

January 2010

# BMC CYMRU



## NEXT MEETING TUESDAY 16TH FEBRUARY 8.00 P.M.

**Gallt y Glyn - Llanberis - Free Pizza - All Welcome**

### 2010 Diary Dates

- 16th February, BMC Cymru/Wales get together featuring free pizza, Gallt y Glyn near Llanberis, 8.00 pm.
- 5th/6th/7th March, Llanberis Film Festival (LLAMFF).
- 24th April, Tremadog Festival.
- 8th June, BMC Cymru/Wales get together, Deganwy Castel Hotel, 9.00pm.
- 21st September, BMC Cymru/Wales get together The Vaynol, Nant Peris, 8.00 pm
- 4th December, BMC Cymru/Wales Hillwalking and Climbing FunDay, Plas y Brenin.

### BMC Cymru/Wales Funday 2009

Hopefully those who attended have all received their notes from this wonderful day.

For those who weren't there it was a tremendously successful day with four excellent well subscribed free workshops running. We had a super meal then a very successful AGM and Open Forum with over 70 attendees, including a couple of BMC Vice Presidents.

The meeting included a very interesting and thought provoking talk on preserving the remaining montane heath of the Carneddau and was followed by the stunning *Birdman of the*

*Karakoram*, and of course the famous No Prize Quiz was very tightly contested again. We are looking forward to repeating the day on 4th December 2010, don't miss out!

### North Wales Bolt Fund

The fund has received some welcome input during the winter. North Wales Climbing walls raised over £630 for the bolt fund by donating all the proceeds from Bouldering Aggregates - big thanks to Gill & Steve at the Beacon and John and the lads at The Indi.

We also collected £122 at the Fun Day and Plas y Brenin have again donated £100. It's easy to donate at local BMC meetings

or via the online system which can be accessed via [www.northwaleslimestone.wetpainted.com](http://www.northwaleslimestone.wetpainted.com)

The NWBF did some bolt testing recently and discovered that a well placed 10mm Fixe bolt weld fails at a ridiculously strong 35 kN - the resin showed no signs of failure.

### **Successful fund raising for the South Wales Bolt Fund**

Just before the festive period Boulders Climbing Centre in Cardiff showed the 'Asgard Project' film to raise money for the replacement of tired old bolts in South Wales. A very big thank you to Rob & Olly's team at Boulders for organising and running the evening. A large crowd enjoyed free food courtesy of the BMC and also a special mention to film maker Al Lee, for allowing us to show the film.

### **The Amazing Winter**

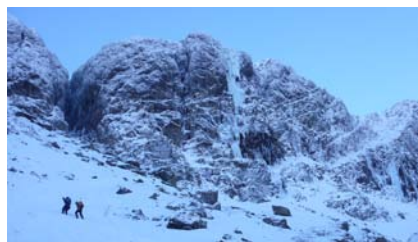
What a fantastic start to the year! Awesome winter conditions have been enjoyed right across Wales with unusual climbs achieved from the Brecon's to Snowdonia and quite simply some stunning walking conditions across the country. The whole thing was a photographers dream.

Look out for a full report in the next issue of Climb magazine. A lot of what has been going-on will be found at [www.welshwinterclimbs.wetpainted.com](http://www.welshwinterclimbs.wetpainted.com) or [www.baggy.blogspot.com](http://www.baggy.blogspot.com). DMM and Ground Up are usually worth a look too.

Of course it hasn't all been plain sailing, questions are be-

ing asked about how frozen vegetation needs to be to prevent damage to it? Read Elfyn's article (<http://www.thebmc.co.uk/Feature.aspx?id=3469>) for the full story.

Is it ok to attempt classic rock climbs under 'winter' conditions and whether the National Park should have made an effort to clear the Pen y Pass car park rather than just closing it in early January? All this is up for discussion at our next get together.



### **Mountain Heritage Trust Report**

To celebrate the completion of the transfer of archives to the Ambleside campus of the University of Cumbria, Trustees enjoyed a joint reception at the site on Tuesday 10th November along with a number of local govt. and tourism dignitaries.

At the recent meeting of the Trust, held at the BMC on 4th December, it was agreed to invite Richard Lemming, lecturer in outdoor activities at U of C to join as a Trustee. Grant monies from the Heritage Lottery Fund are due to expire in 2011 so MHT needs to be looking for other funds to follow on.

While the trust is continually seeking to add items to the collection it is also interested in recording where other items are held so that they may be added to the catalogue.

