ADRODDIAD CANGEN GOGLEDD CYMRU

It's that time when we think about hibernating and recovering from the exertions of a hectic summer. Mind you feels like we've been hibernating for a while already as I seem to have missed everything, and where was summer anyway? My perceptions of course are somewhat skewed by my having gone AWOL (don't worry it's not about to become another episode of letter bingo) for much of the summer, teaching and walling in foreign and exotic climes. The Branch didn't collapse in my absence, perhaps they don't need me after all, such a tempting thought as the AGM approaches. However as we only have 5 or 6 members more than we have officers I don't suppose that dream will come true. I must have been really evil in a former life.



Last time we left you with the tantalising prospects of a visit from Cheshire Branch. The arrival of the 3 that were camping at our site in Nant Ffrancon was inauspicious given the state of the monsoon at the time. One look and the 3 headed chez moi and 'camped' in the



Branch office (aka spare room) and on the living room floor (more often than not an office too) instead. It brightened up, barbecues, pubs socialising and even the rebuilding of an old single skin walled cattle milking pen. I shall never forget the look on everyone's face when they first saw the stone... or the satisfied looks at the end. It's amazing what you can do with a little faith and determination, helps when the 'trainees' have it too.

Anyway that was about the point at which I emigrated to the exotic splendours of Northamptonshire. Stands in Eryrys and Flint, helping South Wales at Royal Welsh Show, taster days and training courses galore (well 3 or 4 anyway). 2 new members. Heady days. How dare they manage without me. This is getting far too optimistic.

In between trips I returned for a Branch meeting and gave a talk. 2 branch members in an audience of 20, well it was 2 more than the last meeting. Off to Canada and a Clawdd course which you can all read about soon in *"Stonechat 27"* copies available from all reputable branches. It would be fair to say I have not been inundated with requests for the booklet the Branch has produced (as advertised in last Waller and Dyker) on Clawdd Construction. Still only 2 copies less than members at the last meeting. My return saw the cancellation of our single skin course as there was a general lack of interest. The optimism suitably short lived.

Is there a theme developing, is everyone avoiding me, am I superfluous. Paranoia? Hope? Perhaps I shall just be punished further, you'll know if that's the case, it will be me prattling away incoherently next time.

Hibernation - chance would be a fine thing.

Nodyn bach sydyn i ddweud ei'n body n mynd yn ddwyieithog. Nadolig Llawen a blwyeddyn newydd dda i bawb.

Sean zzzzz Adcock