
GALLOWAY MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAM PRESS RELEASE

Rescue Team Need's your Help!

Galloway Mountain Rescue Team needs your help to find a *virtual* missing person in the Galloway Hills. As part of their winter fund raising campaign they are running a competition to find a missing person. The search commenced at the launch event for the Newton Stewart WalkFest'09 Programme and will continue until Saturday 20th December. You can enter the competition by visiting Stewart R Cunningham Outdoors, Newton Stewart and you could be the winner of a new 'Vaude' Rucksack.

Ken McCubbin, team member of Galloway MRT and Walk Co-ordinator for WalkFest'09 said, "Newton Stewart WalkFest'09 is one of the community events which the mountain rescue team support by providing advice in the planning stage and of course leading the more challenging routes in the Galloway Hills during the festival. The programme for 2009 offers many unique routes and the team are looking forward to guiding walkers into one of the most beautiful and rugged parts of Scotland."

"The 'Find the Missing Person' competition is part of our ongoing fundraising campaign in advance of us occupying our new base – the former Ambulance Station in Princes Avenue, Newton Stewart. We are grateful to Cunningham's for supporting the team and providing us with a super prize"

Throughout Saturday 6th December, team members were collecting donations in Newton Stewart. The team Land Rover was on display outside The Cinema where team members were available to chat about their work in mountain rescue.

Tom Jolly, organiser of the street collection said, "Once again we had a great day in Newton Stewart and everyone was so generous, despite the current credit crunch. We raised a total of £553 on the day and we hope folks will support our ongoing fund raising. This is a really great sum of money and we'd like to thank everyone who donated for their support."

The new team base is being purchased on behalf of the team by the Order of St John after Dumfries and Galloway Council agreed to sell it to them for £1. Monies raised will be going towards the refurbishment of the building and the purchase of much needed equipment.

You can find out about the work of Galloway MRT and their upcoming fundraising activities by visiting their all new website at www.gallowaymrt.org.uk. Full details of WalkFest'09 can be found at www.newtonstewartwalkfest.com.

[End]

Attached

- (1) Photograph of team members after the presentation of the Vaude Rucksack prize.
L-R: Richard Williams, Ray McCutcheon, Paul DaPrato (Cunningham's), Sue Greenhow (Cunningham's), Ken McCubbin (holding the prize) and Tom Jolly.