

A person wearing a blue shirt and dark shorts is sitting on a bicycle, which is balanced on top of a stone wall. The wall is made of large, grey, rectangular stones. The background is a vast, rugged mountain valley with steep, rocky slopes and a deep valley floor. The sky is overcast with grey clouds. The overall scene is one of a high-altitude, outdoor adventure setting.

# The Abernethy School of Adventure Leadership

Be transformed in the outdoors, grow in Christ and adventure in the rugged Scottish Highlands in our **one year adventure leadership course** at Abernethy

“

I lift up my eyes to the hills – where does my help come from?  
My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.

Psalm 121:1

”

## About Abernethy Trust

At Abernethy, we believe that shared adventures in the outdoors create incomparable opportunities to transform lives. We've been providing adventure residential experiences for nearly 50 years and through hospitality and adventure, we equip our guests with relationships, experiences, and character that will arm them for life.

## About the School

**The flow of nature, the natural elements of sun, wind and rain all contribute to the adventure of journeying in the outdoors: but somewhere out there, we grow in faith, discover more of God and creation and become more like Him.**

Here at Abernethy, we intend our School of Adventure Leadership to train students in both soft and hard skills, becoming disciplined in adventure and equipped in God's word, using the outdoors as the context in which to share the gospel. Our twelve month, full-time residential course will allow you to go deep into God's word, His character, and our identity in Christ, alongside NGB qualifications, and learn how to lead groups in the outdoors.

Previously located at Abernethy Ardgour, the School of Adventure Leadership will now be at Abernethy Nethybridge, our Highland base in the stunning Cairngorm National Park which offers an abundance of adventures.

See for yourself how shared adventures in the outdoors transform lives... of those around you, yourself... and those out there in your future!

# Where we are



# About the programme

Our School of Adventure Leadership is divided into **four key areas**. During the year, our team and guests also join in parts of the school, and we share biblical hospitality and fellowship together.

We will spend as much time learning outside as we can. Whether it's hearing from one of our guest speakers on a hill day in the mountains about Spiritual Formation, or it's spending time climbing outdoors at the local crag, we want to maximise our time in the great outdoors. We'll use our 100 person theatre where a classroom setting might be helpful.

With various speakers from a wide sphere, there will be a diverse range of trainers involved.

“  
**Leadership is a matter of intelligence, trustworthiness, humaneness, courage and discipline.**  
”

Sun Tzu

## 1. Spiritual Formation

In partnership with bible teachers from across the UK.

- Covenant Plan – God's Story
- Knowing God's Will – discerning His revelation
- Bible Study

## 2. Leader Formation

Looking at both secular and Biblical leadership models and their applicability to outdoor adventure and personal and spiritual development.

- Biblical models and teaching
- Communication, art and story telling
- Conflict and change
- Being and Making Disciples

## 3. Mission and communication

Using adventure to be sent out, to go beyond.

- Evangelism and Mission
- Ethics and Worldview

## 4. Instruction

Gaining NGB qualifications, and coaching.

“

**There are some who  
can live without wild  
things and some  
who cannot.**

**Aldo Leopold**

”

