



March 2020

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Hello readers,

I hope you and your families are all doing well, all things considered. Here's hoping we can get out on the hills again before too long.

Huge thanks as always to this month's contributors (although I've since had to remove some of your contributions if they were related to upcoming events, sorry!): Pete Poultney, John Edwards, Paul Lawrence, Mike Thompson, Nic Piotrowski. Ken Priest, and Nigel Tarr.

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,~~ have an interesting tale to tell about a trip you went on, anything at all – send it to newsletter@wbmc.org (or through our website if it's an article).

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

Stay safe,
Joe

 **BMC**
AFFILIATED CLUB

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

www.wbmc.org

Noticeboard

Congratulations!

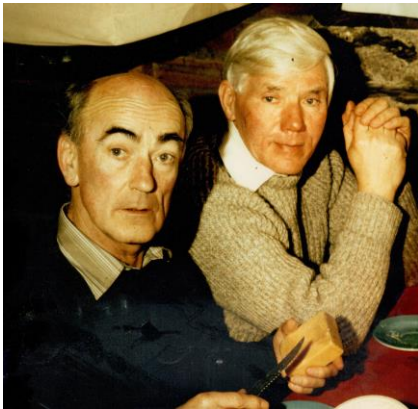
Congratulations to Guy & Tracey, who were married on Friday 6th March. The couple received the traditional WBMC guard of honour. Wishing you all the best for the future.



Photo by Pete Poultney

Who Were They?

Mike Thompson was the first to report that the two members who featured in Ken Priest's old hut photo (published in the last newsletter) were Glynn Hughes on the left and Ray Mullet on the right. Please annotate your paper copies!



Hut donations



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

Stamped addressed envelopes are provided in the hut for payment.

Internet at the Hut

By John Edwards

The committee are looking into the *possibility* of having Internet access installed in the Club Hut. Obviously this would mean that those staying at the hut and using the facility should behave responsibly and respect the right of others to peace and quiet, especially late at night.

But what do you, the members think? Is it a bad idea or something long overdue? Please feel free to let us know your views by emailing secretary@wbmc.org.

Camping Equipment for sale

By Paul Lawrence

- Vango Neva 600XL large 6 berth family tent. Size 700 long, 380 wide by 212 cm high. Sturdy steel poles, carpet in living area and full size groundsheet to be included. £100.
- Large gas barbecue £60.
- Other camping gear: wind shield, stove, tables etc. open to offers.

For more details phone Sim Lawrence: 07740 427971.

Free Films from the Hills

From an article by Nick Brown of UKC

One week into lockdown and the UKC/UKH staff are starting to climb the walls. We're taking solace in the fact that the hills will be there when we emerge. Meanwhile, there's an abundance of online films to help us plan our next adventure. If you can't get lost in the hills, get lost in this selection of films:

You can read the full article, with links to the videos, at <https://www.ukhillwalking.com/news/2020/03/lockdown-free-films-from-the-hills-to-keep-you-sane-72259>

To book

Email our Hut Secretary Pete Poultney:

hut-secretary@wbmc.org

Please contact Pete *before* going to the hut.

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

Coming up

COVID-19: Suspension of club activities

There were two pages of upcoming meets in the original draft of this newsletter, which was scheduled to go out around 3 weeks ago.

Sadly, and as you already know, we have had to suspend all upcoming WBMC events for the foreseeable future. We will assess the circumstances on a regular basis, taking into account government guidelines, and will keep you informed. As soon as it is safe to resume face-to-face meets will we do so.

Guidance and advice can be found on the Government and NHS websites:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

17th - 19th April 2020
Eskdale Burnhouse Weekend



The Club have managed to secure the Eskdale Centre Burnhouse for the 17th to 19th of April. It offers 200 configurations of 1, 2, 3 and 4 person options and will have all be planned with a large communal area and kitchen.

The price is £10 per night per person for the club and please register for our 2020 calendar at 01755 518822.

17th - 19th June 2020
Pembroke Crag

Walking, running, horse riding, mountain biking from the North, Bromsgrove & Kidderley and Worcester Mountaineering clubs.

Water horses, gillies, tents, dogs, etc. all welcome.

To book, call 01755 518822 and make your're with the group leading with Bromsgrove Mountaineering Club.



SUSPENDED

17th - 19th July 2020
Gower Weekend



July will see the club's annual visit to Gower, but this year the centre is unavailable and the camping at Porthkerry (Gower) 01755 518822.

As with Pembroke, tents, dogs, etc. all welcome.

To book, call 01755 518822 and make your're with Group leading 01755 518822.

Banff Mountain Film Festival

21st March 2020

By John Edwards



The 2020 Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour was due to arrive in Birmingham on Saturday 21st March at Birmingham Town Hall with both a Blue and Red programme.

The Blue programme

THE HIGH ROAD (18 minutes) Nina Williams specialises in "highball bouldering" – climbing tall boulders of extreme difficulty, without a rope – which combines the physicality of bouldering with the mental discipline of free soloing.

