

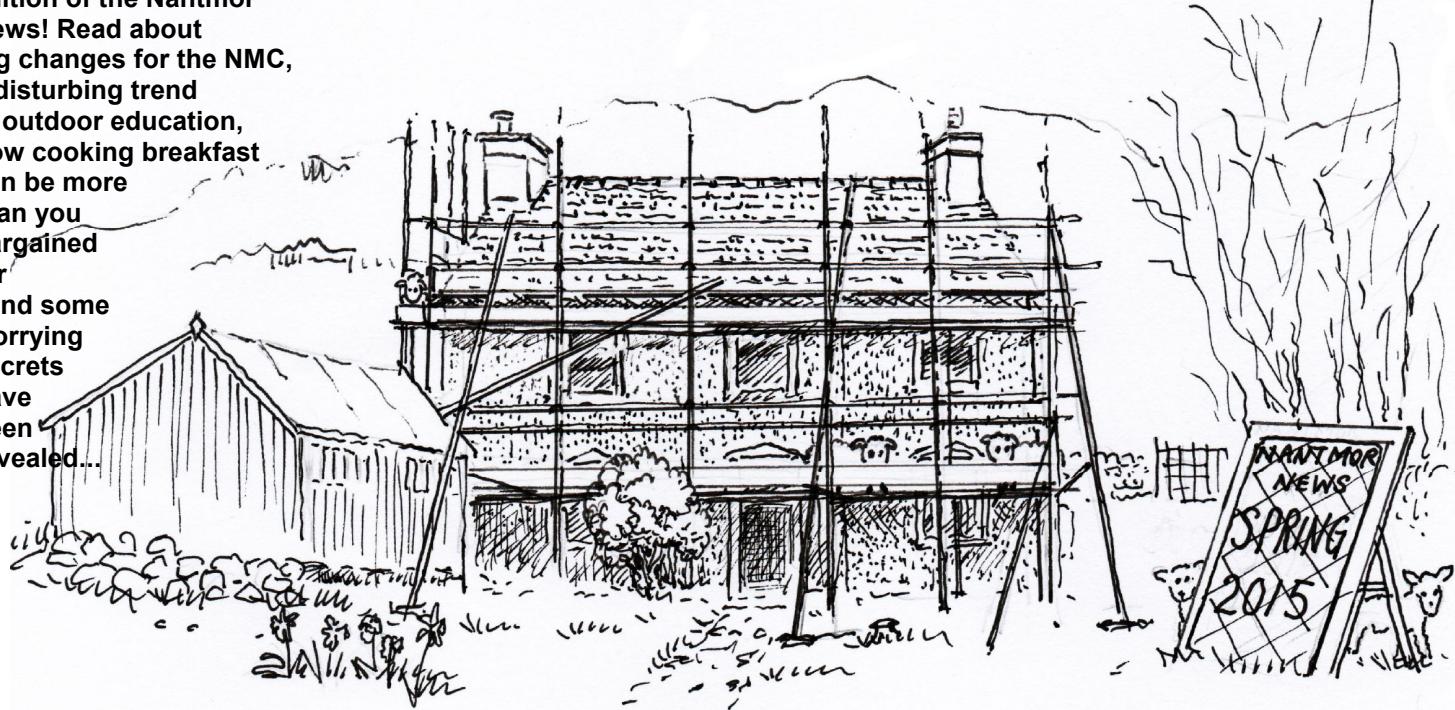


NANTMOR NEWS

SPRING 2015

The newsletter of the Nantmor Mountain Centre. Group accommodation in the heart of Snowdonia.

Welcome to this Spring edition of the Nantmor News! Read about big changes for the NMC, a disturbing trend in outdoor education, how cooking breakfast can be more than you bargained for ..and some worrying secrets have been revealed...



