



Borders Exploration Group Newsletter

<http://www.borders-exploration-group.org.uk>

Editor - Clare Smillie. Issue 1 Spring 2009

Hello to all BEG Members

Welcome to 2009. It just feels like 5 minutes since I was having a senior moment at Newcastle ferry port with the wrong passport waiting for Jono's parents to take me back home to book my expensive ticket for a very early flight to Amsterdam to catch up with the 4th European Expedition. It may have been a dodgy start but it was a brilliant trip with a lovely group of young people who prove that the next generation is in good hands. It's the memories and the friends young and not so young I've made from Poland and Norway trips and Peru training that tell me that BEG is worth the effort to keep alive and continue to offer such challenging experiences to venturers and leaders alike. We all have times when we feel a little jaded and lacking in enthusiasm, I was there in the autumn, but give it a few months and if BEG activities are what you really enjoy then it will be back. We have a wider range of activities coming up over the next few months, which started with a really enjoyable and well-attended walk up Ruberslaw, to clear the head, on January 2nd. It was good to see some new faces. So come on folks let face the challenges ahead spread the word and I am sure we will continue to see more at the events and hopefully an expedition in 2010.

Best wishes
Nancy Anderson
Chair person

Welcome to the 1st Issue of the BEG Newsletter in 2009

Apologies for not producing this Newsletter sooner but I've been waiting to let you know about the next expedition.

The next International Expedition will be to.....

Chile in 2010

Where, activities may include working in the community, hiking in the Andes Mountains, biking along the Carretera Austral and white water rafting in the Futaleufu River.

We are currently looking for leaders to take part in the trip and will be holding a selection weekend starting on April 18th.

Anyone interested in becoming a leader for Borders Exploration Group Chile 2010 should email chile2010@borders-exploration-group.org.uk for an application form.

Venturer selection will take place in the Spring. Those interested in becoming a venturer should monitor the local press and www.borders-exploration-group.org for further details.



Contents

- Welcome
- Next Expedition
- Members news
- BEG events
- Deerstalker Event
- As Recommended by
- Thoughts and quotes for the day
- For sale/wanted
- Expeditions revisited
- Next BEG meeting

Member's news



• Marriages

Congratulations to Jono and Ruth.

Mr and Mrs Jono Ellis were married on Saturday 18th October 2008. Those of us who were lucky enough to attend the evening function we had the pleasure of seeing Ruth looking beautiful in her dress jiggling away in her Doc Martin Boots!! It was a lovely night and we all offer Ruth and Jono Congratulations on their wedding and wish them many years of happiness together.

Member's news (cont)

- Deaths

It is with sadness we remember Stuart Ruffell who died at the end of last year. Not only was Stuart involved with BEG he was also a regular with SARDA and Tweed Valley MRT.

Members Events

Hi everyone,
I just wanted to invite you to a film screening that I'm arranging - the UK premier no less!

The film's called "Pure" and it's going to be on at the climbing centre at Ratho.

[Check out the trailer](http://www.jonoellis.co.uk/pure/) - it looks amazing! <http://www.jonoellis.co.uk/pure/>

Tickets cost £5 in advance
Monday March 16th 2009 @ 7:30pm

All profits are going to the Borders Exploration Group and to my Duke of Edinburgh's group.

It would be great to see you there.

Cheers,
Jono

Jono Ellis // 07866646822 // www.jonoellis.co.uk/pure

Too good to miss...

The Deerstalker is an "adventure run" with distance options at 5 km (ish) and 10 km (and a bit) 21st March 2009. They are devilishly vague about the true distances here, but don't worry they provide more

(worrying) info nearer to the event! They describe it affectionately as a "big, muddy romp" through the countryside, forests and hills around the famous Borders village of Innerleithen, which is currently renowned as a World centre for mountain biking. It will be renowned for much more than this when the Deerstalker comes to town!



