

# West Bromwich Mountaineering Club Newsletter



September 2016

This month's photo: looking out over the valley from Cadair Idris, by John Edwards)

## Hello readers

Firstly, and rather sadly, Fran at the Wheatsheaf will be leaving on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September. Some members will be going up to see her on Sunday, all are welcome.

This month we have Dave Jones's write-up of the Youth Hostel weekend to Buttermere and the Honister Via Ferrata – exciting reading! Also, John has written up the Cadair Idris coach meet and provided some great photos. Finally, Richard Cooksey has all the information on this year's annual away dinner – deposits must be paid in November so please book soon!

Huge thanks as always to this month's contributors: John Edwards, Dave Jones, Sue Goddard, Vanessa Biddulph, Nigel Tarr, and Richard Cooksey.

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](mailto:newsletter@wbmc.org) (or through our website if it's an article) before the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Cheers,  
Joe

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## The WBMC meeting place



The Wheatsheaf  
379 High Street,  
West Bromwich,  
B70 9QW

Join us every Thursday  
night from 9.00pm in  
The Wheatsheaf for a  
chat and a drink.



2016 Cotswold  
Discount Code:  
AF-WBMC-M8



[www.wbmc.org](http://www.wbmc.org)

# Noticeboard

## Welcome new member!

WBMC would like to welcome new member Matt Gallon to the club. We look forward to seeing you on forthcoming meets/events.

## Fran leaving the Wheatsheaf

It is with much sadness that Fran will be leaving the Wheatsheaf pub on 11<sup>th</sup> September. Fran states that she is going to have a well-earned rest.

Fran has always made WBMC very welcome in the premises and to show our appreciation the club organised a nice bouquet of flowers for her.

WBMC would like to thank you for everything that you have done for supporting us and accommodating us over the last few years. Some members will be going up to see her on the 11<sup>th</sup> - please feel free to come too.

## Cycles on coach meets

The committee have agreed that up to four bicycles may be taken onto the coach. This will be on a first come first served basis.

## Club hut cleanliness

Over the last few weeks the committee have received numerous complaints about the lack of cleanliness at the club hut. Some members have been going into the hut to find food left in the fridge, rubbish being left and shower block doors left open.

This is unacceptable and I would like to reiterate to everyone that the hut must be left clean for members/guests arriving. If any guests are present it is down to the club member to ensure that standards are adhered to. The committee are working hard to continuously improve the hut, please ensure that you leave the premises fit for purpose for your fellow members.

## Meet up

WBMC committee are trying to bring new members into the club, in doing so the club is advertising on Meet Up, which is a social media website for clubs/groups and events. Within two days of joining up we have 70 members connected.

We require existing members to join WBMC on meet up and click to state that they are going to a meet or event. If members do this it will hopefully attract new members.

Members can download the app on their phones or visit the Meet Up website. If anyone is unsure please contact Dave Jones on davidjones840@gmail.com or 07759 259163.

## Map boxes

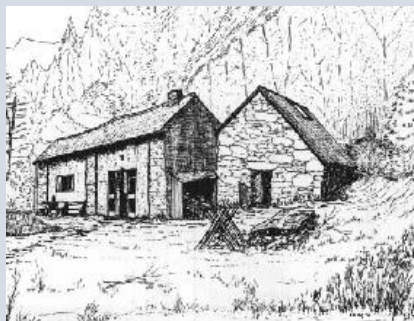
I discovered this company - "From the Workshop" - on Facebook and I ordered myself a map box which holds up to 20 maps.

Here's the good bit: if any members have a favourite map or area they can laser the map onto the box. I also had my name and WBMC lasered onto my box which I had a map of Glen Coe due to this being one of my favourite locations.

Richard "from the workshop" has also stated that he will give WBMC members a 10% discount, just quote WBMC. If anyone is still unsure how the item may look, contact me and I can show you or e mail photos. I'm very pleased with the item and each one is handmade. I paid £40 which included postage. Also coffee tables are available.

