

South Wales Branch DSWA- GB

NEWSLETTER July-December 2011

Hi All

The Royal Welsh was held in mid-July and the branch had a good presence at the show. On the Sunday members set up our display and built a farm name plate feature in the form of a milk churn designed by Martyn Jones. A bench seat and a demonstration wall were also built over the four days. There was a lot of interest in our stand with the branch doing well with people signing up for the September course a big thank you to all the members who helped at the show we couldn't do it without you.

On August 14th our competition was held at the vaynor show Merthyr Tydfil the cost of this is met by the vaynor show committee (£700) with sponsorship from Ted Williams, Walls of Llangynidr, and local company Miller Argent 8 competitors turned up 3 pro 5 amateurs Martyn Jones won the pro and Steve Meredith the amateurs master craftsman Alan Jones did the judging.

Just 3 days later the branch set up stall at the Pembrokeshire show Haverford west a beautiful curved wall was built at the entrance to the show ground under the shows name sign.

A training weekend was held in September at Libanus in the Brecon Beacons 15 people attended and a great weekend was had by all. The feedback from the course was brilliant. There were also a good number of members who attended the courses in 2011 and they have gone from strength to strength and brought in a large amount of finance for the branch. At this moment in time I can tell you that I have already received 11 deposits for the 2012 April course.

Our AGM was held at Brecon RFC on Nov 9th which was attended by 10 members with the year's finances and performance discussed.

The DSWA is changing the way the organization is run it will now be run by 12 trustees one of which will represent both Welsh branches our rep is Sean Adcock from North Wales. Sean is keen for North & South Wales branches to meet once a year which I think is a good idea. He has been in touch with me and set a date for March 17-18 the venue will be somewhere at Aberystwyth in co with the conservation section of Aberystwyth university the itinerary would be some walling on the Saturday with local volunteers a meal and walling slide show presentation in the evening given by Sean and a meeting on Sunday to discuss our hangover and any DSWA issues accommodation looks like being at the Plas Dolau guest house check out their website nothing is finalised yet only the date if you are interested please contact me and I will give you more info as I get it. **HAPPY NEW YEAR**

Brian Lock (secretary)