

# West Bromwich Mountaineering Club Newsletter



November 2016

This month's photo: members in Buttermere after completing the Via Ferrata, by Dave Jones

2 Noticeboard

3 Coming up

4 Old Man of Coniston  
Dave Jones

6 Hut Biking Weekend  
Dave Jones

8 Hut Cleaning Weekend  
Dave Jones

9 Coach meets  
Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November – Moelwyns  
Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Hayfield

11 Mitch's Meet – 8<sup>th</sup> Jan

15 Black Mountains Weekend  
Richard Cooksey

Hello readers

We have three great articles by Dave this month, along with information on the upcoming events, including: Nik Pitriowski presenting the film *Déjame Vivir* (summits of my life) at the evening meet on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November, and the social evening at the Akash Restaurant on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November.

In addition, John Edwards has pointed me towards some interesting articles from the BMC's Access and Conservation Newsletter, which is available here: <http://bit.ly/2eoSqef>

Huge thanks as always to this month's contributors: Dave Jones, Alison Whitehead, Georgie Hind, Ken Priest, 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

## 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

## Paramo jacket for sale



Ken Priest is selling a Paramo Valex light smock. 12 months old, only worn a few times, for £165.

If you're interested, get in touch with Ken: 07779 908708 or [ken.priest@live.co.uk](mailto:ken.priest@live.co.uk)

## 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 just a few days of joining up we have over 180 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](mailto:davidjones840@gmail.com) or 07759 259163.

## Club climbing nights

With winter approaching and people looking for indoor venues, the closure of Portway has reduced the opportunities to climb indoors.

Dan, from Highsports Kidderminster, has kindly offered club members a discount on Monday nights. The entry fee will be £5 (half the usual non-member fee of £10).

The discounted entry will follow a 'launch night', the date of which is yet to be decided, at which entry will be £1 (with no obligation to join). The website for the new wall is: <http://high-sports.co.uk/climbing-walls/kidderminster.html>

I'm sure you'll agree this is a generous offer and I will pass on the date of the launch night as soon as I have it

- Graeme



Photo from high-sports.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](mailto: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

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.

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November

## BMC Midlands Area Meeting

Join John Edwards & Dave Jones at the meeting which includes feedback from the BMC National Council on the reversing of the 'Climb Britain' name/brand change.



18<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> February 2017

## Scottish Week

After another successful visit this year, WBMC will be revisiting the Ben Nevis Hotel in Fort William next February.

Twin and double rooms are £34 per person per night, and a single supplement is an extra £12 per night. It's half price for under 14s and under 5s go free!. These prices include free usage of the fitness centre facilities.

To book please contact Jonathan:  
Mobile: 07821 544407  
Email: [merapeak@talktalk.net](mailto:merapeak@talktalk.net)  
Twitter: @howellsmerapeak

A deposit of one night is required to secure a place.

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November

## Evening meet

Nik Pitriowski will be presenting the film *Déjàme Vivir* (summits of my life) by champion mountain trail runner Kilian Jornet which I saw at the 2013 Kendal film festival. The film tracks a group of like minded friends as they embark on a (mad?) quest to push boundaries in the world of mountain trail running. The film covers their attempt to set a record on Mount Blanc (up and down) and onto a race up Mount Elbrus in Russia to finally an attempt to break a long standing record on the Matterhorn from the Italian town of Cervina. Come along to see this riveting 50min film of the attempts with breath-taking scenery and a celebration of human endeavour and the mountain environment.

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November

## Social Evening

Tables for 40 people have been booked at the Akash Restaurant:

385 High Street,  
West Bromwich,  
B70 9QW

If you're interested in going, the menu is available at <https://akashbalti-westbromwich.co.uk>

To book contact Nigel: 07703 345729. Book early don't miss out on a great venue and a great evening



Photo from [strathmorehotels.com](http://strathmorehotels.com)



# Old Man of Coniston

*Sunday 9th October*

Words and pictures  
By Dave Jones



Probably the best date in the calendar year, this is the date when a legend was born, yes this coach Meet was my actual birthday, so thought I would take some cake bars and goodies along for everyone to enjoy later in the day.

