



Welcome to September 2019 Newsletter

A bumper issue, some items received held over to October, thank you to all contributors, Jane

Walk Leaders Training - Dafydd Jones, Chairman

A very successful and informative Training session for 18 Walk Leaders was held at the Royal Victoria Hotel Llanberis on the evening of 2 Sept, followed by a very good meal in the restaurant. The evening was organised by Roy and ably supported by a detailed and informative talk by Richard Hirst.

The main themes were preparation, confidence and enthusiasm.

[1] **Roy** outlined the importance of communication via Facebook, Twitter and the Eryri website. He was so enthusiastic about the level of activity on our Facebook page, nearly 300 active contributors against a membership total of about 200. It is certainly the way forward in planning and recording all our walks as well as a very efficient way of getting messages to our members about our walks, changes and cancellations. The posting of photographs of our walks is an essential part of our advertising and aids the successes of our walking programme recruitment. Roy reminded all to send their walks for the period January to June 2020 to him by 14 October 2019.

[2] **Richard** then outlined his take on Walk Leaders responsibilities. His theme covered the Duty of Care, weather, kit, confidence and health.

We had a very active debate about the need for careful planning, reconnoitring walks, the kit we should have [dependent on the grade of walk], fitness and health issues, weather forecasts [he advised us to check XC Weather and Magic Seaweed as well as the usual Met office forecasts] and the need to include paper maps in our kit as well as our fully charged phones and GPS kit. Richard later suggested that he arrange a training session on map reading and use of compasses, more detail to follow.

[3] **Dafydd** spent a few minutes on First Aid and Insurance. Half day First Aid courses currently being rolled out by Ramblers with St Johns Ambulance were worthy of attendance by all Walk Leaders. Before you start any walks check that you have some first aiders within the group. All walkers participating in our published walk programmes are fully insured, if you need more information check the official Ramblers web site.

[4] **Discussion.** Do we change anything? Not really but there may be a need for more flexibility in rearranging walks if the weather is unsuitable. The Committee will address this at its next meeting in October. Cancellations should be notified to Roy by email please. Health issues were briefly discussed, are we fit for the walk? Leaders may need to address this issue at the start of the walk when the risks/suitability of the walk is outlined.

[5] **Awards.** Mieko was presented with the prize for Walk Leader of 2019 and thanked for her outstanding enthusiasm and planning.

[6] **Dinner** followed when we all had a chance to chat about walks, leadership and exchange the usual banter amongst friends. Thank you all for making the evening such a success.

Update on the Snowdon Marker Stones, a tribute to Dave Woods' campaign - Margaret Lowe

I've received a positive response from Peter Rutherford, Access Officer at the SNP, regarding our concern that the lettering on the marker stones was easily missed when visibility was poor, (as reported on the back page of the May edition of the North Wales Rambler magazine). The plan is for 'something akin to off-white' which will need two or three coats and also suitable weather; poor weather having halted work in the past.

Peter also noted that the 'pillars' have been a great success and enquiries have been received from other National Parks.

Footpath News - Graham Fitch, F.P. Secretary.

What is an obstruction on a path?

Anything which interferes with your right to use it, for example a barbed wire fence across the path or a heap of manure dumped on it. Dense undergrowth is not normally treated as an obstruction but is dealt with under path maintenance. A minor inconvenience is not regarded as an obstruction.

During August Tîm Taclo Llwybrau Arfon worked on 6th on FP 12 Pentir, mostly installing posts and way marking. Also on the 20th on FP 23 Bontnewydd, nearly a one mile long path, very overgrown in places. Hopefully now the clearance will be appreciated by all users.

Plans are now in place for a return visit to Bontnewydd 23 on Tuesday 10th September. We have another work day on Tuesday 24th Sept. location yet to be advised. If you have not attended before and would like to join in on one of these days or indeed any day in the future please let me know and I will keep you informed of the location etc. It would be great to have you with us. I look forward to hearing from you. Email: graham.fitchs@gmail.com

Social News and Events - Dianne Jamal

MUSHROOM FORAY - and visit to Yr Ardd Fadarch (the Mushroom Garden)

Sunday 22 September or Thursday 10 October - 10.30 start

This is a 4 hour tour, walking from Beddgelert Tourist Info Centre down to the farm foraging along the way, and then a tour and tasting at the Farm itself. The more people we get on the tours, the less it will cost as they charge £100 per tour i.e. £10 for 10 people

Please let me know via email asap which day you would prefer

BONFIRE PARTY on Thursday 31 October at CWM, TREFOR, LL54 5NB 5pm start

An auspicious night in the future of the UK but just come and have mulled wine, soup and jacket potato and commiserate/celebrate (no arguments!) You can do a head torch walk from Trefor village up to the house on the lane or car share to the house. No fireworks as we are surrounded by animals.

WICKER BASKET MAKING TASTER course

Basket-weaver Jo Porter will give us a morning taster session during which we can either make a bird feeder (£30) or small basket (£50).

She will either come to us locally somewhere or we can go to Felin Uchaf near Aberdaron, but we will need to make a contribution to that venue.

Again, please let me know via email if you are interested.