You can find out more about "From the Workshop" at <https://www.fromtheworkshop.co.uk>

## Hut donations



Members - £4.00  
 Guests - £7.00  
 (Max. two guests per member)  
 16 & under - £1.50

Stamped addressed envelopes are provided in the hut for payment.

## To book

Phone or email Alison Whitehead:  
 07530644874  
 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

7<sup>th</sup> September – 8:00pm

## Midlands Area BMC Meeting

Old Edwardians Sports Club,  
Streetsbrook Road,  
Solihull  
B90 3PE

It promises to be an even more interesting meeting than usual for there might (or might not) be a feisty debate over the proposed rebranding of the BMC.

This item has been added to every area meeting and I believe the BMC are sending directors to each meeting to gauge the feeling of the membership and explain the rationale behind the proposed changes if necessary.

8<sup>th</sup> September

## Sandwell Valley walk

Along the River Tame, around 2 lakes, back to the Maltshovel. Need to start walk at 6:15 pm (sunset at 7:48pm). It's about 5 miles and should take about 1.5 hours.

Meet at 6pm at:  
The Maltshovel  
Newton Road  
Great Barr  
B43 6HN

16<sup>th</sup> September

## Womens' Weekend at the Hut

New members welcome. There will be a communal meal on the Saturday night.

If you're interested please contact Vanessa on 07709514180

4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> November

## Sheen Bunkhouse Weekend

£16 per person per night. Come to cycle Tissington, High Peak or Manifold Valley trails, or walk or run. Option of running in the famed Dovedale Dash on

Sunday morning – 4.6 miles of fun. Good company guaranteed.

Contact Sue Goddard to reserve a place – a £5 deposit secures it.

You can see the old and the new logos and get up-to-date with why the change has been proposed and who is supporting it at: <https://www.thebmc.co.uk/bmc-to-change-its-name-to-climb-britain>

After the meeting there will be a free buffet as usual and then George Cave will give a talk about his Muzkol Expedition to complete an unclimbed ridgeline in Tajikistan last summer.

If you can't make the meeting but want to express your views on the change of name or logo please feel free to email our own John Edwards, the Midland Area Secretary, and he will try and mention them at the meeting. [jaejed@hotmail.com](mailto:jaejed@hotmail.com)



Photo from Wikipedia

23<sup>rd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> September

## Ilse of Skye Weekend

Fancy a long weekend to visit the best mountaineering area in the United Kingdom? Driving up to the Isle of Skye on Friday, returning on Monday, leaving you with two days to explore the Cuillin Hills, the Trotternish Hills or even make the short crossing to Raasay.

Staying in bunkhouse accommodation and sharing fuel costs should mean an inexpensive trip is achievable.

For more details please speak to Andy Brown on 07870 145026.

# Youth Hostel Weekend

*Buttermere 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> August*

Words and pictures  
By Dave Jones



It was surprising to see that this weekend had been fully booked for some weeks, and at one stage there was a reserve list set up if anyone dropped out. The majority of attendees had decided to travel up on the Friday leaving late morning or around lunchtime.

Our base for the weekend was the YHA based in Buttermere. I had stayed here some previous years and have some fond memories of the place. On arrival we had been informed that one other person had arrived and checked in. Myself and Hilary were trying to work out who this could be, trying to eliminate who it could be and who was travelling with who, then we suddenly realised who it was after seeing Mark Stevens (Stumpy) he had travelled up solo and had been the first one to arrive. Most members started arriving between 17:00/18:00 hours and were starting to sort out luggage and gear.

Some had decided to have a walk into the village to eat and some opted to stay at the YHA and booked an evening meal at base. The majority went to the Fish Inn and sampled some of the local ale and food, individuals settled in and started to talk about what they was planning to do on Saturday.

The highlight of the weekend was WBMC had a reserve booking to attend the Honister Via Ferrata on Sunday at 09:00, the ferrata guarantees edge exposure, vertical climbs, cliff edge ladders, a Burma bridge and cargo net crossing. Nigel had organised this some weeks in advance and everyone waited in anticipation.

