

CAERNARFON & DWYFOR RAMBLERS JANUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER

Derek Pearson

Derek was one of our walk leaders, his wife Wendy is an active committee member, and both combined brilliantly to provide us with Treasure Hunts in Criccieth and Pwllheli and a very entertaining Quiz Night in Waunfawr. A lot of us have known about Derek's illness, stretching back over many months. Here is a message from Wendy and a tribute from our Chairman Dafydd Jones.

I am sad to have to tell you that, after deterioration in his health over the past few weeks, Derek died peacefully at home on 7th December. Catherine, Andrew, Scovia, Aita and I were all with him. There will be a private cremation before Christmas.

We warmly invite you to join us on Saturday 6th January at 2pm for a Thanksgiving Service for Derek's life at Capel y Traeth, Mona Terrace, Criccieth, followed by refreshments at Criccieth Family Church, Lon Ednyfed, Criccieth. As this is a thanksgiving service please do not feel the need to wear sombre dress.

*Please email Wendy if you are planning to come,
wendy.pearson@no3.clara.net.*

Donations in memory of Derek may be made to the brain Tumour Charity.

Dafydd Jones, our Chairman, penned the following tribute.

*It is with great sadness we heard of Derek passing away before Christmas
Our deepest sympathy goes out to Wendy for her sad loss
Derek to us was a figure larger than life, a strong able
walker, good company and someone who loved the outdoors.
Whilst his time with us was short we all appreciated his love
for Wendy and his family.
Our thoughts are with Wendy and her family at this sad time.*

Dafydd

North Wales Area AGM - 2pm Saturday 13 January

The AGM for the North Wales Area is on Saturday, 13th Jan at 2 p.m. at the Craig Y Don Community Centre, Queen's Road, Llandudno LL30 1TE. Last year we took a small team of C&D members along to support our Ramblers name change motion. Nothing quite as exciting on the agenda this year, but the follow up sessions include Ramblers CEO Vanessa Griffiths giving us her thoughts and Holly Peek, Ranger for The Red Squirrel Trust, giving a talk on red squirrels in North Wales.

HOWEVER - each year the refreshments between the AGM and the more informal part of the meeting are provided by the different Ramblers groups in North Wales – and this year it is our turn! Margaret, Lowe, C&D Secretary, has kindly offered to organise our efforts, and writes as follows.

We will need a team of C&D folk along to provide the refreshments for tea mid-way through the meeting. So, I would welcome some help, first from those into home cooking, who would like to supply items such as cakes/ scones/ biscuits/ bara brith/ Christmas cake and so forth. Costs can be reimbursed and I can arrange collection if this helps. Please contact me to discuss what you would like to provide, Secondly, we need some folk at the meeting, to help with preparations between 1.30pm and 2pm, and then to serve the food and drinks after the first part of the meeting. If you are able to help I can be contacted on 01286 660370 or e-mail margaretlowewales@btinternet.com. Looking forward to hearing from you.

If you would like to go to the meeting you might like to take part in the morning walk, which starts at 10am, or do some shopping in Llandudno. We aim to share transport, so please contact Margaret if you would like a lift to Llandudno or would welcome others joining you..

Social Events

Thursday 11 January 7.30pm at the Royal Victoria Hotel, Llanberis.

Camino de Santiago de Compostella

Val Kressman has walked the Camino de Santiago de Compostella pilgrimage routes in Spain every year for 8 years, covering a total of around 1,250 miles (2,000 km) on the various routes. The most popular route is the Camino Frances from St Jean Pied de Port in France, which is 500 miles. The talk, accompanied by slides, photographs and music, covers the origin and purpose of the pilgrimage, the different routes, what it is like being a pilgrim and what you need to take. It includes her experience as a volunteer "hospitalera" helping to run a pilgrim hostel (alber gue) for two weeks last summer.

Thursday 15 February at 7.30pm Venue Cymru, Llandudno. A chance to see this year's eclectic selection of award winning outdoor films from the Banff Mountain Film Festival. Tickets direct from Venue Cymru for what is usually a full house night. Once again we will widen the evening, or finish the shopping, with a meal around 5.30pm at the Premier Inn, which is a mile or so east along the promenade, on the side of the Little Orme.

Thursday 8 March at 8pm Snowdonia Parc Brewpub, Waunfawr It's our annual Quiz Night again, time for some fun and a bit of head scratching. Teams of four, usually made up on the night, prizes for the winning team! If you are having a meal before the quiz, please order from 6pm - 6.30pm or give them a call to book a table.

Fancy being quiz master for the evening? Then we need you, or you and a partner or friend. It's a fun evening and questions and answers are easy to come by these days, so please contact Joan (01286 870208) if you can help.

Summer Weekend 6, 7 and 8 July 2018

Our venue for next year's long weekend is Whitchurch in Shropshire, one end of the 34 mile long Sandstone Trail, which runs from Whitchurch up to Frodsham in Cheshire. Passing through lovely Cheshire countryside we plan to take in some of the best parts of the route, such as the Peckforten Hills and Beeston Castle. Some may even extend the stay and cover the whole trail. More details in February, or if you wish, get in touch with me, Dave Woods, for accommodation options.

Countryfile Children in Need Rambles

Following a query as to why the Ramblers were not linked to the Countryfile campaign, even though it promotes 'rambles', the Ramblers CEO Vanessa Griffiths sent a very full reply. If you would like to read this please email me and I will forward a copy to you.

End of Year Walk – Fort Belan For those seeking more information about the history of the fort and what is going on now, take a look at the Fort Belan website. The £2 donation we all made, which on Saturday raised £34, is for repairs to the fort, a little thank you for being allowed to wander round this North Wales gem.

That's all for now, apart from the C&D walks for this month, below.
Dave

Tuesday 9 January • Dinorwig Circular

Date	Tues 9 January	A mix of lanes and paths climbing around 800 ft through the varied countryside before a descent through Padarn Country Park.
Start Time	10.30am	
Start Grid Ref.	SH 5595 6230	
Grade	C	
Distance	6 miles	
Contact Name	Joan	
Contact No.	01286 870208	
Meet	Pen Llyn, Padarn	

Thurs 19 January • Trefor Circular

Date	Thurs 19 January	Paths and quiet lanes around Trefor, with the sea never far away.
Start Time	10.30 am	
Start Grid Ref.	SH 378475	
Grade	C	
Distance	8	
Contact Name	Di	
Contact No.	01286 881122	
Meet	Trefor Pier CP	

Saturday 27 January • Petes Eats for Lunch!

Date		Bus ride to Snowdon Ranger, walk over Bwlch Maes Gwm to Petes Eats in Llanberis for lunch, then back over Bwlch y Groes to the Snowdonia for after walk refreshments. Head torch might be useful near end of day. * Please note – new bus timetables for 2018. Bus now fifteen minutes later than shown in walks booklet.
Start Time	11am for 11.10 bus	
Start Grid Ref.	SH 527 587	
Grade	C	
Distance	8	
Contact Name	Dave	
Contact No.	01286 650696	
Meet	Snowdonia Parc Brewpub/WHR CP/BS	

Wednesday 31 January • Dyffryn Nantle North side

Date		A leisurely walk exploring the paths on the north side of the valley.
Start Time	10.30 am	
Start Grid Ref.	SH 488 529	
Grade	D/C	
Distance	6	
Contact Name	John H	
Contact No.	01286 881071	
Meet	Talysarn CP/BS	