

2011

Monday 3rd October - Human Planet by Timothy Allen

Timothy Allen has worked as a photographer for the Sunday Telegraph and The Independent and his multi award winning documentaries have taken him to every corner of the globe. For his latest body of work, Timothy spent almost 2 years with BBC film crews as the official stills photographer of the hugely popular television series Human Planet. This talk is a behind-the-scenes look at this awe-inspiring landmark series that marvels at mankind's incredible relationship with nature in the world today.

Organisation: Royal Scottish Geographical Society

Venue: MacRobert Building, King's College, University of Aberdeen, AB24 5UA

Time: 7:30pm

Cost: £8

Website: <http://www.rsgs.org/regionalcentres/aberdeen.html>

Wednesday 26th October - The Added Dimension of Rock Climbing To Island Hopping by Neil Morrison

Rock climbing trips to a number of islands, mainly Scottish, will be shown including Skye, Erraid, Orkney, Pabbay and Lewis. One or two further afield, in more warmer climes (Mallorca and Kalymnos) will be included.

Neil has been a significant pioneer of new rock routes, particularly on the North East sea cliffs and other outcrops over a long period of time. He is also the editor of the current SMC Climbing Guide to the North East Outcrops.

Organisation: North East Mountain trust

Venue: Belmont Club, 218 Hardgate, AB10 6AA

Time: 7:30pm

Cost: £4

Website: http://www.nemt.org.uk/talks/2011_12/morrison.htm

Monday 31st October - How Our Planet Became Green by Prof Iain Stewart

Iain Stewart, perhaps the UK's best known geologist, having hosted BBC series 'Making Scotland's Landscape' and 'Men of Rock', among others, is taking us on a journey going back 400 million years in Earth's history to discover how plants have shaped the face of our planet, taking a barren alien rock and transforming it into the home we know today.

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Tuesday 8th November - Andy Kirkpatrick - Cold Wars Book Tour

Andy Kirkpatrick is Britain's foremost stand-up mountaineer. His new book Cold Wars charts a period of his career marked by increasingly high-risk climbs, including a 15-day winter ascent of the Dru in the Alps and the first winter ascent of the East face of Mermoz in Patagonia.

Andy's talks are always popular so if you are interested you should definitely book a ticket in advance.

Venue: Belmont Picturehouse, Belmont Street

Time: 6:30pm

Cost: £12

Website: http://www.picturehouses.co.uk/cinema/Belmont_Picturehouse/News/Item/Mountaineer_Andy_Kirkpatrick_Book_Tour/

Wednesday 16th November - Wilderness Medicine by Aberdeen Mountain Rescue

How to deal with common (and not so common) conditions that can occur when in remote areas to aid escape from the situation or until rescue services arrive.

Organisation: North East Mountain trust

Venue: Belmont Club, 218 Hardgate, AB10 6AA

Time: 7:30pm

Cost: £4

Website: http://www.nemt.org.uk/talks/2011_12/amrt.htm

Monday 5th December - Wild Vision by John Beatty

Photographer John Beatty shares his superb images and captivating stories from 25 years of assignments to over 38 different countries. Widely acclaimed as one of the most exciting nature, travel and adventure photographers to have emerged in recent years, John's work aims to capture "the timeless rhythms of the natural world, it's beauty and simplicity, and man's place within it."

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Website: <http://www.rsgs.org/regionalcentres/aberdeen.html>

Wednesday 14th December - Wind Turbines: Good, Bad or Just Plain Ugly? by Alan Owen

Alan will give an unbiased view of the economics, practicalities and feasibility of using wind turbines as a major source of energy in the future.

Organisation: North East Mountain trust

Venue: Belmont Club, 218 Hardgate, AB10 6AA

Time: 7:30pm

Cost: £4

Website: http://www.nemt.org.uk/talks/2011_12/owen.htm

2012

Wednesday 18th January - Travels in the Mountains by Drennan Watson

Not so much about the mountains as the people that live there. A description of the experiences of the pressures on the people who live in these remote areas and how they are responding to the developments of their lives which are often brought about by the influx of mountaineers and eventually the associated tourists.

Organisation: North East Mountain trust

Venue: Belmont Club, 218 Hardgate, AB10 6AA

Time: 7:30pm

Cost: £4

Website: http://www.nemt.org.uk/talks/2011_12/watson.htm

Monday 6th February - Mister Everest: Journeys in the Steps of Eric Shipton by Stephen Venables

Eric Shipton was a legend in the world of mountain exploration. He took part in five Everest expeditions, but was best known for his lightweight, highly mobile approach to other, less famous, peaks. In this lecture, illustrated with stunning pictures, Stephen Venables will mix readings from Shipton's inspirational books with his own experiences on the same mountain ranges. Stephen Venables is an award winning mountaineer, author and lecturer and was the

first Briton to climb Mount Everest without supplementary oxygen.

Organisation: Royal Scottish Geographical Society

Venue: MacRobert Building, King's College, University of Aberdeen, AB24 5UA

Time: 7:30pm

Cost: £8

Website: <http://www.rsgs.org/regionalcentres/aberdeen.html>

Wednesday 15th February - Developments on the NTS Marr Lodge Estate by Peter Holden

The physical development of the estate since the take over by the National Trust for Scotland. Plans for the future including the management policy with regard to wildlife on the estate will be outlined and the problems of carrying it out discussed.

Organisation: North East Mountain trust

Venue: Belmont Club, 218 Hardgate, AB10 6AA

Time: 7:30pm

Cost: £4

Website: http://www.nemt.org.uk/talks/2011_12/holden.htm

Monday 5th March - Alexander Kellas: Unsung Scottish Himalayan Hero by Ian Mitchell

Scottish chemist, explorer, and mountaineer, Alexander Kellas died in 1921 on the first expedition to Mount Everest. He was highly regarded among Himalayan mountaineers having climbed more peaks above 22,000 ft than anyone else. He paved the way for the conquest of Everest and Kangchenjunga and was the first to advocate, and use, sherpas as climbing companions. Using many of Kellas' own unpublished photographs Ian R Mitchell tells the remarkable story of this forgotten hero of Scottish exploration.

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Wednesday 14th March - The Art of Modern Winter Climbing by Guy Robertson

A "tour" of the best areas, venues and routes for modern mixed climbing, with a description of some of his most favourite/ memorable ascents.

Organisation: North East Mountain trust

Venue: Belmont Club, 218 Hardgate, AB10 6AA

Time: 7:30pm

Cost: £4

Website: http://www.nemt.org.uk/talks/2011_12/robertson.htm

Monday 2nd April - A Stroll Through The Axis of Evil by John Pilkington

Lebanon, Syria, Iraq and Iran are in the news for all the wrong reasons. Starting in Beirut celebrated travel writer, John Pilkington, unravelled a picture quite different from the news stories as he followed a winding route via the Euphrates, Kurdistan and the Valleys of the Assassins to finish on the Persian Gulf. He met a spectacular variety of people and to his surprise found families and whole communities working together to survive the harsh climate and political strife.

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