After socialising on Friday evening, everyone started to revert back to base to look ahead at what was going to be done on Saturday. The YHA overlooks Red Pike and there is a fantastic ridgeline that runs all the way along ending on haystacks. Myself, Geordie Hind, Phil Smith, Hilary, Adrian Bates, Jo Cheung and her sister Sandra decided that this was going to be our route for the day, whilst having breakfast we sat in the window looking at our route. The morning had started perfectly with clear skies and sunshine.

Members started off for the day, we knew we had a long day ahead, but there was no need to rush due to not having to be back for a specific time and having sufficient daylight hours. Our group headed down into the village and along the path leading around the lake and then started to make our way up towards Scale Force Waterfall. We had to work through some overgrown foliage heading upwards, then we heard some other members behind consisting of Phil Williams, Andrew Wright, Lee Grainger, Dave Hadley, who had also decided to head up this way prior to reaching Red Pike.

We crossed over the bridge to take a look at the waterfall and then reverted back to follow the ridge line of the waterfall to head up. Jo asked Geordie if we were on the correct track seeing the other group going to the left of the waterfall, Dave reverted to his skills and map reading to assure her that we were on the correct track, Jo's sister (Sandra) had come along for the weekend and was walking very well and was taking time to talk to people and get to know individuals (we hope you enjoyed your day out)

I often state "it's a good stretch of the legs" and this was living up to that phrase, the wind had started to pick up and some of the group had decided to put on another layer prior to arriving at a very windy Red Pike, at the summit there was a small drop off point to the left which was out of the wind, we decided to have some lunch there and admire the views. This was where I first sampled seaweed snacks; basically it's like eating paper that tastes like you have swallowed a mouthful of seawater. Jo assures us this good for your system, so after being assured this was passed around in abundance.

Jo and Sandra opted to head back down after the summit so they checked their route and started to head down

The rest of the group started to work our way over the ridge, next was high stile, then high crag, Phil had stated to me that he had a passion about wanting to do haystacks due to Alfred Wainwright's ashes being spread up there by the tarn. We had made good time and decided to finish our day by going onto haystacks much to Phil's excitement (I told you we would fit it in, discreetly I also wanted to do this when being so near.) Photos were taken at the top and the route was to return via Scarth Gap and back along the south west shore back along the lake and back into Buttermere. Obviously we had made sufficient time and Geordie had to meet his brother in law back at the pub, so we had to show moral support and accompany him.



On the Saturday evening the majority headed back down to the pub and ordered evening meals and started to think on how the via ferrata would be the following day. On reflection we had a wonderful day out in the hills and the weather had been near perfect.

We had to be up early for breakfast on Sunday due to having to leave at 08:30 to be at the Honister slate mine for 09:00, after breakfast everyone had started to pack their cars, the weather was cloudy and the wind was relatively high on top of the pass, but had been reassured the previous night that no session had ever been cancelled on the via ferrata.



On arrival everyone had started to put on warm clothes. We were informed by staff at the slate mine to collect harnesses/hard hats and then we had to have a safety brief. Everyone had to ensure that their harness was secure and we were shown how to clip onto the wires, basically you always keep one clip on the wire permanently, you clip one over and one under in opposite directions.

We were taken up on a bus which was full, we then started to walk up gaining height and then the group arrived at the first ladder which was vertical and you had to climb down it. Everyone was put into groups of five and you started to work your way downwards, sideways, upwards, when you come to the end of a section, you unclip one clip and attach to the next section and then apply your second clip prior to moving on. There were some fantastic views looking down the pass.

WBMC members handled the height and exposure very well and everyone seemed relaxed and comfortable at being exposed on ledges. There was one young person directly in front of my group of five that was very nervous and was very upset in certain sections. We kept encouraging her that she was safe and stated that it may be better if she went at the front so her accomplice could support her from the rear.

