

# CEUNANT NEWSLETTER

Spring 2014

Hi everyone, and welcome to the latest Ceunant newsletter. Between these pages you can read all about what has been going on over the past few months. Thanks to everyone who contributed material and keep those articles and photos coming, without them we don't have a newsletter.

**Stewart Moody**  
Vice Chair and Newsletter Editor



## The next outdoor meet is the Lake District

The 2012 and 2013 meets to the Lakes were both exceptional meets, and sold out very fast. This year (23-26 May) we are off to Wallowbarrow Crag in the southern lakes. Standing up to 60m high, Wallowbarrow's routes are spread over two main and two smaller buttresses. It's a very good mid grade crag featuring Western Wall(MVS), Malediction Direct(VS), Thomas(S), West Buttress Girdle(MVS), Nameless(MS), Digitation(MVS), Trinity Slabs(VD). It's also pretty handy for the Newfield Inn.

Ok, so I couldn't find a photo of Wallowbarrow, so here's one of myself and Dan Ashfield on Great Gable.



Visit our web page at...

[WWW.CEUNANT.ORG](http://WWW.CEUNANT.ORG)

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# 2014 Calendar of outdoor meets

## Glen Coe

**NEW YEAR - 27- December 2013 - 01 January 2014 - Lagangarb Hut**

See the front cover for more details of this meet. It will be awesome

## Burns Night

**18/19 January (third weekend meet) - Ty'n Lon**

Climb, hike or cycle during the day, then join us for a burns night supper and party

## Cairngorms

**1/2 February - Badaguish Wigwams**

A weekend of winter mountaineering in the Cairngorms

## AGM & Dinner

**15/16 March - Baskerville Hall, Hay-on-Wye**

Have your say on how the club is run, vote in the new committee, and then join us for dinner and dancing

## The Peak

**29/30 March - Hardhurst Farm Campsite, Hope Valley**

The first club trip to The Peak in 2014 will be a camping meet, most likely near a great pub

## Cornwall

**EASTER - 18/19/20/21 April - Kelynack Campsite**

Bring on those sea cliffs and beaches for climbing and kayaking, coasting walking, and coasteering

## Glen Coe

**FIRST MAY BANK HOLIDAY - 3/5 May - venue TBC**

What else can you say about Glen Coe other than it has a lot of stuff to keep everyone busy

## The Lakes

**SECOND MAY BANK HOLIDAY - 24/25/26 May - Wallabarow Crag**

The annual club pilgrimage to the Lake District has been a sell out for two years on the run

## Wye Valley

**14/15 June - Beeches Farm Campsite**

Accessible crag climbing and open fires at the camp site, what more could you want?

## Wild Camp

**12/13 July - Craig Yr Isfa, Snowdonia**

Wild camp at the base of the splendid Amphitheatre Buttress. If it rains? All retreat to Ty'n Lon!

## South Devon

**AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY - 23/24/25 August - venue TBC**

A very popular club destination. You can climb on the Tors or Dewerstone, or walk on the moors

## Llangollen

**13/14 September - Abbey Farm Campsite**

Who needs to drive 3 hours to go sport and trad climbing when Llangollen offer it on your doorstep

## The Peak

**11/12 October - Carlswark Cottage**

Some of you loathe 'em, most of you love 'em. The gritstone meets are here to stay by popular demand

## Work Meet

**1/2 November - Ty'n Lon**

The work meet, followed by a Halloween party. Free hut fees, and food and drink on Saturday night.

## Family Meet

**6/7 December - Ty'n Lon**

Bring the kids to Ty'n Lon for the family oriented meet and help decorate the Ceunant Christmas tree

## New Year

**NEW YEAR - 27- December 2014 - 01 January 2015 - Ty'n Lon**

This year we are back at our home away from home for New Year. Always popular



# NEW YEAR ACTIVITIES

Clockwise from top left: **Hilary Kennedy** skiing on fresh snow away from the crowds; Andermatt, Switzerland. **Phil Blaen** and Alex Dowell top out on Dorsal Arete at the Ceunant Glen Coe meet. **Richard King** paddling the River Usk in South Wales. **Angus Murray** finds an old gravel barge whilst out on a new years day walk. **Mark Eddy** shallow water soloing on the Raco del Corv sea cliff, Toix, Costa Blanca. **Giulio Curioni, Serena Bacuzzi** and their son at Al Castello di Graines, Italy.







Clockwise from top left: **Maggie McAndrew** cross country skiing, Chamonix. **Stewart Moody** looking less than impressed with the winter conditions in Wales. **Mike Deft** dolphin/sea eagle watching on Red Point Beach, Wester Ross, Scotland. **Holly Becket, Mike Peerless** and **John Beddard** in the Lost Valley, Glen Coe.