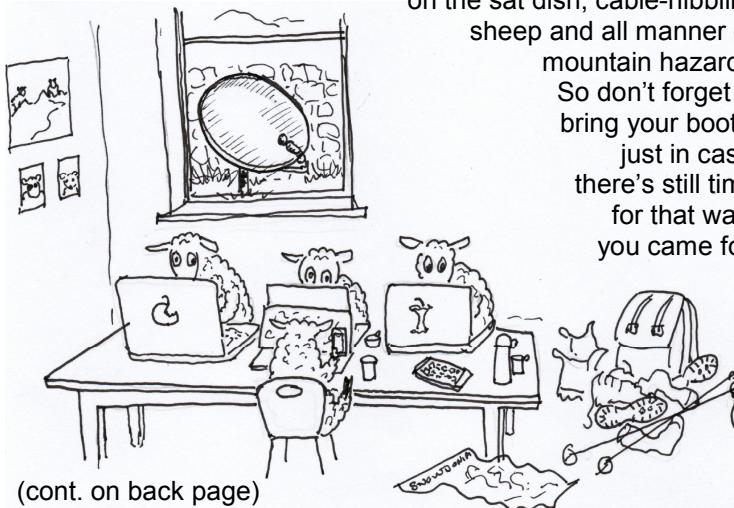
NEW ERA FOR NANTMOR

After the glitter and pomp of the 50th Anniversary it's been heads down again for the committee during what's been a groundbreaking year, as the Nantmor Mountain Centre has moved into a whole new era. A jam-packed AGM in March triggered months of mind-boggling committee meetings, the pace quickening as the year went on, the atmosphere growing more intense until the secretary's minute book nearly burst at the seams and her pen ran out with excitement. Never before had Articles been scrutinised in such detail, more proposals made or motions passed.. with the result that on 1st January the fifty-two year old Nantmor Mountain Centre Association officially became a Limited Company complete with Board of Directors, all legally present and correct, and in keeping with these times. Actually there will be few visible changes, the most noticeable one being the dissolution of the Climbing Club so that all members are now 'Individual', with voting rights in the same way as affiliated leaders. You'll be relieved to hear too that the very popular Club weekends will run in just the same way as before.

GOOD NEWS FOR GEEKS

There's been welcome news for iphone fanatics with the arrival of satellite broadband, bringing Gelli Iago well and truly into the 21st century. Great for checking the weather forecast, but now you can browse the net, shop on line or tweet... the sky's the limit. You may find the connection a bit slow, but remember you are half way up a mountain and at the peril of power cuts, frost

on the sat dish, cable-nibbling sheep and all manner of mountain hazards. So don't forget to bring your boots, just in case there's still time for that walk you came for!



(cont. on back page)

GELLI IAGO GETS A MAKEOVER

Recent visitors won't have missed the scaffolding on the front of the house especially if you've arrived after dark, there because our landlord the National Trust are replacing the old rendering which had long seen better days in the face of the westerly storms. We'll even say goodbye to the more recent alternative water supply above the front door, as new guttering as well as bargeboards will be fitted. Our grateful thanks go to the Trust, and in particular to Emrys, for his consideration in dovetailing work between busy bookings, as well as difficult winter weather. We look forward to the finished, new look Gelli Iago.

NEWS FLASH FROM THE WARDEN!

The long awaited extractor fan has at last been fitted in the kitchen. But only just. It's a hefty beast to say the least and powerful at that but it should do the job efficiently and, if used properly, steam, condensation and associated problems will hopefully be a thing of the past.



If you're interested in a busy fun weekend in good company, do join us for the work weekend 17th - 19th April. Lots of jobs to do and free bednights into the bargain. Just bring your own food, overalls and liquid refreshments. See you there!

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

There were times when we wondered whether we would make the dateline. There were times when we wondered whether it was all worthwhile. There were times when the demands of bureaucracy caused us to think we were going around in circles....but we managed. As of 1st January 2015 The Nantmor Mountain Centre Association, a Company Limited by Guarantee, Registered Number 9221690, began to operate as a business.

Despite all that had happened over the previous eighteen months, there was no momentous event, no flying of flags, no ringing of bells, no newspaper headlines. Just the usual, relatively gentle continuation of what has gone on for the previous fifty years plus; a group of volunteers serving a purpose they hold close to their hearts, as the provision they make possible serves a social and educational objective that is supportive of the needs of our membership. A 'Directors Group' of nine now holds the executive authority for the association, whilst a 'Premises Management Group' will oversee the day to day operational needs and functioning of the centre. However, the continued involvement of everyone with the drive, enthusiasm and commitment that has always been the strength of our association is warmly and genuinely encouraged.