K.C. Gordon

### **BMC Community Pages**

These are now up and running. Most 2010 BMC Cymru/Wales important dates are now on the calendar. These pages will also host this newsletter and notes from our meetings. They can be found at [www.thebmc.co.uk](http://www.thebmc.co.uk) and click on Wales.

### **Pembroke News**

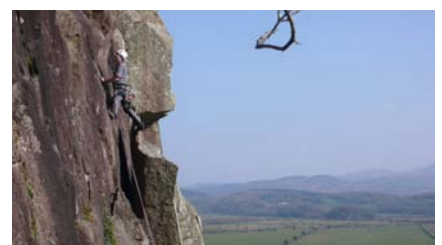
We did put 6 new BMC stakes in Range West just before Christmas. These are at Linney Point (Impending Inlet), Bulliber and Keyhole Zawn (thanks very much to Lynne Houlston and the MoD). Hoping to replace the dodgy ones at Stackpole and Mowing Word this month and a few in North Pembs (Rainbow Zawn, Narrow Zawn, Carreg y Barcud).

Steve Quinton

### **Illegal Off-Roading Telephone Numbers**

A great deal of work on this took place in 2009. Remember, we are the eyes and ears in the hills. If you see illegal off-roading in Wales call 08456061001 (Welsh language line) and 08456071002 for the English language line.

### **Tremadog Festival**



The Tremadog Festival will take place once again in 2010. The aim of this weekend is to remove unwanted spring growth from the routes. Everyone turning up with secateurs, saws,

patio knives or the like will be given a free raffle ticket; normally everyone wins something.

There will be a free slideshow about a big wall first ascent by some young Welsh lads in Malaysia and then the bonfire. The BMC will cover your camping or bunkhouse costs and free beer will be provided for the thirsty workers! Make a diary date for 24th April.

### **Great Orme Marine drive season tickets**

These are available from: Highways & Infrastructure, York Road (off Gloddaeth Street), Llandudno, LL30 2EF.

### **Summit Contributions**

BMC Cymru/Wales has its own page in Summit. We would welcome offers to write this page. We are looking for a short 330 word piece about hillwalking or climbing in Wales. Please contact us at [bmccymruwales@live.co.uk](mailto:bmccymruwales@live.co.uk) if you would like to have your say.

### **The BMC Youth Climbing Series**

The first of round is on the 30th of January, at Indy Climbing wall in Llanfair PG. The following of these qualifying rounds will be on the 27th of February, held at the Beacon Climbing Centre near Waunfawr.

These rounds will decide who will represent North Wales in the Welsh Junior Climbing Final (Cardiff) and I'm sure will be hotly contested. We had a great turnout last year and I'm sure this year will be, if anything, even more popular.

Consequently I'm on the scrounge for volunteers to lend their enthusiasm and help on the day. No Experience required, just give me a text on 07811 634 714 and I'll give you a job...

Mark Dicken



### **Mountain Leader Training Wales**

At a lively and well attended meeting in November the major points of discussion and for action were:

- The Ordnance Survey has a complaints procedure which should be used for highlighting concerns over crag markings on the newly published 1:25,000 Snowdonia maps, although in reply to initial complaints the OS did not feel there was an issue, as their other feedback had been positive. A standard comment would be useful to help other bodies who may wish to contact OS, thus ensuring that concerns were focused on the main issues; comments on clarity of map features to be forwarded to Bryn Williams at Siabod Cottage.
- Welsh Speaking Providers - Dewi Evans reported the increase of Welsh speaking participants in D of E activities, but there's a lack of instructors who can deliver courses through the medium of Welsh. Close working relationships with the Outdoor

Partnership (OP) would prove a good start for identifying talented Welsh instructors, who may be able to work alongside approved providers of ML and SPA courses to gain valuable experience and in future apply for provider-ship. 10,000 people have now participated in events with the OP.

- The role of the MLTA in CPD provision was discussed.
- Andy Boorman(BMC Cymru/ Wales rep) was elected as Vice-Chair of MLTW.

Andy Boorman

### **Oxwich Bay Rockfall**

A major rock fall has occurred at the sports cliff of Oxwich Bay Quarry, on the Gower, affecting many routes.

Climbers are asked to avoid the area until Countryside Council of Wales have inspected the site and carried out safety works at the site. BMC access rep Mark Winder is in contact with the land owners and local CCW Warden. More information and a photo at <http://www.thebmc.co.uk/News.aspx?id=3459>

