

WEST BROMWICH MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

Cotswold Discount Code AF-WBMC-K3

January 2015



Happy New Year



WBMC Logo Merchandise



Thanks to our steamed Vice-Chairman, John Edwards, members now have the chance to purchase a variety of club logo merchandise. Unfortunately our parboiled newsletter editor managed to miss off the link in the last newsletter! So here is John's article again in black and white:

At last a local company, Acorn Printing, has come up with an easy method whereby members of clubs can buy personalised clothing & other items as and when they want them, rather than having to wait until someone from a club gets around to compiling a bulk order!

Accordingly your committee agreed to pay a small fee to have a 'jacquard' set up, so that now any WBMC member can go on line and purchase articles with the WBMC logo for themselves or a friend, selecting the size & colour required and paying

just a standard amount plus postage. The site allows groups to take a small commission on each purchase, but your committee was unanimous in rejecting this method of fund-raising for the club so you are getting the lowest price we can achieve (unless you know differently).

The company personalises a range of good quality items including fleeces (made by Regatta), sweatshirts, polo shirts, T shirts, scarves, mugs, sports holdalls or barrel bags, beanies, hoodies and rugby shirts and the following colours should be available on the WBMC page: red, green, Royal blue, cyan/turquoise, yellow, pink, purple, orange, grey, black & white. The items available can be seen (and ordered) by visiting our special mini-website/webshop at

<http://www.tshirtuk.com/index.php?route=product/category&path=94>

At the moment this is still not 100% complete but it is 'up-and-running' and you can order items from it.

If there is another product that is shown on the company's main website www.acorn-printing.co.uk but not on ours, it may well be possible to get that "logo'd" if you contact them at sales@acorn-printing.co.uk They are also able to add initials or name to right breast for (£2 extra) and other writing (such as a team name or town) to the left sleeve (another £2) if you really want these features and are prepared to pay extra for them.

So if you need some new non-technical gear, please go online and have a look. Every purchase will not only help you look great but will also help to publicize the WBMC.

WHAT'S ON IN JANUARY

Mitch's Meet

Sunday
4th



Peckforton Hills

Yes - I've no idea where this is either!
However there's definitely a pub at the end so blow away those New Year cobwebs on a walk with friends.

Indoor Meet

Thursday
8th, 20.00
The Wheatsheaf
West Bromwich



Ken Priest and Mel Evans

expound on climbing exploits with the aid of the magic lantern

Coach Meet

Saturday
10th



Ogwen

This premier perennial popular place in Wales.

Glencoe Scottish
Weekend
16th - 17th
January
2015

The Glencoe weekend in Jan is now full, if anyone is still interested there will be a reserve list in case anyone drops out.

The club booking is for Fri/sat night 16/17th but if anyone is interested in staying an extra night on the Sunday can they please contact the bunkhouse and book on individually, ask for Keith, tel 01855 811906.

Please contact Guy Harris for further information and booking 07967 820002 or guy.harris1@virgin.net.

Further information can also be obtained from the following link
www.glencoehostel.co.uk

Black Mountains
Weekend
Friday 23rd-Sunday 25th January
2015
Bunkhouse, Tower
Hotel, Talgarth

We are returning to the Bunkhouse in the Town Hotel, Talgarth (www.towerhoteltalgarth.co.uk). Talgarth is a very friendly town offering opportunities for high and low level walks in the Black Mountains and Brecon Beacons and the hotel also caters for Mountain Bikes (www.bikesbunks-beer.co.uk). The cost is £23 bed in the bunkhouse or £30 per person in a twin or double room, all bed and breakfast per night. The bunkhouse and other rooms are upstairs in the hotel and so ideal for a winter meet with heating and drinks making facilities. The hotel also serves evening meals and real ale and even has its own Rotter's Brewery (www.rottersbrewery.co.uk). The town also has a working water mill with its own bakery and café (www.talgarthmill.com) and there are lots of other things to do (www.visittalgarth.co.uk/item/talgarth_.html) and other pubs and eating options include real ale pubs and an excellent fish and chip takeaway and restaurant.

The hotel require a deposit of £10 non-refundable deposit before Christmas which can be made payable to the West Bromwich Mountaineering Club, the balance is payable by you before leaving the hotel. I am happy to talk to anyone about this meet on 07950 087911 including discussing other rooms which would suit couples, children and families.

