



Promoting Interest in Mountain Activities

The Gwydyr Monthly Newsletter September 2015

Hello and welcome to the September edition of the monthly newsletter. You will notice that I have included some photographs to illustrate some of the accounts of recent activity. These should be self-explanatory and I hope that this will become a regular feature of future editions of the newsletter. Thank you to those members who supplied these photographs. Keep these, and reports of activities, coming

What's On This Month

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)

Future Attractions!

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)

November

06-07 Hut Weekend Bonfire Party



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21 Saturday Walk Etherow & Werneth Low Parks (Mark Barley)



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Recent Activity

August

01-02 Rhoscolyn Camping Meet (Kevin McEvoy)

This weekend saw the now well established camping meet at Rhoscolyn on Anglesey. A good number of Gwydyr members and friends descended on The Outdoor Alternative campsite hoping for some good weather to enjoy the weekend and the traditional barbeque on the Saturday evening. This is a lovely campsite with some excellent facilities, it is popular and the site was busy but we all managed to get pitches. My only complaint regarding the site is that it is not the easiest site to find if you have never been there before!

The weather on Saturday was dry, if not actually warm for the time of year and so various coastal walks were attempted as well as some more traditional holiday activities.

The good weather continued into the evening and we were all able to enjoy the barbeque despite the rather cool wind. Thanks to Kevin, Vanda and Chris for the excellent barbeque and also thanks to Ray for having the foresight to bring along the fly sheet to his large family tent which proved to be very popular as the evening wore on and the sun set!



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01-03 Glen Coe (Geoff Brierley)

John Simpson reports, Lindsey, Adrian, Geoff, Neil, Ronnie and I drove up to Glen Coe for the weekend where we stayed in the Glen Coe Independent Hostel. On the



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way up Geoff, Neil and I stopped just east of Crianlarich to do Ben More and Stob Binnein. As we got out of the car it started to rain heavily. As we walked up we met two groups descending from Ben More who informed us it was hail stones on the summit. Yay more Scottish hail!! Luckily by the time we reached the summit the hail had stopped but the cloud was down. The cloud cleared as we got to the top of Stob Binnein and we had good views.

On Sunday Geoff, Neil and I did An Gearanach, Stob Choire a'Chaim and Am Bodach in low cloud. On Monday Geoff and I did Sgurr a'Mhaim and Stob Ban, the first top was in the cloud but this soon cleared and we enjoyed great views of the ridge and over on to the Aonach Eagach, down Glen Nevis and Ben Nevis itself. I am not sure what Lindsey and Adrian did.





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07-08 Hut Weekend

Kevin McEvoy writes. On 8th August the Ogwen Mountain Rescue Team held their annual Oggie 8 Challenge. The Gwydyr Mountain Club entered two teams; Excused Games (Geoff Brierley and John Simpson) and the Gwydyr 3 (Chris and Katie Harris and Kev McEvoy). Alarms were set for 5 am and after a quick breakfast we all headed out to the Ogwen Mountain Rescue base in the shadow of Tryfan. Under a cloudless sky all 15 teams set off at 7 am, heading up on to the Carneddau. The weather was kind to us all day and although the Glyder plateau was windy as always, it was perfect walking weather.

Geoff and John completed the challenge in a fantastic time of 6 hours and 46 minutes,



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while Katie, Chris and I crossed the line in 9 hours 57 minutes.

A big thank you to Ogwen Mountain Rescue Team for their organization on the day. It was great to see friendly faces on every top and in some of the cols handing out Jaffa Cakes and Flapjack! This is the first time our club has entered the Oggie 8 Challenge and hopefully we can have a team or two entered next year.





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20 Y Llwydd (Mike McEneaney)

Mike McEneaney reports that ten intrepid Corbeters assembled at Nant Gwynant on Thursday 20 August for the 11.30 am bus to Nant Peris. The weather looked grim but we were assured by the Met Office that things would improve!!

Leaving Nant Peris the cloud was down to circa 550m, but we had a programme to stick to. After lunching in the shelter of the valve station at Llyn Llyddw we ascended Y Llwydd steeply on wet, greasy rock with zero visibility. None of the party had attempted Y Llwydd from this direction before so we debated the various false



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summits until we finally reached our objective. Surprisingly we saw many other walkers on route. All thoughts of Snowdon were abandoned, so we descended by the Watkin path back to Nant Gwynant.

What should have been one of the more interesting Corbetts was, owing to the weather, somewhat disappointing but now we only have three left to do. Things were salvaged by having a couple of pints in the Pen Y Gwryd on the way home. I leave the next Corbett, Cadair Berwyn, in the capable hands of Roger Hughes.

Committee News

The last committee meeting was held on Tuesday 25th August, the minutes of this meeting will be circulated shortly.

The next committee meeting has been provisionally scheduled for 6th October.

Other News

Chairman's Thoughts

Well August has come and gone. Alas the hoped for improvement in the weather failed to materialize. It seems that the poor weather has been a constant theme of this part of the newsletter all summer! We certainly have witnessed plenty of variety over the last few months. It has even been reported that it was snowing in the Cairngorms in July. However, it hasn't stopped Gwydyr members getting out and about in the hills. Even the poor summer has had some positive elements. When I was up in Scotland at the beginning of May the Glasgow Herald ran an article in their Saturday supplement proclaiming that as the winter was relatively mild we could expect a bumper year for midges!! Thankfully this failed to materialize due to the prevailing weather conditions, which tends to give credence to the old adage of every cloud having a silver lining!

I don't have any recommendations for you this month. I expect normal service to resume in the next newsletter.

Keep getting active in the hills!

Pete