The group worked their way around the gorge and started to arrive at the Burma Bridge which everyone seemed excited at doing. A Burma bridge basically consists of parallel ropes, one below you for your feet and one either side for your hands, all very safe bearing in mind that it was suspended 2,000 feet above the valley floor.

As we were working our way around the gorge cliff face we saw our first member on the wire. Dave Nock was the first member across looking very confident in his grey shorts as he worked his way over.

The safety line was directly above your head, so this time you had to clip above your head, as everyone entered, you were requested to turn around and have a photo taken by a member of staff. Throughout the tour various photos were taken. (more to follow on this)

I had Lee Grainger directly in front of me going across, and a person in front of Lee who I won't mention by name (Dave Hadley 😊) decided when he was across that he would start to make the bridge sway, Lee was stopping mid way across with me in his ear stating keep moving, at one point we were moving like the chuckle brothers "to me to you"

Dave Hadley can you remember my comment (I have this one stored on memory) revenge is sweet. After the Burma bridge you start to climb back up the system and arrive at the cargo net, we were informed that this is a 66 feet vertical climb, again a so called person nearing the end started to move the net a little. I wonder who that could have been? Shortly after this there is a nice walk up inside the mountain through the slate quarries prior to arriving at the summit of Fleetwith Pike and one of the finest views the Lake District has to offer. Buttermere, Crummock and Loweswater, perfectly framed by Alfred Wainwright's favourite fells, roll out before your very eyes.

WBMC had some great photos taken during the event and the club purchased a memory stick to mark the occasion. I have uploaded all the photos onto the WBMC website, if anyone has any favourites you can download from the website, or let me know if you would like any sent via e-mail. Thank you to Nigel Tarr for organising the weekend and ensuring that everything ran smoothly.

# Cadair Idris Coach Meet

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> August

Words and pictures  
By John Edwards



An excellent venue for an August coach meet if numbers were anything to go by: one which opened up a range of possibilities for the day's activities. With 45 travelling on the bus there was no chance this would be cancelled like last year and I think most people enjoyed themselves thanks, in part, to the weather which improved steadily all day.

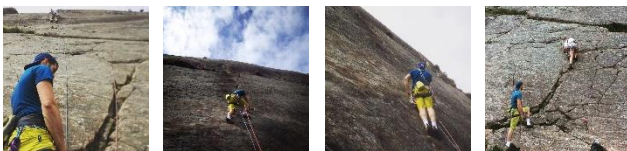
Nobody got off at Dinas Mawddwy to do the first part of Nev & Ann Tandy's Mid Wales Mountain Marathon but Nick Piotrowski mounted his bike at Cross Foxes to cycle to the Estuary via Penmaenpool, Hafod Dnell, Bryn Brith & Arthog.

Our President, hopelessly under-equipped (for a winter meet), accompanied (or followed or led) Nigel on an Estuary walk from Penmaenpool and Phil & Jayne Williams did the Mawddach Trail. Pat Potter & Linda Howells got off at Dolgellau along with Dave Hough & John Dale to walk the estuary into Barmouth.

Sara Winton, Jess Priest & Pete Poultney did something similar but turned it into a 13 mile "Wild Run". Pete put 7 great photos onto Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10153815824032688&set=pcb.10153815824912688&type=3&theater>



Ken Priest went climbing with Sam & Andy Grosvenor on Barmouth slabs and quarry. Their photos are at: <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10206771673393776&set=pcb.10206771676593856&type=3&theater>



The majority (21 according to the route book) got off at Minffordd and did the classic traverse north into Cwm Cau and west from there across Cader, Tyrrau Mawr and Craig-y-Llyn, the latter being the sting in the tail of the Mid Wales Mountain Marathon. They then dropped down to Barmouth via the footbridge

across the Mawddach estuary. Andrew Mitchell, Jo Wood, Matt Gallow, Peter Kane & Hugh Rothero started in similar fashion but after Pen y Gadair trig point they followed the slightly shorter route down the Pony Path to Dolgellau. Very few of the first group got down in time for a drink, but the Dolgellau finish allowed a good hour to replenish lost body fluids, something Darren Groutage and Paul & Leon Brindley must have "sussed out" as they decided to switch routes & change pickups. Yes of course they texted Nigel to let him know!!