There were 44 on the coach, so much better than the previous month high is relatively good for our first Sunday meet since July. The mornings are getting darker as we approach the winter months, and this October morning had started dry but dark and uncertainty on what to wear on the hills dependent upon the weather.

Today the coach was heading north to the Lake District and the popular destination of Coniston. The usual stop on route at Penkrige occurred and on route the weather seemed to be looking rather positive.

There were two drop offs scheduled for Torver and Coniston and the pickup also at Coniston. I had scheduled with Adrian Shaw on the previous meet that we would head up around easy gully and attempt to do a scramble, however we changed our plans slightly (more to follow)

We were joined by Graeme Stanford and Phil Smith and the four of us got off at Torver, the first obstacle was to go over a field that was extremely muddy, this was the most mud we would see all day, no one came out the field unscathed. There was another group directly in front of us which was Mike & Emily Smith, and Hilary and we had good sightings of them most of the way, Rob Thomas had also planned to go up Easy Gully and on the day I think that Rob was the only member that attempted this (well done Rob due to it being a little tricky towards the top) our group had decided to go up South Rake and onto Dow Crag.

The weather by now was brilliant with lovely sunshine and clear blue skies, really good for October. We walked through the lane which threads through the hamlet to the start of a gated track which rises steadily above torver beck, and then over Torver Common and the Walna Scar Track, following the track Dow Crag comes into view when the track reaches its highest point before it descends towards torver beck and the disused Banishead Quarry.

Shortly after joining the Walna Scar road a large cairn by the side of the track marks the start of the path which climbs towards the cove.

We arrived at Goats Hause and three of us was out in front so we started to climb, one of our party was a just a little behind, but we had good views of him as we started to climb up the loose scree. Looking up the

steep scree slopes from just above the tarn, the dark cleft of Great Gully separates the 'A' buttress, the south rake lies behind the broken crag in front of easy gully.

We headed more towards the left and started or route up South Rake and saw Rob Thomas heading up the gully, there was also a group of climbers to the right of us, Graeme didn't seem too pressed on how they were climbing, when having a conversation with him.

The start of the south rake which rises from the base of 'A' buttress, the upper section curves behind the prominent rocks in the centre, the rake is steep but a straightforward scramble, it became narrower and steeper towards the end and by now we were in the shade out of the suns rays, much of the rock on either flank is loose and we had to treat with caution informing one another if any rocks was loose.

Looking over to our right gave us some fantastic views to the Coniston Old Man, we could see people on the cairn, also looking down the views to goats water was stunning, when we arrived at the summit the sun was now back on us as we came out of the shade, we decided to have some lunch and enjoy the sunshine whilst enjoying the views, from the top Brim Fell leading to great how along the main ridge of the Coniston fells could be seen and in the distance we could make out Dollywaggon pike.

After refuelling we headed across the ridge which skirted around heading towards the old man, we came across our climbers in the club, we bumped into Paul Read, Mel Evans, & Ian Merther, they had done a scramble which had taken in Raven Tor & Brim Fell, we had a chat and then carried on our route, again a very well defined path, with a steep ascent towards the top, at the top we saw Mike, Emily & Hilary and we had a summit photo taken as per normal, the difference was it is so much better to have one taken in perfect conditions.

From here we started to head towards swirl how and the plan was to also take in Wetherlam however by the time we dropped down, we thought it would be the best option following the path heading towards levers water, as we dropped down the path gets more boggy and in some areas it becomes squidgy peat bog. As we reached the levers water we kept left and followed around the shore line to the dam.

As we ended down we could see the vast copper Ines valley to our right, the path started to narrow out and to the left we passed the Yorkshire Mountaineering Club hut, there we will be a news update to follow on us in forthcoming newsletters

*Old Man of Coniston*

From a time prospective we had made it with around thirty minutes to spare and then I headed to the pub, to have a drink with Phil Williams, Dave Hadley, Phil Smith and Dave. it was then back on the coach for cake bars, not a bad way to spend your 49th birthday, I have not had many days like that for October in relation to the weather.

