

#### Welcome!

## Demonstrating our cross party support...

**W**e have spoken with a number of MSPs from Holyrood - all of whom have welcomed our approach and all of whom have unanimously supported our position to protect the Bennachie massif from encroachment by two of the proposed route options outlined in the Transport Scotland documents. Earlier in the year we met with Patrick Harvie (Scottish Green Party Leader) and Maggie Chapman of the Green Party. Patrick Harvie was elected as an MSP at the election.

**W**e spoke to SNP Gillian Martin before she was elected as an MSP and met with her again after she was elected as MSP for Aberdeenshire East.

Bennachie sits in Aberdeenshire West and members of the group met with Alexander Burnett MSP from the Conservative Party. We also spoke to Liam Kerr MSP, Peter Chapman MSP and Ross Thomson MSP from the Conservative party who were elected to represent North East Scotland.

From the Labour Party we met with Lewis Macdonald MSP who represents North East Scotland and sent our report to Jenny Marra MSP. Lord Bruce of Bennachie is a former MP for Gordon and now sits in the House of Lords at Westminster. He represents the Liberal Democrats. We met with him and also have arranged a discussion with Mike Rumbles, MSP for North East Aberdeenshire later in the month. Mike Rumbles is the LibDem spokesperson for Transport.

### Get Involved

Add your photographs of Bennachie and the surroundings to our website gallery which showcases the breathtaking beauty of the area.

If you have some interesting facts, folklore or local history about Bennachie, or if you would like to write an article for our Newsletter or Blog, we would love to hear from you.

hello@savebennachie.com





## !! IMPORTANT !! Save Bennachie Public Meeting and AGM

Join us on 24th November 2016 at Chapel of Garioch Hall, 7 pm - 8.30 pm. Refreshments will be served.

Please contact us for more information.

hello@savebennachie.com

# Welcome to our New Alliance Members

We would like to welcome our newest Alliance Members, Woodland Trust and Ramblers Scotland. It is our hope that with these organisations backing our campaign we will further promote our aims.



#### Air Crashes on Bennachie

Source - Air Crash Sites Scotland

As we once again approach Armistice Day, spare a thought for the two airmen who became the first fatalities of World War 2, when their aircraft crashed on Bennachie.

They were flying a Westland Wallace biplane from the Air Observer School at RAF Wigtown to RAF Evanton in Easter Ross. On the leg between Dyce and Evanton they encountered thick fog which shrouded Bennachie. Both crew members died when they crashed into Bruntwood Tap, the war having been declared only a few hours earlier.

Ellard Cummings (23) a Canadian pilot with the RAF and his gunner, Ronald Stewart (24) became the first official military casualties of the Second World War on the first day of the war on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1939.

In a separate crash, an RAF Gloster Meteor jet on a low-level training flight from Leuchars in Fife crashed on Oxen Craig on 12<sup>th</sup> February 1952 in a snowstorm. Pilot Officer Brian Lightfoot (22) from Yorkshire was killed when the plane exploded on impact, scattering debris over a wide area.

You can see a memorial cairn with a plaque to the air crash victims near Oxen Craig.

### Pets on Bennachie

We love to walk our dogs on Bennachie, and no matter what the weather we come home feeling the better for it. The Bailies of Bennachie are highlighting our canine friends on Bennachie in their 2017 calendar. Here are Paddy and Soup on the front cover.

The Bailies support 'green' dog walkers and are encouraging us to "leave only paw prints".

- Clean up after your dog
- When bagging your dog's waste remove it from Bennachie and put it in a bin
- Be happy to be approached to 'lend' a dog waste bag to those without
- Be a friendly reminder to other dog walkers to clean up after their dogs
- Remember in May-July birds are nesting on the hill

Costing £4 (plus £1.20 p&p), you can buy the calendar at various shops in the area, or direct from the Bailies at www.bailiesofbennachie.co.uk/publications

After all the lovely weather we have had recently, we know you must have some great pictures of your Pets on Bennachie and we would love to see them. Send them to us at hello@savebennachie.com, we will share them on our Facebook page and the best will star on our next flyer!



## **Spread The Word**

Remember to "Like Us" on Facebook and Follow Us on Twitter. This is a simple way to help spread the word and allows us to engage with more people.



facebook.com/SaveBennachie/



twitter.com/savebennachie