Having done all the tops on the Cader massif I let geocaches decide my route for the day and so I got dropped off at the top of the pass on the A 487 and headed east, north and then west to pay my first ever visit to tiny Llyn Arran on the north side of the range. Very quickly the paths turned wet & boggy and with wet, thigh-high vegetation in places my socks and feet were soaking long before I got close to the nice little lake. You can't see it until the very last minute and then the thing that catches your eye is a 10 ft stone pillar that seems to have a face in it (which was where the plastic box was of course!). From there it was a case of "could I scramble up onto the plateau through the barrier of cliffs shown on the OS map?" Thankfully the answer was yes, as I picked & tripped a dainty way up steep, loose steep scree, grass & heather and emerged around 100 ft from the summit of Mynydd Moel. It was misty on top but by the time I reached the summit of Cader at around 1:30pm it had cleared and the views were wonderful. Then it was a quick slip and slide down the Fox's Path - it's still as awful as I remembered it from 20 years ago but I consoled myself with the thought that it was probably the last time I'd ever do the route! There were caches at Llyn Gadair, Goat Lake and the Rock Cannon at SH 70332 14357. For those who have never seen a "Rock Cannon" I'll quote from the geocache listing:

## *Cadair Idris Coach Meet Report*

*“Rock cannon can be found all over north-west Wales, especially near mines and quarries. The cannon were created for firing on celebrations & holidays and were used from the end of the 1700's until black powder stopped being used in the slate industry. The introduction of sticks of gelignite led to a different style of cannon being devised that didn't need any holes in the rock. Making a rock cannon was hard work. All of the holes and grooves for fuses had to be cut with hand tools (please remember this if what you find doesn't look that impressive!). The cannon were cut into the tops of cliffs, slabs of rock or large boulders, the biggest having nearly 200 holes and the smallest having just 2. Each hole was about 5" deep and 1" in diameter.*

*The later cannon had grooves connecting the holes which were filled with black powder to make the fuse. The channels had to make a long enough fuse for each separate bang to be heard and each flash to be seen.”*

There were one or two 'mini catastrophes', however, but not for walkers. Adrian Bates' name does not appear in the Coach book for he missed the pick-up and had to drive - bicycle on the back of his car - to Welshpool to meet the coach. Just as well that he did,

for when he & Gary Winton set off to cycle to Cross Foxes on their exotic titanium steeds, one of them found their electronic gears were not working! Now Froome would have no doubt carried on regardless but our lycra-clad duo decided that this lack of engineering assistance meant that they would have to abort their planned ride as they wouldn't be able to get up any hills so they put their velocipedes on Adrian's car, drove to Barmouth and had a different sort of day doing a circular walk from there. You can never tell what will happen on a WBMC Coach!!



# Coach Meet – Aber/Ogwen

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September

## Depart

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

07:20 – Service road just off M54 Junct. 2 island

Toilet/coffee stop to be arranged

## Drop off

Abergwyngregyn (655727)

*Coach will stay at Abergwyngregyn*

## Pick up

Ogwen Glan Dena (668605)

Helyg (691602)

Capel Curig (721582)

Betwys-y-coed

*Coach will leave Betwys-y-coed 21.00hrs*

## Required maps

OS 1:25.000 OL17 – Snowdonia

OS 1:50.000 Landranger No 115 – Snowdon and surrounding area

## Suggested routes

1 From Aber (655727) to Bera Bach, Foel Grach, Carnedd Llewellyn (634644), Craig yr Ysfa down to Helyg (691602)

2 Aber to forest track (664718), to Marian Rhadr Fawr, Llwtmor Bach (681699), Bera Bach, Garnedd Uchaf (687699), Foel Grach, Carnedd Llewellyn, Carnedd Dafydd, Pen yr Ole Wen east to Clogwyn Mawr/Afon Lioer and follow track to Glan Dena

