

Crewe & Nantwich Rambling Club



Newsletter - April 2005



General Information

Annual General Meeting - 2005 - Only one change to your committee occurred as a result of this year's AGM, where Joyce Dawson stepped down from her position. This was filled by Vivienne Macdonald. At a Committee Meeting on 6th April 2005, Bryan Roe was re-affirmed in the position of Vice-Chairman. More importantly however, both the Chairman - Peter Dawson and the Minutes Secretary - Marilyn Norbury declared their intention to step down at the next AGM (Feb 2006). The Committee would like the members to give serious thought between now and the next AGM as to who would be suitable successors. We do not want this to be a last minute affair for such important posts.

Advance Notice of Club's 60th Anniversary - This occurs on 13/10/2006 and whilst it may seem a long way away at present, the committee wishes to ensure that such a special celebration is appropriately planned. To this end, the committee would like to receive ideas from members as how to best celebrate this event. Please contact any member of the committee with your views.

Hotpot/Social 2005 - This event took place at The Masonic Hall, Willaston in late January. The Hotpot itself was excellent with the caterers remarking that this was the first time they had seen every plate completely clean of food at the end of the meal! A good evening of dance and imbibement followed! (Hungry and thirsty lot these ramblers!)

Walks Activities

2005 Summer/Autumn & Evening Walks Programmes -

These programmes are now complete and walk cards are being printed. Those members receiving this newsletter by E-mail will only receive an electronic copy of the walk card.

Bowls Evening 5th May 2005 - The Nag's Head, Haughton.

Bowling will start at 6.00 pm and finish around 8.30 pm. The format will be Mixed Pairs Knockout based on a League Format. Draw to take place on the night.

Meals can be ordered before 7 pm to eat at 8.30 pm.

Please contact Peter Dawson - 01270 812045 - before 30th April if you want to enter. For non-bowlers, Joyce Dawson will lead a short country walk, starting at 6.30 pm.

The **Evening Walks** programme runs fortnightly from 19/05/05 until 25/08/05. **All evening walks start at 7pm.**

These short walks, usually ~3 miles, are an ideal opportunity for newcomers to walking, to experience walking with a group. Established walkers in the group will be only too happy to give help and advice. Please encourage your friends, who always wished to walk to come and give it a go!

'C' Walks - Forthcoming 'C' walk programme is as follows:

17th April - Llandrillo - Wilf Capper/Brenda Bratherton

15th May - Colwyn Bay - Brian Arthurs

29th May - Matlock - Joan Yarwood

12th June - Ladybower - Brian Arthurs

26th June - Ingleton (Early Start) - Joyce Dawson

Club Spring Weekend at Patterdale 2005 - 34 members will be staying at The Patterdale Hotel, Patterdale from the evening of Friday 29th April to morning of Monday 2nd May 2005. Rooms will be available from 2.00 pm on 29th with a short walk starting at 1.00 pm.

Club Autumn Break 2005 - 41 Members will be staying at The Giltar Hotel, Tenby from Saturday 24th September to Wednesday 28th September. Travel is by Alfa Coach. This has been organised by Pauline Vawdrey. A waiting list is in operation.

Future Club Weekends/Breaks - Grace Harding has recently notified members of the arrangements for the **Club Spring 2006 Weekend at Gilsland** - please return your forms **by 24th April 2005 at the latest!** The 5 single rooms allocated to us have already been taken. We will know after March 2006 if any more single rooms are available, for which there is now a waiting list.

Chamois Weekend - this has been set for 9th-11th September 2005. The cost will be £12 per person. A booking/payment slip is attached for return to John Fuller. Members often ask - What and where is Chamois? Well, because we have space, we have included the following extensive explanations/descriptions.

WHAT IS CHAMOIS? - John Fuller

To answer this question we have included two articles, the official details from the Chamois Centre organisation (overleaf) and below our Crewe and Nantwich Rambling Club viewpoint. Firstly, you will see from the official description, that it is not a hut, but a substantial brick built building with many facilities.

We book in for Friday and Saturday nights, arrival at the Centre is usually from 4.00 pm onwards. Some members choose to do a walk on the Friday before arriving at the Centre. Others usually arrive early evening. Friday evening meals are either in-house or at a local hostelry, the choice is yours. Seated in the comfy lounge round a roaring log fire, the group discuss and agree the rambles for the weekend. The walks reflect the ability of the group, and have included both 'A' and 'B' type rambles. Obviously, because of its location, there is little traveling to the ramble start point, and occasionally, we walk directly from the Centre.