The reason behind the change of operational status lies, partly, in the intentions of various long-standing members to hand on the reins of leadership to other, younger

and more actively engaged personnel. For many years, the existing trustees had willingly carried a financial liability in the event that the association fell on unproductive operating conditions. In the event, partly due to sound advice given and taken, sound financial management and the maintenance of a financial reserve, this liability has never been realised. However, to impose such a liability on a new generation was considered inappropriate and hence our new status under which every individual member and affiliated member organisation undertakes a liability limited to just ten pounds in the unlikely event that the association has to fold.

Although not every document is fully signed and sealed we have re-negotiated our lease, re-affirmed the support of our landlord, established a secure financial and operating base and initiated a programme which we hope will bring new developments, investment and provision at Gelli Iago.

Bookings for 2015 look promising. Membership commitment seems secure. Levels of enthusiasm and anticipation of another year of worthwhile outdoor education and opportunity are high. Working parties are to be set to dates and the contributions of all who are able are warmly invited.

Thanks are due to many people for their contributions to the work of past months and years. Some have chosen this time to quietly slip into the shade of retirement from active involvement in the operating committees... with very warm appreciation from all with whom and for whom you have worked. Many continue their voluntary contributions and we warmly welcome new members with new ideas and new ways of looking at achieving our long-held objective.

With belated New Year greetings to you all, let us look to the future and continue to enjoy through whatever means possible the wonders of Gelli Iago and the mountains of Snowdonia.

Tony Tatford

The Nantmor Mountain Centre is a small and friendly organisation. It has charitable status and since 1963 has been active in providing simple but memorable farmhouse accommodation for groups in its stunning location between Nantgwynant and Nantmor village in the Snowdonia National Park. Our members include Schools, Colleges, Scouts and Ramblers groups. We welcome interest from new users of this most unusual and rare facility. If you would like to have a chat with one of us and discuss how it might suit you or your group then please contact:

The Warden: Bob James, 07889 570483 bj13@btinternet.com or
The Secretary: Jane Pedley, 01766 890673 jane137@gmail.com
Also find us on our website: www.nantmor.org

THANK YOU TO A VERY FINE FRIEND

It is a personal pleasure to extend a very genuine thank you to Stuart Beardsall, our long-serving Vice Chairman and friend. Stuart has decided that now is the time to step aside from his committee involvement. It is with deep appreciation of his many and varied contributions over the past 45 years that I express our thanks to him on behalf of the whole association and all those who will have benefitted from his contributions to the cause. May Stuart and Helene enjoy many years of gentle retirement in the secure knowledge that a warm welcome will always be there for them whenever they may manage to visit Gelli Iago.

Tony Tatford

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Early last year new affiliated leaders Nigel Woodcock, Jeremy Oxley and James Newbigging sought out the centre and brought their respective groups from as far apart as Cambridge, Cheshire and Chigwell. More recently Sasha Habgood has joined up with her fell runners of all ages from Swansea's Alltwen Outdoor Club, who've just arrived for their first visit and



can't wait to come back again. As for Eagle House, led by John Heaton, they've had so many week-long successful trips it's rumoured they're claiming squatters' rights. On each visit they generate a special atmosphere, whether it's with touches like Christmas decorations, the cosy hearth rug, or Nell's delicious home baked bread and goodies, who knows, but they certainly make the place feel like home.

(..cont. from front page)

SECRETS REVEALED...

The arrival of such technology has signalled the end of an era. That most hallowed and mysterious of rooms, The Warden's Office, has at last been made accessible to all leaders by means of a key safe. Within now lies the sacred modem box, thus accessible for maintenance, but the room at once lends itself to other uses at the leader's discretion such as first aid, staff needs etc, though the beds should be used for exceptional circumstances only as our insurance limit is still 22 - so please don't be tempted to boost numbers.