Send the following booking form to me with a deposit cheque to: - Richard Cooksey, 24 Lydford Road, Bloxwich, Walsall, West Midlands, WS3 3NT.

Party leader's name:

Telephone number:.....

E-mail address:.....

Guest names	Room Type	£
	Total	

Deposit (£10 per person)* *WBMC takes no financial responsibility for this event

Thank you to those that have contributed to this newsletter. Keep up the good work! Closing date for copy for the February newsletter will be Wednesday 14th January 2015.

All contributions gratefully received!

Send to the editor Mark Wood

63 Douglas Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, B21 9HG

Tel: 07828 099127 e-mail: mark.c.f.wood@blueyonder.co.uk

WHAT'S ON IN JANUARY

MICK FOWLER

First Ascent of
North East Face of Hagshu

MICK FOWLER ON THIN ICE



Alpine climbs in
the Americas, Asia
and the Himalaya

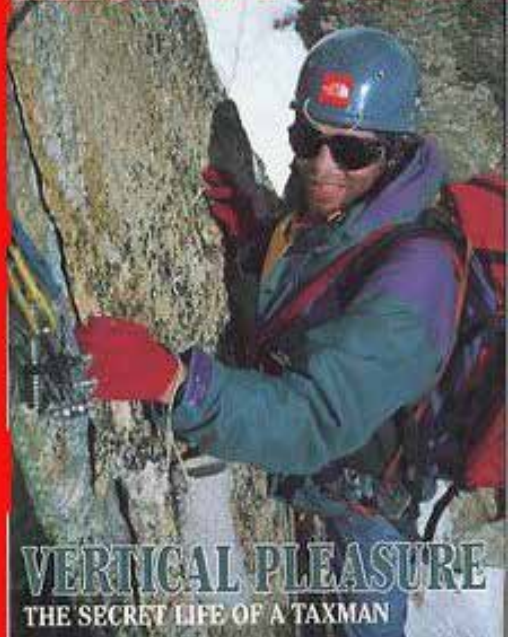
Foreword by CHRIS BONINGTON

BMC Midlands
Area Meeting

8pm
Wed 28 Jan
free food

Old
Edwardians
Sports Club,
Streetsbrook
Rd, Solihull.
B90 3PE

MICK FOWLER



VERTICAL PLEASURE
THE SECRET LIFE OF A TAXMAN

COMING UP

European Winter Week

Sunday 8th March 2015 – Sunday 15th March 2015

Zakopane is the ski capital of Poland and also an excellent base to climb in the Tatras mountains. Standing at 2503m, Rysy is the highest mountain in Poland and ideally climbed from Zakopane. With cheap ski passes, equipment hire and instruction, this is an ideal area to learn to ski. However with a chair lift taking you up to nearly 2000m, there are still plenty of slopes to keep the more experienced skiers happy for a few days. There is also 50km of cross country pistes to enjoy and ski-mountaineering is also an option.

Accommodation, food and beer are also very reasonable so this may be a good chance to have a cheap week away.

For more details speak to Andy Brown on 07870 145026 or catch me up the Wheatsheaf.

Lundy Trip

Sat 16th- Tue 19th May 2015

About 4 years ago some members of the club had another trip to Lundy Island just off the Devon coast. A further trip is being organised. The Barn is already full but places are available for camping.

Last time some people travelled down on the Friday night and stayed in a Bunkhouse on road out from Ilfracombe to Woolacombe, while others drove down on the Saturday morning, catching the ferry from the harbour at Ilfracombe to Lundy (approx 1 1/2 hrs trip). If too rough a helicopter is provided at an extra cost of about £20 (which we have had to use before).

The main theme on Lundy is climbing, but you don't have to be a climber to enjoy the island. Lundy is a protected nature reserve with a host of different birds to view, so come on you twitchers (Ade), Or just come for a break and walk/run around the island which is about half mile wide and 3 miles long. Another incentive on the island is a pub, which if I remember right do breakfasts and evening meals, so no need to cook if you don't want to.

