

October 2018

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Please fill this in if you haven't yet given consent for us to keep your details on record

Hello readers,

With the nights just starting to draw in, and the days starting to feel a little cooler, we've lined up our Indoor Evening Meets early to give you plenty of notice and fill your calendars – check page 3 for more information on meets until December.

Huge thanks as always to this month's contributors: John Edwards, Geordie Hind, Graeme Stanford, Richard Cooksey, Hazel Webb, Gary Coates, Nigel Tar, Owen Tandy, Paul Brindley, and Pete Poultney.

If you have anything that you'd like to be featured in next month's newsletter – whether you're selling gear, looking for a climbing or walking partner, you've seen an event that members might be interested in, anything at all – send it to newsletter@wbmc.org (or through our website if it's an article) *before the 6th of the month. Note the new date!*

If you've never written an article before, why not give it a go?

Cheers,
Joe

The WBMC meeting place



Cricketers Arms
43 Trinity Way, West
Bromwich, B70 6EA

Join us every Thursday night from 9pm for a chat and a drink.

BMC
AFFILIATED CLUB

The BMC recognises that climbing and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury or death. Participants in these activities should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions.

www.wbmc.org

Noticeboard

Work at the Hut

Over the past few weeks, several members have done their bit to improve the Hut. So to Phil Matthews, for fixing a leak; Mike Thompson, for fixing the phone; Hilary Jones, for donating a new strimmer; Bob Duncan and Malcolm Vaughn, for restocking the wood store; Phil Williams, Nigel Tarr, Angie Murdoc, and Ann Parrot, for leaving the Hut in an immaculate state; the committee would like to say a big thank you!



Scottish Weekend 2019

The committee would like to thank Guy Harris for organising the previous Scottish Weekends. Currently nothing is planned for that weekend in 2019 – would anyone be interested in running a replacement weekend? It doesn't have to be in Scotland. Get in touch with the committee if you'd like to organise something.

Club Book Wanted

If anyone has a club book (50 Years of Mountaineering) they are prepared to sell could you please contact long-serving member Owen Tandy on 0121 553 3404.

Tent for sale

Vango Icarus 500 tent, awning and footprint, 4000 HH. 4 to 5 berth. Mint condition, used 4 times. £250 or nearest offer. Contact 07813392066.

Hut donations

Note the new prices:

Members - £6.00
 Guests - £10.00
 5-17 - £4.00
 Under 5s - Free

Stamped addressed envelopes are provided in the hut for payment.

Skills Weekend a success!

The Skills Weekend, run by Geordie Hind on 14th – 16th September can safely be described as a roaring success. Of the weekend, attendees said:

Had a lovely, friendly and educational Mountain Skills weekend at the hut in Snowdonia. We learned the basics and a bit in map reading and mountain Health & Safety, etc. the course was led by Geordie who apart from having years of mountain experience is a very friendly character and adventurer who has lived life to the full. This is an added bonus, because when the weather is wet and miserable, listening to his adventures takes your mind off the weather. Thank You so much.

Nice one! Could I take this opportunity to praise everyone that I have met through the club. The skills weekend was absolutely fantastic, especially Geordie and his wealth of knowledge and experience. Even though I have been walking the hills for a number of years, I still learnt a great deal.

Thanks Geordie for running the event. Look out for the next Skills Weekend, which is completely free for members!

Computer Help for members

If you'd like any help with how to use your computer, tablet, or smartphone, come along after a committee meeting (the first Thursday after a coach meet) and I'll be happy to help you.

Headtorches

Dave 'Geordie' Hind has contacted Unilite – a head torch company in Redditch – and they are willing to let us purchase these head torches at a vastly reduced rate.

Take a look at the Unilite website (www.unilite.co.uk) and contact Geordie for more details on 07505364318 or email geordiehind@gmail.com.

WBMC Social Evening

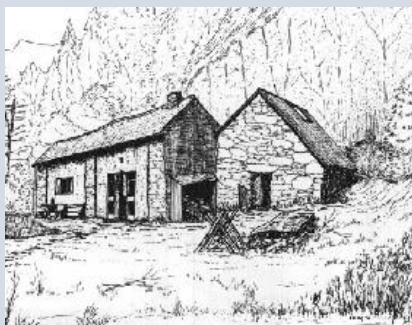
Friday 30th November – Akash Balti, 385 High Street, West Bromwich, B70 9QW. Choose from the menu & pay your own tab. Call Nigel Tarr on 07703 345829.

