

Members Update August 2021

Dear Member

It is now a month since Covid guidelines were relaxed in England and Wales which gave us the opportunity to fully re-open Bishop's Scale and LGH and for members to use these huts without the pre-booking system that we were forced to put in place during the pandemic. I am now pleased to say that from last week the same also applies to Tyn Twr following the relaxing of Covid guidelines in Wales on August 6th. We are now in the position where all three huts are available for members to use pretty much along the same lines as before the pandemic – very good news indeed.

The other bit of good news is that the family quarters roof at Bishop's Scale is now complete so the family quarters is now open as before. Can I remind members that the family quarters is available for use by all families but priority is given to those with children under 10 years old. On the rare occasion that the family quarters is full, if your children are over 10 we ask that you move into the main hut.

As has already been made clear to all, the end of restrictions is not the end of Covid. It is therefore still important that all those who visit a hut take appropriate precautions to minimise the chance of contracting the virus whilst there. The guidelines and risk assessment have been forwarded to members in a previous email and are on display in the huts. I would ask anyone who is not prepared to follow these guidelines not to attend a hut at this time. Whilst following the stated precautions will make the huts as safe as possible it will not eliminate the chance of contracting Covid at one of our huts and anyone who is not comfortable with attending given this risk should not do so.

As we do not want to encourage large gatherings at the huts we won't be advertising any organised meets for the time being, but it is hoped that a full meets calendar will be run through 2022.

If anyone has anything to feedback on how the huts are operating – be it good or bad - please contact the appropriate hut warden. Contact details can be found on the website.

A couple of other points for members attention:

Use of campervans/motorhomes at Ratti huts.

Members have always been welcome to park and stay in vans on the hut carparks (space permitting) but the standard overnight charge is payable. Those staying in vans have access to all the huts' facilities. During the pandemic when the huts were closed/not available the bed night charge was waived and we requested a nominal payment of £3 from anyone staying in a van to cover parking. With the huts now being fully open this arrangement no longer applies and those using their vans are now expected to pay the standard overnight fee.

OMM Mountain Marathon October 2021

Members might remember that several years ago Bishop's Scale was used by the OMM as their event headquarters. This meant that the main hut was not available

for members to use for several days at the end of October and the club received £4000 from OMM for this exclusive use of the hut.

This year's OMM was planned to be held in Scotland but at the last minute this has proved to be not possible and OMM have been forced into looking at other options at short notice. The best option for them was to repeat the Langdale event and they again approached the Club to ask if they could use Bishop's Scale along the same lines as last time. The management committee have given this careful thought with the outcome being that we have agreed to their request.

All members need to note the following:

- Bishop's Scale main hut and carpark will not be available for members to use from Thursday 29th October 2021 until Monday 1st November 2021.
- Members will have the opportunity to use the family quarters, which will not be restricted to family use over this period. Beds will be allocated on a pre-booking basis – first come first served – bookings to chris.lloyd731@gmail.com.

The management committee hope that members will understand that financially the Club cannot afford to turn down this request from OMM. As well as this, OMM put on a fantastic event which many of our members have competed in over the years. It is an event which the Club is happy to support in any way that it can and I hope that members will accept the small amount of inconvenience that might result from this. I would ask that any member who wishes to use a hut over this period take the opportunity to visit Bethesda or Wasdale or to book into the family quarters.

A date for your diary

This year's AGM will be on Saturday 20th November, details will follow in due course. The usual venue is not available so it might take place in the chapel. The AGM will be followed by a Mass for the Deceased and a Jacob's Join dinner. Further details to follow.

Chris Lloyd
ARCC Chairman