## Michael Peerless puts pen to paper:

### Winter Haiku

Winter has come now  
Mountains beckon us upward  
Bold are we who climb

Torch lights pierce our dawn  
Steel into ice, climber's kiss  
Winter's cold embrace

Winter has come now  
False summits draw us upward  
Bold are we who climb

### Untitled

Old friend,  
Daunting menace,  
Effortless.  
Through hues of blue and black and white and grey.  
Hardiness and steel on rock and ice will surmount this day.



# ALPINE DREAMS?

Discover the essential skills at a **BMC** Alpine Lecture

PRESENTED BY **Tim Neill** British Mountain Guide **Rob Greenwood** Alpine Climber

Going to the Ecrin National Park this summer with Rich and Stew? Are you ready for your alpine adventures?

Discover the essential skills at a BMC Alpine Lecture. Sponsored by Berghaus the BMC Alpine Lectures are touring the UK at the beginning of May. With the excellent line up of Tim Neill (British Mountain Guide) and Rob Greenwood (Alpinist).

These skill lectures are set to inspire. Tim and Rob will cover: best areas to visit; glacier travel; weather; huts & bivis; avalanche awareness; route selection; and the dark art of moving together.

The nearest to us guys in Birmingham is: **Thursday 15 May 2014** at **University of Birmingham**, Arts Building Main Lecture Theatre, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 2TT.

Tickets cost £5 BMC members and £7 non-members. Group discount: £3.50 each if you buy 10 or more tickets in advance. Tickets can be purchased from the BMC [online shop](#) or by telephoning.

PHOTO: SIMON HARRIS





# AGM by Fiona Devine

This year's AGM was held on 15<sup>th</sup> March at Baskerville Hall, Clyro Court, Hays on Wye. It was well supported with 34 members attending. Many of you sent your apologies too.

Kevin Devine the Chair opened the meeting by extending his thanks to the committee and rather than steal their thunder he handed over to the each committee to report back.

Secretary & Membership report was presented by Fiona Devine. We heard that 2013 had been a fair year for recruiting new members with 3 full members joining - Phillip Blaen, Natalie and Luke Perry. We also had 4 prospective members Sue Mann, Liam D'Authreau, Caroline Maynard and Samantha House. Fiona finished by thanking everyone for promptly paying their subs and encouraged those still to pay to pay quickly.

We then heard from Holly our Hut Secretary that the use of Ty'n Lon by members had increased. We also learnt that we now have a key safe (next to back door) for use by outside bookings. This has proven to be a cost saving in not having to post out keys and provides more of a convenience for group users. Holly reminded everyone checking the clubs google calendar on the website for details of outside bookings to avoid busy periods. Please note that from the 9-11 May 2014 we have agreed an exclusive booking - Aled & Gemma Wedding celebrations. If you do wish to visit then please stay at other huts in the area like the Vags Hut or camp at Danny's campsite.

Hut users are encouraged to use the A5 book for reporting faults, breakages etc rather than the log book, as this is for recording your climbing pursuits. Holly also encouraged members to let her/the hut warden know of any problems with the hut as the committee is keen to resolve issues quickly but if we don't know about them we can't action.

Our Hut Warden John Beddard expressed his thanks to everyone that attended the work meets. He gave special thanks to Kevin Devine for dealing with the fire safety issues ensuring that our hut remains well protected. This was borne out by receiving a commendation from the North Wales Fire Service following an inspection in September.

John thanked Kevin and Bill Beddard for organising the temporary repair to Ty'n Lon following storm damage last month, where we lost in excess of 30 roof tiles.



John then went on to describe his future plans to make the hut even better, recognizing that some would include works planned from the previous year but not undertaken. Works include to point the Vaynol gable end, renew the sky lights that are broken, seal the leaking chimney. He emphasized that the roof would be the main priority as a more permanent repair was needed. Several questions were raised seeking clarification of the damage and whether the club would be making an insurance claim. Kevin responded that the club is looking to use local roofing contractor and quotes will be sought. In addition the new committee will be looking into an insurance claim if deemed appropriate. Emma added the club was looking to build a list of local trade's people that can be called upon saying that it was great that members help out but appreciate that some times they are not available and we have the monies to pay for tradesmen to action the work more promptly. Pam asked that the club look to install velux with blinds when they replace the windows. This was agreed.

Finally John finished by proposing a formal vote of thanks to Sirhc for all his hard work.

The Treasurer's Report was delivered by Naomi Walker. First we heard about the Ty'n Lon Account which covers income generated by the cottage and expenditure required for its upkeep. It was good to hear that more members are using the hut. No big maintenance undertaken but more money was spent on improving fire safety. We heard that we have a healthy surplus up £3274.24 from last year. The continuation of our rates holiday from Gwynedd Council saving £1k and our reduced utility bill.

