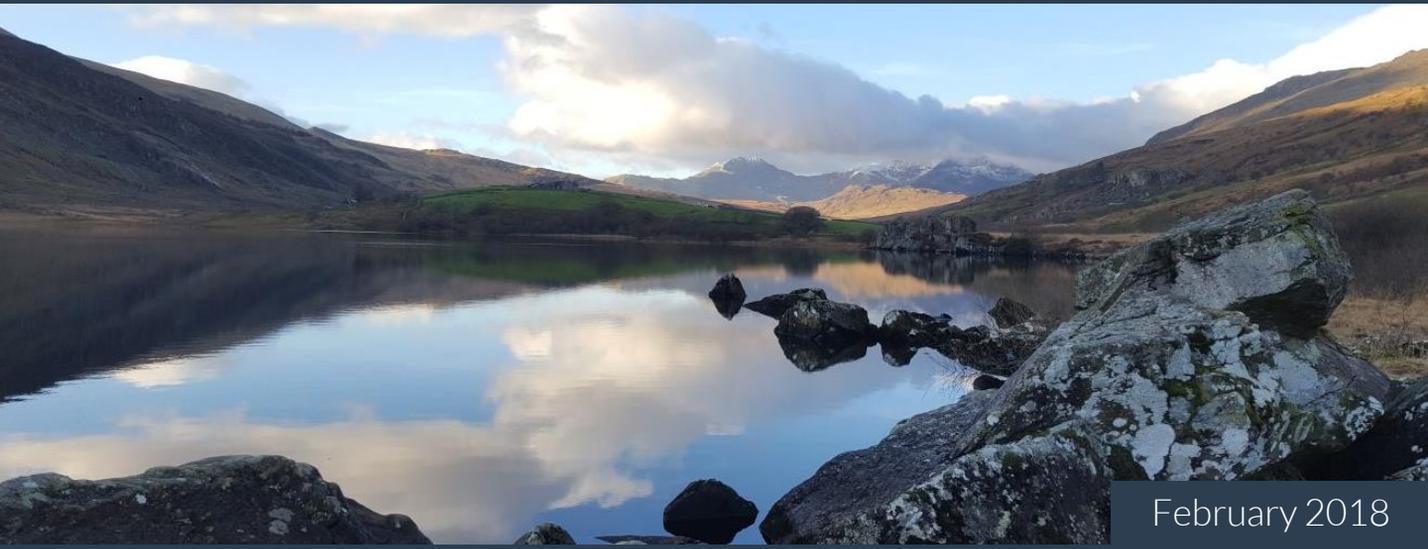


West Bromwich Mountaineering Club Newsletter



February 2018

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Phil Wood

Dear Readers

Congratulations to our new Coach King & Queen! Read John's article on page 4 to find out who they are...

Don't forget that subs are now due! The membership fee is £27.50 and can be paid either by cheque or by bank transfer.

Huge thanks as always to this month's contributors: Pete Poultney, Geordie Hind, Dave Jones, John Edwards, Jo Cheung, Guy Harris, Richard Cooksey, Nigel Tarr, Tony Emms, and Phil Wood.

If you have anything that you'd like to be featured in next month's newsletter - whether you're selling gear, looking for a climbing or walking partner, you've seen an event that members might be interested in, anything at all - send it to newsletter@wbmc.org (or through our website if it's an article) before the 20th of the month.

Cheers,
Joe

The WBMC meeting place



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

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

BMC
AFFILIATED CLUB

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

www.wbmc.org

Cotswold Discount Code: AF-WBMC -K3

Noticeboard

New member

WBMC would like to welcome new member Will Holmes to the club. We hope that you have many enjoyable days in the hills with us. Can all club members please welcome Will and look out for him on future meets and trips.

New premises

Just a reminder that the club has moved its base to the Cricketers Arms, 43 Trinity Way, West Bromwich, B70 6EA. All Thursday evening meetings will be held there with immediate effect.



The pub's website is <https://thecricketersarms.pub>. It has a large room that we can use for indoor evening meets, discos, Christmas get togethers etc, is family friendly, and offers a full menu - see <https://thecricketersarms.pub/best-steakhouse>

Its owner is very friendly and welcoming. What's not to like? Please pass the message on...