To book

Phone or email Alison Whitehead:
 07903 584450
hut-secretary@wbmc.org

Please contact Alison *before* going to the hut.

WBMC members can purchase a hut key from Alison at a donation of £4



Coming up

Indoor Evening Meets – The Cricketers Arms, 8pm

4th October – Pub Quiz, by Nigel Tarr

Nigel is running a quiz night on mountains (no pop culture, sport, music or other stuff). What do you really know about the mountains we all love?

8th November – Via Ferrata in the Briancon Area, by Rob Cox

Having visited the Briancon area for the past 12 years, mainly to kayak the rivers, Rob has also climbed most of the Via Ferratas in the area.

11th – 16th March 2019

Cairngorm trip – Rothiemurchus Lodge



For the last three years a large group of club members have visited a bunkhouse just south of Aviemore for a spot of winter climbing / walking in the Cairngorms. The bunkhouse, at Feshiebridge, is run by the RAF and can be booked by serving personnel and veterans. Due to a lottery grant this facility is being refurbished and will not be available this coming winter. With that in mind we have managed to secure a 20-bed bunkhouse, run by the Army, which is in the forest opposite Glenmore Lodge. The facility is called Rothiemurchus Lodge and is in a remote spot giving access to all the Cairngorms have to offer. For more info visit: <https://rothiemurchus.co.uk>

If you are interested in joining us. It's not exclusively a climbing trip and the group is fairly well mixed between climbers and walkers. I don't need to sell the area and the facilities and company are second to none so come and join us.

We're in the accommodation for 5 nights, 11th to 16th March, which means driving up on Monday 11th and

6th December – The Ascent of Ama Dablam, by guest speaker Dave Holland

Dave Holland, Chair of the Bromsgrove and Redditch Mountaineering Club, will be visiting to give a slideshow and talk on his ascent of Ama Dablam, in the Himalayas.

12th – 14th October

Hut Biking Weekend

Contact Phil Matthews on oilphiluk@yahoo.co.uk for more details and to book



Photos from rothiemurchus.co.uk

driving back on Saturday 16th. This gives 4 full days on the hills. A bargain at £75. A £15 deposit will be required to secure your place and the balance will need to be paid nearer the time. I'll keep you informed of when this needs to be in. There will be plenty of folk going so if you haven't got transport there should be a few options.

As with our own hut the sleeping and cooking facilities are all provided you just need to bring your own food, drink and bedding. The rooms are shared 'bunkbed' accommodation but there are a few rooms so we can hopefully sort things out for privacy etc. There are separate ladies and gents showers and loos. Wi-Fi is available for a small charge and there is a bar onsite although this is only open by request.

All members welcome but, as there's only 20 beds, it's first come first served.

For more info and to book your place, contact Graeme Stanford on 07846281878 or grim830@virginmedia.com

Back to Basics

WBMC Skills Weekend 14th – 16th September

By Hazel Webb
With pictures from Geordie Hind

Starring: Geordie Hind, John O'Neill, Dave Coates, Jo Cheung, Hazel Webb, Dave Kirk. Feeling excited about our weekend. Arrival time at the hut 9pm, some arrived earlier.

Shortly after a quick cuppa, Geordie Hind our skills instructor started our session with a projector display of a brief but detailed introduction for the recommended kit list requirements for mountain and hill walking to begin with. Then an introduction of required maps and compasses. Shortly after, a detailed display of rucksack contents we need to take with us in the mountains.

After breakfast, we began another brief but detailed overview of Ordnance Survey map types 1:25 & 1:50 grid references displaying the differences and how to navigate using this equipment from getting from A to B by using and understanding the importance of Grid References correctly for the purpose of them. (Weather conditions were looking pretty good for us all).

The group gave an enormous contribution and input towards our start of skills. We bombarded Geordie with all sorts of questions as we progressed.

Preparation for our first navigation lesson. Geordie gave us all grid references on our maps we had to navigate with outside the hut. From the hut we proceeded towards the Watkin Path of Mount Snowdon. We used and practiced our map and compass skills with grid references, walking on bearings.

Geordie made us all look out and identify stream junctions, stone ruins, numerous obvious signs from the ground and relating them to our maps to check that we knew where we were exactly. On our Bearing walks, Geordie would proceed to entertain us all by telling us some wonderful stories from his career and his Mountain experiences and adventures. Our bellies ached from laughing. Thank you Geordie.