MOUNTAIN ADVENTURE FILMS

Another film season of incredible feats coming up in our local cinemas in November. I will post the times in the next Newsletter and perhaps we can organise a get-together at The Galeri one evening. Thanks, Diane, diane.jamal@btinternet.com

Twitter - Chris Parry

As many of you already know, our group has a Twitter page to help promote our walks, attract new members and share information. Anyone can view the page - just Google @EryriRamblers
It's great that many of our group members already have a Twitter account and regularly share photos of walks, which is much appreciated, thank you. For anyone who is unsure about Twitter, all I can say is that it's really easy to use and anyone can create an account as long as they have an e-mail address - your ID can be anything (some really conspicuous ones out there!).

So why not join in, follow us and engage with @EryriRamblers? You can post information if you have a walk coming up, want to comment/ share something or post photos All you have to do is tag @EryriRamblers in your tweet and I'll get the notification when I next log-in.

You can also support/follow others such as @ClwydianRamblers @Deeside Rambler1 @RamblersCymru @RamblersGB

I'm happy to have a chat with anyone who wants to find out more, just ask me on a walk sometime. Or see - <https://help.twitter.com/en/twitter-guide>

Walks Reports

A Short Walk - Margaret Lowe

Following a miserable Friday and a poor forecast and gale-blown start to the day (Sat, 31st Aug), the sun shone for Rachel's walk from Y Canolfan, Y Fron. We accomplished the summit of Mynydd y Cilgwyn with its cairn commemorating St Twrog, the Celtic saint who has lent his name to many features of the area. We had great all round views with the passing clouds constantly changing the colours and patterns of the surrounding hills. On our way back we could overlook the capped tip of Cilgwyn and the many fascinating remains of the slate industry past and present in Dyfryn Nantlle. There is still hope of it becoming part of a World Heritage site. After we were able to enjoy lunch in the new Canolfan, a new and remarkable village enterprise boasting meeting rooms and bunkhouse accommodation.

The fact that 16 joined Rachel for this quite short and easy walk is a testament to her efforts in creating a programme that is appealing to local people. A couple of them asked me about becoming members!

I'm sure that there are other members who have a favourite walk, long or short, that they could share with us by offering it for our Walks Programme. The next one covers Jan- June 2020. Please contact me (01286 6603700) or Roy Milnes (07721 592892) with ideas or for advice.

A traffic jam on Crib Goch, Richard's walk, 17/8



18 descending from Moel Penamnen, Di's walk led by Roy, 24/8

Irreverent Tales from a Rambler - Anon

A few months have passed and many a pleasurable walk has been had. Lots of good friends have been made. New boots have been purchased and met with approval but not by all..... but that's another tale. Ramblers are from all walks of life which makes an interesting and diverse group of people. It recalls a lovely walk on Anglesey. About 6 miles over fields and a beach headland. We arrived back in the village. You know the type of place, one shop, one pub and a cluster of cottages around a square. No one in sight but the Ramblers. Quiet place. We headed straight for the pub. Thirsty work this rambling. Later, we all pile out of the pub, talking, laughing - tremendous noise. Suddenly, without any warning, one of our group starts to sing. Powerful and beautiful. Another of the group produced a flute and started playing in accompaniment. I felt transported to another dimension as the sound reverberated around the tiny square. I was filled with wonderment and amazement..... I also now know how Alice felt.

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

Sat, 07-09-19, Nantmor, Nanmor and Llyn Dinas, Scenic walk in Beddgelert area, SH591481, Beddgelert Stone Bridge opp. Prince Llewelyn Pub, 10:30, C, 8, Ken and Evelyn, No Dogs Please

Sat, 14-09-19, Glyders via Red Dot route, To Pen y Pass via the new path. The Red Dot route starts at the YHA and ascends to the summit of Glyder Fawr. Cross to Glyder Fach, and then descend eastwards to the Miner's track, and follow this down to Pen y Gwryd, SH665559, Conwy CBC layby free parking near Pen y Gwryd, 10:00, A, 8, Richard, No Dogs Please

Sat, 14-09-19, Tangrisau - Ddualt Station, A scenic walk via Afon Goedol, Park Coed Cymerau waterfalls and the Ffestiniog railway line, SH685448, Tanygrisau, 10:30, C, 6, John H, Dogs on lead please

NB Not café car park but first car park on right after turning off main road

Sat, 21-09-19, Moel Goedog and Bryn Cader Faner , From Moel Goedog along a Bronze Age track, part of the Ardudwy Way, stunning views of the Dwyryd estuary, the mountains of North Snowdonia and the Rhinog ridge. Continuing on to the Bronze Age stone circle of Bryn Cader Faner, SH603316, Car share Lidl's CP Portmadog at 10am or 10:30 am near Merthyr Farm on unclassified road near Harlech, 10:00, C, 8, Derek C, Dogs on lead please

Sun, 29-09-19, Trefor - Nant Gwrtheyrn, Coastal Cliffs from Trefor to Nant Gwrtheyrn and back, SH378472, Trefor Beach CP, 10:00, B, 10, Diane, No Dogs Please

OCTOBER 2019

Tue, 01-10-19, Mawddach trail linear walk, 09.57 Train Porthmadog to Morfa Mawddach. Along the level GWR Mawddach Trail to Dolgellau. Return 15.20 T2 Traws Cambria bus. **PLEASE CHECK WITH LEADER** beforehand in case of TIMETABLE CHANGE , SH565392, Porthmadog main Line station, 10:00, C, 8, John B, No Dogs Please

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<https://eryriramblers.org/news%2Binfo>

October Newsletter

Any contributions (including book reviews) gratefully received by birstallberry@hotmail.com
Deadline: 4th October
Thank you.