Away Dinner Full

There are no spaces left on the Annual Away Dinner. If those who are going need more information contact Richard Cooksey on 07950 087911

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.

Climbing nights in full swing

Club climbing nights are taking place every Tuesday evening at High Sports Kidderminster, Silverwoods Way, Kidderminster DY11 7DT. Get in touch to be added to the Indoor Climbers WhatsApp group.



To book

Phone or email Alison Whitehead:

07903 584450

hut-secretary@wbmc.org

Please contact Alison *before* going to the hut.

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

Coming up



Photo from thebmc.co.uk

7th February 2018

BMC Midland Area Meeting

8pm at Old Edwardians Sports Club, Streetsbrooke Rd, Solihull B90 3PE

Followed by refreshments and talk by Suzie Imber, the Leicester climber who climbed Denali and became famous last September by winning BBC2's "Astronauts: Have You Got What It Takes?" programme.

8th February 2018

Indoor Evening Meet

The next indoor meet will be presented by Mike and Emily Smith titled "From Andorra to the Med" - A GR10 Route by Mike and Emily Smith.

Note the new venue: The Cricketers Arms, 43 Trinity Way, West Bromwich, B70 6EA.

Please come along and support Mike and Emily.



Photo from visitandorra.com

March 2018

Your event here

Do you have a club event you'd like to advertise? Email newsletter@wbmc.org

Coach King & Queen 2017

By John "Statsman" Edwards



Yes it's that page where anybody in WBMC can get a mention, as we review the coach meets of 2017 – this year all 13 of them as data for Mitch's Meet is available for inclusion. The bald facts on seat occupancy are that it was a more successful year than 2016 with 139 different people using the coach meets and a total of 490 seats being filled. For a 49-seater coach that represents occupancy of 77% whereas last year it was 72%. It is always difficult to give definite reasons for changes but I feel sure that the regular advertising of our meets by Dave Jones on Meet-Up has something to do with it. The most poorly attended meet was the December one to Castleton which was badly affected by overnight snow in the Midlands. This was so deep that only 21 managed to join the coach, although many more were booked. There was a full coach with no spare seats for the April visit to Ogwen and the average number of seats taken over the 13 meets was 37.7.

Paul Brindley retained his crown as "Coach King" as, according to the Route Book, he was the only person apart from Coach Sec Nigel to go on all 13 coaches but Hilary Jones, the regular "Coach Queen" over the last few years has been dethroned! Yes there is a new "Coach Queen", or perhaps I should say "Deity", for 2017 as **Anthenia Dimitriou** (aka *Trouble* or *the Greek Goddess*) went on all the coaches except the one in August when, you guessed it, she was back visiting the abode of the Gods in Greece. Congratulations and well done to both of them. **Dave Coats** narrowly missed out on the awards but receives a special mention as he too only missed a single meet.

Both King & Queen happened to be on the January Patterdale meet and so were 'crowned' on the coach to general acclamation.



Congratulations to the Coach King & Queen!

Nobody had 11 attendances and Hilary Jones was the only other person to get into double figures. Emily & Mike Smith, Oliver Stephenson, Rob Thomas and Phil Williams went on 9 coaches and 11 people went on 8:- David Doherty, Fred Hammonds, John Harris, David Hellyar, Geordie Hind, David Jones, Mayya Konovalova, Angie Murdoch, Liz Perks, Pat Potter & Dee Sendeva.

The 'Seven Stars' who went on 7 coach meets were Julie Atkinson, John Dale, John Edwards, Claire Hammonds, Dave Hough, Nick Pietrowski & Phil Smith. Coincidentally 6 people travelled on 6 meets! Charles Brecknell, Linda Howells, Suki Kaur, Ben Leah, Adrian Shaw & Andy Wright brought the number of people who'd done 50% of meets up to 34.

Vivienne Barclay, Andy Brown, Martin Conway, Tony Emms, John Howells, Peter Kane, Mark Lawton, Andrew Mitchell, Ann Parrot & Mark Steven were the 10 who went on 5 coaches, one more than the number who attended 9. These were John Bastable, Stephen Cartridge, Richard Cooksey, Noah & Phil Cox, Janet Dawes, Matt Gillon, Melanie Glass & Graeme Stanford.

