th September 2019



Charity Contact Information

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Scottish Charity Number SCOO8783

Charity Trustees

George Allan
Alex Brown
Brian Heaton
Catherine Lacy
Alison Mitchell

Jean Robinson
Richard Spencer
Donald Thomas
Ken Thomson
David Windle

Objectives and Activities

The North East Mountain Trust (NEMT) is an association of climbers and hillwalkers in northeast Scotland. Its main aim is to conserve the upland, coastal and rural environments of northeast Scotland for the benefit of the public wishing to take non-motorised recreation there, both now and in the future. It acts as an umbrella group of hillwalking and mountaineering clubs.

During the year, NEMT continued to campaign on the following topics:

- Grouse moor management, focussing on the damaging effects of the trend to more intensive management, and also the illegal activities of gamekeepers. This included working with other NGOs on getting driven grouse shooting licensed.
- Deer management, focussing on the need to bring numbers down to sustainable levels.
- Developments at Cairn Gorm mountain, focussing on the need for environmental considerations to be given due weight and for a site masterplan to be published, before any further developments are carried out, to avoid further waste of public money.
- The continuing proliferation of hill tracks both for driven grouse shooting and also for the construction of small scale hydro-electricity schemes. As a key organisation in the LINK hill tracks campaign, NEMT pressed for greater legal control of tracks to be included in the Planning Bill. The Scottish Government rejected this but has agreed to reconsider the legal status of tracks in the imminent review of permitted development rights.
- The problem of excessive ATV use over unsuitable ground resulting in damage to both vegetation and soils.

We replied to the following consultations:

- CNPA Local Development Plan
- CNPA Nature Action Plan
- CNPA Forest Strategy
- Mar Lodge Estate 5 Year Plan & Vision
- Scottish Government Environmental Principles & Governance

We have commented on, or objected to, a number of planning applications with varying success. These include the Glen Dye windfarm, hydro schemes in Glen Etive, tracks in Glen Markie and on the Balavil, Glensherro and Atholl estates, along with proposals for earth works and the installation of play equipment at Cairn Gorm.

Our programme of six winter lectures has continued to improve – a tribute to the hard work and enthusiasm of our organiser. Thank you.

Finally, a big thank you to all our members who contributed in any way, e.g. contributing to the above or writing to their local MSP.

Structure, Governance and Management

NEMT is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) under the Scottish Charitable Organisations Regulations 2011

Trustee Appointment

NEMT is managed by a Council of not more than ten individual Members and as many representatives of Organisational Members as wish to have their representative on the Council. The overall minimum number of members of the Council shall be six.

Membership Report

We have 105 individual Members in addition to the Organisational Members listed below:

Organisational Members (Clubs)

Aberdeen Hillwalking Club
Aberdeen Mountaineering Club
Alford Women's Outdoor Group
BOOTS (Oldmeldrum Hillwalkers)
Cairngorm Club
Culter Hillwalking Club
Ellon Hillwalking Club
Granite City Hillwalkers
Stocket Hillwalking Club
Stonehaven Mountaineering & Hillwalking Club
Turrieff Hillwalking & Mountaineering Club
XXL Club

Organisational Members (affiliated)

Bailies of Bennachie
Ramblers Scotland
Scottish Rights of Way Society
Scottish Natural Heritage

Organisational Members (reciprocal)

Aberdeen & St John Mountain Rescue Assn
Badenoch & Strathspey Conservation Group
Cairngorms Campaign
Mountain Bothies Association

Financial Review: accounts for year ending 30 September 2019

Income	2018/19	Notes	2017/18
Brought Forward from P/Yr	10,975.12		10943.01
Club Subscriptions	783.25		844.50
Member Subscriptions	1,669.09		1563.09
Lecture income	624.90		513.50
Donations recvd	1,049.93	1	423.35
	15,102.29		14287.45
Expenditure/Activities			
Lecture room hire	(210.00)		(35.00)
Speaker fees	(583.85)		(581.01)
Postages	(351.53)		(134.86)
Insurance	(268.22)		(252.32)
Subscriptions	(175.00)	2	(275.00)
<i>Mountain Views</i>	(1,253.00)		(1,380.57)
less <i>MV Sales</i>	<u>148.71</u>		179.00
Domain hosting	(60.00)		(60.00)
Projector & Lead	(393.19)	3	0.00
Room hire - Council mtgs	(140.00)		(241.97)
Misc donations (Gifts, Subs, Card sales)	(106.00)		(530.60)
	(3,392.08)		(3,312.33)
Balance in Bank	11,710.21		10,975.12
Summary			
Balance b/f 1 Oct 2018	10975.12		10943.01
Balance at 30 Sep 2019	11710.21		10975.12
Surplus for year	735.09		32.11

Notes

1. Donation incl. Friends of Durris Forests re Adam Watson £979.33
2. Subscriptions to Scottish Environment Link £150 and ACVO £25
3. Epson projector & lead £393.19

Statement of the charity's policy on reserves

NEMT is currently well funded and our policy is to reduce the size of our reserves slowly over the coming years. Each year the trustees will consider when the size of reserves reduces to a level at which, going forward, no further reductions are prudent

Independent Examiner's Report

I report on the accounts of **North East Mountain Trust** for the year ended 30th September 2018 in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, "the Act" and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006, "the Regulations"

The Trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1-d) does not apply.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Independent Examiner

As the Trustees of the Charity, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. It is my responsibility under S44(1)c of the Act to examine these accounts and to report whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 and includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records.

It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the Trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence needed in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In relation to my examination, I confirm that no matter has come to my attention:-

- Which gives reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44 of the Act and Regulation 4; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting requirements of the Act and Regulation 9 have not been met, or
- To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Malcolm Lamont

Liathach, 4 Millgrove Road, Stoneywood, Aberdeen, AB21 9HW

5th January 2020