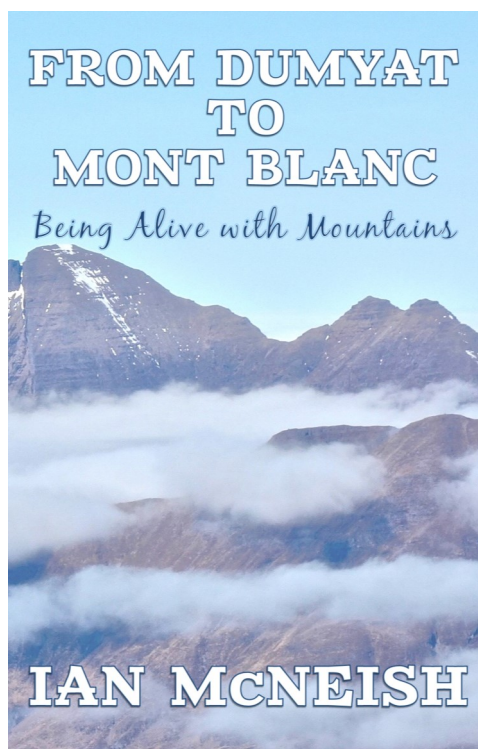


INFORMATION SHEET



29 June 2020

Publisher: Extremis Publishing Ltd.

Author: Ian McNeish

ISBN: 978-1-9996962-2-1

RRP: £9.99 GBP

Format: Trade paperback,
198 x 129 mm

Extent: 274 pages

BIC Categories:

Climbing and Mountaineering (WSZG),
Walking, Hiking, Trekking (WSZC),
Active Outdoor Pursuits (WSZ).

Distributor:

Ingram
Chapter House, Pitfield, Kiln Farm,
Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire,
MK11 3LW, United Kingdom.
(T) +44 (0) 800 138 0600
(E) ingramwholesaleuk@ingramcontent.com

From Dumyat to Mont Blanc Being Alive with Mountains

Born in the Central Scotland town of Bonnybridge, Ian McNeish may have seemed an unlikely climbing enthusiast. The closest 'peak' to his home was Cowden Hill, which at an elevation of 55.4 metres is only the 14,650th highest in Britain! But from these early experiences on the hills, encouragement from friends and colleagues soon saw Ian embarking on a lifelong adventure which would see him climbing Munros and Corbetts alike.

Whether cycling through the Outer Hebrides for charity or white-water rafting in New Zealand, Ian is someone who has seen life. But nothing could have prepared him for facing the biggest climbing challenge of his career when he tackled the famous peak of Mont Blanc—the highest mountain in the Alps, with a summit 4,808 metres above sea level.

From his experiences in Mountain Rescue Teams to not one but two successful attempts at Scotland's famous cross-country Ultimate Challenge, join Ian as he relates amazing stories of some of the most stunning places in the world. He will reveal what it means to truly be alive in the mountains.

Author Biography

Ian McNeish was born in 1946, in Falkirk. His formative years in the post-War period were spent in Bonnybridge, then Balloch. In 1974 Ian joined Ross and Sutherland Constabulary, and in seven months was trusted to police in a single station officer role within a rural area of Scotland with a population of six thousand people. In 1978 Ian transferred to Central Scotland Police, where he rose to the rank of Chief Inspector before retiring in 2004.

On leaving the police service, Ian set up his own company advising small businesses on policy issues as well as carrying out investigations on employment disputes and preparing reports. Ian has also chaired several internal discipline hearings and produced written judgements. He also was Chairman of the board of Signpost Recovery, and for about eighteen months managed the project.

His spare time is taken up with mountaineering, for a time being in Mountain Rescue. He has found time to ascend Mont Blanc and climb all the Munros. He also cycles and has some long distance treks to his name, including cycling from Edinburgh to Paris. He plays competitive curling and also coaches beginners. He did play golf, but cut back on that as he could not spare the time. He has a family: three boys and six grandchildren. When he is not employed with any or all of the above, he writes.

Ian was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts in 2019.

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An independent publishing house specialising in arts, media and culture non-fiction.

Suite 218, Castle House, 1 Baker Street, Stirling, FK8 1AL, United Kingdom

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