Cordelia Barclay, Gary Coates, Rob Cox, David Hadley, Dave Hill, Will Holmes, Arthur Joiner, Noel Kelly & Ian Merther were the 9 who went on 3 coaches while 23 people attended a couple of meets:- Paul Breslin, Leon Brindley, Joanna Cheung, Teresa Chilles, Ester Costa, Chris Dean, Margaret Downes, Mel Evans, Lee Grainger, Marc Hankinson, Lesley Jones, Mateusz & Sylwia Krawczyk, Tony Marina, Wendy Morris, Raksha Patel, Paul Read, Stu Shaw, Mel Sutton, Johnny Taylor, Hannes Truter, Rachel Ward & Joe Wood.

There were 53 passengers who were one-trip-wonders in 2017, namely Luis Alonso, Simon Backhouse, Ruth Chapman, Prem Choughan, Sanjay Choughan, Alex Clarke, Ursula Clarke, Geraldine Evans, Stuart Fellows, James Foster, Bob Franklin, Sue Goddard, Darren Groutage, Steve Gwynne, Debbie Hardcastle, Geoff Hill, David Hope, Louise Kent, Rabs Khanum, Sophie King, Chris Lawley, Martin Lawrie, Judith Llewellyn-Li, Mike Lockett, Emily Lord, Teresa Lynch, Keith Mickelwright, Annabelle Moore, Glen Mountford, Andy Myatt, Laura Northall, Dalbir, Harjit & Harpal Panesar, Goske Popiel, Pete Poultney, Hugh Rothero, Luis Sanchez, Brett Scoones, Simon Shrewsbury, Ed Smith, Sandra Tsang, Millie Val, Marj Ward, Tom Watson, Hazel Webb, Wayne Whitehouse, John Wilson, Phil Wood, Rebecca Worrall, Andrew Wright (there were 2 people with this name but different contact details on the June coach) plus Christie & Sunhil (2 people who didn't state their surname!) Overall 35% of our passengers were ladies and the rest indubitably gentlemen!

Coach Meet – Ogwen

Saturday 10th February 2018

Depart

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

07:20 – Service Road Junc 2 M54

Drop off

Pont Cyfyng (735572)

Capel Curig (721582)

Ogwen (656603)

Pick up

Ogwen 656603)

Capel Curig (721582)

Required maps

OS 1:25000 OUTDOOR LEISURE NO 17 SNOWDON

Winter conditions may prevail if so ice axe and crampons should be part of your gear and in your sack. Also, think about the conditions when choosing your route.

Suggested routes

FROM PONT CYFYNG

Route 1 - 9.5 km (6 miles)

Follow the track to a disused quarry (717555) then continue to Lyn y Foel (713547) from where you can climb the SE ridge of Moel Siabod (Grade 1 scramble of Dear Ddu) from the summit (705546) descend via the NE ridge to grid reference (713565) continue through the forest to Plas y Brenin and the Capel Curig pick up.

FROM CAPEL CURIG

Route 2 - 9km (6 miles)

Head West and follow the ridge to Galt yr Ogoff (685586) continue over Foel Goch (678582) to Llyn Caseg - Fraith (670584) and find a cairn at the col marking the Miners Track. Follow the track to Bwch Tryfan (662588) and ascend Tryfan (664594) via the South Ridge descend via the West gully to Ogwen

Route 3 - 13km (8 miles)

Follow route 2 to Llyn Caseg - Fraith (670585) 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 oath to the right of the Devils Kitchen to Llyn Idwal and back yo Ogwen

Route 4 - 16km / 10mls

Head North to Craig Wen (729602) and on to Creigiau Gleision double summit (729616) and (734623) Then descend to the Llyn Cowlyd Dam and climb Pen Llithrig y Wrach (716624) before returning to Capel Curig If the weather is bad the return could be via the lakeside track



Photo from visitllandudno.org.uk

Fares

Members £20.00

Guests £22.00

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

To book contact Nigel Tarr on 07703 345729.