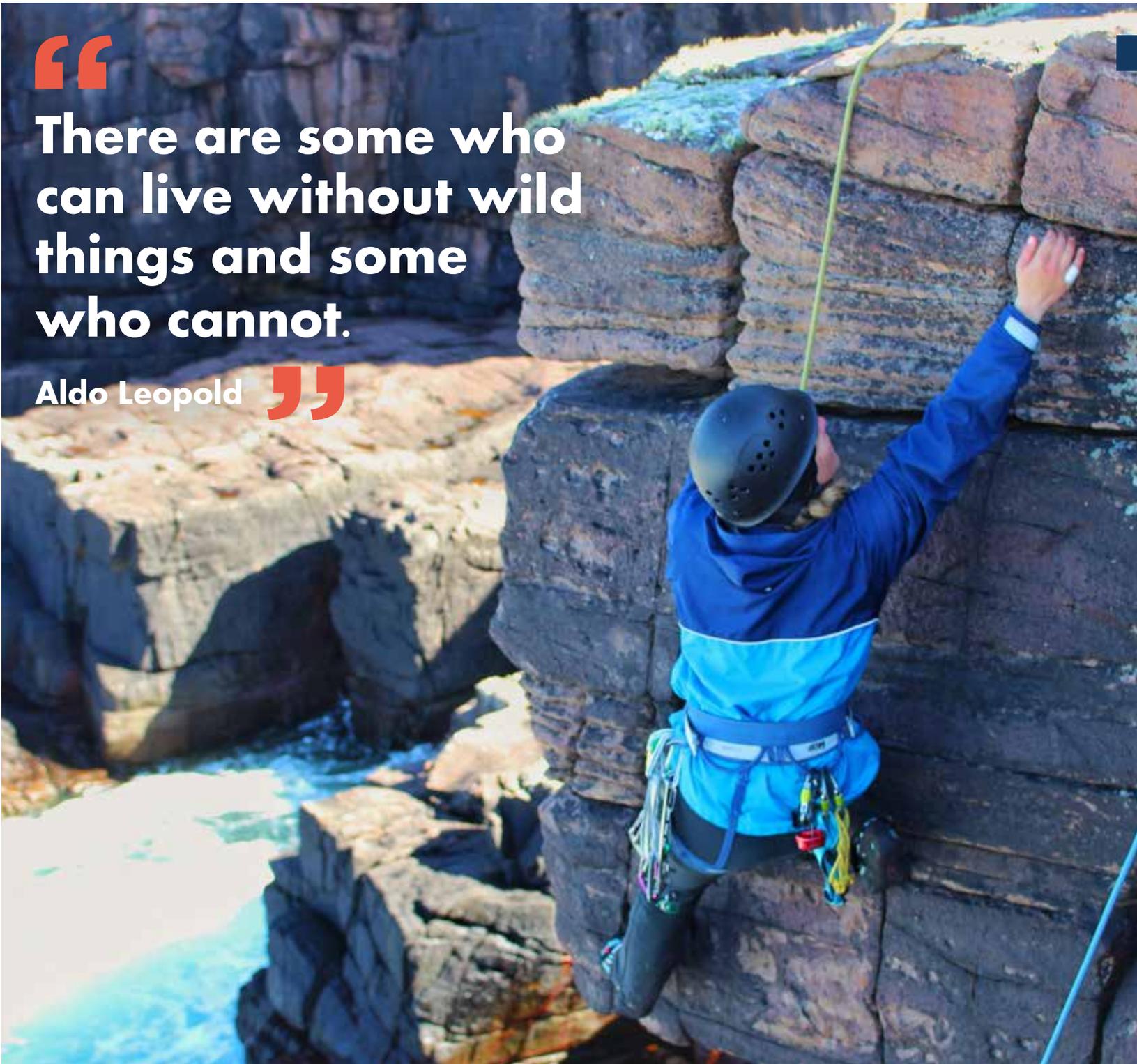
## About the adventure programme

### Gain qualifications in:

- Mountain Leader Summer Training and Assessment
- Rock Climbing Instructor Training and Assessment
- Towards Canoe Leader Moderate Water and Paddle Sport Instructor
- Mountain Bike Leader Level 2, Expedition Module and Go MTB training
- Outdoor Emergency First Aid
- National Navigation Award Scheme Tutor
- GNAS Archery Leader
- DofE Assessor and Supervisor Training
- John Muir Discovery Award (JMA Conserver/Explorer Award for age 25+)

### Gain experience in:

- Skiing
- Sea kayaking
- Winter climbing
- Winter mountaineering
- Multi-pitch rock climbing
- Surfing
- Sailing (cruising yachts)



# Key trainers



## Abernethy

### Mike Causey

CEO

Mike leads the Abernethy Trust, and has lived and worked most recently in China, leading both Leadership Formation and Security & Safety at a group of Christian International Schools with 2500 students. He is passionate in seeing others grow and develop as disciples, and is a mentor and coach to those around him. He's worked for BP, been involved in politics, run a coffee shop as part of a church community and church plant, and loves to get up mountains with his family!

### James Woodhouse

Chief Adventure Officer

The School of Adventure Leadership is led by James Woodhouse, who served as a Major in the British Army, has also been Head of Outdoor Education at various schools. As a keen climber, mountaineer and sailor, he will lead on mountaineering, climbing and sailing (cruising). He holds the Mountaineering Instructor Certificate and is a RYA Yachtmaster (Coastal), as well as being a member of the Alpine Club and Army Mountaineering Association.

### Tom Sibbald

Canoe Coaching Trainer

Tom along with his wife Anna run Canoe Coaching and have a passion for sharing the outdoors with others. From guided days on

the water, to multi-day expeditions, from very basic coaching to training for the highest level of open canoe qualifications, Tom and Anna are experts on anything paddling! Tom has been coaching on the Abernethy School of Adventure Leadership since 2010.

## Bible Teachers

### Rob Whittaker, John Allan and others

Rob Whittaker retired as Principal of Capernwray Bible School in 2017 (an international, interdenominational, Christian Bible School) and has since been a Guest Lecturer. He studied Theology at London Bible College, planted a church south of Preston and speaks internationally in churches, Bible schools and conferences. Rob's passion is to take the life-giving teaching of the Bible and mesh it with 24/7 living in a transforming friendship with Jesus. He is a huge Manchester United supporter!

John Allan has a wealth of experience, including Director of Training for British Youth for Christ, Publishing Editor for World Evangelical Fellowship, Chaplain of Exeter School and on the Leadership Team at Belmont Chapel, Exeter. He's even been a youth worker for half a century and been in a Christian rock band! He chaired the Evangelical Alliance Youth Council and taught in Torchbearers Bible Schools around Europe for 25 years.