Naomi then spoke briefly on the General Fund which relates to income and expenditure required for the wider club activities such as outdoor & social meets, paying the BMC club affiliation fee at £11.75 per member.

# BASKERVILLE HALL

She went onto to say that it was most pleasing to see that the general fund had made a surplus £2464.69 – though it should be noted that this included £600 of early payment by some members in December of their 2014 membership subscriptions.

For further details and a copy the “Ceunant Mountaineering Club Accounts 2013” plus a summary from our auditor Hazel Lewis, then Email [secretary@ceunant.org](mailto:secretary@ceunant.org)

**Outdoor Meets Report** was presented by **Emma Bastock** - Attendance at meets had been mixed, it was a case of “rain stopped play”. Most pleasing to hear that this did not put off Tony Millichope and Luke Perry going on the CIC meet...hardcore! ..and 4 braved the weather to go on the Torridon meet. For the Easter meet most people went to the hut, others made other plans going to Pembroke and Yorkshire to climb.

Our most popular meets were the **Lakes** staying at **Wallaborrow Crag** Camping Barn and **the Peak** (two trips). Both venues are on the meets for this year.

Emma encouraged members to share their hidden gems of climbing areas, camp sites etc. Lots of suggestions were made including from Luke Perry for a meet in the Gower, Naomi Walker recommended a trip to Castle Naze a gritstone crag in Derbyshire for the next Peak Meet.

Finally Emma encouraged members to share their many adhoc climbing trips – like the **Alps trip** being organized by **Richard Greaves**.

The **Social Meets Report** delivered by **Richard Hubbard**. We heard that the summer BBQ had been well attended, as had the River Severn canoe trip, whilst numbers for the Christmas curry were down. Look out for more events.

The new committee was appointed. See 2014/2015 Committee pages for details.

Finally, our current membership stands at a record of 184. (166 full members affiliated to the BMC). So, if you are good at maths you will see that there are few full members that still need to pay their annual subscriptions.

Constitutionally, any non-payment by 31st of March means that a 50% surcharge can be levied. Non-payment by the 30th of June results in a termination of membership. The member would then have to reapply to become a member once again, in the usual way. So for the few of you that need to pay its now **£37.50**.





# Your Committee 2014 to March 2015

	Chair	Kevin Devine	07901 824388	chairman@ceunant.org
	Vice Chair	Stewart Moody	07800 895656	Vicechairman@ceunant.org
	Secretary	Fiona Devine	07763 839053	secretary@ceunant.org
	Treasurer	Julie Ring	07754 195234	treasurer@ceunant.org
	Hut Secretary	Holly Beckett	07815 917352	hutsec@ceunant.org
	Hut Warden	John Beddard	07719 454775	hut@ceunant.org
	Outdoor Meets	Emma Bastock	07841 482469	Outdoormeets@ceunant.org
	Indoor Meets	Richard Hubbard	07711 599708	Indoormeets@ceunant.org
	Ordinary Member	Carl Baker	07970 164813	om1@ceunant.org
	Ordinary Member	Andrew Ring	07841 651972	om2@ceunant.org



# Ceunant Mountaineering Club

## Standing Order Mandate

Please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS **and send direct to your bank**

To \_\_\_\_\_ Bank Sort Code \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

### Branch Address

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Account Name \_\_\_\_\_ Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

Tel No (work) \_\_\_\_\_ Tel No (home) \_\_\_\_\_

### **Organisation to be paid**

Name of Organisation: **Ceunant Mountaineering Club**

Bank and Branch Name: **LLOYDS BANK PLC,  
Colmore Row Branch,  
114-116 Colmore Row,  
Birmingham B3 3BD**

Account Number: **00062519** Sort Code: **30-00-03**

Reference \_\_\_\_\_

### **About the payment**

Amount of payment: **£25**

Amount of payment in words: **Twenty Five Pounds**

First payment to be taken: **on 1st day of January 2015**

And thereafter every year until further notice and debit my account accordingly.

Customer(s) Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



# Notice Board

## Claiming multiple membership refunds

Are you in more than one BMC affiliated club? Do you want to claim a multiple membership refund? Download the form from the BMC website and return it to the BMC. To qualify for a refund the BMC should receive your claim by the 30 June 2014.

