



SCOTTISH ARCTIC CLUB

Post 2012 AGM Newsletter - December 2012

President: Mike Lea,

Vice Presidents: John Peden and Anthony Walker

Secretary: Iain Allison, Treasurer: Chris Calver,

*Committee members: Chris Bartle, Ashley Buchan, Chris Gilmore,
David Shaw and Fraser Sutherland*

www.scottisharcticclub.org.uk

New members are welcome: the Club is for people of all ages and nationalities who have an interest in the Arctic, particularly if they have already been, or are planning to travel there. See the website for an application form.

Papers attached relating to the 2012 AGM:

- Minutes of the AGM held at Scotland's Hotel, Pitlochry on 10th November 2012
- Membership Information List – Dec 2012

Last year's list has been updated to include all new members and remove lapsed and retired members. Please notify the secretary of any errors, missing members etc.

Membership data may NOT be used for commercial purposes

Money raised at the 2012 AGM for the Expedition Fund:

Many thanks to those who gave donations to the expedition fund along with their subscriptions. This came to an average of £7.50 per member renewing. Special thanks to Jean Stenico for donating two South Georgia prints for auction. Thanks to Ray Woolmore whose friends donated to the Fund in return for copies of his book. Thanks also to members who donated the splendid prizes for the raffle which raised £357, while the 'Guess the Malt Whisky' made a further £60; thanks to Elizabeth and John Hay. A total of £1975 was added to the Expedition Fund during the Supper weekend.

44th Annual Gathering & Supper

15th to 17th November 2013

Ben Nevis Hotel, Fort William

Phone number 01397 702331

www.strathmorehotels.com

For 2013 we return to Fort William where we got a good deal in 2011. The Supper will be held on Saturday 16th November 2013. The hotel has been booked for the nights of Friday 15th and Saturday 16th. Dinner, bed and breakfast - rate per person, per night in a double room is £36. The same rate will apply if members wish to stay for Sunday night as well.

Meantime **BOOK DATES** in your diaries and **RESERVE YOUR HOTEL ROOM**

Mention "Scottish Arctic Club" when booking and do so directly with the hotel

2012 SPRING MEET - Attadale

Saturday 11th – Saturday 18th May 2013

The 2013 Spring Meet of the Scottish Arctic Club will return to Attadale Lodge near Strathcarron in Wester Ross from Saturday 11th - Saturday 18th May 2013. There are 4 self-catering cottages about a mile up the glen from the lodge with its magnificent gardens. See www.attadale.com.

It is a marvellous area for walking with numerous interesting tracks into the hills and lochs and across passes. There is also the garden to explore and Skye, Kintail, Applecross and even

Torrison are not far away. We have booked 3 of these cottages for this week. This gives accommodation for 19 persons. It will allow us to be flexible with the length of time people wish to spend there i.e. from 2 days to 7 days and also when they wish to stay.

If you are interested in this Spring Meeting see our web site or please contact the President, Mike Lea on mikejlea@gmail.com, telephone 01768 342353