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

Route 5 - 16km (10 miles)

Head NNW to Pen Lithrig Wrach (716624) and descend to its West ridge to Pen Yr Heigi Du (699629) Follow the narrow ridge NW onto Carnedd Lleweiyn (684645) Head South and South West and finally West to Carnedd Dafydd (664630) and from here the quickest way back to the coach is to contour round to Pen Ole Wen (655619) and descend the path down its South West ridge to Ogwen Falls (649605) then East along the A5 to the coach

FROM A5 NEAR LLYN OGWEN

Route 6

Follow the road to grid reference (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! (*weather permitting*) and then descend the South Ridge to Bwlch Tryfan (662588) and continue up the 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 and scramble over the Castell Y Gwynt (654582) and follow the plateau edge NW to the top of Y Gribin (651582) Descend this fine ridge back to Ogwen.

This route is very dependent on the weather and conditions

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. Don't leave them in the boot where they could damage rucksacks.

Coach Meet – Borrowdale

Sunday 11th March 2018

Depart

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

07:20 – Penkridge

(Coffee break at Charnock Richard services)

Drop off & Pick up

Keswick (264235)

Shepherds Crag (262184)

Seatoller (246137)

Required maps

OS 1:25 000 Outdoor Leisure

No 4 The English Lakes North Western Area

No 6 The English Lakes South Western Area

Suggested routes

FROM KESWICK: Route 1 – 15.5 km (9.5 miles)

Head West to Stormwater Bridge (255239) into Portinscale Follow part of the Cumbria Way South to the foot of Catbells & and climb steeply to the summit (244198) Continue South along the ridge over Maiden Moor to High Spy (234162) then descend to Dale Head Tarn (230'52) and turn West to the summit of Dale Head (223153) Enjoy the view north towards Skiddaw then head downhill East to Tongue Gill and the Rigghead Quarries (240152) then South to Seatoller

FROM SHEPHERDSCRAG: Route 2 – 9 km (5.5 miles)

Head North through woods to Ashness Bridge (270196) and then take minor road & path to the South of Watendlath Beck to Wetendlath Farm (276163) Alternatively you could climb to the summit of High Seat (287181) and then South over boggy ground to High Tove (289166) probably the most boring summit in the Lake District from which you could try and find the top of Amboth Fell before dropping off W to Watendlath From there a path above Bowdergate Gill leads to Rosthwaite then paths to Longthwaite & Seatoller

FROM SEATOLLER: Route 3 – 10.5km (6.5 miles)

Follow the road E to Strands Bridge (252137) From here follow the path up to Thornythwaite Fell (245118) and on to Glaramara (245106) From the rocky summit head NE to Combe Head & Combe Door (252109) Pick a way through more rocky outcrops & tarns to Rosthwaite Cam (256118) & the top of Bessy Boot trig (256125) Finally descend W into Combe Gill and N back to Strands Bridge and the coach

ROUTE 4 – 19.5 km (12miles)

Follow the road SW to Seathwaite (235121) from where you can ascend Base Brown (225115) via Sour Milk Gill Continue over Green Gable to Great Gable (211104) Leave NW to Beckhead Tarn (205107) and onto the summit of Kirk Fell (196106) over Green Gable to Great Gable (211104) Leave NW to Beckhead Tarn (205107) and onto



Photo from visitllandudno.org.uk

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the summit of Kirk Fell (196106) Retrace steps to Beckhead Tarn and traverse below Green Gable to Brandreth (215119) From here you can tick off Grey Knotts (217126) and possibly visit Fleetwith Pike (205142) which has excellent views down to Buttermere Drop down the top of Honister Hause (225136) and then follow the road E to Seatoller

ROUTE 5 – 15.5km (9.5miles)

As route 4 to the summit cairn of Great Gable (211104) then descend to the top of Styhead Pass (220095) Continue past Sprinkling Tarn (226091) to the Esk Hause shelter (235083) and onto Allen Crags (236085) Follow the undulating ridge to Glaramara (247104) and continue N over Thornythwaite Fell (245121) and back to Seatoller

ROUTE 6 – 19km (12miles)