On our return to the hut we had the company of Chris Dean and Rob Hill who had entered yet another amazing triathlon. Well done guys. So kindly made us some tea with flapjacks and Dave Kirk presented us with some lovely homemade Lemon Drizzle cake. Utter delight. Thanks guys. Our evening meal was a blast,

Lasagne and Garlic Bread followed by fruit pie and custard. Oh and a few drinks. Thanks Geordie. Delicious.



Sunday.. The weather was awful, not feeling ecstatic about our mood but we got set to go. Again using grid references that Geordie had set for us, we started from the hut and proceeded our skills training in rather wet conditions. We had nine points of grids to find to get us to the edge of a lake by Mount Cnicht.

During the stages Geordie asked us questions and devised methods to show us compass bearings, pacing work, measuring in metres the distances to the next grid references, keeping aware at all times of our surroundings and to a knowledge where we were exactly.

Finally we headed back and covered a brief detailed section on survival bags and their uses, survival shelters these are essential for when we get injuries or waiting for help, and some first aid demonstrations with this kit. We covered as a team-building exercise how we can all give input in an emergency situation.

On a closing note, we'd like to mention that the skills weekend demonstrated from our trainer Geordie Hind was detailed, consistent and delivered well and of course so much fun. In addition to this Geordie ran the weekend single-handed due to Graeme Stanford having an operation so could not support as planned. Geordie still delivered the course to a very high standard and level of enjoyment. He went above and beyond even though he wasn't feeling 100% due to an injury.

We all felt we really benefited from this important course of our mountaineering club, the fantastic benefits it gives us to stay safe in the mountains and hills. Geordie who has years of experience offered freely his time to give training at the hut. We had free accommodation, an evening meal thrown in for good measure, all the purpose to give us more confidence to embrace these wonderful skills. We all hope that more members would take the advantage of the club's support to help us learn to use map and compass skills. It's great that members are prepared to give up their time in the club with full respect or anything club related is not often acknowledged and recognised.

A GREAT BIG THANKYOU!! WBMC

Regards to Geordie Hind from all of us.

Coach Meet – Thirlmere

Sunday 7th October 2018

Depart

07:00 – West Brom. Edward St Car Park (B70 8NN)

07:20 –Penkridge Stone Cross (ST19 5AS)

(Short stop at Charnock Richard Services)

Drop off

Threlkeld (325254)

Thirlmere Reservoir (316169)

Travellers Rest (336089)

Grasmere (339073)

Pick up

Grasmere (339073)

Ambleside (376047)

Required maps

Os 1: 25000 Outdoor Leisure Maps 5 & 7

The English Lakes NE And SE Areas

Suggested routes

Route 1 (~22km / 13 miles)

From Threlkeld (325254) work your way S to Clough Head (334225) A grassy path S takes you over the rocky Calthow Pike (331211) then change direction slightly SE then E to Great Dodd (342345)

From here a lovely but demanding ridge takes you over the summits of Watsons Dodd Stybarrow Dodd Raise (343175) Whiteside Bank Lower Man and finally Helvellyn (342152) The high-level ridge continues S and ends at Grisedale Tarn (352122)

An easy path now takes you down to the road(335092) and on to Grasmere and the coach.

ROUTE 2 (~11.5 km / 8 miles)

Leave the A591 adjacent to Thirlmere Reservoir (315170) and follow the ridge passing Helvellyn Gill (325165) to the summit of Helvellyn (342152) Pleasant walking S leads over Dollywaggon Pike (346131) then descend steeply to Grisdale Tarn (352122) An easy path now takes you down to the road and on to the coach



Photo from wikipedia.org

Fares

Members £20.00

Guests £22.00

Under 16's and full-time students – £8.00

To book contact Nigel Tarr on 07703 345729.

Should you need to cancel do so no later than the Wednesday prior to the coach date or a £5.00 fee will be charged. Fail to turn up and the full coach fare will be expected.

ROUTE 3 (~17km / 11 miles)

Follow route 2 to Grisedale Tarn (352122) then ascend Fairfield (359117) and continue over Hart Crag to Dove Crag (375105) Follow the S ridge back to Ambleside and the coach pick up.