Any interest then please get in touch with myself although you can now book camping yourselves via website or www.landmarktrust.org.uk

I will book Friday night bunkhouse in a block so would anyone who books camping please let me know as well then I can book it for those who want to travel down on the Friday night and add extras as and when.

The ferry trip was an experience especially following a full English down in the harbour area
PS The Ferry has a bar!

This is a not to be missed trip which was enjoyed by all previous visitors.
further info can be obtained via internet or Pete Poultney
peterpoultney@hotmail.co.uk or phone 07779366905

Kalymnos

September 2015

A further trip is being considered for Sept 2015 following our first trip last year to "Kalymnos" Greece. This is in the early stages so could interested parties please say what weeks you could be available as a majority vote may well decide what week we go out. Again the main interest on the island is climbing, but none climbers went last year and enjoyed the trip. We usually climbed to mid afternoon and then met the rest on the beach to chill. We also hired bikes the one day and had ride to the end of the island, there's plenty to do.

further info can be obtained from Pete Poultney
peterpoultney@hotmail.co.uk or phone 07779366905

Nev's Scottish Winter Week 2015

Jonathan is once again taking names for the Scottish week this year for the Ben Nevis Hotel in Fort William from Saturday 14th-21st February 2015. The deal includes the usual bed, breakfast and evening meal but also includes free membership of its Leisure Club. This entitles members to use the 50ft heated swimming pool, gym, sauna, steam room and spa.

The Hotel is situated 10-15 mins walk from the main town of Fort William, useful for shopping and of course the pubs! The price is extremely competitive and includes Dinner, Bed and Breakfast:

Adults: £32 per night Children: Under 15: £16 per night, Under 5s: Free (when sharing with 2 paying adults)

Single Room Supplement: extra £10 per night on the adult rate.

Please remember if you are single but would like to share a room it is up to you to find a partner. If you struggle to find someone, let Jonathan know and he will try his best to match people up. However, if this proves impossible - YOU are responsible to pay the single supplement.

Booking:

As with last year Jonathan will need 1 nights fee as a deposit for each person as soon as possible to secure your room. He will then need the final balance to be paid by the end of December 2014. Cheques are to be made payable to WBMC. Again, as with last year, if you cancel you will be charged a cancellation fee if he can't find someone else to fill your place. There is already a lot of interest in this week and rooms are limited so book early!

Please complete the attached booking form and return with your cheque deposit to secure your place.

BOOKING FORM FOR WBMC SCOTTISH WEEK 2015:

BEN NEVIS HOTEL FORT WILLIAM 14-21 FEBRUARY 2015

Lead Name		Tel	Email
All Names	No. of Nights	£ per night	Total £ pp
Grand Totals			
Date of Arrival			
Date of Departure			
Room Type: (tick)	Special Requirements: eg vegetarian or want to share etc		
Twin			
Single Supp			
Double			
Family			
Total Deposit Enclosed			

*Cheques made payable to West Bromwich
Mountaineering Club
Balance left to pay:

*Balance to be paid no later than 31 December 2014

Please forward your cheque and this booking form to Jonathan Howells.

37 Stafford Rd, Newtown, Great Wyrley, Walsall WS6 6AX

Please note unless a SAE is enclosed with your booking you will not receive written confirmation. If you wish we can email confirmation if you provide an email contact. Any queries just call Jon on Tel: 01922 278973 or email merapeak@talktalk.net

Non-Members

If you're currently not yet a member of WBMC, are reading this and live or work in West Bromwich you may be entitled to a free coach place - details of which are on the back 2 pages.

Call Paul Brindley (07813 102014) to find out more.

**WBMC Annual Away Dinner - Friday 20th-Sunday 22nd March 2015
Briery Wood Country House Hotel and Restaurant, Windermere**

As the larger hotels we have previously used have moved upmarket it has been a challenge to find a new location that has the availability at a price that will keep the event popular. We have been fortunate to find the Briery Wood Country House Hotel and Restaurant, Windermere. **To get the prices we have agreed deposits must be paid in November 2014 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 Estate's 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 brochure for those of you who really 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 price is £125 plus disco contribution (see below) per adult for the weekend in a twin or double room.

•The hotel has 43 twin or double rooms including some which can also accommodate families. Children in a room with adults would be charged £20 per night Bed and Breakfast and £15 for a half portion of the Saturday meal or £7.50 for a children's meal.