For the chance to climb Scafell Pike England's highest mountain get your skates on & follow the road to Seathwaite (235121) and continue to Stockley Bridge (;235109) Follow Styhead Gill to Styhead Tarn (221096) and with careful navigation find the start of the Corridor Route to Skew Gill (221091) Follow the map carefully to the head of Piers Gill (214079) & climb very steeply SE to the col (217075) and onto the highest (976m) trig point in England (215072) Then its a rocky route ENE over Broad Crag & Ill Crag and down to Esk Hause (233081) If time is short descend Ruddy Gill (230086) to Stockiey Bridge & Seathwaite and back to Seatoller If you have more time you could return as route 5 over Allen Crags Glaramara & Thornythwaite Fell (245121)

Gear For Sale

Contact Nigel Tarr: 07703 345729

For Sale

Trousers

Rohan Bags - Blue	Blue	32" Reg	£15.00
Paramo	Grey	Medium	£15.00
Berghaus Soft Shell	Grey	30"	£15.00
Rab - Fleece Lined	Black	30"	£15.00
Paramo Windproof	Black	Small	£20.00
Paramo Windproof	Grey	Medium	£20.00
Haglofs	Olive	Small	£15.00
Montane	Black	Medium	£15.00

Coat

Paramo Cascada	Black	Medium	£30.00
Marmot	Black	Medium	£20.00
Mountain Hardware	Black	Medium	£20.00
Rab Insulated	Black	Medium	£30.00
Snugpak Insulated	Olive	Medium	£30.00

Fleece

Paramo	Grey	Medium	£20.00
Mountain Equipment	Grey	Medium	£20.00
North Face	Grey	Large	£20.00

Smock

Buffalo Windshirt	Olive	40"	£20.00
Paramo Velez	Black	Medium	£30.00

Windproof

Paramo	Olive	Medium	£15.00
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Over Trousers

Berghaus	Black	Medium	£20.00
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Gilet

Rohan	Olive	Medium	£15.00
North Face Gloves	Black	Medium	£5.00
Tilley Sun Hat	Fawn	7.25"	£10.00

Compasses

Silva Type 4/54	£10.00
Suunto	£10.00
Silva	£5.00

Torches

Petzl Tikka XP	£10.00
Petzl Tikka	£5.00

Contact Nigel Tarr on 07703 345729

Gear For Sale

Contact Phil Wood: 07850 024475

Jackets

Berghaus Pullover	softshell	blue	large	£15
Patagonia jacket		dark brown	medium	£20

Fleeces

Katmandu	half zip	blue	medium	£10
Kathmandu	full zip	blue/grey	medium	£10
Lowe Alpine	full zip	fawn	medium	£10
Lowe Alpine	full zip	thick woolly black	medium	£15
North Face	half zip	orange	medium	£10
North Face	full zip	grey	medium	£10
Karrimor	half zip	black	medium	£5
Karrimor	half zip	blue	medium	£5
Mountain Equipment	half zip	black	medium	£10
ACG	full zip	black	medium	£10

Waterproofs

Low alpine		green	medium	£20
Mountain Equipment		Lovat green	medium	£20
Berghaus		blue	large	£20
ACG Gore-Tex		black	medium	£25
Sprayway		black	large	£15
Berghaus		blue	large	£20

Shirts

Craghopper	Solardry	fawn	medium/large	£8
Craghopper	Euro50	fawn	medium	£5
Stormlite		blue	medium	£5
Lowe Alpine		blue	medium	£5

Gear For Sale

Contact Phil Wood: 07850 024475

Rucksacks

Karrimor Jura	Red	25 litres	£10
Lowe Alpine Attack	black	20 litres	£20
Craghoppers Dri-Pac	red	75 litres	£20
Craghoppers Dri-Pac	blue	75 litres	£20
Craghoppers Dri-Pac	black	100 litres	£20
Victorinox covertable			£40

Miscellaneous

Craghopper Dri-pac	Bumbag	7 litres	£10
Eurohike	Washbag		£5
Lifeventure	Bumbag		£5
Kathmandu	small shoulder bag		£5
Trek mates	pak pillow		£3

Contact: Phil Wood

Mobile: 07850 024475