

BRANCH NEWS

Now we're into the display season it has of course started to rain, on top of that everyone's hibernating. Next to no-one could be bothered to book on the BBQ so that was cancelled although one of the planned walks went ahead. The North west public do not seem enamoured by our training programme only 2 were booked on the course along with trainer Craig and long suffering 'other half' Brenda that was it for the walk seen right trying out the 'kids cave' in the Blaen y Nant goat pen. One other North west Taster day took place in monsoon conditions on a new site alongside Pen y Pass Youth hostel and comprised entirely of a hardy and determined group from the NHS under the auspices UNITE (below left).



Meanwhile in the sunny Clwydian Hills we fare better with courses over-booked and a new banner to boot (below).

Craig has been busy toting the dilapidated tent around the east plying our wares. At last approval of the grant has arrived for our new tent, which should be in place for the competition on September 18th at its new venue in Nant Peris. The Royal Welsh Show saw Sean join the South Wales Branch for a spot of 'wet' stone walling. The Tafts will be invading in October when they join us for our Clawdd Course. We'll be treating them to a guided walk, talk and informal social, for further details contact Sean. As you should to book on either of the

quarry walks (30th August 12th September). The planned talk for 8th September has been cancelled as the committee has no wish to be further embarrassed by inviting an outside speaker to speak to half a dozen people.

You'll be hearing more about this in the ad hoc 'Branch News' which will precede the AGM. Will there be a Branch next year? What form will it take **IF** it continues? To tell you the honest truth Craig and I doubt that if it disappeared completely many of you'd even notice or care.
Sean

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Diary

August
19 Display, Denbigh & Flint Show
21-22 North East Training Course, Moel Famau
30 Half Day Guided tour, Dorothea Quarry stonework.

September
4 North East Taster Day, Moel Famau
4-6 International Conference, Ambleside, Cumbria
7-8 Clawdd Course, North West
12 Full day Guided Tour Quarry structures, Porthmadog area
18 North Wales Open Dry Stone Walling Competition, Nant Peris Carnifal
25-26 North West Training Course
October
2 North East Taster Day, Moel Famau
2-3 Certification Training/Orientation
9-10 Clawdd Course, North West
16 DSWA Craftsman Certification day
November
10 AGM Foelas Arms, Pentrefoelas. Guest speaker David Sallery on Mostyn Docks.
12 Presentation, "Inscriptions upon the Landscape" - the dry stone treasures of the British Isles
Pete's Eats, Llanberis 8pm.
December
10 Presentation. "Not Another temple" - ancient stone building around Europe.
Pete's Eats, Llanberis 8pm.
January
15 Presentation. "From the wailing wall to the Pyramids" - the dry stone structures of the North Wales Slate Industry. Pete's Eats, Llanberis 8pm.

Sponsors

The North Wales Branch would like to thank the following for their help in the last 12 months:

Countryside Council for Wales,

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Mr & Mrs Freeman-Attwood (Pennant Estate, Llangynog);
Christine Vasey; Justin Kellet (Anglesey Masonry Ltd., Moelfre)

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