



Promoting Interest in Mountain Activities

The Gwydyr Monthly Newsletter August 2015

Hello and welcome to the August edition of the monthly newsletter. This edition of the newsletter is published a bit later than normal but I have been busy with personal matters so my apologies for the delay in getting this edition out to the members.

What's On This Month

1-2 Rhoscolyn Camping Meet (Kevin McEvoy).

7-8 Hut Weekend.

14-15 Additional Hut Weekend.

Future Attractions!

September

4-5 French Alps Week (Anna Roberts)

11-12 Lleyn Peninsular Camping (Dave Gray)

18-19 Hut Weekend

25-26 Chairman's Luxury Meet (Lin Jensen & Sue Taylor)

October

3 Saturday Walk Wenlock Edge (Pete Mann)

10 Saturday Walk Macclesfield Forest Hills (Mark Barley)

16-17 Hut Weekend

31 Saturday Walk Bowland (Janet Coates)



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Recent Activity

July

3-4 Bryncreug Camping Meet (Nuala Dunn).

A mixture of current and some former members of the Club met at Nuala's house near Bryncreug for a camping meet and barbeque. While most arrived on Friday night a number of members, particularly those with families, arrived at various times on Saturday. We experienced a variety of weather conditions with high winds and thunder and lightning on Friday. Fortunately all managed to get their tents up before the bad weather arrived. It was rather wet and miserable on Saturday morning so a mass ascent of Cadair Idris via the pony track was abandoned as was climbing on the Cyfrwy arête. However, I understand that a couple of hardy souls did complete the climb in the wet. Various other activities were undertaken including walks on some smaller hills, estuary walks and some more touristic activities including visits to the beach. The weather stayed fine for the barbeque on Saturday night and all concerned enjoyed some good food, drink and general socializing. Sunday morning was warm and sunny for a change and after a leisurely breakfast and all the tents had been packed away those members remaining decided on one last visit to the beach before heading home. Unfortunately the weather turned once again and as we got to the beach the sky was black and menacing and the sea was boisterous to say the least. Undeterred some brave, or foolish, members did venture in to the sea only to be knock about by the waves. The arrival of heavy rain then lead to everyone scurrying to their cars and departure home.

Many thanks to Nuala, Chris and Patrick for their hospitality over the weekend and for opening up their home and garden to the club.

11 Sandstone Trail in One Day (Chris Harris).

Nine people started the trail at 6.45 am at Whitchurch and all nine finished at Frodsham just after 7pm. The weather was good and there were no major incidents apart from some blisters and the chairman becoming too closely acquainted with an electric fence! Thanks to those members who supported the nine participants on the day. A fuller account of the day will appear in the forthcoming magazine.

17-18 Hut Weekend.

This was originally listed as a prospective member's weekend but as we don't currently have any prospective members it became just a normal monthly Chapel meet. Unfortunately I was unable to attend and I have had no reports of what people did for this particular meet.



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21-24 Breacon Beacons (Mike McEneaney)

This was the southern leg of the attempt to complete all the Welsh Corbetts in one calendar year. A total of eighteen people joined our septuagenarians on this meet with sixteen doing the walks. The first of the four hills was Waun Fach on Tuesday. This hill is technically in the Black Mountains although, I believe, within the national park boundary. We had rain and strong winds on the summit but were rewarded by some excellent views of the Breacon Beacons to the west. Wednesday started out wet but by the time we began the ascent of Fan Bryncheiniog the weather had improved and we enjoyed a largely dry day. Unfortunately parts of the descent route were on the boggy side but it was fine enough to enjoy an off the hill pint at Tafarn y Garreg where we had parked the cars. On Thursday we adopted a different approach where we did a linear walk from the Storey Arms Outdoor Centre to Aber village via Corn Du, Pen y Fan, Cribyn, Fan y Big and finally Waun Rydd. This involved some interesting logistics but we were rewarded by an excellent walk along a very interesting escarpment. The weather was mixed and we had sunshine and showers and a keen wind. A communal meal for the majority of participants in the local hotel on Thursday evening finished off a very enjoyable trip.

Committee News

The next committee meeting is scheduled for the 18th August.

Other News

I am pleased to announce that an edition of the magazine will be produced very shortly, probably in the next week or so. Thank you to all those who have sent me items for inclusion.

Chairman's Thoughts

We are now well into August and so far it has been a rather disappointing summer. We have had some warm and sunny days but they have not lasted long and we have experienced some very unseasonal spells of weather. I have lost count of the times when I have heard people remark "I can't believe that this is May/June July". The dominant theme this summer seems to have been strong winds and unseasonably cold spells. I personally have not had a warm sunny day on the hill so far this summer. Let us hope that what remains of the summer is an improvement on what we have experienced thus



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far.

The book recommendation this month has been suggested by Roger Hughes. It is *Wild Wales, its people, language and scenery*, by George Henry Borrow. This book was originally published in 1862 although there are various versions now available in both print and electronic formats. These can be found on both Amazon and Abe Books. I personally haven't read this book yet but look forward to doing so. I understand it has been described as eccentric rather like the author himself. Roger thoroughly recommends it and also informed me that it was a favorite of John Huxley.

Happy reading

Pete