Please note: if you have claimed back your multiple fees previously, there is no need to make a claim for 2013. The BMC will check your data and our clubs BMC affiliated clubs payment to the BMC for the current year and will send you an automatic refund after 30 June. For more information contact Lynda Buckley at the BMC office on 0161 445 6111 or email [office@thebmc.co.uk](mailto:office@thebmc.co.uk)

Are you on Facebook then check out BMC Midlands Area  
[www.facebook.com/BMCMidlandsArea](http://www.facebook.com/BMCMidlandsArea)

The page promotes area meetings and communicates other useful information.

We can also use the page for advertising anything we have going on and can post pics of our meets to promote interest in the club.

Keep an eye out on our Facebook pages for updates, impromptu gatherings, banter and invitations to meets.

**facebook**

## BMC Training courses for BMC Club Members

The 2014 training programme for BMC club members has now been updated with more course information. Course training weekends include winter skills, mountain skills, first aid, climbing self-rescue and navigation. Each course is two days long, with accommodation and instruction included in the cost. Check out the website for more details, dates and availability. At the time of going to press the following were available:

Training Novice Club Members: 17-18 May, £50 (Plas y Brenin, Snowdonia)  
Outdoor First Aid: 17-18 May, £75 (Brecon Beacons)  
Scrambling Skills: 7-8 June, £75 (Coniston, Lake District) Only 2 places remaining  
Self-Rescue for Climbers: 13-14 September, £75 (Coniston, Lake District)  
Outdoor First Aid: 27-28 September, £75 (Ogwen Valley, Wales)  
Navigation: 18-19 October, £75 (Ogwen Valley, Wales)

More courses will be added throughout the year so do check online for information and booking. For course details click [club training courses for 2014](#). To secure your place on a course please use the BMC [online booking system](#)



**T'was the first camping meet of the year, and the forecast was good. So it came as no surprise that the Peaks... sorry... Peak meet was so well attended.**

It was a brave move of Naomi to get in early on Facebook with the suggestion of Castle Naze as the venue for Saturday's climbing – a full 30 minute drive away from the camp site. There may have been whispers of "I'm not going there when there is so much grit close by", but in the end Naomi avoided pariah status when everyone fell in line (well, almost everyone, Emma Bastock and Jules Cahill went for a local walk, so too did Kevin Devine, and a few others such as Andy Gill & Caroline Maynard chose local crags and made the journey across to the Eastern grit.

And what a fine day it was. There were some where not far off 20 club members on the small crag, including myself and Vicki Cox, Tony and Anne Millichope, Jim Daly, Tony Mynette, Richard King, Andy Bevan, Naomi walker, David Simmonite, Steve Coughlan, Richard Greaves, Ian Smith, Richard Hubbard, Fiona Devine and Lindsay Turner (have I missed anyone?). Rather than climb Ellie Holmes chose to drive over with the crowd and then walk all the way back; fair play Ellie.

On top of the Ceunant three car loads of Mercian Mountaineering Club folk turned up at Castle Naze too - coincidence? I think not, I mentioned on Facebook that we'd be there.

It was a balmy and hazy day, with a light breeze and fine views over the valley, and I was surrounded by friends. Keep Arete VS 4b proved instantly popular – there was always a queue and I must have been the only person who didn't climb it. But the day's rite of passage was to climb Nozag, the classic of the crag which goes at VS 4c. I almost lost my number 5 cam after it walked in. After much frowning, grunting, and tugging, and then some delicate teasing, Richard Hubbard rescued the cam from it's early grave. In doing so earned himself a pint of stout in the Traveller Rest pub that evening.

Most people popped into the local pub, The Beehive, for a drink or two afterwards. Myself and Vicki, with Dave and Naomi stayed for food too and it was very good indeed – the sausage medley was off the scale. Everyone eventually reconvened at the Travellers rest for the evening where we were joined by many others including Holly and Bob, John Beddard and Sam House, and James Mann. I was in bed by 10pm, I'm not ashamed.

Sunday saw most of the herd climbing at different parts of Stanage Plantation. I started off near Goliaths Groove, and spotted Andy Bevan on a route at Paradise. I wasn't really feeling the trad love, which was a shame after a cracking day on Saturday, so I headed over to the bouldering with Richard Greaves and Ian Smith. Truth be told I'd been expecting to just sit around on their bouldering mat, but was encouraged to climb. This was my very first experience of outdoor bouldering and I was pretty impressed. There was nothing too high ball, nothing too desperate, and then some nice Yorkshire folk joined us too – very sociable. Holly and Bob, and John and Sam did a few routes, and as I left in the mid-afternoon I passed Richard King on lead under the watchful eye of Fiona.

A trip that part of the world just wouldn't be the same without a trip into the Outside in Hathersage. So off we went, for a spot of retail therapy and cup of tea before the drive back home.

All in all, a very sociable and very well attended meet. Thanks for the memories folks.

words and photos by Stewart Moody





**ESTD. 1956**