

FAQs

What equipment do I need?

There are a number of items to consider and this can often be a personal choice and as such we have produced an 'Essential Kit List' that will help provide guidance to help you plan for your climb.

Do I have to be connected to the police to take part?

No, we want this event to be experienced by anyone who wishes to take part.

What time do I light up the peak?

Lighting up time varies depending on when in the year the event takes place but is normally between 0230 hrs and 0300 hrs. Specific timings will be provided nearer the event time.

How many can be in a team?

For safety reasons we recommend a minimum of 2 per team, but there is no limit on the maximum.

Can our team light up more than one peak?

Absolutely, often large teams will split near the top to cover a number of peaks.

Do we choose our own peak or do you allocate?

Peaks are selected on a first come, first served basis. For 2019 onwards there will be the opportunity to view available peaks online and select your preference.

When can we bid for our peak?

We put an email out to the distribution list notifying everyone that the list is now open, also regular info and updates are on our Facebook page.

Which peaks are most popular?

The highest peaks are always popular as people want to tick them off their completed list, however, the event is all about inclusivity. There are over 200 peaks to choose from of varying difficulty, so there is something for everyone.

Do I have to walk up at night? Can I camp up there?

There are two main approaches to the event. The first is to walk up late afternoon and make camp. Light your peak at the relevant time and then await light before returning down the peak. The other is to walk up in the dark, illuminate and then return immediately. It is a personal preference and an important consideration is your knowledge of the peak/map reading in the dark.

What kind of light do I need to light the peak? Do you have any recommendations for good torches?

Light the Lakes Welcome packs are available to order for collection prior to the event. They contain as a minimum a Light the Lakes T-Shirt and a blue flare for illuminating your peak. You can however, take your own illumination if you prefer. Please bear in mind the wildlife on the hills and no flare remnants should be left on the hills and all rubbish brought back down.

Is there a minimum age?

There is no minimum age, however we would recommend that children are accompanied by responsible adults. Previously we have had groups of Scouts as well as parents with children taking part.

How far do I need to walk? / How high do I need to climb?

There are over 200 peaks of varying heights and distances. The choice is yours.

Do I need to be fit to take part?

Hill walking is a physical activity, however, select your peak to reflect your ability and you will be just fine.

Where is the afternoon do?

The Saturday get together is at Brathay Hall, just outside of Ambleside.

What time does the afternoon do start?

From midday at 1400 hrs

Will there be food/drink provided at the do? Is there a vegetarian option?

There is a bar at Brathay Hall and a food (tickets for the food can be purchased prior to the event so that we can notify caterers of numbers)

Where do most people stay? Do you have any recommendations for accommodation?

The Lake District is vast and therefore it depends where you are walking to where you want to stay. Brathay Hall has a number of rooms (doubles and triples) as well as 4 and 8 person dorms. There are also hundreds of B&B's and campsites to choose from. We are currently seeking to identify places that will offer best value for participants and promote them through emails and social media.

I am booked into Brathay for Saturday night. Will they let me check in early when I come back from my peak?

Where possible Brathay will accommodate this if you make them aware, however, this is Brathay being helpful and is not guaranteed

How and when did the event first start?

The event began in April 2012, Police Officers, colleagues and friends climbed Wainwright peaks in the Lake District to raise money to support the orphaned children of murdered Surrey DC and the event raised money for them.

Following what had been a devastating number of years for the police family, we have decided to continue to format in aid of the charity COPS (Care of Police Survivors). The dream has been to cover all 214 Wainwright fells to light lamps in honour of our fallen colleagues.

What do I get in my Welcome Pack?

Welcome packs contain a minimum of a Light the Lakes t-shirt, blue flare and bottle of Wainwrights beer

How many peaks are normally lit?

We average number of peaks has grown year on year. Our goal is to light all 214 Wainwright peaks. In 2017 there were 45 and in 2018 there were 90.

Do I find out who else is on the peaks near me?

We are currently looking at a method to do this and get the ability to have it online available for people to look at.

I want to take part but don't have a team to go with. Can you help me connect up with other participants?

Definitely. We will look to put you in touch with people on peaks that match your ability. Previously we have facilitated a lady who travelled all the way from Belgium to take part.

What happens if the weather on the night is bad?

The Lake District weather is unpredictable, even in the summer. Our recommended kit list includes clothing for bad weather conditions. However, it is your personal choice to participate in the event.

Where can I get a sponsorship form?

Sponsorship forms are sent out with recommended kit list and safety advice when we get confirmation of your participation.

How do I set up an online sponsorship page?

There are many options to setup a sponsorship page using online based companies. Care of Police Survivors (COPS) are registered to many of them and we can provide a logo for you to add to the page on request.

How cold does it get on the mountain at night?

Mild to freezing.

How dark does it get?

With a clear night full of stars its light and stunning, however it can also get so dark, if you closed your eyes, you could see better.

How much beer is a year's worth of beer??

Lots!!!