

A Tribute to Brenig

Family and friends gathered in Worcestershire on a cold, January day to remember and to celebrate the life of Brenig Garrett, who died in December aged 89.

Memories and were shared by Stuart Beardsall and Tony Tatford, describing their longstanding friendships with Brenig and his significant role in the Nantmor Association over sixty years. Friends from the Droitwich Welsh Society were present, with an appropriate rendition of Psalm 23 given in Welsh by Elfred Jones.

Brenig's love of Welsh male voice choirs was reflected during the service, and the closing music, mass choirs in the Royal Albert Hall in 2018, included Brenig singing with his own choir, a fitting tribute,

A farewell gathering was later hosted at Brenig's former rugby club's stadium, enabling family, friends, past and present members of 'Nantmor' to share in celebration of his life and long service to this Association.





Brenig and Nantmor

Brenig joined the staff of Shenstone College of Education, Bromsgrove, in 1966, as a lecturer in Rural Science. Working with Arthur Stow and other founder members of 'Nantmor' and Brenig's own love of the outdoors soon brought him into a leading role with the Mountain Leadership Training course at the college.

Gelli Iago, then with simple gas lights and few modern facilities, provided many students with practical training in the Welsh Mountains, supplemented by weekly evening lectures at the college. Many students went on to qualify in Mountain Leadership and then to lead and teach mountaineering skills in turn.

By the late 1960's Brenig was the Booking Secretary for the association. At that time Gelli Iago was in high demand with colleges, schools, and outdoor education associations. NMCA established close working relationships with major outdoor education establishments including Plas y Brenin and was a respected provider of quality MLC training. Brenig continued to encourage the promotion of NMCA with enthusiasm and conviction.

Throughout the subsequent years Brenig was a constant within the association's committee, a guiding light, always willing and able to seek out solutions to the issues that arose and equally ready to join in the practical tasks of property maintenance.

Brenig was there at our first major celebration dinner in 1988 and at every such occasion up to the 55th. Only deteriorating health and his and Val's move to Worthing prevented him from maintaining a more direct involvement in more recent years.

Due recognition was given to Brenig when he was elected as President of NMCA and subsequently as a Vice-President. Few have given so much to this association and earned such deserved recognition.

