

## Mynydd CC Meets Secretary Report 2009

In 2 parts;

1. Reporting on a year just gone.
2. Looking ahead to the future, type of meets to support, how the different meets are selected, and ways of providing information to members regarding the meets.

In considering the previous year, most of the planning of the meets was done by Maria and the rest of the committee, and also many other club volunteers so I thank them all for that. In my opinion a well thought out year that in general that seems to have run very well.

The club again continues to support a range of meets from local days out in the peak arranged at the last minute to bigger trips to foreign parts; and with activities from all types of climbing, walking and mountaineering through, to caving, skiing, biking and kayaking taking place.

The major trips last year from the Easter Morocco trip, Dartmoor May day weekend, Scotland meet at the Alex MacIntyre hut, the Ecrin summer meet and Lundy Island trips all very well supported.

Anglesey, Nantle and Duddon camping meets were very well attended.

Of the hut meets, the Stair meet in the Lakes this January year went well, the Bowderstone hut meet last Autumn I believe had a few deserters due to the challenging weather but those who attended got some stuff done.

The Newtonmore winter meet this year well chosen avoiding the wetter conditions on the west coast.

As always these meets owe their success due to individuals stepping forward and volunteering to research the area, make preliminary contact with travel and accommodation providers then persuading members and passing on information to those who express an interest in the trip.

One or two of the meets, that had less support and when it was clear that the weather forecast was not good did get 'cancelled'; the Wye Valley trip being one. Unfortunately, in at least one of these examples someone went and discovered that they had been abandoned by the rest of the group who had stayed at home!

This is something that perhaps needs addressing, possibly by providing a facility for people to express an interest to the organiser, and then a way of providing last minute information regarding arrangements especially for the newer or more distant members who aren't able to get to the Hayfield on the Thursday night. I don't really want a way of making it easier for trips to be abandoned on a whim but do understand the situation where an individual who had volunteered to organise a trip, finds that interest is low and the weather forecast is poor and also has other competing interests/family interests.

The indoor evening trips to the climbing walls have their dedicated followers, there is no obligation for members to go to the official venues and I was surprised to see so many not going to the official venues. The original format of going to different walls in rotation

was an attempt to make it possible for some of the more distant members to get to some of the walls and because there was no particularly close wall that would satisfy the needs of all. However, we now have Awesome Walls which seems to have had a big influence on the choices that members make. Maybe we need to review these winter indoor meets, especially when considering new members who may be disappointed after travelling to foreign lands like South Yorkshire to find very few others there.

The Outdoor Evening meets again had the venues fixed at the beginning of the year. I'm very much in support of this since it enables everyone to plan well ahead and especially when some individuals have limited time so that they can pick and choose. However some meets were hit by poor weather, there is a need to have a simple and formal way of keeping all interested parties informed and especially with last minute updated information, question is 'who has the right' to cancel the meet?

Looking at the year ahead, hopefully loads of variety, and I've already made 2 minor blunders, 2 huts booked in the Lakes in January 2010! However, the general opinion is that both are likely to be well supported. Also the Pembroke meet got swapped from S Pembroke to N Pembroke because I didn't check my notes taken at the meets forum. Other trips have been planned by individuals that overlap with the original plan, policy is to consider them as unofficial and not incorporate in the year plan; these are largely by invite only (you need to be in the know). It's great that these trips happen, and occasionally you will see mention of them on the forum.

Major trips coming up,  
Easter in Cornwall, Orkneys during Spring bank, various camping/climb trips May June and July, Dolomites trip in July/Aug, IoM end of Aug, Torridon in September. Hut meet in the Lakes. See the meets lists on the website.