

Eryri Ramblers Newsletter – No 5 April 2019

Please send contributions for future editions to Jane Berry birstallberry@hotmail.com by the last day of each month.

Seventh Anniversary of the Opening of the Welsh Coastal Path – Festival of Walks 6th May 2019

After several weeks of organising and hosting a day of walking in and around Porthmadog on behalf of Ramblers Cymru a small group of our Eryri Members gathered at the Ganolfan in Porthmadog at 9 am on Monday morning to meet and greet those that had registered to join us on one of 6 walks linked to the Coastal Path.

Sadly, for John and Sue Illsley, their walk to Llanstumdwy had to be cancelled due to insufficient numbers but nevertheless they joined one of the other 5 walks, thank you John and Sue I know you were disappointed.

After a frantic hour or so 65 walkers set out on their walks.

Jane was able to arrange a group of Healthy Walkers from Criccieth to support her walk round Porthmadog with a visit to the Maritime Museum included.

Denis lead a lovely walk from Criccieth to Porthmadog, John Hammond set out to do a round trip to Morfa Bychan, Sue and Pete led the team to conquer Moel y Gest, and Maxine [her first walk as leader] took a large party on the Welsh Highland Railway and a walk back to Porthmadog via a rare visit to Boston Lodge Works.

Friendships were formed, many of our visitors thanked you for introducing them to such beautiful countryside, the beaches, the views, the train ride, the excitement of Canute turning back the tide, the incredibly rare opportunity of seeing Boston Works and all done in glorious weather and to see the happy smiling faces at the end was a joy.

I have thanked Julie Stirland for her excellent talk and guided tour of Boston Works.

To all the walk leaders, and their supporters Margaret and Wendy, I want to pass on my personal warm Thank You for taking part with so much enthusiasm and generosity of your time. Diolch o galon. Without your time and effort it would not have happened.

I spent the time with Angela Charlton and Oliver Wicks who were great supporters and very appreciative of your efforts.

They learnt a lot on the day and I know they will be looking for similar support for a Festival on the Tenth Anniversary of the opening of the coastal path.

A very happy and successful day showcasing the great outdoors we all enjoy in the precious place we live in. Diolch, Dafydd.

Graham's slot: IT'S A PLEASURE

We must all remind ourselves that part of the great heritage of North Wales, lies in its' magnificent network of footpaths. There can't be a single one reading this that disagrees with this. They were the original highways of our communities. Cars are still a comparatively new invention, just in the last century. Before that the horse ruled, otherwise you walked. If you had a footpath near you, you were connected to your neighbour, family, the Chapel or the local School. Some were once tramways carrying slate many giving path gave access to local quarries. These are now converted into making great cycle ways and footpaths. We have over 3000 kms of footpaths in Gwynedd alone that need to be looked after not only for ourselves but future generations. We have great days out helping the Council to do clearance work on these Rights of Way.

To join our voluntary group keeping Gwynedd's heritage paths open please contact me and you will be kept fully informed of our work day details. It would be a great pleasure to hear from you

Graham Fitch, County Footpath Secretary, Email: grham.fitchs@gmail.com

Social News

We had a very interesting talk and slide show from Geraint Thomas on the Lakes of Snowdonia on Wednesday 17 April. Over 20 attended. As Geraint didn't ask for a fee, the proceeds from the Raffle went to his favourite Charity, Air Ambulance of Wales. Thanks for coming along.

Maxine has very kindly arranged with Madog Yacht Club for a long boat rowing session going out on **Friday 5 July**. Please could you let me know by email if you are interested in doing this. There are 10 places initially but if more interest is shown, Maxine may be able to organise another session. Please be minded that it is quite a strenuous session, you will be on the water for up to 2 hours, and the set off time (due to tides) will be 9am.

Another reminder that the Ten Pin Bowling has been postponed (on Friday 3 May) as Glasfryn have a large group coming in. I will reorganise and let you know.

We have the BEACH PICNIC arranged for the evening of **Thursday 13 June (6pm)** on Trefor Beach.

All for the time being ... but see you soon

Di Jamal diane.jamal@btinternet.com

Upcoming walks:

Saturday 11th May – Carmel Head: joint walk with Ynys Mon. Join Gill at 10.30am at Cemlyn Nature Reserve CP SH335932 for a 9.5 C walk. (No dogs please)

Saturday 18th May – Drum Quarry: join Dadydd at 10.30am at the free CP on B4391 above Llan Ffestiniog SH735417 for a 5 mile B walk. (No dogs please)

Saturday 25th May – Carnedd Gwennllian via Drum: join Roy M at 10am in old A55 CP SH656728 for a 15 mile A challenge. (No dogs please)

Saturday 1st June – Crimea to Dolwyddelan: join Ken and Evelyn at 10.10am at Spar bus stop Dolwyddelan SH735524 for 10.18 bus for an 8.5 mile C walk. (No dogs please)

Saturday 8th June – Aberdaron to Porth Or: join Roy M at 10am at the NT Porth y Swynt CP SH172264 for an 8.5 mile B walk. (No dogs please)

Summer Evening Walk, Wednesday, 3rd July

As this is so early in the next Walks Programme, I would like to draw your attention to it now. After looking at other options for Summer evenings I'm returning to the Craig y Garn circular, meeting in the Garndolbenmaen village carpark at 5.30 p.m. It is a varied walk culminating in a great viewpoint. Although the Cross Foxes is no longer available for refreshment afterwards, the Madiha on the main road is not far. In spite of its unprepossessing appearance I've always found it to offer inexpensive but tasty food. Put it in your diary now.