I would like to thank my fellow members on the walk for an enjoyable day and I would like to thank everyone that attended which was, Mark Stephens, Hilary Jones, Nigel Tarr, Phil Williams, Steve Cartridge, Andy Brown, Clare Hammond, Adrian Shaw, Jo Cheung, Sue Goddard, Ian Merthyr, John Harris, Dave Hind, Martin Conway, Paul Brindley, Mike & Emily Smith, David Hough, Graeme Stanford, John Dale, Dave Hadley, Noah & Phil Cox, Dave Murdoch, Mat Gannon, Andrew Mitchell, Mel Sutton, Linda & John Howells, Jon & Daniel Howells, Phil Smith, Denise (sorry no surname). Wendy Morris, Andy Jones, Richard Cooksey, Rob Thomas, Mel Evans, Paul Read, Pat Potter, Liz Perk, Nick Piotrowski and myself.

Let's hope we can maintain the same amount of numbers for the next coach meet on Sunday 13th November to the Moelwyns.

See you in the mountains.

Dave Jones.



# Hut Biking Weekend

14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> October

Words and pictures  
By Dave Jones



For the last couple of years I have wanted to attend this weekend, so when the opportunity came along this time around I thought I would book with Paul Brindley relatively early, the only issue I had not got a bike, I suppose it does help to have a bike on such a weekend, some months prior I had asked my mate fellow WBMC member Neil Parsons if I could borrow his, which he kindly offered (thanks Neil)

The next problem was how was I going to get this bike to the club hut, I have no bike rack for my car, to the rescue came Paul Brindley who stated he would put Neil's bike onto his bike carrier, so on the Thursday night prior to going we all met up the Wheatsheaf to do the handover, Neil brought the bike up and we did the swap from van to rack (thanks gents)

I started my journey down to the hut at around 17:30 on the Friday evening, the worst traffic that I normally encounter is just getting onto the M6 and crawling up to the M54 turn off, after this you can have a relatively traffic free journey with perhaps a little around Shrewsbury.

I arrived at the hut around 19:45 hours and when I arrived Phil Mathews and his lads where there Billy & Harry, a great place is the hut for young minds, also present was Mark Stephens (Stumpy) always nice to walk into the hut and someone has a fire going, soon got unpacked, showered and a few drinks, in the meantime Paul and Leon Brindley had arrived, followed afterwards by Jon Howells and two of his colleagues, also to arrive was Jo Cheung and Hazel Webb, around the fire discussions started to commence on what we was going to do on Saturday. I stated I was easy due to not being on a bike since my Raleigh Grifter days and believe me that is a fair few years ago.

The group decided that we would go to Coed Brenin, if anyone is unaware this was one of the UK's first dedicated mountain bike trail centres, which has evolved from natural forest armoured to prevent erosion, to the extensive network of all weather routes which are available.

After a healthy breakfast of bacon sarnies (well you have too at the hut) bikes were put onto cars and we headed down the forty-minute drive, on route some lovely glimpses of Cnicht in the distance.

I was a little apprehensive because everyone else in the group seemed to have mountain bike experience and they were talking about various different coloured routes, I was thinking how do I change my gears especially now biking has become so technical, I used to have red, blue and yellow gears when I done my paper round many years ago, I used to lean to the side the paper bag was bigger than me.

I was informed the easiest route was Green (happy days) which was called Yr Aron which is 10.8km 1-3 hours to complete. This is suitable for novices and family groups or in my case Raleigh Grifter experts.

The green route is based on magnificent waterfalls on the Gain and Mawddach rivers and also visits the old Gwynfynydd Gold Mine, the last source of Welsh gold. There were a couple of downhill sections on forest roads.

The Blue trail (Minor Taur) is 8km 0.5 -1.5 hours, this trail has quickly become the most popular trail at Coed y Brenin, they state it's a great introduction to mountain biking for a wide range of ages and abilities and is unique. This trail is built in three loops which get progressively longer, so you can choose the distance you want to cover.

Red Trails – Cyflym Coch- 11.2km 1.5 – 3 Hours, this trail moves onto narrower slightly more technical trails

Purple – Temtiwr 8.7km – 0.5 – 1 Hour, five sections of great single track, from extremely technical rock pitching, to fast flowing curves through the trees

Red – Dragons Back – 31.1km 3-5 Hours, which is technical cross country, challenging climbs, tight single track and long fast descents.