•Dinner only price £30 plus share of the disco cost.

We have to pay for the disco ourselves and this cost would just be divided between everyone who attends the meal.

To allow as many people to go as possible it would be preferable if people could pair up to use up twin rooms. Please call or e-mail me to ask for details about the cost of extra nights and single rooms (07950 087911, email me via contact form of our website).

A non-refundable deposit is required (£32 per person) by 10th November, payable to West Bromwich Mountaineering Club, the balance is payable by you before leaving the hotel.

Send the following booking form to me with a deposit cheque to:- Richard Cooksey, 24 Lydford Road, Bloxwich, Walsall, West Midlands, WS3 3NT.

Party leader's name: Telephone number:.....

E-mail address:.....

Type of room: twin/double/family.....

Guest names.....

Adult/child?.....

Total.....

Deposit (£25 per person)*

*WBMC takes no financial responsibility for this event

Details of any special requests e.g vegetarian meals

FOR SALE

**Osprey Talon 33 Rucksack - used twice. As new: £40. Please contact Don Simpson
01904 795094.**

LOST ITEM

**Found at hut - Karrimor padded jacket
contact editor with identifying details.**



THE WBMC MEETING PLACE

The Wheatsheaf - 379 High Street, West Bromwich, B70 9QW Join us every Thursday night from 9.00pm in The Wheatsheaf, High Street, West Bromwich for an informal chat and a drink!

CLUB MEMBERSHIP FOR 2015

Membership - £26.00, Students - £11.50, Junior members ages 16 – 18 years - £9.00

Young members (under 16 years) - £2.50

Subscriptions should be paid to the Membership Secretary, Joanna Cheung by cash or cheque.

Cheques should be made payable to: "West Bromwich mountaineering Club" and should be given to Jo on Thursday evening at the Wheatsheaf or posted to:

J Cheung, 551a Walsall Road, Great Barr, Birmingham B42 1LS

For anybody interested in joining the West Bromwich Mountaineering Club please contact Jo and she can provide you with an information pack which details the requirements for membership. jo.cheung@hotmail.co.uk or telephone 07808 030577

PAYMENT IS NOW DUE. YOU CAN PAY ONLINE USING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION: NAME: WBMC, SORT CODE: 40 23 03, A/C NO: 41 13 98 27 . PLEASE LET JO CHEUNG KNOW IF YOU DO THIS.



HUT DONATIONS

Members - £4.00 per night Guests - £7.00 per night

(Maximum two guests per member)

16 yrs & under - £1.50 per night

Stamped addressed envelopes are provided in the hut for payment

To book ring or text Alison Whitehead: 07530644874 or email: wbmchutbooking@gmail.com

(When you are a fully fledged WBMC member you can purchase a hut key from Alison at a donation of £4.50)

PLEASE NOTE - Please phone or email Alison BEFORE travelling to the hut.

JANUARY HUT AVAILABILITY

(Please ring Alison to check availability. Below is just an indication.)

Fri. 2nd January – places

Fri. 9th January – places

Fri. 16th January – places

Fri. 23rd January - places

Fri. 30th January - places

THERE ARE SEVERAL ITEMS OF LOST PROPERTY FROM THE HUT WHICH WERE AVAILABLE TO VIEW AT THE CHRISTMAS SOCIAL ON DECEMBER 18TH BUT NOT COLLECTED. IF YOU HAVE LOST ANYTHING PLEASE CONTACT ALISON OR THE EDITOR

Photo of the Month
Christmas Elf
by Pete Poultney



Patterdale Coach Meet

Sunday 8th February 2015

Depart: West Brom. Edward St Car Park (B70 8HU) 7.00am
Penkridge 7.20am

Brief comfort stop - Charnock Richard Services

Dropping off at: Kirkstone Pass 401081
Patterdale 391161

Glenridding 386169

Picking up at: Glenridding 385169

Patterdale 391161

Kirkstone Pass 401081

REQUIRED MAPS: OS 1:25,000 Outdoor Leisure Maps Nos. 5
and 7 (The English Lakes NE and SE)



SUGGESTED ROUTES

Route 1

Try Climbing NW from the Kirkstone Pass to Red Screes . Continue NW, descend to Scandale Pass go past Little Hart Crag and onto Dove Crag . From here follow the ridge over Hart Crag and onto Fairfield. Leave the summit northwards and descend via Cofa Pike and St.Sunday Crag down into Patterdale and a short road walk to the coach in Glenridding.

