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The Huntly Express

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Energy theme of Slow Marathon

BOOKING has opened for the 2017 Slow Marathon event organised by Deveron Projects.

This year's 26-mile trek, which will start in the Coreen Hills and head back to the town, is being planned by Andrea Gelle as part of her Energised Landscape project.

Energised Landscape examines places of energy, from Neolithic sites, to hill tops and renewables and sets out to encourage specialists as well as the wider public interested in the outdoors, to take an active role in shaping Scotland's energy future.

The Slow Marathon launches with compulsory registration on Friday, April 14 followed by the walk the following day and on Sunday, April 16 a day of talks about energy.

Early bird booking means that participants will benefit from a reduced entry fee of £25, compared to the full price of £35. A limited number of student places are available at £15 per person.

The Slow Marathon began in 2012 and was the idea of Ethiopian artist Mihret Kebede who wanted to walk from her home in Addis Ababa to her residency in Huntly.

Environmental and political constraints made her plan impossible, therefore she set out to look for 225 people to jointly walk the 5850 miles from Addis to Scotland.

Details of how to register can be found at www.deveron-projects.com.

Memorial a benchmark of respect for stalwart Jean

THE legacy of a woman who was a stalwart of the Scout movement in Huntly will live on and benefit people who enjoy the outdoors.

Jean McBoyle was a key member of the Scout supporters group for many years, and when she died she made a bequest to the organisation which runs Beaver, Cub, Scout and Explorer Scout groups.

Leaders made the decision that part of the money be used to provide a bench on the path which leads to the Clashmach Hill. Latterly Mrs McBoyle stayed on the route and loved her surroundings and the splendid view down on to Huntly.

Over the festive holidays, four Scout leaders and family members installed the bench where anyone walking up the hill will be able to stop for a rest or to admire the view.

Scout leader John Cranna said: "The bench is a tribute to Jean for all the hard work she did for the Scout movement in Huntly over a lot of years and recognises the fact that she was so



Job done for the Scout group who installed the bench in memory of Jean McBoyle on the path to the Clashmach Hill. Standing are from the left Brian Morrison, Steve Parkin, Mike Parkin, John Cranna and seated Innes Cranna, Innes, Angus and Callum Parkin.

fond of living on the path. We hope that it will be well used and enjoyed."

The bench is made from recycled plastic and has been given a firm

base thanks to a donation of sand slabs from Jewsons. It is on Forestry Commission land on the final stretch of the path which is still fenced so that

it cannot be damaged by livestock. Farmers Henry and David Ross allowed the group access across their land for the bench and materials.

Safety
drive is a

Winter Stock Clearance

this is where I
keep my after

this is where
I keep my kids