Finally, Black Trails – Tarr Du 20.2km 1.5-3 hours (Better Known as Jon Howells Track) Its rocky its retro its twisty its technical, I know I have done it on YouTube, I feel off the bed watching it.

We arrived at the car park and paid the car parking fees which is £5.00 for the day, I thought I best test my bike out prior to hitting these routes. In all fairness (Neil's Bike) you know it's a good bike and expensive just by looking at it. I informed Neil that I would look after it, his reply was "Ok, I'm still paying for it" - that makes me worry even more.

The saddle was like sitting on a safety pin, no a safety pin was wider, I went up and down the car park and changed a few gears and started to get used to this fine piece of equipment.

The rest of the team showed support to me and said we would do a Green Route first, I was ready for the black route but thought I would see how they fair on the easy route, I informed that the experienced riders go in front and I would hold up the rear, and if they fell off I could go around them (ha ha)



*Hut Biking Weekend*

continued...

I soon learnt on bumpy sections I had to stand up out of the saddle as I joked with the rest of the group (not printable in a family newsletter) There was some lovely sections along the route and there was also walkers, we stopped talking to some individuals and we informed we was from WBMC and got the usual reply, "I didn't know there was any mountains in West Bromwich" I wished I had a pound for how many times I have heard that one.



We came to the end of the trail and I was surprised I had not fell off and I had familiarised myself with the gears, so no soon we were back we was off again doing it again, becoming more brave I started to pedal this time around.

Paul Brindley had an issue with his chain coming off, which gave us all a chance to get off and have a drink. The hero of the day was Leon, who was riding a bike that was a lot smaller than him. I think a new bike will be coming your way Leon, because we all had a little moan at your dad about buying you a new bike. The only person that kept pedalling all day without moaning was Leon. Well done young man.

Whilst going around the trail we also met Phil Matthews and the boys, Phil was on his three-seater bicycle, think it was only Harry & Billy pedalling.

After getting back to the start we all decided to go and have something to eat in the very well built restaurant, I think I had left my bum on the seat, to say I was saddle sore was an understatement, apparently you have to wear padded shorts, surely real men just wear walking shorts!!!!

Paul had more technical problems and stated he was going to hire a bike, however the majority of mountain bikes had been hired, that did not defy him, Paul came out with a Sonic Bulk Bike which basically has bigger tyres than a car.

All fuelled up and rearing to go the team stated going for a Blue Route, I thought here we go its about time I

went flying over the handle bars, in all honesty the blue route even though faster, I personally thought the Green route was harder and longer.

Again, a couple of routes around and the day was coming to a close, myself and stumpy decided to wash the bikes down prior to putting back on the cars.

When I got off I was walking like "John Wayne" I think padded shorts are the way forward, it took me till about Wednesday to get some sort of natural feeling back.

We got back to the hut and Ann Parrot and friend Mandy had arrived, we all decided to have a nice meal at the Tan in Beddgelert on the Saturday evening, prior to heading back to the hut to have a few more drinks and the custom Cheese & Biscuits, I think the last person to bed was around 03.45a m (no names mentioned)

After breakfast the following morning some decided to go for a walk, and Jon and colleagues went for another mountain bike trail.

Thanks to Paul Brindley for organising a very enjoyable but sore weekend for certain individuals, also thanks to Neil Parsons for lending me a fantastic bike (Scott was the Brand)



And thank you to everyone that attended. Some new faces down there with fellow members, we hope you enjoyed your time at the hut and look forward to seeing you hopefully soon on further WBMC events.

If anyone has not done this weekend I recommend it, just ensure you have padded shorts.

Dave Jones.

# Hut Cleaning Weekend

21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> October

Words and pictures  
By Dave Jones



This small article is to update members on what tasks were carried out at the club hut on the above weekend.

This year we had not planned a clean up weekend, so it was discussed and organised very quickly.

There were four of us in attendance, Nigel Tarr, Alison Whitehead, John and myself.

Work started on the Saturday morning, after I asked Nigel if he was going to start a fire (don't worry I did cook his breakfast) so one good turn deserves another.

