

End of March 2009 Bulletin.

Note from myself, Madam Chairman.

Hi everyone,

As you will all know by now, from Mike's e-mail if you were not at the AGM, you have me as Chairman for another year!

On the weekend following the AGM we had our Annual Club Dinner at the Tyn-y-Coed Hotel in Capel Curig. It was an evening enjoyed, I am sure, by all who were there, and thanks must go to Hux for his meticulous organization even though he was not able to attend himself. It is very rare for Hux to be mentioned in Roger's 'absent friends' speech. I think Hux said it was only the second Annual Dinner he had ever missed. The evening started with drinks in the cocktail bar whilst looking at photos entered for the yearly photo competition. These were presented both in hard copy form and digitally projected on to the wall. The winner this year is Bryan Gilbert with his picture taken of the Old Man of Hoy on the club trip to Orkney last May. A sit-down meal followed, and a Caeli Band afterwards, with many of us doing energetic and hilarious dancing, whether we had any rhythm or not resulting in an evening of raucous laughter.

Margaret ran a raffle which raised £84.60 towards purchasing a picnic table for outside the Hut. There were many prizes, the first of which was a mystery prize donated by Roger and won by Ross, who was not able to be at the dinner. This mystery prize was presented to him last Tuesday night - a fine bottle of whisky. The final prize was pink and girlie, so it was fitting that Jenny Harvey was able to win this - she was so happy and excited to win a prize.

As well as the dinner itself, many people went either walking or climbing prior to the dinner whilst others visited Cotswold's to take advantage of our 20% club reduction weekend.

The back end of March was very much taken up with the AGM and the Club Dinner, but earlier in March there was an event which could well become a regular feature on the meets list. Mountain biking is becoming increasingly popular, and on the first weekend in March, a Hut meet, Geoff organized an 'Introduction to Cycling' weekend. There were twelve takers, and the Marin Trail was the proposed route to start on. He tells me that 'by democratic vote' they did two-thirds of the Marin Trail- 12 miles (I wonder whether, as he says 'democratic', five of these twelve voted against it?!).

Apparently after the cycle ride Geoff, along with Dave and Reg, drank five pints each in the Tyn-y-Coed. I think 'destroyed' was the word Geoff used.

The following day some of the party cycled from the Hut over to Dolwyddelan, and back over Sarn Helen to Betwys - a particularly bumpy and rocky section was remembered.

The following weekend Chris Russell and Geoff did a 12-mile bike ride across Llandegla Moors, and then 16 miles in the Clwyds the following day - apparently it is fitness training for the seven-day Offa's Dyke backpack at the end of May.

In the middle of March Mike Mac led a very well attended day walk from Aber Falls. The route went up-river past a series of waterfalls, disappearing into the mist up to the summit of Foel Fras, then on to Drum, with views out to Anglesey. Good for Mike, holding up the walkers end, with so much cycling going on it looks like we all need to follow his lead and get out on the hill again now that spring is here.

Last but not least I must thank those who helped with the work weekend at the Hut the weekend before the Dinner, and for those who did the cleaning of the Hut - it's looking good!

Regards.
Christine.