The Deerstalker is a turbo-charged roller coaster of a run. It's fun, it's fast, it's action-packed and it's as tough as you can bear. This is Fun Run meets Fell Race meets Hellrunner meets Tough Guy. It's a Rat Race in the countryside and it's much more besides.

The Deerstalker is designed for absolutely any reasonable runner to complete, as proven by last years tremendous completion record. The onus is on fun but this is also a serious challenge, involving off-road terrain, steep gradients and exciting obstacles. Choose to run as a solo or team of three - male, female or mixed. Team members do not have to stick together. For more info see their website:

<http://www.themightydeerstalker.com/>

Jono Ellis will be taking part this year and would love to have people joining him. Contact him at: jono.ellis@gmail.com



As recommended by...

This feature is your chance to tell us where you have been, eaten or a service you have used. Please include photos if possible.

I'd like to recommend the Ullapool - Loopallu music festival.

<http://www.loopallu.co.uk>

Scott and I have been the last two years and have thoroughly enjoyed it. It's not just for young students (hence us going!). The location is amazing and no matter what the weather is like the views are fantastic. The main events are in a big tent so IF it does rain you don't get wet! The head liners have been 'Franz Ferdinand', 'Saw Doctors', 'Echo and the Bunny Men' plus others. Most of the bands are unknown but we managed to see 'Frightened Rabbit' a band from Selkirk! The festival is Friday from 4pm and Saturday from 12md. We go up on the Thursday (at a small extra cost for the night) to get our pitch at Broomlands campsite (which is where the festival is based).



Not only are there the Big Tent acts, but there are gigs in all the local pubs and hotels. The atmosphere is relaxed and friendly. The age range seems to be 2 months to 75years old. Fancy dress is optional. A weekend pass including camping is £70 (Top tip. If you have a Royalites account with Royal Bank of Scotland you can save about £10 on your ticket by booking it through them!!)

Dates for 2009 are 18th & 19th September so get it in the diary and for those eager beavers, tickets are now on sale online from The Booth and See Tickets.

Online ticket agents:

www.thebooth.co.uk

www.seetickets.com



"Gaining the reputation as the place to finish off the summer."
- Grazia Magazine

"Always one of the most fun and friendly festivals, Loopallu punches above its weight."
- The Sunday Times

"Barely in its third year but is already the only music event anywhere in the world to feature both Franz Ferdinand and the Ullapool Pipe Band."
- The Guardian



Clare Smillie
Leader Zambia 2007

What can you recommend????

Now for some light hearted thoughts of the day.....

"The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page."
- [St. Augustine](#)

"There are no foreign lands. It is the traveller only who is foreign."
- [Robert Louis Stevenson](#)

"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines, sail away from the safe harbour. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."
- [Mark Twain](#)

"We live in a wonderful world that is full of beauty, charm and adventure. There is no end to the adventures we can have if only we seek them with our eyes open."
- [Jawaharal Nehru](#)

"Tourists don't know where they've been, travellers don't know where they're going."
- [Paul Theroux](#)

"To my mind, the greatest reward and luxury of travel is to be able to experience everyday things as if for the first time, to be in a position in which almost nothing is so familiar it is taken for granted."
- [Bill Bryson](#)

It takes 1,500 gallons of water to process one barrel of beer.
From:
<http://www.factoftheday.co.uk/index.php>

For sale /wanted

Do you have anything for this section?

What other sections would you like?

Expeditions revisited

Can you update us on your expedition?

Have you been back to visit it?

Do you still fund raise for it?

Tell us what funds are going towards.

Next Issue

Please send me your ideas or comments regarding the Newsletter as soon as possible. When I have enough info I will publish the next one, so hopefully it will be soon!

Please send info/ photos/ website details to me at either of the following email address's:

newsletter@borders-exploration-group.org.uk

or

clare.smile@btinternet.com

Next BEG meeting will be 23rd March
Venue: tbc