Alison & John was travelling down on the Saturday morning so there was only myself & Nigel present, we began by bringing the ladders in and getting up high onto the beams to clear all the cob webs, every section of beam had to be cleaned, so who ever is down the hut over the next few coming weeks you should be web free. Nigel done an excellent job of footing the ladder (lol)

Alison & John arrived, and John soon got to work fitting a new metal door on the wood cage at the back of the hut, this now means that we have a door on that opens outwards, so individuals can access the wood more easily.

Nigel had brought his Karcher window vacuum down so he quickly got windows gleaming,

Its very surprising that when tasks have been done you realise how much it needed doing.

I also cleaned the top of the cupboard that holds the plates/cups/glasses and yes it is now white and clutter free.

Alison disposed of numerous items that had discoloured or had not been washed after use, in between keep making us cups of tea and making lunch for us on the Saturday.

I then started to cut the grass at the back of the hut which was a little overgrown, John stated by the time I had finished it looked like the 18th fairway.

Numerous wood was chainsawed, stocked, and put away for drying. I also then cleaned the rafters in the shower block, so again web free, also Steam Cleaner was used on the walls.

Both the Hut and Shower block have had every rafter cleaned.

Also I would like to update that on the weekend of 28th October, the hut has taken ownership of 15 new mattresses, which comply with fire regulations due to

fire retardant fabric being purchased, there were three different thicknesses of mattress, soft, medium and firm, we have opted to go for medium, which have been looked at and tested and I'm sure our members will appreciate that the correct decision has been made.

Clean covers will be put onto the mattresses and we hope our members have many sweet dreams on them.

Thanks to Pete Poultney for taking these down in his van and offering to bring the old ones back, perhaps the old ones could walk back Pete !!!

As mentioned we have a good supply of wood, but please ensure whatever you use you replace. Please use the wood that is in the store by the toilet block. The wood at the rear is in the "drying process" and will be brought round when the other wood starts to run low.

Also can I thank Phil Matthews who offered to clean the chimney at the hut, because the new stove has been in for over a year now (where does time go) If anyone requires a chimney sweeping services please contact Phil Matthews.

The water boiler is currently out of order and is waiting to be looked at, in the meantime a new toaster and kettle has been purchased.

On the hut cleaning weekend there was an issue with the kitchen light and the wiring, on Thursday 27th October a new light was fitted in the kitchen.

Can I take this opportunity to thank my fellow hut cleaners, Nigel, Alison, John & Freda, great work by everyone, we never stopped all weekend, apart from drinking John's Jura whiskey on Saturday night.

Some members have reported issues with the door, however when there last week, to close turn the handle and lift the lever, believe me it does work instead of keep pushing the door to. Also the door will be investigated further in the next couple of weeks. (Thank you to the two individuals that are looking into this)

The committee are continuously improving standards at the hut, can we request if any items are used that they are cleaned properly after use, rubbish and food are taken home, and gas and electricity is turned off after use.

WBMC Committee



# Coach Meet – Moelwyns

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November

## Depart

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

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

## Drop off

Dolwyddelan (735524)

Tanygrisiau (690452)

Club Hut (627507)

## Pick up

Club Hut (627507)

Pen-y- Gwryd (660558)

Capel Curig (721582)

## Required maps

OS. 1:25000 Outdoor Leisure OL17 Snowdon & Conway Valley, OL18 Harlech & Bala

## Suggested routes

1 From Dolwyddelan (~ 23km - 14miles)

Head North into the forested area and follow the forestry paths to bring you to (724545) where a smaller path takes you to Llyn-y-Foel (716548). Turn W skirting the lake and head up the eastern ridge of Moel Siabod (Daear Ddu) to the summit. (705547). Head W over Moel Gid following the remnant of a boundary fence W then S to Carnedd-y-Cribau(676537). Continue with your fence S towards Moel Meirch then pick up the path (663501) to take you to the Nantmor Road and Plas Gwynant

2 Moelwyns (~ 20km - 12miles)

Head SW to the Stwlan Dam, then S over Carreg Blaen-Llyn to climb Moelwyn Bach (660437) from the South. Then down to Bwlch Stwlan, up over Craigysgafyn and onto Moelwyn Mawr(658448). Descend NE aiming for Llyn Croesor (661457). Follow paths through disused quarries and head N to pass Llyn yr Adar (657477). The path descends to the Nantmoor Road and Plas Gwynant



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.

