

BMC Cymru: April 2022, access report for north Wales coastal crags

Many of the easily accessible Sport crags have been very busy. A few incidents have been reported but, mainly, all seems well.

Llanddulas Cave

It appears that the Gwrych Castle Trust have now purchased the land on which most of these crags lie. It seems unlikely that any future restrictions will occur – please report any incidents to the BMC. The advice is to carry on climbing and keep a low profile, but leave if requested to do so by the owners. To avoid any parking issues, it's best to park on the seafront by the lovely Tides Café and walk up from there (10 – 15 minutes depending on which sector).

Penmaen Head

There was an incident a few weeks ago where local children were apparently throwing stones at climbers. This is a rare occurrence, but this is an urban crag with all the usual hazards.... the main one here is jackdaws nesting in cracks on some routes – they have become more aggressive in recent years and will police their territory!

Tram-Station Crag, Great Orme

This has been up-dated and redeveloped over the winter and has become popular. Climbers are in full view of local houses and many locals walk beneath the crag. The management at Llandudno Ski and Snowboard Centre are very supportive and are happy for climbers to park at the top left corner of their car park (unless it is very busy) and use the toilets – the café is large and has decent coffee etc. It's a short walk from the car park to the crag.

Castle Inn Quarry

This has been rammed as usual. Vans and minibuses often restrict car access to the small car park below the crag. Please do not park on the local lane. There is a large alternative carpark above the top of the crag – a 1 minute drive and a 5 minute stroll back. The proposal is to experiment with signage, including a map – not a usual BMC policy but it seems appropriate at this particularly popular Outdoor Climbing Wall?

Craig y Forwyn

People are climbing there. The advice is to park as per guidebook and RAD, keep it quiet, avoid clearing vegetation and leave if requested to do so by the owners.

Seasonal Restrictions

The main restriction in this area is for nesting birds – please see the local guidebooks but also check the RAD. Nesting chough are doing well in the area and move around a fair bit – please be alert, and report new nest sites if observed.

The other main restriction is for climbing on Craig Pen Trwyn above the Marine Drive: follow guidebook advice and check the RAD.

Andy Boorman