Margaret (01260 660370).

MENTER FACHWEN WALK AND DISCOVER PROJECT

MAY NEWSLETTER

Dear Friends,

The monthly newsletter is a little earlier this month. This is because I am off to foreign lands until the 7th of May. For those of you who follow me on FACEBOOK, I'm sure to post a bulletin or two on my travels in the USA. In the meantime, here are the walks, events and news for May:

WALKS

FRIDAY 10 MAY 2.00pm
STORIES OF TAN Y COED AND BRYN BRAS, LLANRUG (3 MILES)
START: GLANMOELYN PLAYING FIELDS, LLANRUG SH 53228 63350
EASY. ONE UNEVEN PUBLIC FOOTPATH. WALKING SHOES.

WEDNESDAY 22 MAY 2.00pm
LLANRUG TO CAE METTA AND VIEWS OF DINAS DINORWIG (3½ MILES)
START: BRO RHYTHALLT ESTATE, LLANRUG*
SH 54271 63409
MODERATE. WALKING SHOES.

*Bro Rhythallt Estate is on the hill down from the Glyntwrog Inn (on the main road through Llanrug) towards Penbont pub in Pontrhythallt.

FRIDAY 31 MAY 3.00pm
DINORWIG '50: A WALK THROUGH DINORWIC QUARRY: WALK 2 of 6
THE QUARRY AT ITS HEIGHT (1½ MILES)
START: ALLT DDU, DINORWIG SH 59051 61079
RELATIVELY EASY BUT UNEVEN PATH. WALKING SHOES.

MENTER IAITH BANGOR WALK

SUNDAY 12 MAY 10.00am
THE LOST BANGOR
START: POPTY, LON POPTY, BANGOR SH 58083 71872
RELATIVELY EASY
SUITABLE FOR ADVANCED WELSH LEARNERS

NORDIC WALKING WITH CAROLINE MONCRIEFF

Caroline runs the sessions on Thursday mornings at 10am. No experience necessary and we supply the walking poles. £5 a head. Come and enjoy the company and a laugh.

THURSDAY 2 MAY 10.00am
TALYSARN
MEET AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE CAR PARK
A walk around the quarry and sack at Pant Ddu.

THURSDAY 9 MAY 10.00am
BEDDGELERT FOREST
MEET: BEDDGELERT FOREST CAR PARK

For more information, contact Caroline by e-mail on: carolinemoncrieff@yahoo.com

NEWS

Another bonkers month lies ahead after I return from the States. I will be running courses for the WI at Plas Tan y Bwlch for a while and then we welcome the visitors from 'Wild Wales Walkabouts' from Minnesota on treks 'In Search of King Arthur'. The summer term is also the time when we do a lot of school visits as well. Also, look out for the following;

A SPECIAL WALK IN JUNE On the 30th of June, we will be commemorating the 150th anniversary of the terrible Nitro-Glycerine explosion in Cwm y Glo. I will be arranging a walk that re-traces that fateful journey down to the exact minute it happened at exactly the same spot. More details at the end of the month.

WELSH PLACE NAMES PROJECT

By the end of May we will have displayed the large scale maps of Dinorwig Quarry and the parish of Llanddeiniolen at our shop and walk and discover centre in Caxton House, 52 High Street, Llanberis. The purpose of course is for the public to come in and contribute to naming the areas, fields etc on the old maps.

LIBRARY

The volunteers who have been so busy preparing and cataloguing our library of old history and natural history books in Caxton House are fast coming to the end of their task. I cannot thank both enough. The intention is to open the library in the summer, and to coincide with this we will be having one of our 'old photos and films' open days at Caxton House in Llanberis. More details closer to the time.

OTHER EXHIBITIONS

'A JEWISH HISTORY OF BANGOR' EXHIBITION

Due to the popularity of the exhibition, the gallery in the Deiniol Shopping Centre in Bangor have asked us to extend it. We do not yet have dates as to how long but the exhibition will remain in place until at least the middle of May. Again, I will let you know of the exact dates once I get them.

EXHIBITION: LOST PUBS

As you know, we pride ourselves in Menter Fachwen in supporting people from all backgrounds and abilities and learning difficulties to realise their potential, and THE WALK AND DISCOVER PROJECT is no different. Therefore, throughout the summer term we will be welcoming a pupil from a special school to work alongside a Menter Fachwen beneficiary on creating the above exhibition which we will put up in our Shop and Walking Centre in Llanberis over the summer months. More details soon.

We will also be welcoming pupils from local schools on work experiences during the summer term.

MAPS

As I write, we are this week beginning to consult with two new potential partners on the possibility of creating two new local history maps. I cannot tell you where yet but I will keep you informed....
Incidentally, the last map, in Bangor, was our 53rd in total....

Well, that's it for the time being. I'm sure to post you reminders of the above and other developments during May.

Thank you all for your continued support.

I wonder who soon will be the 11,000th person to come on one of our walks or events since we started this project in Menter Fachwen 6 years ago?

Take care

Gareth