

WMC Newsletter - 27th July 2013

What's been happening lately

Pembrokeshire (April): A sunny Saturday at Saddle Head was enjoyed by ten members, while Steve, Heather, Matt and friend sought out harder routes nearby. Notable events included: Paul arriving at bottom of route without his rope, Pam leading the classic 'Sea Mist' in fine style, Conrad and Rupert's ropes tangling on 'Blue Sky' with bellowing shouts of protest echoing across the landscape, Neil's pulling off his first day's climbing outdoors for over 10 years without a hitch ... despite feeling a bit 'out there'.

A good evening in the pub afterwards, with enforced prolonged drinking due to a two hour wait for food (a sign of things to come?). On Sunday everyone got out either climbing or exploring, before heading home when the drizzle arrived in earnest.

Gower (June): The solstice Gower weekend didn't turn out quite as had been planned (billed as a family weekend of climbing, walking, beaching and BBQ). With gale force winds and torrential rain forecast, only nine intrepid members and guests braved windswept Wales. But the weather was kind(ish) and it was possible to climb both days; and still ticked the box as 'a family weekend', thanks to Neil's daughter Isobel joining in for the weekend.



Stanage (July): Three days hot rocking for 14 members. Perfect conditions created by dawn to dusk sunshine, with a welcome breeze to keep the midges at bay. Memorable moments:



Day 1: 'Physiology' (oh that lovely cool breeze!), 'Sociology' and of course ... a bit of 'Anatomy'! Fascinating (or should that be fascinator?) conversation and another long wait in the pub – is the WMC jinxed?

Day 2: 'Black Hawk Traverse left' (do you stay high or go low?) and the delights of 'Flying Buttress'. BBQ, beer, the odd vodka or two (bottles!) and Pam's impromptu toe-waxing.

Day 3: Muzzy heads cleared by classics 'Holly Bush Crack' and 'Hargreaves Original' rounded off the perfect weekend. 😊

Ad hoc and evening climbing: As well as all the scheduled meets, there have been loads of ad hoc days out, including Wintours Leap, Symonds Yat, Llangollen, Castle Naze, Burbage and Froggatt. While the good weather and long evenings are here, who's up for joining Ady & Monika on Ivy Scar on the Malvern Hills?

WMC T-shirts: This year's must have item is flying off the shelves. Ian T proudly modelled his at Froggatt yesterday and was the talk of the crag. Speak to Wayne to arrange delivery of your order.

Meets list – additions, changes and the rest of the year

The [meets list](#) has been updated due to a few changed dates/venues. The rest of the year now looks like this:



River Wye (17th – 18th Aug): Thirteen of us have been press ganged into Cap'n Q's latest voyage of ~~disaster~~ ... oops ... I mean discovery. Telescopes at the ready - keep an eye out for the giant flying slugs!

Rhinnogs wild camp (31st Aug – 1st Sept): Two day walk with wild camp en route, so better travel light. Watch out for an email from Paul shortly.

Ian T's 40th anniversary climb (7/8th Sept): How can it be true - Ian's been climbing 40 years this September? Obviously his skills reflect his vast experience ... but surely that means he must have started in primary school?! ;-)

Cornwall instead of Gogarth (21st – 22nd Sept): Cristina's changed the date and venue for her autumn meet, so we now have a Cornish meet instead of Gogarth. Tides have been checked – all is well for some sea cliff action. ☺

'The Walk of the Damned' (26/27th Oct): Andy G is organising a 'nearly Halloween' walk in the Elan Valley. More details to follow.

AGM date change (21st Nov): The AGM has been brought forward to allow time to plan the New Year's Day meet and the WMC 40th Anniversary dinner.

WMC 40th anniversary dinner (Jan 2014): After much deliberation, it's been agreed that 2014 marks the WMC's 40th anniversary. This will be celebrated with a meal to be arranged for early in the new year.



Website

Stuart has kindly offered to help improve the website. His initial priorities are to look at re-structuring the gallery and transferring [2013 The story so far](#) ... onto the homepage. This mini blog, or should that be c'log (climbing log?), continues to show what an active club we've been this year. Please send Dawn comments on what you've been up to or any amusing quotes you hear to enable us to keep this updated frequently.

Membership

Thanks to everyone who's already completed their [Membership Form](#). Can those who haven't yet done so please pass their completed form to a committee member ASAP or post to Dawn's home address (as shown on the Membership List). It is important that we update the Membership List with details of emergency contacts, so meet organisers have all information readily to hand if needed.

Club numbers are riding high with 41 members. Welcome to new members who have joined the club in the last few months: Stuart Colley, Sarah Howard, Monika Szewczyk, Joe Cutler, Luke Griffiths and Mary Rudd. Last week we said 'au revoir' to Lizzie, off to the Peak District ... but with a spare mattress safely transported, she's surely ready to invite her first guests!

