



W O L V E R H A M P T O N  
 mountaineering club

## WMC Newsletter

**Editorial:** The club has never experienced anything like Coronavirus in the past. The main ethos of the club – ‘The mutual meeting and companionship of like minded people in the pursuance of mountainous activities’ - has been dashed. Therefore a different approach is necessary in keeping the club together and ensuring WMC members are informed about committee activities, club activities and members points of interest during these difficult times.

In the meantime there are several ideas which the committee have put together in an attempt to address this. It would be hoped that many members could, in however a small way, contribute to keeping the club cohesive and active. Read on for some of these ideas from the committee and members.

Club members have been putting on activities during recent months i.e. camping, cycling, climbing and visiting the mountains of Zermatt and Sardinia albeit in only a limited way.

A successful camping meet in Cornwall was put together to replace the Covid cancelled Lundy trip.

*Richard Sealey*

### **Chairs message;**

The committee have been using zoom meeting now for a few months and have found them very successful during these difficult times. We also had a zoom meeting for our latest EGM in September, (*appointment of trustees*), and as a result have now appointed two new trustees for the club hut. (*The appointment of Trustees are a legal requirement as a club may not hold a property in a clubs name – Trustees do not own the clubs property*). We are now undertaking the laborious task of ensuring that the appointment of all trustees comply with legal requirements.

We are at present considering how to conduct our AGM this year, other club activities and introducing new type activities.

### **Congratulations;**

Congratulations are in order for Grace and Tom Jemmett who have had a baby boy (William).

William was born very early and is in hospital. Tom says, *“He’s doing really well, had a rough start but on the right tracks now! Still got a long road ahead before he can come home (probably start of December), but he’s doing everything that they want and expect. Just need to fatten him up now!”*

### **Tal-y-Braich Finances;**

The income, up to the March 2020, from Tal-y-Braich was substantially down this year. It has been suggested that in the main the weather was a contributory factor for this. The committee has decided to spend some monies on improvements in an attempt to attract our own members to use TyB.

The clubs finance balance is in reasonable condition as we have been in receipt of a ‘small businesses’ Government Covid grant. The committee are in the process of considering how this grant is best used. The committee has already issued rebates to club members where club failed events deposits were not returnable.



## WOLVERHAMPTON mountaineering club

### Tal-y-Braich;

Much was done to Tal-y-Braich in an endeavour to comply with Welsh regulations in operating the hut and is now 'Covid-19' friendly – the Byre/Garage and the Cottage can now be used as two totally separate self contained accommodations. *(Water stop taps are provided in each building).*

The Byre kitchen area has been de-cluttered and upgraded, namely new crockery, cutlery, kettle, bowl, drainer and pan set.

**NB The situation with TyB usage could change at any time due to Governments 'Covid-19' regulations.**

NB The Byre is, generally, to be closed during the cold weather due to the potential freezing of water pipes. However, contact Mike G for details if you wish to use Byre!

### Proposed TyB improvements

- To seal and paint all concrete/slabbed flooring, to carpet tile the end bunk room floor.
- Replace one toilet - cottage.
- Improvement to the lounge stove/flue in an attempt to stop smoke coming into the room.

### Tal-y-Braich Bookings;

Please visit the WMC website for the latest news on hut bookings and availability (see COVID notice page). Currently, with the Welsh firebreak, there is to be no use of the hut until November 9th - when we will provide further guidance.

### Indoor Meets;

It has been decided to cancel this year's annual dinner for 2020 due to government guidelines. The committee have spoken about a virtual annual dinner or slideshow and presentation event.

Slide shows have been considered by the committee and with Tom Hartland's assistance is easily possible, but relying on volunteers to produce a show which would be posted by zoom on say a Tuesday evening and recorded onto the Web site for future viewing.

If anyone is interested perhaps contact Tom, initially, to investigate how this would be carried out.

### Outdoor Activities;

Outdoor activities are only possible with club members participation so a survey will be issued to ascertain the clubs general outdoor interests during these strange times. The committee is looking at putting on a few camping meets and one day events for 2021 as the use of indoor accommodation can still not be relied upon completely.

### Staying in Touch;

We appreciate it's been a difficult time to stick together as a club. Alongside the ongoing quiz, currently running on our **new** mailing list ([members@wolverhamptonmountaineeringclub.co.uk](mailto:members@wolverhamptonmountaineeringclub.co.uk)), we also have a brand new website complete with a members area message board. Take a look, get the conversation going and let us know what you think! Otherwise the club's Facebook page (Wolverhampton Mountaineering Club Members) remains a good place to stay up to date. If you'd like to join this group, you'll have to either request an existing member to add you or send your email address to [tombo.hartland@gmail.com](mailto:tombo.hartland@gmail.com) and Tom will add you directly. You will need a facebook account.



**WOLVERHAMPTON**  
**mountaineering club**

### **Prospective Members;**

The club has been attracting prospective members but due to the current Covid situation Carol is finding it frustrating to keep their interest as there are no meets to attend. Dave Holland has agreed to take one of these prospective members out into the hills and Carol has met with them at the climbing wall. Can all members who are comfortable to meet new members discuss this with Carol please.

### **WMC 70<sup>th</sup> (2021) Anniversary Magazine;**

The magazine celebrates the ten year anniversary since the last magazine, as well as being issued in the club's 70th Anniversary year. Tom Hartland is leading production, but this is your club and your magazine, so if you'd like to see something featured, have any ideas, articles or photos make sure you talk to Tom as soon as possible! This is your last call! Thanks to those who've already contributed.

### **BMC initiative;**

Dave Holland now has collecting bags and pickers for the BMC's 'H2O' (*Hills 2 Oceans*) a litter picking initiative to tidy up the outdoors – see the BMC web site for more details. Please contact DH for your kit and send him a few photos to show your participation.

### **Club equipment;**

WMC has an amount of equipment for members use and Alister is currently checking out this equipment for safety and collating a list after taking the job over from the last equipment Officer.

### **Obituary;**

It is with sad news that I report the death of one of our ex club members. Mark Philbrook died at the end of August 2020. He emigrated to Australia many years ago and died in his sleep at the age of 50.

### **Unfortunate incident of our latest member to WMC;**

Unfortunately our latest member, Luke Muller, had a fall at a Scottish venue in August which left him in a critical condition. He has since made some recovery and has been moved closer to his family.

Luke lived in Dinorwig and kept an eye on Tal-y-Braich during the March to July lockdown.