

Lakes Area Newsletter - March 2021

There is so much that can be said about where we are - but let's move on to the future!



Cross Fell in the evening glow

The next meeting of the BMC Lakes area will be a Zoom Meeting on Wednesday 3rd March 2021 at 7.30 pm.

Come along and have your say!!

Frank Bennett - Election of Lakes Area Chair



We are pleased to say that we have a new chair for the Lakes Area - Frank Bennett has stepped forward to take on the position - the following are details of him and we look to electing him into position at the meeting.

An all-round outdoor fanatic, he has spent many years, fell walking, rock and ice climbing, along with

mountaineering and ski mountaineering. He is known for a number of first ascents on Clwyd Limestone with forays to Lundy, Romsdal (Norway) and wider afield in Wadi Rum (Jordan), Wyoming and Switzerland. He continues to climb all over the world - COVID19 permitting.

Work in the outdoor world started with Ellis Brigham then Troll, where he was also elected to previous incarnation of the now O.I.A. Outdoor Industries Association who is a partner of the BMC (served as council member, treasurer and chair).

Since then he has been a Director of Lyon Equipment Ltd. Tebay, were his involvement with the BMC started providing sponsorship for various BMC initiatives. Lyon is a Gold Corporate member of Cumbria Wildlife.

Recognising the importance of Clubs in the outdoors he has been a member and ex-treasurer of The Wayfarer's (hut in Langdale) and was in The Vagabond's (hut in Nant Peris).



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COVID 19

This is obviously high in our lives and its effect on ourselves and the world has been enormous.

We are all no doubt looking forward to some normality but last year, in the Lake District and other national parks in the UK it was far from normal. Dave Turnbull has been in communication with the organisations around England and Wales and will attend the meeting and report on plans for the coming post-lockdown world of the national parks.

Linked to this there have been lots of issues such as litter, parking and toilets which were a problem last year and will no doubt be in 2021 - and we can discuss these.

TRAFFIC AND COMMUNICATIONS

There are currently organisations looking at Traffic and Communications in the Lakes and in particular Borrowdale and Wasdale.

There is an approach to sustainable tourism transport being looked into in Snowdonia:

https://www.snowdonpartnership.co.uk/parkingandtransport

We have the specific issue of parking for what should be one of the Lakes most popular crags - Shepherds Crag!!

We will be discussing these issues at the meeting and would welcome your thoughts and comment.

BMC

Much has been happening at the BMC with a number of changes and we will update members on these and look forward to comment and discussion accordingly.

STAY LOCAL AND STAY SAFE

The pandemic has produced a strange mix of access situations with currently essentially "Stay Local and Stay Safe" which has no doubt created some agitation especially during "the winter" period. Future restriction will dictate what we can do - but most importantly - "Stay Safe"!

I am sure all members of the BMC will regret the most unfortunate accident to Chris Lewis, of the Patterdale MRT, who was seriously injured, on Red Screes, whilst on a rescue to help some people from away, who were camping on the mountain. If anyone wishes to give a donation please visit the Patterdale MRT website:

https://www.mountainrescue.org.uk/support-us

Please come join the BMC Lakes Area Meeting and have your say!

Ron Kenyon - BMC Lakes Area Secretary



Ullswater from Aira Force