SPECTRE EXPEDITION - MISSION ANTARCTICA (36 mins) Leo Houlding, Jean Burgun & Mark Sedon's daring dream to reach the summit of the most remote mountain on earth: The Spectre, Antarctica. They used snow-kites to travel 1,000 miles pulling 200+kg loads in 65 days.

THE RUNNING PASTOR (9 mins) Sverri Steinholm, a pastor on the Faroes, is a compulsive runner on the archipelago's rugged, exposed trails.

RETURN TO EARTH (Tour Edit: 14 mins) Epic bike riding combined with life's big questions on gnarly trails from British Columbia to Utah.

THE FRENCHY (11 mins) The Colorado-based French ski racer, downhill mountain biker, road cyclist & incorrigible flirt, Jacques Houot is 82 and survived countless close calls, including avalanches, cancer, car accidents, a heart attack and even attempted murder. As a survivor, he tries to enjoy every day he has, ripping through the mountains with his signature catchphrase, "No problem!"

THE LONG RIVER HOME (20 mins) Blind Navy veteran, Lonnie Bedwell, is guided on a 14-day kayaking trip down the Grand Canyon by 3 friends.

A NORDIC SKATER (5 mins) Per Sollerman has perfected the art of long-distance skating on natural ice and, on the spellbinding frozen fjords and lakes of Norway, has found his calling.

The Red programme

CHARGE (5 mins) 4 top freeskiers spend a week at Chatter Creek, British Columbia, going flat out every day with their skills captured by a world champion drone pilot.

THE FLIP (3 mins) French Skydiver Remi Angeli faces his fears to explore new expressions of movement while BASE jumping in Mexico.

HOME (Tour Edit: 46 mins) Oxfordshire adventurer Sarah Outen embarks on a four-year, 20,000 mile, human-powered traverse of the globe, travelling by bike, kayak and rowing boat across Europe, Asia, the Pacific Ocean, North America and finally the Atlantic.

THE LADAKH PROJECT (14 mins) French athlete Nouria Newman embarks on a 375km solo kayaking expedition down the most remote and daunting rivers in the Indian Himalaya.

UP TO SPEED (20 mins) With Speed Climbing's inclusion in the 2020 Olympics it's about to be thrust on to the biggest athletic stage in the world. Self-proclaimed old-fashioned trad climber Zach Barr investigates this intriguing activity and meets the climbers who literally run up walls... with euphoric crowds cheering them on.

THE IMAGINARY LINE (10 mins) A team from Mexico & the USA assemble to establish a slackline hi-wire that crosses a canyon at the border between them, hoping to spread a message about the importance coming together and using our passions to connect cultures. "We are people from different lands, but we are all one."

THABANG (13 mins) Thabang Madiba lives in a South African township without a mountain in sight. Yet through hard work, dedication & passion he became the first black South African to represent his country in trail running.

DANNY DAY CARE (4 mins) Danny MacAskill's latest film shows him babysitting! He takes his friend's daughter Daisy on a wee bike ride over Scotland's iconic mountain biking terrain, with the pair tackling a few stunts of course!

If you missed it, try putting some of the names or titles into YouTube and see what trailers or footage you can see for free. Or watch the 'Official' trailer at <https://youtu.be/o0WzzyLkIA4>



Photo from banff-uk.com

My Lockdown Wishlist

My goals for the end of the year

By Ken Priest



"Time spent planning is never wasted" is a misquote from someone so famous (I've forgotten their name).

So, with this enforced period of rest I am suggesting we all fetch our books and maps off the shelf and begin to prepare for when normality resumes.

Let's keep it realistic and come up with a list of achievable objectives, days out, walks, scrambles, climbs or wild camping spots you would like to do before the end of the year.

Perhaps it's an old favourite you haven't done for ages or an area you have yet to explore, or an objective you have been considering for a long time. Either way let's put pen to paper, and then email them in for all to see, perhaps with a reason why it you have included it.

Some may be achievable on a coach meet, or weekend meet so, take a look at the club card and see what matches up.

Get the maps out and start plotting, browse the old climbing guides and get inspired, or scrutinise the new scramble guides and find some new gems in area you may not have even thought about.

Here are some from my list...

Climbs

- Any climb on Cloggy
- Paradise/Terminal arete, Lliwedd
- Ash Tree Slab, Ogwen
- Phantom Rib, Pass
- Any route on South Stack Anglesey, and Langdale valley

Scrambles

- Idwal Staircase and continuation
- Dolmen Ridge/Shark Buttress
- Tryfan West face routes

Walks

- Berwyns
- Moel Hebog
- Aber to Ogwen over the summits

Wild camp

- Cwm Glas and scramble up Clogwyn y Person arete



Photo from countryfile.com



Photo from hillexplorer.com



Photo from mudandroutes.com