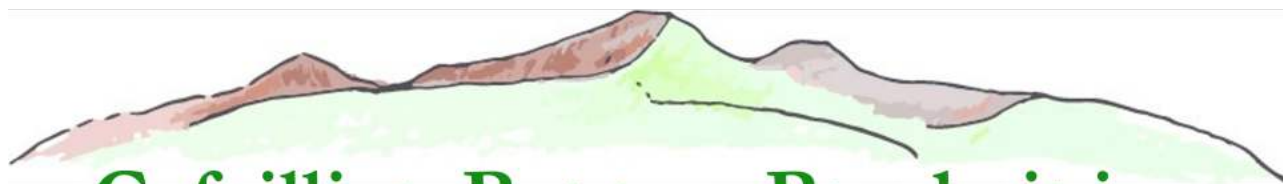


# Friends of the Brecon Beacons



## Cyfeillion Bannau Brycheiniog

[www.breconbeaconsparkociety.org](http://www.breconbeaconsparkociety.org)

### Society News

Edition 2 June 2023

Welcome to the second edition of Society News, our online newsletter aimed at keeping members informed about what the Society has been doing and plan to do. Society News is published quarterly. If you have any articles you would like us to consider for publication or any comments on what you have read, please send them to

[mailbox@breconbeaconsparkociety.org](mailto:mailbox@breconbeaconsparkociety.org)

### Tramroads Project - Call for Volunteers

We are now looking for volunteers to join the Tramroads Project Team. You will be part of a team carrying out field work including surveying and monitoring activities at points of interest along, in the first instance, the route of the Brinore Tramroad. Volunteers will be covered under the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority's Volunteer Framework. For more information please contact [Roy Manning](#).

You can read more about our Tramroads project by clicking [here](#).

### AGM 2023



**Our AGM was held at the wonderfully renovated Hay Castle.**

The 2023 AGM was held on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June. Around 40 members attended the meeting. An excellent buffet lunch was followed by a short guided walk or the opportunity to have a guided visit of the Castle by one of the guided tour volunteers.

During the meeting Members raised issues over the guided walks booking system and the limit of 16. The pros and cons of the booking system were aired, and the Walks Sub Committee will be considering this further.

There was much discussion about the Society's finances, and although a balanced budget is forecast for this year, it will be necessary to fund Dark Skies with £3,000 from our reserves to avoid a deficit arising.

**A proposal to increase Membership Fees** was passed unanimously, this being the first fee increase since 2011. The increases should ensure the ongoing financial stability of the Society and allow the current level of activities to be maintained.

The new fees will apply from the next subscription due date for each existing Member and immediately for new Members:

- Individuals £20 (was £15)
- Families £30 (was £22)
- Individual Life Membership (under 65) £300 (was £225)
- Individual Life Membership (over 65) £200 (was £150)
- Family Life Membership (under 65) £440 (was £330)
- Family Life Membership (over 65) £300 (was £220)

**Moving on** - Jim Wilson stood down as Vice Chair (2018 – 2023) of our Executive Committee, but is staying on as a Trustee. Jim has served the Society as a Trustee for many years, was Walks Secretary from 2006 to 2011 and Chairman from 2011 to 2018. He was instrumental in Dark Skies and the Gunpowder Works programme as well as many other important projects during his time in office. Many thanks go to Jim for all his hard work over many years for the Society. We are delighted to announce that since the AGM Janet Callear has agreed to be our new Vice Chair in place of Jim.

We are also saying goodbye as a trustee to Richard Bennett who has been our Treasurer for the last 12 months. Richard has worked extremely hard over this period to streamline our finances to reflect a new way of working with a separate Membership Secretary. Thank you, Richard, for all the effort you have made on behalf of the Society over the last twelve months. David Burden is now taking over the role of Treasurer and will also become a Trustee, and we welcome him to the Executive.

Derek Thomas, who has been our Membership Secretary for the last year will change roles with Sue Hoddell, and become our Minutes Secretary, with Sue taking over as Membership Secretary. Sue can be contacted at [memsec@breconbeaconsparcsociety.org](mailto:memsec@breconbeaconsparcsociety.org). The Society is indebted to both of you for agreeing to continue to give your time to the Executive and membership.

## Other News

### Trig Points

All of us who walk in the hills will have come across these enigmatic and now obsolete monoliths. Many are now in a parlous state and, as with tramroads, they form a part of our cultural heritage and at least some of them are worth protecting. We are in the early stages of scoping a project and, if you are interested, please contact us via our mailbox as above.

### Planning Applications

The Society monitors all planning applications to the National Park Authority and comments on those that it feels are important or relevant. All our letters to the Authority can be found on our [website](#). For many years Elizabeth Gibbs has undertaken this work, which often includes visiting a site, single-handed. We are glad to be able to announce that Kathryn Silk has agreed to join Liz.

### Executive Vacancies

We are still looking for a volunteer with social media skills to join the Executive Committee as a communications officer with responsibility for social media. If you have social media skills and would be interested in taking on this role for the Society please get in touch.

**Call for Volunteers – please consider whether you have any skills or expertise to offer the society. The committee is always looking for help with our projects, walks**

etc.

### **Campaign for National Parks Reduced Price Membership Offer**

Although the Society is a corporate member of the CNP, it continues to offer reduced price individual membership to our members in the hope that more of us will wish to become directly involved and informed about its work. For further information and to access the form to apply for this offer click [here](#).

### **Dates for your Diary**

See the [website](#) for more details and on how to book a place at one of our monthly talks held at The Bear Hotel in Crickhowell. Forthcoming talks:

**July – Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm at The Bear Hotel, Crickhowell.** Joint talk by Eben Muse of The British Mountaineering Council in Wales, and The Nepalese Himalaya- a brief look at a big range – Allan Gibbs.



# Bannau Brycheiniog

**BBNPA** rebranding launch was held in April together with the commencement of its new management plan. As you will be aware, there has been some comment, both positive and negative, over the new logo and the new Welsh name Bannau Brycheiniog.

#### **Newsletter circulation list.**

If you have a family membership and would like this online newsletter emailed to others in your family, please contact [memsec@breconbeaconsparkociety.org](mailto:memsec@breconbeaconsparkociety.org) and provide additional email addresses to be added to our list.

c/o CRiC, Beaufort Street, Crickhowell  
United Kingdom

[mailbox@breconbeaconsparkociety.org](mailto:mailbox@breconbeaconsparkociety.org)

Your Membership Number:-

You received this email because you are  
registered as a member of the Brecon Beacons  
Park Society.



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