

EDITORIAL

The Independence referendum has been and gone. Scotland remains divided with its constitutional future uncertain. On the ground the march of the wind turbines continues, more than 4,300 of them, many in the wrong places. Our landscape is suffering from an energy policy which “passeth all understanding”.

However, the Club is in better shape than the country as a whole and the Journal reports a fair level of activity. Despite the increasing number of blemishes the hills remain a valued temporary refuge from the so called real world.

Graham Ewen, our Honorary President, died in November 2013 (page 276) and has been succeeded by Ruth Payne (page 258). Adrian Scott has stepped down from the role of President. He is an enthusiastic climber and one who has done much to encourage new members and to bring walkers and climbers together. Additionally, he organised the 2014 Dolomite Meet and continues to serve the Club as Training Coordinator. Our new President is James Friend (page 256).

The Club accounts show a healthy balance and important decisions lie ahead. To get them right is the responsibility of the Club Office Bearers and Committee members, all of whom deserve our support. The Editor's policy of producing a Journal regularly every other year is, among other things, intended to bring members and Journal closer together. Soon it might be realistic for the Club to consider modernising the Journal format, or otherwise.

I am grateful to all the contributors. The quality of what I receive continues to impress me, but I am sure more members could disclose some special expertise, or a few inner thoughts and otherwise unknown experiences, to the benefit of us all. I particularly thank the Club Secretary, Ken Thomson and Evelyn Massie for their help.

Alister Macdonald