Distance – 14km (9miles)

Route 2

Staying East of the Kirkstone Pass go via St. Raven's Edge to Stony Cove Pike . Descend to Threshthwaite Mouth and ascend Thornthwaite Crag then High Street Go north to The Knott then descend past Angle Tarn into Patterdale and a short road walk to the coach in Glenridding.

Distance – 15km (9½miles)

Route 3

Patterdale to St Sunday Crag, then onto Helvellyn, descend via Striding Edge and then over Birks down into Glenridding.

Distance – 14 km (9 miles)

Route 4

For a not so high route Patterdale Common possibly taking in Place Fell and/or High Dodd, if fit enough you could get to Sandwich Bay, returning via Boredale or the path that skirts Ullswater.

Distance - (approx 9 km depending on route taken)

Coach Rule 7 applies: "Do not go above the snowline without ice-axe and crampons." Please stow your ice-axes and crampons in the side compartment of the coach. DO NOT leave them in the coach boot where they could damage rucksacks.

To book on the coach please ring Nigel Tarr on 07703 345729 after 18.00 on 12th Jan.
Fares: Members £20.00, Guests £22.00, under 16`s and full time students £8.00
Please put the coach mobile in your phone before you go out on the hills 07724 316311
£5.00 pp cancellation charges apply: You must cancel by 7 pm on the 6th February.

Ogwen Coach Meet

Saturday 10th January 2015

Depart: West Brom. Edward St Car Park (B70 8HU) 07.00
M54 Junct. 2 07.20

Brief Toilet Stop: Llangollen

Dropping off at: Pont Cyfyng (735572)
Capel Curig (721582)
Ogwen (656603)
Bethesda (623667)

Picking up at: Ogwen and Capel Curig

Required Map(s): OS 1:25 000 OL 17 Snowdonia (Snowdon)



SUGGESTED ROUTES:

From Pont Cyfyng

Route 1: Follow the track to a disused quarry (717555) then continue to Llyn y Foel (713547) from where you can climb the SE ridge of Moel Siabod (grade 1 scramble of Daer Ddu). From the summit (705546) descend via the NE ridge to grid ref (713565) continue through the forest to Plas y Brenin and the Capel Curig pick up. **Distance 9.5km (6 miles)**

From Capel Curig

Route 2: Head west and follow the ridge to Gallt yr Ogorf (685586) continue over Y Foel Goch (678582) to Llyn y Caseg-Fraith (670584) and find a cairn at the col marking the Miners' Track. Follow the path to Bwlch Tryfan (662588) and ascend Tryfan (664594) via the south ridge. Descend via the West Gully to Ogwen. **Distance 9 km (6 miles)**

Route 3: Follow route 2 to Llyn y Caseg-Fraith (670584) and then climb to the summit of Glyder Fach (656583). Continue along the plateau to Glyder Fawr (642579) and descend to Llyn y Cwn (638584) and then take the path to the right of the Devil's Kitchen to Llyn Idwal (647598) and back to Ogwen Cottage. **Distance: 13km (8 miles)**

Route 4: Head north to Craig Wen (729602) and onto Creigiau Gleison double summit (729616 & 734623). Then descend to the Llyn Cowlyd Dam and climb Pen Llithrig y Wrach (716624) before returning to Capel Curig. If weather is bad, return could be via the lakeside track. **Distance 16 km (10 miles)**

Route 5: Head NW to Pen Llithrig y Wrach (716624) and descend its west ridge to Pen yr Helgi Du (699629). Follow the narrow ridge NW onto Carnedd Llewelyn (684645). Head S, SW and finally W to Carnedd Dafydd (664630) and from here the quickest way back to the coach is to contour round to Pen Yr Ole Wen (655619) and descend the path down its south west ridge to Ogwen Falls (649605) then E along the A5 to the coach. **Distance 16 km (10 miles)**

