



The Leader

Newsletter of Pembrokeshire Climbing Club

Winter 2017

Happy New Year everyone and welcome to our first newsletter of 2017.

Don't forget we meet every Monday at The Hangout in Haverfordwest Leisure Centre from 7.30pm and every Thursday at the Llanion Activity Centre, Pembroke Dock from 8pm. Hope to see you there!

Club fees for 2017 are now due; please pay your subs by the end of February. See Martin or Vikki at the wall meets to re-join. Membership cards are available from Martin on a Monday evening at the Hangout.

The committee wishes all members a safe and fun year of adventure and great climbing.

Diary dates

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Self Rescue Course with Climb Pembroke

The committee are delighted to be able to announce that once again, Climb Pembroke will be offering experienced club members the chance to attend a self rescue course.

The course is aimed at those who lead around VS and will take place on April 15 and 16.

The course is subsidised by the Club and is heavily discounted by Climb Pembroke.

Each place will cost £40.

Places are limited. Please contact Jon for more details:

jonhudson1@outlook.com

North Wales Trip March 3-5

The first North Wales trip of the year will take place on March 3-5.

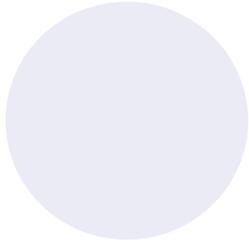
Please contact Bernie to book a place in the South Wales Hut:
bbeavanpems@hotmail.co.uk

BMC Pembrokeshire Climbing Festival

The BMC is currently looking at holding a climbing festival this year in Pembrokeshire.

Provisional dates for this are May 27 and 28.

More details to follow.



News from the BMC

Got a story?

If you would like to write something for the next newsletter or have some pictures you'd like to share with the Club, email Donna on:

drmawson@hotmail.com

Avian flu outbreak: advice for climbers & walkers

DEFRA has recently confirmed three cases of avian flu (bird flu) in Lincolnshire, Carmarthenshire and North Yorkshire. But what does this mean for climbers and walkers?

Firstly it's worth calming any concerns. Current advice is that the risk to the public is low, but it's still worth being aware of the situation, particularly as some of the species affected are ones that climbers or walkers could encounter whilst out on the crags and hills.

The main species identified currently are waterfowl (such as ducks, swans and geese) as well as gulls and raptors, but all dead wild birds are to be treated with caution. Given raptors such as peregrines and gulls are often found on crags, sea cliffs and mountainous areas it's worth keeping an eye out whilst out and about.

The key advice is very simple. Physical contact with contaminated birds should be avoided to prevent any potential transmission of the disease, even though the likelihood of transmission to humans is low, it's important to prevent spread of the disease

to bird populations elsewhere.

If you find a dead wild bird, don't touch it and call the DEFRA helpline on 03459 33 55 77 with the location of the carcass. DEFRA will then collect some of these birds and test them to help build understanding of how the disease is distributed geographically and in different types of bird.

News from the BMC

BMC launches Members' Handbook Photo Competition

Are you a photography enthusiast? Or maybe you just can't help taking pictures of the outdoors? The BMC are inviting members to send in their best photo to enter their competition for the 2017 BMC Handbook.

The photos could be of anything: vivid landscapes, action-shots of climbing, biking, or whatever, your favourite wildlife snap, or mid-wilderness portraits. The theme for this year is Lost in Adventure

The competition will be running until 17 February 2017.

The winning images will be published in the BMC Handbook mid-March and online shortly after. Prizes

include BMC Shop goodies, heaps of outdoor gear, and much more, including a £100 voucher for Snow and Rock.

Visit the BMC to find out more

www.thebmc.co.uk

Bombs, Birds and Belays — How to climb on Range West

Get away from the crowds this year and experience the magic of Range West's secluded bays and unpolished limestone.

As Range West is a live military firing range, all climbers wanting to climb there must attend a mandatory safety briefing each year.

Access for up to 30 briefed climbers per day is normally allowed during most weekends and bank holidays.

This year's Range West briefing dates are:

23/2/17 18:00

25/2/17 10:00

23/3/17 18:00

25/3/17 10:00

14/4/17 10:00

27/4/17 18:00

25/5/17 18:00

27/5/17 10:00

The full address the Army Camp is :

Castlemartin Camp,
Merrion,
Castlemartin,
Pembroke
SA71 5EB

There are also some extended non-firing dates for 2017, when

briefed climbers can visit Range West during weekdays (these are in addition to the normal non-firing weekends and bank holidays):

10/04/17 to 21/04/17

(Easter holidays)

9/07/17 to 28/08/17

(Summer holidays)

Call 01646 662367 to check for any changes to the firing programme.

Find us on :

www.facebook.com/Pembrokeshireclimbingclub

www.twitter.com/PembsClimbClub

www.pembrokeshireclimbingclub.co.uk

Banff Festival returns to the Torch Theatre

May 17

7:30 pm - 10:30 pm

The world's most prestigious mountain film festival is returning to Milford Haven with a brand new selection of extraordinary short films from the world's leading adventure film makers.

Through the big screen, follow

the expeditions of some of today's most incredible adventurers, see amazing footage of adrenaline packed action sports, be transported to the world's last great wild places and be inspired by thought-provoking pieces shot from the far flung corners of the globe.

Part of the fun of Banff is the range of films on offer. If you

want to find out more about the films on the Red Film Programme, and to book your tickets, visit:

www.banff-uk.com

Craig Folder - Chairman



Meet your 2016/17 Committee!

Phil Sherwood - Safety Officer



Jess Svetz - Website Editor



Vikki Booth - Secretary



Edd Reed - Membership Rep



Bernie Beavan - Social Secretary



Jeff Beynon - Treasurer



Jon Hudson - Membership Rep



Donna Reed - Publicity Officer/
Newsletter Editor



Martin Allen -
Membership Secretary



Andy Burrige - Membership Rep

