



Hereford and Worcester Scout County Mountain Walking Weekend



Leader Information

The weekend of 22nd to 24th September 2017 Old School Lodge Activity Base, Deiniolen in Snowdonia

A mountain walking weekend in North Wales open to Scouts and Explorer Scouts with their Leaders.

Time and Dates

The weekend will run from the evening of Friday 22nd to Sunday 24th September. Groups can arrive any time after 5.00 p.m. on the Friday evening but we expect most people to arrive much later in the evening. Please note that on both Saturday and Sunday full day's walks are planned, so return time on the Sunday will not be until mid-evening at the best given the length of journey home.

Who is the weekend for?

The event is open to all Scouts and Explorer Scouts but they must be accompanied by their own leader(s).

There is no age limit set for the weekend other than participants must be in the Scout or Explorer Scout age range, but this is perhaps not the best environment for the out and out novice to come and have a go. The weekend is pitched at those with some experience of low level hiking or hill walking. Individual Leaders are asked to make a clear judgement in this matter before signing up Scouts or Explorers for this weekend. Rob Williams (Bookings Secretary; see contact details below) is happy to talk over individual concerns in this matter.

Accompanying Leaders are expected to be part of the weekend in one of the following ways: -

- They are holders of Scout Walking Permits and are happy to lead groups **as allocated**.
- They are experienced hill walkers looking to gain a permit, and therefore looking for more group experience.
- They have limited hill walking experience but would like to join the walking groups on each day.
- They are just happy to stay at base on the days and help with domestic duties if required but otherwise chill out (see below in Food and Accommodation)

The event will be organised so that it is covered by a single nights away permit holder (Event Nights Away Permit Holder) who is also on the staff during the weekend. Individual groups attending will just be asked to provide this person with the relevant details.

Food and Accommodation.

The weekend is based out of the Old School Lodge Activity Base, Deiniolen in Snowdonia which is owned by Wallasey & West Wirral Scouts. It offers indoor accommodation for up to 38. More details can be found at www.oldschoollodge.org.uk

Sleeping is in bunks with mattresses and pillows provided but you will need to bring your own sleeping bags. You will need to provide your own towels, and some indoor foot wear would be good to help keep the place clean.

Places in the hostel are limited to 38 and this year we are only using the hostel's small camping area for Leaders.

All food for the weekend is provided for in the price from Saturday morning breakfast to packed lunch on the Sunday. Please note there is no food provided on the Friday evening due to the different times groups are likely to arrive.

Plates, bowls etc are provided at the hostel but participants will need their own sandwich box and drinks bottle for their packed lunches.

Catering service is provided by a small and dedicated service crew.

Programme

Two full days of hill walking are planned with walks geared towards individual experience and ability.

The programme will not be finalised until the Friday night so that final numbers attending and weather conditions can all be reviewed. We currently have some Permit holders signed up but we are looking for more. The events Walk Co-ordinator will have a number of prepared routes to use over the weekend and is happy for other Permit holders to send them suggestions before the event but please do not arrive for the weekend with any ambition to do a route personally selected by yourself. The Events Walk Co-ordinator will have final say over which routes are used and which walk leaders as allocated to those routes.

Conduct

A member of the County Activity Team will take on the role of Event Leader who will be in overall charge of the event for weekend. While on the activity individual members will be the responsibility of the permit holder in charge. Off the activity the individual members are the responsibility of their own Leaders. Members and Leaders are asked to muck in as required for various housekeeping duties. Individual dorms are the responsibility of those using them!

Due to the various different groups attending and the differing policies they have, the weekend is deemed alcohol free including for everyone. You are all asked to observe a reasonable lights out time as the weekend will be (hopefully) full on activity wise.

Equipment

There is no personal equipment available. Members must provide their own as per the attached list. For Leaders who intend to help with the running of the groups as Leader (with Permit) or Assistant Leader (no Permit) then please ensure you have all your own personal kit you will require. If any leaders have group walking equipment available, like group shelters then please bring it along.

Cost and Transport

For all members and Leaders who attending without a Permit the fixed cost is £45.00 to cover accommodation and food. There will be a discount offered to Leaders with Permits who are attending to help run walking groups and any Leaders who are willing to camp.

This does not include any transport costs and groups need to sort this themselves at additional cost.

The Bookings Secretary will try and keep an overview on transport, and pass on information between groups. So if you have spare seats let the Bookings Secretary know and they will pass that information around other groups attending.

Bookings

Bookings are made using the Group Booking Form (Excel) which can be emailed or posted to the Bookings Secretary (details below). Once this is received then the Bookings Secretary will invoice you for payment which must be made within 14 days. Methods of payment will be outlined on the invoice.

Your contact details will then be passed to the Event Nights Away Permit Holder who will be in touch re the Nights Away requirements.

Attached with this information is a simple flyer that you can give to your members. The flyer can be customised to suit your group's needs as it may need to cover additional information such as transport costs. A booking form for individual members attending is also attached which should be returned to you the Leaders, not to Bookings Secretary.

Do remember places are limited so early booking is advisable.

Bookings

Postal Bookings to -

Rob Williams DCC (activities)
94 Cheltenham Road East
Gloucester
GL3 1AD

Email Bookings to -

dccact@hwscouts.org.uk

Telephone Booking Enquiries

07508 705363

Event Leader

John Clark ACC (activities) will be the event Leader co-ordinating the routes, walking groups and the Nights Away. If you wish to contact John with any enquires re the programme or Nights Away issues please email him at johncla@mypostoffice.co.uk