



## Welcome to December 2019 Newsletter

and Nadolig Llawen - Happy Christmas



### **AGM Report - Dafydd Jones, Chair**

Your committee decided that we would continue with our arrangements as in the last few years with a formal, brief AGM meeting to cover the usual matters like re-selection of the committee etc. followed by a social gathering with refreshments provided by the Hotel - this year a magnificent hot and cold buffet to suit everyone. Thank you to the hotel staff and particularly Guto for arranging this, for hosting all our committee meetings and our Christmas lunch on 15 December.

### **Updates from last year's AGM:**

- Marker Stones - one of Dave's last campaigns was to get the directions on the Snowdon marker stones painted white so that they were more visible to walkers in bad weather. This has now been agreed, but yet to be done due to poor weather conditions.
- Following the demise of the Bangor/Bethesda group we warmly welcomed their 77 members to join us as agreed at last year's AGM and we adopted a new name - ERYRI. We have also adopted a new logo - thanks to Roy and Di Jamal for coming up with such an attractive one for us. Simon has become our Vice Chairman.
- GDPR has settled down, thanks Margaret and Val for helping me sort that out. Ramblers UK have retired to reconsider their advice on processes etc and will publish new advice notes in due course.

### **Events:**

Two special events were organised in the summer-

- John and Ken arranged a walking weekend around Llangollen in great weather-thank you.
- Many of us also took part in the '7 Year celebration' of the opening of the Coastal Path. To all the leaders that led walks, thank you and to all of you that participated thank you, I hope you enjoyed them. No doubt there will be a Ten Year celebration by which time Ramblers Head Office in Cardiff will have got themselves better organised on the publicity.

### **Walks Programme:**

Thank you all for contributing walks. Roy has settled into the coordinating role with enthusiasm and new initiatives which are much appreciated. Chris is editing our Twitter account and Joanne the excellent website and Facebook.

We have a great programme of walks for the next 6 months with a good cross-section of walks that should attract plenty of participants.

A special vote of thanks should be given to the band of new walk leaders: Rachel, Diane, John Evans, Jo-Anne, Mieko, Derek and Richard.

**Press and Publicity Officer Plea:**

To help recruitment, advertising and to engage with the general public we desperately need a Press Officer. Is there anyone that would be keen to take on this role, the committee would do all it could to aid and support that person.

**Training:**

Some of you have taken the opportunity to attend one of the Ramblers Walk Leaders and First Aid training courses.

We remain to be convinced that the First aid course is sufficient for our purposes and I have been charged to arrange a further First Aid course with Katherine Wills in 2020, more news next year.

**Newsletter:**

A warm vote of thanks to Jane for taking on our newsletter. Great job and I hope you will all try to contribute to her monthly journal (thank you - Ed!).

**Area Issues:**

Two matters that are causing concern at Area level are-

[a] The Welsh Government initiative to publish a Framework for Wind and Solar Priority Areas in Wales.

[b] Shared Use Paths. The Area agreed to object to any suggestion that all paths should be for the use of cyclists and walkers. We agreed that this matter should be dealt with on a case by case basis.

**The Committee.**

Individual members were thanked for their commitment to Eryri Ramblers and beyond over the past year.

Finally can I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year. Diolch o galon.

**Footpath News - Graham Fitch, F.P. Secretary Email: [graham.fitchs@gmail.com](mailto:graham.fitchs@gmail.com)**

Our Tim Taclo Arfon work day planned for the 12<sup>th</sup> November had to be cancelled unfortunately due to the wet and windy conditions. The day was then arranged for the 19<sup>th</sup> when the team completed work on previously obstructed paths in Talysarn. On the 27<sup>th</sup> November ten of our group volunteers cleared three paths adjoining the Lon Las Ogwen in Bangor. The Council have since thanked everybody who attended for the vast visual improvement they made.

All the Tim Taclo volunteers that have attended a work day during the year have been invited to a Gwynedd Council arranged Xmas lunch at 'The Lodge' Dinorwig on the 12<sup>th</sup> December. This will be preceded by a walk.

Did you see the Slate Trail filming recently on Countryfile? Several volunteers were filmed making good a section of wet ground with the laying of flat stone across the surface. Below are the links for all the versions of the films about the Cambrian Way which you can copy and paste into your search engine. All well worth the effort.