From A5 near Lyn Ogwen

Route 6: Follow the road to grid ref. (663603) and tackle the north ridge of Tryfan (Grade 1 Scramble). At the summit (664594) jump from Adam to Eve and back if you dare and weather permits. Then descend the south ridge to Bwlch Tryfan (662588) and continue up Bristly Ridge (another Grade 1 scramble) to the summit plateau of Glyder Fach (656583). A less exposed alternative is to climb the scree slope to the east of the ridge, scramble over Castell y Gwynt (654582) and follow the plateau edge NW to the top of Y Gribin (651583). Descend this fine ridge back to the coach. **Distance 7 km (5 miles)**

Route 7: As route 6 but continue along the Glyder plateau to the summit of Glyder Fawr (642579). Descend as in route 3 or, if time, climb Y Garn (631596) and descend its NE ridge to Ogwen. **Distance 13 km (8 miles)**

From Bethesda

Route 9: Climb Yr Elen (674651) via its NW ridge. On to Carnedd Llewelyn (684645) and W to Carnedd Dafydd (663630) before dropping down its N ridge to Foel Meirch (659637). 4 Nuttalls on an interesting circuit.

Coach Rule 7 applies: "Do not go above the snowline without ice-axe and crampons." Please stow your ice-axes and crampons in the side compartment of the coach. DO NOT leave them in the coach boot where they could damage rucksacks.

To book on the coach please ring Nigel Tarr on 07703 345729
Fares: Members £22.00, Guests £20.00, under 16's and full time students £8.00
Please put the coach mobile in your phone before you go out on the hills 07724 316311
£5.00 pp cancellation charges apply: You must cancel by 7 pm on the 8th August.

MITCH'S "NEW YEAR'S MEET" & SOCIAL: THE PECKFORTON HILLS
Including RAW HEAD & THE SANDSTONE TRAIL
SUNDAY 4th JANUARY 2015

Depart: West Bromwich Edward Street Car Park 09.00
 Penkridge 09.20

Dropping off at: A49 near Beeston (SJ 556593) 11am
 Bickerton Poacher (SJ 523544) 11.15
 A41 at Duckington (SJ 486519) 11.30
 Departing from Bickerton Poacher (SY14 8BE) 7pm

Required Map (s): OS 1:25,000 Explorer Map 257 or OS 1:50,000 Landranger 117 (Chester & Wrexham) or see www.sandstonetrail.com for details of area & their maps



SUGGESTED ROUTES

Route 1: From the A49 layby near Beeston at SJ 556593 (Led Walk)

Head west to hit the Sandstone Trail at Beeston Castle and follow this south along the Peckforton Hills (with an optional drinky-poo stop at the plush Peckforton Castle Hotel!) to Bulkley Hill and Raw Head – at 744ft the highest point in Cheshire (SJ 508548) then back SE to the 'Poacher'. (Around 13km/7.5 miles)

Route 2: From the A534 at the Bickerton Poacher (SJ 523544)

A circular walk taking in Raw Head, Burwardsley Hill & Bulkley Hill using minor roads and part of the Sandstone Trail. (Around 9km/5.5miles)

Route 3: From the layby on the A41 at Duckington (SJ 486519)

Head NW on minor roads to climb the 695ft old hill fort Maiden Castle (497529) before crossing Bickerton Hill to Mad Allen's Hole and on to Raw Head and the pub. (Around 12km/7 miles).



The Bickerton Poacher (SY14 8BE) is a public house, restaurant, B&B and camp site and we have booked the skittle alley room for our sole use from whenever the first group arrives at the pub.

To simplify matters we have chosen Menu option 1 which is a one course Roast Carvery with a choice of 2 meats and all the trimmings. This costs £8.95 a head but of course you can order & pay for any of their sweets & / or a starter on top of this if you so wish.

Contact Tracy, Ian or Lois on 01829 720 226 or check out www.bickertonpoacher.com if you have any queries or special requests.

TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE ON THE COACH, CONTACT JOHN EDWARDS
 ON 0121 744 7340 OR 07837 198355 OR jaejed@hotmail.com ASAP
 (Be sure to mention if you want a vegetarian option or Penkridge pick-up)
 Seats cost just £17.50 per adult or £8.50 for under 16's and over 16's in full time education
 and include free use of the Skittles Alley.
 This price does NOT cover the cost of the food which you will have to pay for separately!