3 (19.5km – 7miles) From Aber a north Carneddau Circuit to Foel- Ganol, Drum, Foel Fras, Garnedd Uchaf Bera Bach, Drosogl, and Gryn Wigau is one possibility, before returning to Aber over Moel Wnion and the North Wales Path on its NW slopes

4 Try the North Wales Path from Aber to Llanfairfechan and return along the footpath that follows the coastline, no hills and a relatively short distance that would still give you time to visit the Aber Falls

5 (14km - 9miles)

From Abergwyngregyn to Capel Curig

From lay-by on A55 (GR:SH655727) follow minor road through the village SE towards the car park for the waterfall Rhaedr Fawr. At the car park, stay on the minor road crossing the bridge and ascending steeply for just over 1km to the higher car park at SH676716.



Photo from Wikipedia.org

## Fares

Members £20.00

Guests £22.00

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

To book ring Nigel Tarr on 07703 345729

£5.00 pp cancellation charges apply: you must cancel at least 7 days in advance.

Now follow the North Wales Path E across open moorland, following the route of the old Roman Road to reach the pass of Bwlch Ddeufaen. At the large iron gate turn to the SW and ascend parallel to the wall to reach Carnedd Ddelw at 688m, then continue S again keeping the wall on your left to reach the summit of Drum. Using the wall to your left as a handrail continue SW to reach the summit of Foel- Fras at 942m.

Approx 300m SSW of the summit of Foel-Fras the wall turns sharply to the SE. From this point follow the obvious path for 1.2km to reach the summit of Carnedd Gwennllian. Head S now, descending into the col, then climbing on steeper ground to reach the shelter/ hut just below the summit of Foel Grach.

To reach the summit, ascend around the small crag above the hut. From Foel Grach there is an obvious path first descending S then from the col ascending SSW to the small plateau summit of Carnedd Llewelyn at 1064m. Descend v carefully along the ridge SE – take particular care on the rock-step below Pen y waun wen – eventually reaching the col at Bwlch Eryl Farchog.

Locate the path descending steeply into Cwm Llugwy heading S on the east shore of the Reservoir and follow until you reach the metalled track at the outflow. Follow the metalled track S to reach the A5 at Gwern Gof Isaf. Walk through the campsite and follow the old A5 E towards Capel Curig, arriving at the car park behind the village at Joe Browns shop (GR:SH720581)



# Coach Meet – Coniston

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October

## Depart

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

07:20 – Penkridge

(Brief toilet stop at the M6 Services)

## Drop off

Torver (284942)

Coniston (303975)

## Pick up

Coniston (303975)

## Required maps

OS 1:25000 Outdoor Leisure The Lakes No6 and No7 South Western and South Eastern areas

## Suggested routes

From Torver

1 (19km - 12miles) Leave the coach and head north to old quarries (278960) and on to the old Walna Scar Road (274965) Head on up The Cove to Goats Water. You could go up the right side of the tarn to Goat's Hause (265983) but a more spectacular route is to take the path on the left side and head up to the Mountain Rescue post and the foot of Easy Gully (263977). The east face of Dow Crag is very spectacular and not for walkers except this steep but relatively easy breach which heads diagonally upwards to exit a little to the south of the summit of Dow Crag (262978). Then it's north and then east to Goat's Hause and uphill in a SE direction to the summit of Coniston Old Man (272978). From summit head E then NE (273977) descend to Low's Water (275981) through old mine workings cross path junction (284981) continue to Miners Bridge (293980) keep on RHS of beck through farm pass the Sun Inn !!! down to Coniston.