(cont)

1 Footnote: To receive your newsletter by e-mail, please e-mail your request to - bryan.roe@docroe.freeserve.co.uk

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After the Saturday ramble most stay in house and self-cater (though you can still eat out if you wish). The atmosphere is brilliant with cuisine that puts 'Master Chef' to shame. When we have all wined and dined we retire to the lounge and **that** fire. Ask anyone who has been, these nights are great. Breakfasts are also on a self-catering basis, some on cereals plus toast, others allowing the smell of bacon to waft around the kitchen whilst packed lunches are hastily prepared.

Sundays walk is usually in the direction of home so that there is not too much traveling after the ramble. The view from the centre to the sea and the Lleyn peninsular is stunning. This view is westwards and rewards us with unbelievable sunsets. Some of the fondest memories are of the group having an evening drink outside and watching one of those sunsets. **Why not come and see for yourself.**

If you wish to discuss any of the details described please contact John Fuller.

Below is the official information from the CHAmois Centre

Information for group bookings

The CHAmois Mountaineering Centre
Ceunant, Waunfawr, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL55 4SA
Grid Ref SH 532608

History

The CHAmois Mountaineering Centre was built early in the 20th Century as a hall of residence for personnel of the Marconi Wireless and Telegraph Company who were operating the radio station further up the hillside, now the Beacon Climbing Wall. The CHAmois Mountaineering Club purchased the property in June 1975 and members devoted many weekends and holidays carrying out extensive repairs and alterations prior to its opening by Lord Hunt on 1st May 1976.

Location

The Centre is on the north westerly slopes of the Snowdon massif 230 m (750 ft) asl and enjoys extensive views of Anglesey and the Lleyn Peninsula. It is about 10 minutes drive from Llanberis, and 20 minutes from Beddgelert or Caernarfon. It is well placed for mountaineering, rock climbing, canoeing, sailing, orienteering and mountain hiking in Snowdonia.

Facilities

- Common room with open fire; dining room; large kitchen suitable for individual or simple group cooking; drying room; boot room; 8 dormitories with bunk beds for 4, 6 and 8; male and female washrooms, each with W.C., shower, and 2 washbasins; additional W.C.s upstairs and downstairs.
 - Hot water and background heating for the ground floor, drying room, washrooms and landings provided by an oil-fired boiler
 - Kitchen equipment: 10 gas rings; gas cooker with 4 burner hob, oven and eye-level grill; additional oven; 2 microwave ovens; 2 large toasters; large capacity water boiler for making hot drinks; electric kettles; several fridges with limited freezer capacity; crockery, cutlery, pans and cooking utensils. Large pans and utensils can be made available for group catering.
 - One dormitory plus a small common room and kitchen reserved for the exclusive use of members at all times.
- Payphone in the entrance hall which will accept incoming calls (tel 0128650626)
- Parking for 15 cars adjacent to the building.
 - With care coaches can negotiate the private access road.

Personal Equipment

Should include a warm sleeping bag, pillowcase, wash kit and towel and food for your stay, plus suitable clothing and equipment for your chosen activities

Conditions of Use

- Full instructions for operating the Centre are on the notice board in the entrance hall.
- On arrival everyone must fill in details required in the hut register. (This is the record of who stays in the Centre and would be used to account for all residents in the event of a fire.)
- Party leaders should familiarise themselves with fire regulations and brief their group members accordingly.
- Smoking is not allowed in the building.
- Young people must have adequate adult supervision at all times while in the Building
- Animals must not be brought into the building.
- Boots should not be worn upstairs.
- It should be quiet in the building between 11 p.m. and 7.30 a.m.
- The Hut Warden must be notified of any damage or faulty services, and groups will be expected to pay for damage which they cause.
- On departure the Centre must be left clean and tidy and secured according to the Closing Instructions on the main notice board.

Availability

Up to 46 beds are available for hire by BMC affiliated clubs, CHA and HF clubs, educational and other groups involved in outdoor pursuits in Snowdonia. Group bookings must be arranged in advance and normally are for a minimum of 10 people.

If 40 beds are booked there is exclusive use of facilities, with the exception of the washrooms, which will be used by any Club members who are staying in the 'Members Only' Section.

£6 per person per night (from 1.9.2004). A non-returnable deposit of £50 is required to confirm a booking. Payment of the balance of fees is expected within 2 weeks of your stay.

To book:

Contact the Hut Booking Secretary;

Judy Wilshaw 25 Hollingworth Drive
Marple, Stockport SK6 7JE. tel 0161 4277285

CHAMOIS WEEKEND 9TH - 11TH SEPTEMBER 2005

Please reserve places @ £12 per person. I/We enclose a total of £.....

Names..... Tel No.....

Address.....

Please return to:

John Fuller, 11 Meadowvale Close, Nantwich. CW5 5YB no later than 31st July 2005.
Please make cheques payable to: 'Crewe & Nantwich Rambling Club'