## Solas

### Andy Bannister

Director for the Solas Centre of Public Christianity

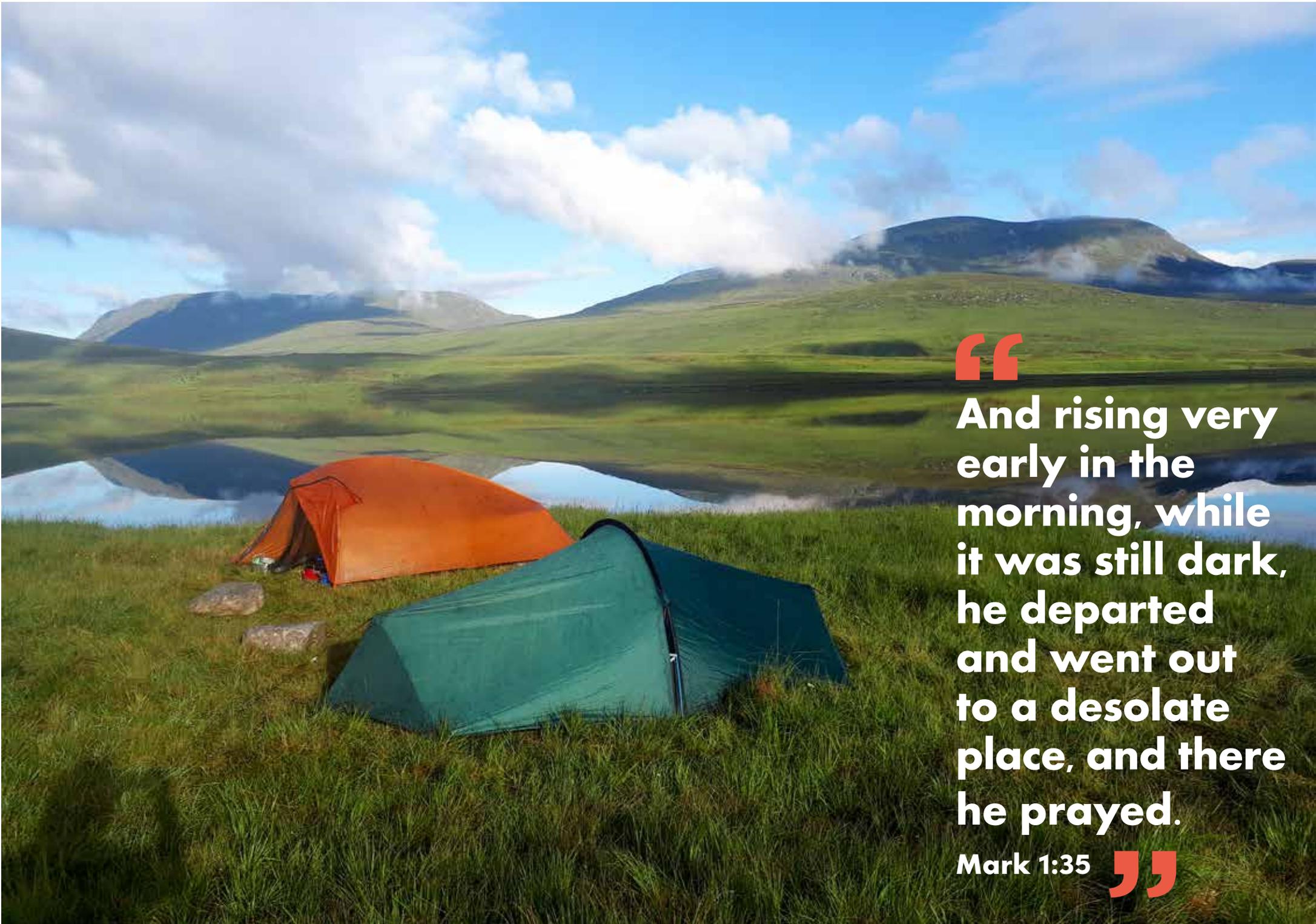
Solas' mission is to persuasively communicate Christ in today's culture. With a PhD in Islamic studies, he has taught extensively at many universities on both Islam and philosophy. He is also an Adjunct Research Fellow at The Arthur Jeffery Centre for the Study of Islam at Melbourne School of Theology and an Adjunct Speaker for Ravi Zacharias International Ministries. When not travelling, speaking, or writing, he is a keen hiker, mountain climber and photographer.

## Precept

### Nigel Watts, Karen Martin

and others

Precept Ministries are about equipping people with life-transforming and practical Bible study skills, enabling the student to get to know God better and grow in relationship with Him and other people. Precept offers exciting learning through training workshops and resources, empowering people to meet with God, hear His voice and walk in truth.



“

**And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed.**

**Mark 1:35**

”

## Cost

£7,995 (fee split into four payments). A small number of Scholarships are available.

## Course dates

7 September 2020 – August 2021

## Taster Weekends

We will plan to have two weekends each year for you to come and experience aspects of the course, which will also serve as an interview. Details to follow.

## Find out more

Contact James Woodhouse, Chief Adventure Officer, for an informal chat on **01479 818001** or email **james.woodhouse@abernethy.org.uk**



**abernethy.org.uk**



Abernethy Trust is a Scottish Charity (SC006270)

**Cover photo:** Mountain biking at Sgòr Gaoith in the Cairngorms by Heather Kennedy. **Back cover photo:** Mountaineering with the School of Adventure Leadership in the Mamores near Lochaber, Scottish Highlands