If you wish to bypass Easy Gully continue along Walna Scar Road cross stream (271964) to path junction on RHS (258964) follow path over Brown Pike (260966) Buck Pike (262972) to summit of Dow Crag

From Coniston

2 (16km/10miles) From Coniston follow the paths to the Miners Bridge (293980) and continue past Strawberry Haws to Low's Water (275981) A steep



Photo from [www.english-lakes.com](http://www.english-lakes.com)

## Fares

Members £20.00

Guests £22.00

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

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path now leads to the summit of Coniston Old Man (272978) From the summit head N along the ridge to Swirl How (273005) Descend steeply to the E down the rocky Prison Band and continue onto Weatherlam (288011) Descend the grassy ridge to Furness Fells (292000) and continue on vague paths to Hole Rake (293991) From here good paths lead down into Coppermines Valley and back towards Coniston.

3 (11km – 7 miles) Proceed as route 2 along the main Coniston ridge to Swirl How (273005) then descend steeply to the E down the rocky Prison Band to Swirl Hause (278008) From here take a more direct route S past Levers Water (282994) and along the Coppermines Valley into Coniston.

4 (10km – 6miles) Head on the roads to Shepherds Bridge (304976) and then hit the Cumbria Way to Tarn How's Hit the A593 at Oxen Fell High Cross (328017) and return to Coniston by paths that run to the right of the road.

5 (14km – 9 miles) Head NW to Miners Bridge (294980) and then take the path through the disused quarries that lead to Hole Rake (293991) Reverse route 1 to the summit of Weatherlam (288011) Leave the summit along NE ridge and descend until you hit the path in Greenburn (295023) which heads off E then S to Tiberthwaite (306010) Minor roads lead to the A593 and a footpath running parallel to this takes you back to Coniston About 14km/9miles

# WBMC Annual Away Dinner

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Following very positive feedback from this year's event we are returning to Briery Wood with a similar package. *To get the prices we have agreed deposits must be paid in November 2016 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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 the hotel's brochure:

[lakedistrictcountryhotels.co.uk/briery-wood-hotel](http://lakedistrictcountryhotels.co.uk/briery-wood-hotel)

and it has a rating of 4.5 out of 5 on Trip Advisor:

[tripadvisor.co.uk/Hotel\\_Review-g186330-d574824](http://tripadvisor.co.uk/Hotel_Review-g186330-d574824)

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 £130.50 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 on application plus share of the disco cost.
- The hotel will give 2 single rooms for £130.50 for the weekend and 3 single rooms for £151 for the weekend. Any further singles would be £199 for the weekend. If people could share where possible that would allow the maximum amount of people to go.

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

Please call me to ask for details about the cost of extra nights on 07950 087911. A non-refundable deposit is required (£25 per person) by 11<sup>th</sup> November, payable to West Bromwich Mountaineering Club, the balance is payable by you before leaving the hotel.

Send the booking form (on the next page) with a deposit cheque to:

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

To make things easier please could you put menu choices (also on the next page) in the booking form too.

# WBMC Annual Away Dinner

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2017

## Menu

### Starters

- Roast vine tomato soup with golden croutons
- Duck leg pressing with fresh fig and toasted brioche

### Main Courses

- Roast breast of chicken with dauphinoise potato and wild mushroom sauce
- Seared fillet of sea bream with saffron crushed potato and champagne sauce
- Potato rosti with rosemary lentils, broccoli and hazelnut

### Desserts

- Sticky toffee pudding with roast almond ice cream butterscotch sauce
- Lemon tart with fresh raspberries



Photos from TripAdvisor

## Booking form

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

Party leader's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of room: single / twin / double / family

| Guest Names       | Adult/Child | £ | Starter | Main | Dessert |
|-------------------|-------------|---|---------|------|---------|
|                   |             |   |         |      |         |
|                   |             |   |         |      |         |
|                   |             |   |         |      |         |
|                   |             |   |         |      |         |
|                   |             |   |         |      |         |
|                   |             |   |         |      |         |
|                   |             |   |         |      |         |
| Total             |             |   |         |      |         |
| Deposit (£25 pp)* |             |   |         |      |         |

\*WBMC takes no financial responsibility for this event