3 Cnicht (~ 18km - 11miles)

Follow the track to the head of Llyn Cwmorthin (678460), cross a slate bridge and climb to the disused quarry (665462). Head N until just before reaching Llyn yr Adar turning SW up the ridge to the summit (646466). Head back the way the way you came to Llyn yr Adar then follow the paths as route 2

4

Pick any of the "Trade Routes" from Beddgelert or The Hut

# Coach Meet – Hayfield

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December

## Depart

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

07:20 – Penkridge

## Drop off

Snake Pass (088929)

Hayfield (045880)

## Pick up

Hayfield (The Packhorse)

## Required maps

OS 1:25,000 Outdoor Leisure No1 Dark Peak

## Suggested routes

### Route 1 Snake Pass A57 (8.9km – 5.5miles)

Drop off Snake Pass where the Pennine Way crosses the A57. Follow the Pennine Way South through Featherbed Moss, criss crossing the stakes on a South Westerly heading to Glead Hill then Mill Hill(61904)at 541 metres and turn left SE to the top of Williams Clough. Follow this path to Nab Brow(058885), White Brow and the Shooting Cabin to the path junction at (045880) and follow Snake Path back to Hayfield

### Route 2 - Snake Pass A57 (13.2km – 8.2miles)

Follow the A57 East past Doctors Gate Colvert to Lady Clough to a path on the right hand side of the road (100928). Follow this path through wooded area -past Lady Clough Moor. Follow this path SE and then South until paths join at(107907) and you cross a footbridge and head West to Saukin Ridge. The path skirts Ashop Clough and the River Ashop to Ashop Head and turns South to the top of William Clough, then descends via routes 1,3,4.Distance 13.2 km/8.2 miles

### Route 3 - From Hayfield (15km – 9.3miles)

From the start of Snake Path (040868) on the Kinder Road follow this North to Middle Moor and keep right towards the Shooting Cabin, skirt the reservoir and climb William Clough. Where it meets the Pennine Way (064901) turn SE,pass Sandy Hays to Kinder Downfall (082889) . Turn South ,follow the path and



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.

pass by Cluther Rocks on the right and Kinder Low Trig point at 633 metres on your left. Through Edale Rocks (079867) and past Swines Back on the right to the descent path (080861) at a crossroads on the right. Follow this path turning right at the bottom of Caldwell Clough to follow the track and road back to Hayfield.

### Route 4 - From Hayfield (28.5km – 17.7miles)

Follow Route 3 to Edale Rocks . Shortly after there is a path junction (079864). Turn left towards Noe Stool, Pym Chair, Wool Packers and Crowdens Tower. When the path splits take the right hand fork (094871) and turn right again to join a main path East (095872). Follow this to the top of Grindsbrook Clough (105872) and then head North and skirt around the top of the valley by Nether Tor and Ringing Roger. When the path splits at (128874) take the left hand path past Druids Stone. You now walk to the lip of the plateau and once you see Madwomen Stones on your left from the fords (138877), head North and follow the path round left to Blackden Edge with Blackden Moor on your right, then Seal Stones on your left. Carry on hugging the lip of the plateau and it will bring you back to the top of William Clough. You can descend via Snake Path or Kinder Reservoir back to Hayfield.

# Mitch's Meet – Malvern Hills

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2017

## Depart

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

## Drop off

Tank Quarry Car park (Grid Ref SO 771 469)  
Farmers Arms Public House (Grid Ref SO 790360)

## Pick up

Hayfield (The Packhorse)

*The coach, having departed Edward Street at 9am, will drop off the occupants at the three locations of the Tank Quarry then Wyche Cutting and finally British Camp.*

*For anyone who requires a shorter walk, they can stay on the coach as it will then be travelling to the Farmers Arms where shorter walk options are available.*



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.

## Suggested routes

The Linear Route (~14.7km - 9.1miles)

*This route starts at the Tank Quarry Car park – Grid Ref SO 771 469. Ascends up onto the Malvern Hill ridge with panoramic views of the surrounding Worcestershire, Herefordshire and Gloucestershire countryside. If the weather is favourable views of Wales may be seen.*

Once the height is gained onto the ridge, it is followed from North to South until the Gullet is reached. Then a descent is made to Castlemorton Common and the Farmers Arms at GR SO 790 363 to the Pickup point.