Here are the links to the various versions:

Full: <https://youtu.be/6LcLxUn9UaE>

2 min -: <https://youtu.be/A8OWOM9aBNU>

2 min - : <https://youtu.be/dg0ta0wTkXM>

30 sec - : <https://youtu.be/sMXsaYtPnc4>

30 sec - : <https://youtu.be/HlDCK0kaHpE>

Best wishes to all and looking forward to seeing you perhaps on our work days in 2020.

**Social News and Events**

Our Christmas Lunch is coming up at The Royal Victoria Hotel, Llanberis on **Sunday 15 December 12.30**

If you haven't done so yet, please book with Guto 01286 872746

I'll be away in **January** but there are plenty of lovely walks to go on ... In **February** I will organise a talk by Peter Rutherford, Access Officer for Snowdonia National Park at The Snowdonia Brewpub in Waunfawr and in **March** we will have our Annual Quiz night at the same location. Dates to be confirmed. There might be some half price offers at ZipWorld during March also, so some high adventure might be in the offing.

Season's Greetings to all, Dee Jamal

**Rachel's Short Walks - Y Fron 30<sup>th</sup> November**

Saturday the 30<sup>th</sup> was a glorious day of blue sky and sunshine but there was a chill wind blowing as seven of us met Rachel at the Ganolfan in Fron. As we gathered it was great to see that Guto and Vicki were to join us for the walk. Having had some difficulties with mobility for the past 2 or 3 years this was to be my first Rambler outing for a long time and it was very reassuring for me that others were in a similar position.

We set off into the lower foothills of Moel Tryfan on very pleasant grassy paths still showing the signs of a heavy frost. During our gentle climb we were treated to some spectacular views of the Nantle Ridge in a cloudless and clear atmosphere and then various disused quarries. As we descended further along the slope there were extensive views of the sea, the Llyn Peninsula and the Menai Strait. Our path then continued into a circular walk of the village until we returned to the Ganolfan for a welcome hot drink in a gloriously warm scenic cafe.

I certainly enjoyed the walk and will be keen to accompany Rachel again in the hope of building confidence in my ability to manage something a little further each time. I think that the programme of shorter walks is a great introduction for both new ramblers and for those of us trying to regain former levels of fitness. Looking forward to 2020 Rachel!

Jon Berry



**Irreverent Tales from a Rambler - Anon**

Too busy with Christmas, I expect!

**Irreverent Tales from a Rambler -Dafydd Jones**

Following on from the note from Anon in the last newsletter I felt the need to respond. You should have had the opportunity to enjoy the walk, with others, rather than feel like you were on a forced march.

The whole object of walking in Eryri is to enjoy the company, the scenery and the walk. Can I remind all of you, walk leaders, back markers and all those joining in that it is essential that you all stick together.

Finding the group splitting up because the pace set by the leader is too much for others is NOT ON .

The essence of being a responsible Walk Leader is to set the pace to suit all, stay in sight with all, including the back marker and ensure that you have a happy band of walkers .

Dafydd Jones ,Chair.

**Upcoming Walks and events** - Please always check the website in case of late changes, this is just a reminder.

**DECEMBER 2019**

Sat, 14-12-19, Y Fron - Moel Tryfan and Mynydd Cilgwyn, A bi-circular route around Moel Tryfan and Mynydd Cilgwyn, SH506549, Downtown Fron, 10:30, C-, 6, John H. Dogs on lead please.

Sun, 15-12-19, ERYRI Christmas Lunch, SH593597, Royal Victoria Hotel, 12:30, Guto.

**JANUARY 2020**

Fri, 10-01-20, Pilgrimage to Ice Age Pebble, Rachel's short walks. SH508548, Canolfan Y Fron, 10.30, D, 3, Rachel. No dogs please.

Sat, 11-01-20, Nant Pasgan, SH684362, Moelfryn Isaf, 10.30, B, 6, Di. No dogs please.

**Menter Fachwen Newsletter** - <https://eryriramblers.org/news%2Binfo>

**Menter Fachwen Walks** - Gareth - 07867 810576

**WALK NUMBER 250** Yes, that first walk in January will be the 250<sup>th</sup> we will have arranged and led since The Menter Fachwen Walk and Discover Project was established in March 2013. I know what the walk will be but I'll let you know in the January 2020 Newsletter....

**January Newsletter**

All contributions gratefully received by [birstallberry@hotmail.com](mailto:birstallberry@hotmail.com)

Deadline: 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020