

# **Caernarfon & Dwyfor Ramblers**

## **Newsletter No 5 - 17 May 2018**

**Contributions for future editions to me please, [davewoods@toucansurf.com](mailto:davewoods@toucansurf.com)**

### **HUW THOMAS**

Graham writes: Following a fall our good friend Huw Thomas tragically died on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May. As a valued volunteer for many years he took part in the Gwynedd Council path surveys in our area, as well as attending footpath meetings. In his working life Huw was for some time the Chief Executive of Ysbyty Gwynedd, and he also wrote a very impressive book on mountaineering in Tajikistan, a country that he had close association with over many years. More recently he has been a regular volunteer with Tim Taclo Llwybrau

His funeral takes place at 1.30pm on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May at Bangor Crematorium.

Dave writes: How quickly things change. I had met Huw just occasionally over the years, but in April he joined us for both my led walks. The last, on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April, saw us walking a nine miles circuit from Penmaenmawr, with a fair amount of up and down leg work. Like many of us, Huw was well past the first flush of youth, and the steep downhill stretches were obviously a test for him. But complaints there were none, just the sort of chat that adds interest to a nice day's walk. We finished with goodbyes, and the familiar 'see you on another walk'. Then just three days later, everything changed. I am glad I got to know him better on those April walks.

### **TIM TACLO LLWYBRAU**

Another busy month for our footpath maintenance volunteers. On Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April ten volunteers worked clearing vegetation overgrowth from FP72 Llanrug. Prior to this on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March nine volunteers cleared FP15 Llandwrog a previously totally obstructed path. On both days we were lucky to enjoy very welcome spring sunshine, daffodils and bluebells. Both these paths are now open to use, way marked with at least one new roadside finger post.

Our next work day is on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May. Seven names down so far to work to work jointly with our separate Dwfor group again on Bwlch Mawr. If you have not already done so and would like to attend please let me know. No experience necessary, just bring your refreshments, a good fun day guaranteed.

Graham

## **MARGARETS PAGE!**

**Max Grant.** Max has been the hard working Secretary of North Wales Ramblers for many years, but sadly he recently suffered a serious stroke and is now in the Walton Hospital in Liverpool.

### **BWLCH MAWR - the once inaccessible summit**

Following the Countryside and Rights of Way Act, 2000, the upland area of Bwlch Mawr (509m) became open access land. Unfortunately the awesome stone walls which stride over the upland crags did not allow for access to the summit from the paths that approached from the east or the west and there is no public access from the north. I wrote a letter and, together with 2 people from the Countryside Council for Wales, surveyed the area and agreed that ladder stiles were needed at 2 spots: there were signs that people were climbing over and causing damage. Then there was no money, but amazingly for these impecunious times, there was this year some money that could be used. I was contacted by Rob from the council and with the help of a contractor and a few members of Llyn Ramblers and Tîm Taclo, there are now ladder stiles. So to celebrate, I'm leading the walk to the summit from Clynnog on Wednesday, 22nd June, starting 10.15 a.m. The No 12 bus Caernarfon - Pwllheli route drops you off for the start, The route is unrelentingly up for 470m. The pace will be slow!! The views will be magnificent. The return is initially to the east down through old mineral workings and then a quiet road until another path by a stream takes us back to the village. We should be in time for a panad in the village shop. Please join me, (Margaret)

### **DATA PROTECTION**

The new Act comes into law on 25th May. It is providing a good opportunity for getting rid of some of those over frequent special offer emails etc which annoy me but also to confirm my commitment to others. We trust that you will use the opportunity to update your contact details and preferences for the Ramblers so that you will continue to get these newsletters, walk programmes news of social events etc.

### **EMERGENCY CARDS**

One of the useful things that the Ramblers now produce are *In Case of Emergency Cards* for us walkers to carry in an easily accessible pocket. It provides for notes on 'Medical Conditions and Allergies', 'Medication' and 'Emergency Contact' details. This is personal information that it is not appropriate to be asked for but which could be crucial in the event of accident or sudden medical emergency. We hope that Walk Leaders will soon have these to hand out.

## **NIGEL FISHER**

Our C&D walk leader Nigel had a fall while taking part in an Ynys Mon Siabod Scramble walk recently. It seems he tried a little off route scramble while they were descending from Moel Siabod, but fell. He had a head injury and was unconscious for a short time but was well looked after by fellow Ramblers, before being taken by helicopter to Ysbyty Gwynedd. After two nights in hospital under observation he is now trying to shake off double vision while recovering at home.

I hope he was not trying to live up to my billing in the last Newsletter, when I referred to him as the intrepid Nigel!

Dave

## **SANDSTONE TRAIL – 6, 7 & 8 July (plus optional other nights)**

We had a three night stay in Whitchurch in April to check out the walks and evening meal venues for our July visit. Using our own vehicles to move around (no public transport and taxis at a day's notice!), we walked the whole of the Trail south of Beeston Castle. The Saturday and Sunday walks will be very different – one through rolling farmland with lots of stiles, the other over the sandstone ridge with fine views and no stiles! Optional short walks also available. Guto has booked three venues for evening meals.

If anyone else wishes to join the twenty already going, accommodation in Whitchurch is now quite limited, so book soon. More information to follow, for those who have booked.

Dave

## **UPCOMING WALKS**

Sunday 20 May With a good forecast, join Guto for an Aberdaron – Porth Oer 7 mile circular walk, start 10.30am at Aberdaron NY car park SH172 264

Sat 26 May Carneddau with a Difference! It's a Nigel walk again, but Roy will be leading this time. Start at 9.30am at Ogwen Bank, SH 627654, for this 11 mile A grade walk.

3 June Coast & Country around Rhoscolyn. A 10.30 start from St Gwenfaen's Church in Rhoscolyn, SH 268 757 as Guto swops Lleyn for Ynys Mon.

7 June It's another Coast and Country walk, this time around Aberdesach and led by Margaret.. Start from the Aberdesach beach CP, with dogs on leads please.

16 June Back to an A walk today, as Roy leads a 10.5 mile walk over Diffwys, Y Llethyr and Rhinog Fach. 10am start from Cwm Mynach SH 684219, or car share, 9am from Lidl CP in Porthmadog.

27 June Bwlch Mawr and ladder stiles! A 10.15 start from Clynnog Fawr CP/BS, SH 154 497, as Margaret leads the way up to Bwlch Mawr and a crossing of the long awaited ladder stiles over those big walls.

***Full details in the North Wales Ramblers walks booklet or follow the link on the walks page of the cadramblers website.***