## Refreshments

Upon the conclusion of the walk, the intention is to attend the Farmers Arms where there is an excellent selection of beers and an option of a carvery at £8.95 or Buffet £7.50 per person.

The Circular Route (~14.2 km - 9miles)

*This route starts at the Farmers Arms Public House Grid Ref SO 790360. Ascends up onto the Malvern Hills crossing Hollybed Common with panoramic views eastwards of the surrounding Worcestershire countryside and the Vale of Evesham .*

Once the height is gained onto the ridge, it is followed northwards to the Herefordshire Beacon. Then a descent is made back along the ridge to the Obelisk in Eastnor Park where the track is taken to the Gullet and back to the Farmers Arms.

For more information contact Julie at The Farmers Arms on 01684 833308 or visit the pub's website: [www.farmersarmsbirtsmorton.co.uk](http://www.farmersarmsbirtsmorton.co.uk)



## Mitch's Meet – Pub Menu



**Monday to Saturday** 11.00 - 2.00 and 6.00 - 9.30  
**Sunday** 12.00 - 2.00 and 6.00 - 9.00

**Starters:**

Soup & roll	3.95	Pate & toast	4.65	Prawn Cocktail	5.55	Whitebait	4.65
-------------	------	--------------	------	----------------	------	-----------	------

**Homemade Sweets:**

Apple Pie / Treacle Tart / Crumble	4.50	Spotted Dick	4.50
Steamed Treacle suet pudding	4.65	Fruit meringue	4.75
Gateau	4.75	Banana Split	4.75
Ice cream with a sauce	2.60	Cheese & Biscuits	4.60

**Homemade Hot Dishes:**

Steak & Kidney Pie	10.70	Hereford Pie	9.50
Chilli con Carne	8.80		
Chicken and Vegetable Curry	8.95	Chilli $\frac{1}{2}$ + $\frac{1}{2}$	9.40
Curry $\frac{1}{2}$ + $\frac{1}{2}$	9.55	Macaroni Cheese	6.60
Cauliflower Cheese	7.15	Cheeseburger	5.25
Burger in a bap	4.95	$\frac{1}{4}$ Chicken	9.25
Scampi	9.25	Sausages and chips	7.20
Sausages in a bap	4.65		extra egg 50p
Cod or Plaice	8.95	Lasagne	9.25

**Salads**

Cheese	5.10	Prawn	7.15	Ham	5.45
Tuna	6.50	Beef	6.50	Chicken	6.95

**Ploughman's (brown or white roll)**

Cheddar	5.00	Stilton	5.25	Ham	5.45	1/2 + 1/2 + 50p
---------	------	---------	------	-----	------	-----------------

**Sandwiches (brown or white bread)**

Cheese	2.70	Prawn	4.35	Ham	3.00	Tuna	3.60	Chicken	3.55	Beef	3.95
--------	------	-------	------	-----	------	------	------	---------	------	------	------

**Vienna Roll (brown or white)**

Cheese	3.10	Prawn	4.95	Ham	3.60	Tuna	4.10	Chicken	4.05	Beef	4.50
--------	------	-------	------	-----	------	------	------	---------	------	------	------

**Children's menu** 4.50**Side Dishes**

Portion of chips	2.30	Cheesy chips	2.85	Side salad	2.75
White or brown roll & butter	0.75	Garlic bread	£1.60	Onion rings	£1.80