ROUTE4 (~10.5km / 6.5 miles)

From the Travellers Rest follow the bridle path up Little Tongue Gill (342105) then climb steeply W (338106) to the ridge and onto the summit of Seat Sandal (344115) Descend east to Grisedale Hause then continue on to the summit of Fairfield (359117) Follow the ridge S to Great Rigg (356104) then descend SW to Stone Arthur (347092) Follow a good path down to the road (338085) were a short road takes you back to the coach

Coach Meet – Cader Idris

Sunday 10th November 2018

Depart

07:00 – West Brom. Edward St Car Park (B70 8NN)

07:20 – Penkridge Stone Cross (ST19 5AS)

(Short stop at Charnock Richard Services)

Drop off

Threlkeld (325254)

Pick up

Grasmere (339073)

Required maps

Os 1: 25000 Outdoor Leisure Maps 5 & 7

The English Lakes NE And SE Areas

Suggested routes

FROM DINAS MAWDDY

A chance for the rock climbers to get an early drop off and late pick up which should give a chance to tackle routes on Craig Cywarch about 5km north of the village. For details of routes see *Rock Climbing in Snowdonia* by Paul Williams

Route 1 (~19km / 12miles)

Try a large chunk of the Mid Wales Marathon Walk up to Bwlch Sigien from Dinas Mawddy and then head W and N to Maesglase (whose top has been moved from (823152) to (817150) !!!! Then turn SW to the narrow ridge of Craig Forlas (802141) and then head N to the flat tops of Cribin Fach & Cribin Fawr (795153) SW again to the col at (790130) and then to Waun-oer (786148) Then drop down to NW to Cross Foxes and await the coach at hotel or use minor road to reach Dolgellau

FROM MINFORD

Route 2 THE CADAIR VIA CWM CAU CLASSIC (~14 km/8.5 miles)

Follow the path through the gate into woodland On emerging it curves left to Lyn Cau but just before the lake(721124) take the left fork up a stony track to the rim of the cwm Turn W and onto the summit of Craig Cwm Amarch (711121) curving N with one sizeable descent before rising to Pen Y Gadair (711130) - the highest point of Idriss Chair Then head W then NW to Cyfwy (704134) & descend Pony Path to the col at (691135) then head NE to Dolgellau



Photo from wikipedia.org

Fares

Members £20.00

Guests £22.00

Under 16's and full-time students – £8.00

To book contact Nigel Tarr on 07703 345729.

Should you need to cancel do so no later than the Wednesday prior to the coach date or a £5.00 fee will be charged. Fail to turn up and the full coach fare will be expected.

Route 2a (~18.5 km/11.5 miles)

As route 2 but from Pen Y Gadair (711130) continue W along the grassy ridge over Tyrrau Mawr (677136) and Craig Y Llyn (660115) from where you drop down using rights of way and roads to Barmouth

Route 3 (~15 km / 9 miles)

Start at a layby on A87 (753135) and head for the white post at (755151) and then turn W to climb up onto Gau Craig (744141) the easternmost peak on the Cadair plateau Then head SW & W to Mynydd Moel (728137) and reach Pen Y Gadair (711130) from the East Nearest pickup is then Dolgellau via Pony Path or Foxes Path if you like denuded scree runs

4 MAWDDACH TRAIL

Leave at junction of A493 (713183) along the old railway to road toll bridge and pub (694184) continue along estuary to Arthog (640148) continue on to Morfa Mawddach Station (628141) cross the footbridge into Barmouth through the town to coach park near the Fun Fair (610158)

WBMC Annual Away Dinner

Friday 15th - Sunday 17th March 2019: 2 nights at the Briery Wood Country House, Windermere

Following very positive feedback from this year's event we are returning to Briery Wood with a similar package to this year. To get the prices we have agreed deposits must be paid in November 2018 and so please book ASAP.

Moments from the eastern shores of Lake Windermere and set in seven acres of beautiful secluded gardens and woodland lies Briery Wood Country House Hotel. Briery Wood was built at the end of the 19th century and housed the Earl of Lonsdale's Estates main gardener who developed the stunning grounds that we still enjoy today.

Briery Wood is within easy reach of the popular villages of Ambleside, Bowness and Windermere, so it's a great base for exploring the Lake District. Walking options directly from the hotel include Wansfell, Baystones and Troutbeck. Being close to the A591 also opens up many other walking options and the nearby Brockhole, The Lake District Visitor Centre also offers a wide variety of options for all ages including taking a boat on Windermere giving other options including different walks. As in previous years the weekend therefore offers the opportunity to climb different peaks that you would not be able to do on coach meets.