<p>Talks at the Annual gathering in Pitlochry Almost 90 members and guests enjoyed an excellent programme of well illustrated talks.</p> <p>BSES Arctic Odyssey Expedition to Finnmark, 2012 Lara Bentley & Eilidh McNab (SAC grant)</p> <p>Qassiarsuk, S. Greenland fieldwork Ashley Buchan (SAC grant)</p> <p>Fieldwork in Svalbard while studying at UNIS Kirsteen Allison & Pail Rhodes (SAC grant)</p> <p>Fortrose Academy: exchange with Gjoa Haven Alistair Ferms, Ben Beasley, Tim Milner & Rebecca Ross (SAC grant)</p> <p>Alaska Maritime Wildlife Refuge Ronan Dugan</p> <p>Richard Hamilton's Arctic Journal Elspeth Hamilton</p> <p>St Andrews University expedition to S. Greenland 1971 Phil Gribbon</p> <p>Kongakut River, north slope Alaska Chris Gilmore</p> <p>Jameson Land Pete Nelson</p> <p>Hold with Hope 1989 Liz Patterson</p> <p>Towards the North Pole Hugh Simpson</p> <p>Thanks to all the contributors and to Chris Gilmore for providing the AV resources. It is hoped that some of these talks will be available on our web site.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SAC Expedition Awards</p> <p>We favour small independent expeditions being undertaken by people under 30 years of age with strong Scottish connections. Only expeditions to the Arctic will be considered.</p> <p>The deadline of 31 January applies.</p> <p>See our web site: www.scottisharcticclub.org.uk for an application form for the Expedition fund, and for a list of previous awards.</p> <p>Donations are always welcome for the Expedition Fund.</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Website</p> <p>Fraser Sutherland has assumed responsibility for keeping the website up to date. Please pass items for inclusion on the website directly to Fraser. The Club now has a presence on the social media sites Facebook and Twitter. So, for those members who know how such sites work, please 'like' us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/scottisharcticclub and 'follow' us on Twitter: @ScotArcticClub – www.twitter.com/scotarcticclub.</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Donations</p> <p>Ray Woolmore gave copies of his book, "Artist in the Arctic", to friends who had been with him on his Arctic expeditions. In return he asked that they donate to the Expedition fund and we are pleased with Ray and his friends generosity who donated £180 to the Expedition Fund</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">National Library of Scotland</p> <p>The Library houses the Graham Brown Collection of mountaineering, alpine and polar exploration and discovery books. They wish to obtain copies of the Club's newsletter and we will now provide these.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Committee</p> <p>Andrea Anderson, Chris Calver, Ronan Dugan, Stella Sprately and Helen Thomson left the committee at the AGM. Chris Calver, however, returns as treasurer. Anthony Walker becomes a Vice President and Chris Bartle, Ashley Buchan and David Shaw join the committee.</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday Walk</p> <p>Liz Patterson led a number of members on a walk north of the town in the clear and bright sunshine. Thanks to Liz for continuing to organise this very weather-dependent activity.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Photographs from the Supper</p> <p>Chris Calver took a number of photographs at the Supper and these will be posted on the Club's website.</p>
<p>Glacier Book's open house</p> <p>Chris and Anne Bartle opened their bookshop for members on the Sunday morning after the gathering and quite a few members took advantage of this to browse their extensive collection. Their catalogue of polar and mountaineering books can be seen online at www.glacierbooks.com.</p>	
<p>Book: Arctic Journal Northeastland (Nordhausland) by Richard A. Hamilton and Elspeth Hamilton</p> <p>This book is a transcription of Richard Hamilton's diaries by his daughter Elspeth, a Club member. It is a detailed account of life as a meteorologist over-wintering in an extreme Arctic location. The book is available from the publisher, Salt Publishing, 12 Norwich Road, Cromer, Norfolk NR27 0AX, tel.: 01263 511011, www.saltpublishing.com or from Amazon.</p>	<p>Book: Exploring Greenland by Jim Gregson</p> <p>Jim Gregson was signing copies of his new book at the Annual Gathering. It is a record of 20 years of exploration in eastern Greenland with spectacular photographs of snow covered peaks and ice-strewn fjords and the local flora and fauna. The book is available from Amazon.</p>
<p>Flights to Nerlerit Inaat (Constable Point), East Greenland</p> <p>The Greenland Home Rule Government has not renewed its contract with Air Iceland to provide direct flights from Iceland to east Greenland. The situation has been in a state of flux but now there is agreement about regular flights. Helena Dejak of Nonni Travel and Paul Walker of tangent Expeditions, both Club members, act as agents for the services from Reykjavik/Akureyri to Nerlerit Inaat (Constable Point). Below I copy Helena's and Paul's texts about the service without paraphrasing them:</p> <p>Helena writes: "The Greenland Home Rule has decided not to renew its contract with Air Iceland regarding regular flights between Reykjavik, Iceland and Nerlerit Inaat (Constable Point) and Kulusuk. Instead a two year contract has been signed with Air Greenland for a weekly connection between Kangerlussuaq (Sondre Stromfjord) and Nerlerit Inaat, effective as of January 1st 2013. Additionally Air Greenland will fly once a week between Nerlerit Inaat and Keflavik, Iceland from 20th June and through August 2013. Equipment: DeHavilland Dash 7.</p> <p>Norlandair is commencing a new scheduled service between Akureyri and Nerlerit Inaat starting 6th March with two flights a week through June and then once a week through September 2013. Equipment: De Havilland Twin Otter/Bombardier Dash 8. This schedule is in co-operation with Air Iceland and fares can be purchased either from Akureyri or Reykjavik.</p> <p>Air Iceland will continue its scheduled flights between Reykjavik and Kulusuk, on a weekly basis through the winter months and daily during the summer of 2013. Equipment: Bombardier Dash</p>	

8/Fokker 50.

Nonni Travel is an agent for all above airlines and is happy to supply more details regarding flight days and times and assist with bookings. As can be seen, there are several stops enroute and wether can easily interrupt the best laid plans. One of our staff is stationed in Ittoqqortoormiit and together we maintain a constant "flight watch" whenever clients are en route."

Paul wrote last week:

"Tangent will work in partnership with Norlandair on this route, offering the same twice weekly service between Akureyri and Constable Point on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Tangent will be acting as an agent for the sale of tickets on these flights, on behalf of Norlandair.

On some of these days Tangent will operate additional aircraft private charter flights under our own [Air Dragons](#) service (still using Norlandair aircraft),

On some of these days there will be an additional Dash-8 or Fokker 50 aircraft charter direct from Reykjavik to Constable Point operating under our [Air Dragons](#) service (using Air Iceland aircraft).

Tangent will have volunteer staff at Constable Point from 14 March to 14 May and from 24 July to 28th August to assist with all travellers booking with Tangent Expeditions.

Tangent can provide discounted onward snowmobile transport to Ittoqqortoormiit, but only as part of a flight package booked with Tangent Expeditions.

Tangent can provide a full range of expedition support services from Constable Point, including rifle hire, PLBs, satellite phones, polar bear alerting system, flares, VHF air band & marine band radios, dog rental (polar bear deterrent), snowmobile charter, boat rental, guide support, tent, stove & equipment rental, stove fuel, cargo handl

For further details see: www.nonnitavel.is and www.tangent-expeditions.co.uk.

The President, Mike Lea, joins the committee in wishing you a pleasant and relaxing festive season. If your 2013 travel plans include the Arctic we would like to hear about your experience but if not, then come along to the Gathering in November to hear about others' experiences.

Note from the Secretary

A big 'thank you' to all the committee for their hard work during the year and who made the Gathering & Supper such a success.

Are you one of the 133 members who paid your subscription for this session? Or, perhaps, one of the 45 who are just about to do so?!