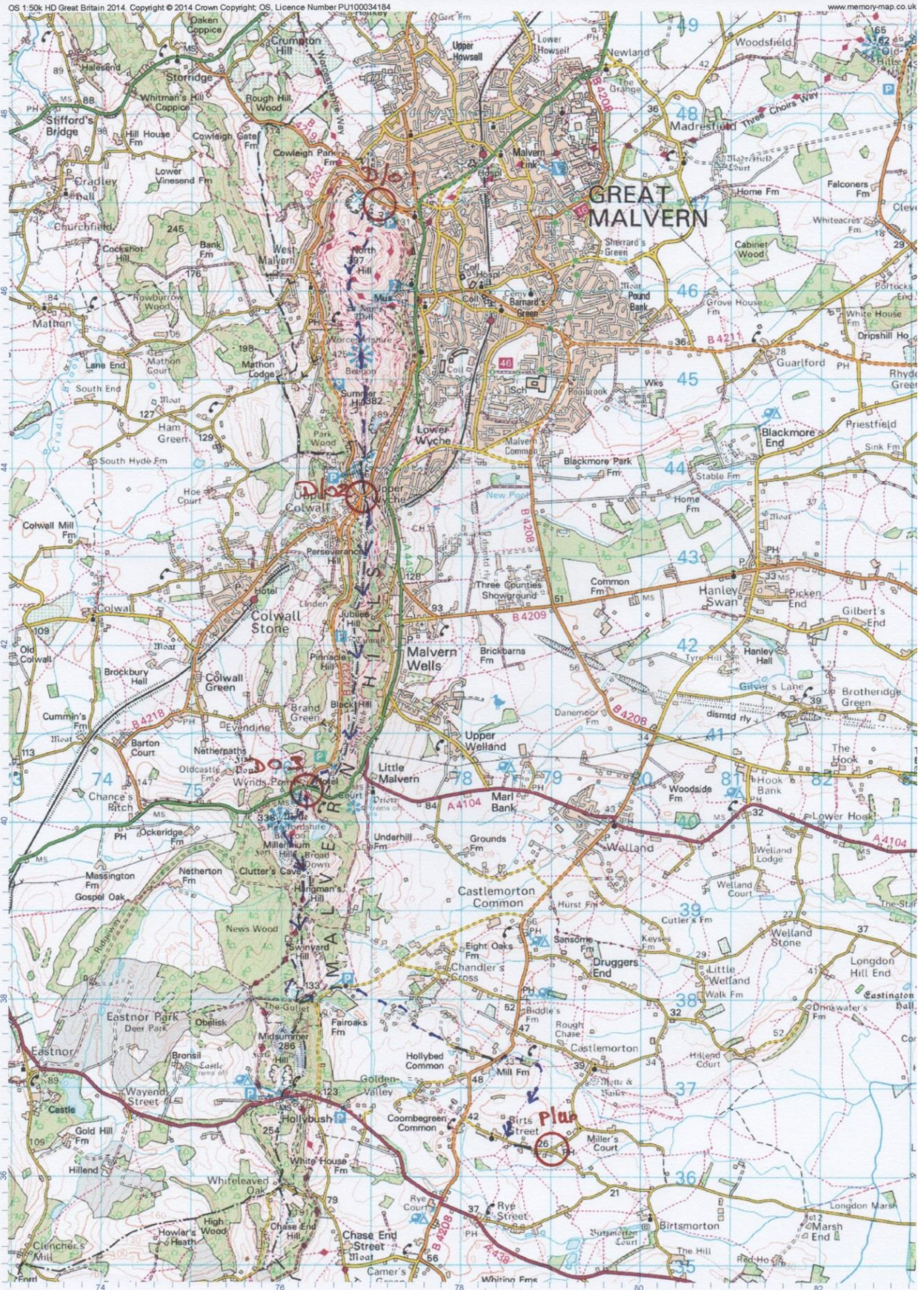
**Grills**

8oz Rump Steak	10.95	Gammon Steak	9.20
Sirloin steak	12.95		extra egg 50p
Trout with Almonds	9.50	Mixed Grill	13.95

[www.farmersarmsbirtsmorton.co.uk](http://www.farmersarmsbirtsmorton.co.uk)



# Mitch's Meet – Linear Route Map





# Mitch's Meet – Circular Route Map





# Black Mountains Weekend - Talgarth

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2017

We are returning to the Bunkhouse in the Town Hotel, Talgarth ([www.towerhoteltalgarth.co.uk](http://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. The cost is £25 a bed in the bunkhouse, £30 per person in a twin or double room or £45 in a single 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 the town also has a working water mill with its own bakery and café ([www.talgarthmill.com](http://www.talgarthmill.com)).

There are lots of other things to do in the town ([www.visittalgarth.co.uk/item/talgarth.html](http://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 requires 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.



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: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Names	Room Type	£
Total		
Deposit (£10 pp)*		

\*WBMC takes no financial responsibility for this event