Here's a link to their website if you want to know more: <http://www.lakedistrictcountryhotels.co.uk/briery-wood-hotel> and it has 4.5 out of 5 on Trip Advisor: http://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/Hotel_Review-g186330-d574824-Reviews-Briery_Wood_Hotel-Windermere_Lake_District_Cumbria_England.html

We have a similar deal to previous years – Bed and Breakfast on the Friday night; Dinner, Bed and Breakfast on the Saturday night:

- The hotel has 23 twin or double rooms including some which can also accommodate singles and families.
- The price is £144.50 plus disco contribution (see below) per adult for the weekend in a twin or double room.
- The hotel will give up to 4 single rooms for £155 for the weekend plus disco contribution. If people could share where possible that would allow the maximum amount of people to go.
- Child, family room, dinner only price and extra night cost on application (Call Richard Cooksey on 07950 087911)

As before the disco cost would just be divided between everyone who attends the meal.

Further information and booking form overleaf.



WBMC Annual Away Dinner

A non-refundable deposit* is required (£25 per person). This can be either be paid by cheque payable to Briery Wood Hotel and sent with the booking now or Credit Card by phoning the hotel (tick box on booking form) when advised by the WBMC, the balance is payable by you before leaving the hotel. *Please don't pay by credit card yet - WBMC will advise you when credit card deposits are to be paid.*

Send the following booking form (including cheques if you want to pay the deposit by cheque) by 10th November to:

Richard Cooksey
24 Lydford Road
Bloxwich
Walsall
West Midlands
WS3 3NT

Menu choices, contact details & data protection consent for all guests must be on the booking form

Starters

CUMBRIAN HAM AND PEA SOUP- White truffle oil and golden croutons

CHICKEN LIVER PARFAIT- Cumberland sauce, melba toast

DUO OF MELON, SEASONAL FRUITS- Longtons of Skiddaw gin and tonic foam

Main Courses (inc Extra veg)

GRILLED FILLET OF LAKELAND CHAR (FISH)- Beetroot and horseradish potato cake, tarragon and saffron sauce

LUNE VALLEY SHOULDER OF LAMB SLOW BRAISED FOR EIGHT HOURS

Boulangere potato, roast leek, lamb reduction sauce

ALLERDALE GOATS CHEESE AND RED ONION TARTLET- New season potatoes, salad

Desserts

WARM CHOCOLATE SPONGE- White chocolate sauce, Kendal mint cake ice cream

DAMSON GIN JELLY, DAMSON GIN SORBET- Raspberry meringue, shortbread

BLACKBERRY CHEESECAKE- English Lakes apple crumble

WBMC Annual Away Dinner Booking Form

15th – 17th

March 2019

Party leader's name: _____

<u>Guest name</u>	<u>Room Type</u> (twin/ double or single)	<u>Guest Contact Details</u> (Email or Phone)	<u>Cheque or Credit Card Deposit</u> (Select CH or CC)	<u>Menu Choice</u>			<u>Data Protection Consent**</u> (Every person must clearly select 'Yes' to enable booking)
				<u>Starter</u>	<u>Main</u>	<u>Dessert</u>	
			CH/ CC				Yes / No
			CH/ CC				Yes / No
			CH/ CC				Yes / No
			CH/ CC				Yes / No
			CH/ CC				Yes / No
			CH/ CC				Yes / No
Total							
Deposit (£25 per person)*							

*WBMC takes no financial responsibility or liability for this event

**I consent WBMC to share my name, whether Adult or Child, menu choices, any other requirements and any deposit cheque with Briery Wood Hotel to arrange this event.

If consent is not given the WBMC would not be able to book for you. Any personal information specific to this event will be held securely and will not continue to be held when no longer needed to arrange or analyse the WBMC Away Dinner.

Member Details Form

The West Bromwich Mountaineering Club is committed to safeguarding the personal details of its members. We will store these details securely and will not pass them onto third parties.

By signing this form you provide your consent for West Bromwich Mountaineering Club and the members of its committee to store your details for the purpose of communication. You can withdraw your consent at any time by contacting our Membership Secretary: membership-secretary@wbmc.org.

The BMC recognises that climbing, hill walking and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury or death. Participants in these activities should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions.

Your Details

Last Name	<input type="text"/>
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Membership no.	<input type="text"/>
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First Name(s)	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>

Address	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>

Date of birth	<input type="text"/>
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Contact Information

Email Address	<input type="text"/>
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Mobile No.	<input type="text"/>
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Landline No.	<input type="text"/>
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Newsletter preference	<input type="checkbox"/> Email	<input type="checkbox"/> Post
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Emergency Contact

Name	<input type="text"/>
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Address	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>

Relationship to you	<input type="text"/>
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Contact No.	<input type="text"/>
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Signature & Date

Signature	<input type="text"/>
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Date	<input type="text"/>
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I want to Gift Aid any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to West Bromwich Mountaineering Club. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.